

D
11,320' N31
21.56;5
2066

Government of Madras

SECRETARIAT LIBRARY

Class

No.

Ch. S. III-1-1,500-1-12-31

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIRST SESSION OF THE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Vol. LVI (Nos. 1 to 12)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Friday, the 13th March 1931.

	PAGES
Personnel of the Government of Madras	1-10
Members present	11
I. Questions and Answers	12-21, 69-71
II. The Finance Committee for 1931-32	22
III. The Public Accounts Committee for 1931-32	22
IV. The Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32.	
Demand I—Land Revenue—Reserved	22-48
Demand II—Excise—Transferred	48-68

Saturday, the 14th March 1931.

Members present	73
I. Questions and Answers	74-81, 142-143
II. The Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32—	
Demand II—Excise—Transferred— <i>cont.</i>	81-90
Demand III—Stamps—Reserved	90-105
Demand IV—Forests—Reserved	105-131
Demand V—Registration—Transferred	131-141

Monday, the 16th March 1931.

Members present	145-146
I. Questions and Answers	146-155
II. Act assented to by His Excellency the Governor	155
III. Panel of Chairmen	155
IV. The Voting of Demands for grants for 1931-32—	
Demand V—Registration—Transferred— <i>cont.</i>	155-171
Demand VI—Irrigation (excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project)— Reserved	171-197
Demand VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved	197-208
Demand VIII—Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Reserved	208-217

Tuesday, the 17th March 1931.

Members present	219-220
I. Swearing in of a Member	220
II. Questions and Answers	220-235, 293-294
III. Acts assented to by His Excellency the Governor	235

Tuesday, the 17th March 1931—cont.

IV. The Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32.	702-66
Demand VIII—Heads of Provinces and Executive Council—Reserved— <i>cont.</i>	235-244
Demand IX—Legislative Bodies—Reserved	244-246
Demand X—Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved	246-292
V. Papers placed on the Table of the House	292

Wednesday, the 18th March 1931.

Members present	295
I. Resolution of Condolence	296-297
II. Questions and Answers	297-307
III. The Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32—	
Demand X—Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved— <i>cont.</i>	308-318
Demand XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred	318-340
Demand XII—Administration of Justice—Reserved	340-367
Demand XIII—Jails—Reserved	

Thursday, the 19th March 1931.

Members present	371
I. Questions and Answers	372-382, 437
II. The Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32	
Demand XIII—Jails—Reserved— <i>cont.</i>	388-404
Demand XIV—Police—Reserved	404-426
Demand XV—Agent for Government Consignments	426-427
Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved	427-436

Monday, the 23rd March 1931.

Members present	439
B. Swearing in of Members	440
II. Questions and Answers	440-455, 507-508
III. The Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32.	
Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved— <i>cont.</i>	455-468
Demand XVII—Education—Transferred	469-506
IV. Papers placed on the Table of the House	506, 508-510

Tuesday, the 24th March 1931.

Members present	511
I. Questions and Answers	512-526, 582-584
II. The Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32.	
Demand XVII—Education—Transferred— <i>cont.</i>	526-533
Demand XVIII—Education—Reserved—(European)	533
Demand XIX—Medical—Transferred	533-558
Demand XX—Public Health—Transferred	558-581

V211, 321 N31

N31-56:5

Wednesday, the 25th March 1931.

Members present	585-586
I. Questions and Answers	586-592, 653-655
II. The Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32—	
Demand XXI—Agriculture—Transferred	593-618
Demand XXII—Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred	618-629
Demand XXIII—Co-operative Societies—Transferred	629-652

Thursday, the 26th March 1931.

Members present	657
I. Questions and Answers	658-664, 732-733
II. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32—	
Demand XXIII—Co-operative Societies— <i>cont.</i>	664-668
Demand XXIV—Cinchona—Reserved	668-678
Demand XXV—Industries—Transferred	673-705
Demand XXVI—Fisheries—Transferred	705-716
Demand XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved	716-731
III. Papers placed on the Table of the House	731

Friday, the 27th March 1931.

Members present	736
I. Questions and Answers	736-747, 789
II. Further demands for grants for 1931-32—	
Grant XIV—Police—Reserved	747-760
Grant XXVIII—Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	760-761
Grant XXXIV—Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred	761-762
III. Demands for supplementary grants for 1930-31—	
Grant VI—Irrigation—Reserved	762-763
Grant XIV—Administration of Justice—Reserved	763-765
Grant XVI—Police—Reserved	765-766
Grant XX—Education—Transferred	766
Grant XXV—Co-operative Societies—Transferred	767
Grant XXXVI—Expenditure in England other than on Stores—Reserved and Transferred	767
IV. Resolution re Central Land Mortgage Bank	767-768
V. Draft rule under section 305 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920	768-770
VI. Draft rule under section 201 (1) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920	770-773
Bills—	
VII. A Bill further to amend the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1928	773-774
VIII. The Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	774-788

Saturday, the 28th March 1931.

Members present	791
I. Questions and Answers	792-841, 900, 916
II. Announcement regarding the number of questions received and answers given during the session	841-842

Saturday, the 28th March 1931—cont.

III. The Voting of Demands for Grants for 1931-32—

Demand XXVIII—Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	842-865
Demand XXIX—Civil Works—Works—Transferred and Reserved ..	868-879
Demand XXX—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant— Transferred	879-882
Demand XXXI—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred	882-890
Demand XXXII—Famine Relief—Reserved	890-895
Demand XXXIII—Pensions—Reserved	895
Demand XXXIV—Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred ..	896-897
Demand XXXV—Miscellaneous—Reserved and Transferred	898
Demand XXXVI—Agency Tracts—Reserved	898
Demand XXXVII—Expenditure in England other than on Stores— Reserved and Transferred	898
Demand XXXVIII—Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred ..	898
Demand XXXIX—Loans and Advances	898
IV. His Excellency the Governor's address	865-868
V. Announcement regarding the appointment of Chairmen of Select Committees ..	898
VI. Prorogation of the Council	899
VII. Papers placed on the Table of the House	899, 916

INDEX TO THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FIRST SESSION OF THE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

13th, 14th, 16th to 19th and 23rd to 28th March 1931.

Volume LVI

Nos. 1 to 12.

PAGES

A

Abdul Hameed Khan, Mr.—

Announcement by President regarding questions received and answered	841
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Administration of Justice—(tardy disposal of suits)	340-342
Agriculture—(Policy)	603-605, 618
Co-operative—Credit (Policy)	636-637
Education—University (Reform)	475-481
Excise—Superintendence	84-85
Heads of Provinces (Extension of term of Executive Councillors)	212-214
High Court (communal representation in the judiciary)	363-364
Industries (General)	680-683
Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project	206
Jails (jail reform)	399-400
Land Revenue	22-23
Legislative bodies—Establishment	245
Legislative Bodies (More non-official days)	244-245
Medical establishments (Policy)	541-542
Ministers, etc (reduction of salary)	326-328, 335-336
Public Health Establishments (Director of Public Health)	560-561
Public Health establishments (Medical relief)	571-572
Registration—Superintendence	131-133, 171
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Communal representation) ..	271-272
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Newspapers and Government advertisements)	276
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Press ordinance)	276-278, 279
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (re-appointment of retired officers)	270
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (selection grade for clerks) ..	308
Condolence resolution <i>re</i> death of Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja	296-297
Demand for grants—	
Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	857-858
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Accountant-General's report—	
<i>See</i> Appropriation Accounts.	
Acquisition—	
Question <i>re</i> South Indian Railway Union premises, proposed — of	514
Acquisition of lands—	
Question <i>re</i> Extension of Ekambaranallur cheri	302-304
Acquittal—	
<i>See</i> Sundaram, Mr. V. A.	

A—cont.

Acting allowances—	
Question <i>re</i> Inadmissibility of — to lower division clerks acting in the upper division	445-447
Acts assented to by His Excellency the Governor—	
East and West Tanjore Sessions Divisions (Validation) Act	155
Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, the Madras	285
Services Commission (Amendment) Act, 1931, the Madras	235
Adi-Dravida Christians—	
Question <i>re</i> significance of the term	838-839
Adi-Dravida Sangham—	
Question <i>re</i> Sanitary arrangements, representation from — of Arkonam	741
Adi-Dravidas in Villiavarambal—	
<i>See</i> House-sites.	
Administration of Justice—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	340-367
Administration of Justice (tardy disposal of suits)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	340-356
Administration of Justice reserved—	
<i>See</i> Demand for supplementary grant.	
Admissions—	
<i>See</i> Agricultural College.	
Advisory Board for the release of prisoners—	
Question <i>re</i> —	817-818
Agency Tracts—Reserved—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	898
Agenda (Questions and Answers)—	
Request for early supply of —	841-842
Agent for Government consignments—	
Demand for grant	426-427
Age restriction—	
<i>See</i> Deputy Tahsildars.	
<i>See</i> Tahsildars.	
Agnikula Kshatriyas—	
Questions <i>re</i> concessions to —	831
Agricultural College—	
Question <i>re</i> Admissions to	233-234
" Admission into —, qualifications for	663
Agricultural Commission's recommendations—	
<i>See</i> Agriculture.	
Agriculture—	
Question <i>re</i> Middle School education in —, popularization of	234
Agriculture—Agriculture Commission's recommendations—	
Budget motion <i>re</i>	593-603
Agriculture—(Policy)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	603-618
Agriculture—Transferred—	
Demand for grant	593-618
Alamelunangathayarammal, Mrs. K. —	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Education—University (Reform)	496-498
Demand for grant—	
Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	861
Alipuram Jail—	
<i>See</i> Mappilla prisoners.	
Aliyasanthana—	
<i>See</i> Partition deeds.	
Aliyasanthana family yajamans—	
Question <i>re</i> Suits in 1929 and 1930 for depositing the —	76

A—cont.

Ambattur—	
Question <i>re</i> insecurity of person and property in — village	792
Ambulance Party—	
Question <i>re</i> Prevention of — from aiding picketers in the City	744
Andhra Medical Men—	
Question <i>re</i> — on study leave	815
Angalur—	
Question <i>re</i> charges against some villagers of — under section 147 of the Indian Penal Code	153
Question <i>re</i> notices for wrongful assault and damage to property by villagers of —	144
Anicuts—	
<i>See</i> Nambiyar river.	
Announcement by hon. the President—	
<i>Re</i> questions received and answered	841-842
Antervedi—	
<i>See</i> Gandhi cap-wearers	
Appeal—	
<i>See</i> Damodaram, Mr. N.	
Applications—	
<i>See</i> Christians.	
<i>See</i> Depressed classes.	
<i>See</i> Deputy Tahsildars.	
<i>See</i> District Munsifs.	
Appointments—	
Questions <i>re</i> — of an assistant in the Madras Record Office	815
<i>See</i> King George's Hospital.	
<i>See</i> Medical Colleges.	
<i>See</i> Oriyas.	
<i>See</i> Sanitary Engineer to Government.	
<i>See</i> Secretariat.	
Questions <i>re</i> Secretariat, appointment of Muslims in the —	447
Appropriation accounts—	
Questions <i>re</i> Accountant-General's report on — of the Madras Government for 1928-29	588-589
Arasu, Mr. V. T.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Administration of Justice (tardy disposal of suits)	347-348
Education—University (Reform)	495-496
Medical establishments (Policy)	542-546
Ministers, etc. (Council Secretaries)	317-318
Presidency Police (Malabar Special Police)	411-415
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (communal representation)	272-273
Demands for grants—	
Civil works—Reserved and transferred	874-876 and 879
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.—	
Demands for grants—	
Civil works grants-in-aid Transferred	882-890
Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	850
Arkonam—	
<i>See</i> Adi-Dravida Sangam.	
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur, R. N.—	
Bill —	
Bill to further amend the Hindu Religious Endowments Act	773
Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	778, 780
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Agriculture—(adoption of the Agriculture Commission's recommendations)	593-599
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	618-620

A—cont.

PAGES

Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.—*cont.*

Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Education — University	482-487
Excise — Superintendence	48-55, 87
Fisheries (Fisheries Committee recommendations)	709-713
Forest — General direction	105-108
Hydro-electric survey (grant of licences)	435-436
Irrigation — Expenditure met from ordinary revenues	171-180
Medical establishments (Policy)	538-541
Survey and settlement	33-36
Condolence resolution <i>re</i> Death of Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja	298-297
Demands for grants —	
Civil works — Establishments and Tools and Plant—Transferred	879-881
Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	760-761, 852, 860-861
Police — reserved	755-756
Stationery and Printing	762
Demand for supplementary grant—	
Administration of justice	765
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Arrack shops—	
Question <i>re</i> auction sales of — in the Presidency	12
Arrest—	
<i>See</i> 'Civil disobedience movement.'	
<i>See</i> 'Ladies.'	
Aruppukottai—	
<i>See</i> 'Depressed class head constable.'	
<i>See</i> 'Police constables.'	
Assault—	
Question <i>re</i> — on Mussalmans by Christian Adi-Dravidas	836-837
Assessment—	
Question <i>re</i> remission of — in Malabar	793
Assessment of income—	
<i>See</i> 'Hindu Religious Endowments Board.'	
Assignments—	
<i>See</i> 'Depressed classes.'	
<i>See</i> 'Non-combatants.'	
<i>See</i> 'Reserved Forest area.'	
Assignment of lands—	
Question <i>re</i> — to non-combatants, statement of	77-78
" — to non-combatants in Tanjore district	78
Assistant Engineers—	
Question <i>re</i> Recruitment of — in the Public Works Department	663-664
Assistant Surgeons—	
Question <i>re</i> Oriyas, appointment as —	453-454
Auction sale—	
<i>See</i> 'Arrack shops'.	

B

Balaram Palo (State prisoner)—	
Question <i>re</i>	840-841
Basheer Ahmad Sayeed, Mr.—	
Announcement by President <i>re</i> Questions received and answered	842
Bills—	
Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	780
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Civil Veterinary services (Policy)	624-625
Co-operative—Credit (Policy)	641-649, 651
Industries (General)	674-680
Stamps	98-99, 101, 105

B—cont.

PAGES

Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Mr.—*cont.*

Demand for grants—	
Miscellaneous Departments — Transferred	856-857
Point of order—	
Books, reading of — in Council during debates	634
Education — University (Reform)	491-492
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Basu Dey, Mr. C.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Labour-Direction (Policy)	718-719
Demands for grants—	
Stationery and printing — Reserved and transferred	896-897
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, Mr. S. M. K.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	625-626
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Bellary district—	
<i>See</i> Grazing fees.	
Bezwada—	
<i>See</i> 'House searches.'	
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V. —	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Public Health Establishments (Policy)	577-578
Survey and Settlement	30-31
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Bilekal and Joga reserves—	
Question <i>re</i> separation of	150-151
Bills—	
Bill to further amend the Hindu Religious Endowments Act—Introduced and referred to Select Committee	773-774
Co-operative Societies Bill (The Madras) Introduced—Referred to Select Committee. 774-788	
Birely, Mr. Frank—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Presidency police (Malabar Special Police)	415-416
Blake, Mr.—	
Question <i>re</i> diet given to —	450
Board of Revenue—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> abolition of —	308-309
Boring operations in South Kanara—	
Question <i>re</i> —	800
Boratal school Prisoners—	
Question <i>re</i> release of —	450
Breaches—	
<i>See</i> Vyasarpadi Lake.	
Browning, Mr. W. M.—	
Nomination of — to the Panel of Chairmen	155
Budget—	
<i>See</i> Cauvery-Mettur project.	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Administration of Justice (tardy disposal of suits)	340-356
Agent for Government consignments (Amendment of the Port Trust Act)	426-427
Agriculture—(Agricultural Commission's recommendations)	593-603
Agriculture (Policy)	603-618
Board of Revenue, abolition of	308-309
Cinchona — (plantations)	668-672
Cinchona — (quinine supply)	672-673
Civil Secretariats (Provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board). 336-340	

B—cont.	PAGES
Budget motion <i>re—cont.</i>	
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	618-628
Co-operative Credit (Policy)	629-652, 664-668
District Administration (work in Collectorates)	309-312
Education—University (reform)	469-506, 526-533
Excise—Superintendence	48-68, 81-90
Fisheries—(Fisheries Committee recommendations)	705-716
Forest—General direction	105-131
Heads of province—(Extension of term of Executive Councillors)	210-217
Heads of provinces (Formation of provinces)	235-244
Heads of provinces—Other charges	209-210
High Court—(Communal representation in the judiciary)	356-367
Hydro-Electric survey—(Grant of licences)	427-433, 455-468
Industries—(General)	673-705
Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur project	197-208
Irrigation excluding Cauvery-Mettur project	190-197
Irrigation—Expenditure met from ordinary revenues	171-180
Jails—(Jail reform)	367-369, 383-403
Labour—Direction (policy)	716-731
Legislative Bodies—(Legislative Council establishment)	245
Legislative Bodies—Standing counsel for hon. President	246
Medical establishments (policy)	533-558
Ministers, etc.—(Constitution of circles)	313-315
Ministers, etc.—(Council Secretaries)	315-326
Ministers, etc.—(reduction of salary)	326-336
Presidency police (Malabar Special Police)	404-426
Public Health Establishments (Director of Public Health)	558-562
Public Health Establishments (Medical relief)	564-581
Public Health Establishments (sanction)	562-564
Registration—Superintendence	131-141, 155-171
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Abolition of Services Commission).	280-289
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Age exemption)	290
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Andhra representation)	274-276
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Communal representation)	271-274
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments (Newspapers and Government advertisements)	276
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Press ordinances)	276-279
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (reappointment of retired officers)	270-271
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Recruitment to upper and lower divisions)	290-292
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments—(Retrenchment)	247-270
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (selection grade for clerks)	308
Stamps	90-106
Survey and Settlement	22-48
Burglaries—	
Question <i>re</i> — in Madras from 1st November 1930 to 1st February 1931	74-76
Business meeting—	
See Ramschandrapuram club	

C

Calicut municipality.	
Question <i>re</i> toddy shop in — removal of —	586
Campbell, the hon. Mr. A. Y. G.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Board of revenue, abolition of the —	309
Heads of provinces—(Extension of term of Executive Councillors)	215
Heads of provinces (Formation of provinces)	242-243
Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur project	202-208
Irrigation excluding Cauvery-Mettur project	195-197
Irrigation—Expenditure met from ordinary revenues	187-190
Secretariat and Headquarters establishments	270-271
Secretariat and Headquarters establishments	274
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Abolition of Services Commission)	308
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Age exemption)	287-289
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Age exemption)	290

C—cont.

Campbell, the hon. Mr. A. Y. G.—cont.	
Budget motion <i>re—cont.</i>	
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Andhra representation)	275-276
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Recruitments to upper and lower division)	291-292
Survey and Settlement	44-47
Demands for grants—	
Famine Relief—Reserved	890
Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur project	197
Irrigation—Reserved	171
Land Revenue	22-48
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments	246-292
Demand for supplementary grant—	
Irrigation—reserved	762-768
Cancellation—	
See Gun licences.	
Caning of picketers in Madras—	
Question <i>re</i> —	831-833
Cauvery-Mettur project—	
Question <i>re</i> Budget on account of — scrutiny of the	658
„ expenditure on	804-806
„ un-expended loan on account of	794-795
Central Land mortgage bank—	
See Resolution <i>re</i> .	
Chamber of local boards—	
Question <i>re</i> resolution of — re-cancellation of certain Government Orders	814
Chattakutti Nayar—	
Question <i>re</i> Loan granted to —, recovery of	442
Cheri—	
See Ekambaranallur cheri.	
Chayur—	
Question <i>re</i> Dam across river —, construction of	742
Chicacole taluk board—	
Question <i>re</i> bifurcation of	813
Chingleput district—	
See Gazetteer.	
Chittoor district—	
See Licences	
Christians—	
Question <i>re</i> appointment of — as Deputy Tahsildar	444-445
„ „ District Munsifs	448
Cinchona (Plantations)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i>	668-672
Cinchona—Reserved—	
Demand for grant	668-673
Civil Assistant Surgeons—	
Question <i>re</i> Promotion of Sub-Assistant Surgeons to cadre of —	378-379
Civil Disobedience movement—	
Question <i>re</i> Instructions <i>re</i> methods to combat the —	372
„ Ladies—arrest and remand in connexion with the —	381-382
„ Release of prisoners convicted in connexion with the —	380-381
„ Village officers dismissed in connexion with—, resolution of	745-746
Civil Secretariats (Provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i>	336-340
Civil Veterinary Services—(Policy)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i>	618-628
Civil Veterinary Services—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i>	618-629
Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i>	879-882

C—cont.

Civil works—grants-in-aid—Transferred— Demand for grant <i>re</i>	882-890
Civil works—Reserved and Transferred— Demand for grant <i>re</i>	868-879
Classification— See Water-rates.	
Coconut pest in South Kanara— Question <i>re</i> —	813
Coimbatore— See Agricultural College. See Drainage scheme.	
Collection— See Dry assessment.	
Communal representation— Question <i>re</i> — in the Secretariat	827
Compulsory Education— Question <i>re</i> — in Malabar	795-796
Condolence resolution <i>re</i> death of Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja	296-297
Congress hospital (Madras)— See Police raid.	
Constables in private dress— Question <i>re</i> caning of — by Malabar Police	821-822
Construction— See Cheyar. See Dam. See Road.	
Contribution — See Irrigation works. See Minor Irrigation Tanks.	
Coolies— Question <i>re</i> employment to — returning from Malaya	452
Co-operative banks— Question <i>re</i> Increase of — in Salem district	297
Co-operative Credit (Policy)— Budget motion <i>re</i>	629-652, 664-668
Co-operative Societies— Demand for grant Demand for supplementary grant	629-652, 664-668 767
Co-operative Societies Bill (Madras)— Appointment of the Chairman of Select Committee on See Bills.	898
Copyist establishments— Question <i>re</i> reduction of — in Revenue Offices.. .. .	300
Copyist examiners— Question <i>re</i> exemption of — from Public Service Examination	448, 456
Copyists— See District Court, Tinnevely.	
Copyist section— See Revenue Department.	
Cottage Industries Committee— Question <i>re</i> orders passed on the report of the —	80-81
Cotton— Question <i>re</i> Average outturn of — in Hospet taluk	379
Cow-units— Question <i>re</i> number of — in Joga reserve	80
Crop protection licences— Question <i>re</i> —granted in South Kanara in 1929 and 1930	373

C—cont.

Cuddalore Jail— See Mohideen Kutty, Mr. K.	
Cumbum tank— Question <i>re</i> acreage under — ,, water-supply to —	812 443-444
Cyclone— Question <i>re</i> tanks damaged by — in North Arcot	797

D

Dam — Question <i>re</i> construction of a — across river Cheyar	742
Damage to property— Question <i>re</i> notices by villagers of Angalur, <i>re</i> —	744
Damodaram, Mr. N.— Question <i>re</i> appeal for remission of sentence by —	223-225
Daniel Thomas, Mr.— Budget motion <i>re</i> — Heads of Provinces (Formation of Provinces) Ministers, etc. (reduction of salary) Secretariat and Headquarter establishments (retrenchment)	239-240 335 253-256
Demand for grants— Miscellaneous departments—Transferred	850-851, 852-853
Davis, Mr. J. A.— Budget motion <i>re</i> — Hydro-electric survey (grant of licences) Public Health establishments (Director of Public Health)	461 561-562
Demands for grants — Administration of Justice Agency tracts—Reserved Agent for Government Consignments Agriculture—Transferred Cinchona—Reserved Civil Veterinary Services.. .. . Co-operative Societies Civil works—Establishment, tools and plant—Transferred Civil works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred Civil works—Reserved and Transferred Education—Reserved (European) Education—Transferred Electricity Excise Expenditure in England other than on stores Famine relief—Reserved Fisheries—Transferred Forest—Reserved Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils Industries—Transferred Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project Irrigation—Reserved Jails Land Revenue Loans and advances Medical—Transferred Ministers, etc. Miscellaneous departments—Reserved Miscellaneous—Reserved and Transferred Miscellaneous departments—Transferred Pensions — Reserved Police—Reserved Public Health — Transferred Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred Registration Secretariats and Headquarters establishments Stamps	340-367 898 426-427 593-618 668-673 618-629 629-652, 664-668 879-882 882-890 868-879 533 469-506, 526-533 427-436, 455-468 48-68, 81-90 898 890-895 705-716 105-131 208-217, 285-244 673-705 197-208 171-197 367-369, 383-404 22-48 898 533-558 313-340 716-731 898 760-761, 842-865 895 404-426, 748-760 558-581 898 131-141, 156-171 240-292, 308-313 90-105

D—cont.

Demands for grants—cont.	
Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred	761-762, 896-897
Demands for supplementary grants—	
Administration of justice—Reserved	763-765
Co-operative Societies—Transferred	767
Education—Reserved	766
Expenditure in England other than on stores	767
Irrigation—Reserved	762-766
Police—Reserved	765-763
Depressed classes—	
Question re assignment of waste lands to members of —	515-516
„ cancellation of grant of lands to — in West Godavari and Kistna districts	21
„ Deputy Tahsildars from —	444-445
„ District Munsifs from —	448
„ ill-treatment of — in Devakottai division	450
„ ill-treatment of — in Devakottai subdivision	307
„ ill-treatment of — in Ramnad district	304-305
„ Land Acquisition Act—Extension to Madras City for provision of houses to —	591-592
„ — in local board schools	823-824
„ representation on municipalities and local boards	522
Depressed class head-constable—	
Question re oppression of a — by caste police constables at Aruppukottai	453
Depressed class students—	
See Grants to schools.	
Deputy Commissioners (Labour)—	
See Labour—Direction.	
Deputy Inspectors—	
Question re — of Muslim schools	441
Deputy Superintendents of Police—	
Question re Oriya —	306
Deputy Tahsildars—	
Question re age restriction for selection of —	228
„ Depressed classes and Christians, for the post of —	441-445
Devadasan, Mr. M.—	
Budget motion re —	
Forest—General direction	118-120
Public Health Establishment (Policy)	573-574
Secretariat and headquarter establishments (abolition of Services Commission).	280-283
See Questions and Answers.	
Devakottai division—	
Question re Depressed classes, ill-treatment in —	450
Devakottai subdivision—	
See Depressed classes.	
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.—	
Demands for grants—	
Miscellaneous departments—Transferred	842-846
See Questions and Answers.	
Diet—	
See Blake, Mr.	
Director of Industries—	
Question re improvements effected by the present —	801
Director of Public Health—	
See Public Health Establishments.	
Disaffiliation—	
See Salem College.	
Disafforestation—	
Question re — in South Kanara	803
Dispersal—	
See Procession.	

D—cont.

Distress—	
See Fishermen.	
District Administration (work in Collectorate)—	
Budget motion re —	309-312
District Court, Tinnevely—	
Question re copyists' posts, in —, filling up of —	448
District Health Officers and District Board Engineers—	
Question re — communitywar	803, 906
District Municipalities Act (Madras)—	
Draft rule under section 305 (1)	768-770
District Munsifs—	
Question re Depressed classes and Christians for the post of —	448
Dorai Raja, Mr. S. N.—	
See Condolence resolution.	
Drainage Scheme—	
Question re — for Coimbatore	588
Drinking water supply—	
Question re — to Salem town	811
Dry assessment—	
Question re levy and collection of — on wet lands in Tanjore district	745
Dumaine, C. G.—	
Question re remission of sentences of —	223-225
E	
East and West Tanjore Sessions Divisions (Validation) Act—	
See Acts assented to by His Excellency the Governor.	
Education—Reserved (European).	
Demand for grant re —	533
Education—Transferred—	
Demand for grant	469-506, 526-533
Education—University (Reform)—	
Budget motion re —	469-506, 526-533
Ekambaranallur cheri—	
Question re acquisition of lands for the extension of —	302-304
Electoral Divisions—	
Question re — in local board areas	521
Electoral rules—	
Question re preparation of — for conduct of municipal elections	80
Electrical Department—	
Question re subordinate staff of the —, qualifications of	816-817
Electrical energy, distribution of—	
See Budget motions.	
Electrical Inspector to Government (Junior)—	
Question re —	806-807
Electrical Inspector to Government—	
Question re —	806
Electricity—	
Demand for grant re —	427-436, 455-468
Question re supply of — to Salem and Erode municipalities	76-77
Electricity (Hydro-Electric Survey)—	
Budget motion re grant of licences	427-436, 455-468
Electric supply—	
Question re licences for — to Salem and Erode, grant of licence to Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co.	151-152
Electrification schemes—	
Question re — for certain municipalities, defects in the —	816-817

E—cont.

Elementary schools— Question <i>re</i> teaching staff of — for Mappilla children in Malabar and South Kanara	736-737
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.— Budget motion <i>re</i> — Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project	199
Employees— See Government Press.	
Employment— See Coolies. See Training Schools.	
Enquiry— See Lathi charge.	
Erode— See Electricity. See Electric supply. See Octavins Steel Co.	
Exoisc— Demands for grants <i>re</i> —	48-68, 81-90
Exoisc Inspectors— Question <i>re</i> promotion of — in January 1931	12
Exoisc officials— Question <i>re</i> —	798
Exoisc (Superintendence)— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	48-68, 81-80
Exemption— See Copyist-examiners. See Copyist examiners. See Public Service examination.	
Expenditure in England other than on stores— Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	898

F

Famine Relief—Reserved— Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	890-895
Finance Committee for 1931-32— Election to the —	22
Finance Committee— Proceedings of — dated 12th March 1931. See papers laid on the table.	
Fisheries Committee recommendations— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	705-716
Fisheries—Transferred— Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	705-716
Fishermen— Question <i>re</i> distress of — on the West Coast	525-526
Fishing in the Adyar— Question <i>re</i> —	728-799
Forests— Question <i>re</i> reserves in South Kanara, extent of — added to	449
Forest—General direction— Budget motion <i>re</i> —	105-131
Forests—Reserved— Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	105-131

F—cont.

Frazer's Bridge road—
See Picketers.
Free distribution—
See Quinine.

G

Gandhi Cap wearers— Question <i>re</i> ill-treatment, by Police of — at Antervedi	19-20
Gazetteer— Question <i>re</i> issue of — of Chingleput district	658
General body meeting— See Ramachandrapuram Club.	
Girl students— Question <i>re</i> — in Arts Colleges	822
Godown street— See Police excesses.	
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.— Budget motion <i>re</i> — Board of Revenue, abolition of the — Heads of Provinces (Formation of Provinces) Irrigation—Expenditure met from ordinary revenues Jails—(Jail reform) Ministers, etc.—(Council Secretaries) Secretariat and Headquarters establishments (Andhra representation)	308-309 241 185-187 391-392 324-325 275
Demand for grant— Police—Reserved See Questions and Answers.	756
Government College, Mangalore— Question <i>re</i> Police, beating of students of the —	743-744
Government Headquarters hospital, Ellore— Question <i>re</i> Kurumanadhan, Mr. G. transfer from —	523-524
Government Press— Question <i>re</i> — Living wages for employees in — Overtime allowance drawn by foreman in type-foundry section	152-153 450-451
Government seed depots— Question <i>re</i> inadequacy of stock in — in West Godavari district	587
Government service— Question <i>re</i> private practice by medical officers in —	661-662
Governor, His Excellency the — Address to the Council	865-867
Grant of lands— See Depressed classes.	
Grants to schools— Question <i>re</i> withholding of — for refusal to admit depressed class students	379-380
Grazing— Question <i>re</i> — in reserves in South Kanara	809
Grazing fees— Question <i>re</i> raising of — in Bellary district	79-80
Gudivada— See Police charge.	
Gudivalle— See Damage to property. See Wrongful assault.	
Gundlakamma and Jampaleru rivers— Question <i>re</i> diversion of —	796
Gun licences— Question <i>re</i> cancellation of — in South Kanara	301-302
Guntur— See Lathi charge.	

Hameed Khan, Mr. Abdul—

Bills—	
Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	778-779
Demand for grant—	
Miscellaneous Departments	761
Police—Reserved	750-752
Demand for supplemental grant—	
Administration of justice	765
Police—Reserved	765-766
Head constable—	
See Depressed class head constable.	
Question re transfer of depressed class -- from Karaikudi police station	453
Heads of Provinces and Councils—	
Demand for grant re --	208-217, 235-244
Heads of Provinces—(Extension of term of Ex-Councillor—	
Budget motion re --	210-217
Heads of Provinces—(Formation of Provinces).	
Budget motion re --	235-244
Heads of Provinces—Other charges—	
Budget motion re --	209-210
High Court—	
See Judgment.	
High Court—(Communal representation in the judiciary)—	
Budget motion re --	365-367
Higher Elementary Schools—	
Question re teaching of Agriculture in --	797-798
Hindu Religious Endowments Amending Bill (Madras)—	
Appointment of Chairman of the Select Committee on --	898
Hindu Religious Endowments Act (the Madras)—	
See Bills.	
Hindu Religious Endowments Board—	
Question re Assessment of income of temples by --	12-13
Horwill, Mr. L. C —	
Question re Period of stay in North Arcot district of --, Sessions Judge	742
Hospet Taluk—	
See Cotton.	
See Joga reserve.	
House searches—	
Question re -- in Bezwada	20-21
House-sites—	
Question re -- for Adi-Dravidas in Velliavarambal	538
Question re Non-combatants, assignment of -- to	514-515
Hunger strike—	
Question re -- Rajahmundry Jail	822

I

Idur—	
Question re Construction of a road between -- and Mudur	441-443
Ill-health —	
See Mappilla prisoners.	
Ill-treatment—	
See Depressed classes.	
See Krishnasami Iyengar, Mr.	
See Parthasarathi, Mr.	
Improvements—	
See Nambiyar river.	

I--cont.

Inadmissibility—	
See Acting allowances.	
Indian Penal Code—	
Question re charges against some villagers of Angalur under section 147 of -- ..	153
Industrial Engineering Workshop—	
See Papers laid on the Table.	
Industries—(General)—	
Budget motion re --	673-705
Industries—Transferred—	
Demand for Grant	673-705
Inspector of Motor Vehicles, Nellore—	
Question re --	809-810
Irrigation Advisory Board—	
Question re Resolution of --, Kistna Western and Central deltas	526
Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—	
Budget motion re --	197-208
Irrigation excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project—	
Budget motion re --	190-197
Irrigation—Reserved—	
Budget motion re --	
Expenditure met from ordinary revenues	171-180
Demand for grant	171-197
Irrigation works—	
Question re Contribution by Tinnevely ryots for the maintenance of --	589-591

J

Jails—	
Demand for grant	367-369, 383-404
Question re Supply of raw rice in jails	376
Jails (Jail reform)—	
Budget motion re --	367-369, 383-403
Jayamangali—	
Question re Diversion of the water of -- in Mysore State	14-16
Joga Reserve—	
Question re Cow-units, number in --	80
„ Separation of Bilekal reserve and --	150-151
Judgment—	
Question re Circularization of Mr. Justice Waller's --	305-306

K

Karaikudi Police Station—	
Question re Transfer of a head constable from --	453
Karnavan—	
Question re Suite in 1920 and 1930 for deposing the -- in Malabar	16
'Kasar'.	
See Shrutriyam lands.	
Kesavaramamurthi Nayudu, Mr. K.--	
Budget motion re --	
Education—University (Reform)	483-484
Stamps	95
King George's Hospital—	
Question re Surgeons, appointment of, in -- Vizagapatam	21
Kistna Western Division—	
See Short crop.	

L—cont.

PAGES

Linguistic basis—		
Question re Secretariat, appointments on	228	
Living wages—		
Question re — for employees in Government Press	152-153	
Local boards—		
Question re depressed classes, representation on	522	
„ Muslims, reservation of seats in	229-230	
Local Boards Act (Madras)—		
Draft rule under section 201 (1)	770-773	
Local board areas—		
Question re electoral divisions in	521	
Local board elections—		
Question re Nayudu, Mr. S. V., interference in	79	
Local bodies—		
Question re minority communities, reservation of seats in	658-661	
Loan—		
Question re recovery of — granted to Chathukutti Nayar	442	
Loans and advances—		
Demand for grant re	898	
Lower division clerks—		
Question re acting allowances, inadmissibility to	445-447	
See “ Non-graduate clerks.”		

M

Madras—		
See “ Burglaries.”		
Madras City—		
See “ Land Acquisition Act.”		
Madras Local Boards Act—		
See Local Boards Act (Madras).		
Madras Piecegoods Association—		
Question re memorandum on police excesses in Godown street	307	
Madras Services Commission examinations—		
Question re exemptions from	815-816	
Madura Mills—		
Question re lock — out in the	819-820	
Madura municipality—		
Question re mismanagement of the	148-150	
Mahboob Ali Baig, Mr.—		
Budget motion re —		
High Court (communal representation in the judiciary)	361-362	
Registration—Superintendence	163-166	
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (communal representation)	273	
Survey and settlement	29-30	
See Questions and Answers.		
Mahmad Shamhad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur—		
Budget motion re —		
Agriculture (Policy)	610-611	
Co-operative Credit (Policy)	637-638	
Education—University (Reform)	498-500	
Excise—Superintendence	57-58	
Fisheries (Fisheries Committee recommendations)	705-707	
Jails (jail reform)	392-393	
Public Health establishments (Medical relief)	586	
Presidency Police (Malabar Special Police)	404-405	
Registration—Superintendence	160-161	
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (communal representation)	272	
Stamps	98	
Survey and settlement	46	
See Questions and Answers.		

M—cont.

Malabar—		
See “ Elementary schools.”		
See “ Karnavan.”		
See “ Partition deeds.”		
Malabar rebellion—		
See Mappillas.		
Malabar Special Police—		
Question re Mappillas in	810-811	
See Presidency police.		
Malabar Tenancy Act—		
Question re report on the working of	517	
Malaya—		
Question re employment to coolies returning from	452	
Mangalore—		
See “ Government College, Mangalore.”		
See Police excesses.		
See Lathi charge.		
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.—		
Bill to further amend the Hindu Religious Endowments Act	774	
Budget motion re —		
Administration of justice (tardy disposal of suits)	349-351	
Agriculture — (Policy)	614-615	
Civil Secretariats (Provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board)	337-338	
Ministers, etc. (reduction of salary)	328-329	
Registration — Superintendence	140-141	
Secretariat and headquarters establishments — (Retrenchment)	252	
Survey and settlement	26-27	
Demand for supplementary grant — Administration of justice	763-764	
See Questions and Answers.		
Mappilla children—		
See “ Elementary schools.”		
Mappilla education—		
Question re expenditure on	824-826	
Mappilla prisoners—		
Question re ill-health of — in Alipuram jail	375-376	
Mappillas—		
Question re —, number killed and imprisoned in Malabar rebellion	827-838	
Question re remission of sentences on	829-830	
Mappilla State prisoners—		
Question re number of	742-743	
Marumakkattayam—		
See “ Partition deeds.”		
Medical certificates—		
Question re — for Madras Services Commission examinees	797	
Medical colleges—		
Question re appointment of professors in the — at Madras and Vizagapatam	298-299	
Medical establishments (policy)—		
Budget motion re —	533-558	
Medical examination—		
See “ Tramway motorman.”		
Medical officers—		
Question re post-graduate study, facilities for	522-523	
„ private practice by — in Government service	661-662	
Medical relief—		
See Public Health Establishments (Medical relief).		

M--cont.

PAGE

Medical--Transferred-- Demand for grant	533-558
Memorandum-- See "Madras Piecegoods Association."	
Middle school education-- See "Agriculture."	
Ministers, etc. (Constitution of circles)-- Budget motion <i>re</i> --	313-315
Ministers, etc. (Council Secretaries)-- Budget motion <i>re</i>	315-326
Ministers, etc. (reduction of salary) -- Budget motion <i>re</i>	326-336
Ministers, etc.--Transferred-- Demand for grant	313-340
Minority communities-- Question <i>re</i> reservation of seats for -- in local bodies	658-661
Minor irrigation tanks-- Question <i>re</i> contribution by Nanguneri taluk ryots for maintenance and repair of --	591
Miscellaneous departments--Reserved-- Demand for grant <i>re</i>	716-731
Miscellaneous Departments--Transferred-- See "Demands for grants." Demand for grant <i>re</i>	842-865
Miscellaneous--Reserved and Transferred-- Demand for grant <i>re</i>	898
Mismanagement-- See "Madura municipality."	
Mohideen Kutty, Mr. K.-- Question <i>re</i> ill-health of -- in Cuddalore jail	300-301
Motor vehicles-- Question <i>re</i> tolls or provincial tax on --	524
Motor Vehicles Act-- Question <i>re</i> revision of rules under the --	306
Mudukulattur-- See "Police."	
Mudur-- Question <i>re</i> construction of a road between Idur and --	441-442
Municipal elections-- Question <i>re</i> electoral rules for the conduct of -- preparation of	80
Municipalities-- Question <i>re</i> depressed classes, representation on --	522
,, Muslims, reservation of seats in --	229-230
Muniswami Nayudu, the hon. Diwan Bahadur B. -- Bill further to amend the Hindu Religious Endowments Act	773-774
Bill--Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	781-783
Budget motion <i>re</i> -- Civil Secretariats (Provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board).	339-340
Medical establishments (Policy)	553-558
Ministers, etc. (constitution of circles)	313-314
Ministers, etc. (Council Secretaries)	325-326
Ministers, etc. (reduction of salary)	329-331
Public Health Establishments (Director of Public Health)	562
Public Health Establishments (Policy)	579-581
Public Health Establishments (Sanitation)	564
Condolence resolution, <i>re</i> death of Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja	296-297

M--cont.

PAGE

Muniswami Nayudu, the hon. Diwan Bahadur B.--cont.	
Demand for grants--Civil works--grants-in-aid--Transferred	882, 887-890
,, ,, Medical--Transferred	533
,, ,, Ministers, etc.--Transferred	313
,, ,, Miscellaneous departments--Transferred	760-761
,, ,, Police--reserved	754-755, 757
,, ,, Public Health--Transferred	558
,, ,, Stationery and Printing	762
District Municipalities Act--Draft rule under section 305 (1)	768-770
Madras Local Boards Act--Draft rule under section 201 (1)	770-773
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.--	
Budget motion <i>re</i> Cinchona (Plantations)	668-671
,, <i>re</i> Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	623-624
,, <i>re</i> Co-operative Credit (Policy)	644-647
,, <i>re</i> Excise--Superintendence	83-84
,, <i>re</i> Hydro-electric survey (grant of licences)	460-461
,, <i>re</i> Labour--Direction (Policy)	729
,, <i>re</i> Medical establishments (Policy)	549-550
,, <i>re</i> Secretariat and Headquarter establishments (Abolition of Services Commission)	286-287
,, <i>re</i> Stamps	96
Condolence resolution <i>re</i> death of Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja	296-297
Demands for grants--Civil works--Grants-in-aid--Transferred	886-887
,, ,, Miscellaneous departments--Transferred	846-848
Muslims--	
Question <i>re</i> Appointment of -- in the Secretariat	447
,, Representation of -- in the upper and selection grades of Sub- Registrars	147-148
,, Reservation of seats on local boards and municipalities for --	229-230
Muslim schools-- Question <i>re</i> Deputy Inspectors of --	441
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.-- Budget motion <i>re</i> Administration of justice (tardy disposal of suits)	346-347
,, <i>re</i> Civil Secretariats (Provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowment Board)	338-339
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.-- Budget motion <i>re</i> Heads of Provinces (Formation of Provinces)	237-238
,, <i>re</i> Registration--Superintendence	166-167
,, <i>re</i> Secretariat and Headquarter establishments (retrenchment)	260-261
Mysore State-- See "Jayamangali." See "Swarnamukhi."	
N	
Nashappa Goundar, Mr. K. A.-- Forest--General direction	124-126
Budget motion <i>re</i> Hydro-electric Survey (Grant of licences)	467-468
,, <i>re</i> Irrigation--Cauvery-Mettur project	197-198
Public Health Establishments (Policy)	575-576
Demand for grants-- Civil Works--Reserved and transferred	876
See Questions and Answers.	
Namakkal District Munsif-- Question <i>re</i> Rasipuram taluk, transfer to --	234-235
Nambiyar river-- Question <i>re</i> Improvements to anicuts of the --	517
Nanguneri taluk-- See Minor Irrigation Tanks.	
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.-- Budget motion <i>re</i> -- Public Health Establishments (Policy)	578-579
See Questions and Answers.	

N—cont.

Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
High Court (Communal representation in the judiciary)	356
Narayana Menon, Mr. M. P.—	
Question <i>re</i> beating of — in the Penitentiary	17-18, 152
transfer of — to Vellore jail	225-227
<i>See</i> Papers laid on the table.	
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Legislative Bodies—Establishment	245
Irrigation excluding Cauvery-Mettur project	191-192
Jails (jail reform)	398-399
Survey and settlement	43-44
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.—	
Bills—	
Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	784-785
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Agriculture (Policy)	613-614
Co-operative Credit (Policy)	638-640
Labour—Direction (Policy)	720-721
Medical establishments (Policy)	552-553
Public Health establishments (Medical relief)	566-568
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Education—University (Reform)	493-494
Excise—Superintendence	62-63
Irrigation—Expenditure met from ordinary revenues	184-185
Medical establishments (Policy)	546-549
Public Health establishments (Sanitation)	562-564
Registration—Superintendence	161-163
Secretariat headquarters establishments (recruitments to upper and lower divisions)	290-291
Demand for grants—	
Civil Works—Reserved and transferred	869-871
National flag—	
Question <i>re</i> — and police acts in Bezvada	823
Nayudu, Mr. S. V.—	
Question <i>re</i> Local Board elections, interference by —	78
Non-combatants—	
Question <i>re</i> assignment of house-sites in Madras to —	514-515
assignment of lands to —	77-78
assignment of lands to — in Tanjore district	78
Non-graduate clerks—	
Question <i>re</i> promotion of — from lower to upper division	447

O

Oath of office—	
Raja of Kirlampudi, the	440
Raja of Parlakimedi, the	440
Octavins Steel & Co., Messrs.—	
Question <i>re</i> electric supply to Salem and Erode, grant of licence to — for	151-152
Omair taluk—	
Question <i>re</i> Reserved Forest area in —, assignment of	223
Oopasikavu Elementary School—	
Question <i>re</i> mismanagement of —	586
Oppression—	
<i>See</i> Depressed class head constable.	

O—cont.

Oriyas—	
Question <i>re</i> appointment as Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons	453-454
representation of — in police and judiciary	827
representation in the Registration department	298
Government Press, overtime allowance drawn by foreman in type-foundry section	450-451
<i>See</i> Deputy Superintendents of Police.	

P

Palat, Mr. R. M.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Secretariat and headquarter establishments (Retrenchment)	256-257
Demand for grants—	
Civil Works—Reserved and transferred	871-874
Panel of Chairmen —	
Announcement <i>re</i> —	155
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Education—University (Reform)	500-504
Industries (General)	699-701
Ministers, etc. (Council Secretaries)	319-321
Ministers, etc. (reduction of salary)	333
Papers laid on the table—	
Finance Committee—proceedings of the, dated 12th March 1931	899
Finance Committee, proceedings of the seventh meeting of the	731
Industrial Engineering Workshop, Government Order on the audit report of	292
Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, audit report regarding the	506
Selection of police sub-inspectors and resignations from them	899-916
Statement <i>re</i> the question about the assault on Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon	506
Parthasarathi, Mr.—	
Question <i>re</i> ill-treatment by police of — in Rattan Bazaar	372-373
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
High Court (communal representation in the judiciary)	362-363
Legislative Bodies—Standing Counsel for hon. President	246
Ministers, etc. (Council Secretaries)	324
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Partition deeds—	
Question <i>re</i> registered — by Aliyarantana and Marumakkattayam people in 1930	148
registered — by Marumakkattayam people in Malabar in 1930	148
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Administration of Justice (tardy disposal of suits)	349
Civil Secretariats (Provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowment Board)	339
High Court (communal representation in the judiciary)	364-365
<i>See</i> Questions and Answers.	
Patio, Sir A. P.—	
Bills—	
The Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	775, 776, 781
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Industries (General)	693-697
Demand for grant —	
Police reserved	752-754
Peddapuram—	
<i>See</i> Lathi charge.	
Pensions—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	895
Petty yard officers—	
Question <i>re</i> qualifications of —, revision of rules regarding	586-587

	P—cont.	PAGES
Picketers—		
Question re Ambulance Party, prevention from aiding — in the City		744
„ Throwing of stones at — at Frazer Bridge Road		307
Plantations—		
See Cinchona (Plantations).		
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.—		
Budget motion re		
Education—University (Reform)		504-506
Industries (General)		691-692
Jails—(jail reform)		396-397
Ministers, etc. (Council Secretaries)		315-317
Registration—Superintendence		187-140
Stamps		92-98
Survey and Settlement		36-37
See Questions and Answers.		
Police—		
Question re Beating by — of students of Government College, Mangalore, on 20th February 1931		743-744
Remissness of duty on the part of the — of Mudukulattur		452-453
See "Ill-treatment."		
See "Ramachandrapuram club."		
Police charge—		
Question re — in Mr. Ramayya Punja's compound		835-836
„ on shopkeepers in Gudivada		834
Police constables—		
Question re oppression of a depressed class head constable by — in Aruppukottai.		453
Police excesses—		
Question re Madras Piecegoods Association, Memorandum on — in Godown street.		307
„ in Mangalore		836
Police ill-treatment.—		
See "Gandhi Cap wearers."		
Police raid—		
Question re — on the Congress hospital at Madras		839-840
Police-Reserved—		
Demand for grant		404-426
Police staff—		
Question re Traffic control, strength of — engaged in —		512-514
Police Sub-Inspectors—Selections and resignations—		
See papers laid on the table.		
Political prisoners—		
Question re number and class of —		301
Port Trust Act, Amendment of the Madras—		
See Agent for Government consignments.		
Post-graduate study—		
See "Medical officers."		
Premayya, Mr. G. R.		
Budget motion re		
Education University (Reform)		492-493
Excise—Superintendence		60-61
Public Health Establishment (Medical relief)		570-571
Presidency police—		
Budget motion re — (Malabar special police)		404-426
President, the hon. the—		
Announcement re the nomination of Mr. W. M. Browning to the panel of Chairmen		165
Announcement re number of questions received and answered during the session.		841-842
Bills—		
Madras Co-operative Societies Bill		777, 778, 779, 780, 783, 785, 786
Panel of Chairmen—		

	P—cont.	PAGES
President, the hon. the—cont.		
Prorogation of Council		898
Select Committees, appointment of chairmen of —		898
Presses—		
Question re security from —		382
Prisoners—		
See Advisory Board.		
See Boretal School prisoners.		
Private practice—		
See Medical officers.		
Procession—		
Question re forcible dispersal of a—at Udipi on 26th January 1931		743
Professors—		
Question re appointment of — in the Medical Colleges at Madras and Vizagapatam		298-299
Promotion—		
See Lower division clerks.		
See Sub-Assistant Surgeons.		
Proposals—		
See Tank Restoration Scheme.		
Prorogation — of Council.		
Message from His Excellency the Governor re		898
Prosecution—		
See Sundaram, Mr. V. A.		
Provincial tax—		
Question re levy of — on motor vehicles		524
Public Accounts Committee for 1931-32—		
Election to the —		22
Public Health—		
Question re reports on —		747
Public Health establishments (D.P.H.)—		
Budget motion re —		558-562
Public Health establishments (Medical relief)—		
Budget motion re —		564-581
Public Health establishments (Sanitation)—		
Budget motion re —		562-564
Public Health museums—		
Question re — opening of —		811
Public Health—Transferred—		
Demand for grant		558-581
Public Service Examination—		
Question re copyist — examiners, exemption from —		448, 455
Public Works Department—		
See Assistant Engineers.		
Qualifications—		
See Petty yard officers.		
Questions and Answers—		
Abdul Hameed Khan, Mr.—		
Question re Acting allowances, inadmissibility to lower division clerks acting in upper division		445-447
„ Ambulance party, prevention from aiding picketers in the city		744
„ Blake, Mr., diet given to		450
„ Caving of picketers in Madras		831-833
„ non-combatants, assignments of house-sites in Madras to —		514-515
„ non-combatants, assignment of lands in Tanjore district		78
„ non-combatants, statement of lands assigned to —		77-78

Questions and Answers—cont.

Abdul Hameed Khan, Mr.—cont.

Question re non-graduate lower division clerks, promotion to upper division ..	447
" picketers, throwing of stones at Frazer's Bridge Road ..	307
" Ramachandrapuram Club, prevention of a business meeting of— ..	222
" Sub-Assistant Surgeons, promotion to cadre of Civil Assistant Surgeons ..	378-379
" water-supply in Tirukkalkunram ..	802-803

Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.—

Question re unpassed men in Revenue Department ..	793-794
---	---------

Arasu, Mr. V. T.—

Question re burglaries in Madras from 1st November 1930 to 1st February 1931 ..	74-75
---	-------

Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur, R. N.—

Question re Sanitary Engineer to Government, appointment of — ..	297-298
--	---------

Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, Mr.—

Question re Chattakutti Nayar, recovery of loan granted to— ..	442
" Deputy Inspectors of Muslim schools ..	441
" Muslims in the upper and selection grades of Sub-Registrars, representation of — ..	147-148
" tramway motorman, medical examination of — ..	524-525
" vacancies in upper and selection grade of Sub-Registrars ..	146-147

Basu Dev, Mr. C.—

Question re Government Press, overtime allowance drawn by foreman of type-foundry section in the — ..	450-451
" judgment of Mr. Justice Waller, circularization of — ..	305-306
" living wages for employees in Government Press ..	152-153

Bayabani Sahib, Mr. S. M. K.—

Question re Assault on Musalmans by Adi-Dravidas near Vaniambadi ..	836-837
" Cumbum tank, aorage under — ..	812
" Cumbum tank, supply of water to — ..	443-444
" Gundlakamma and Jampalera rivers, diversion of — ..	796
" Horwill, Mr. L. C., Sessions Judge, period of stay in North Arcot district ..	742
" Mappillas, number killed and imprisoned in Malabar rebellion ..	837-838
" training schools, number and employment of students trained in — ..	155

Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.—

Question re Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars, age restriction for selection of — ..	228
---	-----

Devadason, Mr. M.

Question re depressed classes and Christians, applications for Deputy Tahsildars from — ..	444-445
" depressed classes and Christians, applications for district munsifs ..	448
" depressed classes, assignment of waste lands to — ..	515-516
" depressed class head constable, oppression by caste police constables in Aruppukottai ..	453
" District Court, Tinnevely, filling up of copyist's posts ..	448
" head constable of Karaikudi police station, transfer of — ..	453
" Irrigation works, contribution by ryots of Tinnevely for the maintenance of — ..	589-591
" Malabar Tenancy Act, report on the working of — ..	517
" minor irrigation tanks, contribution by Nanguneri taluk ryots for maintenance and repair of — ..	591
" Nambiyar river, improvements to anicuts of the — ..	517
" Police of Mudukulattur, remissness of duty on the part of — ..	452-453

Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.—

Question re Land Acquisition Act, extension to Madras City for provision of houses to depressed classes ..	591-592
" Sanitary arrangements—representation from Adi-Dravida Sangam of Arkonam ..	741

Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.—

Question re Excise officials ..	798
---------------------------------	-----

Questions and Answers.

Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.—	
Question re Vyasarpadi lake, breaches in the — ..	516
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.—	
Question re Gazetteer of Chingleput district, issue of — ..	658
Kolanda Reddi, Rao Sahib C.—	
Question re communal representation in the Secretariat ..	827
" lathi charge on a public meeting in Guntur ..	834
" linguistic representation in the Secretariat staff ..	816
" Madras piece-goods Association, memorandum re police excesses in Godown street ..	307
" Narayana Menon, Mr. M. P., beating of — ..	152
" police charge on shopkeepers in Gudivada ..	834
" resolution of the Chamber of Local Boards re cancellation of certain Government orders ..	814
Kondappa, Mr. A.—	
Question re Jayamangali and Swarnamukhi, diversion in Mysore State of the water of — ..	14-16
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.—	
Question re Ramachandrapuram Club and reading room, prevention by police of the general body meeting of — ..	222
Madhusudhanan Thangal, Mr.—	
Question re — Excise Inspectors, promotion of — ..	12
Mahboob Ali Baig, Mr.—	
Question re minority communities, reservation of seats in local bodies ..	658-661
" Muslims reservation of seats on local boards and municipalities ..	229-230
" national flag and police acts in Bezwada ..	828
" reservation of seats in local bodies ..	813-814
Mahmud Sohamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur—	
Question re appointment of Muslims in the Secretariat ..	447
" copyist establishment in Revenue offices, reduction of — ..	300
" Mappillas in Malabar Special Police ..	810-811
" Revenue Department, receipts and expenditure in the copyist section of — ..	300
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.—	
Question re appointment of assistant in the Madras Record office ..	815
Moses, Mr. P. O.—	
Question re depressed classes, cancellation of grant of lands in the West Godavari and Kistna districts ..	21
" Irrigation Advisory Board, Kistna Western and Central deltas, resolution of — ..	526
" girl students in Arts colleges ..	822
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.—	
Question re depressed classes, ill-treatment in Devakottai subdivision ..	307
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.—	
Question re Co-operative banks in Salem district, increase of — ..	297
" electric supply to Salem and Erode, grant of licence to Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. ..	151-152
" electricity, supply to Salem and Erode municipalities ..	76-77
" exemptions from Madras Service Commission examinations ..	815-816
" reserved forest area, assignment in Omalur taluk ..	223
" Salem College, disaffiliation of — ..	440-441
" Salem College site ..	812
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major, S. A.—	
Question re Agnikula Kshatriyas, concessions to — ..	531
" supply of drinking water to Salem town from Mettar dam ..	811
Narayana Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.—	
Question re inspector of motor vehicles, Nellore ..	809-810
" Narayana Menon, Mr. M. P., alleged beating of — ..	17-18
Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.—	
Question re look-out in the Madura mills ..	819-820

Q—cont.

PAGES

Questions and Answers—cont.

Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.—	
Question re gun licences in Chittoor district, cancellation of —	74
„ rural reconstruction, proposals re —	662-663
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman, M. G.—	
Question re Balaram Palo, State prisoner	840-841
„ Nayudu, Mr. S. V., interference in local board elections	79
„ Oriyas, appointment as Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons	453-454
„ Oriya Deputy Superintendents of Police	306
„ Oriyas, representation in the Registration department	298
Poeker Sahib, Mr. B.—	
Question re caning of certain constables in private dress by Malabar Special Police	821-822
„ Krishnaswami Ayyangar and Parthasarathi, ill-treatment by police of —	812-873
„ Kunhali Haji, State prisoner	828-829
„ Mappilla prisoners in Alipuram Jail, ill-health of —	375-376
„ Mappilla State prisoners, number of —	742-743
„ Mohideen Kutti Mr. K. ill-health in Cuddalore Jail	800-801
„ Narayana Menon, Mr. M. P., alleged beating of —	17-18
„ Narayana Menon, Mr. M. P., transfer to Vellore Jail	225-227
„ remission of assessment in Malabar	793
„ remission of sentences on Mappillas	829-830
Raja of Parlakimedi—	
Question re Chioacole Taluk Board	813
„ Oriya representation in Police and Judiciary	827
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala—	
Question re Surgeons in King George's Hospital, Vizagapatam, appointment of —	21
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.—	
Question re copyist-examiners, exemption from Public Services examination	448
„ Ekambaranallur cheri, acquisition of lands for the extension of —	802-804
„ electoral divisions in local board areas	531
„ look-out in the Madura mills	820
„ Medical Colleges, Madras and Vizagapatam, appointment of professors in the —	298-299
„ Quit-rent on certain land in Wall Tax road	793
„ Reed Sahib channel, repairs to the —	377-378
„ South Indian Railway Union premises, acquisition of —	514
„ Tanks supplied by the Kurusalapet Reed Sahib channel and the Tirupattur tank	377
„ Tirupattur tank, supply of water to —	377
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.—	
Question re advisory board for the release of prisoners	817-818
„ Bilekal and Joga reserves, separation of —	150-151
„ charges against some villagers of Angalur under section 147, Indian Penal Code	153
„ cotton outturn in Hospet taluk	379
„ cow-units in Joga reserve, number of —	80
„ fishing in the Adyar	798-799
„ grazing fees in Bellary district, raising of —	79-80
„ house searches in Bezvada	20-21
„ lanka ryots, representation for remission of lease amount	16-17
„ lathi charge on prisoners transferred to Vellore Jail, enquiry into	77
„ Political prisoners, number and class of —	301
„ prices of sugar and gur	799-800
„ Seethakantham (Mr. P.) of Tiruvur, ill treatment of—by police	810
„ Sivarama Krishnayya (Mr.), prosecution of —	835
„ sugarcane cultivation	812
„ tariff duty on sugar and gur	800
„ Tank Restoration Scheme establishment, proposals re strengthening of —	443
„ wrongful assault and damage to property, notices by villagers of Angalur village	744
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.—	
Question re 'Adi-Dravida Christians' — significance of the term	838-839
„ house-sites for Adi-Dravidas in Villiavarambal	838

PAGES

Q—cont.

Questions and Answers—cont.

Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.—	
Question re lease of timber in Ulandi forests.. .. .	807
„ teakwood sale at Beypore	807-808
Rangaswami Reddiyar, Mr. M. B.—	
Question re Copyist examiners, exemption from Public Services examination	455
„ medical certificates for Madras Services Commission Examinees	797
„ Presses, demand of security from —	382
„ Public health museums	811
„ Public health, reports on —	747
„ quinine distribution in the Presidency	664
„ Rasipuram taluk, transfer of, to Namakal District Munsif	234-235
„ shrotriyam lands, levy of 'Kasar' for cultivation of —	592
„ Sundaram, Mr. V. A., prosecution and acquittal of —	382
„ T.A.B. vaccine, free supply of — to local bodies	811
„ tanks in North Arcot district affected by cyclone	797
„ tuberculosis, high incidence of —	811
Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.—	
Question re coolies returning from Malaya, employment to —	452
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.—	
Question re Damodaram, Mr. N., appeal for remission of sentence	223-225
Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.—	
Question re Civil Disobedience Movement, release of prisoners convicted in connexion with the —	380-381
„ hunger strike in Rajahmundry Jail	822
„ lathi charge at Guntur on 6th March 1931	154-155
„ Police raid on the Congress hospital at Madras	839
„ release of prisoners (Somayajulu and Subba Rao)	818-819
„ short crop in Kistna Western division, action taken on report of special party on	235
„ village officers dismissed in connexion with Civil Disobedience Movement, restoration of —	745-746
„ water-rates, classification and increase of —	454-455
Shetty, Mr. A. B.—	
Question re Agricultural College at Coimbatore, admissions to —	233-234
„ Agricultural College, qualifications of candidates for admission into —	663
„ Agricultural instruction in higher elementary schools	797-798
„ agriculture, popularization of middle school education in —	234
„ Aliyasantana and Marumakkattayam people, partition deeds by —	148
„ Aliyasantana family yajamans, suit in 1929 and 1930 for deposing the —	76
„ Appropriation Accounts of Madras Government for 1928-29, Accountant-General's report on —	588-589
„ arrack shops in the Presidency, auction sales of —	12
„ boring operations in South Kanara	800
„ Cauvery-Mettur district, scrutiny of the budget of —	658
„ Cauvery-Mettur Project unexpended loan	794-795
„ coconut pest in South Kanara	813
„ compulsory education in Malabar	795-796
„ Cottage Industries Committee, orders passed on the report of —	80-81
„ crop protection licences granted in South Kanara in 1929 and 1930	372
„ depressed classes in local board schools	823-824
„ depressed classes in Ramnad district, ill-treatment of —	304-305
„ depressed classes, representation on municipalities and local boards	522
„ disafforestation in South Kanara	809
„ expenditure on Cauvery-Mettur Project	804-806
„ fishermen on the West Coast, distress of —	525-526
„ grants to schools, withholding — for refusal to admit depressed class students	379-380
„ grazing in reserves in South Kanara	809
„ gun licences in South Kanara, cancellation of —	301-302
„ jails, supply of raw rice in —	376
„ Karnavan in Malabar, suits in 1929 and 1930 for deposing the —	76

Q—cont.

Questions and Answers—cont.

Shetty Mr. A. B.—cont.

Question re lathi charge at Udipi on 26th January 1931	221-222
„ Leprosy, scheme for combating —	13
„ Mappilla education, expenditure on —	824-5
„ Marumakkattayam people in Malabar, partition deeds in 1930 by—	148
„ Medical officers, facilities for post-graduate study	522-523
„ Medical officers in Government service, private practice by —	661-662
„ Motor Vehicles Act, revision of rules under the —	306
„ Oorpatikavu Elementary School, North Malabar, mismanagement of —	586
„ Petty yard officers, revision of rules regarding qualifications of —	586-587
„ Procession at Udipi, forcible dispersal of —	743
„ quinine, proposals re free distribution of —	231-232
„ reserves in South Kanara, extent of forests added to —	449
„ rinderpest, research	587-588
„ road between Idur and Mudur, construction of —	441-442
„ Ramur Research station	740
„ Teaching staff of elementary schools for Mappilla children in Malabar and South Kanara	736-737
„ Toddy shop in Calicut municipality, removal of —	586
„ tolls, levy on motor vehicles	524
„ Traffic control, strength of Police staff engaged in —	512-514
„ Trawler “Lady Goschen”	737-738, 738-740
„ Unemployment Committee, action taken on the report of the —	373-375
„ venereal diseases and Dr. Happer's scheme	825-826
„ Child animals in south Kanara	808
„ women convicts, rescue homes	792
„ Yard officers, training of —	799
Simbachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.—	
Question re Electrical Department Subordinate staff, qualifications of —	816
„ Electrical Inspector to Government	806
„ Electrical Inspector to Government (Junior)	806-807
„ electrifications schemes for certain municipalities, defects in the —	816-817
„ Director of Industries improvements effected by the —	801
„ District Health Officers and District Board Engineers in the Presidency	803, 906
„ Secretariat, appointments on a linguistic basis	228
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.—	
Question re elections to the Frichinopoly Temple Committee	804
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.—	
Question re Borstal school prisoners, release of —	450
„ dry assessment on wet lands in Tanjore district, levy and collection of —	745
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.—	
Question re depressed classes, ill-treatment in Devakottai division	450
„ Thekkady, posting of sub-assistant surgeons to —	814-815
Subbarayan, Dr. P.—	
Question re lathi charge at Peddapuram	820
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.—	
Question re Civil Disobedience Movement, arrest and remand of ladies in Madras connected with the —	381-382
„ Civil Disobedience Movement, instructions re methods to combat the —	372
„ Hindu Religious Endowments Board, assessment of income of temples by —	12-13
„ lathi charge at Udipi on 26th January 1931	220-221
„ lathi charge in Mangalore maidan	836
„ Police, beating of students of Government College, Mangalore, on 20th February 1931	743-744
„ Police charge in Mr. Ramaya Punja's compound	885-836
„ Police excesses in Mangalore	836
„ Police said on the congress hospital at Madras	839-840
„ Tasdikis, withholding to certain temples of —	281

Q—cont.

PAGES

Questions and Answers—cont.

Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.—cont.

Question re Temple committees, constitution of district —	517-521
„ tuberculosis in South Kanara, facilities for treatment of —	740-741
„ typhoid, prevention of — in Mangalore	803-804
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.—	
Question re Assistant Engineers in the Public Works Department, recruitment of —	663-664
„ dam across river Cheyar, construction of —	742
„ insecurity of property and person in Ambattur	792
Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib B.—	
Question re Andhra Medical men on study leave	815
„ Gandhi cap wearers at Antervedi, ill-treatment by Police	19-20
„ Government seed depots in West Godavari district, inadequacy of stock in —	587
„ Kurmanadhen, Mr. G., transfer from Government Headquarters Hospital, Ellore	523-524
„ Madura municipality, mismanagement of —	148-150
„ tobacco, deficiency in burning qualities of —	233
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur—	
Question re Electoral rules for conduct of municipal elections, preparation of —	80
Yakub Hassan, Mr.—	
Question re trawler “Lady Goschen”	746
Quinine—	
Question re distribution of — in the Presidency	664
„ free distribution of —, proposals re —	231-232
Quinine supply—	
See Cinchona (Quinine supply).	
Quit-rent—	
Question re collection of — on certain land in Wall Tax Road	793

R

Rajan, the hon. Mr. P. T.—

Bills—	
The Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	774-775
Budget motion re—	
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	628-629
Agriculture (Policy)	616-617
Agriculture—(Agricultural Commissioner's recommendations)	601-603
Co-operative Credit (Policy)	666-668
Registration—Superintendence	169-171
Resolution re Central Land Mortgage Bank	767-768
Demand for grant—	
Agriculture—Transferred	593
Civil Veterinary Services	618
Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant—Transferred	379
Civil Works—Reserved and Transferred	876-879
Co-operative Societies	629
Registration	131
Demand for supplementary grant—	
Co-operative Societies	767
Raja of Kirlampudi, the—	
Demands for grants—	
Civil works—Grants-in aid—Transferred	882
Oath of office	440
Raja of Parlakimedi, the—	
Oath of office	440
See Questions and Answers.	
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. K.—	
Budget motion re —	
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	627-628

R—cont.

Ramaohandrapuram Club—	
Question <i>re</i> Prevention of a business meeting of —	222
„ prevention by police of the annual general body meeting of —	222
Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Agriculture (Commission's recommendations)	599-601
Agriculture (Policy)	605-609
Co-operative Credit (Policy)	629-636, 668
Education—University (Reform)	469-474
Forest—General direction	109-115
High Court (Communal representation in the judiciary)	358-361
Hydro-electric survey (Grant of licences)	429-434
Industries (General)	673-674, 705
Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project	199-201
Irrigation excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project	194-195
Ministers, etc (Reduction of salary)	331-333
Secretariat and Headquarter establishments (Retrenchment)	247-251, 269-270
Stamps	90-92, 101-103
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	626-627
Co-operative Credit (Policy)	642-643
Excise—Superintendence	59-60
Hydro-electric survey (Grant of licences)	464-467
Labour—Direction (Policy)	722-724
Public Health establishment (Medical relief)	568-570
Survey and Settlement	40-43
Demands for grants—	
Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred	884-885
Famine relief—Reserved	891-892
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.—	
Bill—	
Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	778, 779, 780, 781, 785, 786
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Forest—General direction	122-124
Labour—Direction (Policy)	724-728
Secretariat and Headquarter establishments (Retrenchment)	257-260
Demand for grants—	
Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred	882-884
Demand for supplementary grant—	
Administration of Justice	764
See Questions and Answers.	
Ramnad district—	
See Depressed classes.	
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	624
Ministers, etc. (Constitution of circles)	313, 314-315
Survey and Settlement	45, 47
Demands for grants—	
Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred	887
Famine relief—Reserved	890-891, 895
Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	851
See Questions and Answers.	
Rangaswami Reddiyar, Mr. M. B.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Cinchona (Quinine supply)	672
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	620-621
Forest—General direction	117-118
Survey and Settlement	24-29
See Questions and Answers.	
Rasipuram taluk—	
Question <i>re</i> transfer of—to Namakal District Munsif.,	234-235

R—cont.

Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	355
Administration of Justice (tardy disposal of suits)—	212, 213
Heads of Provinces: (Extension of term of Executive Councillors)	455-459
Hydro-electric survey (Grant of licences)	201-203, 206-207
Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project	
Demand for grants—	
Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred	885-886
Demand for grant—	
Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	761
Receipts and Expenditure—	
See Revenue department.	
Recovery—	
See Loan.	
Recruitment—	
See Assistant Engineers.	
Reduction—	
See Copyist establishment.	
Reed Sahib channel—	
Question <i>re</i> repairs to the —	377-378
Refunds of Revenue—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	898
Registration department—	
Question <i>re</i> Representation of Oriyas in the —	298
Registration—Superintendence—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	131-141, 155-171
Registration—	
Demand for grant <i>re</i> —	131-141, 155-171
Release of prisoners—	
Question <i>re</i> — (Somayajulu and Subba Rao)	818-819
See Civil disobedience movement.	
Remand—	
See Civil disobedience movement.	
See Ladies.	
Remission—	
See Lanka ryots.	
Remission of sentence —	
Question <i>re</i> Appeal of Mr. N. Damodaram for —	223-225
Remissness of duty—	
See Police.	
Repairs—	
See Reed Sahib channel.	
Report—	
See Appropriation accounts.	
See Cottage Industries Committee.	
See Malabar Tenancy Act.	
See Public health.	
See Short crop.	
See Unemployment Committee.	
Representation—	
See Adi-Dravida Sangham.	
See Depressed classes.	
See Muslims.	
See Oriyas.	
Research—	
See Rinderpest.	
Research station—	
Question <i>re</i> Tanur	740

R—cont.

Reservation— See Minority communities.	
Reserves— Question re Forests, extent added to — in South Kanara	449
Reservation of seats— See Muslims.	
Reservation of seats in local bodies— Question re —	813-814
Reserved Forest area— Question re Assignment of — in Omalur taluk	223
Resolution re— Central Land Mortgage Bank	767-768
Restoration— See Village officers.	
Revenue Department— Question re receipts and expenditure in the copyist section of the —	300
Revenue offices— See Copyist establishment.	
Rice— Question re supply of raw rice in jails	376
Rinderpest— Question re Research into —	587-588
Road— Question re construction of a — between Idur and Mudur	441-442
Rules— See Motor-vehicles Act.	
Rulings— Budget— Members will be called upon in the order in which their motions appear on the agenda	535-536
Mover of a out motion may be allowed a right of reply	101
When a budget motion raising a point is already under discussion, motions raising the same point need not be moved specifically but members giving notice of them may take part in the debate on the original motion which alone will be voted upon	29
Debate— In debate, reference need not be made to interpellations which were not admitted	275
Decorum— Members may not, when a debate is going on, read books unconnected with the subject matter thereof	634
Rural reconstruction— Question re Proposals regarding	662-663

S

Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.—

Budget motion re —	
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	623
Co-operative credit (Policy)	640-642
District Administration (work in Collectorate)	309-312
Excise-Superintendence	63-64
Heads of provinces (Extension of term of Executive Councillors)	215-217
Labour-Direction (Deputy Commissioners)	716-718
Medical Establishments (Policy)	535, 536-537
Public Health Establishments (Policy)	574-575
Registration-Superintendence	156
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments (Abolition of the Madras Services Commission)	280
Survey and Settlement	27-28

S—cont.

Demands for grants— Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred See Questions and Answers.	848-850
Salem— See Electricity. See Electric supply. See Octavius Steel and Company.	
Salem College— Question re Disaffiliation of —	440-441
Salem College site— Question re —	812
Salem district— See Co-operative Banks.	
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.— Budget motion re— Co-operative credit (Policy) Education—University (Reform) Excise-Superintendence Heads of provinces—Extension of term of Executive Councillors Hydro-Electric Survey (Grant of licences) Industries—(Edited and unedited copies of the Industrial Engineering Workshop Annual report) Industries—(General) Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project Jails—(Jail reform) Ministers, etc. (Council Secretaries) Presidency police (Malabar special police) Public Health Establishments (Director of Public Health) Survey and Settlement	649-651 484-487 55-57 210-212, 217 427-429 676, 677, 679 697-699 204-206, 208 367-369, 383-390, 401, 403 321-324 405-409 558-560, 562 31-33
Demand for grant— Famine relief—Reserved See Questions and Answers.	892-893
Sanitary arrangements— Question re Adi-Dravida Sangam of Arkonam, representation re —	741
Sanitary Engineers to Government— Question re Appointment of —	297-298
Sanitation — See Public Health Establishments (Sanitation).	
Sarishtadar, Cuddapah— See Nayudu, Mr. S. V.	
Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.— Budget motion re— Agent for Government Consignments — (Amendment of the Port Trust Act) Excise — Superintendence Forest — General direction Jails — (Jail reform) Stamps	426-427 82-83 125-126 390-391 94-95
Demand for grants— Miscellaneous Departments — Transferred See Questions and Answers.	858-859
Secretariat— Question re linguistic representation in the — See Appointment. See Communal representation. See Muslims. See Lower Division clerks.	228, 816
Secretariat and headquarter establishments (Abolition of Madras Services Commission)— Budget motion re —	280-289
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Age-exemption)— Budget motion re —	290

S—cont.

Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Andhra representation)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	274-276
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Communal representation)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	271-274
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Newspapers and Government advertisements)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	276
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Press Ordinance)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	276-279
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (re-appointment of retired officers)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	270-271
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Recruitments to upper and lower divisions)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	290-292
Secretariat and headquarters establishments — (Retrenchment)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	247-270
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Selection grade for clerks)—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	308
Secretariat and headquarters establishments—	
Demand for grants <i>re</i>	246-292, 308-313
Security—	
Question <i>re</i> Demand of — from Presses	382
Seethakantham, Mr. P. (Tiruvur)—	
Question <i>re</i> ill-treatment of — by Police—	810
Selection grade—	
See Sub-Registrars.	
Sessions Judge—	
See Horwill, Mr. L. C.—	
Shetty, Mr. A. B.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Administration of Justice (tardy disposal of suits)	342-343
Agriculture — (Agricultural Commission's recommendations)	601
Agriculture — (Policy)	611-613
Civil Secretariats — (Provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board)	336-337
Civil Veterinary Services (Policy)	621-623
Education — University (Reform)	488-491
Fisheries — (Fisheries Committee recommendations)	707-709
Forest — General direction	115-117
Hydro electric survey (Grant of licences)	434-435
Industries (General)	683-684
Irrigation — excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project	190-191
Public Health Establishments (Medical relief)	564-566
Survey and Settlement	23-26
See Questions and Answers.	
Short crop—	
Question <i>re</i> special party on —, action taken on the report of —	235
Shrotriya lands—	
Question <i>re</i> Levy of 'Kasar' for cultivation of —	592
Simhaachalam, Mr. G.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Registration — Superintendence	168
Secretariat and headquarters establishments (Retrenchment)	266-267
Stamps	97
See Questions and Answers.	
Siva Raj, Mr. N.—	
Bills—	
Madras Co-operative Societies Bill	783, 785

S—cont.

Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Presidency Police (Malabar Special Police)	420-421
Registration — Superintendence	168
Sivaramakrishnayya, Mr.—	
Question <i>re</i> prosecution of —	835
South Indian Railway Union—	
Question <i>re</i> acquisition of the — premises	514
South Kanara—	
See Aliyasantana Family Yajamaus.	
See Crop protection licences.	
See Elementary schools.	
See Forests.	
See Gun licences.	
See Partition deeds.	
See Reserves.	
See Tasdikas.	
See Tuberculosis.	
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Education — University (Reform)	481-483
Excise — Superintendence	58-59
Industries (General)	684-688
Demands for grants—	
Civil Works — Reserved and Transferred	868-869, 879
Miscellaneous Departments — Transferred	859-860
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.—	
Bills—	
Bill further to amend the Hindu Religious Endowments Act	774
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Industries (General)	689-691
Ministers, etc. (reduction of salary)	334
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments — (Retrenchment)	252-253
Education — University (Reform)	487-488
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Head of Provinces—Other charges	209, 210
Labour—Direction (Policy)	719-720
Presidency police—(Malabar Special Police)	409-411
Demand for grants—	
Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred	853-856
Stamps—	
Budget motion <i>re</i>	90-105
Demand for grant <i>re</i>	90-105
State Prisoners—	
See Mappilla State prisoners.	
Stationery and Printing—	
Demand for grants <i>re</i>	896-897
Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred—	
See Demand for grant.	
Stokes, the hon. Mr. H. G.—	
Budget motion <i>re</i> —	
Secretariat and Headquarter establishments (Retrenchment)	267-269
Civil Works—Establishment—Tools and plant—Transferred	881-882
Famine Relief—Reserved	893-895
Pensions—Reserved	895
Demand for Supplementary grant—	
Expenditure in England other than on stores	767
Stone-throwing—	
See Picketers.	

S—cont.

Study leave— See Andhra Medical men.	
Sub-Assistant Surgeons— Question re Oriyas, appointment as —	453-454
„ promotion of — to cadre of Civil Assistant Surgeons	378-379
Subbarayan, Dr. P.— Budget motion re— Excise—Superintendence	81-82
Industries (General)	701-702
Ministers, etc. (reduction of salaries)	334-335
Presidency police (Malabar Special Police)	422-423
See Questions and Answers.	
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.— Budget motion re— Administration of justice (tardy disposal of suits)	343-344
Heads of Provinces (Formation of Provinces)	239
Public Health establishments (Medical relief)	572-573
Stamps	96
See Questions and Answers.	
Sub-Registrars— Question re Muslims, representation in the upper and selection grades of —	147-148
„ vacancies in the upper and selection grades of —	146-147
Sugar and gur— Question re prices of —	799-800
„ tariff duty on —	800
Sugarcane cultivation— Question re —	812
Suits— See Aliyasantana Family Yajamans. See Karnavan.	
Sundaram, Mr. V. A.— Question re prosecution and acquittal of —	382
Surgeons— Question re appointment of — in King George's Hospital, Vizagapatam	21
Survey and Settlement— Budget motion re —	22-48
Swarnamukhi— Question re diversion of the water of — in Mysore State	14-16
T.A.B. Vaccine— Question re free supply of — to local bodies	811

T

Tahsildars— Question re age restriction for selection of —	228
Tanjore district— See Dry assessment.	
Tank Restoration Scheme establishment— Question re strengthening of the —, proposals for	443
Tanur— Question re research station at —	740
Tasdiqs— Question re withholding to certain temples of —	231
Teaching staff— See Elementary schools.	
Teakwood— Question re sale of — at Beypore	807-808
Temple Committees— Question re constitution of district —	517-521

T—cont.

Temple Committee, Trichinopoly— Question re elections to the —	804
Temples— Question re assessment of income of — by Hindu Religious Endowments Board.	12-13
See Tasdiqs.	
Tirukkalikunram— See Water-supply.	
Tinnevely district— See Irrigation works.	
Tirupattur tank— Question re supply of water to —	377
„ tanks supplied by the —	377
Tobacco— Question re deficiency in burning qualities of —	233
Toddy shop— Question re removal of a — in Calicut municipality	586
Tolls— Question re levy of — on motor vehicles	524
Traffic Control— Question re Police staff engaged in — in the Presidency	512-514
Training schools— Question re students trained in —, number and employment of	155
Tramway motorman— Question re medical examination of —	524-525
Transfer— See Head constable. See Kurmanadhan, Mr. G. See Narayana Menon. See Rasipuram taluk.	
Trawler— Question re 'Lady Goschen'	737-738, 738-740, 746
Treatment— See Tuberculosis.	
Tuberculosis— Question re treatment of —, facilities for	740-741
„ high incidence of —	811
Type foundry section— See Government Press.	
Typhoid— Question re prevention of — in Mangalore	803-804

U

Udipi— See Lathi charge. See Procession.	
Ulandi forests— Question re lease of timber in —	807
Unemployment Committee— Question re report of the —, action taken on the	373-375
Unpassed men— Question re — in Revenue Department—increments to	793-794
Upper Division— See Non-graduate clerks.	
Upper grade— See Sub-Registrars.	

PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Governor of Madras.

His Excellency Lieut.-Col. the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE FREDERICK STANLEY, P.C., G.C.I.E., C.M.G. Took his seat on the 12th November 1929.

Members of the Executive Council.

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

I.—Provincial Subjects.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Police, including Railway Police and C.I.D. | 12. Government Houses, Staff and equipment of His Excellency the Governor. |
| 2. Regulation of betting and gambling. | 13. Stationery and Government Presses. |
| 3. Prevention of cruelty to animals. | 14. Elections for Indian and Provincial legislatures. |
| 4. Control of poisons. | 15. Industrial matters included under the following heads :— |
| 5. Control of vehicles. | (a) Factories. |
| 6. Control of dramatic performances and cinematographs. | (b) Settlement of labour disputes. |
| 7. Control of newspapers, books and printing presses. | (c) Boilers. |
| 8. Laccadives. | (d) Gas. |
| 9. European vagrancy. | (e) Smoke nuisances. |
| 10. European and Anglo-Indian education. | (f) Welfare of labour including depressed classes. |
| 11. Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards. | 16. Criminal tribes. |

II.—Central Subjects.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Control of petroleum and explosives. | 3. Arms and ammunition. |
| 2. Central police organization. | 4. Emigration and immigration. |
| | 5. Pilgrimage to the Hedjaz. |

2. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR, Law Member. Took his seat on the 25th April 1928 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Administration of justice, including constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction within the province. | 3. Administrator-General and Official Trustees. |
| 2. Provincial Law reports. | 4. Escheats. |
| | 5. Coroners. |
| | 6. Treasure trove. |
| | 7. Non-judicial and judicial stamps. |
| | 8. Prisons and prisoners. |

I.—Provincial Subjects—cont.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 9. Industrial matters included under the following head: Electricity, including hydro-electric scheme. | 10. Forests (including Cinchona) except panchayat forests. |
| | 11. Minor ports. |

II.—Central Subjects.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Civil law. | 6. Shipping and navigation. |
| 2. Inventions and designs. | 7. Lighthouses. |
| 3. Copyright. | 8. Port quarantine and marine hospitals. |
| 4. Criminal law. | |
| 5. Major ports. | |

3. The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., Member in charge of Revenue. Took his seat on the 29th June 1929 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Land Revenue administration as described under the following heads, namely:—
(a) Assessment and collection of land revenue.
(b) Maintenance of land records; survey for revenue purposes; records of rights.
(c) Laws regarding land tenures; relations of landlords and tenants; collection of rents.
(d) Court of Wards, encumbered and attached estates.
(e) Land improvement and agricultural loans.
(f) Colonization and disposal of crown lands.
(g) Management of Government estates.
(h) Panchayat forests. | 4. Inland waterways including shipping and navigation thereon.
5. Economic condition including wages and prices and famine-relief.
6. Land acquisition, excepting notifications under sub-section (1) of section 4 and declarations under sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, where the public purpose referred to in the said sub-sections appertains to a transferred subject.
7. Development of mineral resources.
8. Protection of wild birds and animals.
9. Pounds and prevention of cattle trespass.
10. Provincial Gazetteers.
11. Agency tracts.
12. Fortnightly reports and preliminary special reports to the Government of India.
13. General service questions.
14. Office procedure.
15. Secretariat.
16. Matters of a general nature not allocated elsewhere. |
| 2. Yeomias, inams and hereditary pensions. | |
| 3. Water-supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments; water storage and water power. | |

II.—Central Subjects.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Geological survey. | 8. Territorial changes. |
| 2. Mineral development. | 9. Immovable property in possession of the Governor-General in Council. |
| 3. Botanical survey. | 10. All-India services. |
| 4. Survey of India. | 11. Public Services Commission. |
| 5. Zoological survey. | 12. Reforms. |
| 6. Meteorology. | |
| 7. Census and Statistics. | |

4. The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.O.S., Finance Member. Took his seat on the 19th March 1930 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Provincial finance. | 4. Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts. |
| 2. Pensions. | 5. Central Record office. |
| 3. Local Fund audit. | |

II.—Central Subjects.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. (a) Defence of India.
(b) Naval and Military works and cantonments. | 9. Public debt of India. |
| 2. External relations, including naturalization and aliens and pilgrimage beyond India except to the Hedjaz. | 10. Savings banks. |
| 3. Relations with States in India. | 11. Indian Audit Department. |
| 4. Political charges. | 12. Commerce, including Banks and Insurance. |
| 5. Communications. | 13. Trading Companies and other Associations. |
| 6. Posts and telegraphs and telephones, including wireless installations. | 14. Opium (central questions regarding —). |
| 7. Sources of all-India revenues. | 15. Central Research. |
| 8. Currency and coinage. | 16. Ecclesiastical. |
| | 17. Archæology. |
| | 18. Regulation of ceremonial, titles, orders, precedence and civil uniform. |
| | 19. Subjects not allocated elsewhere. |

Ministers.

1. The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU, Minister for Local Self-Government. Took his seat on the 27th October 1930 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Local Self-Government including village panchayats. | 5. Adulteration of food-stuffs and other articles. |
| 2. Medical administration. | 6. Light and feeder Railways and Tramways within municipal areas. |
| 3. Public Health and Sanitation and Vital Statistics. | |
| 4. Religious and Charitable Endowments. | |

2. The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN, Minister for Public Works. Took his seat on the 27th October 1930 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Agriculture. | 4. Co-operative Societies. |
| 2. Civil Veterinary Department. | 5. Registration. |
| 3. Public Works (Buildings, Roads, Ferries, Ropeways, etc.). | 6. Weights and Measures. |

3. The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR, Minister for Education and Excise. Took his seat on the 27th October 1930 and is in charge of the following portfolios:—

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Education (other than European and Anglo-Indian education). | 4. Fisheries. |
| 2. Excise. | 5. Libraries, Museums and Zoological Gardens. |
| 3. Development of Industries. | 6. Pilgrimages within British India. |

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President.

The hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI.

Deputy President.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur G. JAGANNADHA RAJU Garu.

Panel of Chairmen.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED.

M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib BADETI VENKATARAMAYYA.

„ T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR Avargal.

Mr. W. M. BROWNING.

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. D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA Garu, B.A., B.L.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Madras City, Muhammadan Urban.
2. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur, Moulvi Hafiz Anumanthakudi Mustafa.	Ramnad <i>cum</i> Tinnevelly, Muhammadan Rural.
3. Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
4. Alamelumangathayarammal, Mrs. K.	NOMINATED.
5. Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, Diwan Bahadur.	NOMINATED.
6. Annamalai Chettiyar, S. A. A.	Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association.
7. Arasu, V. T.	NOMINATED.
8. Ari Gowder, H. B.	The Nilgiris, N.-M. Rural.
9. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Central Districts (Indian Christian).
10. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Central Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
11. Basu Dev, C.	NOMINATED.
12. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ceded Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
13. Bayappa Reddi, P.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
14. Bhanoji Rao, A. V.	NOMINATED.
15. Birley, Frank	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
16. Browning, W. M.	European.
17. Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	EX-OFFICIO.
18. Chinnu Pillai alias Nadimuthu Pillai, A. Pl. N. V.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
19. Davis, O.B.E., J. A.	Anglo-Indian.
20. Devadasan, M.	NOMINATED.
21. Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	NOMINATED.
22. Dorai Raja, S. N.	NOMINATED.
23. Duraiswami Reddiyar, K. M. ...	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
24. Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
25. Foulkes, R.	NOMINATED.
26. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
27. Harischandrudu Nayudu, A. ...	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
28. Hilton Brown, I.C.S.	NOMINATED.
29. Indrayya, C.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
30. Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G. (Deputy President).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
31. Jagannatham, H. M.	NOMINATED.
32. Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
33. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, K.	Cocanada City, N.-M. Urban.
34. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Madura and Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam, Muhammadan Urban.
35. Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C. ...	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
36. Kondappa, A.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
37. Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
38. Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D. ...	NOMINATED.
39. Krishnan, C.	NOMINATED.
40. Krishnan Nayar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	EX-OFFICIO.
41. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri (Raja Velugoti Sarvagnya Kumara Krishnayachendrula Bahadur Varu).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
42. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. (Minister).	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
43. Kuppaswami, J.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
44. Madanagopal Nayudu, R.	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
45. Madhusoodhanan Thangal ...	NOMINATED.
46. Maharaja of Venkatagiri (Sir Raja Velugoti Sri Govinda Krishna Yachendrula Varu Bahadur, K.C.I.E., Lieutenant-Colonel).	North Central Landholders.
47. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Northern Circars, Muhammadan Rural.
48. Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	South Kanara, Muhammadan Rural.
49. Manikkavelu Nayakar, M. A. ...	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
50. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
51. Moses, P. C.	Northern Districts (Christian).
52. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.	Madura <i>cum</i> Trichinopoly, Muhammadan Rural.
53. Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. (Minister).	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
54. Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	NOMINATED.
55. Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
56. Muthiah Chettiyar, M. A. ...	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
57. Muthu Chettiyar, P. C. ...	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
58. Nachiyappa Gounder, A. ...	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
59. Nallathambi Sarkari Manra- diar, Rai Bahadur N.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
60. Nanjappah Bahadur, Subadar- Major S. A.	NOMINATED.
61. Narasa Reddi, T. ...	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
62. Narasimhaswami, D. V. ...	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.
63. Narayanan Nambiyar, V. P. ...	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
64. Narayanaswami Pillai, T. M. ...	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
65. Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Baha- dur C.	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
66. Palat, R. M., alias Ravunni Menon.	West Coast Landholders.
67. Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.	Tanjore and Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Madura (Christian).
68. Parthasarathi Ayyangar, C. R.	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
69. Pate, I.C.S., H. R.	NOMINATED.
70. Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
71. Patro, <i>Kt.</i> , Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
72. Pattabhiramayya, K. ...	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
73. Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B. ...	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
74. Premayya, G. R. ...	NOMINATED.
75. Rajagopala Pillai, P. V. ...	NOMINATED.
76. Raja of Bobbili (Ramakrishna Ranga Rao Sri Ravu Sweta- challapathi).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
77. Raja of Kallikote (Raja Sri Ramachandra Marada Raja Deo Garu).	Northern Landholders, I.
78. Raja of Parlakimedi (Sri Sri Sri Krishna Chandra Gajapathi Narayana Deo).	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
79. Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T. (<i>Minister</i>).	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
80. Ramachandra Padayachi, P. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
81. Ramachandra Reddi, The hon. Mr. B. (<i>President</i>).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
82. Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
83. Ramakrishna Reddi, A. ...	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
84. Raman Menon, K. P. ...	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
85. Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala ...	NOMINATED.
86. Ramamurti, I.C.S., S. V. ...	NOMINATED.
87. Ramaswami Ayyar, T. S. ...	Madras University.
88. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
89. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, A. ...	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
90. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, G. ...	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
91. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, M. D. T.	Tinnevelly <i>cum</i> Palamcottah, N.-M. Urban.
92. Rangaswami Reddi, M. B. ...	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
93. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
94. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti ...	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
95. Satyanarayana Choudari, C. ...	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
96. Sesha Reddi, B. P. ...	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
97. Shetty, A. B. ...	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
98. Simbachalam Pantulu, Gade ...	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
99. Singam Ayyangar, K. ...	Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam, N.-M. Urban.
100. Siva Raj, N. ...	NOMINATED.
101. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, K. S.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
102. Soundara Pandian, W. P. A. ...	NOMINATED.
103. Sriramulu, G. ...	NOMINATED.
104. Sreshta, M. S. ...	West Coast Christian.
105. Srinivasa Ayyangar, T. C. ...	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
106. Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R. ...	NOMINATED.
107. Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	EX-OFFICIO.
108. Subbarayan, Dr. P. ...	South Central Landholders.
109. Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.	NOMINATED.
110. Subrahmanya Bhatt, U. C. ...	Kanara South, N.-M. Rural.
111. Sundara Rao Nayudu, T. ...	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
112. Swami Sahajanandam, A. S. ...	NOMINATED.
113. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.	Tanjore, Muhammadan.
114. Thomas, Daniel ...	Ramnad <i>cum</i> Tinnevelly, Christian.
115. Usman Sahib Bahadur, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	EX-OFFICIO.
116. Vasudeva Pillai, V. G. ...	NOMINATED.
117. Vedachala Mudaliyar, M. ...	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
118. Venkatarama Ayyar, K. R. ...	Madura City, N.-M. Urban.
119. Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
120. Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
121. Waddington, H. ...	Madras Planters.
122. Watson, I.C.S., H. A. ...	NOMINATED.
123. Wright, W. O. ...	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
124. Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	East Coast Muhammadan—Rural.
125. Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur ...	North Arcot <i>cum</i> Chingleput.
126. Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur (Kamaraja Pandia Nayakar, T. V. K.)	Southern Landholders.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
127. Zamindar of Chemudu (Sri Vyricherla Narayana Gajapati Raju).	Vizagapatam City, N.-M. Urban.
128. Zamindar of Ettayapuram (Raja Jaga Veera Rama Kumara Venkateswara Ettappa Naya-kar Ayyan).	Tinnevely, N.-M. Rural
129. Zamindar of Minampalli (K. C. M. Venkatachala Reddi- yar).	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
130. Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Mirzapuram Raja alias Ven- kataramayya Appa Rao).	Northern Landholders, II.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

*First Session of the Fourth Legislative Council under the
Government of India Act, 1919.*

Friday, the 13th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, Kt., The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Krishnan Nayar, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Campbell, c.s.i., c.i.e., c.b.e., v.d., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Stokes, c.s.i., c.i.e., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	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.	Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur, A. T.
Alamelumangathayarammal, Mrs. K.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Pate, I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur B. N.	Premayya, Mr. G. B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Raja of Bobbili.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Birley, Mr. Frank.	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Ramamurti, I.C.S., Mr. S. V.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Hilton Brown, I.C.S., Mr.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Sabajanandam, Swami A. S.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Kondappa, Mr. A.	Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.	Simbachalam Pantulu, Mr. Gade.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Sreshtha, Mr. M. S.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Sahib Bahadur, K. P. V. S.	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
	Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
	Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.
	Venugopala Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
	Waddington, Mr. H.
	Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
	Wright, Mr. W. O.
	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
	Zamindar of Chemudu.

[13th March 1931]

1.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

Excise

Promotion of Excise Inspectors in January 1931.

* 589 Q.—MR. MADHUSOODHANAN THANGAL: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the list of promotions of Excise Inspectors published on page 65 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 13th January 1931, several senior officers were passed over and junior men promoted;

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative, on what grounds the claims of senior officers were overlooked;

(c) whether the reasons for such supersession were communicated to the officers concerned;

(d) whether G.O. No. 1583, Public, dated 5th November 1915, is followed in practice; and

(e) if the answer to clause (d) is in the affirmative, in how many cases unfavourable remarks were communicated to the officers concerned?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Appointment to all posts in the Madras Excise Service are made by selection and no officer can claim to be appointed to any post by reason only of seniority. The officers who have been promoted were selected on their merits.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

(e) No occasion has arisen hitherto for the communication of unfavourable remarks.

Auction sales of arrack shops in the Presidency.

* 590 Q.—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) in which districts, auction sales of arrack shops have recently been held; and

(b) what is the percentage of increase or decrease in rentals in each of the districts?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not the information. The auction sales have not yet been completed in all the districts.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Assessment of the income of temples by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

* 591 Q.—MR. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Hindu Religious Endowments Board holds any enquiry before it itself assessed the income of temples or religious institutions for assessing the contribution to be paid to the Board;

[13th March 1931]

(b) if so, what is the nature of the enquiry and who does it, and whether any notice is given of the enquiry to the trustees of the temples concerned;

(c) whether it is a fact that in assessing the income of religious institutions in South Kanara by the Board, the Board relies only upon the register of the income of the temples, etc., compiled in about 1560 by the then Revenue Officers; and

(d) what action the Government propose to take in order to prevent the Board from doing injustice to religious institutions in assessing income by relying on old antiquated registers?

A.—(a) to (c) Government have called for information in the matter.

(d) The question will be considered after receipt of the reply of the Religious Endowments Board.

MR. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether the hon. Minister will place the information on the table of the House, as soon as it is received?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I shall consider the suggestion."

Public Health

Proposed scheme for combating leprosy in the Presidency.

* 592 Q.—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House the scheme proposed by the Surgeon-General for combating leprosy in this province?

A.—A summary of the scheme proposed by the Surgeon-General is placed on the table.^a

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to state whether Madras is an endemic area or not?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I cannot say, Sir."

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I enquire whether any action will be taken by the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Action is already taken."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if the hon. Minister is aware that there are a large number of lepers in the City of Madras, near bus stands, alms houses, etc.? What steps do the Government propose to take in the matter?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"There are lepers in Madras as in other places."

[13th March 1931]

Irrigation

Alleged unauthorized diversion of the water of Jayamangali and Swarnamukhi rivers in Mysore State.

* 593 Q.—Mr. A. KONDAPPA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the tanks in Hindupur and Madakasira taluks are receiving diminished supply of water on account of unauthorized diversion of waters of Jayamangali and Swarnamukhi rivers in the Mysore State, contrary to the terms of the agreement of 1892 between the Government of Madras and Mysore State ;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to avert the present danger of unauthorized diversion of waters in the Mysore territory to the detriment of Barigi and other tanks in Anantapur district ;

(c) whether the investigation into Pennar-Kumudwati Reservoir Project has been completed ;

(d) whether Government contemplate to put the scheme into operation to relieve water famine in the southern taluks of the Anantapur district ;

(e) what is the cost that was incurred for investigating 'Ithodu Project' in Kadiri taluk, Anantapur district ;

(f) why Government failed to take necessary action till now though the scheme was completely investigated many years back ; and

(g) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table the correspondence that passed between the Government and the district authorities on this subject, if any ?

A.—(a) & (b) The question is under consideration.

(c) & (d) The Chief Engineer has submitted a preliminary report and has recommended that as there is some doubt as to the supply of water available gaugings should be taken for some years. The question is under consideration.

(e) The Government have not the information.

(f) The scheme was abandoned in 1917, because the amount of water available and the revenue anticipated were inadequate to justify taking it up.

(g) The Chief Engineer's final report on the project is laid on the table.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Chief Engineer's report is based on the fact that water is diverted by the Mysore Government ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" It is not known whether the supply has been affected by the diversion of water by the Mysore Government."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Government enquire how much water has been diverted by the Mysore Government ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" It is proposed to take gaugings first. Then it will be known whether there is any case against Mysore or not."

[13th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Supposing the gaugings indicate that the supply is inadequate on account of the unauthorized diversion by the Mysore Government, will the Government re-consider the whole position and insist upon the Mysore Government not to divert water unlawfully ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Perhaps the hon. Member is not right in assuming at once that Mysore have been unlawfully diverting water. If the matter is proved, then it will be considered."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Government enquire into the matter ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" It will require some time. We must take gaugings first."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether it will be possible to enquire into the other question, which is a long-standing one ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" We are in correspondence with the Mysore Government in connexion with the matter referred to in clauses (a) and (b)."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" The hon. Member should now be aware that unauthorized diversion of water is taking place with regard to the river Palar. May I know what steps the Government propose to take in checking this sort of unauthorized diversion of water ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I do not find any reference to the Palar in this question."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" It is stated that the matter is under consideration. If unauthorized diversion of water is taking place in the case of the river Palar may I ask whether the Government propose to take any action ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Is the question in order, Sir. There is no reference to the river Palar at all in the original question."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" It is stated in the appendix that the permission sought for was given by the Darbar on certain conditions, which were accepted by this Government. May I know what those conditions are ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I must ask for notice of the question."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" May I ask whether the Government will enquire into the relations between the Mysore Government and the Madras Government with regard to the distribution of water of rivers coming through Mysore ? "

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In reply to clause (a) which asks whether there has been unauthorized diversion of water, it is stated that the matter is under consideration. Does it not mean that the Government have accepted that there has been unauthorized diversion of water by the Mysore Government ? "

[13th March 1931]

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"The matter is under correspondence with the Mysore Government."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I enquire what steps are being taken by the Madras Government to find out the truth or otherwise of this matter?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"We are corresponding with the Mysore Government on this subject."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I ask whether the Government blindly follow the Chief Engineer when the latter says that the scheme fails to be productive according to the formula laid down by the Irrigation Commission, and that the project is unsuitable for famine-relief purposes?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I believe the Chief Engineer was not solely guided by it. The formula however gives some indication whether a work can be considered productive or not."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"In view of the fact that Anantapur is peculiarly situated, in view of the fact that there is famine there always, will not the Government take up the scheme?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"The gaugings show that the water available will not be adequate."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I take it that the scheme will be considered if water is available?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"The Chief Engineer has already reported that the project does not rest on a secure basis as regards water-supply."

Land Revenue

Representation from Lanka ryots for remission of lease amount.

* 594 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) whether the Government have received any representation from the association of Lanka ryots of Narsapur taluk and other bodies praying for—

(a) the remission of one-half of the lease amounts due to Government,

(b) extension of time to pay the remainder, and

(c) option to have the unexpired portions of the licences cancelled; and

(2) if so, the orders, if any, passed thereon?

A.—(1) Yes.

(2) The matter is under consideration.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether orders have since been passed?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"Yes, Sir, with your permission, I shall read the order; the order is as follows:—

"The lessees of lankas in East and West Godavari districts have prayed for certain reliefs on the grounds that their crops have failed and that the prices of lanka produce have fallen.

[13th March 1931]

2. The lessees have no claim to a remission of rent, under the terms of the agreement. As a matter of grace, however, the Government agree with the Board that the question of remission of rental should be examined this year with reference to the circumstances of each case. The Board is requested to see that proposals for remission in deserving cases are submitted to Government urgently after due investigation.
3. The Government accept the recommendation of the Board of Revenue that the Collectors of East and West Godavari districts should be given discretion to collect the rental due on lankas in the current fasli in four equal instalments in March, April, May and June instead of in two equal instalments on the 10th March and 10th April, provided that the lessees furnish security.
4. The Government agree that there is no case for permitting the cancellation of the leases at the option of the lessees."

Jails

Alleged beating of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon in the Penitentiary.

* 595 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon, a prisoner in the Madras Penitentiary, was severely beaten on or about the 10th instant and if so, by whom;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, what were the injuries inflicted on his body; whether he was examined by any medical authority inside or outside the Penitentiary, and, if so, by whom and what is the report of the medical authority;

(c) whether any enquiry has been held as to the causes that led to the beating; if so, who conducted the enquiry, what was the nature of the enquiry and what was the result;

(d) how long Mr. Narayana Menon was in the Penitentiary and whether he was so beaten by anybody up till now while he was there;

(e) whether statements were taken from Mr. Narayana Menon, the person who is found to have beaten him and the Jailer; if so, what are the contents thereof;

(f) whether there was any allegation that the offender owed any grudge towards Mr. Narayana Menon;

(g) whether there was any misunderstanding between Mr. Narayana Menon and the Jailer or other Jail authorities and if so, whether it had anything to do with the incident;

(h) whether the Jail authorities have taken the necessary and the usual precautions to prevent assaults among convicts;

(i) whether the convict who is found to have beaten Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon was in the out-quarantine on the day on which the incident took place, and, if so, how long previously he had been transferred there from the block for convicts;

(j) whether the out-quarantine is reserved only for under-trial prisoners and not for convicts under the Jail rules or under the Jail practice, and, if so, on what grounds, the said convict was transferred to the out-quarantine; and

(k) whether any other convict was kept in the out-quarantine on the day on which the incident took place or on any previous occasions and if so, on what grounds?

A.—(a) to (k) A report has been called for.

[13th March 1931]

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"How long will it take for the Government to get the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I think it reached my office yesterday; I have not yet read it."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I enquire whether the hon. Member does not take notice of such happenings when they appear in the newspapers and take immediate action instead of waiting for Members of this Council to ask questions?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government are not usually guided by newspaper reports."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether such newspaper reports are not brought to the notice of the hon. Member?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sometimes."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I enquire whether the report on this particular matter was brought to the notice of the hon. Member?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not remember."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Does the hon. Member remember calling for a report before this question was tabled?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I did not call for a report before notice of this question was received."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know if he will call for reports in future, if newspaper reports are brought to his notice?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I cannot make any promise."

Alleged beating of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon in the Penitentiary.

* 596 Q.—Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government are aware that Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon, now undergoing imprisonment in the Madras Penitentiary, was brutally assaulted on the 10th February 1931;

(b) whether Government have enquired into the matter and what is the result of the enquiry;

(c) what steps Government have taken to prevent repetition of similar incidents; and

(d) whether Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon's health has been seriously affected on account of the assault and that he had been or has to be removed to the General Hospital for treatment?

A.—(a) to (d) A report has been called for.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether the report that has been received, will be placed on the table of the House in the course of the day?"

[13th March 1931]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I cannot promise that; because I shall be engaged otherwise; I do not think I shall find time to read it and to have it placed on the table of the House to-day. I shall furnish as early as possible answers to my hon. Friend's questions."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask the shortest date when the hon. Member will be in a position to give the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As early as possible."

Police

Alleged ill-treatment by the Police of Gandhi cap wearers at Antervedi.

* 597 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Gandhi-cap wearers have been ill-treated and beaten by the police at Antervedi at the time of the last festival on 30th January 1931; and

(b) if so, under whose orders and under what authority the Gandhi-cap wearers were molested?

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

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"Since some time has lapsed since the question was given notice of, may I know whether the report has been received?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Not yet."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"Is it the intention of the Government not to enquire into the matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have called for a report."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"It is more than a month since the question was given notice of. Does the hon. Member say there has not been sufficient time?"

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the hon. the Home Member will place the correspondence on the table of the House?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have called for a report; as soon as I get it, I shall examine it."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"My point is this: this incident has appeared in the papers and there has been correspondence about it. May I suggest that Government must have known it. As a matter of fact, cuttings are sent to hon. Members?" 11-15 a.m.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, on many an occasion I have taken note of such things through cuttings."

[13th March 1931]

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if after the Gandhi-Irwin pact, the Government issued any instructions to the police not to meddle with processions or with people wearing Gandhi-caps?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"We have issued instructions."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"If instructions have been given, then is the hon. the Home Member aware that lapses have taken place subsequent to that?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I know what the hon. Member has got in his mind, but I am enquiring into them."

Searching of houses in Bezwada.

* 598 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a number of houses in Bezwada or elsewhere were searched by the police under warrants obtained from the Stationary Sub-Magistrate, Bezwada, and if so, when;

(b) whether the warrants were issued under section 99 A of the Criminal Procedure Code and, if not under that section, under what section;

(c) whether the books seized included All-India Railway Guides, lists of villages and Tolstoy's and Mathew Arnold's books; and

(d) which of the books seized were 'proscribed' books and whether the other books have been returned to the owners concerned and if so, when and if not, why not?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The Government have no information.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, if any report has been called for?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I would like my hon. Friend to give me some more particulars about this matter, as to the date, etc."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the hon. the Home Member will say that the books of Tolstoy and Mathew Arnold are proscribed books, and also the All-India Railway Guide?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am not prepared to say anything at present, because I have not yet called for a report."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether those books are proscribed or not as that is a matter within his cognizance, because he issues orders regarding them?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Whether any particular books should be proscribed or not, is not a matter of personal opinion, Sir."

13th March 1931]

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether if the books are not proscribed, they will at least be returned?"

(No answer.)

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Medical

Appointment of Surgeons in the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam.

599 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many House Surgeons were appointed in the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, in October last;

(b) how many of these are paid, and how many honorary;

(c) how many of the paid appointments were given to Brahmans and how many to non-Brahmans;

(d) whether the communal Government Order was taken into consideration with regard to the paid appointments; and

(e) if the answer to (d) be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

A.—(a) Eleven House Surgeons and House Physicians including a Lady House Surgeon.

(b) Four of these are paid and the rest are unpaid.

(c) Of the paid House Surgeons three are Brahmans and one is a Christian and of the unpaid six are Brahmans including a Lady House Surgeon and one is a Christian.

(d) & (e) The House Surgeons and House Physicians, both paid and unpaid, for all the institutions in the Madras Presidency are selected by a Selection Board who give due consideration to communal representation. Postings of House Surgeons and House Physicians (both paid and unpaid) to different hospitals are made with reference to the locality from which the House Surgeons and House Physicians come and with reference to the requirements of the department.

Assignment of Lands

Cancellation of lands granted to depressed classes in West Godavari and Kistna districts.

600 Q.—Mr. P. C. MOSES: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) in how many instances lands have been granted at full market value to depressed classes in the districts of West Godavari, Kistna and Guntur since 1928; and

(b) whether any of these grants were ever cancelled through the inability of the people to pay for them and if so, in how many cases?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not the information.

[13th March 1931]

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

II. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR 1931-32.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to inform the House that thirteen candidates were nominated for election to the Finance Committee, and of these, five have withdrawn their candidature. The continuing candidates are:

- (1) Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
- (2) Mr. J. Kuppuswami Choudari.
- (3) The Raja of Bobbili.
- (4) Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
- (5) Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
- (6) Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
- (7) The Raja of Kallikote.
- (8) Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapaty Mudaliyar.

"As the number of candidates is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, eight, I hereby declare them duly elected."

III.—THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE FOR 1931-32.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to inform the House that eleven candidates were nominated for election to the Public Accounts Committee, and of these, four have withdrawn their candidature. The continuing candidates are:

- (1) Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
- (2) Mr. M. S. Sreshta.
- (3) Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
- (4) Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
- (5) Mr. P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
- (6) Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
- (7) Mr. W. Maurice Browning.

"As the number of candidates is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, seven, I hereby declare them duly elected."

IV.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE—RESERVED.

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,42,000, under Demand I—Land Revenue—Reserved.'

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 21,62,800 for Survey and Settlement be reduced by Rs. 100.'

to discuss the Land Revenue policy of the Government. Sir, this is a very old question. Ever since the new Reforms were inaugurated, Member after Member of this Council during every Budget session, has been dealing with this question and making attempts—of course

[13th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

futile attempts they have proved to be—in order to bring home to the Government the need for a Land Revenue Settlement legislation. Government did make an attempt once and prepared a Bill some years ago, and that Bill was referred to a Committee; but that was all. The Bill was not satisfactory to the House, and after that, the Government did not make any attempt to improve the provisions contained in that Bill and make it satisfactory to the representatives of the people. Sir, it is an accepted principle in any democracy that there ought to be no taxation without representation. We are here, representatives of the ordinary people and of the landed proprietors, without any power whatsoever to legislate as to the rates of assessment and tax that are levied year after year. It is stated that, under the present system of Government, the Reserved Half is not responsible to the Legislature. No doubt it is true that the Reserved Half is not responsible to the Legislature to the extent to which the Transferred Half is; but at the same time I believe the Government can take the Legislature into its confidence and agree to bring in a measure before this House which will be acceptable to the Council.

"Sir, we are all aware of the present situation in the province. If we had a legislation governing land tax in this province, we would have certainly so fixed the tax as to give the cultivators and the landlords some relief. But the Government say that they are not responsible to the Legislature and therefore they think they ought not to consider the situation as it obtains year after year. I remember in the year 1927 the hon. the Law Member himself made out a very strong case when speaking on this question of a legislation of this character. I remember at that time he said that he was not in the secrets of the Government; but ever since he became a Member of Government, he should have known how the Government moves and I only hope that he would have tried his utmost to see that the Government acknowledged their responsibility to bring in a legislation of this kind which would be acceptable to the House. There is of course no doubt that we are all expecting that Provincial Autonomy will be introduced as soon as we have the new Reforms for India, and that when Provincial Autonomy comes into existence, it will certainly be possible—and I hope it will not be long before we will have Provincial Autonomy—to have a Land Revenue Legislation which will make it possible for us to so adjust the tax as not to be a burden on the poor cultivators of the land. It is admitted on all hands that Madras is heavily taxed, more heavily taxed than any other province. The incidence of tax in Madras, I understand, is Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 when it is only Re. 1 in the other provinces. Why should there be such a heavy tax in our province when it is not so in the other provinces? There must be some reason for it. I wish we will soon be in a position to have legislation by which we can tax the people only to the extent up to which they can pay."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Mr. President, Sir, I heartily second the motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan. According to the principles of settlement, Government divide between themselves and the ryot the net profits derived from agriculture. The Indian

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[13th March 1931]

Taxation Enquiry Committee have laid down that the State should not take as its share more than 25 per cent of the annual value, i.e., the gross outturn minus the cost of production. The Punjab Land Revenue Amendment Act has adopted this proposal and fixed the maximum rate of assessment at 25 per cent of the net profits instead of at 50 per cent as heretofore. The Madras Government continues to claim half the net profits as its share. The Godavari Economic Enquiry Committee have recommended in their report that the assessment should be 25 and not 50 per cent of the net profits, and that no further settlement should take place unless and until the value of the net produce exceeded four times the present assessment. Why should not this Government follow the example of the Punjab and adopt the same rate in this Presidency which is admittedly most heavily taxed so far as the incidence of land tax is concerned?

"In all recent resettlements, the rates of assessment have been raised mainly on the ground that there has been a rise in the price of foodgrains. It has often been pointed out that any rise in the price of foodgrains does not really benefit the poor cultivator who has little or no surplus to sell. This argument for increasing the assessment on the ground of any rise in prices cannot any longer be urged with the same force, because there has been a steady fall in prices during the last half a dozen years, and this year the prices have reached a very low level indeed. The Economic Enquiry Committee have shown the injustice of basing the commutation rates on the average of recorded prices during the twenty years preceding the resettlement operations in Godavari and Kistna, a period of high prices due to abnormal conditions consequent on the Great War. They have also shown how unjust it would be to apply this commutation rate to a period of thirty years hereafter. This observation applies with equal appropriateness to other districts where resettlement operations are now going on, as for instance, Malabar and South Kanara.

"In the case of these two West Coast districts, another injustice is sought to be done. Government have accepted the principle that they should exempt from assessment the improvements made by the ryot by his own private enterprise and at his own expense. They have laid down definite rules to secure to the cultivator the benefits arising from the labour and expenditure incurred by him in effecting any improvements. They do not re-classify lands or enhance assessments when any improvement has been made by the ryot unless any additional irrigation facilities have been provided by the Government. In Malabar and South Kanara, it is very well known that no irrigation works of any sort exist anywhere, and Government have not spent a single pie for providing any irrigation facilities for cultivation in these two districts. After the last settlement, several dry lands have been converted into wet and garden lands, and single crop lands have been converted into double crop lands by the ryot at his own expense, and without the help of any water from any Government irrigation source. Yet, in Malabar they have re-classified the lands with a view to enhance the assessments on such lands, and I believe the same thing

13th March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

is being done in South Kanara. I do not understand what justification the Government can possibly urge for violating the principle laid down by themselves, namely, that the ryot's improvements should not be taxed and will not be taxed in any way.

"The Government concede the necessity of examining the conditions of the tracts where re-settlement has to be made. The enquiry made by the Settlement Officers in this matter is neither thorough nor comprehensive, nor is it free from flaws. It was in recognition of this fact, I believe, that the Government appointed, in response to the wishes of this Council, the Economic Enquiry Committee for examining the economic conditions of the Godavari and Kistna districts. Now, the need for such an independent committee, I submit, is as great, if not greater, in Malabar and South Kanara where re-settlement operations are going on, than even in Godavari and Kistna. People have often brought it to the notice of the Government that in South Kanara the assessment levied at the time of the last settlement has been comparatively high as compared with the other districts. Dry lands in my district do not produce any crop as they do in Coimbatore. They are mere waste lands which at best give nothing more than leaf manure and fuel, but yet dry lands have been assessed at a rate which is rather high as compared with what it is in other districts like Coimbatore. Our garden rates also compared with even the neighbouring district of Malabar are higher than what they are there, though the conditions of the soil are more or less similar.

"Then, again, I wish to know how far the Government are right in holding to the principle that assessment should be on the land and that it should not be determined by the circumstances of each holder of the land. As a matter of fact, the great majority of the ryots are owners of small holdings and on them the land revenue presses very heavily indeed. Any enhancement of the present rates of assessment will be a great hardship to them. In civilized countries, we are told that taxable incomes are reckoned by the people's earnings after deducting what is needed for a fair subsistence allowance. There is a tendency in those countries to completely exempt from taxation people whose income falls below a certain minimum. If this test were applied to our cultivators, I am afraid they would not be liable to pay any tax at all.

"Sir, the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee have recommended that relief should be given to the class of small landholders by standardizing the rates of assessment at a low figure, namely, 25 per cent. If Government want a further share of the profits of the landholders, they ought to take it in the shape of local taxation, and any moderate increase in local rates will be more willingly paid by the people because it is money raised for local purposes and is levied by local bodies composed of the representatives of the landed interests. In the case of large holders of land, the Committee have suggested that an income-tax on agricultural incomes and also something in the nature of succession duties, or both, might be levied. The Government ought to make a distinction between the large and small holders of land and they ought to seriously consider the suggestions made by the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee."

[13th March 1931]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The motion is that the allotment of Rs. 21,62,800 for Survey and Settlement be reduced by Rs. 100.

"At this stage I wish to suggest that hon. Members who have given notice of similar motions for reduction would be allowed to speak on this particular motion and voting taken on this particular motion."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Sir, the Land Revenue policy of the Madras Government was criticized on the floor of this House quite a number of times, but without any effect. Even now, we may tell anything to the hon. Member about changing the policy, but from the reply that he has been giving of late, he will only say that we are on the threshold of further reforms and that it is better that the question is left to the new Council. But, I ask, Sir, whether until the new Council comes into being and takes up this question, the poor ryots of this Presidency are to be suffering from this high level of taxation.

"Sir, even apart from the Bill which we all expect, there are small and minor difficulties with regard to land revenue and irrigation systems, which at least, I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will go into. As it was admitted by the Government itself, the level of land revenue has reached its topmost and it cannot bear any further increase. Even during the despotic rule of ancient days, the quota of land-tax collected from the ryots was not so much as it is at the present time. No doubt, in the case of a particular despotic ruler, he may pounce on the fields and carry away all the produce in one year, but this kind of systematic and slow torture and extraction of all the produce from the ryot had never taken place at any time in the history of India. And for this heavy taxation, what is the return that the Government is giving to the poor ryots. The irrigation works and other minor works connected with irrigation are completely neglected; especially it is so for the last 20 or 30 years in the case of irrigation channels connected with many of the river systems and also other minor irrigation works, small and big tanks, are being neglected. In regard to these things, I can talk with authority with reference to my own district. The feeder channels from Palar to many of the tanks in my district. . ."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"May I suggest that the hon. Member should raise this question on the Irrigation Demand?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may raise this point when he comes to the Irrigation Demand. This motion refers only to the Land Revenue Demand."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"I only mentioned those things to show to the hon. the Revenue Member that these systems have been neglected, but I will not press that point. I have only referred to that by the way.

"Then there is another minor question and that is collecting tax for a whole survey number when only a portion of the survey number is cultivated. I think this was also brought to the notice of the Government on many occasions, but though the Government yielded to that in a way, I do not think it has been given effect to.

[13th March 1931] [Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar]

"Then, Sir, with regard to kist collection and remission, considering the economic depression in the country and the havoc created by the flood a few months back, may I request the hon. the Revenue Member to issue a circular to the Collector of the districts affected, to be somewhat liberal in allowing remissions and also to postpone the collection of kist. As for the matter of postponing the collection of kist, in some places they have actually collected the kist and I don't think there is any good in bringing this matter to the notice of Government; but still, as there are certain cases in which collections have not yet been made, at least in those cases I hope Government will be pleased to issue circulars for the postponement of the collection of kists.

"Beyond this, I do not want to say anything on the general policy, as I can anticipate the reply of the hon. the Revenue Member, that he is going to leave it to the new Council."

Swami A. S. SAHJANANDAM then addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

"சர்வோ செட்டில்மென்டாகளுக்கு வசதிதான் 21,62,800 ரூபாய்களில் 100 ரூபாய்கள் குறைக்கவேண்டும். தீர்வை முறை முதலானவை சரியாயில்லை என்பது சகலமானந்த அமைதிகள் பெய்தால்தான்:—

"சர்க்கார் வைத்துள்ள நிலைத் திட்டமானது சர்க்கார் முறையிலேயே. ஒரு சர்வோ நெம்பலிலுள்ள நிலப் பரப்பில் சிறிது இடத்தைப் பயிரிட்டாலும் அச்சிறிய இடத்தினாலும் நெம்பரைக் கொண்டிருக்கும் பயிரிடா நிலங்களுக்கும் சர்க்கார் வரி வசூல் செய்கிறார்கள். பயிரிட்டும் பாகுதல் செய்யாமல் வெள்ளத்தால் பாழ் பட்டாலும், பலாபிலிந்தி சாலைபாகுதல் உடனடி பயிரிட்டதற்குச் சாகுபடி கணக் கொடுத்த பணத்தை வசூலித்துக்கொள்ளும். தீர்த்தல் செய்ததை இழந்ததோரும் சர்க்காருக்குப் பணப்படுத்த முடியாது என்று. அதுகொண்டு எந்தெந்த குடியானவனாவது நிலங்கள் சீரமைக்கவேண்டுமோ அந்தந்த குடியானவனிடத்தில் தயவு காட்டுவதற்கு சர்க்கார் கீழ் அதிகாரங்களுக்கும் முக்கியமாகக் கிராம நலச்சர்க்காரத்தையும் திட்டமான உத்தரவு அமைப்பதென்றும், ஒவ்வொரு குடியானவன், திரைக் காலத்திலும் பரம்ப பரப்பில் அவனென்றே. முதல்தர உத்தியோகத்திலும், தாக்கிலும், புர்ப்பு கணக்கங்களுக்கு அஞ்சி குடியானவர்களின் சொத்துக்களை ஒப்பிசெய்து எல்லாம் பொங்கி விடுகிறார்கள். அந்தோ பரிதாபம். பால்கறக்க விலையெவ்வாப்பகவின்மேலும் கவனம் காட்டவேண்டியது போன்றிருக்கிறது. குடிகள் கேடும் மயங்குத்தால் அமைப்பம் கேடும்மயங்குதும்! குடியானவர்கள் உயிர் அரசாங்கம் உடல் உயிரிழந்தால் உடல்விலைபாகும். வசூல்குடியானவர்களில் மாகுலை இழந்தவர்களிடம் எப்பொழுதும் வரி வசூல்க் கூடாதென உத்தரவு பிறப்பிக்கவேண்டும். ஆனால் என்னவதனால் பெரிதும் சேதமடைந்து பெருமூலம்சியால் அரசாங்கத்தார் பரணைக்குக் கொண்டு வந்தால் அங்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் அனுதாபம் காட்டுகிறார்கள். சாதாரணமாக வசூல்குடியானவர்களின் நஷ்டத்தை அரசாங்கத்தார் பரணைக்குக் கொண்டு வர அவர்களை மடியாது, அங்கு அரசாங்கத்தாரே கவனிக்க வேண்டும். இவ்வாறும் என்னவத் தெத்தால் நஷ்டமடைந்த சிலப் பிரதேசங்கள் அரசாங்கத்தாருக்கு அறிவிக்கப்பட்டனவே யோடிய முயலையும் அறிவிக்கப்பட்டனவே. அவ்வாறு அறிவிக்கப்பட்டதில் இடங்கிலும் பொதுவான விதிவெண்டும், முடிவான பயிரை செய்யாத நிலங்களுக்கு வரி வசூலிப்பது என்று அறியவந்திலிருக்கின்றன. அரசாங்கத்தார் வருமானத்தை மாதிரம் பாராமல் வருமானம் கொடுக்கக்கூடிய குடிகள் நஷ்டங்கொடும் கவனிக்க வேண்டுமென்று.

"நிலங்களுக்கு நிரந்தரமான நிலை விதித்திட்டமானது இனி செட்டில்மென்டு ஒன்றை ஒன்றிப்பது பணவிலை. அவ்வாறு சர்வோ பரப்பையும் இருப்பது பணவிலை, கண்டெடுக்கும், அவர்கள் சிப்பந்திகளும் நடத்திக் கொள்ளுவார்கள். அவசியமான காலங்களில் பெம்பெரியாக வசூலு எடுத்துவிடலாம்.

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [13th March 1931]

இனி இவற்றை எடுத்து விடுவது நலம். அப்படி யெடுப்பதால் 21,62,800 ரூபாய்கள் மீதமாகும். அவற்றைக் கொண்டு நாட்டிற்குப் பலவிதமான நன்மைகள் செய்யலாம்.

“பண்டைய காலத்தில் தலையாமி, தோட்டி, வெட்டியான் இவர்களது உழைப்பிற்காக அரசாங்கத்தார் மான்யம் விட்டார்கள். அந்த மான்யங்களை மற்றவர்கள் அனுபவித்து வருகிறார்கள். இனும் கமிஷனர் இவ்விஷயமாக யாதொரு முயற்சிகளும் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவில்லை. சில நிலங்கள் சத்திரம் சாவடி முதலானவைகளுக்காக இனமாகக் கழித்துள்ளார்கள். தற்போது அவைகள், எதற்காக விடப்பட்டனவோ அவற்றிற்குப் பயன்படவில்லை. இனும் கமிஷனர் ஆராய்ச்சி செய்து, உள்ளபடியே பயன்படும் நிலங்கள் தவிர மற்றைய நிலங்களை இனாமினின்ற நிர்வகிப்பதேண்டும்.

“இவ்வருஷத்தில் ஆங்காங்கு ஏற்பட்ட வெள்ளச் சேதங்களின் பரிகாரத்திற்கு இச் சபையிலுள்ள பல அங்கத்தினர்கள் கேட்டுக்கொண்டதன்மேல் அரசாங்கத்தார் சிறிது உதவித் தொகைகள் கலெக்டர்களுக்குக் கொடுத்தார்கள். அவர்கள் பணத்தைச் செலவழிக்காமல் திருப்பியுள்ளார்கள். ஆனால் வீடிமுந்தவர்கள் இன்னும் சரியான நிலைமைக்கு வரவில்லை. ஆதலால் திரும்பிய பணங்களை மறுபடியும் அவற்றிற்கே செலவழிக்க வேண்டுகிறேன்.

“ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு நிலம் கொடுக்கும் முறை சரியானபடியில்லை. இச் சபையில் இதைப்பற்றி ஒவ்வொரு வருஷமும் கச்சலிடுகிறோம். கச்சலிட்டும் அரசாங்கத்தார் யாதொரு முயற்சியும் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவில்லை. ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு ஒதுக்கும் நிலங்கள் கடல், மடு, மலை, ஆகாசமாகவே இருக்கின்றன. ஏனென்றால் ஒரு பயனுமில்லாத அவற்றை ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் தலையில் வைத்து தீர்வை வாங்குவதற்கு ஒதுக்குகிறார்கள். நல்ல நிலங்களெல்லாவற்றையும் ஏலம் போட்டுவிடுகிறார்கள். இதனால் அரசாங்கத்தார் நோக்கம் சரியானதாக யில்லை. ஒரு ஸ்பெஷல் ஆபீசர் வைத்து ஆங்காங்குள்ள நல்ல நிலங்களையே ஒதுக்கி அவற்றை ஆதிதிராவிடர்க்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இவ்வதிகாரத்தை ஜில்லா லேபர் ஆபீசர்களுக்கு கொடுத்தால் அவர்கள் நன்றாய் செய்வார்கள் என நினைக்கிறேன்.

“முனிசிபல் எல்லைகளிலுள்ள நிலங்களை ஆதிதிராவிடர்க்கு விலைக்கு வாங்கி கொடுக்க முடியாத நிலைமையில் லேபர் ஆபீசர்கள் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். டவுன்களிலுள்ள தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு வீடுகட்ட நிலங்களைக் கிடைக்கவில்லை யாதலால் இவ்விஷயங்களைக் கனம் ரெவின்யூ மெம்பர் கவனிப்பாரெனக் கருதுகிறேன்.”

Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

பூரா கேது நிலத்தில் துண்டு நில சாகுபடி விஷயம்.

“அகராசனரே! இந்த விஷயம் பயிரிடும் குடிகளுக்குள்ள கஷ்டங்களிலொன்று. சிற்சில சமயங்களில் ஜலக்கஷ்டத்தினாலோ மற்ற காரணங்களினாலோ குடியானவர்கள் தங்கள் நிலத்தில் முழு விஸ்தீரணத்தையும் சாகுபடி செய்யாமல் அதில் சமயோசிதமாக கொஞ்சம் பாகத்தை சாகுபடி செய்கிறார்கள். உதாரணமாக, ஒரு குடியானவன் தனக்கு ஓரிடத்திலுள்ள ஒரு காணி நிலத்தில் கால் காணியும், மற்றொரு இடத்திலுள்ள முக்கால் காணியில் கால் காணியும் சாகுபடி செய்தால், அவன் சாகுபடி செய்து அவைக் காணியாரிந்தாலும் அவன் தீர்வை கட்டவேண்டியிருப்பது ஒன்றேமுகால் காணி முழுதுக்குமாம். இந்த விதி மிகக் கொடுமையானது. சாகுபடி செய்வதற்கு வரி வாங்குவது நியாயம், சாகுபடி செய்யாத பாகத்துக்கும் வரி வசூலிப்பதானால் இதை என்னவென்று சொல்லுவது? அவன் சாகுபடி செய்த கொஞ்சம் மாகுலின் வருமானமும் பூரா நிலத்துக்கும் வரிப்பணம் கட்டுவதற்கே போதுமானதாயிருக்காது. இந்த விதியை எந்த புத்திசாலியானவர் ஏற்படுத்தினாரோ தெரியவில்லை. இது விஷயமாய் மகா-நா-ஸ்ரீ

[13th March 1931] [Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi]

ஆதிநாராயண செட்டியார் அவர்கள் கொண்டுவந்த தீர்மானம் நிறைவேறியுள்ளது. ஆனாலும் அமலுக்கு வரவில்லை. தற்போதும் என்னெப்போல் அலோகம் மெம்பர்கள் இது விஷயங்கள் சொல்லியும் பயன்படுமோ என்னமோ என்ற சந்தேகத்திற்கிடமில்லாமல் இந்தக் கொடுமையான விதியை உடனே ரத்து செய்து உத்தரவு அனுப்பும்படி சர்க்காரை கட்டாயப்படுத்துவது இந்த சபையின் கடமை. இந்த விஷயத்தை சர்க்கார் கவனத்துக்கு கொண்டுவர விரும்புகிறேன்.”

* Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move 11-45
.” a.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ Order, order, the hon. Member will resume his seat. As I have already stated, it will be for the convenience of the House if all the Members who have given notice of a similar motion speak on one motion and then that motion is put to the vote of the House. Since the hon. Member has given a similar motion to the one that is now under discussion he need not move his motion, but it is enough if he speaks on it.”

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—“ Sir, I rise to support the motion, and in doing so I wish not only to point out the unsound and inequitable policy of the Land Revenue system obtaining in this Presidency but also to urge on the Government to modernize the whole system of taxation and distribute that burden among the people equitably. That the Land Revenue system of this Presidency suffers from want of certainty as to the rate and basis of assessment, that it is a complex machinery that is expensive involving laborious, tedious and complicated settlement and resettlement operations and that it is more of a burden on the less prosperous cultivator, has time and again been pointed out by expert committees constituted under the authority of the Government for the purpose of enquiring into the nature of taxation and also by the representatives of the people. Now with regard to the uncertainty of the basis and the rate, it is common sense, Sir, that we must be definite in our transactions; definiteness is a virtue in transactions. In other countries land-tax is levied on a definite basis and at a definite rate. But what do we find in this presidency? Land-tax is based either on net assets or on rentals. Rentals is sometimes assumed and sometimes controlled. And in the case of net profits it may include or may not include the expenses connected with the cultivators' maintenance. And again the basis may differ in different cases. The opinion of the settlement officer may differ and the opinion of the Government may differ. That is what generally happens, as it happened in the case of the Economic Enquiry Committee as constituted by this Council with regard to the resettlement of the Godavari and Kistna districts. There, the opinion of the resettlement officer differed from the opinion of the committee. Therefore this uncertainty as to the rate and basis of taxation is a defect that should be remedied at the earliest possible moment.

“ The second thing I wish to emphasize is the uneconomic system of raising the land tax from time to time. The cost of the resettlement is hardly justifiable in view of the average increase in revenue that may result as a result of the resettlement operations. And this has been frequently pointed out by many members of this Council; but so far no effect has been given to their suggestions.

[Mr. Mahaboob Ali Baig] [13th March 1931]

“ Now with regard to the inequitable distribution of the burden of land-tax, it is worth while for us to remember that tax is payable by the people for meeting the expenditure of the State, which works for the common good of the people. No doubt every member must contribute his mite to the State, but this does not necessarily imply that every member, whether he is able to pay or not, must pay his contribution. What is just and proper is that the more fortunate people should pay more in progression, and the less fortunate should pay less. Then only you can achieve common good to the society. Applying this test or this equitable principle of land revenue system, what we find in this presidency is very unsatisfactory. The richer landholder, holding hundreds and thousands of acres of land, pays comparatively a small part of his surplus income. Whereas, the small landholder and the poor ryot owning only a small plot of land has to pay almost the whole of the surplus that is left to him after deducting the cultivation expenses. That, I say, is very unjust. The man who is drawing from land an yield worth Rs. 1,000 a year may be able to pay Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 and there will be left for him sufficient money to live. But the cultivator who earns only Rs. 100 a year if he is compelled to pay Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 as land-tax, it is not possible for him to maintain himself and his family on the balance amount. And I suppose the modern tendency is that land-tax should be collected in progression. And another way of acceding to this principle is by making persons who are getting an agricultural income above a certain fixed minimum pay a tax, call it income-tax, or whatever you like. That system will relieve the small holder of the burden under which he is at present labouring as a result of the resettlement operations.

“ Another point I wish to bring to the notice of the House is that the modern tendency is to localize taxation and not provincialize it, in order that the ryot who pays money may realize that he gets a return therefor. If the land-tax is localised and the ryots are made to pay local taxes there will be scope for rural reconstruction which is the basis of all nation building activities. Therefore, Sir, it is high time for the Government to pay attention to this problem and see how uncertain present taxation is, how expensive, unjust and inequitable it is, and to take measures to legislate; and in legislating see that the tax is levied of course in progression, so as to relieve the poor ryot of the present burden of taxation, always keeping in view that rural reconstruction is made possible by localization of taxation.”

* Mr. A. V. BHANOJI RAO:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the motion before the House and in doing so I want to speak on only one particular subject; and that is about the need for legislation on land revenue. Sir, it is an admitted fact by all people that the cultivating ryot at present is groaning under the weight of the periodical resettlements of Government, and as a result of this he finds that he hardly gets enough food for himself and his family to live throughout the year. As we all know at the present moment the condition of the country is very bad, the slump in trade so great and the price of agricultural products has fallen down so low that it is very difficult for the ryot to find

13th March 1931] [Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao]

a proper market. So I hope Government will take immediate steps on the experience they have gained from the resettlement operations which they have already carried out on an extensive scale throughout the country and I daresay they will take that experience with them, to bring in a piece of legislation on this subject and relieve the poor ryot from the periodical resettlements and its uncertainty and their consequent evils. I hope the Government will take very early steps and see that a Bill is introduced in the Council.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ Mr. President, Sir, my justification for participating in this debate is due to the fact that of late representations, both personal and through letters, are pouring in narrating the great distress under which the agricultural population in almost all the districts of the presidency is passing under. Sir, to ask this Council to place the rates of assessment on a statutory basis is no more a useful cry. We have tried our best all these years to get this Council to agree to place these assessment rates on a statutory basis. The Local Government conveniently throw the blame on the Central Government, and the Central Government in its turn throw the blame upon the Local Government; and last time the hon. the Revenue Member said that it was due to the fact that the Legislative Council was not prepared to agree to certain conditions that the Local Government were not in a position to bring in a Bill to place the rates of assessment on a statutory basis. Sir, apart from that, in the actual collection and in the levy of these rates a great deal has to be done.

“ Sir, 80 per cent of the population of this Presidency is agricultural. And most of them are illiterate. They are dumb but they are very shrewd people. For all these years they have been subject to such hardship that it is impossible for any man to conceive that it would be within the patience of a human being to suffer. Sir, if a pie is increased in the rate of taxation under income-tax, we shout, we clamour, we agitate and we do not give the Government a moment's rest. But the agricultural population upon whom this country is dependant is labouring under heavy taxation for more than a century. And still we are unable to move this Government to do anything to relieve the distress. If the distress is unbearable, ordinarily, it has become most unbearable during the present year and the previous year. It is admitted even by the Government that the agriculturist is heavily involved in debt and that the price for agricultural products has fallen considerably low and that he is unable to realize even the expenses which he had to incur in order to cultivate. Sir, in certain districts figures have been supplied for the cost of production of a particular agricultural product. In those figures the cost of maintaining the ryot's family is not given and still the cost of production is much more than the sale price that he gets for that article. Suffering under such unbearable hardship, unable to make strong representations to Government, unable to move, unable to exact an iota of sympathy from the Government he is merely succumbing under this dire calamity. Over and above all these things the severity of collections of cess has not abated even by the slightest degree. Just now, the hon. the Revenue Member read out a statement which was

12
on.

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [13th March 1931]

perhaps given in answer to the representations of the lanka ryots that Government are willing to allow the kist to be collected in four instalments provided sufficient security is given. Sir, the other day one big ryot of this lanka island saw me and mentioned to me certain incidents which these lanka ryots have to face year in and year out. I understand from him that these lankas are leased out on what is called a licence system. Before he could make anything out of those places it is an ordinary feature of the lankas that a portion and sometimes a very great portion of these lankas is washed away by floods. Even then I am told the licensee has to pay the full amount for which the lease has been taken. No remission is given in cases where considerable portions of these lankas are washed away. I am further told that a sort of penalty is imposed upon him. If the ryot cultivates only a portion of the lankas the rate will be levied on the whole area of the lankas whatever may be the portion the ryot cultivates. That gentleman from lanka was telling me in most pathetic terms that they have lost their all and that they could only hereafter emigrate from those places and settle somewhere else. I have yesterday received one representation from Palkonda in the Vizagapatam district. Sir, the House will be aware of the great suffering under which these people are labouring under, if I read out to them one paragraph from the report:

“పాలకొండ తాలూకా ప్రజలమందరము గవర్నమెంటువారికి 3 కిస్తీలు వారి వారి శక్తులను పూర్తిగా వినియోగించి కట్టినాము. 4 వ వాయిదా వచ్చినది. ఇక ప్రజలమందరము ప్రాంత్యాగము కావించుకొనుటయే లేక యిట్లు పిల్లలను భాములను విడిచిపొని సన్యాసులమై పారిపోతున్నారా, అని యాచించుచున్నాముగాని, 4 వ కిస్తీని యంతమాత్రము కట్టలేము. గాన మీ కమిటీవారు వెంటనే తగిన యేర్పాటులను చేయించి యీ 4 వ కిస్తీని మారకుగా పొడిగించి వసూలుచేయించుటకు శిఫార్సు చేసి ప్రజలను రక్షించకోరదము.

“Sir, these are the words which the agriculturists of Palkonda write. Sir, they say that they have so far paid three instalments of kists having sold what all they had and in order to pay the fourth instalment they have nothing to sell or to mortgage not even to steal. The only alternative they have is to leave their house and their lands and run away to some place and they evidently want the assistance of the Legislative Council Members to which place they could possibly go. That is the situation which the agriculturists are now in. After all, is it suggested by the Government that there is no truth in these representations, that the complaints which these agriculturists are making are merely in order to extract concessions from the Government or do the Government really think that there is cause for complaint and that there is real grievance. If the latter is the attitude of the Government, Sir, we should like to know what the Government have really done to help the agriculturists. You cannot kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. After all, the real source of revenue on which Government could depend is land revenue. You are putting these people who are paying this land revenue to such straits as it would be impossible for them to recover. How long can this poor peasant bear this burden? Sir, I

13th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

have again received another representation from Tindivanam in the South Arcot district and it is to the effect that their taluk particularly was affected by floods and so the dry crops which they could have raised have suffered considerably and no remission has been granted. In spite of the representations made to the Collector nothing has been done in the matter of either remissions or the postponement of the payment of kists. It is surprising, Sir, that the Government should continue to be irresponsive to the lamentations of the agriculturists. In some villages there is no water to drink. In some villages tanks which have been breached have not been repaired. No assistance is given to see that he gets water at the time of cultivation. But at the time of the collection of land revenue all the Sibbandhis of Government collect and press the ryot. Sir, answers on the floor of the Legislative Council that they have been considering the matter, that they have been sending out instructions to Collectors won't satisfy unless these promises are translated to specific action and the agriculturist is made to live for some time to come. I wish the members of Government who are conversant with the vernaculars of this Presidency go about and see the villagers without their Collectors, tahsildars and revenue Inspectors and find out the actual distress. There is unfortunately the suspicion that the representatives make much of these grievances. As a matter of fact we are not able to describe one hundredth of the pathetic side that it is our misfortune to see in these villages both on account of lack of vocabulary, and lack of physical experience of these calamities. If only to-day all rules are relaxed and the agriculturists are allowed to sit in these benches and made to represent these grievances I have no doubt that even the strongest heart of the Government will move. I only request that the members of the Government should make periodical visits to villages and make themselves conversant with the actual conditions in the villages. My only justification in participating in this debate is to request the Government not to set aside the representations which must have been received by the Government from time to time and day after day but sympathetically consider those things and relieve the distress. But as Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar pointed out it appears that the kists for the most part had already been collected. Having regard to that fact I have not much hope that the Government will be in a mood to consider their other grievances sympathetically. But if any representation made on the floor of the House should have any effect let me repeat my appeal to the members of the Government to consider these representations and grant such remissions and relief as is necessary and imminent to these ryots.”

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Mr. President, the first point that I would try to raise under this demand is the fact that in my opinion the grant that is now asked for under the head of Land Revenue should include other items. I find, Sir, from the details shown under this demand that the sum now asked for under this head only includes the cost of Survey and Settlement although the demand itself

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [13th March 1931]

is called Land Revenue, Reserved. Sir, I should like to know why Government are not charging to this head of Land Revenue the large expenditure shown under General Administration. For instance, what is the Board of Revenue for, if it is not for dealing with land revenue; what are the Collectors for, what are the revenue divisional officers for and the whole set, right up to the karnams, totis and talaiyaris?

12-15 P.m. “Apparently, the Government wants us to believe that all the establishment that is now classed under General Administration is really required for administrative purposes and not for land revenue purposes. I think it must be obvious to any one that if this establishment was not necessary for the purpose of land revenue, we ought to be able to make a very considerable reduction in it. We do not want so many Collectors and the whole series of land revenue establishment right down to the village establishment upon which you are spending several lakhs every year. I do not know on what grounds Government is allocating all this expenditure under Land Revenue to other heads. I find, Sir, besides that following the same principle Government is now charging the cost of the establishment that is more or less doing settlement duties to the head of General Administration again. If you refer to the budgets of previous years, you will find that originally the cost of Survey and Settlement was shown as something like Rs. 34 lakhs, whereas now including the non-voted portion it comes to Rs. 27 lakhs, so that a sum of about 11 or 12 lakhs which was originally charged for the head of revenue establishment which was also doing settlement work has now been transferred to the head of General Administration. I therefore think that this allocation of charges is not correct, and it does not show the actual cost of the demand for Land Revenue which ought to include the charges for Land Revenue administration.

“Coming to the Settlement policy, I have already dealt with the question fully in connection with the discussion on the Economic Enquiry Committee's report. This House, Sir, time after time pointed out to the Government the many iniquities of the present land revenue system and the land revenue policy. With reference to the arriving at the resettlement rate, the Economic Enquiry Committee has pointed out that basing the settlement on commutation rates obtained for a series of years which have expired and arriving at the assessment from this and applying that rate to a subsequent period of thirty years is quite indefensible and absolutely iniquitous. Now, Sir, taking the Kistna and Godavaris, the Settlement Officer taking a series of twenty years when the prices were very high arrives at a commutation rate of Rs. 208 a garce. As a matter of fact, now the price of a garce is only Rs. 140. Now, how can you apply that rate assuming the price per garce is Rs. 258 during that period, when you have got to deal with a subsequent period of years when the price obtained is only Rs. 140? What do you allow for the cultivation expenses? How do you arrive at the half net? If you had arrived at the half net having Rs. 140 as the prevailing price, what will the resulting assessment be? When this point was

13th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

raised in connexion with the debate on the Economic Enquiry Committee's report as well as other points, the Government had absolutely no reply to give. My hon. Friend, the Revenue Member, read to us passages from some printed circulars and notifications, which are well known to us. The point is that we refuse to accept the data of the Settlement Officer and his notification. We have already shown the absurdity of these principles being applied to the present conditions. I repeat once again how can you apply the conditions based upon a period of rising prices that has already expired to a subsequent period of falling prices, of low prices, when the ryot is even unable to live, when he is unable to sell his grain? There was no answer except that the Government sees no reason why they should not go on with the resettlement in these districts and resettlements have already been made in other districts. The condition to-day certainly demands a revision of the policy if Government really has the interest of the poor agriculturist at heart. I hope, Sir, that even now the Government would take into consideration the sufferings of these people and make up their minds at least to stop this resettlement in future. The Government's land revenue system, Sir, I can only characterize as iniquitous and barbarous. It is a relic of the past. The old Governments found the tax on land a very convenient source of raising money, and to-day, Sir, while in most other countries of the world, this old system of land revenue tax has given place to other systems, this Government goes on sticking to its old and barbarous system which purports to take from the ryot 50 per cent of his income. I do not propose to refer to the accuracy of your settlement calculations, all your calculations of cost of cultivation and so forth. Assuming, Sir, that your calculations are correct, is there any place in the world where the Government takes 50 per cent of a man's income as taxation. It is nothing short of barbarous, and any Government that has the interest of the ryot at heart should at once alter the present land revenue system which has really to be characterized as iniquitous. The system is not progressive in its incidence. It presses heavily on the smaller holders, and this arithmetical system is applied to all holdings, including holdings on which the ryot claims to live and holdings on which he cannot possibly derive any profit. The Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee, Sir, after careful enquiries recommended a flat rate of 25 per cent of the net produce as taxation. So far, Government have taken no action of it at all. We have not also heard anything from the Government of India on this question all these many years since the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee sent its report. The Economic Enquiry Committee appointed for the Kistna and Godavaris made practically the same recommendation, that the Government scale of land revenue assessment should be fixed on the principle of taking 25 per cent of the net produce and that it should not be fixed at 50 per cent, and we are waiting to see what the Government is going to do. I hope, Sir, that this Government cares for the interests of the people, for the well-being of the agriculturists, that the Government is solicitous.

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [13th March 1931]

of relieving the sufferings of the ryots, and that they will reconsider their land revenue policy. In particular, I would invite their attention to the depressing conditions that have been created by the sudden rain in prices. Now, Sir, the result of this fall in prices has meant that you are practically doubling the taxation. You are now collecting the tax in money. That means when the money value has increased corresponding to the lowering of the prices of foodstuffs, you are practically doubling the taxation. Considering the fact that there is no tax in the world comparable in the iniquity of its high incidence to this land revenue taxation, are we not entitled to ask you presuming on your benevolence, assuming your interest and duty as a Government to look after the well-being of the suffering millions from whom you derive this taxation, presuming that your protestations are correct and that you still intend to help the people to rise, are we not entitled to ask that Government should consider the present prevailing conditions of distress; that Government should consider this high and unparalleled incidence of taxation in this country; that taking all these points into consideration Government should come to the help of the ryots; that it might grant a rebate, temporary or permanent, in the land revenue demand; that it might grant postponement of kist wherever it is called for and grant remissions on a liberal scale; that even if it comes to a crore or more the Government should face the situation in their capacity as Government in the exigencies of the welfare of the people of this Presidency? I hope, Sir, that my appeal to Government will not be in vain, that they will show by their actions that they deserve our confidence and our trust, and that they will come to the relief of the suffering poor of this country."

* B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I do not want to take up much of the time of this house on this topic for various reasons. As one of my friends was remarking, either it is old wine being put in new bottles, or old wine in old bottles. Whatever the nature of the speeches on the cut motions may be, we know what the result of carrying out a cut motion will be. It is not only the motions that were carried and the speeches made in this house that have been ignored but also the recommendations of Taxation Committees and Economic Enquiry Committees, which were appointed by the Government and which had to undergo a great deal of labour and caused large expenditure to the public exchequer have all been thrown in the waste paper basket by the Government. I do not think any purpose will be served by our wasting much time in speaking over these questions again and again. The idea of the Government seems to be that whether the ryots can or cannot afford to pay the existing taxes or the enhanced taxes, the resettlement operations must go on. The Government does not seem to pay any serious consideration to the practical aspect of the question from the tax-payer's point of view. If they had any bona-fide intention, they would have appointed Economic Enquiry Committees as regards other districts, also, just as they appointed for the Kistna and Godavari districts.

13th March 1931] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

"But, as I have already stated, even the reports submitted by such committees have been thrown to the winds. When such is the case, I do not see much of a purpose served by further committees. However, in the present most depressed economic condition which is admitted by the Government, I do not see any real purpose that can be served by these resettlements. From the Government's own point of view, I ask, when the prices of the products have gone down considerably, is it wise to carry on these settlement operations? From a business point of view, is it advisable to have these resettlements now? Is it to their advantage? If the Government think that the fall in prices is only a temporary feature, can they not wait till the country returns to the normal conditions to start their resettlement operations? I am afraid the Government are not considering the matter from the point of view of the tax-payer, or for that matter, even from their own point of view. Their position seems to be this: They have got a staff with nothing to do were it not for this sort of work. And so they are asking the staff to go on with this work of resettlement in district after district, whether any purpose would be served by such work or not ultimately. That seems to be the idea underlying the present resettlement operations."

"So far as Malabar is concerned, the Administration Report says that in some of the taluks resettlement operations have been completed and that operations are going on with reference to the other taluks. I think in Ponnani, Ernad, Chirakkal and Calicut settlement operations have been completed and in Kottayam and other taluks they are proceeding. In view of the admitted fact that the economic condition is so depressed that any revision of land revenue at present would not be advisable from any point of view, and in view of the fact that any enhancement of land revenue will only lead the ryots to bankruptcy, the Government must I think seriously consider the advisability of stopping these operations for a time. But if the Government thinks that there is scope for enhancement of revenue, it is absolutely necessary that they should appoint an economic enquiry committee for the western districts. No doubt, as I have said, even the report of any enquiry committee may be ignored; but after all, the whole thing that we see is a farce and so let the farce be continued by having one more Economic Enquiry Committee. (Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Hear, hear.) When the Government is showing signs of changing its angle of vision on fundamental issues, I think it is high time that with regard to these matters also, the Government changes its policy, and stops these resettlement operations pending the findings of an Economic Enquiry Committee which I suggest the Government ought to appoint so far as the western districts are concerned. That is all I have to say for the present."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, in spite of the expression of opinion of this house year in and year out as to the necessity for having legislation in regard to this matter, the Government have been following consistently their own age-old method. No doubt the Government once introduced legislation in regard to this matter, but when once

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [13th March 1931]

they found that the opinion of this House was not acceptable to them, they dropped the matter. I know what the hon. the Revenue Member is going to say to-day. He has already given us an idea of it. He will say: 'You are going to get Swaraj. You are going to get provincial autonomy. Well, I leave it to you to pass a legislative enactment on this matter.' To some extent, it can no doubt be appreciated that at the far end of the bureaucratic form of Government the Revenue Member may not be willing to take up the responsibility for bringing in legislation on a matter of first class importance like this. However, I charge him and the whole number of Revenue Members who preceded him with the delay the long delay in getting an enactment on this matter passed.

"Sir, complaints against the present executive form of imposing taxation on land have been numerous and this question has come in for a good deal of criticism. There is no doubt difference of opinion with regard to that; it has been stated that this method of imposing tax on land is not based on sound economic principles. Although in many western countries the income derived from land is looked upon only as a proper subject of taxation, there is the clear opinion of the economists that the Indian system of trying to get a definite proportion of the net income from the land is sound, economic and equitable. From a pure theoretical point of view, the present system may be justified, but when you come to the actual working of the system in vogue, you find many difficulties, you will find that the income we derive as a result of these settlement operations is quite disproportionate to the money that we spend on them. I have my own doubts, Sir, as to how far the land will be in a position to pay any more revenue. If the present acute economic depression and the abnormally low level of prices of foodstuffs and other produce continues, I am afraid the Government, even if it enforces all the coercive processes for collection, is sure to find that it will be almost impossible to realise even the revenue now imposed. This year, in spite of our repeated requests, the Government have not postponed the collections, nor have they given us part remission. They have on the other hand succeeded in getting a major portion of the revenue. But I must tell the Government that the ryots have paid the assessment not because they are in a position to do so, not because owing to the economic condition now prevailing, they have not suffered a great deal, but because they have staked everything to pay up the same to save themselves from disgrace and from losing the lands. I am not in the happy position of my hon. friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti to receive only deputations and petitions. I am an actual agriculturist myself. As a matter of fact, I thought that, instead of speaking on public platform and in the Legislative Council on the question without actual experience and in spite of the warnings given to me by my friends that it was not paying to take to agriculture, I should cultivate some lands myself and see how it works. I took up some 150 acres of dry land for cultivation.

13th March 1931] [Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

I have got a detailed account showing all the items of expenditure which I have incurred. I am preserving it for use on a suitable occasion. I find now that I have incurred some loss. I have not been able to realise fully the land revenue that I have to pay this year on the land I have cultivated. When such is the case, how can the Government expect to raise the rates? Can the Government afford to be unsympathetic to the ryots? We requested the hon. the Revenue Member and waited on him on deputation to get him see if at least the collection of the assessment could not be postponed for some time. If he had only done that, he could have given the ryots some relief, a relief which was absolutely necessary. When that request was made the price of groundnut which is one of the chief commercial products of the parts of the province from which I come, was annas 11 per manud and earlier it went down to even annas seven. Although the price of this produce is now somewhere about Re. 1-1-0 per maund, which is far below the price of previous years, the ryots are unable to make any profit and so any relief granted by way of at least postponement of the kist collections, would have been very much appreciated, seeing that the price of groundnut gone up by 25 to 30 per cent if not more. These are the facts. Under the circumstances I hope the Government will not disregard the wishes of this hon. House. Members are not here voicing the feelings of the ryoti population merely for the purpose of securing their votes. It is not so. Some of us are actual cultivators and have practical experience of cultivation. And when we come here and explain to the Government the real situation in the villages, the Government should really show some consideration. They should not altogether disregard our representations. I hope that the hon. the Revenue Member will not reply in the usual way saying that the question has been referred to the Board of Revenue. We want some more sympathetic answer and what more, action. The collectors are going on with the collection of revenue; most of it has already been collected. The Government might say: 'You have been saying that the ryots are unable to pay the assessment. Then how is it that they have paid almost the whole of the tax?' To them I may say that a number of the ryots have pawned all their belongings, ornaments and so on for paying the land revenue. Most have sold their produce at abnormally low price and have very little produce left with them for the future. The sowcar won't lend, in fact, the sowcar even has no money. That is the condition of the villagers. When that is so, what is the use of going on with the settlement operations in the hope that the land revenue can be raised further? I do hope that the hon. the Revenue Member will even at this stage cut down the revenue assessment by at least 10 or 15 per cent and at any rate issue orders to the collectors not to collect any more revenue pending the results of the enquiry by the Revenue Board.

"Sir, as regards land revenue legislation, we have year after year reiterated the demand for it. Sir, my hon. friends have already

[Mr. K. Koti. Reddi] [13th March 1931]

pointed out one serious defect in the existing methods, viz., that concerning giving relief to the small ryots. Even assuming that big landlords are able to realise some net income out of the lands, when you consider the case of the poor pattadars who own a few acres of land and who constitute the major portion of the ryots in this presidency you will find very little chance of their making both ends meet.

12-45 p.m. "The ryot who cultivates 5 to 10 acres has really got very little income for him to live upon, especially when as we know that the subsidiary industries on which the ryot was dependent upon in former days are crippled if not extinct now. Now he is entirely depending upon agriculture. The poor ryot who is entirely depending upon agriculture for his living has become despondent of his present position and something must be done. It is desirable even at this stage that the hon. the Revenue Member should undertake to bring in a satisfactory enactment. If that cannot be done, at least the resettlement operations may be postponed. There is absolutely no use of wasting the precious money on resettlement operations as there is absolutely no chance of raising more income from the ryot now."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, the need for legislation in regard to land revenue has been pointed out any number of times on the floor of this House and that there is no need to repeat the arguments that have been advanced by hon. Members in this House on various occasions. We now find from the attitude taken by the hon. the Revenue Member that so far as legislation on Land Revenue is concerned, he desires to leave it to the coming Legislature and does not propose to bring in any legislation himself before this Council and get it passed. When he has taken that attitude I do not think there is much good in my again arguing before him, but, I would like to state that it would be better for him to handle the question himself with his wide experience as Revenue Member of this Presidency and with his intimate knowledge of the Bills that were brought before this House on more than one occasion. After all, Members of the Legislative Council are persons responsible to their electorates, and they are anxious as much as the Government that the administration should be carried on. They are not here to create dead-locks in the administrative machinery. They are anxious that the administration should be carried on and that the revenues necessary for the purpose of carrying on the administration should be collected. It is only with regard to the method of assessment that there has been difference of opinion between the Government and the representatives of the public.

"Now, Sir, at the outset I may point out that the land revenue system in this Presidency is based on a fundamental fallacy that the State is the owner of the land and that the landholders, though they call themselves as landowners, are really tenants and are bound to pay half the net income and that the State is entitled to half the net

13th March 1931] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

income. That I state is a fundamental fallacy. Perhaps the Government thinks that for a long time it has been the practice for the State to get a share of the produce from the land, an idea based on some antiquated notions. May I ask the Government whether in those old days when Government shared half of the income during the regime of Hindu and Muhammadan kings there were taxes like customs, tax on kerosene oil, salt and on other articles which are real necessities and which the landholder has also to pay for. It is not as if when the land revenue is paid that the State undertakes to provide the agriculturist with all amenities and will not tax him with regard to his necessities. There is the local taxation and there is the Imperial taxation. He has very often to pay the income-tax though not specifically on land produce. He has also to pay customs duties. Cess is also collected from him for road and railway. For everything cess is collected. Whenever additional revenue is needed the landholder has to pay. In these circumstances I wonder how the Government can still rely on the old and antiquated notion that the State was entitled to a share of half the net produce and so they should get half the net income from the landholder. It is stated that the State was lenient when it fixed the commutation rates. Perhaps it might be that when the commutation rates were fixed for the first time the method adopted was alright, but later on when there was a necessity to increase the income and so as to balance the budget the commutation rate was being altered very often. In spite of the speeches of the Honourable Members on the floor of this House from time to time and in spite of the representations made by the landholders themselves when Settlement Parties went into the districts, the Government have been consistently increasing the assessment. With a view to make the Legislative Council agree to certain proposals before the Government, when the last Land Revenue Bill was attempted to be passed in this House, the Government fixed the maximum rise in rates at 18½ per cent. Till then they were saying that they were entitled to 25 per cent. The last attempt made in the Legislative Council at least brought this good effect, viz., that the Government imposed upon themselves the restriction that they would not any more raise the assessment by more than 18½ per cent at any settlement. Of course we should be thankful for small mercies. But I ask 'Is it fair that the rates of assessment should be based on what are called average prices'. Average prices are such elusive statistics that it is not possible really to find out what are the average prices. The Government says they leave out of account the prices of the food products during famine years. What are famine years and what are not is a question that will have to be solved. Government say that only prices prevailing during years of acute famine should be taken into consideration, and that prices prevailing during normal years do not affect the agriculturist. What are normal years. Again during this year and last year we found an abnormal fall in the prices of foodstuffs. May I ask how the Government intend to help the agriculturists now. They

[Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar] [13th March 1931]

say that they base assessment rates based on average prices prevailing during the last 30 years. Now the prices have suddenly fallen and is it fair to continue the old rates. After all the agriculturist can pay the State only from out of the income of the land.

“ Whenever the land revenue policy of the Government is attacked by the Members of this House they are always confronted with the answer that there are executive orders, that the Settlement Parties are really doing their duties and that the statistics prepared by them are really correct. This House constituted last year a committee for West Godavari for enquiring into the settlement rates of West Godavari district and after an elaborate enquiry the committee came to a conclusion and submitted their report. What happened? The expert Members sitting in judgment over that committee's report found from one or two paragraphs of their report that the statistics prepared by them were not quite accurate and therefore gave a go-by to the recommendations of that committee. I ask whether it is right for the Government to pick holes here and there in a report submitted by a committee composed of responsible Members of this House and say that those recommendations are based on figures which are not quite accurate, and therefore they cannot accept those recommendations. That committee could proceed only on facts placed before them. When they have made their recommendations in the light of the materials placed before them, I ask whether it is right, instead of looking at those recommendations in the spirit in which they were made, to criticize those recommendations even with regard to minutest detail and say that those recommendations cannot be accepted.

“ Again, Sir, this year when we mooted the question whether the land revenue assessment was going to be increased, the Government at once said that they were going to constitute an Economic Enquiry Committee. Most of us are dissatisfied with the constitution of this committee and also the terms of reference made to it. The committee has been asked to sit in Madras. They are not asked to take evidence, they have to import their own knowledge. They are not expected to tour. They have simply to report on whatever information they have and to place before the Government their recommendations. That is a very unsatisfactory way of dealing with this question. It may be that for the present the Government puts aside our criticisms and shelves this question. I want to ask the Government whether it is a fair way of dealing with this question, whether they should not look at the question from a broader standpoint and take the whole House into their confidence and find out how the settlement rates have worked, whether they have worked to the advantage of the ryots or to the State, and if the landholder finds that he is really oppressed by the increased assessment they should not reduce the assessment and make the land revenue policy of the Government acceptable to the people. This way of shelving the question is well known to public administrations, and during recent years it has been the practice of the Government to do so. I am sorry to state that even

13th March 1931] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

the recommendations of Commissions like the Royal Commission on Agriculture have not really been given effect to by the various Governments. In spite of the heavy expenditure involved nothing real has come out of those recommendations. In the face of those facts, I do not really see the purpose of constituting these committees to whom a reference on general principles is made and whose recommendations are not given effect to. I therefore ask the hon. the Revenue Member to take a broader view of this question. There is yet time for him to revise his opinion.

“ Lastly if it is not possible for the hon. Revenue Member to give effect to the recommendations of the Economic Enquiry Committee, or to bring in a Land Revenue Bill, I think it is his duty not to give effect to further increases in rates. As regards remission and assessment in areas which are affected by floods or drought, I may point out that the existing system of giving remission is not sound and it requires a thorough overhauling.

“ I also suggest that the settlement rates that have been fixed for districts during the last four or five years should also be revised to the advantage of the landholder.”

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (3 p.m.).

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—“ Mr. President, Sir, the object of my cut motion is to get established the position that resettlement rates should be enforced only after ascertaining the view of this House. Ours is an agricultural country and a tax on agriculture is indeed a tax on the primary occupation of the large masses of population in this Presidency. That being so, when the prospect of provincial autonomy is so near at hand, may I appeal to the Government to allow the Legislative Council the ultimate control over the principles of settling the rates of assessment in respect of the primary occupation of the country? When some years back a committee presided over by Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah was constituted by Government to consider a Land Revenue Settlement Bill framed by the Board of Revenue, that Committee recommended to the Government that the power of fixing the rates of assessment should vest in the Legislative Council. This is what the Committee said:

‘ We, therefore, recommend that the Government should, before orders are issued under a scheme report, place its proposal before the Legislative Council, that it should be competent to the Legislative Council to reject, adopt or modify the proposal of the Government in such manner as they think fit, and that Government should pass final orders on the scheme in accordance with the resolution of the Legislative Council.’

“ This is the clear recommendation of a Committee constituted by Government. Again, when some time after this recommendation, a member of Government, Sir Arthur Knapp, brought in a Bill which did not give power of fixing the rates to this House, the Bill was thrown out by the Council by 60 votes against 18 votes. Hon. Members of this House would better appreciate my position if they would

[Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar] [13th March 1931]

in this connexion remember that land revenue which forms about 43 per cent of the whole revenue of this province has been increased within the last 10 years by 10 per cent, by mere executive orders. Mr. President, Sir, the times are so hard that the grinding poverty of every district in the Presidency has to be taken into account by Government. The best way of knowing real conditions is by hearing the representatives from each district. My district, the district of Malabar, is in a very sad plight to-day. The Budget Memorandum, page 23, says that, 'Credit has not been taken for any increase from the introduction of re-settlement rates pending the final decisions of Government in the matter.' We are grateful to the Government for the consideration that has been shown thereby. But there are a number of important circumstances which the Government will have to keep in view in coming to a final decision in this matter. The memorial submitted to His Excellency the Governor headed by the Zamorin Raja of Calicut proves the present woeful state of affairs in Malabar. The principal products of the district, viz., paddy, coconuts, areca-nuts and pepper, do not now fetch a reasonable price and rich and poor alike find it impossible even to pay kists. The Government should not, therefore, enforce re-settlement rates before ascertaining the view of this House."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, the main subject to which Members who have spoken to-day have referred is the desirability of introducing a Bill to place, on the statute book, the principles on which re-settlements should be carried out; and some Members have expressed the view that, in that Bill, there should be power given to the Legislative Council to fix the actual rates on which the assessment should be levied. I have already spoken before now in this House on this subject and hon. Members have stated that they can foretell my reply. I should be sorry to disappoint them. I am afraid that I am still of opinion that this is not a matter with which we should deal at the present stage considering all the circumstances of the case. Assuming that there is dissatisfaction in some quarters with present system of land taxation, the question arises what exactly should be the new system to be adopted in levying a tax on land. It is suggested that the present system causes undue hardship upon poorer ryots and that we should take into consideration the circumstances of the actual cultivator or the pattadar of the land. If that suggestion is adopted you must convert your tax on land into a tax on the landholder. That is quite a different matter. Then the tax will be in the nature of an income-tax and under the present financial relations between this Government and the Central Government, the proceeds of such a tax would go to the latter. If it is the desire of the House to bring in a system of land revenue framed as an income-tax on agricultural profits, we should be quite sure first that the proceeds of the tax will be credited to the Provincial Government."

"I think it was alleged by one hon. Member that, in former Governments, there was no tax on kerosene oil or on salt. As a matter of fact, we are aware that various miscellaneous taxes, were levied,

13th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

If we read the history of the manner in which taxes were collected in those days, we find the general impression was that a good deal of the money which the people paid did not actually reach the ruler, but was kept by various middle men through whose hands it had to pass. The Government have remedied this evil. Now the money that is collected is actually brought to the coffers of the Government and they make it available for expenditure in the interests of the people on the amount which those that collect it receive being limited to their pay.

"I feel, Sir, that it is very much better at this stage not to attempt to introduce any legislation as hon. Members would probably wish to introduce changes in the Bill which I should not be able to accept, and which if carried, would not be acceptable to the Government of India; the time of this House would have been wasted over the details of the Bill. When we have provincial autonomy here, the Government, i.e., the Ministers, will presumably have a majority of their own in this House, and it will be possible for the Government of that day to decide, on a consideration of all the suggestions which have been made on various occasions, what is the best form of tax to be levied in connexion with land."

"It has been suggested that we ought to suspend re-settlement operations, until we have passed a re-settlement Bill. That overlooks the fact that re-settlement is not solely aimed at enhancing the rates of land revenue. There are a great many other operations which are undertaken by the officers concerned with re-settlements. In fact, re-settlement involves not only revision of rates but also revision of registration. The latter may involve re-survey but the Government are always very unwilling to undertake re-survey unless it is proved that we cannot bring our accounts into accord with actual facts without having such a re-survey. In some cases it is really necessary to have a re-survey. In some cases it is necessary to revise the survey because there may be fresh lands brought under cultivation and there may be a large number of subdivisions. A certain amount of work has to be done in that direction. Then, Sir, we have to endeavour to bring our registers up to date. That involves a considerable amount of work. For example, we have to prepare lists of porambokes. Some one has to inspect them to decide whether porambokes have been encroached upon and whether such encroachment is objectionable or not."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Is it not done all the year round?"

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"It is supposed to be done every year. If the registers were kept always up to date, it would be unnecessary for the Government to make the changes at the time of re-settlement. But unfortunately this is not done always . . ."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Why not?"

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"To some extent it is the fault of the people who do not see that names are changed in our registers when the land passes from one owner to another. Experience shows

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [13th March 1931]

that it is not possible to rely solely upon the permanent staff to keep the registers and survey work up to date. All that work has to be examined and revised, if necessary, by the re-survey and re-settlement staff.

"We do not carry on these re-settlements merely, as some hon. Members suggested, to find employment for a certain number of our servants. As a matter of fact, the re-settlement staff and most of the survey staff are temporary and we can, if we find we do not want them, dispense with their services at very short notice.

3-15 P.M. "I do not think, Sir, I need go into the details of these re-settlement operations because many of the hon. Members here are acquainted with them already, and I am sure they will all realize that a very great deal has to be done. For instance, the registers have to be re-written and after they are inspected and the ryots have had opportunities of raising objections to the changes proposed to be made in the registers, the final registers have to be made ready and the re-settlement registers finally printed. That work has still to be done whether we altered the rates or not. At the same time when we deal with the question of the incidence of taxation—i.e., whether there should or should not be an alteration in rates—we have enquiries made into the economic conditions of the ryots, and the effect of the classification of the present rates upon them and changes in the rates are made, if necessary, to make the incidence of taxation fairly distributed throughout the Presidency.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, I think, suggested that in South Kanara, the rates have been fixed too high and that they ought to be reduced. Of course, this is a matter which will come under consideration when the re-settlement operations are undertaken, and in fact this should serve as a justification of the operations which are now going on in that district."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"What about the question of the appointment of an Economic Enquiry Committee for South Kanara?"

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I am not prepared to say at this stage whether it is necessary to do so. That matter may have to be taken up for consideration at a latter stage of our operations; but I trust that we shall be able to get on without such an Enquiry Committee. It will require the production of good reasons to convince the Government that such a Committee is necessary at all.

"Reference was made by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti to the lankas. I would refer him to the answer given this morning by me in connexion with the question asked by my hon. Friend, Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, explaining the measures that we were going to adopt in order to deal with the present situation existing in those areas. I think Mr. Venkatachalam Chetti also stated that a part of these lankas has been washed away and that in spite of it, the ryots have to pay the agreed rent fixed in the lease under which they have taken a lease of the lands for a term of years. Strictly speaking, Sir, the ryot is bound to pay the rent that has been fixed in his agreement which is necessarily

13th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

speculative as no one knows, what is going to happen to these lankas, but in actual practice, when there is a very large erosion of a lanka, some remission is, I believe, usually granted to these lessees.

"Various Members have referred to the present economic situation and the fall in prices. It is a matter for satisfaction that during the last month, there has been some rise in prices; but whether they will keep to their present level or not is a matter, of course, which cannot be foreseen."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"What is the article in which there has been a rise in price?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Groundnut and various other articles." (Hon. Members: No; only in groundnut.)

Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—"Even in the case of groundnut, it has been very small."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"The price of groundnuts rose, I am told by about 40 per cent, though there has been a fall in the last day or two. Well, Sir, we have granted a certain amount of remission in certain parts of the province which were affected by the recent floods; the Government has altogether ordered remissions to the extent of several lakhs."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order; order. The time allotted for the Demand is over. I shall now put the motion for reduction to the vote of the House.

"The question is—

'that the allotment of Rs. 21,62,800 for Survey and Settlement be reduced by Rs. 100.'"

The motion was put to the House and declared lost. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti demanded a poll which was taken with the following result:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 20. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. |
| 2. " M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 21. Mr. Yakub Hasan. |
| 3. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam. | 22. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar. |
| 4. Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 23. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. |
| 5. " B. P. Sesha Reddi. | 24. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur. |
| 6. " M. S. Sreshta. | 25. Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 7. " A. Kondappa. | 26. " V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar. |
| 8. " T. Narasa Reddi. | 27. " A. B. Shetty. |
| 9. " R. M. Palat. | 28. " G. Simhachalam. |
| 10. " P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi. | 29. " Abdul Hameed Khan. |
| 11. Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopala Nayudu. | 30. S. M. K. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur. |
| 12. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya. | 31. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 13. Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu. | 32. " A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 14. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur. | 33. " K. Koti Reddi. |
| 15. Rao Sahib C. Jayarama Nayudu. | 34. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 16. The Zamindar of Chemudu. | 35. Rao Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| 17. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami. | 36. Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| 18. " H. B. Ari Gowder. | 37. " J. Kuppuswami Choudari. |
| 19. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 38. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |
| | 39. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |

[13th March 1931]

Noes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 15. Khan Sahib Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. „ Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 16. Mr. N. Siva Raj. |
| 3. „ Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 17. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. |
| 4. „ Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 18. Mr. P. C. Moses. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 19. „ M. Devadason. |
| 6. „ Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 20. „ P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. |
| 7. „ Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 21. „ G. R. Premayya. |
| 8. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayarammal. | 22. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 9. Mr. H. R. Pate. | 23. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 10. „ H. A. Watson. | 24. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 11. „ R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 25. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. |
| 12. „ S. V. Ramamurti. | 26. Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| 13. „ Hilton Brown. | 27. „ G. Sriramulu. |
| 14. „ T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 28. „ H. M. Jagannatham. |
| | 29. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| | 30. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. |

Ayes 39.

Noes 30.

The motion was carried.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I shall now put the main Demand to the vote of the House.

“The question is—

‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,42,000 minus Rs. 100 under Land Revenue—Reserved’.”

The demand was carried and the grant made.

DEMAND II—EXCISE—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

‘that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 36,21,000 under Demand II—Excise—Transferred’.”

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Mr. President, I move that—

‘the allotment of Rs. 2,43,400 for Superintendence, be reduced by Rs. 100’.

with a view to express dissatisfaction with the policy and action of the Minister for Excise.

“Sir, I would start with putting a straight question to my friend the Minister for Excise: What exactly is his policy? This House has repeatedly expressed its opinion that the policy that ought to be adopted and which had the approval of all sections of the House was the policy of total prohibition; and the hon. the Minister himself has, in his capacity as a private member of this House, often expressed the same opinion. He has said that he was enthusiastically in favour of

[13th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

total prohibition. Even recently, Sir, he said that he was for the goal of total prohibition. But that was meaningless. What exactly does the goal mean? When is the goal to be reached? This House has repeatedly affirmed that it was in favour of reaching the goal of total prohibition in a period of twenty years; but it looks, Sir, as if this twenty-year period is never to begin. In his reply in connexion with the motion that recently came up before the House, the hon. the Minister beat about the bush. He talked about the introduction of partial prohibition in certain districts, in Ramnad and in Tinnevely, about the orders passed, about the rationing in certain municipalities, e.g., in Vizagapatam, he talked about propaganda work and so forth but he never told us what he was going to do for total prohibition.

“In all that the hon. Minister referred to the other day there is not a single element that can be called total prohibition. So far, we do not see even the beginnings of total prohibition. Now, will he get up in his place and tell us that he would introduce total prohibition in at least one district at once? If he does say that, then I am prepared to withdraw my motion. My object in moving this motion is not to get any satisfaction by getting a vote of censure passed against the hon. Minister—we gain nothing by doing so, and we are not anxious to step into his shoes—but we would rather like to help him, myself and the party behind me wish to help him on towards the goal he has set before him. Let him achieve it, if he can, with the help of his supporters, and if necessary, with the help of all of us here in this House, which we are all prepared to give him unconditionally. Will he proceed on those lines?

“The other day he talked about the limitations of diarchy. I do not know what he means by that. I am aware that in a matter of policy, the Governor has got the power of veto. But then, what should the Minister do? He has got behind him the support of every section of this House, barring one or two individual Members and Government Members and I make bold to say, there is not a single Member in this House, who would not be prepared to give his unstinted support to any measures that would constitute the achievement of total prohibition. I do not think that any Minister in this House, in these circumstances, occupies a stronger position than my hon. Friend, the Minister for Excise occupies here to-day, because, I say that on this matter he has got the support of the entire House, and what more does he want for achieving total prohibition. And, what are the limitations of diarchy? If the Governor, in the exercise of his power, which he might exercise on a question of policy like this, says ‘No, we will have nothing to do with total prohibition’, then the Minister can say to His Excellency ‘Here is my resignation, I am not going to take your orders in a matter in which I have a mandate from the entire House to adopt a certain specific policy.’ Well, then, Sir, we have also given him an assurance and I will repeat from my place in this House the assurance that I gave already, that we do not care to step into his shoes on an issue like this and we do not want to take his place by

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [13th March 1931]

foreswearing our conviction, but we are prepared to support him and if he resigned his place, I may tell him that none of us would care to accept office. What more does he want from us? Has diarchy any limitations in that case? So, he can tell the Governor straightaway that if he does not accept the policy of total prohibition, at least in one or two districts, he can very well take up the management of the Transferred departments himself. As I said already I do not think there is any Minister under diarchy who can occupy a stronger position than this.

"As to the limitations of finance, one might talk about it if merely he had the idea in his head not to do anything. If you are a man of convictions and with a determination to carry out the behests of this House—the mandate of the entire country, if I may say so—the plea of finance cannot have anything to do with it at all. After all, Finance is merely an advisory department and is not an overriding department. Limitation of finance, except the veto of the Governor, has nothing to do with this and I have already given my answer with reference to that point. I would like again to ask the hon. Minister to give us a straight answer in the very beginning of his speech and not to beat about the bush, whether he is really going to start prohibition at least in one district immediately or not. Let him not repeat his previous performance, by going all over the Presidency and finding out a little taluk here and another taluk there, a municipality here and a municipality there to prohibit arrack or toddy. In fact, I do not think my hon. Friend can claim credit for all the things he said that he did when he told us the other day, because it was very old indeed (the hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu: 'He has not gone back upon that'). But anyhow, he did not do that at all, because as I already stated, they are all very old ones. In fact, Sir, it was Sir Patro, I think, that introduced partial prohibition in some of the districts, say, Ramnad and Tinnevely. But, I hope the hon. Minister will give me a straight reply to the question I put to him.

"Then, Sir, the other objection put forward by the unwilling Minister on the floor of this House, was that if the excise revenue of 5 or 6 crores is lost, they shall have to find out substituted sources of revenue; that the matter was referred to the Finance Committee and that the Finance Committee gave no reply. My hon. Friend the Excise Minister told us the other day that the Finance Committee then said that they had nothing to say about it. I wonder what the hon. Minister expects us to decide on the statement that he made that the Finance Committee itself had no idea in regard to this matter? In that case, the hon. Minister ought to take up the matter in his own hands and do what he can. If he has no ideas in the matter, I am prepared to give him some ideas if he wants. Sir, the other day, when we were discussing the same question, I referred to my own proposals on this question, because the same objections were raised when I sent up my proposal about the introduction of total prohibition in two districts. It was first of all said that the Ministers in charge of Transferred

13th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

departments had no powers under the Devolution Rules to send up proposals for giving up revenues of the Government. Then, it was finally found that this rule quoted against the Ministers did not apply to Transferred departments at all, but that it only applied to Reserved departments. So, the first objection of finance was got over. To get over the other objection that might be brought forward against the proposal for introducing immediate prohibition in one or two districts, I proposed, and my proposal was accepted, that we should immediately increase the duty on arrack and the tree tax on toddy. I estimated at the time that in the course of three years we should get an increase in revenue of 41 lakhs, out of which, if prohibition was only introduced in two districts at once, 25 lakhs would be required to make up the loss, so that even if my proposal were accepted by Government, they would have been left with a balance of 16 lakhs. As a matter of fact, I found that during the three years after I resigned my office, the excise revenue had gone up not to 41 lakhs, but it has been increased actually to somewhere about 71 lakhs. No doubt, this year, excise revenue has gone down. But the point that I would put to the hon. Minister is this: that to-day in spite of the increases in the duty on arrack and tree tax, the rates in this Presidency are very much lower than the rates in Bombay and the United Provinces. If your policy, as you often repeated on the floor of this House, is that of minimum consumption and maximum revenue, why not you put up the rates further high and if necessary at a prohibitive rate, so that people would not be able to drink cheap. In that case they would have to spend more if they want to get drunk at cheap rates. If you want to prevent people from drinking, why not at least put up the rates to a reasonably high figure, as that would make drinking expensive and it would at the same time contribute to the excise revenue? There is the source available and it is open to you, as it was open to the Bombay Government. If you are going to initiate the policy of prohibition, if you put up the rates sufficiently high, so that drinking will become an expensive luxury and so that on account of this increase the loss in excise revenue due to the introduction of prohibition will be made good where there is the difficulty of famine. Well, Sir, even in the face of this suggestion, will the hon. Minister say that the financial objection still holds good? As a matter of fact, our experience of the recent enhancement in tree tax and the tax on toddy and arrack has been, not as I anticipated, an increase of 41 lakhs, but an increase of somewhere about 71 lakhs. And, every time the duty has been increased, the revenue has gone up, although to some extent consumption has gone down, except in the case of foreign liquor which goes up merrily. That is my suggestion and if the hon. Minister is sincere in his professions and if he wants prohibition to come into effect at least in one or two districts, I am sure he should agree to my suggestion. If his proposal is to introduce prohibition in one district, it would mean only a loss of about 8 lakhs if he took up the lowest excise producing district. But it might come to 17 lakhs if he took up Salem and it would come to 11 lakhs if he took up Anantapur. By increasing the

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [13th March 1931]

duty on arrack and the tree tax, he can certainly get this amount and very much more. If he is going to lose 8 lakhs, he can so put up the tree tax and duty on arrack and get an immediate increase in the next year of treble this amount. Where then, I ask, is the financial objection? There is no use coming to us and telling us about the difficulties of finance and the limitations of diarchy and so forth. If he has no intention of carrying out any measure of prohibition, I would prefer a straight 'no', instead of the roundabout and meaningless arguments that lead us nowhere and do not carry conviction to anyone in this House.

"Sir, I once again repeat what I have already stated that in his reply, he should begin by giving a straight answer to my question, that is, is he going to introduce total prohibition at least in one district.

"Then, Sir, on the last occasion, when we were discussing this question, he said in so many words and made us believe that it was his intention to watch the effect of the propaganda, that he was going to preach to people and if the people were convinced about the evils of drink and when they gave up drinking themselves, then he would start prohibition. I do not think we want any Minister to do that. If the people themselves can give up drink, we do not want Ministers here.

"Then there is so much of doubt about the propaganda work and I would like to ask a few questions before I conclude. You have got these propaganda boards. This year, I find there is a budget provision of two lakhs for propaganda work. I would like to ask, what are these propaganda committees going to do? You have given them motor lorries, cinemas and you have also given them pamphlets. There are also preachers and you have to give large amounts by way of travelling and other allowances to these people.

3-45
P.M.

"Now what exactly is the function of these committees? Are they to go about the country investigating which area is fit for prohibition; are they to recommend to the Government that such and such an area should have prohibition; are they to report that in such and such a place people say that they do not want toddy shops; and are the Government going to take action on those recommendations? I ask, what on earth is the use of these committees? We are going to throw away two lakhs of rupees this year, after having thrown away four lakhs of rupees last year. Are they to serve as a screen behind which the hon. the Minister may take shelter whenever questions are put to him about the introduction of total prohibition? Are they to serve no other purpose than to be used as expenses for saying that as soon as these committees had carried enough propaganda and converted drunkards he will see that prohibition is introduced? Well, if that is the intention, if they are to serve no other purpose than a mere screen to take shelter under from time to time and give lame excuses, well, I can understand that. Certainly that will convince any member of this House that the hon. Minister does not mean business.

13th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

"I do not know whether I need trouble the House by quoting my friend's opinion expressed on the floor of this House. Sir, he has been and ardent prohibitionist; time after time he has risen up in his place and heckled the Excise Minister. I would ask him whether he is still to-day a believer in prohibition or whether he has given his opinion the go-by, and whether he looks at prohibition in a different light. I hope, Sir, it is not so. I do not think, Sir, I can make a more damaging speech against the hon. Excise Minister than by quoting from the speech made by the present Chief Minister."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The remarks are not mine." (Laughter.)

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, the hon. Minister says the remarks are not his. Sir, I will not quote many extracts. I will refer to a passage in the speech of the hon. Excise Minister delivered on the floor of this House on 16th March 1927. He said:—

'We did not want the Non-Brahman Federation to pass the resolution; the country had already unequivocally expressed itself and this House had declared more than once, if not unanimously, by a majority that total prohibition was their goal. And yet we are told, Sir, that we shall move towards that goal as far as possible.'

"I do not know whether the hon. Minister will to-day say 'as far as possible' and 'as rapidly as possible' and so forth. (Laughter). I suppose it will not convince us. Then he continues:

'It may be that he may move, but whether that move would stop somewhere or would proceed to the goal it is not stated.'

"May I ask the same question now, Sir, whether he is going to introduce partial prohibition in Tenkasi, Tiruvadana, and rationing in Vizagapatam, Masulipatam, etc., and do nothing more? Is that the thing he is going to do? Then he proceeds, thus:—

'Well, Sir, if we raise this motion, if we want this cut to be made, it is to tell him that we cannot accept a policy so lame as this.'

"May I repeat those words to my friend that we are not going to accept any more a lame policy?

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, speaking on the floor of this House on 18th March 1930, said:

'Sir, I want to raise the question of the policy of the Minister in regard to prohibition. Sir, I believe this House has accepted more than twice that the Government should work up to the goal of total prohibition within a period of twenty years. Whether it is twenty years or more or less. I should like to know from the hon. Minister whether after his experience of one year he will require twenty years or more.'

May I to-day repeat that question?

'I would like to know as to whether there is really any idea of working up to total prohibition in a real, sincere and earnest sense or whether by the medium of the temperance propaganda he has started he would wait till all the people are converted to the view that drink is bad.'

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [13th March 1931]

"I hope my friend is not going to wait till that time comes. Finally, Sir, after making certain pertinent remarks he closed his speech thus:

'Government have issued peculiar circulars that the propagandists should ask people not to drink, but they should not go near the arrack or toddy shops and prevent the customers from going to those shops. That is the policy the Government are adopting. The propagandists ask the revenue officials to help them in their propaganda work. Immediately the Board of Revenue and the Excise Commissioner inform the village officers, "Look here, it is none of your business to help the propagandists;" they will do their work. . . The legitimate functions of the committee would be to teach temperance or abstinence and to create public opinion. They do not include picketing of shops or obstruction of abkari sales. Throughout the month they carry on propaganda and say 'Do not drink.' But at the time when the sales are held the pracharakas are warned not to approach and induce people not to bid. If the shops are closed there will be no source of trouble. But the Government come forward and say 'That is not your business; your business is to create public opinion.' The Minister will tell us with whom to create public opinion. I think, Sir, that this attempt is being tried without giving real power to the propaganda committees and without even giving them the help of the village officers; it will merely be an eye-wash to the agitation that is being carried on in the country. I think that propaganda would come in more handy if prohibition is first introduced. You must introduce total prohibition in one or two districts.'

"May I to-day put that question to you to introduce prohibition in one or two districts? Then, later on, he says:

'You should carry on propaganda under a system by which no drink can be had and no licensed shop will be open. You keep the shop open; next door you preach against drink. You are giving them every facility to drink and they say 'Do not drink.' From that point of view I submit that the propaganda boards are not serving any useful purpose; and so on.'

"Now, Sir, as I have already said there is no member in this House who is prepared to support these propaganda boards unless they have the right to recommend to Government the closing of shops and saying that a particular area is fit for total prohibition. Otherwise, Sir, the sooner these boards are abolished the better it is for everybody. These boards, many of us suspect, are merely make-believes. It is the intention of the Government to work them only as screens behind which the hon. Minister may take refuge from time to time. Sir, the time has passed when by sweet words and by adopting methods such as propaganda boards Government could convince this House that they are earnest about the introduction of total prohibition. This House has on many occasions stated in unmistakable terms its conviction that the country demands total prohibition and that it is the duty of the hon. Minister representing the people in this Council to carry into effect the mandate of the country. May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the party programme of the Justice party, with which my friend, the hon. Minister, and his friends went about the country on the eve of the last elections. And, Sir, may I remind them that that programme was publicly approved and passed by them at various confederations and conference? Now if they mean anything at all, it means that they, the representatives of the people, would be bound by that programme and if they take up office they are pledged to carry it out. I hope the hon. Excise Minister will not be false to this promise; that he will not be untrue to the trust the people have reposed

13th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

in him, and that he will not come forward with lame excuses of financial stringency and limitations of diarchy and so forth. To talk about the limitations of diarchy, if at all it means anything it only means his own personal limitations. Instead of putting forward these excuses he should go straight to the head of the Government and tell His Excellency the Governor and those concerned that if he must continue in office it must only be on the distinct understanding he will be allowed to carry out the mandate of the country with reference to the introduction of total prohibition.

"May I, Sri, once again repeat my request for a straight answer? I do not want a long speech from him, for nothing will satisfy us except a straight answer. I hope he will not betray the trust that the people in the country repose in him. I am sure every section of the House well knows the value to be attached to his statement and to appraise his work with reference to his actions and not with reference to his words."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, time works many changes, and I am afraid, I must add, office works more drastic changes than time ever could. (Laughter.) In the case of my hon. Friend, Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, that seems to be amply demonstrated. I do not know whether it is office or the actual subject in his charge that is responsible for this change. Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, has drawn the attention of the House to the speech of the hon. third Minister on this very same question. Probably Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar in his turn may quote Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar's speech.

"Sir, if I am standing here it is not with a view to ask the Minister to introduce total prohibition at once. I want that he must respect the resolution passed by this Council in a very great measure due to the vote of the party to which Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar himself belongs. There is no mistaking that resolution. I accept that resolution. But following that resolution the present Ministry have done nothing. No earnest attempt has been made to prosecute that policy. Sir, their party, not only in this Council, but also in the great federation to which reference was just made, passed the resolution that total prohibition should be an accomplished fact by at least twenty years.

"Now this resolution was passed about six years ago. At that ⁴ p.m. rate nearly one-third of the area of this Presidency ought to have gone dry. But my hon. Friend, Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, in January last tried to reverse the whole policy. He searches for some arguments and after all finds the only argument that cannot by any means be proved either by that side or this side, viz., want of public opinion. I was astonished that an enthusiast of the type of Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar had to seek refuge on the lack of popular support. In his own words in 1927 he made us understand that the whole country was clamouring for total prohibition and it was the Government that was standing in the way of the millennium being reached. If he was serious

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [13th March 1931]

to introduce prohibition to a certain extent either in the variety of liquor or in the area he must have done something. To none of these propositions Mr. Kumarasawmi Reddiyar is prepared to care. He has gone now relying upon time. He requires time to work out the whole thing. When it was pointed out by an e-Minister that finance do not stand in the way of introducing prohibition in one district he has no answer to give except an evasive and unconvincing one, namely, in spite of the increase of rates on certain liquors the revenue has fallen down. That is a very specious argument. Even if there had not been any increase the revenue would have fallen for which he was not responsible. As a Minister what he should have done was to reserve that portion of the revenue which has been derived for the purpose of introducing prohibition in some area. Instead of that he allows the Finance Department to appropriate and then pleads inability for want of money. At this rate I do not think it will be possible for him to introduce prohibition at any time. It is only a confession of his want of policy. If he speaks of limitations of diarchy there again he is misleading himself. He is aware more than anybody else of the limitations of diarchy. How have the limitations of diarchy intervened in his attempt to get prohibition introduced in however small an area? The real fact is that they are not able to persuade at any rate the Reserved Half to agree to any of their proposals. Instead of confessing their policy on that ground he shrouded by reasons which are unconvincing to this House and is not frank. My hon. Friend reminds me that it is only the Governor that he has to carry with him in this matter. Unfortunately this responsibility of office sits too much upon them that they forget all their previous commitments and allow things to drift along. Probably in his speech he will reply, 'We are doing our best in the matter. Another Government is coming. You may carry them in that Government. If that be the answer which I anticipate it will be, it will be again an utter confession of failure of the policy which he said he would carry on. Sir, the distress that is caused by this increased consumption is too much. As a matter of fact it is emasculating the people to an unbelievable extent. Unless some drastic measures are taken there is no hope of the poor ryot and the labourer recovering from this chronic evil. It is a pity that nothing is done in that direction. Even with regard to the limited powers with which these excise advisory committees are endowed time after time we hear complaints of their recommendations being ignored if not by the Collector at least by the Board of Revenue. During the luncheon interval one respectable member of such a committee told me that in his district the recommendation had been set aside by the subsequent meeting and by the Collector. These are the state of affairs. To merely define the policy on the notes submitted by the departments will certainly not be a desirable thing. Ministers take office in order to make the department suit their policy and not themselves to adopt the policies of the department. If they should be merely carrying out the policies of the permanent services there need be only a permanent Ministry instead of a permanent service. Sir, I daresay that

13th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

in order to impress the necessity of taking certain definite and right steps the whole House will carry this motion against this Excise Minister. Well, speaking on this we see a provision of two lakhs is again made for the propaganda committee. In regard to the useful nature of propaganda committees there is a difference of opinion. The Chief Minister himself was not at any rate quite hopeful of these propaganda committees. I do not know what opinion he has now. The Excise Department might issue instructions to the excise officers not to support or encourage propaganda and that the Public Health Department can carry on the propaganda. In such state of affairs one does not know how to work the system. If the Minister is keen about introducing prohibition he should be in charge of the propaganda department. Why should there be one department carrying on propaganda against drink and another carrying on propaganda in favour of drink? With these few words I second the amendment."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMOOD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, the three Ministers who are now adorning the Treasury Benches when they were on this side of the House were waxing eloquent on the question of prohibition. Sir, they were condemning the excise policy of the Government with all the vehemence and emphasis at their command. What has become of their policy about which they were giving lessons? Now have they got no policy at all? It is only last year, Sir, that one of the Ministers I think the Chief Minister that said: 'The feeling on this side of the House is that some serious steps should be taken to introduce prohibition in one or two districts at least.' This is what the Chief Minister said. Was that their policy when they said that? Was it their policy when they entered the office? If that was so, what have they done? I am glad, Sir, one more Minister has come into the House at least now. (A voice: 'He never waxed eloquent'.) What are they afraid of, Sir? The whole country is behind them. There is nobody who is against this question of prohibition. The support of Mr. Gandhi and the whole Congress is behind them. Every religion condemns this drunkenness and drink, Hindu, Muhammadan and every other religion in the world. Then, what is the consideration that prevents them from carrying out the policy which they were themselves preaching. Some lame excuse was advanced by the Minister saying that diarchy and its limitations are responsible. If that is so the only person who has to come in the way is the Governor. He can very well satisfy the Governor by pointing out some other source of revenue to make up the loss. This is the best opportunity, because the country cannot and will not object now and nobody will complain. When that is so, I do not understand why the hon. Minister is going back upon his word and trying to hide his face behind the bundle of papers before him. About the Propaganda Board, Sir, when they were outside office, they were condemning propaganda work and were not satisfied with its work, and were not for spending any money at all on that. Now they have gone out of their way to ask for 4 lakhs for propaganda work. (A voice: '2 lakhs.')

When it came before the Finance Committee, it was cut down from 4 to 2 lakhs. But they had proposed that

[Mr. Mahmud Schannad] [13th March 1931]

4 lakhs should be spent for this. Is it because to get the support of the propagandists to go about and canvass for them with their motor lorries? (Mr. P. T. Rajan: 'Did they do it last year?') Some of them did, I was told. If the Ministers want to show any consistency, let them mean what they say. If they had any policy at all, or if they have any policy now, let them introduce total prohibition, as Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar said, in one or two districts at least."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Sir, I am neither a Minister nor an ex-Minister. (A voice: 'What about the future?') (Another voice: 'In the hand of God.') I am thankful for the good wishes. (Laughter.) I am not hampered by the past policy or statements, nor am I like the ex-Minister who has tasted the sweets of power and is now free from all responsibility. The country has set before itself the policy of total prohibition as the goal. I shall not say much about the subject now, nor shall I say anything about the propaganda scheme, which is being carried out for the purpose of hastening that. . . .

4-15
p.m.

"I wish to make a few observations about the methods for carrying out the excise policy. So long as the consumption of liquor is not an offence, and so long as Government has kept in its hands the control of the manufacture and sale of liquor, I think it is incumbent on Government to see that the liquor which is being supplied to the people is of good quality. H(ear, hear and laughter.) If the consumption of liquor is bad, the consumption of bad liquor is worse. I understand from those who are in a position to speak about it that the present system of manufacture of liquor is very harmful. Copper vessels are used in the manufacture, and I understand that this leads to the deposit of copper sulphate and other salts of copper which are injurious to the health, being dissolved in the liquor that is finally drawn. To avoid this result, I understand, certain methods are being employed, such as steam washing of copper vessels. But, I think it is desirable to adopt some method which is foolproof, and the object should be to introduce a system of manufacture which will cause no harm to the consumers of liquor. If we also consider the question of manufacturing a better quality of liquor and entering into competition with foreign liquors, it will be for the benefit of the country.

"The next question I would speak of is the question of rates. My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, said that the price of liquor should be raised. By raising the price of liquor, is the evil which is being tried to be fought against by a policy of total prohibition, going to be remedied? I think that his opinion is not correct. There is a considerable difference of opinion on the subject. The late Mr. Gokhale, I believe, was of the opinion that the high rates of licensing fee was bad for the country. I was looking into the proceedings of this Council of 1924 and 1925, and I find that there was a consensus of opinion that the rates should be lowered. The result of the present system is that the poor man suffers. The well-to-do man, the rich man can have as much liquor as he wants as in America. But the poor man finds that he has got to pay much more than before for the

13th March 1931] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

liquor he consumes. It may be that it is bad to take any liquor at all. But so long as he is not prevented from taking liquor, I think, it is wrong to make him pay very heavily. I believe it was Mr. Narasimha Charlu who said in this Council some years ago that under the present system the poor man has to pay for his liquor much more heavily than formerly with the result that his family suffers. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar says that he is of the opinion apparently that the consumption of liquor is bad to any extent. It is probably so. I am not going into that question now. What I say is that so long as you give facilities to the poor to drink and so long as the toddy shop is open to them it is necessary that the rate should be fair and reasonable. In my own opinion, it is not the liquor which is causing the ruin of the people so much as the cost of liquor. If liquor were cheaper, there will not be so much economic ruin, as now occurs as a result of the consumption of liquor. Therefore, in my opinion, the Excise department should consider the question of not only improving the quality of liquor but also the question of lowering the rates. It may be possible, with the whole country behind us, to try a policy of total prohibition. If the whole country is behind us, why should we be afraid of introducing it? I have a little experience in Ceylon where the question of total prohibition was tried. It was found that it was extremely difficult to carry it out, and I believe that even now they have not got anything like prohibition in that country. I understand that in America the question of reverting to the old system is being considered. Whatever it be, I am not myself against total prohibition, and if that comes to pass I will have nothing to say. What I say is that till that millennium is reached we ought to consider the question of lowering the rates and improving the quality of liquor that is being distilled."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, it has been pointed out by more than one hon. Member that the Minister for Excise had one attitude with regard to the question of prohibition when he was in the Opposition and has taken a different attitude when he assumed the reins of office. I think, Sir, that is one of the regrettable effects of assuming office in this country, and especially in this province. Very often, it happens that Ministers only want to mark time. We saw it, Sir, in the policy explained by the hon. the Revenue Member on the question of land revenue this morning. Perhaps the infection catches every new occupant of the Treasury Bench, and we cannot find fault with the hon. Minister for Excise for not getting over that infection and asserting himself. It is the lot of Ministers that have gone before him, and perhaps it is his own lot to be affected by it. My hon. Friend, the Member for South Kanara, has pointed out that the heavy rates are not good for the people. That is not a fair way of looking at the question. We are not anxious to help the poor man to get cheap drink. We want that the poor man should be able to get out of the drink habit. It is for that purpose that the policy has always been that the rate should be increased and that it

[Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar] [13th March 1931]

should be made impossible for the poor man to get the drink which is doing him harm. If the rich man, in spite of the heavy price, goes in for drink, it is his own fault.

“As I pointed out, the hon. the Minister for Excise, as has been usual with other Ministers, has put forward the plea of the difficulties that a person in office realizes. He said on an earlier occasion when the question of prohibition was mooted in this Council that, though he was himself an exponent of the principles of total prohibition, yet after he assumed office he found it difficult to work it out, and he referred to the limitations of diarchy. In my speech on that occasion, I referred to the fact that it is not fair that a Ministry that has been getting so much advantage from the Reserved half should say that they are deterred by the limitations of diarchy and that it is not possible for them to get the help of the Reserved half in this respect. If really they mean serious business, they should have asserted themselves on the Reserved half, and, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar has pointed out, if they found they were unable to so assert themselves and thus failed to carry out the mandate given to them by the Legislative Council, they should have tendered their resignation instead of pleading limitations of diarchy and want of funds which are really excuses that cannot be accepted by a representative body like this. My hon. Friend, the Minister, in his last speech evidently wanted to refer to some patchwork that had been done after he assumed office. He said that in one or two places the arrack shops had been closed down, and that in some villages toddy was not being now vended, because the toddy shops were not put up for auction. These are things which come and go as and when public opinion gets better or worse in any area. Perhaps owing to circumstances for which the hon. the Minister for Excise cannot take credit, certain areas have become dry, and local opinion has veered in favour of total prohibition. But he apparently wants to take credit for such areas becoming dry. But we find in cases like that, after a year or two, again toddy shops come in and the thing reverts back to the old conditions and perhaps becomes worse. That is why I said we are not to take credit for this kind of patchwork. If the Ministry mean real business, it is up to them to give effect to the policy which they have put forward as one of the chief items in their programme, instead of giving excuses as the Ministers who have gone before them have done.”

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—“Mr. President, Sir, Police and Excise are the only two subjects which have been bombarded with a good deal of bitterness. As the Excise demand is now under discussion, I will confine myself to it. On several occasions, it has been said that it is a bad policy to earn money from excise and spend it on education. Whether it is a bad policy or not, I am not going to discuss. But I am going to say something about the present policy on excise. Every country in the world has adopted prohibition as its goal. But in the method of reaching it, they differ very widely. China is the oldest of the known world. It launched out a vigorous campaign against the

13th March 1931] [Mr. G. R. Premayya]

consumption of opium for over fifty years, but still it is going on. All the educated people there are against it, and the public criticized it from the pulpit and the press. But to-day, we find that the consumption of opium has not been entirely abolished in that country. Take the case of America. It is a very enlightened country, far advanced in civilization. To-day, we know that America has become a dry country; dry for the last ten years. Before the country went dry, the people preached prohibition throughout the whole country. Gradually the exhortation took the shape of law. Now, Sir, the majority of the Americans are living happily. But side by side there are *bootleggers* and moon-shiners. It is all due to the lack of propaganda work before prohibition was given effect to.

“Now, I come to our excise policy. To diminish consumption of liquors, the Government have increased the rates making it impossible for the poor man to buy drink. And about three years ago, that policy was put into operation by the Government so that complete prohibition may be attained after a period of twenty years. During these twenty years, the public should be educated about the evils of drink. In other words, the temperance propaganda work should be effectually carried on if consumption were to fall. Therefore, the Government should not think of retrenching expenditure on this head. So, I support the policy of the Government which is to get prohibition after a period of twenty years, the propaganda work being carried on vigorously in the meantime.”

* Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI:—“Mr. President, Sir, so long ago as 1927 a resolution was passed by the Legislative Council to the effect that prohibition should be introduced in such a manner as to make the whole province dry in a couple of decades. Now, more than three years have elapsed and instead of three or four districts becoming dry, there is not even a single district which can be called dry. All attempts that have been made till now in the direction of temperance or prohibition have been half-hearted. The Government have not only no heart in them, but they have not any honesty at the bottom of their policy. If there is any honest propaganda, it entails either dismissal from service or being run in for good behaviour. If there is any honest picketing, however peaceful it may be, it entails not only the music of the lathi, but also conviction. Now, Sir, all that I want is that the Government should be a little bit more honest. They could have plainly told the people that they would not carry out the resolution passed by the House in 1927 and have done with it. In the mufasal, Sir, there are what are called divisional excise advisory committees. These committees consist of the Revenue Divisional Officer of the place, the local excise officer and representatives from popular bodies like the taluk boards and municipalities. These excise committees are, to say the least, a sorry farce, if not a melancholy mockery. Sir, the one object of the Revenue Divisional Officer and the excise officer is to increase the excise revenue. With that object in view they plant liquor

4-30
p.m.

[Mr. C. Kolanda Reddi] [13th March 1931]

shops in the heart of labour, i.e., in places where labourers congregate. Against this policy of opening liquor shops in the midst of the dwellings of labourers, we, the representatives of the taluk boards and municipalities have been protesting in vain. Our cry has been a cry in the wilderness so much so that we stopped sending our representatives to these committees. The officers of the Government thought that it was a good riddance and in the place of our representatives they appointed some toppers who sailed gladly with them. How long is this sorry state of things to continue! It is for the Government to decide. I request the hon. the Minister for Excise, in these circumstances, to take courage in both hands and do something tangible in the direction of prohibition so that it may become a *fait accompli* at no distant future."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise only to ask the hon. the Minister for Excise to declare his policy. I wish to know whether he is going to adopt the methods of his predecessors with a view to attain the goal of total prohibition in twenty years. Ministers may come and Ministers may go, but the period of twenty years remain permanent. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'Hear, hear'). Or I wish to know from the hon. the Minister whether he is going to adopt any other method to reach the goal of prohibition earlier. The period was fixed at twenty years during the time when Sir Patro was Excise Minister six years ago. I wish to know what steps have been taken to reach the goal during these six years as only fourteen years remain for the goal to be reached. I also wish to know what steps are proposed to be taken in the remaining period. In addition to the various methods to be adopted, such as total prohibition in one or two districts, rationing and putting up rates, I request the hon. Minister to see that all the toddy and liquor shops all over the Presidency are closed on all holidays especially Dipavalai day and that no toddy shop is located near cheris and labour quarters. By this I do not want that the toddy and arrack shops should be dumped in respectable quarters as is being done now at Triplicane and Chepauk divisions of the city.

"Sir, as regards propaganda, I request my hon. Friends to allow it to go on as I know from experience how beneficial it is if properly directed. Sir, there is a fear lurking in the minds of some hon. Members that the propagandists might be made use of for political purposes. It must be made plain that if they did political propaganda they would be summarily dismissed. This has been made plain, I believe, by the previous Ministry also. Sir, there is no use of preachers or propagandists addressing large audiences consisting of men who do not drink at all. There is no use of telling sober men not to drink. It is the drunkards that should be tackled and tackled individually too. Twenty years ago when I was in Cocanada I was connected with a temperance or prohibition association; with some of my friends I preached to the coolies working in the Port Trust at Cocanada and persuaded them to give up drink. We converted some of them to be teetotallers and later

[13th March 1931] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

on they themselves became our chief propagandists. That is my experience and therefore I request hon. Members on both sides of the House to allow this propaganda to go on. For this purpose there should be at least the sum of Rs. 2 lakhs for the next year. In this connexion I would request the hon. the Minister not to make this a party question. We have all our election pledges to be fulfilled. Let us see what the opinion of the whole House is. Let the country's opinion prevail."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

"இக்கனத்தங்கிய சபையில், ஜனவரியிலும் மது விலக்கப்பற்றி பேசப் பட்டு வருகின்றன. 1929-வது ஆண்டு அரசு சொல்வதற்கு இன்னும் இருபது ஆண்டுகளுக்குப் பூரண மதுவிலக்கை ஏற்படுத்துவதெனக் கனல் இலக்கா மந்திரியவர்கள் கூறினார். அதற்கான முயற்சியும், செய்யத் துடங்கினார். ஆனால் அம்முயற்சியைப் பார்த்தால் இன்னும் இருபது ஆண்டுகள் சென்றாலும் பூரண மதுவிலக்கு ஏற்படாது போலிருக்கிறது. பூரண மதுவிலக்கு ஏற்படுமானால் அதுவே முழு சுயராஜ்யமாகும். மது விலக்கு அடிப்படையிலே சுயராஜ்யத்திற்கு பிரிட்டிஷ் முதன் மந்திரியார் உத்தரவு வேண்டியதிட்டே. இரவின் பிரபுவின் தயவு வேண்டியதிட்டே. மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகளார் உதவி வேண்டியதிட்டே. இதனை நாமே செய்துகொள்ளலாம். மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகள் இரவின் பிரபுவோடு சமரசம் பேசும்போதும் சாத்திக் கிஷ்கிந்தி மதுவிலக்குப் பிரசாரம் நடந்துக் கொண்டே இருக்கவேண்டுமென்பதை சமரச நிபந்தனைகளில் ஒன்றாகக் கொண்டுள்ளார். மகாத்மா இரவின் சமரசத்தை நேற்று புகழ்ந்த அங்கத்தினர்கள், அனைவரும் பூரண மதுவிலக்கிற்கு உத்தம மருப்பார்களென்று நம்புகிறேன். மகாத்மாவிடம் அன்புடையவர்கள் உன்னைப்போல அன்புடையவர்களா? இல்லையாவென்பதை இன்னும் சிறிது நிரூபிக்கவேண்டாம் தெரிந்துகொள்ளப்போகிறோம். மக்களது அறிவை மனம் பொக்கி அறிவை விளக்க வேண்டியது அரசாங்கத்தார் கடமையாகும். அது மக்களது பொருள் களைப் பறிப்பதோடும் அறிவையும் பறிப்பது அரசின் நெறிப்பாடு? அரசியல் நிருவாகத்திற்குப் பொருள் வேண்டுமானால் அதற்காக எதையும் வரி போட்டுக் கொள்ளட்டும். மயக்கத்தைக் கொடுத்தும், வுடி நேருக் கொண்டுவிட்டும், சிறிது பணத்தைப் பெறுவதைவிட அதற்கு நேர் வரி போட்டுக் கொள்வது நல்லது. ஏழை மக்கள் ரத்தத்தைப் பிழிந்து கொண்டு வரும் பணத்தை எழுக்களுக்கே செலவழித்தால் ஒருவாறு பொருந்தும். ஆனால் ஏழைகளின் பணத்தை மற்றவர்களின் கல்லிக்கும் பாதுகாப்பிற்கும் செலவழிப்பது நியாயமே ஆகாது. ஆதிதிராவிடர்களின் பணத்தை அவர்களை அடக்கி வைத்திருப்பவர்களின் நலனுக்குச் செலவழிக்க யாங்கள் சம்மதிக்க மாட்டோம். எந்த வகுப்பாருடைய பாதுகாப்பிற்காகச் செலவழிக்கப்படுகின்றனவோ அவர்களிடம் வரி போட்டு வாங்குவது நல்லது. அதில் எங்களுக்கு ஆட்சேபமில்லை. பூரண மதுவிலக்கை அனுஷ்டிப்பதில் கொண்டு வர முயல் வேண்டும். அரசாங்கத்தார் மதுவிலக்குப் பிரசாரம் செய்ய எதற்காக ஆரம்பித்தார்கள்? செண்டரல் பிரபகண்டா போர்டு எதற்காக ஏற்படுத்தினார்கள்? மதுக்குடி தீதென்றும் அதனைவிட்டுவிட வேண்டியது அவசியமென்றும் அறிந்தல்லவா? மதுக்குடி தீதென்றுணர்ந்த அரசாங்கத்தார் மனச்சாட்சிக்கு மாறாக எதற்காக அதை வைத்துள்ளார்கள். பூரண மதுவிலக்கு ஏற்படவில்லையானால் அப்படிப்பட்ட சுயராஜ்யம் வேண்டாம். மது விலக்கே பொறுப்பாட்சியாகும். அமெரிக்காவிலும் பிறவிடங்களிலும் பூரண மதுவிலக்கு ஏற்பட்டுள்ளன. ஜெபுன் கட்சியைச் சேர்ந்த மந்திரிகள் காலத்தில் பூரண மதுவிலக்கு ஏற்பட்டாயின், அது அக்கட்சிக்கு ஒப்பற்ற புகழ்ச்சியைத் தருவதாம். மதுவிலக்குப் பிரசாரம் செய்து நாட்டில் பலர் சிறை புகுந்தார்கள். போய்க் கொண்டே இருக்கிறார்கள். அதன் பெண்கள் தீவிரமாக முயற்சிகள் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். நாளைக்கு தமது வீட்டு பெண்களுக்குப் பதில் சொல்ல வேண்டும். இவற்றையெல்லாம் உணர்ந்து பூரண மதுவிலக்கிற்கு கனத்தங்கிய அங்கத்தினர்கள் ஆதரவளிக்க வேண்டுகிறேன்.

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [13th March 1931]

எல்லா மதங்களும் மயக்க வஸ்து கூடாதெனச் சொல்லுகின்றனர். மதங்களுக்கு விரோதமாகவுள்ளதும் பொது ஜனங்கள் அபிப்பிராயத்திற்கு விரோதமானதும் மான கலாஸ் இலாக்காவை அடியோடு ஒழித்துவிட வேண்டுகிறேன்.”

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—“ Mr. President, on the question of prohibition there are no two opinions in the country, and the only difficulty of this House and of the Government has been that of finance. The question of finance is intimately bound up with the question of prohibition. If by one stroke of the pen we abolish all toddy and liquor shops in the Presidency, there will be loss of revenue to the extent of six crores of rupees. How are we to make it up? That is the question which the House as well as the Ministers will have to face if we adopt total prohibition now. The other day we heard from the hon. the Finance Member that the Madras services alone consumed about 40 per cent of the total revenues. I believe he has left out of account the cost of the quarters for officers, allowances and pensions. If these are included, probably, the services might consume something more than 40 per cent of the revenues of the province. When that is so, if we straightaway introduce total prohibition, how will we able to pay the services? But if the expenditure on the services is to be reduced, it is quite possible to have some kind of prohibition introduced in the country. If we do that, we need not wait for 20 years. We could introduce prohibition within four to ten years. Sir, I heard one hon. Member at least say that in this matter diarchy did not throw any special difficulties in our way. My opinion on the other hand is that it is diarchy that is the stumbling block in the way of prohibition. It is even probable that under diarchy it may not be possible for Ministers to bring about total prohibition even within twenty years, unless the reserved half converts itself into a transferred half. Unless this happens we can only proceed step by step. We can first try the experiment in one or two districts and then gradually extend to other districts and achieve the goal of total prohibition in the Presidency in ten or fifteen years.

4-45 P m. “ But there is another problem. I am afraid that arrack is more harmful than toddy. In the case of labourers who are addicted to toddy drink for ages, especially elderly fellows, they cannot live even for a week without toddy drink. Therefore some provision has to be made for very old people who cannot live even for a day without some kind of drink. In order to avoid extremes I would suggest that instead of adopting a policy of total prohibition, take away arrack shops but have in its place in selected areas toddy shops to sell sweet toddy so that elderly people may have recourse to it and gradually they may also be removed. That is my suggestion.

“ So far as opinion in the country is concerned, it is all one and I do not think there is difference of opinion on that point. But the question of the introduction of total prohibition into the country cannot be solved straightway on account of the difficulties of diarchy and on account of the existing system of Provincial Administration under which we are now working.”

[13th March 1931]

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—“ Sir, the hon. Member for the City of Madras, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, began his speech by observing that the hon. the Excise Minister gave the go-bye to his views the moment he entered office. In those days when he was out of office, he was pleading for total prohibition; he now pleads that finances stand in his way and so on and so forth. May I say, Sir, anxiety to enter office or to re-enter office colour also the view of hon. Members sitting in opposition. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition to which party my hon. Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti now belongs speaking in 1928 said that Excise was not a transferred subject at all. That speech was delivered soon after Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar resigned his Ministry and when all the officers of the three ministerships were combined in the hon. the Leader of the Opposition.”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ What answer did he then get? ”

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—“ Then, Sir, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition sheltered himself by finding out an excuse and saying that under the Devolution Rules, the Excise Branch was one that should be controlled by the Reserved Half. Sir, I would like to know whether that statement is true. Unfortunately the hon. the Leader of the Opposition has not risen to-day to make a speech on the excise problem and explain his position. If it is assumed that Excise is not a transferred subject under the control of the Reserved Half we are not entirely to be blamed. Taking the other aspect of the question if the subject is one for which the Minister is responsible, I would like to appeal to the present Minister that, inasmuch as this Council passed a resolution that total prohibition had to be attained in the course of twenty years, whether his predecessors had given full effect to that resolution or not, it is his duty to follow up that resolution. It may not be possible as some hon. Friends wish it to work up the programme in the course of a year. The hon. the Minister has not been long in office and therefore it may not be possible for him to give effect to the policy underlying that resolution. There might be several programmes and policies, not merely the excise question, but several other questions and owing to financial and other difficulties the Government cannot give effect to those policies. Similarly as regards this excise question also it may not be possible owing to financial difficulties or owing to the limitations existing in the system of the present Government to give effect to that policy of total prohibition all at once. There is some allotment made. In conclusion I would appeal to the hon. Minister to carry out the policy as far as possible.”

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—“ Sir, the hon. Member representing Anantapur said that so far as the excise question was concerned there was no difference of opinion in this Province. I am afraid there is difference of opinion or else I do not understand why there should be so much of delay and why the Excise Ministers, one after another took advantage of one excuse or another for putting off introducing total prohibition. There is one hon. Member who said that he was not

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [13th March 1931]

against total prohibition. But at the same time he seems to believe that if the labourers are made to buy drink at a very high cost it would be against their interests. Sir, if you consider that drinking is bad, I cannot understand how it is against the interests of the labourers if drink is supplied to them at a fairly high price. I am one of those who believe that those who want drink, must be made to have it supplied at a very high price. But till total prohibition is attained, there are several dangers which we must take cognizance of, if drink is supplied to poor people at a high price. I am bound to say that people who are addicted to drink, will be tempted to steal things to raise money for the purchase of the costly drink as long as drink is made available though drink is supplied to them at a very high price. Many of the small thefts committed in villages are due to this. Therefore the solution does not lie in supplying them with costly drink. Without straight-away attempting to introduce total prohibition, any other method, either to reduce the quantity of drink, by rationing or to supply drink at a higher price would only land us in greater difficulties. To the suggestion of the hon. Member from the City of Madras that shops should be closed on Sundays, I may say that it will not be effective at any rate in the mufassal. Now what is happening in the mufassal? Do you think that this restriction will be really effective even so far as it goes? I may at once say that 90 per cent of the subordinate officials get their mamuls from the shop renters and they will not raise their little finger to give effect to this restriction. In a number of villages where there are no shops, with the connivance of local officials drink is supplied to those who want drink. Any amount of tinkering with the problem will not solve the difficulties, unless total prohibition is introduced at as early a date as possible.

“Sir, the only difficulty, so far as I can see, may be the question of finance. If the Minister only says ‘there is this difficulty, viz., the question of finding money for the income lost. What can I do?’ It is something. The Justice Ministry, except for a brief interval of three and a half years, have under practical control of this department for the last nearly ten years. If they had honestly believed that drink was bad, they could have introduced total prohibition in this country by this time. There was a chance of doing it in a very large area. Some 3½ crores were released from provincial contribution. I know the Justice Party was not in power when full amount was released. But the release, a substantial release began with the Justice Ministry. For my present purpose it does not matter whether the Justice Party was in power or not. I am speaking of the Ministry as a whole who had been in office all these years. If the Ministry had a mind to introduce total prohibition they could have done it. By easily ear-marking the provincial contribution that were released by the Government of India for attaining total prohibition. If any Minister thinks that there will be permanent difficulties in regard to finance, then I think he is entirely wrong. There will be no such difficulties at all. By introducing total prohibition we, I mean the country, are not going to lose a pie. As a matter of fact we will stand to gain a good deal. All the

13th March 1931] [Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

labour that is now engaged on account of the manufacture, transportation, sale, etc., of drink can be utilized for productive purposes. If there will be difficulties, they will be only for a short while. The money could be got back some day. Realizing the financial difficulties we do not ask to introduce total prohibition all at once in all the districts. We want it to be introduced only in one or two districts. Introducing total prohibition in small areas is of no good, because enforcing total prohibition in small areas is relatively more expensive. From the speech of the hon. the third Minister delivered last time, I gather that his difficulty is not so much about finances. His real difficulty is that he does not seem to be convinced that public opinion in this Province is in favour of prohibition. He seems to have said that the country is not prepared for total prohibition. He said ‘it is very, very necessary to have at least some measure of popular support from the people before Government undertake to introduce any measure of total prohibition.’ In another place he said ‘if total prohibition is going to be thrust upon a mass of unwilling people, etc., etc.’ Does he really know that we, one and all in this country, including drunkards, are against drink? I know that last year in my own district on two successive auctions there was no bidder for arrack sale at all in one full taluk. I approached the hon. Minister at that time, hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar, and told him ‘Here is a taluk which is prepared for total prohibition; can you not introduce total prohibition at least in this taluk.’ The Minister replied that I might see the Excise Commissioner, and I did so. The Commissioner replied ‘Oh, by influence you manage to see there are no bidders, but that does not show that the people consented for total prohibition.’ Then I told him that I could get the consent by a petition of 99 per cent of the total population including drunkards of that taluk against drink and for closing the shops. ‘All that’ he said, ‘is also easy. The only way is to educate them against drink.’ You ask people who are in the habit of drinking not to drink at all. They reply that inasmuch as the shops are not closed they could not give up their habit, because they are tempted to drink on account of the existence of the arrack, toddy shops. Such is the working of the vicious circle. More than once on the floor of this House, I challenged the Government that so far as the quantity of drink was concerned, it was on the increase and no amount increase in prices would put a stop to this. On account of the increase in prices there has been illicit manufacture of drinks which could be easily found out on introducing prohibition. I therefore say that this sort of tinkering with the drink problem will not solve the difficulty.

“Sir, what have the propaganda committees done? I do not think much benefit has been derived from these propaganda committees as was expected. For one thing they are not helped by other departments. Let us see how the Excise officials and Revenue officials have tried to help them. Some circulars were issued in the beginning that the Excise and Police officials should help them and that the village municipalities should also help them. Time after time the Excise officials and

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [13th March 1931]

the Police officials have been bringing forward one charge or other against village munsifs who showed inclination to help. I hear one or two village munsifs in the district of Anantapur were dismissed on account of some help which they rendered to these propaganda committees, and because they tried to induce the people of the village not to drink at all. The Deputy Magistrate dismissed them on all sorts of allegations made by the Excise officials with the result that no village munsif now comes forward to render any little help that he was previously rendering. So under the present atmosphere there is no use of these propaganda committees. Any tinkering with the problem will not solve the difficulty. Total prohibition is the only solution for the whole problem and it must be introduced and tried not in smaller areas but in bigger areas like districts. If the hon. Minister still believes that some experiments are necessary, we in the Telugu districts want to try this experiment in an area which is big enough. At least one Telugu district may be given the chance of trying this experiment. All that I want is this: Let the Ministers say that there is the only difficulty of finance; that is much better than the excuse that public opinion is not in favour of prohibition. Every one of us know, that this country is for total prohibition. Most of us, if not everybody is prepared for total prohibition. Instead of pleading the excuse that public opinion is not in favour of prohibition, it would be much better if the hon. Minister says 'what are we to do; there is not enough money.' Then I would be very much satisfied. But to plead that the masses are unwilling is not right and it is not convincing and it is going against the known facts."

The House then adjourned to meet again the next day at 11 a.m.

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

13th March 1931]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 592 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 13th March 1931, page 13 supra.]

Summary of the scheme proposed by the Surgeon-General for combating leprosy in the Madras Presidency.

The districts in the Presidency will be divided into six groups and a trained officer of the grade of Sub-Assistant Surgeon will be placed in charge of each group. The duties of the special officer will be—

- (1) to open leprosy clinics at important centres where the disease is endemic,
- (2) to train medical officers in leprosy work, and
- (3) to do propaganda and survey work.

He should first open a clinic in a dispensary or hospital situated in an endemic area, preferably in the headquarter hospital and at the same time should do propaganda work and survey villages within a radius of 5 miles. After a month or so when the clinic has been firmly established he will move to another centre and open another clinic and do propaganda there. Under favourable circumstances he can run three clinics bi-weekly if the means of communication are easy and if the Health staff do propaganda work. Thus in the space of four or five months, he can open three clinics and at the same time train the medical officers in charge of medical institutions. Under this method, the medical officers are not only trained but are also induced to open centres. The scheme will be in operation for two years, the question of its further continuance being decided with reference to the experience gained by its working. It is expected that, at the end of two years, each district where the disease is prevalent, will be running about five centres at least and the work in the whole Presidency would be organized.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 593 asked by Mr. A. Kondappa at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 13th March 1931, page 14 supra.]

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 15th February 1917.

The proposal, which is to construct an anicut across the Vandameru stream, a tributary of the Papagni, and to take off a channel from its left flank for a distance of about 10 miles to feed the Ithodu and four other lower tanks in Kadiri taluk, was submitted in the year 1901 by the then Executive Engineer, Cuddapah division. As the anicut and the first 900 feet of the channel were proposed to be located in the Mysore territory, there being no other suitable site giving the required level or good foundations for the anicut, the Resident in Mysore was addressed to obtain the permission of the Darbar for the investigation of the site and to ascertain their views regarding the construction of the anicut in the event of the investigation proving favourable. The permission sought for was given by

[13th March 1931]

the Darbar on certain conditions, which were accepted by this Government. In the administration report of III Circle for the year 1904-05, the Superintending Engineer stated that the project had been investigated and that an estimate for the scheme amounting to Rs. 1.5 lakhs was prepared. The Superintending Engineer was accordingly requested to expedite the submission of the plans and estimates.

2. The Superintending Engineer submitted a preliminary report on the project with plans and estimates amounting to Rs. 1,56,000 and also a proposition statement for the special establishment required for the revision of the plans on the general lines indicated by him. The establishment applied for was sanctioned. In the meanwhile detailed instructions were also issued for the scrutiny of the project plans and estimates. After an inspection of the project, the Superintending Engineer submitted a detailed report on the proposal, in which it was pointed out that trial pits were necessary to make a fairly accurate estimate, that the estimate would have to be revised as some of the items of the work were underestimated and that the work would be of a difficult nature to execute. The Superintending Engineer's proposals to dig trial pits in the watershed cutting were approved and he was asked to submit an approximate estimate of the cost of the whole project.

3. The Superintending Engineer submitted a detailed estimate amounting to Rs. 2,09,700, but this was returned to him for further revision. After some correspondence on the subject, the Superintending Engineer resubmitted revised plans and estimates but in an incomplete shape, as he found the scheme to be exceedingly unpromising. The cost of the scheme exclusive of compensation for lands likely to be submerged was estimated by the Superintending Engineer at Rs. 3,22,000. As the site of the headworks and the line of the channel are in a desolate and sparsely populated tract the Superintending Engineer seriously apprehends labour difficulties and considers that rates very much in excess of those allowed in the estimate will be necessary, if the work is to be completed in a reasonable time. The extent of land that will be included in the waterspread of the chain of tanks to be benefited by the scheme is estimated at 192.6 acres and the cost of their acquisition at Rs. 36,954-8-0 as reported by the Collector. The total cost for works alone, therefore, approximates to Rs. 3,60,000.

4. The existing ayacut under the tanks is 1,384.68 acres and the area proposed to be brought under irrigation 731.69 acres. The gross revenue on this additional area at a water-rate of Rs. 4 an acre, after deducting the loss of revenue on the area likely to be submerged, works out to Rs. 2,300 which gives a return of about 64 per cent on the outlay on works alone. From a financial point of view, therefore, the scheme fails to be productive. Nor does it satisfy the formula for the protective value of an irrigated acre laid down in paragraphs 106 and 107 of the Report of the Irrigation Commission. The index of protection works out to 7.5 against the maximum of 3 laid down by the Commission as shown below :—

$$c = \text{Capital cost per acre} = \frac{3,60,000}{2,116} = 170.$$

$$r = \text{Net revenue per acre} = \frac{3,683}{2,116} = 1.75 \text{ nearly.}$$

x for Kadiri taluk is 18.

$$c = 20 r \text{ plus } mx$$

13th March 1931]

$$\begin{aligned} \text{or } mx &= c - 20 r \\ \text{or } 18 m &= 170 - 20 \times 1.75 \\ \text{or } 18 m &= 135 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{or } m = \frac{135}{18} = 7.5$$

The project is unsuitable for famine-relief purposes inasmuch as 70 per cent of the work is not fit for execution by unskilled labour. Gauge readings of the Vandamanahalli river have been taken for six years, from 1910 to 1915, and the results worked out show that the project does not also rest on a secure basis as regards water-supply.

5. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation, therefore, considers that the project is quite hopeless from any point of view and recommends that it be abandoned.

W. M. ELLIS, Col., R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Saturday, the 14th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, Kt., The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Krishnan Nayar, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.M.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar Major S. A.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Palat, Mr. R. M.
Alamelumangathayarammal, Mrs. K.	Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Araasu, Mr. V. T.	Pate, I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Pooker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Raja of Bobbili.
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Ramamurti, I.C.S., Mr. S. V.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Hilton Brown, I.C.S., Mr.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Sahajanandam Swami, A. S.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Kondappa, Mr. A.	Satyannarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Seaha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.	Simbachalam, Mr. Gade.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. B.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Sreehta, Mr. M. S.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Srivamulu, Mr. G.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Sahib Bahadur, K. P. V. S.	Subrahmanyam 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, Mr. P. C.	Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib Syed.
	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
	Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.
	Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
	Waddington, Mr. H.
	Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
	Wright, Mr. W. O.
	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
	Zamindar of Chemudu.

[14th March 1931]

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Arms and Explosives

Cancellation of licences in Chittoor district.

* 601 Q.—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) how many licences for the use of fire-arms and guns were cancelled during the years 1928, 1929 and 1930 in Chittoor district; and
(b) the reasons therefor?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Police

Burglaries in Madras from 1st November 1930 to 1st February 1931.

* 602 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the total number of burglaries reported at the central Crime Station at Madras from the 1st of November 1930 to the 1st of February 1931 along with the respective dates on which the complaints in regard to each one of them were received and the names of the parties that preferred the said complaints;

- (b) the total number of cases of thefts of telegraphic wires that have come under the cognisance of the Madras City Police force from the 1st of November 1930 to the 1st of February 1931, and the quantity and place of such thefts; and

- (c) why these crimes have all gone undetected?

A.—(a) One hundred and forty-seven cases of burglaries were reported during the period. The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by supplying the other particulars asked for.

- (b) Eight cases. The total quantity of copper wire stolen was 1,116 yards. Most of these thefts were reported to have occurred on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway within City limits and within the limits of Perambur Police station in Chingleput district.

- (c) Of the 147 cases, 62 were cases in which the property lost was petty and unidentifiable such as cigarettes, clothes without dhobi marks, cotton rope, rice, electric light shades, lamp, motor oil, planks and cash. In half the number (74) of cases the value of property lost was less than Rs. 30 and in 54 cases the value of lost property was below Rs. 20. So far 18 cases have been detected and the rest are under investigation.

Stolen property may be recovered at any time. Some of the cases of 1929 shown in the statistics of that year as undetected have since been detected.

None of eight cases of theft of telegraphic wires has been detected so far; but concerted investigation continues. The difficulty is that the wire in question is commonly available and unidentifiable.

14th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the officers who are in charge of the Crime Department at present have any knowledge of the local conditions where these crimes take place?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I presume they must know local conditions."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Are they in charge of the divisions where the crimes take place?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I enquire where the offices of these officers are located?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There is the Crime Department; there are inspectors, sub-inspectors and constables; they have been specially deputed on this special work."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I wish to know where they have their offices and whether they have local touch with the people of the particular divisions in which crimes take place?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They have local touch."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"How?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There are a number of police divisions. The Crime Department is in touch with them."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask whether at any time in the course of the day or night they go to the divisions in which they are expected to work?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"The hon. the Home Member stated in reply to a supplementary question that the officers of the Crime Department are in touch with the divisions. May I point out to the hon. the Home Member that it is not so?"

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Is it a fact that an Anglo-Indian nicknamed 'cat' was concerned in some of these burglaries?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am not aware of it; I shall make enquiries."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"May I enquire whether any Anglo-Indian was arrested on suspicion?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am not aware of it."

[14th March 1931]

Civil Justice

Suits for the deposition of the Aliyasantana family yajaman in South Kanara in 1929 and 1930.

* 603 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of suits filed in each of the courts in South Kanara for depositing the Aliyasantana family yajamans in 1929 and in 1930;

(b) the number of suits filed for maintenance by Aliyasantana family members in each of the courts in South Kanara in 1929 and in 1930;

(c) the number of suits filed in each of the courts in South Kanara for setting aside alienations made by Aliyasantana family yajamans in 1929 and in 1930; and

(d) the number of suits filed by Marumakkattayam people in Kasaragod taluk for deposition of the karnavan for maintenance and for setting aside alienations made by karnavans in 1929 and in 1930?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The Government have not the information but have called for it.

Suits for the deposition of the karnavan in Malabar in 1929 and 1930.

* 604 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the number of suits filed in Malabar courts by Marumakkattayam people for deposition of the karnavan, for maintenance and for setting aside alienations made by karnavans in 1929 and 1930 (figures to be given separately)?

A.—The Government have not the information but have called for it.

Electricity

Supply of electricity to Salem and Erode municipalities.

* 605 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any other applications than that of Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. were received offering to supply electricity to Salem and Erode municipalities, and what rate they claimed for each unit of current during the first year and in the succeeding years;

(b) at what rate Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. will supply current during the first year and the succeeding years;

(c) how long the contract for the company is to last and what the Government propose to do after the period; and

(d) whether they propose to entrust the scheme to the municipalities at least after the Pykara supply has come into operation?

A.—(a) The Municipal Councils of Salem and Erode and the Hydro-Electric Power Distributing Company also applied for the licence. No rates were quoted by the municipal councils. The rates quoted by the Hydro-Electric Power Distributing Company are appended ^a to this answer.

^a Printed as Appendix on pages 142-143 infra.

[14th March 1931]

(b) The maximum rates which the licensee can charge are given in the licence which has been published in Part I—pages 34-40 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 6th January 1931.

(c) & (d) The hon. Member is referred to clause 12 of the licence under which the option of purchasing the undertaking can be exercised by the local bodies concerned twenty years after the commencement of the licence.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to inform us also the rates that were quoted by the Octavius Steel Company, so that it will be possible for us to compare the various rates?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is specifically stated in the answer. If my hon. Friend had read the answer, he would not have asked this question."

Jails

Enquiry into the lathi charge on prisoners transferred to Vellore Jail.

* 606 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the prisoners (about 42 in number) who, while under transfer to Vellore Jail, were reported to have been subjected to lathi charges, were examined by the Superintendent or by any other officer of the Vellore Jail for any marks of violence on these persons; and

(b) if so, with what results?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to clause (c) of question No. 456 and clause (c) of question No. 451.

(b) Does not arise.

Assignment of Lands

Statement of lands assigned to non-combatants.

* 607 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether G.O. No. 758, Revenue, dated 16th April 1929, has been given effect to;

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table a tabular statement showing the number of non-combatants who have received such concessions with the total extent of the lands given to them and the districts in which such lands were given;

(c) whether it is the intention of this Government Order, that the residence of the non-combatants in a particular village should be a condition precedent to the grant of such concessions in that particular village;

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table a tabular statement of such concessions; and

(e) whether any Government Order has been issued or is proposed to be issued either confirming or altering the abovementioned Government Order?

[14th March 1931]

- A.—(a) Yes.
 (b) The Government have not the information and are of opinion that the labour involved in compiling it would not be justified by the result.
 (c) Yes.
 (d) If the hon. Member desires to have a statement of the cases of preferential treatment in the matter of assignment of land to non-combatants who were not residents of the village in which the land applied for was situated, the answer is that such non-combatants are not entitled to the concession sanctioned in G.O. No. 758, Revenue, dated 16th April 1929.
 (e) No.

Mr. ABDUL HAMFED KHAN:—"Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to state why the departments concerned do not afford facilities to these non-combatants and pass orders on their applications as early as possible?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"The Government have issued orders that these applications should be disposed of as early as possible; if there are, however, any particular cases of delay, I shall be glad if the hon. Member will draw my attention to them."

Assignment of lands in Tanjore district to non-combatants.

* 608 Q.—ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is their intention that lands should not be assigned to non-combatants in the villages of Tanjore district which are affected by the Cauvery-Mettur project and which are irrigated by Cauvery-Coleroon channels;

(b) if so, what is the reason for such a proposal;

(c) whether there is any Government Order to that effect;

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to furnish a statement showing the extent of such lands already assigned to non-combatants together with the dates and taluks and the extent of such lands available now for assignment; and

(e) whether they would consider favourably the proposal to assign such lands to non-combatants in those areas in Tanjore district where lands are available?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) In fairness to the general taxpayer, every effort should be made to reduce the cost of projects to the lowest figure possible and one of the ways in which this can be done is to sell the lands affected by the project for the full value which they will fetch in the open market.

(c) Yes. Lists of the villages affected by the orders were published at page 1874 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th December 1930.

(d) The Government have not the information.

(e) The answer is in the negative.

[14th March 1931]

Collectorate

Alleged interference of Mr. S. V. Nayudu, Sarishtadar of Cuddapah, in local board elections.

* 609 Q.—SRIMAN M. G. PATNAIK Mahasaya: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. S. V. Nayudu, the present Sarishtadar of the District Collector's Office, Cuddapah, is a native of the same district;

(b) whether any petitions were sent against him to the District Collector, Cuddapah, and to the Board of Revenue about his interference in local board elections in favour of candidates belonging to the party of Mr. N. Ranga Reddi;

(c) whether it is a fact that the present President of the District Board Cuddapah, complained to the District Collector in connexion with the election for the presidentship of the district board held in July last that Mr. S. V. Nayudu had been using his great influence against him and in favour of his rival candidate;

(d) what action the District Collector and the Board of Revenue took on such complaints made orally or in writing against Mr. S. V. Nayudu;

(e) whether it is a fact that in the petitions presented to the Board of Revenue it was alleged that enquiry made against Mr. S. V. Nayudu should be by an officer other than the District Collector; and

(f) if the Government have no information, whether they will be pleased to call for the same and place it on the Council table?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have received two representations in which allegations to this effect have been made.

(d) & (e) The Government have not the information.

(f) A report has been called for. The Government will consider whether the report should be placed on the table of the House after it is received.

Forest Panchayats

Raising of grazing fees in Bellary district.

* 610 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Board or Government are contemplating the raising of the grazing rates from 4 annas for a cow-unit to 6 annas in the Bellary district;

(b) the total number of forest panchayats in the district and the names of the panchayats out of them which, at present, levy 6 annas for a cow-unit together with the dates of their formation and the introduction of the 6 annas rate; and

(c) the number of panchayats whose term of lease according to existing agreements expires on 30th June 1931, 1932 and 1933 and beyond, respectively?

[14th March 1931]

A.—(a) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government. The Government have no information as to whether any such proposal is under the consideration of the Board of Revenue.

(b) & (c) The total number of forest panchayats in the Bellary district is 111. The Government have no information on the other points.

Number of cow-units in Joga reserve, Hospet taluk.

* 611 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cow-units for which permits might be taken now for the Joga reserve together with its extent;

(b) whether the number is proposed to be reduced now; and

(c) if so, to what figure and for what reasons?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The extent of the Joga reserve, Bellary district, is as follows:—

	ACS.
Joga A and B	3,395
Joga C	1,462
Joga North-west	2,768

The Government have no information on the other points.

Local Boards

Preparation of electoral rules for the conduct of municipal elections.

* 612 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the preparation of the election rules for the conduct of the ensuing elections of the municipalities and local boards has been completed by Government;

(b) if so, when the draft rules are likely to be published for objection;

(c) whether any provision is made in the said rules requiring a deposit to be made by the candidates at the time of filing their nominations and for the forfeiture of the said deposit in the event of a candidate failing to secure a certain proportion of the votes polled at the election; and

(d) if no such provision is made, whether the Government will consider the advisability of inserting a rule in that behalf?

A.—(a) & (b) Draft rules in regard to the election of *municipal councillors* have been published in Part I-A of the *Port St. George Gazette*, dated the 3rd March 1931. Rules regarding *local boards* are under preparation and will be published in the *Gazette* in due course.

(c) Yes.

Industries

Orders passed on the report of the Cottage Industries Committee.

* 613 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHERRY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether any and, if so, what orders the Government have passed on the report of the Cottage Industries Committee?

[14th March 1931]

A.—The recommendations of the Committee are still under the consideration of the Government and it may not be possible now to give effect to many of them owing to present financial conditions. The Government have adopted the following recommendations:—

(1) The Assistant Director of Industries (Textile) has been given the assistance of a supervisor to help him in the inspection of weaving instruction given in the aided schools;

(2) A Research Engineer has been appointed and he has been working since 9th July 1930;

(3) A stencil cutter has been sanctioned temporarily for the Textile Institute;

(4) Steps have been taken to publish in English and in the vernaculars small pamphlets giving recipes and formulæ for proper dyeing; and

(5) Steps have been taken to teach improved methods of coir rope making. The skilled maistri employed at Thoppur-turai has been retained for a further period and he is now employed in the East Godavari.

Provision of funds has been included in the next year's budget in respect of the following matters:—

(i) Starting of a sericultural demonstration farm at Palmaner;

(ii) Expansion of sericultural work at Vadakangulam in the Tinnevely district; and

(iii) Opening of a leather industry class in the Leather Trades Institute, Madras.

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

II.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32—cont.

DEMAND II—EXCISE—TRANSFERRED—(cont.)

The debate on Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar's cut motion, viz., to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,43,400 for Superintendence by Rs. 100 was resumed.

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“ Mr. President, I had no intention of taking part in this debate but for the words that fell from the hon. Gentleman who represents West Godavari in this Council. May I remind him that he was not in this Council when I made that statement, and that he is almost a babe in this Council? The hon. Member does not know what exactly was the implication of the statement I made on that occasion. What I pointed out at that time was that the question had been raised that the question of prohibition was not a Transferred subject at all and that the question should be examined before the Government could come forward with any scheme of prohibition. I am not concerned now, nor am I going to give him what policy I would follow if I were on the Treasury Bench to-day.

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [14th March 1931]

"But what I want to ask of the hon. Gentleman who now occupies the position on the Treasury Bench is this: is he going to go back on the statement that was put forward in the manifesto that was issued by that party before the elections?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYDU:—"Please read it."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I have read it; I know the contents of it as well as my hon. Friend. The hon. the Chief Minister who interrupted me now, said that he was in favour of total prohibition; I remember very well what he said last year from this side of the House, that he was in favour of prohibition being introduced at least in one district. This is the question that I want to ask his hon. Colleague who holds the portfolio now; are he and his colleagues going to implement their promise and introduce prohibition at least in one district? I want a plain answer to a plain question."

* Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—"Mr. President, Sir, the matter before the House is one which is really beyond the range of controversy. Out of the 18 crores of revenue the Government are making, nearly, Rs. 5½ crores is derived from drink. That making money out of the vices of people is not a sound principle, nobody can dispute. That the drinking evil ought to be put down and put down at once, nobody can dispute. Considerations of finance, Sir, cannot be a justification for continuing a policy of immorality, a policy which is opposed to public interests. The hon. the Excise Minister has not been on the Treasury Bench for a long time. Therefore I am not going to accuse him for anything that has not been done in the past. Let there be no charges and counter-charges in a matter like this. Some hon. Members on the other side have been complaining that the last Ministry had not done anything in the past. What I would ask the hon. the Excise Minister who now holds the portfolio is this: is he going to act better than the last Ministry or is he going to behave in the same way as the last Ministry? We are not concerned with the past; we are concerned with the future. The hon. the Excise Minister may tell the House that there are difficulties of office, limitations of office; he might come forward and say that he has to take the opinion of the Reserved Half including His Excellency the Governor and that they are a dead weight upon him. Let him give this assurance to us, that he is earnest about the matter and that he would do his best and see that prohibition is introduced at least in one district. But I would ask him to approach the problem in this way and to try to do his best; if he fails with all this best efforts on account of the impediments put in his way by the Reserved Half, then the matter would be clear to us. For the time being I want an assurance from him that he is earnest about the matter and that he would act in the spirit of the *Bhagavad Gita*, 'action is thy duty; fruit is not thy concern'. Coming to the question of propaganda, I feel the less said about it, the better. It is a sad fact that appointments to these committees are made irrespective of character; irrespective of the honesty or capacity of the persons who are appointed to these committees; appointments are made purely on party and political considerations; and public

[14th March 1931] [Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari]

funds set apart for propaganda, are used for political and party purposes. The pracharakas and motor buses put at the disposal of these propaganda committees were made use of for election purposes during the last Council elections. I say, Sir, that this scandalous state of affairs ought to be stopped; I, for one, am not prepared to support the hon. Minister in his demand for Rs. 2 lakhs for propaganda. When I say this, I am not minimizing the value of propaganda work; to be effective, it must be done on proper lines. But my complaint is that propaganda has been carried on in the past as a mere eye-wash. If the hon. the Minister is really earnest in the matter, I would ask him to consider the situation. The hon. the Excise Minister has been saying that there must be public opinion, public support before prohibition can be introduced in a particular area. My hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, has been complaining that, year after year, he has been offering his co-operation to the introduction of prohibition in his district and that his offer has not been accepted. There is again the district of Salem where patriotic men and men of high character, like Mr. Rajagopalachari and Mr. R. Ramachandra Rao, have been devoting their attention to this matter. I feel, Sir, that the district of Salem is quite ready and that public opinion there is quite favourable. Let the hon. Minister try the experiment in that district. I want also an assurance from the hon. Minister that public funds intended for propaganda work would not be wasted on party purposes. If propaganda has to be carried on effectively, I would suggest to the hon. Minister that this amount may be put at the disposal of Congress Committees by grants or subsidies; there is a Congress Committee in every village. Congress committees need not be a red-rag to the Government, seeing that His Excellency the Viceroy is shaking hands with the leader of the Congress and carrying on negotiations with him. If there should be any sentimental objection to this proposal being accepted, I would suggest another proposal; let the hon. Minister put this amount in the hands of the Health Department; there is the Director of Public Health, there is the Deputy Director of Public Health; there is a Health Officer in each district; there is staff in every district under the Health Officer; there are a number of vaccinators; there are a number of Health Inspectors; these people would be a sufficient check and control over the pracharakas.

"Let pracharakas be appointed having regard to their capacity and character to carry on the propaganda business. If even this is not acceptable to him, I would throw out another suggestion. There is the Provincial Health League; there is the All-India Health League. These leagues may be addressed in the matter; money may be given to these bodies by way of grants or subsidies. This is the proper way of spending public funds under the headings 'propaganda'. If under the pretext of propaganda, public funds are going to be wasted, I cannot understand the view of the hon. the Minister for Excise in his demanding such a huge amount as Rs. 2 lakhs."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I have also a token cut in my name for discussing the removal of toddy shops from the hamlets of the depressed classes. We all know that the Reserved Half

[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai] [14th March 1931]

is doing something for the betterment of the depressed classes, but the existence of this white elephant of toddy shops brings the poor people to a state of absolute poverty. The people who are addicted to these intoxicants generally go to these shops after their toils of the day are over, and not only spend what little money they have with them but also begin to take credit from the vendors and thus, in due course, become insolvents. Sir, taking my own district, it has been suggested that at least two taluks may be made dry during this year. In his last year's speech, the Chief Minister, Diwan Bahadur Muniswami Nayudu, stated that at least the Nilgiris and Cuddapah should be taken up for prohibition work. If the Ministry is really earnest about the excise policy, I request the hon. the Excise Minister to extend his sympathy to the Nilgiri district and make at least two taluks there dry this year.

"Sir, taking the administration report for the year 1929-30, it is observed that—

'The prohibition of the sale of any kind of liquor to members of the hill-tribes on the Nilgiris except on a medical certificate was continued, but the increase in the consumption of spirits would suggest that there is a good deal of evasion of the law by hill-tribes. Since possession of liquor is not in itself an offence, the supply of liquor to members of hill-tribes through intermediaries is not easy to detect.'

"Sir, when you have extended partial prohibition to the Nilgiris, if possession of liquor is not an offence, that is not meeting the problem in the way in which it ought to be met. Unless, therefore, the Government come forward and make possession of liquor an offence, I think the partial prohibition extended to the Nilgiris will be no good at all. I accordingly request the hon. the Minister for Excise to consider this matter and make possession of liquor an offence."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, there is hardly any religion in the world which has sanctioned drink. I wonder why the Government in this country has made it a part of their legitimate work to supply drink to the people of this country and make revenue therefrom which is certainly most objectionable, and utilize it for very good and noble purposes. My request to the hon. the Minister in charge of this portfolio is that he should come forward with the reply that he is prepared to introduce prohibition at least in one district to start with. Last time when there was a motion in this House, it was so manoeuvred that one other district was added and the Ministry escaped being defeated on the question. The real issue involved in that question, viz., of forcing the Ministry to introduce prohibition at least in one district, was lost. There is now another opportunity again for the Ministry to show up their *bona fides* and say whether they are prepared to introduce prohibition in one district at least. The community which is most affected by this liquor traffic in this country is the Adi-Dravida community, the poorer classes among them and also the labouring classes. These are very important portions of the population which are directly affected by the drink evil. What is the use of having a propaganda which is to be carried on by having a few lectures among these people, when you allow a large number of liquor shops to be located just near the places where labouring people congregate? There is no use

14th March 1931]

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

of spending any money on propaganda when you do not close the shops existing in areas where the poor people, the labouring people, congregate often and where the houses of Adi-Dravidas dominate. These are two important sections of the population which frequent these shops, and without closing the shops themselves, I do not think there is any use in trying prohibition in certain specified areas of different districts and spending a huge amount of Rs. 2 lakhs for the whole province. Where will that money go? Probably, a major portion of the Rs. 2 lakhs will go towards maintaining the establishment, and deducting the expenditure on establishment, I do not know what amount will be left for actual propaganda in the various districts of the province. I am of opinion that the money can as well be utilized for other and better purposes, if Government are not prepared to introduce prohibition even in one district. I trust that the Minister will come forward with the reply that he is agreeable to the introduction of total prohibition—not in Salem, but in any other one district, where there may not be many obstacles in the way. The other thing that I would like to suggest is that he must agree to scratch this propaganda business; especially now that the Finance Committee has reduced the amount from Rs. 4 lakhs to Rs. 2 lakhs—I can understand if at least Rs. 4 lakhs has been allotted for this propaganda—I hope the hon. Minister will give us a reassuring reply and satisfy us in this respect."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, as we have heard from the hon. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar himself on more than one occasion and as we know from other sources also, during his term of office as Minister, he was bestowing a great amount of thought on this question of total prohibition and his criticisms therefore, especially when they are offered in such friendly spirit as that in which he assured us they were offered, are certainly very valuable. We are not prepared to go back even to the slightest extent on the declarations of my party or on the resolutions that have been passed on the floor of this House. Total prohibition has been accepted as the goal and a period of twenty years has been fixed as a reasonable period of time within which that goal should be reached. (An hon. Member: 'How many years have passed'?) An hon. Friend opposite asks me how many years have passed. I may be permitted to point out that every time a resolution on total prohibition was passed, this House has only said 'within twenty years the goal should be reached'. (Laughter.) I do not know whether it is a matter of criticism against me or against this hon. House. I cannot appreciate the ironical remarks of my friend opposite when he cheers the Council over this resolution, on which I cannot congratulate him. If the period was to be twenty years in 1925, and a resolution on total prohibition was passed in 1927, it certainly ought not to be the same period then, of twenty years. But, Sir, I was provoked to make this remark only by reason of the interruption from my friend opposite.

"As I said, we adhere as firmly as ever we did to that resolution of the Legislative Council. The only point on which we and some of the hon. Members of the Opposition differ is the method and I say

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [14th March 1931]

'some of the hon. Members of the Opposition' as I find that the view of the hon. Member Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar himself is not shared by all the Members of the Opposition. It is only with regard to the method by which this prohibition policy is to be put into operation that we differ. I shall only refer to a few observations that were made by Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar himself when he was in office. (A voice: 'He is not now in office'!) I say 'when he was in office'. It was said, Sir, that when people from the Opposition are transferred to the Treasury Benches, they go back on their statements made while they were in the Opposition. I do admit, Sir, that when people are on the Treasury Bench, they have naturally to speak with a greater amount of restraint and with perhaps a closer approximation to the realities of the situation. I can, with equal appropriateness, say, Sir, that when Members of the House who occupied once the Treasury Bench are transferred to the Opposition, they have got the privilege of speaking with greater freedom and divorcing, if I may be excused for saying so, the realities from their ideal. I shall now read a few observations, Sir, which my friend made when he was in intimate touch with the realities of the situation, while he was in office. This was not a statement made by him within a few days or even a few months of his assuming office; this statement was made by him just a few days before he gave up his office, i.e., after a period of nearly sixteen months of his office as Minister for Excise. He said on the 2nd March 1928—

'I now refer to the Excise department and the question of Excise. Several hon. Members have referred to the question of prohibition. It has become a sort of hoary and old problem and the unfortunate Minister who is in charge of Excise always comes in for a good deal of criticism. I do not think, Madam, that I need speak here to-day on the subject of prohibition, except to repeat what I said on the floor of this House during the time of the last budget. I stand in exactly the same position and I can to-day repeat every word of the statement I made then on the floor of this House. In a matter of such great complicity and difficulty, I would like to impress on hon. Members the necessity for their showing a little more charity, if not appreciation, of the innumerable difficulties. For one thing, it is very easy to say that we ought to start prohibition next year or the year after, but there are a number of complicated problems that have to be solved before we can launch on the experiment of prohibition. As far as I am concerned, I repeat what I said formerly.

'My Friend, Mr. Ramachandra Reddi—who was then occupying a seat on the Opposition—repeated what I had contradicted once before on the floor of this House and said that I gave him and the people of Nellore to understand that I was going to start prohibition in Nellore. I think I said once before that I made no such promise. What I said was that if we decided on prohibition, I should be glad to start with Nellore. I should have been glad if I was in a position to announce to this House to-day that Government have come to a final decision in this matter.

'I would like hon. Members to realize the fact that the questions to be solved concerned not merely the Ministers on the Transferred side but also the Members of the Government on the Reserved side, and particularly my hon. Friend, the Finance Member, who has got a good deal to say on the question. I have said before and I may repeat once again, the fact that if we are to have prohibition in this country, it cannot be before we decided on other sources of taxation. It is not an easy matter to settle and so far the question has not received from the hands of the hon. the Finance Member that close attention that the matter is sure to receive.'

14th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I offer a word of personal explanation, Sir? I think the impression that the hon. Minister wanted this House to form was that I had no proposals for prohibition placed before the Government. Although I was not prepared to announce them in the House, I challenge the hon. the Minister to. . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think the hon. Member has not heard the Minister fully. He can give the hon. Minister a further chance of explaining his idea."

Diwan Bahadur AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR interrupting said: "My proposals were pending before the Government."

The hon Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"In fact, 11-30 a.m. he said that in his speech itself and it is worth reading. He said 'it was nearly eight or nine months ago that my proposals were placed before the Government'. Well, Sir, that does not in the least detract from the position that I took up. We have been told that considerations of finance are absolutely foreign to a decision on this question. I can only quote my hon. Friend. He said, the most important question or perhaps the only question that had to be solved was the question of finding a substituted source of taxation. (Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: 'My note on the question you have got in your hand'.) May I appeal to my hon. Friend, just in the same manner that he did when he was Minister that he should exhibit towards me the same feeling of charity, and may I add, of appreciation also, because of the intimate knowledge and experience that he has had of the real difficulties in this matter? If I am quoting all this it is not with a view to show that the difficulties are so immense that we need not make any progress in the direction of total prohibition. There are difficulties and if we are not able to move as rapidly as we desire, it is because the difficulties are so great that it takes time to overcome them. One cannot gallop and say 'I wish to make a number of districts dry in a year or two'.

"Well, Sir, this was his position on the 2nd of March 1928. Within a few days after that, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar gave up his office and the hon. the present Leader of the Opposition functioned for all the three Ministers together. Speaking then as the Excise Minister, he, as has already been observed, by some hon. Members who spoke on this motion, enunciated certain propositions, which startled a considerable section of this House including most of his present followers (Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: 'You voted with me then') and which shook to its very foundation the policy of total prohibition. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: 'That is why he is here to-day. (Laughter.) As I said, Sir, that was the heritage that we got from the last Minister. (Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: 'Did your party vote with him'?). As I already observed, we did not differ on this fundamental question that total prohibition is as much our goal as that of anybody sitting opposite.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, insists that there is only one way of reaching this goal, and that is to take up one district,

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [14th March 1931]

make it dry, then go to the next one or two districts and go on like that. I can appreciate the feeling that the area in which total prohibition is to be introduced must be of a fairly large size. If the area is small and if it is possible for the residents of that area to indulge in drinking by motoring or walking just a mile or two, it will not be effective at all. I do realize the difficulties in confining it to a small area, but the measures that have so far been introduced, have been in areas which are so compact and are so situated as to eliminate as far as possible the possibilities of the measures becoming ineffective. Even from the side in which my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar sits, we have got cut motions which urge upon the Government the necessity for introducing prohibition in several areas in the districts. There is a cut motion from my hon. Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, in which he urges that this should be the policy of the Government. I also imagine that the result of taking up only one district for purposes of introducing measures for total prohibition will necessarily mean the stopping of all activities in other districts and it will not be possible for the Government to forego so much of its revenue as would be the necessary result of making one district completely dry and of also at the same time carrying on experiments in total prohibition in several other districts. I may say for the information of hon. Members of this House that the measures in total prohibition which have so far been undertaken have resulted in a loss of revenue to an extent of about 1.61 lakhs of rupees. I do not mean to say that it is very much, but I am mentioning it as a piece of information to give an idea to hon. Members as to the magnitude of the measures undertaken by Government. In the Nilgiris, something has been done already and our Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, urged just now that it is necessary to extend the measures of prohibition already introduced in his district. The question whether it is not necessary to make possession penal among the hill-tribes there with a view to make the experiments that have already been undertaken more successful is engaging the attention of Government at present. The question of introducing prohibition in some other areas also is engaging the attention of the Government. My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, himself knows that Government have already moved in that direction. I am sure hon. Members might have known that in Anantapur there is really a demand for making a fairly good area dry. The popular cry for such a measure is very great there and it will not certainly do for the Government to stop all measures in those areas, where there is really a demand for that and to concentrate their efforts in one district. Hon. Members know that considerable progress has been made in Salem and we shall concentrate our endeavours to a great extent to make a large area in any selected district dry. If it would be possible to make one district dry before the next budget comes up for discussion, I can assure hon. Members that none will feel happier than myself and I shall endeavour my best, without prejudice to the experiments in total prohibition that are being done in other areas—I am sure there is as much opinion in its favour as against it—to concentrate and do as much as I can in making one particular district dry and as to whether I shall succeed in making the whole of

14th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

it dry is more than what I can predict now, because I do not want to make predictions which might prove to be false, but I can give you this assurance that this will be the procedure which the Government will adopt. As regards this policy, there need not be any kind of doubt. There is no 'if', as in the hon. Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar's speech of 1928. I hope that assurance will satisfy my hon. Friends"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The time allotted for the Demand is just over. I shall now put the reduction motion to the vote of the House. The question is that—

'the allotment of Rs. 2,43,400 for "Superintendence" be reduced by Rs. 100'."

The motion was declared lost.

Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur demanded a poll and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. | 10. Mr. V. P. Narayana Nambiyar. |
| 2. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 11. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 3. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 12. " G. Simhachalam Pantulu. |
| 4. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 13. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur. |
| 5. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyyar. | 14. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. |
| 6. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 15. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. |
| 7. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 16. " U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 8. " T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 17. " C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| 9. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. | |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 19. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. |
| 2. " Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 20. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi. |
| 3. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 21. " M. S. Sreshta. |
| 4. " Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 22. " P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 23. " V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. |
| 6. " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 24. " A. Kondappa. |
| 7. " Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 25. " T. Narasa Reddi. |
| 8. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayarammal. | 26. " R. M. Palat. |
| 9. Mr. H. R. Pate. | 27. Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu. |
| 10. " H. A. Watson. | 28. Mr. P. V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 11. " R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 29. " G. R. Premayya. |
| 12. " Hilton Brown. | 30. Raja of Bobbili. |
| 13. " T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 31. Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao. |
| 14. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. | 32. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. |
| 15. Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 33. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 16. " V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 34. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami. |
| 17. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam. | 35. Zamindar of Chemudu. |
| 18. Mr. N. Siva Raj. | 36. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. |
| | 37. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya. |
| | 38. Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti. |
| | 39. " R. Foulkes. |
| | 40. " C. Basu Dev. |
| | 41. " G. Sriramulu. |
| | 42. " H. M. Jagannatham. |
| | 43. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. |

[14th March 1931]

Neutral.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. | 4. Mr. V. T. Arasu. |
| 2. Rao Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. | 5. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 3. Mr. J. Kuppaswami. | |

Ayes 17. Noes 43. *Neutral* 5.

The motion was lost.

Demand II—Excise—Transferred—for Rs. 36,21,000 was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,20,600 under Stamps—Reserved.'"

11-45 a.m. * Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'that the demand for Stamps be reduced by Rs. 100'.

"The object of my motion is to again press on the Government the opinion of the country in general that what has been done for an emergency should not be made a permanent feature of the taxation of the province. Well, Sir, at the time when the finances of the country were at a low ebb we agreed to pay an increase of about 50 per cent of the taxation under this head of stamps, both judicial and non-judicial. Sir, it was recognized even before that, that the administration of justice was rather a costly affair in this country. It was recognized that when a suit had passed through the original court, the first appellate court and the second appellate court probably the whole of the subject-matter of the suit was swallowed up in the litigation, and the person who had to shell out the money on this account was practically ruined. It was recognized that one of the reasons for the constant indebtedness of the ryots was the high cost of litigation in this country. That being the case, if we agreed to increase the rate in stamp duty it was only because we, as responsible people, realized the necessity for some increase in taxation somewhere even though it was felt as a very great hardship. When that is the case, the Government, Sir, are in honour bound to reduce that rate to its former level the moment normal conditions were restored. Then, Sir, the chief reason why the financial position of this province was bad was that immediately after the introduction of the Reforms this province had to pay to the Imperial Government a very large portion of its revenue as contribution. That portion of the revenue was released from time to time by the Central Government; and it is now three or four years since the whole of that amount has been released by the Imperial Government, and that amount has been handed over to us to be spent by us as we like. I have been saying, Sir, in this Council, both in time, and probably sometimes out of time also that this large sum of 3½ crores has been to a very large extent wasted by this Government. And we have been committed to expenditure in matters in which

[14th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

probably we would not have entered if we were allowed to think comprehensively about our condition and the needs of the province. Sir, that has been going on without any relief either to the agriculturists or to the trader or to anybody else. That I submit is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. It was only the other day I drew the attention of the Government and the council to the fact that to the tune of about six crores of rupees the resources of the province have been improved, but all that is wasted, and we are yet to know anything about the giving effect to a comprehensive scheme of elementary education or of total prohibition. That is the state of things to-day, Sir. Now I put it to the hon. the Law Member whether Government are justified in keeping this temporary rise in the scale of stamp duty on the statute book as a permanent matter; whether he, as a vakil, as a leading member of the legal profession at one time, contemplates this state of things as satisfactory. I ask him whether it is not practically making the poor suffer more and more to keep this high rate of stamp duty. Well, Sir, the hon. the Law Member when he was on this side of the House, more than once, and if I remember right, three or four times, pressed on the Government the very request I am pressing to-day, namely, to reduce the level of taxation in this matter to its old position. After all even the old rates work out at a very high figure. Seven and a half per cent was the rate of stamp duty for sums below Rs. 1,000. The poorer people are more concerned with this than the rest. When this is worked out it comes to this; 7½ per cent in the first court, 7½ per cent in the second court and 7½ per cent in the third court, thus altogether 22½ per cent on a matter before the court, i.e., nearly one-fourth of the value of the subject-matter of the suit has to be paid by way of stamps. Not only this, but also for every petition, for the vakalat and for everything else the stamp duty has been raised by 50 to 100 per cent with the result that as I submitted a few minutes back, before the three courts are passed the whole of the subject-matter of the suit is swallowed up by the litigation itself. And besides these, Sir, there are the other inevitable expenses like the fee for the legal practitioner, the process fee and the batta for the witnesses and so on. With all this, litigation has become a veritable white elephant in this province. If any man succeeds it is more due to the length of his purse than anything else. That is the state of things to-day, Sir, and I put it to the hon. the Law Member that he will realize the situation; he will recollect the years when he was a member of the legal profession itself and he will also realize the new conditions under which litigation is carried on in the country. I hope he will rise to the occasion and not give the usual stereotyped reply that the Government have considered the matter carefully and sympathetically and that they find it very difficult to do anything and especially at a time like the present financial stringency. I hope he will not advance that plea.

"Then, Sir, with reference to the present state of the finances of this province I wish to say a word. The finances of this province are at any rate not so low as members on the other side of the House want us to believe. We are spending a lot of money out of current revenue

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [14th March 1931]

on capital works, for civil works, for paying back our loans and for several other purposes. That I submitted, Sir, is not a proper way of doing things. If we take away all the expenditure on capital works and the sum for paying back our loans we will have ample revenue available for making this reduction under Stamps. Finally I submit that Government are bound in honour to effect a reduction in Stamps. I appeal to the hon. Law Member to look at the matter in the proper light; I appeal to him to recollect his views expressed on the floor of this House when he was sitting on this side of the House and I appeal to him after considering all this, to give effect to the almost unanimous request of the litigant public."

* B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, in seconding this motion, I have only to add that everybody in this House, the litigant public and the general public, understood that the stamp duty was raised under abnormal conditions, that it was raised only as a temporary measure and that when those circumstances which justified the increase of the stamp duty disappeared the old rates would be restored. But what happens is, so far as the increase of revenue, by whichever source it may be, is concerned, when once the Government have increased the rates they seem to be absolutely unwilling to reduce or give up the additional revenue they get. Now under the latest administration report I find that the stamp revenue has gone down very much in 1929-30 from what it was in 1928-29. No doubt it has been accounted for by Government in some way or other. But it is quite clear that the fact that even in spite of the increase in the stamp-fee the revenue has gone down speaks volume in favour of the motion now before the House. So even from the point of view of Government and from the point of view of sound revenue policy, in which we are as much, if not more, interested than the Government, it is quite necessary that Government should consider the matter from a more businesslike point of view and find out whether the increase in the rate of stamps has contributed really to an increase in the revenue or to its decrease. I, as belonging to the bar, can very well vouchsafe for the fact that there are hundreds and hundreds of litigants who are unwilling to go to court because of the heavy court-fee they have to pay. (A voice: What about the fees?) So far as the vakil's fees are concerned they have not been increased in many cases. So far as the court-fee is concerned, just think of a man who has to recover from his debtor, Rs. 100. If he goes to court, he has to pay Rs. 10, or to be more accurate, Rs. 11-4-0 for recovering that sum by way of court-fee alone, not to speak of other expenses that he has to undergo, namely, the lawyer's fee and other incidental expenses. Thus this increase really prohibits litigants from resorting to courts of law. So far as the sense of this House is concerned this House has expressed year after year its opinion that the court-fee should be restored to its former rate. But, as usual, Government have not heeded this, as in all other cases. Even the hon. the Law Member, if he were now on this side of the House, would have persistently demanded the decrease

14th March 1931] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

of the stamp duty. Whatever might be said about the change of outlook when members from this side go over to the Treasury Bench, even then in matters like this in which the Government themselves will be benefited by such a policy, I say that change of outlook should not stand in the way of giving effect to this sound policy. So, I appeal to the hon. Law Member to look at this problem in a businesslike manner and see whether he cannot restore the stamp duty to its old rates, and bring a Bill for the purpose.

"So far as the non-judicial stamps are concerned the same reasoning holds good. The Government are losing and not gaining by raising the stamp duty.

"The Government Members, Sir, are not free from the obligations to fulfil their promises made on the floor of this House. So, I would appeal to the hon. the Law Member to just reflect on the opinions that he had given out while he was on this side of the House and see that the policy that he stood for as a non-official is carried out by himself at the helm of affairs. As a matter of fact, it is for this purpose that the parties in the opposition fight. And when they go over to the Treasury Bench, they should not forget those views which have been adumbrated by them while in the opposition. On the other hand, it is only for this purpose of carrying out these policies that they go over there. No doubt, it may be said that this argument would not strictly hold good in the case of the Reserved half, but even then, I say that the same spirit should prevail. I particularly appeal to the hon. the Law Member to bring his view to bear on the Government and give effect to the same. With these words, I support the cut motion that is now under the consideration of this House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The motion before the House is—
‘that the allotment of Rs. 2,20,600 under Demand III—Stamps—Reserved be reduced by Rs. 100’."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, this matter has been before this House several times and it only needs a few words from me in support of the utterances of the hon. Members who have moved and seconded the cut motion. As I have said, several cut motions have been before the House and, I believe, an independent resolution has been moved and carried with regard to this matter. The Government themselves have expressed the iniquity of this taxation and Member after Member has said that he would consider the position and see to what can be done. I do not want to dilate on the matter or repeat the arguments that have already been made before this House. But I would like to quote the speech of the present Law Member made on this very demand in March 1928 in favour of the cut motion then put forward by the Opposition. This is what he said in support of the motion:

‘I support this motion, Sir, as my friend Mr. Madhavan Nayar said, this perpetual consideration of the Government must have an end. They are always shifting and changing their grounds and want to avoid fulfilling their specific

12
noon.

[Mr. B. Venkataramayya Nayudu] [14th March 1931]

and express promise. The first express promise was made in this House at the time of the imposition of the duties in 1922 and the promise was that when the financial pressure was at an end, they would remit these duties to their former level. That promise has practically been made year after year for the last five years and, as was referred to, there was a distinct promise last year by my hon. Friend there, the hon. Khan Bahadur Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. He made a distinct promise that when the remission of Provincial contribution was made, the Government would consider this question. They must redeem their promise which stands unredeemed (hear, hear) (at this stage there was laughter from the Opposition Benches) and respect the opinion of the Council which was unanimously expressed.

“What happened? The next year, he came to office and he was confronted with a difficult situation; and when he was questioned he stated that immediately after Budget session the matter would be considered. In 1930 the matter was again brought up before the House and the Law Member was then pleased to say that he had gained some inside knowledge and that it was impossible to reduce the existing rates. Of course the hon. the Law Member told us some time ago that he is constitutionally incapable of offending others. If it means that he is incapable of using harsh words, I subscribe to it. If it means anything more, then I must demur to it. The only thing I want to say is that the matter has been more than once before this House and the House has with one voice declared the exorbitant nature of the court and stamp-fees and the Law Member has successfully flouted the opinion of this House. Under the circumstances, I say, Sir, there is no use of appealing to the Law Member. In conclusion, Sir, I would appeal to every hon. Member to vote down the grant.”

* Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—“Mr. President, Sir, there is no doubt that the present rates of stamp-fees and court-fees are oppressively heavy; and it is the poor ryot that is hit hardest; whether he goes to the court as a creditor or as a debtor, he suffers in this respect. If he goes to the court as a creditor, he has to pay heavy amounts for stamp duty and court-fees. If he goes to the court as a debtor, he has to pay the amount due by him plus the court and stamp-fees and the fees due to the lawyers engaged in the suit. Sir, it will be seen that it is the poor ryot that is suffering most on account of these enhanced rates. It would be idle at this part of the day to try to advance arguments in support of the case that these rates should be reduced to their former level. The hon. the Law Member, when he was on this side of the House, was making a strong case year after year for the reduction of the rates and I think it unnecessary for me to repeat his arguments. What I would urge upon him is that he may be pleased to redeem his pledges. I need not remind the House that at the time when the rates were enhanced, the Government gave us an assurance that it was only as a temporary measure and that as soon as the Government of India remitted the Provincial annual contributions, the rates of court-fees and stamp duty would be brought down to their former level. But after the remission was made by the Government of India when the question was raised on the floor of this

[14th March 1931] [Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari]

House, the reply of the Government was that the amount realized on account of the enhancement of the rates would be utilized for increasing the amount of the salaries of the village officers. This was the promise given by the Government. The Government have neither reduced the rates nor increased the salaries of the village officers. The village officers are getting very low salaries. Government must raise their salaries. I appeal to the hon. the Law Member to make an honest and sincere attempt in this direction. I am sure that if he only makes a sincere and honest attempt, it would not be difficult for him to realize this end. I can understand such an inability in the case of the Ministers for they are only in office, but not in power. The hon. the Law Member cannot say the same thing. If he has the will, the way is clear for him. I appeal to him to come to the rescue of the poor ryots and the village officers who are in need of relief in all possible directions. Even a pie given as a relief to the ryots will be welcome and I once more appeal to the hon. the Law Member to take up the matter seriously and to see that the rates are reduced to their former level.”

* Mr. K. KESAVA RAMAMURTI NAYUDU:—“The court-fees and stamp duties were raised in 1922 to meet the deficit in the Budget due to the Provincial contribution of 3½ crores to the Imperial Government. It was at that time considered to be a temporary device to meet an emergent situation. The then Revenue Member gave the assurance that the reduction of these duties would be considered when the contribution was remitted. The contribution was remitted but the duties are not reduced. When a person files a suit to recover the sums advanced by him he will have to pay 11¼ per cent of the suit value in the shape of stamp-fees, i.e., one-ninth the suit value. For the first appeal he will have to pay again 11¼ per cent and for the second appeal another 11¼ per cent. Again he will have to pay lawyer fees to the extent of 5 per cent. He will have to pay batta to the witnesses. By the time he recovers the money very little is left to him. With regard to the jirasagati lands the court-fees used to be five times the value of the land assessment. Now it is ten times. An additional 11 per cent of the value of land will have to be paid. In this way oppressive taxation was levied on the litigants. It is very difficult to seek redress in a court of law. Many people do not launch suits for recovery of debts on account of these exorbitant and prohibitive fees which are working a great hardship on the litigant public. The hon. the Law Member, before he became a Law Member, was a strong advocate for the reduction of court-fees. I hope the change of place has not effected in him change of convictions though he might veneer them over with the convenient theory of inside knowledge to escape fulfilment of his previous assurances. In the interests of litigant public and in the interests of justice, I request the hon. the Law Member to see eye to eye with the Members of this House and with his former self and reduce the court-fees to their former level.”

[14th March 1931]

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Mr. President, Sir, in supporting this motion for the cut, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the circumstances which necessitated this increase in the court-fees and stamp-fees do not exist now and that there is no justification for the continuance of the high rates. What was intended as a medicine at a time of crisis should not be made the daily food of the people. In the first place, in every country, justice must be cheap because it is only if justice is cheap that the poorest man too can seek its aid in the redress of his grievances. If, on the other hand, it is costly, it may be prohibitive and leave the poor out of its pale. That being the case, on general principles, I should like to submit that justice must be made cheap.

12-15 p.m. "The cause which necessitated the increase does not any longer exist and there is no reason to perpetuate the high rate of court-fees. Secondly, this is a time when there is acute and imminent distress in the country. We know as a matter of fact that the suits which are filed have become lesser and lesser. People in the districts have absolutely no money to file suits and as a matter of fact we know that in the last three or four months so far as my district is concerned only about 10 or 12 original suits have been filed in the sub-court and 50 per cent less than usual in the other courts. The number of suits is less on account of the high court-fees. It would help nobody; it would help neither the Government, nor the clients nor the vakils. Such a state of affairs is really very regrettable and I wish the hon. the Law Member would take steps to reduce the stamp-fees. On the other hand, I am sure that if the court-fees are reduced more suits will be filed and the loss to the Exchequer caused by the reduction of fees would be considerably made up, much to the satisfaction and contentment of all parties concerned."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Those Members who preceded me have told this House in clear terms the hardships felt by the litigant public by the existing stamp duties. But I stand here to-day to plead for the labourers, especially the plantation labourers who are drawn mostly from the depressed classes. The plantation labourers are mostly drawn from the plains to the hills and they have to enter into contracts with the labour maistris. These labourers if they were to get an advance of Rs. 10 have to pay another 50 per cent by way of stamp paper, writing charges and such other incidentals. So it has been brought to my notice on several occasions that the existing stamp duty has been so high that it has been difficult for them to pay. Several Members have already pleaded for reduction. I find that the Government have not so far condescended to redress the grievances. It is not only the rich man that resorts to courts of law, but even the poorest of the poor in their daily avocation have got to resort to courts in connexion with various contracts and have to spend large amounts by way of stamps. So on behalf of these labouring classes I appeal to the hon. the Law Member to consider this question and do something to redress their grievances."

[14th March 1931]

* Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—"I rise, Sir, to participate in this motion as touching a matter of deep and profound concern to a large section of the people of the State, the section commonly designated the litigant public.

"To plead at this juncture, for abolition of all judicial taxation one might easily admit would be grossly extravagant of me. That justice ought not to be taxed as held by Jeemy Bentham and other thinkers of his school, might be a very excellent principle founded on high morality. It is also a fact that if you went into the past history of the matter in this country, you would find that no institution fee was ever paid in the Supreme Court. Nor under the original system of Lord Cornwallis was there any such fee prevalent in courts of the Company. What with the desire to check vexatious litigation, what with the desire to find a source of revenue for the State, the State of this country began to introduce legislation for the levy of court-fee in the shape of local regulations prevalent in the three Presidencies prior to the Stamp Act XXXVI of 1860, which was the first general Act of the Governor-General in Council for judicial as well as non-judicial stamps for the whole of India, and after that Act, in the shape of other Acts of the Indian and Provincial legislatures and passed from time to time. The system of judicial taxation has therefore become an established fact, these so many long years. And as an established fact, I am aware it ought to be reckoned with.

"The chief ground on which judicial taxation when attempted to be introduced in this country was sought to be defended was that vexatious litigations could thereby be effectively checked. Again it was said that to a country like India, whose people were wedded by custom and religious feelings to a complex system of law and prided themselves on their usages in proportion to the complexity of these usages, who always objected to having their laws and institutions simplified and who resented such interference as a breach of the conditions on which their country ought to be governed, the theory that justice ought to be taxed had no application. Pausing there, Sir, I would ask the hon. Members as to the latter ground whether the people of India are to-day as static as they were years back, and the Indian legislatures are wary and timid as of old. Then to the former ground, may I not ask the House to consider whether the material enhancement of court-fees by the Act of 1922, from what it had been prior could be justified with reference to that ground, or with reference to any other than the obvious ground of a desire to secure an additional source of revenue?

"The burden of taxation as it was even prior to the Act of 1922 was heavy enough and that Act only tended to aggravate the burden if I may say so with respect, without improving the quality of litigation. The country is passing through a severe financial stress and strain, just now as all are aware of and has been so doing for some time and I would appeal to this House to consider whether the amount of

[Mr. G. Simhachalam] [14th March 1931]

judicial taxation now current should be perpetuated which might be only calculated to stifle legitimate grievances of the litigant public. If it is the checking of vexatious litigation that has to justify this system, will not the object be sufficiently served by reverting to the old rates prevalent prior to 1922?"

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMANAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"I beseech the hon. the Law Member to say why he is leaving out of consideration the very sound and strong arguments he advanced in favour of the reduction of stamp duty before he became a Law Member. Sir, I am speaking from experience. I am myself a sufferer on account of the enhanced stamp duty as I had to allow so many of my claims to be barred on account of the heavy stamp duty and many claims are going to be barred, one has to pay by way of court-fees nearly 35 per cent of the claim by the time the case passes through the three courts and another 15 or 20 by way of vakils' fees. So the whole thing will be absorbed even if the case is decided in favour of the plaintiff. If in spite of all his argument and promises he cannot help us let him say that he is helpless. Otherwise let him come and tell us what he is going to do for the future. He has told us last year that soon after the budget discussion is over he is going to take steps in the matter in consultation with his colleagues. We are awaiting to see whether he is going only to repeat the same assurance or whether he has something better to give us."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, in supporting the motion before the House, I only want to bring to the notice of the hon. Members the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Committee to the effect that the basis of taxation with regard to court-fees and stamp duty should be altered. I would like to know what steps the Provincial Government have taken in regard to those recommendations. With regard to the non-judicial stamps the Committee recommended particular items where stamp duty could be reduced. They have quoted liberally the opinion of financiers and other experts who had something to do with court-fees and they have said that the procedure followed in this country is anomalous and quite unsound. With regard to court-fees, Sir, they suggest many ways in which relief could be given to the poor litigants while the cost of dispensation of justice from the point of view of the Government can also be made good without any loss to the Government. Sir, I remember there was evidence let in before the Committee by competent persons as to how best this idea of no loss to the Government but relief to the poor litigants could be achieved. I would like to know from the hon. the Law Member whether those portions of the evidence which suggested a method to keep on the same revenue to the Government and still afford relief to the poor had been examined and if it had not been examined whether the hon. the Law Member will be pleased to appoint a Committee to suggest the ways in which the present taxation could be reduced with regard to stamp duty and that without any loss to the Government and

14th March 1931] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

whether it is not possible to suggest ways in which the present Act could be amended so far as it concerns the Provincial legislature. There are suits and suits and there is a lot of difference between one suit and another. There are suits which take only a few minutes and there are suits which take days together although at the outset there does not seem to be much in the suit. I do not see, Sir, why the same uniform rate should be levied for all the cases. After all, court-fee is not taxation. Fees are levied whether they are for licences or for court purposes only for covering the cost of services rendered. This cannot be referred to as tax in general terms as though you can speak of taxation. Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Law Member has gone out and so I shall stop. (The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar: 'I have been asked to take notes.') I would like to know definitely why the proposals made by the Taxation Committee have not been taken into consideration and have not been given effect to at all. If it is not possible to do so, what are the reasons for not giving effect to them? It is quite possible that the law officers of the Government who are intimately connected with courts and those who are taxation officers have given opinion, written elaborate treatises as to how best the present system could be amended so as to really bring it to a desirable state. I would therefore, Sir, support this motion and urge upon the Government that they should take early steps to give relief to the poor litigant."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, however much I may sympathise with the wishes of my hon. Friends and however much I may be desirous of reducing the stamp duties, I am sorry to say that this is an inopportune time, even if the Government wish to reduce them. My hon. Friends who spoke on the motion stated that these enhanced duties were imposed in the year 1922 when there were special financial difficulties for the Government. It was so. My hon. Friends were quite right in their statement, and my Friends will also observe that curiously enough the present time also is one which involves the Government in financial difficulties. My hon. Friends are aware that Government with considerable reluctance had to cut down and delete many of the Part II schemes for the next year on the sole ground that the Government could not meet the costs of those schemes. Then, my hon. Friends will observe that if the request that has been made on the floor of this House, viz., that the rates of stamp duties should be reduced to the former level, is granted, the result will be that the Government will be deprived for the next year of roughly a sum equal to Rs. 60 lakhs or so, and that thus the Budget for the next year will be considerably disturbed. The Budget has been framed on the assumption that these stamp duties, both judicial and non-judicial, will be there, and the result of accepting the demand of my hon. Friends to reduce the duties will only be that it will not be possible for the Government to carry on the administration of the country, and my hon. Friends themselves, I am sure, will not be desirous of creating such a situation.

12-30
p.m.

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [14th March 1931]

"There is also this further circumstance, Sir. There was a proposal from the Government of India—that proposal has not yet been disposed of and it is still under consideration—for the transfer of a portion of the revenue derived from non-judicial stamps to the Central revenue, and the Government of India suggested that they would assign as a compensation to this Government a transfer of a portion of the income-tax. Now, this figure was examined sometime ago, and it was then found that this amount of the non-judicial stamp revenue which the Government of India proposed to take came roughly to Rs. 26 or Rs. 27 lakhs; so that the result of reducing the stamp duties at present would be that, when ultimately this adjustment is made between the Government of India and the Local Government, the Local Government would be deprived of their revenue to that extent, viz., to the extent of about Rs. 26 or Rs. 27 lakhs, which they would otherwise get as compensation for the transfer of the non-judicial portion of the stamp revenue. My hon. Friends themselves will not, I am sure, recommend that position. That will be—I do not say ruinous—injurious to the interests of this province.

"There is also this circumstance, Sir. Whatever changes may occur or may not occur in the Central Government, as far as we can say at present, certain changes are bound to come in the constitution of the Local Governments, probably at not a very distant date. When these changes come about, the Ministers who will then be in charge of the administration will have to take charge of the revenues of the province, and it will then be a position of embarrassment to those Ministers if we deprive them, in anticipation now, of the opportunities of having this revenue. So, I am afraid, Sir, that having regard to all these considerations, as I said at the commencement of my speech, however much I may sympathise with the request of my hon. Friends and however much the Government may be desirous of reducing the stamp duties, it will not be possible for the Government to do so at the present moment.

"Some of my Friends who spoke on this motion referred to an undertaking given by the Government that these enhanced duties will only be for a few years. I may be allowed, Sir, to correct this mistake. As a matter of fact, in 1922 when the Bill for enhancing these duties was under consideration in this House, a distinct amendment was moved in this Council for making the imposition of the additional duty only a temporary measure. At that time, when that amendment was discussed, both Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah and Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar spoke on that amendment on behalf of the Government, and both of them opposed that amendment, and by a majority of this Council that amendment was thrown out; so that it is not quite correct to say that there has been a promise or undertaking by the Government that these duties would be reduced. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: Why do you then say it was a promise in your own statement in your speech?) All of us commit mistakes, Sir, including myself; so that, that statement made by some of my hon. Friends that it was an undertaking given by the Government at that time is not true.

14th March 1931] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

"I think these are the important arguments that have been advanced on the other side. As I said, Sir, I sympathise very much with their aspirations and I wish the Government were able to reduce the rates."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"What about the Taxation Enquiry Committee's recommendation, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"With reference to the Taxation Enquiry Committee's recommendation, my Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, was not correct when he stated that there was a recommendation of that Committee for the reduction of stamp duty. As a matter of fact, that Committee's report does not contain any such recommendation. On the other hand, they make this recommendation, namely, that a portion of the non-judicial stamp revenue might be transferred to the Government of India, and with reference to that the Government of India have not yet passed their final orders on the recommendations of the Committee."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I rise to a point of personal explanation, Sir? I only want to show that the hon. the Law Member is quite wrong in having stated that I was incorrect when I referred to the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Committee. I will refer him to the pages in the Report enumerating the cases in which reduction is considered desirable. I hold in my hands the Report of the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee of 1924-25, Volume I, of which pages 223, 224, 225 and 226 specifying definite items for which fee is recommended to be reduced, so far as the stamp duties are concerned, such as bonds and mortgages, reconveyances, transfers of interest, deeds of adoption, settlement and release deeds, and so on. I request the hon. Member, holding as he does the portfolio, to refresh his memory by going back over the pages of this old report which is meant for action being taken by the Local Government, but which has actually been laid on the shelves for years together."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar rising to speak, the hon. the PRESIDENT said: "I do not think the hon. Member has the right of reply on this motion."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Whatever may be the right or privilege here of a Member of this House on a motion of this kind, I might invite your kind attention to the ruling given by the President of the Legislative Assembly by which Members there are given the privilege of replying to cut motions."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, will go on."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I am very much disappointed at the attitude taken up by the hon. the Law Member. He knows, no one knows better, the hollowness of the arguments advanced by himself here to-day (Hear, hear). As I submitted already, there was no stronger advocate of the motion that I

70266
N 31.56/5

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [14th March 1931]

have moved in the Council just now than the hon. the Law Member himself when he was on this side of the House. Now, what are the reasons he gives for retaining at the present level the stamp duties, the court-fees as well as non-judicial stamps? He first says that there was no understanding previously to reduce the court-fees as well as the non-judicial stamp duty to the former level when the conditions in this province improved. Well, he was a Member of this Council when that amendment Bill was passed, and he was one of those who took part in the discussion then, and he knows as well as anybody else that there was an understanding on which alone the Bill was finally passed. Well, Sir, he himself has spoken on the matter several times after that Bill was passed in this Council and at every one of those times he pressed on the Government the view that it was only as a temporary measure that the Council agreed to it and not as a permanent measure at all. Now, it does not come with good grace from him, sitting on the Treasury Bench, that all that he said then for a long series of years was without personal knowledge and that they were all incorrect, and that probably what he found written in some note-paper by some clerk or somebody, is the correct view of things. (The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar: 'I was referring only to the Law Reports and not to any notes.') I certainly am prepared to give great value to the personal knowledge of the hon. the Law Member himself and not to any version he found recorded in any departmental note whatever.

"Well, Sir, he spoke also as if he was going to help the Ministers under the future constitution which will come into force hereafter. Well, the Ministers are there even now, and the cry has been that their departments have been starved with very little response from the Reserved half so far as I can see. But, apart from that, the arguments will really be the other way about. It will be really handicapping the future Ministers if they are allowed to come into a state of things as they stand at present and be put to the necessity of facing the Council after the new Reforms come into operation, when a demand is made that the court-fee as well as the non-judicial stamp duty ought to be reduced. It will be more generous to the Ministers of the Government to do the right thing now and put things in the proper condition and not to ask them to face this sort of bloated rates and put them to the necessity of facing the Council in this false position. I am sure the hon. Member himself feels that the present level of court-fees and non-judicial stamps is neither equitable nor necessary. Such being the case, to put them in this position and ask them to face the Council later on with the present level of stamp duties is not fair to them at all. So, if any argument is to be derived from that source, I think, it will go only against the hon. the Law Member. It will only mean that it is necessary for him to take courage in both hands and do the right thing now, instead of putting those Ministers in a false position.

"Then, he said that there is going to be an adjustment with the Government of India with reference to certain non-judicial stamp

14th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

revenue and that therefore it will be wise if the level of the duties is left as it is. Well, Sir, after all are we to expect anything from the Government of India in this fashion? I think it will be quite wrong to put the figure at a higher level and then ask the Government of India to give that sum. That will only mean that we are making the higher level of taxation permanent. That is not fair either to this Government or to the Government of India. I do not think that the hon. the Law Member will really consider that as a fair argument in this case.

"Then, he said that this was not the proper time for asking for reduction in taxation. I have already said that this cry will be all right when it comes from the Government of India and not when it comes from the Madras Government. One who studies the Budget looks at these arguments with a smile. But then, Sir, it is all very well to try to play with the people's beliefs and faith. But it is not always the right thing to do. As I have submitted already, Sir, we have had such a lot of money all these years, very much more than we could spend, more than the present needs will warrant.

"As I have already submitted, we have at the present moment a very much larger income than our expenditure warrants. In spite of 12-45 p.m.
it we have been going on taxing the people more and more. That is a very unwise thing to do.

"On the question of retrenchment I feel strongly that in a very large number of cases retrenchment which could have been effected long ago has not been effected. Therefore it is absolutely necessary that a retrenchment committee should be appointed to consider not merely the abolition of a clerk here or a clerk there, but whether it is advisable to continue the present policy in several departments. What has to be done is to see what economies can be effected by a change of policy. In this connexion I would inform hon. Members of the fact that the retrenchment committee which considered the question of retrenchment in 1923 did not deal with the question of policies and only dealt with minor questions and so was able to suggest very little economy. And even those recommendations have not been carried out in all cases. In a few cases in which they carried out that committee's recommendations and effected retrenchment, the Government immediately thereafter reverted to the old policy and restored the appointments. I will give one or two instances. The Land Records department for instance was unanimously recommended by this House to be abolished and the Director of Land Records was swept away. But now what do we find? The whole set of officers has been re-appointed. The moment the Government found that the times were propitious they re-appointed all the men who had been thrown out as a measure of retrenchment. That is not the way we expect the Government to act. If only the recommendations of the old retrenchment committee had been carried out, we could have found the 30 or 40 lakhs needed to give effect to this much-needed relief under stamps.

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [14th March 1931]

"Further, Sir, it has been pointed out by several hon. Members that it is on account of the fact that the stamp duty is at the present level that many suits are not being filed. If the duty is lowered there will be a large number of suits filed. Therefore, if we reduce the fees the income from this source may not go down. That being the case I do not think that the calculation made by the hon. the Law Member is correct. I am constrained therefore to press this motion. In conclusion, I request the hon. the Law Member to give effect to the reduction of court-fees if he finds that the House is in favour of it."

The motion was put and declared lost.

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar demanded a poll and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 17. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. |
| 2. " V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 18. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur. |
| 3. " M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 19. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4. " B. P. Sesha Reddi. | 20. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 5. " A. Kondappa. | 21. " A. B. Shetty. |
| 6. " T. Narasa Reddi. | 22. " G. Simbachalam. |
| 7. Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu. | 23. " Abdul Hameed Khan. |
| 8. Zamindar of Chemudu. | 24. " Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. |
| 9. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya Nayudu. | 25. " S. M. K. Bayabani. |
| 10. Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu. | 26. " K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. |
| 11. " Mahboob Ali Baig. | 27. " Nadimuthu Pillai. |
| 12. " D. V. Narasimhaswami. | 28. " U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 13. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 29. " A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 14. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 30. Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| 15. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 31. Mr. J. Kuppuswami. |
| 16. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar. | 32. " C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| | 33. " V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar. |
| | 34. " V. T. Arasu. |
| | 35. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| | 36. Mr. C. Krishnan. |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahmud Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 14. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. " Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 15. Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam. |
| 3. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 16. " M. Devadasan. |
| 4. " Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 17. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 18. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. |
| 6. " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 19. Mr. M. S. Sreshta. |
| 7. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayarammal. | 20. " P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. |
| 8. Mr. H. R. Pate. | 21. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 9. " H. A. Watson. | 22. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| 10. " R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 23. " A. V. Bhanoji Rao. |
| 11. " S. V. Ramamurti. | 24. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 12. " Hilton Brown. | 25. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyan Chetti. |
| 13. " T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 26. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| | 27. Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| | 28. " V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. |
| | 29. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. |

Ayes 36. *Noes* 29.

The motion was carried.

14th March 1931]

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,20,600 for Stamps be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"The object of this motion is to bring home to the hon. the Law Member the difficulties experienced by advocates and clients in the High Court premises especially on days when the High Court re-opens after a long vacation in getting court-fee stamps. There are only two or three clerks appointed for vending stamps in the High Court. Tremendous difficulty is experienced by litigants to file their suits on the day of re-opening, because if they are not filed on that day, they will be time-barred. This difficulty was brought to the notice of the predecessor of the present Law Member by a communication from me and he undertook to examine the question and give relief. Nothing seems to have been done so far. I would therefore request the hon. the Law Member at least now to make enquiries into this matter, and, at least temporarily for the opening days, appoint one or two additional hands for stamp vending. I do not think there will be any difficulty in the matter of removing this difficulty experienced by litigants and advocates."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, as a matter of fact I made some enquiries in regard to this matter and I was told that there are about 22 stamp vendors in this City including four paid men. They have strict instructions to be in their offices every day from 10 to 5 and they are not prohibited from selling stamps in their houses. If, however, as my hon. Friend says, there are some inconveniences now, I will certainly make further enquiries and, if necessary, appoint some additional stamp vendors."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand III—Stamps—Reserved—for Rs. 2,20,600 minus Rs. 100 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND IV—FOREST—RESERVED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees 35,64,000 under "Demand IV—Forest—Reserved".'

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 75,300 for General Direction be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, I have given notice of this motion to ask for information on several points. The forests of this Presidency no doubt form a valuable

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [14th March 1931]

asset, but it looks as if for some reason or other they are not being sufficiently exploited. Quite recently, within the last two or three years the Government started the policy of exploitation by mechanical methods. For some reason or other, however, none of these seem to have given satisfaction to the Government judging by the reports we have received. Particularly from the last administration report it would seem that the Government have been as hasty in closing down these exploitation schemes as they have been in starting them. It would seem that when they started these schemes they were in a great hurry to introduce methods of exploitation which had been found successful elsewhere without collecting sufficient data as to whether such methods would be suitable here and whether they would result in profit. I remember some years ago the Government had big schemes of exploitation on the west coast particularly. I am referring to their proposals for transportation of timber by means of the rivers Payaswani, Nilambur and Azhikkal. There were schemes for the canalization of the rivers.

1 p.m. "In fact, grants were made and the Public Works Department were asked to proceed with the work and after six months orders were issued by telegram and the works were stopped. So, once again they have reverted to the old methods of carrying timber by floating it down the rivers. What I wish to emphasize is the fact that the Government in launching upon exploitation schemes, either of transportation or of conversion, never seem to have examined these questions exhaustively and arrived at a decision which would have enabled them to go forward with these schemes with the confidence that they would not be landed in a loss. For various reasons some of which have been explained and others not, the Government have found that those schemes were not paying and they in a hurry stopped those schemes. For instance, the Beypore Saw Mill has been very paying and for some reason or another the Government seem to have decided to stop the working of that mill. The Olavakkot and the other saw mills seem to have shared the same fate. It is not as if the Government cannot solve the problem of exploitation of our forests. It is no use having these forests unless we are going to utilize the produce that could be derived from these forests, such as timber and so on for the benefit of the country and that of the Government. It would be certainly unreasonable for the Government to tell us at this late hour that no advanced methods are possible and that their present methods of exploitation by manual labour are the only possible ones. There are many difficulties and it looks as if the Government have not properly examined this question. It is not merely a question of cost, of conversion of logs into scantlings, of bringing the logs of timber down the rivers and so on. But there are so many other questions that arise in connexion with the forest exploitation schemes. For instance, the question of transportation from stores to markets and methods of marketing really arise. The methods of transportation through canals are much cheaper than by rail. I would ask the Government whether this question of railway rates has really come in their way of exploitation of forests. Railway rates play

14th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

a great part in the transportation of many articles produced in this country. For instance, as you are all aware the Punjab wheat could not compete with wheat from Australia which was dumped in Calcutta. It is rotting in the Punjab because it could not be sold in Calcutta at a price which would compare favourably with the price of Australian wheat, because of railway freight. Our people are forced to purchase wheat from the Australian continent. Our forests are full of some of the best kinds of timber and yet to-day we are importing timber from outside. Teak is coming from Burma and Singapore and jarrah wood is coming from Australia. I do not think when we have got our own valuable forests, that it is profitable for us to go outside India and purchase timber which is grown elsewhere and which is transported to us by means of steamer and other means and sold here at competitive prices to the detriment of local timber. It ought to be certainly possible for the Government to solve this problem. Otherwise what is the good of having these valuable forests and at the same time without working them by proper methods to go on importing timber from outside India. We expect the Forest department to do more intensive work and solve this problem by making these forests a productive source of revenue. Are we to think that it is impossible for Government to adopt modern methods and develop their forest resources? They had experts whose services were dispensed with. There was the Chief Forest Engineer, and there were a number of forest exploitation officers. With the help and expert opinion of these officers it ought to have been possible for the Government to have solved this very important problem. We have got thousands of square miles of valuable forests which produce nothing to-day.

"Sir, I was referring to research work. Forest research work of all kinds is certainly the most important and looking into the Budget one is surprised to find that this very important line of activity receives very little attention. It may be said that the Government of India are giving their attention to this matter. But if one examines the activities of other countries in this direction one is struck by the amount of money spent and the value that is attached to research work by those countries. We heard the other day about the research work that is proposed to be done in connexion with the sandalwood but that is not the only one. If you read the Forest Administration Report you will find that, in regard to research work that is necessary for forest development, for raising scantlings and for various other lines of activities, the circle officers are complaining that they have no facilities for carrying on the research work. It seems to me that so many items that require the services of experts including the item of forest utilization receive very little attention at the hands of Government. Then there are other lines of activities in the Forest department to which the Government have paid some little attention but I should say not enough attention. For instance, there is the question of supplying firewood for domestic purposes. Take the case of the big deltas. The circumstances are the same in many other places. In these big deltas there

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [14th March 1931]

is very little timber available for firewood with the result that people there use practically all their cowdung instead of firewood for domestic purposes. This, Sir, is a serious economic loss to the country, because the agriculturist burns away his cowdung which could be used as manure for agricultural purposes. At the same time it is staggering to see that there are thousands of square miles of valuable forests in this province and yet the Government do not make use of the timber of those forests by adopting proper methods of exploitation and thus make the wood produced from forests available for domestic purposes also. Taking the Godavari delta for instance, there are thousands of square miles of forests, and we have got a big river running right from the hills into the sea and canals branching all over the delta. Now, Sir, it seems to me that it is rather absurd that these people are allowed to burn their cowdung for their household purposes, while there are forests lying not very far off from them and the means of transportation are readily available. Therefore the question of cost of transportation and other kindred questions are questions that call for research work. For instance, research work is necessary for finding out whether the present high rates of firewood cannot be reduced by increasing the production and lowering the margin of profit per unit. Take the case of Madras. Casuarina wood is now selling at Rs. 33 per ton—a most staggering price—and it ought to be possible for the Forest department to compete successfully with the casuarina wood. In Madras casuarina wood was previously selling at Rs. 13 and Rs. 8 per ton. Therefore I ask whether it is not possible for the Forest department to supply us firewood in Madras at a price less than Rs. 33 per ton.

“Sir, before closing I wish to refer to one other point. In the Administration Report reference is made to the fact that there is only one student from Madras Presidency in the Forest College at Coimbatore and that all other students come from other Presidencies. No explanation is given for this fact. I do not know whether the Forest College is not in a position to attract a large number of students from Madras. It may be due to the fact that although the Government is running the College at a considerable expense they are not attaching any importance to the diplomas granted by that College. I would ask the Government whether they cannot recruit hands for the Forest department from the students of the Forest College. So long as this is not done I should not be surprised that the Forest College is not popular. I would like to ask the Government whether even in the case of higher services they cannot recruit young men from the College and after their entering the Forest department they cannot be sent abroad for research work, so that they may become fit for higher appointments in the Forest department. In this connexion I may say there is one rumour which is not referred to in the Administration Report. It is this: that the Forest College is going to be abolished. It would be a great calamity if that college is closed. I do wish that there were no such proposals. Instead of making it a centre for research work and for recruitment of young

14th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

men to the Forest service you are going to close it. After all, I do hope that no such thing will be done.

“Lastly I wish to refer to one other question, viz., the disafforested lands that are given to Adi-Dravidas. I think this sort of gift to Adi-Dravidas of disafforested land is a left-hand gift. I know that many of these disafforested lands are absolutely useless for cultivation. They are often lands where nothing would grow and could be grown. The poor Adi-Dravidas are falling into a snare as it were when they take up these lands, because the Government hold out to them high hopes that if they take up those lands and cultivate them they could become rich. I would ask the Government to give these people only such lands on which they could grow decent crops. It is no use giving them lands which are worthless. What the Government now do is a left-handed gift to the Adi-Dravidas and these poor people by trying to get these barren lands brought under cultivation and in trying to raise crops on these lands, ruin themselves owing to the heavy expenditure which they have to incur to bring lands under cultivation, which could produce nothing.

“I hope, Sir, that my hon. Friend, the Law Member, will enlighten us on some of the points I have raised. What I wish to know particularly is whether Government cannot by adopting suitable methods of exploitation meet the numerous needs of the people, and convert these forests, which are valuable potential source of wealth of the State into sources of ever-increasing revenue.

* Rao Bahadur T. A. MAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, I take it that we are now discussing the general Forest policy of the Government and not confined only to the terms of motion No. 121 . . .” 1-15 p.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“If that is the intention of the House, I have no objection.”

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—“Sir, forest has to be looked at from different standpoints. The standpoint from which my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, was looking at it as a source of revenue is, no doubt, one. There are also other aspects from which it has to be considered. One of the aspects which have been pressed on the Government from time to time has been the view point of the ryots living near the forest areas. The forest policy of the Government has been attacked not only in this Council but there have been complaints without number, outside also. In view of these attacks and complaints, some time back the Government wanted to re-classify forests and confine the department to certain portions which will be reserved forests and leave the rest either in the hands of the Revenue department to be converted into arable land or to village panchayats to be managed as village forests. I should like to know from the hon.

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [14th March 1931]

the Law Member whether that policy has been accepted by the Government in its entirety and whether it has been given effect to, and if so, what exactly is the position at the present moment. Have the Government in its entirety and whether it has been given effect to, and if so, after only to forests which are intended for the purpose of protecting water-supply and those which are intended for timber and fuel supply? These are the two classes of forests if I remember right, which the Government and their Forest Advisers wanted to keep under the present Forest department. The third class of forests are those which are to be handed over to village panchayats to be administered as village forests by the villagers themselves in the interests of the ryots and their cattle. So far as I can make out, this idea has not yet been worked out to anything like completeness. There are still with the Forest department large areas of land which are intended only for grazing purposes and which are useless otherwise. I should like to know from the hon. the Law Member what his policy is going to be with reference to these lands. I have also said that there are other lands which have to be considered, viz., lands which are very good for cultivation purposes, which adjoin villages and with reference to them, there has been a lot of trouble between the villagers and the Forest department. If I remember right, it was proposed that these lands should be handed over to the Revenue department to be utilized either for cultivation or for other purposes which the Revenue department might consider proper. Here again I want to know from the hon. the Law Member whether he sticks to the policy which was enunciated in this Council that the Forest department will have nothing to do with these lands hereafter. With reference to grazing grounds which are still with the department, I want to know if the Government are not prepared to give effect to their policy already enunciated, viz., to hand them over to the village panchayats for grazing purposes. What is it they are going to do? Are they going to revise the rules that have already been framed? How are they going to look after these grazing lands? Are they going to give any facilities for the grazing of cattle? Are they going to improve these areas? Are they going to spend some money over these areas both for water-supply and for supplying grass to these areas?

“ I remember, Sir, that several Committees sat and considered the forest policy of the Government and they have all reported. Some of the reports refer to the grievances the ryots are put to on account of the present rules. For instance, the question of blocks was raised. I think, Sir, that one of the Committees reported that the old system of blocks was not right and that a large area or a whole range should be allowed for grazing cattle which obtain licence for grazing. The difficulties that were felt by that arrangement were referred to in the various reports, viz., that water was available only in one or two blocks and not in all blocks. It was also mentioned that the underlings of the Forest department were given so much power as to make it difficult for the poor and illiterate ryots to have the benefit of the rules,

14th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

that money was exacted from the villagers, and that the money collected in the name of the Government did not reach the coffers of the Government. All these questions are old questions which have been considered by the Government and which have been enquired into and reported on by various Committees. I should like to know whether the Government propose to keep with them any forest areas intended for grazing purposes.

“ I want to know with reference to the classification of forests, whether they have completed their survey of the lands which are intended either for producing timber or for the purposes of protecting water-supply. What are they going to do in the matter, if they have gone into that question thoroughly? I hope the hon. the Law Member will be in a position to tell us to-day comprehensively as to what is his policy with reference to these matters.

“ Leaving those points, I am really sorry that my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, should have referred to the Forest College and asked for its retention. If he had gone through the budget motions that were given notice of last year on this demand, I am sure he would not have made the appeal he did. The Forest College has been a white elephant, one of the white elephants of the Madras Government. From the beginning it has been used and utilized not by Madras mainly, but by various other Governments which had the benefit of the expenditure of the Madras Government for nothing. The Central Provinces, Bombay, Mysore, Travancore and Coorg are the chief contributors to the strength of the Forest College. The number of students who were trained for the Madras Government was, if I remember right, at no time more than four. (The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—At one time it was sixteen). For the last two or three years there was not a single student from Madras. Now, there is one. That is the state of things. The Retrenchment Committee which considered this question in the year 1923–24 thought that the Forest College should go. It was stated then both by the head of the department and the Member in charge of the department that they would see that the expenditure on the College would be covered by the contributions made by the candidates who were admitted into the College. I think we are running the College at a cost of something like half a lakh of rupees. My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, raised the question ‘ why not all the employees of the Forest department be recruited from among those trained in the College ’. The purpose of the College is not to give general forest education. It is a training institute for Rangers only. The higher class of officers are trained at Dehra Dun; Rangers are trained at Coimbatore. So, that is the purpose which the College serves. Taking note of these facts, I do not think there will be any need for a College of this sort in any Province. The other Provinces are wiser; none of them have got a Forest College; they are sending their candidates either to Dehra Dun or to Madras, because we are hospitable enough to spend our money for the purpose of training those people. As I said, the number of people that will

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [14th March 1931]

be required by the Madras Government will be always few; and they can always be sent to Dehra Dun which has better facilities for training than the Forest College at Coimbatore. Even now, our Extra Assistants are trained at Dehra Dun. If we are going to have a College for the Extra Assistants we want for Madras, then, as I have already submitted, the Forest College would be not a white elephant but a golden elephant; it will cost us too much. Forest administration is already costing us good deal of money. To ask for the retention of this College will be one of the short-sighted policies; even the other side of the House wanted to abolish this College. Last year, a number of motions were given notice of by all sides of the House, the object being the abolition of this College. I myself had given notice of such a motion, but unfortunately it was not reached. Even now, if a separate vote is taken on this point, I am sure that a majority of hon. Members in this House will be for the abolition of the Forest College. The Government need not fear about the utilization of the College or its grounds, because there are various purposes to which they can be used. The Agricultural College is near by; every year we are giving large sums of money for fresh farms to be opened; every year fresh lands have to be acquired for the Agricultural College. Only three years ago, a cotton station was opened and we had to spend a lot of money. Two or three years ago, a millet station was opened and we had to shell out Rs. 1½ lakhs for acquiring sites for that station. Not only that; year after year we are having houses put up for Government officers in Coimbatore. I find that, in the year before last, a sum of a lakh of rupees was spent for putting up three or four houses for Government officers in Coimbatore. There will be a demand for a number of houses during the next two or three years. All that can be avoided and we can make a lot of savings by abolishing this College and utilizing the buildings both residential and College for other purposes."

At this stage the House adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I was referring to the Forest College and the enormous cost that was entailed on the Madras Government on account of it. I only want to say a few words with reference to the way in which the cost of the College is being calculated. There is a lot of capital expenditure incurred on the College. Credit is not given for them. The interest charges on the capital expenditure will have to be calculated, as also the pensionary contribution for the officers who are serving there. If these two items are taken into consideration, the cost of the College will be very much more than what is shown in the budget.

"Again, the Forest policy of the Government with regard to exploitation has also been a matter of much discussion in this Council in former years. When the Russellkonda scheme was taken up, there was criticism about it. The Government wanted to be allowed to try some experiments, and it was allowed. When the Chenat Nair scheme was taken up, the same was the position. The Council will remember

14th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

that some of us raised very serious questions then with reference to the exploitation of the Chenat Nair forests. The hon. the Law Member will also remember that he was one of those persons who took part in the discussions and it was only as a matter of experiment that the Chenat Nair scheme was allowed to go on. Now, Sir, the worst fears of this Council have been realized both in regard to the Russellkonda scheme and in regard to the Chenat Nair scheme. The question I now put to the hon. the Law Member is, what steps has he taken to see that such mistakes are not committed again? It is for him to see that these costly experiments are not tried over and over again and that some advantage is taken of the experience we have gained in undertaking these experiments. I should like to know from him what is the policy of exploitation that he is going to adopt. I remember a large number of working plan officers were appointed, and I also know that whenever working plans were prepared for the different forests, they were never followed. I am yet to know a case in which a working plan which was prepared at great cost was really followed. It seems to me that the policy of the Government in preparing the working plans has been more for the purpose of giving work to some of the officers who were supernumerary than for preparing a real working plan which could be followed in the future. I can only hope that that is not the real state of affairs; at any rate, I want an assurance from the hon. the Law Member that he is not appointing working plan officers merely to find some occupation for supernumerary officers, but that really the working plans have to be prepared for being followed.

"Again, I should like to know from the hon. the Law Member what is the policy of the Government with reference both to timber and fuel. The hon. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar referred to the very large difference between the cost of fuel in or near forest areas and the cost of the same in towns. Here is a matter for enquiry by the Government. Is it not possible for the Government to undertake the supply of fuel in important towns by opening up their own depots? I want to know whether the hon. the Law Member will pursue such a course or not. Similarly, with regard to timber, the questions that were raised have been various. For instance, with reference to extraction itself, I suppose the Government wanted to have a policy of logging on the same model as in America, on a huge scale. I know the enthusiasm with which some officers were appointed and proposals were made for training them in America. I do not know what has become of these proposals, whether the men sent for training in America have returned, whether they have been assigned any particular work, whether they have reported that the methods pursued in America are suitable for being applied in India or not, and whether it is proposed to utilize their services for carrying out the things that they learnt in America. These are all matters about which I should like to know what the Government intend to do.

"Then again, Sir, in the matter of utilizing the forest timber, I do not know what the Government are actually doing. I remember .

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [14th March 1931]

there were two or three different methods to be tried for the purpose of creating a local demand. The three-ply service was to be worked. The railway sleepers were proposed to be made, and it was also expected that some of our timber would be sent to European countries to find a market there. I believe these were some of the proposals which were once engaging the attention of the Government. I do not know what exactly has been done in these fields and whether the Government have actually found that their investigations would justify their expectation to have a steady market for our timber. I may say, Sir, that the forests in our Presidency are some of the richest, probably in the whole world, and some kinds of timber that can be extracted from these forests are very good in quality. It will be a great pity if proper use is not found for such timber. Have the Government made any earnest endeavour to utilize the timbers and find a proper market for them? For instance, one of the inferior qualities of wood, *karumarudu*, has got a very good market in England and some other countries on the continent. There are other timbers equally good, and I do not know if the Government have investigated the possibilities of utilizing these timbers for the purpose of making furniture, etc., or for making boats, steamers and things of that sort. What is the position in which this utilization business now is? Is the Utilization Officer merely appointed for the purpose of coming to Madras and finding a few commission agents, or is he really being utilized for the purpose of finding good use for the several kinds of timber available in our forests? It is high time that the Government had a proper policy to pursue.

"I find from the Budget, Sir, that the cost of the Forest department is going to be practically the same for the next year as in the present year; but the income is going to be very much less. I should like to have an explanation from the hon. the Law Member for that. The cost in the present year is expected to be 43½ lakhs and in the next year Rs. 43 lakhs, i.e., a difference of half a lakh. But on the Revenue side, the income in the present year is expected to be Rs. 62½ lakhs, while the income that is expected next year is Rs. 55 lakhs, i.e., a fall of Rs. 7½ lakhs. I should like to know from the hon. the Law Member what is the explanation for this? Why should there be a difference of Rs. 7½ lakhs in the receipts between this year and the next, when the expenditure is practically the same? That does not show a very satisfactory state of things.

"So, Sir, I should like the hon. the Law Member to take up a proper and a bold policy of commercially utilizing this great wealth that is in our possession and make the best use of it and get the best advantage out of it. That is a thing which ought to be seriously considered. He was anxious, Sir, this morning, that we should leave the new Government that is going to come into existence in a good position,—not to handicap it, but to leave it in the best position we can.

2-46 p.m. "Well, Sir, I put it to the hon. the Law Member, 'here is a thing which has been in their possession for over a century, out

14th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

of which they have not done very much; is it their policy to leave the matter to the new Government that is going to come into existence, with practically no hope of working it in any commercial way with any profit?' That is a question which he will have to put to himself before he lays down his office and if he is able to say that he has got a cut and dry policy which is going to get a decent sum of money as profit out of the great wealth of the province, certainly it will be a great credit to him. I hope he will be able to tell us what he has in his mind. With these few words, I beg to support the motion before the House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The motion before the House is:
'that the allotment of Rs. 75,300 for General Direction be reduced by Rs. 100'."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Mr. President, Sir, I shall confine my remarks to the policy of forest administration in so far as it relates to the needs of the ryots. The Government of India circular issued in 1894 lays down that the policy of the Government in regard to forest administration should be so directed as to serve agricultural interests. Responsible officers of the Madras Government also have declared that they do not regard the forests merely as a revenue-making department, but that they recognize that the main object of forests is to supply the needs of the people in the matter of fuel, pasture, manure-leaf, etc. In the latest report on the forest administration of the province, the Chief Conservator of Forests himself says that our forests must be protected and developed, so that the people may get the maximum benefit out of them. But, a little later on, he seems to forget the high principle which he lays down at the beginning. He says that a revision in the grazing incidence is urgently called for and for this purpose he suggested to the Government that the grazing fees should be enhanced and he was even for prohibiting grazing altogether. He had also proposed that the removal of manure leaf from forests should be restricted with a view to its final cessation after a period. Fortunately for the ryot, Government have not sanctioned these proposals.

"The Agricultural Commission have recommended that the forest officers when they are first appointed should be given a course of training at the Agricultural College, so that they may have some knowledge of agricultural practice and they may gain some amount of familiarity with the point of view of the cultivators. Such a training will help them to so adjust their administrative action as to meet the requirements and wishes of the cultivators. I do not know whether the Government have considered this recommendation of the Agricultural Commission, or whether they propose to give effect to it. Sir, the carrying out of this recommendation would really help forest officers to change their angle of vision and to have more sympathy for the needs and interests of the cultivators.

"South Kanara, Sir, is one of the districts where forest grievances are very keenly felt. In my district, the forests are not confined to

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[14th March 1931]

any particular place. They do not form a big block by themselves, but they run from almost one end of the district to the other and in many places they run close to the boundary of the cultivation areas. The result is that a lot of damage is caused to the crops and much havoc is done to the cattle by wild beasts and malaria is spreading and increasing every day on account of the nearness of these reserved forests to human habitations. The ryots living on the margin of the reserves are denied kumki privileges and grazing facilities and the poor cultivators cannot afford to pay the grazing fees which the department levies on them. The catalogue of our grievances is too long and I do not wish to go into them in detail, because the hon. the Law Member himself, during his recent visit to South Kanara has received representations on this matter. The ryots at Byndoor and Someshwar and the District Advancement Association in Mangalore have made representations to him. I believe that his heart has been touched by what he has himself seen and heard from the people in the district and I believe he will carry out the assurance he has given to them and see what he can do to remedy these grievances.

"Let me now take this opportunity to impress upon him once again the chief measures of relief that the people want in the matter of these forest grievances. First we want disafforestation in the vicinity of cultivation areas and human habitations. Disafforestation has been done in many other districts. I do not think that the forest boundary has been shifted from human habitation or cultivation areas anywhere in South Kanara. Jungle growth must be cleared at least to a distance of two furlongs, if not half-a-mile, from the cultivation area, so that the ravages of wild beasts and malaria may be kept down. Government themselves ought to organise hunting and they should also issue gun-licences more freely to people in order to encourage them to hunt in the reserves. Again, people want grazing fees to be done away with, as the poor cultivators cannot afford to pay these fees, having regard to the large number of cattle they have to keep for cultivation purposes. Further, Government should not raise new plantations in the vicinity of villages and close any areas for grazing as they are doing at present. Government allow certain privileges to people in the matter of removing manure leaf, fuel, etc., but they should see that the people are allowed to make use of these concessions without being unnecessarily harassed by forest subordinates.

"Then, again, Sir, jungle tribes like Kudubis in North Mangalore who were doing kumki cultivation are being denied this privilege now. According to the report of the Agricultural Commission, there is some controlled system in regard to temporary cultivation in Bengal and the Commission see no objection to such a system of shifting cultivation. Therefore, I suggest that certain portions of forest areas may be given in rotation for the purpose of temporary cultivation in the interests of these jungle tribes. Village forests should be handed over to panchayat management and all forest offences must be dealt with by them in the first instance. Government should find out why panchayats

[14th March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

have not been a success in South Kanara and why people are not willing to constitute and work them at present. I hope and trust that the hon. the Law Member will do what he can to remedy the grievances of the people so that the people may remember the visit paid by him to the district for a long time to come."

* Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

"சாகுபடிக்கு கிராமத்தாருக்கு தழை ஒரு மலிவாக கொடுக்கவேண்டிய விஷயம்.

"இப்போது காட்டில் விவசாய எருவுக்காக தழை பாசுக்கு ரூ. 2 வாங்குகிறார்கள். சில வருஷங்களுக்குமுன் வரையில் 5 அணு வீதம்தான் வாங்கிக் கொண்டு இருந்தார்கள். இவ்விதம் ஏன் சுமார் ஏழு மடங்கு உயர்ந்ததோ தெரியவில்லை. விவசாயி முன்னிலும் பணக்காரனாகிவிட்டான் என்பதினாலோ? மற்றும் காடுகளில் காட்டிலாகாதாருக்கு எவ்வழியிலும் வேண்டப்படாத தழையைத்தானே ஜனங்கள் கொண்டுப் போகிறார்கள். ஜனங்களை இந்த தழைகளை வெட்டிப் போவதால் தேவையான இடத்தில் அவசியமற்ற தழைகளை கழிக்க வேண்டிய கூலியும் சிரமும் இலாகாவுக்கு லாபமல்லவா? மற்றும் வண்டிக்கு ரூ. 2 பாசுக்கு கட்டி வண்டி சத்தமும் செலவழித்து எரு கொண்டுபோய் விவசாயம் செய்வதானால் குடியானவர்களுக்கு மிகுதி நிற்பது யாது? இந்த குடியானவர்கள் எத்தனைக்குத்தான் பணம் கொடுத்து தீர்ப்பார்கள் என்று தெரியவில்லை. ஆதலால் ஏழை விவசாயிகளின் கஷ்டத்தைத் தீர்க்கவேண்டும். கவர்ன்மென்டார் அனேக சிப்பந்திகளை வைத்து நீர்ப்பாசனம் முதலிய அபிவிருத்தி திட்டங்களுக்கு 100-க்கு 6 வீதம் வட்டி கட்டுமா என்று கணக்கும் போட்டே திட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்றுகிறார்கள். இப்படியிருக்க குடியானவனுக்கு அவன் செய்யும் விவசாயத்தில் 100-க்கு 3 வீதமும் கட்டவில்லையென்று சம்பந்தம் கொள்ளாது கூட்டுறவு ரிஜிஸ்டரினால் இவ்வருஷத்திய யாதாண்டு சொல்லுகிறது. பட்டை என்பது இன்னதென்றேயறியாத குடியானவன் நிலைமை எப்படியிருக்குமென்பதை கவர்ன்மென்டார் அறிய வேண்டும்.

"நிசர்வங்களில் புற்களுக்கு பிரி பாஸ் கொடுக்கும் விஷயம்.

"நிசர்வ கூப்புகளில் 5, 6 அடிக்கு மேல் பல் இடங்களில் புற்கள் வளர்ந்திருக்கின்றன. இம்மாதிரி வளர்விட்டிருப்பது இவ்விதத்தில் அபாயகரமானது. இந்த புற்கள் தீ பற்றிக் கொள்வதால் காடு அழிய நேரிடும். அதனால் சர்க்காருக்கு உண்டாகும் நஷ்டம் பெரிதாகும். சில குரும்புக்காரர்கள் இம்மாதிரியே தீ வைத்துவிடுவதும் உண்டு. மற்றும் இவற்றை நீக்க உபயோகமான ஒரு வழி உண்டு. அதாவது கிராமத்தார்களுக்கு பிரி பாஸ் கொடுத்து அவர்களைக் கொண்டு இவைகளை தீக்கச் செய்தால் காடுகளுக்கும் அபத்திலை. ஜனங்களுக்கும், இந்த புற்களை மாடுகளுக்கும் உபயோகித்துக் கொள்வார்கள்.

"ஜவ்வாதி தென்மலைகளில் கூலிகளுக்கு சரியாய் கூலி கொடுப்பதாது விஷயம்.

"இந்த ஜவ்வாதி தென்மலைகளில் அங்குள்ள மலையாளிகளை சந்தனமரம் முதலிய காட்டு பொருள்களை மலைகளிலிருந்து இறக்கி கொண்டுவர பாரண்டு டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் உபயோகிக்கிறார்கள். அது மாதிரியல்லாமல் கட்டாயமாக வேலை செய்யும்படியும் வற்புறுத்துகிறார்கள். அப்படிச் செய்ய மறுக்கிறவர்களுக்கு அருமாரே மேய்ச்சலுக்கு இம்சை உண்டு. ஆதலால் வேலை செய்ய மறுக்கிறவர்கள் மிகக்குறைவு. ஆனாலும் அவர்களுக்கு கொடுக்கிற கூலியும் வெகு குறைவு. தினத்துக்கு 5 அணு, 6 அணுவுக்கு அதிகமில்லை. இவர்கள் 5 மைலுக்கு மேல் 10 மைல் வரையில் தாங்கமுடியாத சந்தனக்கட்டைகளுடன் வருகிறார்கள். இது மிகவும் அனியாயம். இந்த மலையாளிகளின் சகாயமில்லாமல் மலைகளில் காட்டிலாகா வேலை நடைபெறுதென்பது நிச்சயம். மலை கழிந்து ஆட்களை

[Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi] [14th March 1931]

கொண்டுபோய் வேலை செய்வதனால் தினத்துக்கு நபருக்கு ரூ. 1 அல்லது ஒன்றரை கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அப்படி கொடுப்பதாயிருந்தாலும் மலைகள் சுரத்தாக்குகளாயிருப்பதால் ஆட்கள் கிடைப்பது கஷ்டம். அப்படியிருக்க இந்த ஏழை மலையாளிகளை என் ஸ்வல்ப கூலிக்கு வேலை வாங்குகிறார்கள் என்று தெரியவில்லை. இந்த மலையாளிகளின் நிலை ஒப்பந்த கூலிகளின் நிலையைவிட கேவலமாயிருக்கிறது. ஆதலால் அவர்கள் கூலியை கட்டுபடியாகும் ஒரு திட்டத்துக்கு உயர்த்தவேண்டிய அவசியத்தை சர்க்கார் கவனிக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் நான் ஓர் விவசாயி என்ற முறையில் பேசி இருக்கிறேன். ஆகையால் கவர்ன்மெண்டில் என் வார்த்தைக்கு அதிக மதிப்பும் கவனிப்பும் இருக்குமென்று நம்புகிறேன். ஏனென்றால் எனக்கு முன் பேசின கனம் மெம்பர்கள், படித்த லாயர்கள் அவர்கள் குடிகள் கஷ்டத்தைகேட்டு யெடுத்து சொல்லுகிறார்கள். நாளை என்னுடைய அனுபவத்தையும் கஷ்டத்தையும் சொல்லிக் கொண்டிருப்பதினாலேயாம்.

“இன்னும் மாகத்மா காந்தி லார்டு இர்வின் ஒப்பந்த ராஜிப்படி ஓராண்டில் நமக்கு சுயராஜ்யம் கொடுப்பது நிச்சயம் என்று எண்ணுகிறேன். அப்பொழுது இந்த குறைகளெல்லாம் அவசியம் நீங்குமென்றே நம்புகிறேன். அதற்குள் இந்த கவர்ன்மென்டார் யோசனை செய்து குடியானவர்களுக்கு நான் கேட்ட சென்கரியங்கள் கொடுத்தால் கனம் லா மெம்பருக்கும் நல்ல பெயர் இருக்குமென்று சொல்லி என்னுடைய பேச்சை முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். மேலும், நிலவரியானது எப்படி யிருக்கிறதென்றால் முன் காலத்தில் அரசர்கள் ஆறிலொரு கடமை வாங்கியிருக்க தற்காலம் 3-ல் 1 பாகம் ஆகிறதென்பதையும் கவனித்து ஷே ரேட்டுகளை குறைக்க கோருகிறேன்.”

3 p.m. * Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, in rising to speak on this motion I feel I will not be doing my duty if I do not voice forth the grievances of the people of my district. My friends, Mr. Shetty and Mr. Rangaswami Reddi have pointed out some of the difficulties of the ryots of their districts. Sir, there is a feeling of discontent existing in the minds of the ryots of Tinnevely district, and they have till now petitioned the Government, addressing the Collector of the district, the Board of Revenue and the Secretary to the Government but all to no purpose. The administration report of the forest department shows that the department has been experimenting upon the forests. I may say here the working of the forest department is not satisfactory at all so far as the ryot population is concerned.

“There are, Sir, two kinds of forests; one managed by Government themselves and the other by the forest panchayats. In some cases Government have thought it fit to utilize forests merely as fields for experiment. In the report, I find they have been forced in certain cases to open saw mills; and when they find that it is not profitable they close those mills and they take to erecting certain plants of machinery, and these are also in the experimental stage. Similarly Government have taken to the sale of bamboo and sandalwood, and in this way they have realized large sums of money out of this. Further they are raising sandalwood in several parts of the presidency. But so far as the ryots are concerned, their needs have not been attended to. In former days the ryots were allowed to graze their cattle as far as they wanted, and there was no restriction in the extent to which the cattle could go with impunity. But now the Forest Department have limited the area of grazing. I find in the report that the number of cattle

14th March 1931]

[Mr. M. Devadasan]

that have been allowed to graze is nearly 27 lakhs of animals and I need not say that this is only a small number when compared with the actual number of cattle possessed by the ryots in several parts of the presidency. One great grievance of the shepherds of my district is that they are not allowed to take their goats along with other cattle to graze in the forest; for the fear of Government is that these goats will destroy the shrubs and the grass in the forest. But I may say that the goats cannot destroy the forest so much as the other animals do. Sir, I find there is a large quantity of grass available in the forests and most of it, if not all, is withered by the hot sun or it is destroyed by fire, accidental or otherwise. I ask Government why they should allow such grass to run to waste? Why don't they allow the cattle to eat it instead of allowing it to wither away or be destroyed by fire? Sir, in the administration report of the Forest Department it is said that the permission granted to the ryots in allowing their cattle to graze is dangerous to the forest. I don't believe in that. Now, Sir, it is apparent from the said report that the intention of the Forest Department is to close the forest once for all against the cattle, and allow the cattle to be fed with grass removed from the forest in its vicinity. I request the Government not to countenance such a proposal. The ryots had been enjoying the right of grazing the cattle unfettered by any rules in past, and they had been allowed to take green leaf for manuring their lands. But restrictions are now imposed upon them. I understand, Sir, that Government are not improving the condition of the ryots in this matter.

“As regards green leaf manure my hon. Friends have already spoken. Whereas originally a head load of green leaf cost only six pies, to-day its price is 2½ annas. Whereas in ancient days in season and out of season, the people were allowed to remove green leaves from the forests, now they are not allowed to do that except at a particular place and in a particular season.

“As regards the forest panchayats, I wish to say one or two words. To begin with, I must say the administration of forest panchayat is not satisfactory to the people. The members of the panchayat enter into a contract with the Government, pay them a certain fixed amount, and any excess money they may collect from the ryots for allowing the cattle to graze goes to them as profit; and if there is a faction in the village these panchayats take the earliest opportunity to bring forward false and frivolous charges against members of the opposite party and harass them in all ways possible.

“Sir, what the ryots stand most in need of is not the institution of an agricultural college, nor the appointment of specialists in paddy and they do not even want their men to be appointed as rangers. What they want is sufficient facilities for the cultivation of their lands. What necessity is there for a specialist in paddy or what necessity is there for an agricultural demonstrator? The advertisement of artificial manures is unreasonable while there is the natural manure in the

[Mr. M. Devadasan]

[14th March 1931]

shape of green leaves. I can't understand why the Government, boasting of possessing forests, should deny their people the right to graze the cattle and the right to take away green leaves. In the neighbouring State of Travancore, I find, Sir, considerable facilities are afforded to the people. There the ryot is even allowed to take away wood to be converted into instruments of ploughing. He is allowed there great freedom in grazing his cattle and in taking away green leaves as much as he wants for cultivation purposes. But that liberty is denied to the people in our territory. Sir, the forest exists for the benefit of the people and a government exists for the good of the people: and that being so, I cannot understand a government closing the forest to its people. I think that this is why Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders thought it necessary to break the forest laws. I shall not dwell on this point at any great length. And I will close my remarks by saying that it is high time the Government do something to redress the grievances of the people in this matter, and I hope they will do so before it is too late."

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—"Mr. President, Sir, in rising to speak on this motion I have to submit that the grievances of the ryots have become so acute that it is high time that Government take note of them and redress them at an early date. Speaking from the experience of my own district and the Ceded districts, I may tell hon. Members of this House that the Ceded districts are included in what is called second circle, and there are a number of divisions in the second circle. Anantapur is placed in one of such divisions, and it is a place where there is very little of tree growth. From the administration report of the Forest department, which was sent to us only very recently, it is noticed, Sir, that the division which is poorest in tree growth contributes the largest revenue. We have, for instance, Sir, the Kurnool division, where there are the Nallamalai forests, mind you, they are timber forests, and the Forest department is not able to secure adequate returns from good forests. The administration of this department seems to be so capricious that the division which is poorest in tree growth gives the largest return and the division which is very rich in tree growth gives very poor returns. That shows, Sir, the Government have been employing special staff, and of course, they are spending heaps of money on the special staff but apparently the special staff is not given adequate work or that they do not exert themselves to the maximum extent so that the returns from the good forests may not be bad. Sir, this is the general view of the people in the province and this has been the burden of my song during the general discussion of the budget. From the same report of the administration of forests you will find, Sir, that in some of the taluks of Anantapur district there is a great demand for leaf manure."

8-15 p.m. "The cost of the leaf manure has been raised to Rs. 2 per cart-load. Anantapur district is not very fortunate in water-supply facilities, but there are some ancient tanks and a few acres of land under those tanks. And, for these lands, the ryots want to have manure from

14th March 1931]

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

the forests; they are asked to pay at the rate of Rs. 2 per cart-load. A dozen cart-loads of this manure may not be equal to one cart-load of the ordinary manure which is sold in villages. Why should such high rates be collected from the ryots? My hon. Friend from North Arcot was referring just now to the price of leaf manure a few years back as being 5 annas per cart-load. Why this enormous jump from 5 annas to Rs. 2? At this rate of the cost of manure, we may take it that a ryot will have to spend Rs. 16 or so if he wants to fertilize his land to the extent of one acre. That is certainly impoverishing the condition of the ryots and I will at once state, Sir, that this is not a system of administration which has got the interests of the poor villagers at heart. (Hear, hear.) I believe the hon. Member in charge of the Forests will show some regard to the man who pays for the maintenance of the administration."

"I come now to grazing fees. The same story is still there. Arbitrarily the rates have been increased and I do not think the interests of the people have been consulted in the matter of raising fees. The rates are very high and I hope the hon. Member in charge of Forests will see that the rates are reduced at least by 50 per cent though not to the old rate of 3 annas per unit. Some of us who have been returned to this Council feel ourselves placed in an extremely awkward position. We are unable to influence the Government in the matter of redeeming our pledges to the people and we are unable to persuade the Government to assume a reasonable frame of mind and to redress the grievances of the people. If these grievances are not redressed at an early date, Sir, probably, the Government will have to face a situation in which most of the people will be hostile to the Government and they may think of disobeying the Forest laws. When such a state arises, it will be difficult for anyone to cope with the situation. I want to impress upon the hon. the Law Member that the loss of revenue will not be much and it is nothing when he remembers that he will be endearing himself to the masses and he would be remembered with gratitude for this small concession shown to the people in the villages."

"Sir, the general impression amongst the villagers living in villages adjacent to the forests is that the Forest subordinates are making themselves not only masters of the forests but also of the villages. Sir, the corruption prevalent in the subordinate ranks of the Forest service ought to be taken in hand and set right. Life in villages which are subject to the overlordship of the subordinate Forest service is indeed an enslaved one; part of whatever a villager gets has to be given to the Forest subordinates and not only this, they have to be consulted in anything these poor folk want to do, even the ordinary routine of daily life. Such a state of things ought not to be allowed to continue any longer. My friend from North Arcot, Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddiyar, referred to the state of the villagers in the three hundred Malayali villages in the midst of hills and forest and I think he

[Mr. A. Kondappa] [14th March 1931]

referred to them as living a life of actual slavery under the forest subordinates. I appeal to the hon. the Law Member to see that those people living there are liberated and are enabled to exercise all the rights and privileges of free citizenship; and in the name of efficiency or preservation of forests, it would be most unfair and improper to keep so many people in bondage. With these words, Sir, I once more appeal to the hon. the Law Member to see that these grievances are redressed."

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, while speaking on the general discussion of the Budget, I had occasion to refer to the general policy of the administration of the Forest Department laid down as far back as the year 1890. Speaking at that time, I told the House that in the policy enunciated by the Government as early as 1890, the foremost consideration was the consideration of the agriculturist and that the question of commercial exploitation only came next. I wish, however, for the sake of convenience, first to deal with the policy of commercial exploitation about which I have only a few remarks to offer.

"Sir, I had also referred while speaking on the Budget to one or two experiments in forest exploitation that the Madras Government had attempted to try, namely, the Chenat Nair Forest exploitation and the Russellkonda Saw Mills and that they ended in a total failure because of the unbusinesslike methods that were adopted in connexion therewith. The Russellkonda Saw Mills had resulted in a loss of about a lakh of rupees to the Government and the other had resulted in a greater loss to the Government. I have to criticize the Government for their lack of supervision which is of the utmost importance in the case of commercial exploitation. I would, however, ask the House to remember that these experiments were worth carrying in consideration of the fact that we have learned great lessons from the failure of those two concerns—of course, I am sorry for the huge waste of public money involved in the transaction. I would like to put the commercial exploitation under two heads, the question of fuel supply and the question of timber supply. Regarding the question of fuel supply, the Government may very well take in hand the task of supplying fuel to towns and villages situated near forest areas. As regards timber, I know that very valuable timber is contained in our forests. Timber may be valuable for its own sake such as the sandalwood and there are other timbers the use of which has to be advertised. Sir, I have some experience in the value of advertising and in the value of exhibiting industrial products. I should say, Sir, that the Government have not sufficiently advertised the utility of the timber or exhibited the timber which they have been exploiting in any proper manner. I know that the Government have set on foot the Forest Utilization Department but I am afraid that that department has not been doing very good work. I would suggest to the Government to open permanent exhibitions in various parts of our Presidency and in the chief centres of other Presidencies also. The value of such centres being kept open

14th March 1931] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

all through the year is obvious and I would, therefore, not only on the score of the exploitation of timber but also on financial considerations, urge upon the Government the need for proper advertisement.

"Now, Sir, I shall turn to the other policy about which I have been much interested, namely, the forest administration as a source of help to the agriculturist. Sir, after fifty years after the policy had been laid down, I must say that instead of the agriculturists being helped, the little help that has been given to them of yore from the forests has been taken away. I would immediately invite the attention of the House to the report of the Forest Committee which was constituted as early as 1882. The Indian Forests Act was passed based on the findings of the report of the Forest Committee. For the first time, the question of the reservation of forests has been tackled by the Forest Act and we find that the number of the villages which have been enjoying benefits from the forests has been cut down on the score of the preservation of forests. Immediately after the Forest Committee had reported and the report was made known to the public, a Special Officer, Dr. Briand, was appointed for the purpose of reporting as to how the forest administration was being worked in other Presidencies and in European countries. He also emphasized that the chief consideration of the administration of the forests was the provision of fodder, fuel and leaf manure to the villagers. After the report of Dr. Briand upon the report of the Indian Forest Committee, there was a lot of criticism as to which system was to be followed by the Government and only in the year 1890 was the forest policy laid down. I would ask the House to mark the following words in the declaration of that policy:—

'It is, however, most necessary to correct the idea which prevails somewhat widely, that, as soon as a forest is reserved, cattle and men are to be excluded and it is to be worked for the profit of the Government rather than for the benefit of the people. It cannot be too strongly affirmed that the chief object of the reserved forests throughout the greater part of the country is the provision of pasture, small timber, fuel and leaves for manure or litter.'

"Now, Sir, I would ask whether the forest is now worked for the benefit of the people or for the benefit of the Government. We have had loud complaints in this House that the rates of grazing fees have been increased and also we have had complaints that the rates for manure have been increased fivefold or eightfold. Now, Sir, if we remember that the return on the investment of the ryot is only 3 per cent—I am taking this figure from the report of the Co-operative Society in our Presidency—we should deem these high rates as an indirect taxation in another form. If it is not an indirect taxation, I would ask why then were the rates of grazing fees and the cost of green leaves raised so high.

"Now, Sir, when the policy is laid down in these unequivocal terms as long ago as 1890 what is the condition that prevails to-day? I have known villages that do not procure leaf manure at all. In the course of my election campaign I had to tour round many villages and I had to hear many loud protestations about the policy followed

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

[14th March 1931]

by the Forest department over and over again. Areas which were formerly available for the purpose of grazing cattle were converted into reserves and cattle and men were prohibited from entering such areas except on payment of exorbitant fees. On the question of leaf manure Government must revise its present policy or the method in which the policy is followed. It must be so worked as to assist the agriculturists and not with the view to acquire revenue. I have also known cases where lands adjacent to villages have been converted into reserved forests. The little space that was available for the cattle to graze has been taken away. Even common lands are being taken away and assigned to various interests. I can understand if it is assigned to our less fortunate brethren. I object to such assignments which deprive the village of the little grazing area at their disposal. As regards the administration of small areas under the panchayats there is not a progressive policy followed. As a matter of fact, I am quoting from the figures available from the Government Administration Report for 1929-30, not only was there no increase in the areas under the management of these panchayats but there has been in fact a decrease. I do not think this is a happy sign. For my own part I would suggest that larger areas of forests must be made available for the tapping of leaf manure and grazing cattle and they should be placed under popular control. I would also appeal to the hon. the Law Member that in more scientific countries—I am referring to France—the importance of communal forests has been well realized and this could be well copied in this country. I would also point out to him, Sir, that even in England where the science of forestry has not advanced as much as in Germany and France, the department has recognized the imperative necessity of not only having communal forests but also having common heaths or grounds necessary for the purpose of allowing cattle to graze. I would, therefore, suggest, Sir, that these methods may be usefully followed in order to relieve the distress of the agriculturists, especially now in view of the fact that they are passing through a strain which they are not able to stand. I would request the hon. the Law Member to take the House into his confidence and come out with a bold policy whereby the forest policy can be said to be administered for the benefit of the agriculturist and not merely as a source of revenue or income to the Government."

* Mr. K. A. NACHYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Sir, I do not feel it necessary to reiterate what has been said by my previous speakers. In endorsing the requests and appeals made by them, I will confine myself to two points for which I have given my cut motion. The first thing is that in the district of Salem which I have the honour to represent, some places which are now kept as reserved forests should be declared as non-reserved areas to enable the ryots to graze their cattle free from any fee. I like to point out that some areas in that district are reserved unnecessarily. For instance, there exists a reserved forest Suryamalai reserve by name very near to my place. It is said to be a forest but when one pays a visit to that place he will find it cannot be called a

14th March 1931]

[Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar]

forest at all. It is a place covered with prickly-pears and small shrubs. The poor ryots who reside in and around that place feel it very difficult to graze their cattle for want of free pasture grounds. That reserve forest is under the control of the forest panchayat and the poor ryots are dragged to court if their cattle enter the reserved area accidentally, and very much difficulty is felt by the ryots in that area to get on without proper grazing facilities. It is needless for me to say how important the cattle is for a ryot. So, I request that in places where there is a shortage of grazing facilities the Government should take into consideration the need for throwing open their reserve areas so that the ryots may enjoy free grazing for their cattle which are their vital properties. The same also is the case in respect of Theerthamalai and other areas of the district. There also the ryots feel much and they have already made representations to Government. Two years ago they held a conference at Theerthamalai and sent up memorials to Government. I do not know if the Government have considered them and given a favourable decision. In Omalur taluk too the same difficulty is felt. Especially in my district which is a very dry area free grazing facilities must be given. With regard to the other point, namely, the assignment of land in forest area, I would request the Government to consider the matter favourably. In my district, especially in the taluks of Dharmapuri, Uttangarai, Hosur and Omalur, there are large areas of cultivable lands in the reserve forests. We have got fertile portions in the margin of the forests too. So, in such places where the villagers in general are not inconvenienced, then fertile portions can as well be assigned to ryots so that the people of the Salem district, especially the poor agriculturists and depressed classes who are in bad need of soil for cultivation, may have lands for cultivation. I appeal to the hon. the Law Member to consider these two points besides others favourably."

* Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—"Having said something on every subject I do not wish to keep silent over forests, because half of my district is dry. The wet area has paddy and the chief produce in the dry area is famine. That is the normal condition of affairs in the dry taluks. In these days of extraordinary depression the difficulties of ryots living in the dry taluks are something which cannot be imagined. Therefore, Sir, every relief that is possible and that lies within the power of Government ought to be given to the ryots. Now, Sir, one way of helping the ryots of these villages which are situated in our forest area is in the matter of grazing fees which are collected from the ryots. Forest falls under two departments, forests managed by the Forest department and forests managed by the panchayats. The grazing charge in the areas managed by the Forest department in my district are at the rate of one rupee per buffalo, half a rupee for a cow or bullock and three annas for sheep. Where there are panchayats the rates are one rupee per cow, buffalo one rupee and sheep four annas. Now, Sir, it would be clear from this that the rates levied in areas managed by panchayats are higher than those which are prevailing in the forests under the department. What I say is that at

[Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari] [14th March 1931]

least as a temporary measure let these grazing fees be done away with. Well, Sir, the ryots are experiencing difficulties on account of what is called the unit system which is prevailing in the forest department. The ryots feel that this system also requires modification according to local conditions. I would therefore request the hon. the Law Member to issue instructions to the district forest authorities to give some relief according to the local conditions. There is also the coupe system by which an area is divided into areas of 50, 150 and 200 acres."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"On a point of order, Sir, will not the hon. the Law Member be given an opportunity to reply?"

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED (Chairman):—"After the hon. Member has finished his speech, the hon. the Law Member will reply."

Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—"Now, this system, Sir, is not conducive to the ryot. As a special measure for some period something must be done in regard to this system also. Then there is the question of permission being given to the ryots to take wood free of cost for fuel, for agricultural implements and to enable the ryots to build their houses. Then the Government can render relief to the ryots by permitting them to take green manure and leaves for cattle. These things may be done as a matter of temporary relief, if it is not possible to do anything by way of permanent relief. Then there is the question of the removal of stones by ryots for the purpose of building houses and cattle-sheds.

3-45 P.M. "Now, having regard to the present economic difficulties of the ryots, I would appeal to the Government to do something in this direction also for the ryots. Sir, I would request the hon. the Law Member to stir up his imagination to do something which would put the people under a debt of gratitude, which would enable the people to remember him and his regime always with feelings of gratitude. The revenue of the Government cannot to any appreciable extent be affected if the Government make up their minds to do something for the ryots at least during the current year."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, during the time at my disposal, I shall try first of all to reply to what I may call the major criticisms with reference to the department, and then I shall go into details which have been referred to by some of my hon. Friends. I shall first refer to the criticisms of my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, because these two hon. Friends have referred to the major aspects of the policy of the department. My hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, found fault with the Government for having abandoned the mechanical exploitation policy which was adopted by the Government some years ago. My hon. Friend's charge against the Government is that it was very hastily abandoned. Though my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, did not refer to it specifically, he apparently thinks that that policy was not hastily abandoned but rightly abandoned. Now, the history with reference to this exploita-

[14th March 1931] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

tion policy is this and the reason why that policy was abandoned is this. At the outset let me say that my hon. Friend's charge that the Government hastily abandoned it is not correct. That policy was started about the year 1922 or so. Then, the Chief Forest Engineer, Mr. Martin, who is an eminent expert in his own line and who is acquainted with the system of working in the American forests which are primeval and which are far more abundant than the Indian forests, was brought down by this Government for the purpose of finding out whether the system that is being followed there by way of mechanical exploitation will suit this country. He naturally had a number of assistants here, and he worked chiefly in the Chenai Nair Forest. According to his system, the evergreen forests had to be worked and the timbers standing in those forests had to be fully utilized and the department tried to find a market for all the timbers growing in the evergreen forests, which were till then remaining unexploited. Unfortunately, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, has stated—I think he referred to it more or less explicitly—that experiment after it was tried for a period of five or six years failed, and ended in a loss to the Government. Naturally, the Government in consultation with their departmental officers came to the conclusion that that system which was suitable to the dense and primeval forests of America would not be suitable to forests in India. That system of mechanical exploitation under which huge forests were felled and the department tried to find market for those unknown timbers, failed. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"For want of demand"?) Yes. The Government, however, made attempts to market these unknown timbers, and they were successful to some extent, but the amount realized by the Government was not proportionate to the amount that the Government had to spend on it, and therefore, as has been referred to more than once by the hon. Members to-day, the Government thought that they would not be justified in continuing this experiment. But the experiment was not in vain. The Government have gained considerable experience (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: "At what cost?") At considerable cost indeed. So, my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, I submit, is not justified in saying that the Government abandoned the experiment hastily. In connexion with that, my hon. Friend referred to the existence of the Forest Mills, like the one at Pollachi, the one at Beypore and the one at Olavakkot. My hon. Friend referred particularly to the mill at Beypore and said that the Government in any case were not justified in closing it down. I would again submit, Sir, that my hon. Friend is not right and that the Government is right. As a matter of fact, as is referred to in the Administration Report of the Department, the chief timber that was being sawn in that mill was teak, and teak, it is well known, would fetch more price in the round log than as sawn material. Then, there is also this circumstance, that when I visited Calicut some time ago, the timber traders of Calicut waited upon me and made certain representations to me, and after listening to them I thought that their representation about the closing of the Beypore mill was justified.

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [14th March 1931]

“ With reference to the research work, my hon. Friend said that this is an important item of work and that the Government are not paying sufficient attention to it. I fully agree with him in thinking that it is a very important item of work. But I differ from him when he says that the Government do not pay sufficient attention to it. As a matter of fact, there are two Forest Officers, who are experts in their own line, and who are employed as research officers to this Government in the Forest department, and in addition to this the research work connected with this Presidency is also being conducted at Dehra Dun, where there are buildings and equipments costing, I believe, not lakhs but crores, for the purpose of carrying out research. So that, my hon. Friend is not correct when he says that the Government is not paying sufficient attention to research.

“ Then, my hon. Friend referred to the Forest College. Here, I find a sharp difference of opinion between my hon. Friends, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar. Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar thinks, and he is definite on this point, that the Government ought to close down the Forest College. And my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, on the other hand, thinks that the Government ought not to close the College. As a matter of fact, the Government had recently to consider this question with reference to the College. The position with regard to this College is this. There are only two Colleges in the whole of India, where pupils are trained as rangers for employment in the Forest department; one of these is the Forest College at Coimbatore and the other at Dehra Dun, where pupils are trained for rangers' places and also for higher appointments. So far as rangers are concerned, for the whole of India these two Colleges train between them pupils from the Northern India at Dehra Dun and those from southern provinces of India at Coimbatore. There is an arrangement come to in consultation between the Local Governments and the Government of India by which the provinces in the North of India such as the United Provinces, Bengal, the Punjab and so on, send their students for training as rangers to Dehra Dun, and the provinces in the south such as Bombay, the Central Provinces, Bihar and Orissa and the South Indian States, send their pupils for training as rangers to the Coimbatore College. As a matter of fact, it has been found that the Government are incurring a loss in the maintenance of this College. In any case, the fee income and the other income collected from the students for the purpose of living in the College are not adequate to meet the expenditure that the Government has to incur year after year. As was referred to, the number of students from Madras, that are being trained in this College at Coimbatore as rangers, is no doubt, very small. And the reason for it is that as a rule private students are not allowed admission into it as the Government cannot guarantee appointments to the private students who pass from it and the College is primarily intended for the needs of the department. That is the one reason why the number of Madras students in the College in recent

14th March 1931] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

years has been small. But, nevertheless, I agree entirely with my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, in thinking that it is quite necessary to maintain this College. For though the Government are incurring a loss in this case, it is like the loss in other departments of education. For instance, if you take any collegiate institution in the province, say the Engineering College, the Presidency College, or any other college, I believe it will be found that all these are maintained by the Government at a loss. But so long as it is necessary to maintain these professional and other colleges, it is also necessary, whatever the loss the Government may be put to, to maintain the Forest College also at Coimbatore to meet the needs of the Forest Department. So, as I said, the Government recently considered the question comprehensively, taking all aspects into consideration, and came to the conclusion that though the institution is being worked at a loss, it should be continued.

“ Then, I think, both my hon. Friends, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, referred to the policy that is being pursued with reference to the exploitation of timber. The policy that is being pursued is this. The method of select fellings, that is the felling of trees which are selected for the purpose from the jungles, is the method that is adopted and the other portions of the forest are allowed to remain as they are. I am speaking of deciduous forests. The evergreen forests are not generally treated like that. According to that policy, trees are selected in the forest for felling, and regeneration is followed on silvicultural lines. As was referred to by more than one hon. Member of the House, the policy of the Government is not to get revenue alone. The policy of the Government is to conserve these forests and it is necessary that they should be so conserved for the purpose of the preservation of moisture and water-supply. So, that is the policy followed by the Government, viz., the policy of felling combined with the policy of conservation and regeneration on silvicultural principles. It will be seen that the whole department is maintained not for the purpose of any benefit to the Government but for the benefit of the people at large. As a matter of fact, this policy of benefiting the people is the one that is followed in the supply of leaf manure, the fixing of grazing fees and so on. In the matter of grazing fees, the fees are fixed by the Government ultimately in the interests not of the Government but of the people.

“ I may tell my hon. Friends that the income derived by the Government from these grazing fees and the sale of manure leaves is after all very small. It does not add to the revenues of the Government to any great extent. In this connexion it will be interesting to note what Mr. Satyanarayana Choudari said. He said that the grazing fees levied by the forest panchayats in the forests under their management are very much higher than the fees levied by the Government. Recently, I believe it was in the district of Bellary, the Government had, at the request of the panchayats, to raise the grazing fees charged by them. So

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [14th March 1931]

that it will be seen that the intention of the Government in laying down rules for the levy of grazing fees is to benefit the ryots and not themselves.

"Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, referred to the forest grievances in his own district. As he said, I recently went to his district and visited places such as Baindur, Mangalore and Someswaram and listened to the grievances of the people there. I may assure him that the grievances of the people of South Kanara are now under the consideration of Government.

"My friends Messrs. Kondappa, Rangaswami Reddi, Devadas and V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar referred to the grievances which, according to them, exist in their respective districts. I have noted all of them and I shall consider them and redress them wherever possible. (Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari: What about my grievances, Sir?) (Laughter.) Certainly, the hon. Member will not be forgotten. I have noted his grievances also. (Renewed laughter.) As regards the assignment of lands to the depressed classes referred to by one hon. Member, I may say that it is a subject more for my hon. Friend, Sir Mahomed Usman, than for myself. In any case, I may say this: that, wherever possible, forests are being disafforested. In the district of Guntur we have disafforested some lands for assignment to depressed classes. In Anantapur also lands have been disafforested for assignment to depressed classes. I may say to my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiappa Goundar, that recently in Salem district about one thousand and odd acres have been disafforested and the Revenue Department will assign them to proper persons. I submit, Sir, I shall do what I can to redress the grievances brought to the notice of the Government."

The motion was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 19. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chetti. |
| 2. " M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 20. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. |
| 3. " M. Devadasan. | 21. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schammad Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4. " B. P. Sesha Reddi. | 22. Mr. P. C. Muthu Chetti. |
| 5. " A. Kondappa. | 23. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. |
| 6. " T. Narasa Reddi. | 24. Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar. |
| 7. " H. B. Ari Gowder. | 25. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 8. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. | 26. " G. Simhachalam. |
| 9. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. | 27. " Abdul Hameed Khan. |
| 10. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. | 28. " Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. |
| 11. The Zamindar of Chemudu. | 29. " Mahammud Meera Ravuttar. |
| 12. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami. | 30. " K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. |
| 13. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya Nayudu. | 31. " U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 14. Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti Navudu. | 32. " K. Koti Reddi. |
| 15. " Mahboob Ali Baig. | 33. " A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 16. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 34. Rao Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| 17. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 35. Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| 18. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 36. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |

14th March 1931]

Noes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 13. Mr. R. Foulkes. |
| 2. " Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 14. " T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. |
| 3. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 15. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4. " Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 16. Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 17. " G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 6. " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 18. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 7. " Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 19. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. |
| 8. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayarammal. | 20. Mr. P. C. Moses. |
| 9. Mr. H. R. Pate. | 21. " P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. |
| 10. " H. A. Watson. | 22. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 11. " R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 23. Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| 12. " S. V. Ramamurti. | 24. Rao Sahib S. Ellappa Chetti. |
| | 25. Mr. G. Sriramulu. |
| | 26. " H. M. Jagannatham. |
| | 27. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Before the result of the division was announced, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR, rising up, said: "Sir, I think there was some mistake in voting in block No. 2."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think it is now too late to raise that question."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir. M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"If you think so, all right."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, it is an unwarranted compliment to say that there has been any mistake." (Cries of 'Order, order.')

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member will please resume his seat."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I just say a word, Sir?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"No, Sir."

The result of the division was then announced, viz., 36 for the motion and 27 against.

The motion was carried.

Demand IV—Forest—Reserved—for Rs. 35,64,000 minus Rs. 100 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND V—REGISTRATION—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,19,100 under Demand V—Registration—Transferred.'

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 82,200 for Registration—Superintendence, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [14th March 1931]

"My object in moving this cut motion is to elicit information from the hon. the Minister in charge of this department as to whether and how far the Government have given effect to the communal Government Order in making appointments to the various sections in this department. Sir, I now understand that they have given effect to the Government Order in making appointments. But I wish to know whether they have given effect to it taking into consideration the claims of the Muslim community. Sir, from the figures that I have before me I find that they have not given effect to the Government Order strictly in the manner laid down in it. Sir, out of 33 Registrars in the department only three are Muslims and among the 30 or so upper grade sub-registrars, there is not one Muslim. Again in the lower grade, out of about 600 men, only about 25 or 27 are Muslims. The proportion laid down in the Government Order has as its basis the Muslim population in this Presidency. According to this Government Order two out of every 12 appointments should go to the members of the Muslim community. I wish to know whether the Government are strictly following that Government Order and maintaining this proportion. Sir, in the upper grade, the Government, instead of giving promotions to the sub-registrars of the Muslim community who are in the lower grade, have filled up the vacancies by appointing non-Muslims. Strictly speaking, those places should have been reserved for Muslim lower grade officers.

4-15 p.m. "It was only recently, some eight or nine years ago, that a graduate belonging to the Mussalman community was appointed in this department as a sub-registrar. He has been there for the eight or nine years in the lower grade. If the Government wanted to consider the question of giving encouragement to highly qualified members of that community, they should have promoted him according to the Government Order to the upper grade long ago. They have not done so. This is one matter that I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister in charge of this department.

"Then, Sir, may I ask whether it is not the intention of Government—I believe that the Cabinet has only recently come to that decision—that the communal Government Order should be given effect to so far as promotions are also concerned. If that is the decision to which the Government have come to recently, I have no doubt that they will not overlook the claims of this community in making appointments to the upper grade. They may say that there are now 40 vacancies in the upper grade and that they may promote four members of the Muslim community from the lower grade to the upper grade. On this point I wish to point out that persons belonging to other communities were promoted in those days, because of the fact that there were no qualified Muslims available in the upper grade sub-registrars. I wish to urge on the Government that, if they want to do justice to this community, to whom a wrong had been done in those days, they (the Government) should give them an opportunity of going to the Selection Grade immediately because there were none available then. It may be said that

14th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

we are here fighting for what are called loaves and fishes of office. It may be said that we should not fight here for the rights of this community or that community but must go on fighting for the cause of the whole nation. If the Government had not passed that Government Order and if they do not want to favour this community or that community I too have no quarrel with the Government. But when the Government passed that Government Order if they had in view the claims of the various communities, then I say, Sir, that all communities should be given their due share and the Muslim community is one of them. Therefore I move this cut motion and I trust that the question of promotion to appointments will be retained in the hands of the hon. Minister in charge of this department and will not be given over to the Commission and that the hon. Minister will certainly do his best to see that no community including the Muslim community is done any injustice with regard to promotions."

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Sir, before the year 1918 Muslims were the only people who were pressing their claims on the attention of the Government for a proper representation of their community in Government service. The Muslims then made no distinction between Brahmans and non-Brahmans or even between higher caste Hindus and the depressed class Hindus or the lower class Hindus. The Muslims had good reason then for pressing their claims on the attention of the Government, because their share in Government service was very very small; the argument often advanced by the Government was that there were not sufficient number of educated men among Muslims and even if the Government wanted to employ them in larger numbers than was the case, duly qualified people were not available to fill the posts which were due to them. But, Sir, the Muhammadans ever since the year 1901 have been making strenuous efforts to do away with their backwardness in education and in the last quarter century they have succeeded to a large extent in this respect. So, now the Muslims can claim that they have enough of educated people to fill up the posts that are due to them according to their proportion in the population. Sir, after the year 1918 when the non-Brahman movement came into being, all the attention was diverted from the Muslims to the non-Brahmans and all the attacks were made against Brahmans. It was said that there was a very large number of Brahmans in the Government service and they were monopolizing all the posts and that some of these posts should be taken away from them and given to the non-Brahmans. It was also thought then that every one who was not a Brahman was a non-Brahman and that therefore the Muslims and the Indian Christians were said to be included among non-Brahmans. On that assumption some of the Muslims, including the hon. the Home Member, joined the non-Brahman movement. I foresaw that this movement, instead of doing any good to the Muslims, would do it a positive harm and our experience in the last ten years has shown that this foreboding has come true. Here in my hand I hold statistics for the Registration Department. I place these statistics before you simply to prove that Government are not fairly distributing appointments in the various departments, to the various communities,

[Mr. Yakub Hasan]

[14th March 1931]

and what is applicable to the Registration Department is also equally applicable to the various other departments of Government. Statistics relating to other departments are being worked up and the Muslim Members of this House will place them before this House later on to show that great injustice has been done to the Muslim community in the matter of distribution of posts.

"Sir, let us first take the lowest grade in the service—probationary Sub-Registrars, who are now called reserve Sub-Registrars. They are appointed with a view to form a reserve from whom to fill up the Sub-Registrars' posts when there are vacancies in them. The number of probationary Sub-Registrars is kept at 77. I have in my hand figures worked out from 1921 to 1929, but I will not take up the time of the House by going into details. I will simply give you the total figures for these nine years. One hundred and ninety-nine probationary Sub-Registrars were appointed during these nine years and, according to the proportion that was fixed for Muslims, 37 Muslims ought to have been appointed as probationary Sub-Registrars, but the fact is that only 22 were selected during these nine years. On the other hand, 90 non-Brahmans should have been appointed as probationary Sub-Registrars, but as many as 142 were appointed. Thirty-three Brahman could have been appointed but only 31 were appointed because their number had to be reduced for obvious reason. Instead of 37 Christians, only 24 were appointed. Under the class 'Others' 21 might have been appointed, but only one person got a post.

"From these probationary Sub-Registrars, the Sub-Registrars are recruited. I gather from the annual list of officers for the last nine years, the last list being dated 1st January 1930 from which I take the figures for the year 1929, that 235 Sub-Registrars were appointed to the lower grade during the nine years. Forty-two Muhammadans ought to have been recruited in this period, but only 19 were appointed, less than half the number. If 96 non-Brahmans had been appointed during these nine years the intention of the Government Order would have been fully fulfilled, but as many as 142 non-Brahmans were appointed from among the non-Brahman probationary Sub-Registrars. Thirty-five appointments were due to the Brahman, but 50 were actually recruited. Instead of 43 Christians only 23 were appointed. As regards 'Others' instead of 20, only one was appointed.

"Before I come to the division of Sub-Registrars, I would point out that there were 77 probationary Sub-Registrars from whom they used to recruit people to Sub-Registrars' posts. Out of this 77, there were 13 Muslims in the year 1919, but in the year 1923 it was reduced to 12. In the year 1928 it came down to 10 but was raised in the year 1929 to 12. I ask why was it not raised to 13, the proportion fixed for Muhammadans in the Government Order, dated 3rd September 1928? In the year 1919 there were only 23 non-Brahman probationary Sub-Registrars. From this the number rose to 45 in 1923 and 46 in the year 1928. Although according to the proportion fixed for them in the Government Order, dated 3rd September 1928, only 32 non-Brahmans

14th March 1931]

[Mr. Yakub Hasan]

were required to be in that cadre, yet 43 were actually taken in the service in the year 1923. You will thus see that the non-Brahmans were getting more than their share at the cost of the Muslims, Christians and others. I have divided the Sub-Registrars into three groups—the lower, the upper and the selection grades. Of the three divisions that I have just referred to, among Sub-Registrars, I find that in the lower grade on Rs. 65—5—150 there were 491 in the year 1929.

"Out of that number, there ought to have been 82 Mussalmans, but there were actually 30, i.e., less than half. There were 199 non-Brahmans, very near the figure that was due to them, i.e., 204. Instead of 82 Brahman, there were 224. It will naturally take some time before the number of the Brahman is reduced to the due proportion. Instead of 82 Christians, there were 36; and 'Others' had only one instead of 41. 4-30 p.m.

"In the upper grade, the total was 92 and, according to the Government Order, there ought to have been 16 Mussalmans, but there was not a single Mussalman in this grade. Instead of 38, there were 16 non-Brahmans, and instead of 15, there were 51 Brahman. There was only one instead of 16 Christians, and none out of 8 'Others'.

"Coming to the selection grade of the Sub-Registrars, out of the total number of 30, 5 appointments were due to Mussalmans; but there were only 3 Mussalmans. Non-Brahmans had 18 posts instead of 13; Brahman were 3 instead of 5; Christians 2 instead of 5; 'Others' none instead of 2. The total of all these Sub-Registrars including 25 appointed against the vacancies in the upper and selection grades was 638. Out of that there ought to have been 108 Mussalmans but there were only 35—one-third. Non-Brahmans held 247 seats instead of 265. There were 282 Brahman, instead of 106; 44 Christians instead of 101; 'Others' 1 instead of 53.

"As regards the Registrars, whose number was 34 in 1929, there were 4 Mussalmans instead of 6. Non-Brahmans had the full quota of 14; Brahman 10 instead of 5; Christians 6 for 6; 'Others' none instead of 8.

"This was the state of affairs in the year 1929. In the year 1928 there were 10 Mussalman probationary sub-registrars out of whom 4 Mussalmans could have been easily appointed, but only one was appointed. So it cannot be said that no Mussalmans were available to fill these posts. There were 31 Mussalmans in sub-registrars' posts in 1928 out of whom 16 Mussalmans could have been raised to the upper grade to make up the Muslim ratio but not a single Mussalman was raised to the upper grade. This is enough to show that if the head of the department had been impartial and if he wanted to do justice to all communities and not only to non-Brahmans, Muslims and Christians would have risen by this time in the various grades and filled all the posts that were due to them according to the proportion fixed in the communal Government Order. I have shown, Sir, that in the case of non-Brahmans in the lower grades, more appointments were given to them than were due to them so that they

[Mr. Yakub Hasan]

[14th March 1931]

may rise to higher grades much sooner than would have been the case otherwise. Great injustice was done to Brahmans; they have a standing grievance in the matter. In promoting people from one grade to the other, many Brahmans who had put in more service and were much senior were kept aside and people with lesser service were promoted over their heads. This kind of hardship and injustice was done in the case of Brahmans, in order to promote the interests of non-Brahmans. Why was not that done either for Mussalmans or Christians? We do not want that the interests of the Muslim community should be served at the sacrifice of the other people's interests. If partiality was shown and if the claims of Brahmans in the matter of promotion were sacrificed why was that done to benefit non-Brahmans only; why not for Mussalmans or Christians?

"Coming to the highest appointment in the department, that of Inspector-General of Registration, no Muhammadan has yet filled that post. Lately there was a vacancy and one gentleman who was second Presidency Magistrate in the city of Madras was appointed. There were also Mussalmans qualified to fill that post. I understand that there were two Muslim applicants for that post and yet no Muhammadan was selected for this office. If it was a question of seniority, then there were Muslims who had put in longer service than the gentleman who was appointed. If it was a question of qualifications and holding of a Magistrate's post was a qualification, there was a Muhammadan available who had not only held the post of second Presidency Magistrate for a longer time but also had acted as Chief Presidency Magistrate. If it was a question of administrative qualification, there was a Muhammadan who had been highly complimented on his good administration on his recent retirement from the office. If fitness and qualifications alone were the criteria for making the appointment, there were Mussalmans possessing those qualifications and yet their claims were set aside.

"This is the case of the Registration Department which happens to be in charge of a Minister. My object in placing these facts and figures is not by way of a request for a little adjustment here and there, for 2 or 3 posts here, for 2 or 3 posts there. For example, four Mussalman sub-registrars should have been appointed in 1929 instead of one. The appointment of 3 more would not have made much difference to the Muslim community. It is not a question of giving a few posts here, a few posts there. What we claim, Sir, is that in the administration of this country, Mussalmans should have their proper share. In this matter of communal representation in the services, Sir, there have been grave inequalities. If Government Orders have to be passed in order to help the majority community at the expense of the minority communities, then, Sir, it is high time that such a policy should be condemned. I have shown, Sir, that all the extra posts that were given to non-Brahmans were given at the cost of minority communities. This policy must be changed and it is for that reason that I commend this motion to the acceptance of this House."

[14th March 1931]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I would like to point out at this stage that several other hon. Members have given notice of cut motions in order to discuss the communal principle. To facilitate discussion I suggest that all such motions might be discussed under this cut motion. I hope that meets with the approval of the House."

* B. POKKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not want to take up much of the time of the House, since the point to which I wanted to draw the attention of the Government has been very ably dealt with by Mr. Yakub Hasan Sait and by Mr. Hameed Khan. If there was any justification for the Justice Party to come into existence, the ground they professed was that they would bring about equality between all communities. Though non-Brahmans formed a very large majority of the population of this Presidency, they were not having their due share in the administration of the country on account of the fact that some other community, viz., the Brahman community, was predominating. That was the ground on which the non-Brahman movement came into existence; that was the principle on which the non-Brahman party was functioning. Even at that time, many gentlemen who were responsible for the formation of that party had to leave that party because they prophesied that, in course of time, this Non-Brahman Party which wanted to do communal justice to all communities, would themselves commit the same sin which they were accusing the Brahmans of. At the time when the party was formed, it was called the non-Brahman Party and not non-Muslim party or non-Christian party, because Brahman community was the predominating community then in the services. That was the idea with which the party and the movement were started. They were professing that they would follow the principle of communal justice. But what we find is, they very soon degenerated as regards the principle which they professed to follow; and they have now given the go-bye to that principle. When hon. Members like Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar have begun to support the Justice Party, I have to take up the matter. I do not think that even the Justice Party will say, in fairness and common honesty, that they are continuing to follow the principle for which they came into existence.

"So far as Mussalmans are concerned, some Mussalman, no doubt, joined that party and he sticks to that party either because the party is using him for their own purposes or because the particular Mussalman individual is using the party for his own individual purpose. I can very well say, Sir, on behalf of the Muslim community, that the Muslim community cannot admit that the Justice Party has been making any attempt—any honest attempt—to do justice to the Muslim community.

"They have been in power practically from the year 1920, i.e., for about ten years now. I would challenge the hon. the Ministers, who are now representing the Justice party and who are the champions of the justice party, to show, by facts and figures, what justice they have done to the Muslim community all these ten years. No doubt for three

4-45
p.m.

[B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur] [14th March 1931]

or four years during this decade, some other party was nominally in power; but it was really the Justice party that was ruling for the major portion of the period of even that party's administration. Otherwise, that party certainly could not have gone on with the administration at all, and so it does not require any argument on my part to substantiate what I have stated, namely, that it was the Justice party that has been practically ruling the country during the whole decade. It has been suggested in certain quarters that that party has worked diarchy successfully; but whether diarchy was successfully worked or not is not a matter to be discussed now. It may be very well said that the Justice party has been responsible for the deterioration of the administration of the province to a very large extent, at least—in so far as this communal question is concerned. The only question on which they concentrated their attention was that they wanted to benefit—not even the whole non-Brahman community, but—a few sections or a clique of them. Members of the non-Brahman party, as distinguished from the Justice party, will testify to what I say. If the party had stuck to the principle on which they came into existence, I dare say there would have been a united non-Brahman party, and there would not have been any difference between the Justice party and the non-Brahman party, between the left wing and the right wing and between so many other wings of that party."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"To which wing do you belong?"

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not belong to either the non-Brahman party or the Justice party. To begin with, I said that the Muslims as a community certainly do not belong to any party except their own party. Of course I know that the Chief Minister recognizes the weakness of the Muslim community and that is the reason why he asks me 'to what community do you belong'. I am sure he won't recognize either the party to which I belong or even the Muslim community to which I belong; that has been his attitude all along, and I am not at all surprised at the interruptions he is making.

"So far as the Muslims as a community are concerned, they have suffered very heavily on account of the coming into existence of the Justice party. Now and then no doubt, that party caught hold of some Muslim and asked him to use his influence with the others, just with a view to make it appear to the world that they were supporting the Muslim community as a whole. Take the position of the Mussalmans before the Justice party came into being and take their position now; and even taking into consideration all the changing circumstances during the past decade, I may say that the position of the Muslims has gone down from bad to worse purely through the coming into existence of this Justice party.

"Coming now to the particular question of the Registration department, facts and figures have been laid before the House by the two previous speakers, and I do not think it is necessary for me to repeat them. Before the last decade, the Mussalmans were being condemned on the ground that they were backward in education and the Government were

14th March 1931] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

telling them 'what are we to do, no qualified Mussalmans are coming forward, and so we are not in a position to give proper representation to the Mussalmans.' That was the state of affairs before the Justice party came into existence. After the Justice party came into existence and after they held sway over the country for a decade, the result is that there are a large number of qualified Mussalmans—I can myself produce some dozens of them—who are without any jobs, without being able to get even clerk's posts. Even for such posts they have been running after the hon. the Home Member, who has been using the Justice party for his own purpose and whom the Justice party has been using to serve their own ends, or after the hon. the Minister, without getting anything. I dare say their position is really pitiable, and many leading Mussalmans have begun to doubt whether they were wise at all in having encouraged the Muslims to educate their children with the idea of entering into Government service. It might be that a few individual Mussalmans got some small things; but so far as the Muslims as a community are concerned, they have been unequal to the task of extracting any appointments from the party in power. If you only take the number of Mussalmans who were fit to occupy posts before the year 1920 and if you take the number qualified now, you will find a vast difference. To-day there are dozens and dozens of qualified Mussalman youths fit to occupy many posts; but may I ask the Justice party which has been professing that its one aim was to show communal justice to all communities alike, to divide the offices equally among the several communities in proper proportions, and may I ask them whether they can meet the arguments advanced by the previous speakers with reference to the actual figures, at any rate so far as the Registration department is concerned? I agree with what has been said by Mr. Yakub Hasan that this department can be taken as an example and that in the other departments also, the same condition prevails.

"While I am on this question of sub-registrars, Sir, I may be allowed to say one word with reference to the case of the Mappillas. So far as they are concerned, a little while ago the hon. the Second Minister was joking with me saying 'well, if you press your cut to a division, I won't give anything to the Mappillas.' The only reply that I could give him in the same spirit is: 'If you don't give anything more to the Mappilla, perhaps you may be led to the disaster of having another rebellion.' It has been admitted, Sir, and Government themselves have admitted, that some misguided Mappillas were led to that unfortunate rebellion through their ignorance. But what have the Government done to remove the ignorance and to encourage education among them? Practically nothing. Everybody was telling the Mappillas that unless they educated their children, there is no chance, either in the Reserved or in the Transferred Half. The present position is that having taken to education, they are unable to follow the professions which their parents were pursuing and being unable to get any appointments in Government service, they are more or less becoming a drag on society. That is their present position. So far as the Mappillas are concerned, I may very well say that the Government have not been showing any encouragement

[B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur] [14th March 1931]

to them up till now, and I can give many instances which will show that neither the Transferred Half nor the Reserved Half has been encouraging them. I know many cases where qualified Mappillas applied for jobs but were not appointed either by the Justice party or by the Reserved Half. I find there are only some five Mappillas in the whole department, employed as sub-registrars. There is one in the higher grade—I think he is in the selection grade—and there are three or four in the lower grade. The hon. the Second Minister will please realize that the Mappillas form about one-third of the Muslim community in the Presidency, and that their claims have all along been entirely ignored by the Government. At present I know one Mappilla has been given a promise of appointment, but still he has not been appointed. So far as the other departments are concerned, I shall refer to the position of the Mappillas in those departments when we come to deal with those departments.

“Lastly, with reference to the appointment to the office of Inspector-General of Registration which has happened recently, I may say that in the whole history of administration of that department in this province, there has not been a single Muhammadan who occupied that post. In reply to a question that was put by me in that connexion, the answer was given that there were no applicants. I am very sorry to say that that answer was just like the Justice party; because I understand that there have been applications, and that the Justice party in their anxiety to help their own people, have entirely overlooked the existence of these applications. It has already been pointed out that no Mussalman was appointed, not because there were no qualified Mussalmans for the post, not because the Mussalmans who applied were not better qualified than the gentleman who has been appointed, but because the Justice party for their own reasons wanted to appoint their own man. It was a wrong done to the Muslim community. As a matter of fact, even before the Justice party came into existence, the Mussalmans were getting much better treatment at the hands of the foreigners in respect of this matter, than they are getting at present. I once again state that the Muslim community, as such, has no confidence in the policy which the Justice party is pursuing in regard to the Mussalmans, whatever views may be held by individual Muslim Members, to suit their own purposes.”

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar rose in his seat.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Is it likely the hon. Member will take a long time?”

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“Only a few minutes, Mr. President.

“I have also given notice, Sir, of a cut motion with a view to bring to the notice of the Government the very inadequate representation of my community in the service. Thereby, Sir, I should not be understood to be communal. I do not want to ask for the pound of flesh based on population. What I wish to state is that in the distribution of these

[14th March 1931] [Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar]

offices, there should be some fair and rational method. The chief plank of the Justice party is communal justice, and I do not think the hon. the Chief Minister will dare deny it. But the hon. the Minister may say that there is a certain difficulty in recognizing each and every community and even sub-communities. No doubt, Sir, I quite understand the difficulty. For the purpose of distribution of offices, the Government have recognized on broad lines, certain communities such as Brahmans, Mussalmans, non-Brahman Hindus, Christians and others. My community comes under the class ‘non-Brahman Hindus,’ and that is exactly where my grievance comes in. I do not ask, Sir, that my community should be separated from the non-Brahman Hindus, because if we go on at that rate, every community will want a separate division and it will not conduce to nation-building. What I want to impress is that even taking the non-Brahman Hindu class as a whole, you should see as far as possible that a fair representation is given to all communities which come under that class. I do not ask for strict representation in the case of communities having a very small population. My community has a population of about 35 lakhs, which is about double the population of the whole Brahman community in the Presidency and nearly equal to that of the Mussalman community in the Presidency.

“Sir, in such a case, will I not be justified in asking, though not 5 p.m. for a representation based exactly on population, at least for a fair sprinkling of posts in the Registration department? Further, this is a service where no extraordinary intelligence is required as it largely entails a mere mechanical work. Now, they have even adopted the system of photography and so my hon. Friend cannot even bring forward the theory of efficiency. But, if he has got a mind to give a fair distribution to all communities, he can do so. I need not go into the question of statistics, because my case is simple and clear. In the whole service, there are not more than two or three sub-registrars, not to mention about district registrars. Therefore, Sir, I think I will be justified in asking the hon. Minister to have it as a working principle when he makes appointments to these posts and also to issue a sort of general instruction to the Inspector-General of Registration to see that whenever applications are received by him from members of my community, if the test of efficiency or other tests are not seriously jeopardized, to give them at least a fair chance. If I had gone to the hon. Minister's room and asked for it, I could probably have met with greater success. It is because I wanted to pin him to a statement in the House, so that if he does not do it I can take him to task later on, that I sent in my cut-motion.”

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday, the 16th March 1931.

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

[14th March 1931]

APPENDIX

[Vide answer to question No. 605 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 14th March 1931, page 76 supra.]

MAXIMUM CHARGES.

Proposed by the Hydro-Electric Power Distributing Company for Salem and Ellore Electric Licence.

The licensees shall be entitled to charge the consumers at the following rates:—

(a) For all lighting purposes, except for public lamps for roads and streets by local authorities, at five annas per unit.

(b) For all lighting, fan and heating and domestic apparatus and for power consumed within the hours of 5 p.m. and 1 a.m., at four annas per unit, provided that the fans, heating and domestic apparatus form at least 40 per cent of the connected load.

(c) For energy required by bazaar shops at the option of the consumer at the rate of annas eight per mensem per 10 watt lamp burning only between the hours of 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. subject to a monthly minimum of Rupees one and annas eight per lamp. The supply for this purpose may be given at the option and convenience of the licensees from the lines specially serving the street lamps.

(d) (1) For all energy required by the local authorities for lighting all streets and public roads at the rate of annas two per unit, provided the lights are kept burning for not less than 300 hours per month.

(2) For all energy required by the local authorities for lighting, fans, etc., for their purposes and for lighting of streets and public roads for a period of less than 300 hours per month at annas three per unit.

(3) For all energy required by local authorities for their drainage or water works between the hours of 5 p.m. and 1 a.m. at annas three per unit and between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 p.m. at one anna per unit; plus a fixed charge of rupees two per every Electrical Horse-power of connected load.

The charges (a), (b) and (d) (2) above shall be subject to a monthly minimum of annas twelve per every 100 watts or part of 100 watts of the connected load, with a minimum of Rs. 3.

(e) For energy required for industrial purposes, subject to a monthly minimum of rupees eight per kilovoltampere of connected load between the hours of 6 a.m. and 5 p.m.:—

at annas two per unit for the first 30 units per KVA of connected load;

at one anna nine pies for the next 30 units per KVA of connected load;

at one anna six pies for the next 30 units per KVA of connected load; and

at one anna three pies for all excess units consumed per month.

[14th March 1931]

and between the hours of 1 a.m., and 6 a.m.—

at three annas per unit for the next 30 units per KVA of connected load;

at two annas six pies per unit for the next 30 units per KVA of connected load; and

at two annas per unit for all units in excess of 60 units per KVA of connected load;

plus a fixed charge of rupees five per mensem per KVA of connected load up to 5 KVA and of rupees three per mensem for every KVA of connected load in excess of 5 KVA.

(f) For all energy required for power for agricultural purposes, 80 per cent of the rates mentioned in clause (e) above will be charged.

(g) For all energy required for domestic purposes like heating, cooking, small domestic water-motors, refrigerating, etc., between the hours of 12 midnight and 6 p.m. at one anna per unit, plus a fixed monthly charge of annas four per every 100 watts or part of 100 watts of connected load, subject to a monthly minimum of rupees five.

The above rates will, however, come into operation only from the beginning of the third year from the commencement of supply. During the first year period from the commencement of supply, the above rates will be increased by 25 per cent and during the second year period by 15 per cent.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Monday, the 16th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, <i>Et.</i> , The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Krishnan Nayar, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Moses, Mr. P. C.
Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.M.S., V.D., I.O.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.O.S., The hon. Mr. H. G. Bahadur B.	Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	Marugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. O.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. PL N. V.
Alamelumangathayarammal, Mrs. K.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Palat, Mr. B. M.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.	Pate, I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Bhauji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Birley, Mr. Frank.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Raja of Bobbili.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Raja of Kalhikota.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.	Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Foulkes, Mr. E.	Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Hilton Brown, I.C.S., Mr.	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Indralah, Mr. C.	Ramamurti, I.O.S., Mr. S. V.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. R.
Jaganatham, Mr. H. M.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Khalif-ul-Jah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Kondappa, Mr. A.	Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Sabajanandam, Swami A. S.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.	Sami Venkateshalem Chetti, Mr.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.	Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. O.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. E.	Seetha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Maharaja of Venkatagiri.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Mahboob Ali Saig Sahib Bahadur.	Simhaiahalam, Mr. G.
Mahmud Shamsud Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
	Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
	Sreetha, Mr. M. S.
	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur B.

[16th March 1981]

PRESENT—cont.

Sriramulu, Mr. G.
 Subbarayan, Dr. P.
 Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
 Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
 Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
 Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib Syed.
 Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
 Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
 Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.

Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib B.
 Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
 Waddington, Mr. H.
 Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
 Wright, Mr. W. O.
 Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
 Zamindar of Chemudu.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Registration Department

Vacancies in the upper and selection grades of sub-registrars.

* 614 Q.—BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many vacancies there are at present in the upper and selection grades of sub-registrars;

(b) since what year the above vacancies have occurred;

(c) when the Government propose to fill these vacancies and what is the reason for this delay; and

(d) whether the promotions are to be made according to communal Government Order; and, if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have called for the information.

(c) & (d) The question of the principle to be followed in making promotions to the upper and selection grades of sub-registrars is under the consideration of Government. Orders for the filling up of the vacancies in the two grades will be issued at an early date.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“With reference to clauses (c) and (d) the answer given is that the question of principle to be followed in making promotions to the upper and selection grades is under the consideration of Government. May I know whether no principle was laid down by Government previous to this about the question of promotions to be made according to communal rotation?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“All these promotions are guided by the communal Government Order.”

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“Why then is it stated in the answer that the question is under the consideration of Government?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“The question of appointment to these posts is under consideration.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“What is the principle that is under consideration, Sir?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“The principle of applying communal rotation.”

16th March 1981]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I know from the hon. Minister whether there is any further principle involved in this?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Communal Government Order has been accepted and to what extent it should be applied, is under consideration.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Government have not yet arrived at any decision?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Orders will be passed in the near future.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“I wish to know whether Government have arrived at any decision so far?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“As I said, orders will be passed soon.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, if the principle of communal rotation applies only to ordinary promotions to the upper grades or only to selection grades? I thought it was purely a matter of applying it in the case of promotions to selection grades?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“The principle has been accepted, but to what extent it should be applied is under consideration.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“It is really mysterious, because the hon. Minister has not given us a clear answer?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“I am afraid, I cannot add anything more to what I have already stated.”

Representation of Muslims in the upper and selection grades of sub-registrars.

* 615 Q.—BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many Muslims there are in the upper grade and in the selection grade of sub-registrars, and what is their proportion to the total strength of the cadre; and

(b) what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to ensure adequate representation of Muslims in that department?

A.—(a) According to the Registration list corrected up to 1st January 1981 there are two sub-registrars in the selection grade and none in the upper grade. This represents about 1.3 per cent of the total strength.

(b) In filling vacancies in the two grades the rule of communal rotation is followed.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“With reference to clause (b) the answer given is that the rule of communal rotation is followed. The answer to question No. 614 says that the question of the principle is under the consideration of Government. Here they say, it is being followed. We do not understand what is meant by these two replies?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Communal principle is being followed. That is what is said, but to what extent it should be applied, orders will be passed soon.”

[16th March 1931]

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—" May I know whether the principle of communal rotation applied in the matter of promotion to the upper and selection grades, applies even to the officers who have been already in the department prior to the issue of this Government Order ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" It applies to all."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Has the hon. Minister noted the fact that the representation of Muslims in the department is only 1.3 per cent of the total strength ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I mean Muslims in that particular grade."

Registered partition deeds by Aliyasantana and Marumakkattayam people in South Kanara in 1930.

* 616 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the number of registered partition deeds executed by Aliyasantana and Marumakkattayam people in South Kanara in 1930 (figures to be given separately) ?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

Registered partition deeds by Marumakkattayam people in Malabar in 1930.

* 617 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the number of registered partition deeds executed by Marumakkattayam people in Malabar in 1930 ?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

Municipalities

Alleged mismanagement of the Madura municipality.

* 618 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how long Mr. Tulasiram has been holding the office of Chairman in the Madura municipality ;

(b) whether the Government have received any complaints about the mismanagement of the municipality ;

(c) whether it is a fact that recently a motion of no-confidence was brought in the Council against him and whether it was disallowed by him ; and

(d) if the Government have no information, whether they will be pleased to call for the same and place it on the table of the House ?

A.—(a) Mr. Tulasiram was elected as Chairman on the 15th December 1930.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

[16th March 1931]

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—" May I know whether chairmen of municipal councils are entitled to disallow motions of no-confidence ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" In this particular case, the no-confidence motion was disallowed by the chairman. It was a special meeting and the chairman held on an interpretation of the law, as he understood it, that at a special meeting, no such motion could be moved."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—" May I know whether a motion of no-confidence can be moved against a chairman elected in the interim period ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Notice, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know for how long has this mismanagement been continuing, whether for the last two or three years or only after Mr. Tulasiram took charge of the administration of the municipality ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is not a question of continued mismanagement. Information has been received from the Collector that there was mismanagement ; the Chairman was removed and a new Chairman has been elected."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—" May I know what is the answer to clause (d) of my question, Sir ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I have answered clauses (a), (b) and (c) and so clause (d) does not arise."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the complaint about mismanagement refers to the previous chairman or to the present chairman ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The question of mismanagement was in regard to the period before December 1930. Even then, it was not really so much mismanagement as deadlock in the Council between two different sections."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" The answer to clause (b) says 'Yes'. Does it mean that the mismanagement has come into existence only after Mr. Tulasiram took up administration or has it been continuous ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The motion for no-confidence has no connexion whatever with mismanagement."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" In answer to clause (b) which asks Government whether any complaints have been received about the mismanagement of the municipality, they say 'Yes'. May I know, Sir, whether their 'Yes' refers to the mismanagement that existed after Mr. Tulasiram became chairman or whether it refers to the mismanagement that has been continuing even before ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Both before and after."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—" May I know what the complaints are about ? "

[16th March 1931]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That there are factions in the municipal council, that they won't sit together to do business and that they adjourn without doing anything."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"With reference to clause (c), may I know who took up the question of no-confidence against the chairman?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Council itself has taken up the matter."

Forest Panchayats

Proposed separation of Bilekal and Joga reserves of Hospet taluk.

* 619 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of panchayat areas into which Bilekal and Joga reserves of Hospet taluk are split up and the villages intended to be served by each of them;

(b) whether Bilekal reserve has a reasonable supply of water for the use of cattle while the same cannot be said of the Joga reserve;

(c) whether on the other hand Joga reserve has by far better grazing facilities than Bilekal reserve;

(d) whether at any time any suggestion was considered by the Government by which it was intended that there should be separate panchayats for areas in Joga and Bilekal reserves respectively and that the same panchayat should have no jurisdiction in areas part of which was in Joga reserve and part in Bilekal reserve and if so, when;

(e) whether the then local officers—Sub-Collectors and Collectors—were against such an arrangement, whether their view was approved by the then Board Member in charge of Forest Panchayats and whether the proposal was dropped; and

(f) whether the said proposal has again been revived and, if so, in what form and the stage at which it is at present?

A.—(a) The panchayat areas into which the Billekallu and Joga reserves, Bellary district, are divided are as follows:—

Joga A and B	...	...	...	...	...	2
" C	...	...	...	...	...	2
" North-west	...	...	...	...	...	4
Billekallu	...	...	...	...	...	6
" West	...	...	...	...	...	3

The Government have no information as to the names of the villages intended to be served by each of these areas.

(b) & (c) The Government have not the information.

(d) No such suggestion has been considered by the Government.

(e) & (f) The Government have not the information.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"In the answer it is stated that the Government do not know the names of the villages served by the panchayat areas. May I know whether it is open to panchayats to give permits for grazing to anybody in any village or whether permits are restricted only to particular villages within the neighbourhood?"

[16th March 1931]

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"As a rule panchayats grant permits for the grazing of cattle belonging to residents of villages the panchayat forest is intended to serve but they may also grant permits for the grazing of cattle which do not belong to villages in their jurisdiction; in such cases, I believe, they sometimes charge a higher rate of grazing fee."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"The answer to clause (d) says that no such suggestion has been considered by the Government. May I know whether it was considered and dropped by the hon. Colleague to the left of the hon. the Revenue Member (Law Member)?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I have no information."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the information, because as I have stated in my question the proposal for separate panchayats is about to be revived or has been revived and I request the hon. Member to call for the previous reports of the local officers and obtain information on the point, which I say, is at the disposal of the Government?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I think it would have been better if they applied to the Member of the Board of Revenue in charge of forest panchayats."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I explain the position, Sir. At present the forest panchayat has jurisdiction over the areas in the two reserves both Bilekal and Joga reserves of the Hospet taluk, but the idea now is to separate these and have one panchayat for each of the Bilekal and Joga reserves respectively, so that if anybody wants a reasonable permit for grazing, he shall have to get two permits instead of one as at present only thus will the requirements both as regards the supply of water and grazing will be satisfied."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"If such representations were made to the Board of Revenue, I am sure they will consider the whole question."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I think representations from the officers concerned are already there and I thought that Government might get the information?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I shall ask for information on the point."

Electricity

Grant of licence to Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. for electric supply to Salem and Erode.

* 620 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Messrs. Octavius Steel & Co. put in separate applications for the grant of licences for the supply of electricity to Salem and Erode municipalities, or whether they put in only one application for both; and

(b) if a single licence is issued for supply to both the towns, under what reasons it was issued so?

A.—(a) The Company put in two separate applications.

(b) As the terms of the licence in both the cases are the same, a combined licence was issued.

[16th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the licence applies only to the municipal areas of Salem and Erode or to areas outside the municipalities also ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" If my hon. Friend wants accurate information, I want notice."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the company has applied for licence to supply electricity outside the municipal limit also ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Notice, Sir."

Jails

Alleged beating of Mr. Narayana Menon in the Penitentiary.

* 621 Q.—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon was beaten badly by a convict in the Penitentiary ; and
(b) if so, why he was so beaten ?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to questions Nos. 595 and 596.

Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI :—" The answer refers to questions 595 and 596, but they are not attached here ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" In answer to this question, two other questions are referred to and in reply to those questions, the hon. the Law Member had stated that he had called for the information. He also added that the information had come to his office and that it was lying on his table. I want to know from the hon. Member how long it will take for him to consider the question and to place the answer before this House ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It will be laid on the table in the course of this week."

Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI :—" Is Mr. Narayana Menon still in the Penitentiary, Sir ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" That does not arise out of this question, but I may answer my hon. Friend that he is not there."

Government Press

Living wages for employees in Government Press.

* 622 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to the answers given to the supplementary questions to question No 1695 on 1st April 1930—

(a) whether the wages fixed in the Government Press have been worked out on any living wage basis and whether the Government will grant the employees the barest minimum living wage ; and

(b) when, where, by whom, and in whose presence, the enquiry into the dismissal of the employees in the Government Press are made ?

[16th March 1931]

A.—(a) The rates of wages ruling in the Government Press have been fixed in consideration of the work to be done by, and the qualifications required of, the several classes of employees, with reference to local conditions. The Government have no reason to suppose that they are inadequate.

(b) Rules have been framed regarding the procedure to be adopted in cases of dismissal of Government servants. The Government have no reason to think that this procedure is not followed in the Government Press.

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" May I know for how long these men have been getting the same wage and what the conditions are with regard to the rate of wages ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" By a comparison with other presses."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" Has any reference been made to them in regard to this matter ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Not necessary."

Law and Order

Charges against some villagers of Angalur under section 147, Indian Penal Code.

* 623 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a charge sheet for an offence under section 147, Indian Penal Code, was placed before the Gudivada Sub-Magistrate against some people of Angalur village ;

(b) whether the trying Magistrate instead of trying the case in Gudivada tried it in Venthapragada and refused to allow vakils to enter the Court premises ;

(c) whether the accused were defended by any vakil when the case was under enquiry by the said Magistrate ; and

(d) whether, on application for transfer, the High Court had to notice the conduct of the trying Magistrate and if so, the remarks passed by the learned Judge or Judges on his conduct and the action, if any, taken by the Government thereon ?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information, but, if more particulars are given, will consider whether it should be called for.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, what are the additional particulars that the hon. Member wants beyond those mentioned in the question ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" As a matter of fact, I am prepared to call for the information if the hon. Member can give me the time of the occurrence. We have searched our records, but we have not been able to get the information."

[16th March 1931]

Lathi charge at Guntur on 6th March 1931.

* 623-A Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a lathi charge at Guntur on 6th March 1931;

(b) how many people were injured as a result thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that one Mr. Kameswara Rao's leg was fractured and Mr. N. Chelapati's head and Mr. V. Anantachariyar's head were broken;

(d) whether there was any correspondence between the Government and the District authorities on the 5th and 6th March on the question of meetings and processions and about the arrest of Desabhakta Konda Venkatappayya Pantulu Garu;

(e) whether the Government have ordered or approved the dispersal of meetings and processions and the use of force even after the Irwin-Gandhi pact was signed;

(f) whether it is a fact that the pleaders were not allowed by the police to enter the court when the Deputy Magistrate was waiting to try Desabhakta Konda Venkatappayya Pantulu Garu; and

(g) whether the Government are in receipt of the protest of the Bar Association, Guntur, in this respect?"

A.—(a) Lathis were used to disperse a contumacious mob at Guntur on the 6th March.

(b) Eleven members of the mob that was dispersed and six or seven police constables received injuries which were reported by the District Medical Officer to be of a trivial nature in almost all cases and not serious in any case.

(c) The injuries sustained by Mr. Kameswara Rao were a "swelling on the calf of the left leg and an abrasion in front of it". The injury to Mr. Chelapati's head was a "linear wound with clean edges in the middle of a contusion on the top of the head." Mr. Anantachari received no injuries on the head but was found to have "a linear abrasion on the back of the right elbow and tender areas on the outer side of the thigh and back".

(d) No. On the 6th District Magistrates were told to withdraw all orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, which had not been extended by the Government, and to withdraw all pending prosecutions in cases not involving violence. There was no correspondence on the subject of Mr. Konda Venkatappayya's arrest except the telegraphic report of the District Magistrate on the 6th that he had been arrested. He was released by the District Magistrate on 7th March 1931 on receipt of the Government's general instructions referred to above.

(e) No. They have asked the district authorities to endeavour to obviate clashes between the public and the police so far as is consistent with the prevention of disorder.

(f) The Government have no information on this point

(g) No.

[16th March 1931]

Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—"May I know what the hon. Member means by 'a contumacious mob' to disperse which lathis were used on the 6th March?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"This meeting was for the purpose of protesting against the arrest of Mr. Konda Venkatappayya and the police asked the mob to disperse and they refused. Anyhow, I may say for the information of hon. Members that nobody regrets more than the Government for what has happened. Enough instructions have been given to the District Magistrates and I sincerely trust that there will be no further recurrence of such incidents."

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Education

Number and employment of students trained in the training schools in the Presidency.

624 Q.—S. M. K. BAYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of applicants in each of the last ten years in all the training schools for both men and women, higher and lower, and also session schools in the Presidency;

(b) how many of them were denied admission and on what grounds; and

(c) how many of the trained students are still without employment?

A.—The particulars required are not available.

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

II.—ACT ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that the East 11-15 and West Tanjore Sessions Divisions (Validation) Act received the assent a.m. of His Excellency the Governor on the 6th March 1931."

III.—PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Consequent on the resignation by Mr. F. E. James of his office of Member of the Legislative Council, who was nominated as one of the Panel of Chairmen, a vacancy has arisen among the Panel of Chairmen. Under rule 3 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, I nominate Mr. W. M. Browning as a Member of the Panel of Chairmen in the vacancy."

IV.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

DEMAND V—REGISTRATION—TRANSFERRED—cont.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Discussion on the cut motion under Demand V—Registration will now continue."

[16th March 1931]

* Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

“(1) பத்திர பதிவு இலாக்காவில் முன்னிருந்த மந்திரி கனம் முதலையா முதலியாரவர்கள் வகுப்புவாரியாக பிறித்துக்கொடுத்தார்கள். கனம் முன்னாள் அங்கத்தினர்கள் தங்களுக்குப் போதுமான பிரதிநிதித்துவம் இல்லை என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகள் முஸ்லிம்கள் எதனைக் கேட்டாலும் விடருக்கொடுக்கச் சொல்லுகிறார். ஆனால் அவர்கள் கேட்பதும் மகாத்மா போன்றவர்கள் விடருக்கொடுக்கச் சொல்லுவதும் நியாயமே.

“(2) தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு உயர்தரமான உத்தியோகங்கள் முதற்கொண்டு தாழ்ந்த உத்தியோகங்களவரை நூற்றுக்கு ஒன்று கூட கிடைக்கவில்லை. இதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் போதிய முயற்சிகள் செய்யவில்லை. தற்போதுள்ள மந்திரியார் மிகவும் தாராள நோக்கத்தோடு தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு மேல்படி இலாக்காவில் போதுமான பிரதிநிதித்துவம் அளிப்பாரென்று நம்புகிறேன்.

“(3) மிகவும் பழைய காலத்தில் எஸ்.எஸ்.எஸ்.வீ. படித்தவர்களையும் நிஜஸ் தரமாக எடுத்தார்கள். காலஞ்சென்ற திவான்பகதூர் இராஜரத்தின முதலியாரவர்கள் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் ஜனரல் ஆப் நிஜஸ்தரேஷன்களும் இருந்தார். அவர் ஒரு கிராஜிவேட்டாக இல்லையென்று கேள்வி. ஆதலால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களைப் பொறுத்தவரை பழைய கொள்கையின்படி எஸ்.எஸ்.எஸ்.வீ. யாக இருந்தாலும் எடுத்துக்கொள்வதென்றும், மற்றபடி குமஸ்தாக்களாகவும் எடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். அப்படி யெடுக்கும்போது யைது நிரையம் பார்க்கக்கூடாது. சிறிது தாராள நோக்கத்தோடும் விடருக்கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

“(4) ஆபீஸுக்கு வரும் கிராமவாசி ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் பெரும்பாலும் படியாதவர்களாதலால் பெருவிரல் அடையாளம் எடுக்கவேண்டியதாயிருக்கிறது. இவர்கள் தாழ்ந்தவர்களென மற்றைய வகுப்புப் பிழைகள் இவர்கள் ஆகையத் தொட்டு அடையாளமெடுக்க அஞ்சுகிறார்கள். பிழைகளெல்லாம் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களாயிருந்தால் ஜாதித் துவேஷமின்றி ஷே வேலைகளை களங்கமற்று செய்வார்கள் இவ்விஷயத்தில் மந்திரியவர்கள் போதுமான ஆதரவு காட்டுவாரென நம்புகிறேன்.”

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I was surprised to find some Members of the Council contending that the policy of the Government so far has not been conducive to the interests of the Muslims and other minority communities in the matter of representation in the public services. Sir, to my knowledge and within my experience and also on the basis of statistics I contend that the policy is thoroughly sound and if my hon. Friends on the Opposition benches realize this fact I am quite sure they will revise their opinion and modify their request for additional representation. Well, Sir, I am not going to say anything at this moment with regard to justice or injustice of the communal Government Order. If we take into account the numbers, the Hindus consisting of about 170 sub-communities in this Presidency form 87 per cent of the total population. And in the matter of tax-paying capacity they score 85 per cent. When that is so, there is no justification, Sir, why they should be given only five out of every twelve appointments. Ordinarily they should get about eight or nine out of every twelve. But they are given only five. The Muslims form 7 per cent of the population, the Christians form 3 per cent of the total population and the Brahmans another 3 per cent. These three classes put together, certainly, they are minority communities. The three

[16th March 1931]

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

communities put together constitute 13 per cent of the total population and their tax-paying capacity, I am sure, will not be better than the tax-paying capacity of the other communities. So, now 13 per cent of the population of this province get 50 per cent representation in the public services. Thus, to-day, Sir, the Christians, the Muslims and the Brahmans—I am sure my hon. Friends on the Opposition Benches will now agree with me—are over-represented at the expense of innumerable Hindu communities, who are as backward as the Muslims themselves and who can never boast of any forwardness for years to come, say, for another half a century. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: ‘Very ingenious aspect.’) You will see, Sir, whether I am not justified in saying this if you look at the statistics. That being so, the attack that the Government or the non-Brahman Party have not been solicitous to the interests of those communities is quite unfounded. I will take certain figures from the Registration department. There are 34 District Registrars. Out of this number, the Muslims are entitled only to two seats on the population basis. But they are having four now. And now, if I remember aright, my Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan, observed that the interests of the Christians, the Muslims and other communities are sacrificed for the sake of the majority communities. Sir, it is not so, really. But, on the other hand, the interests of the majority communities, which as I said constitute 87 per cent of the total population, have been sacrificed so far and are sacrificed even now under this communal Government Order for the sake of, I will say, the assertive communities (‘hear, hear’), the Muslims, the Brahmans and the Christians. I was saying, Sir, that out of 34 posts of District Registrars, ordinarily the Muslims are entitled to two appointments, but they are having four now. The Brahmans who form about 3 per cent of the population ought to get only one appointment, but now they are getting six or seven. In the case of the Christians it is the same. According to this standard there ought to be only one Christian out of every 34 seats; but now there are six Christians. So my strong submission to the House is that the attack on the non-Brahman community is baseless; it is futile to say that the interests of the Muslim, Brahman and Christian communities are never advanced either by the non-Brahman Party or by Government, and that their interests are sacrificed for the sake of other communities. On the other hand, it is their interests that are advanced and their interests that are safeguarded at the expense of the majority community.

“Then, Sir, even if you take the cadre of the sub-registrars, it is the same. There are 600 sub-registrars and out of this number the Muslims will be entitled to 42, but they are having 35. In the case of Brahmans it will be 18 or 20, but there are 106 Brahman sub-registrars. Thus there is over-representation by 86. And similarly with regard to Christians. Thus it will be seen that the attack of the Muslims and the Christians that their interests are sacrificed for the sake of the majority community is thoroughly baseless; and I am sure my hon. Friends on the Opposition Benches will now revise their opinion with regard to the over-representation of the Hindu Communities.

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

[16th March 1931]

“ Having said so much, I wish to state here that I am not one of those who is anxious to see that any particular community should be expelled from the public services. I want that every community should have a just share in the services taking care at the same time that the interests of all communities are safeguarded. When that is so, there is no reason why some of the communities should come forward and assert their claims by saying ‘ Will you give this post to us?’ When you should take into account the claims of 170 communities, whenever there is a vacancy, why should that vacancy be given to one particular community? Sir, till very recently we had only three or four Inspectors-General of Registration appointed. When the last Inspector-General was appointed, why should the Muslims claim that one from their community should be appointed to that post, when there are several other communities whose claims also have to be taken into consideration. I am quite sure Government will take into consideration the claims of the Muslim gentlemen in service whenever a competent person is available. Therefore, whenever there is a vacancy it is not fair for one community to come forward and say ‘ Will you give us this post?’ If such claims are to be advanced, I am sure there are other communities who have equal right to say ‘ Treat us first.’ I only say this to show that such a claim is not a fair one.

“ With regard to the grievance of under-representation in certain branches of administration, I should say, this communal Government Order came into force only some two years back. There were a number of inequalities before the application of the communal Government Order; and I must express my grateful thanks to the Minister who was in charge of Registration during the time of the hon. Member, the Leader of Opposition, as Chief Minister of this province. I am glad that he was able to introduce this Government Order publicly for the first time in the Registration department, and on account of that a great many communities are being given proper representation to-day and it is the duty of every one in this House to follow in the illustrious steps of the hon. Member who was in charge of this department. Sir, the period of two years is hardly sufficient to give effect to this communal Government Order; and therefore, in course of time, I am quite sure my Muslim Friends in this House will not have any room for complaint. Whenever there is a fair chance for a Muslim, his claim will surely be considered. Certainly that will be done by Government, and I am sure the Inspector-General of Registration will be just and considerate and distribute equitably the posts as vacancies occur among the several communities. I think he is well known to most of us and I hope he will give no room for complaint on the part of any one. But so far as I am concerned, I do not want to stand for any particular community. For I am sure this communal Government Order exists in the interests of efficiency.

“ So far as the Hindu communities are concerned it is to their interests that several communities should be clubbed together and given representation. For example, these communities may be divided into

16th March 1931]

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

three groups, viz., the backward class, the middle class and the advanced class; and then on the basis of population these groups may be given representation. Under the last group the Brahmans may be included, and I am prepared to club the Brahmans along with the other advanced communities and keep them in one water-tight compartment.” (Laughter.)

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“ Why not put them in a vacuum compartment? ” (Laughter.)

Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—“ I have no objection. (Laughter.) In the second group I will put the less advanced communities and in the first group I will put the rest. With regard to the Christians and Muslims, they may stand in need of different treatment for some time and so I do not want to include them in these classes. Otherwise, Sir, it is impossible to give adequate representation to the Hindu communities in the services. The other day, Sir, a Member from the Opposition Benches representing North Arcot said that though his community forms 35 lakhs of the population of the province there is not a single District Registrar of the Nayakar community in the service. May I ask Mr. Hameed Khan how many Nayakars are there in service? (Hear, hear.) Now, Sir, the problem is, how are you going to meet this objection? Sir, the Nayakar community is as large as, if not more than, the Christian or the Muslim community and yet they are in the back-ground.

“ It is they that have been sacrificed for the interests of the other three communities. That is my argument. So, Sir, my strong objection to this communal Government Order is that it is unjust and that it is unfair, and I do not know under what circumstances that was brought into existence. It ought to be revised, it ought to go, and we must have a more scientific, more just and more equitable Government Order so that other communities which are backward ought to be given a chance to come up. There are no champions, Sir, in this House, ordinarily, to put forward the claims of several neglected communities. In my own district, I may say, Sir, that there are several backward communities, and there is no special representative on their behalf either in the public services or in the Council or in the local bodies who can take adequate care of their interests. Well, Sir, it is on behalf of such communities that the Muslim, the Christian, the Hindu, Brahman and non-Brahman, have to fight, and we must be able to say that we are worthy representatives of voiceless peoples and voiceless backward communities. In this connexion, I am including also the interests of the Adi-Dravidas and other backward minority communities. When that is so, Sir, I am quite sure that my hon. Friends from the Opposition Benches will accept this attitude. This is not a purely Justice attitude; it is the national attitude that I am placing before them. Sir, they attack the non-Brahman community on the ground that they are not true to their principles of communalism. On the other hand, I am attacking them on the ground that they are not true to their principles of nationalism, justice and fair play. They are thinking of

11-30
a.m.

[Mr. A. Kondappa] [16th March 1931]

particular communities but not the general interests of the province and of the people at large. So, I ask them to think of all communities and to think that they are all their own men whose interests are to be safeguarded. So, in that sense there is nothing wrong in thinking of all these minority communities and safeguarding their interests. It is not communal; it is really national. When the non-Brahmans put forward this question of communal representation, they conceived it in essentially a national spirit to get representation of those communities. Communal representation and nationalism always go together. The highest form, the best form, the most efficient form of representation of these communities will lead to efficiency, nationalism and a contended system of public services and the people themselves will be satisfied with such representation. This communal representation is not an end in itself; it is only a means. So, when various interests and communities are represented in the services, it will lead to efficiency of administration and it will infuse into the services a sympathetic outlook towards the people. So, in that sense, this idea of communal representation in the public services is essentially national. It will lead to efficiency, it will lead to economy, it will lead to uprightness, it will lead to honesty, and it will put down corruption. And so this principle of communal representation is essentially necessary in the interests of upright nationalism."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, although I am sorry I cannot endorse all that has been said in support of this motion, yet I think I am bound, if it comes to voting, to vote for the motion, because, Sir, I see that justice has not been done to the Muslim community in this respect either in the Registration department or in any other department. Their claims have been altogether overlooked. The only speaker who has so far tried to oppose this motion is the hon. Member from Anantapur. He also admitted that the Muslims have not had adequate representation so far, but how he tried to hoodwink or rather dispute the motion was that he took the Brahman community, the Christian community and the Muslim community together and took the proportion as against the other communities. That is a fallacy. But, who is responsible for this state of affairs? It is the Madras Government, the Government as a whole that is responsible in the first instance. Of course, so far as the present Ministers are concerned, they came into office only recently (hear, hear). It depended also on individual officers, the heads of departments. Because the Muhammadan community had no power, had no influence in the Government, therefore they could not influence the Government, the heads of departments. So they have suffered, and injustice has been done to them. But I do not think it is due to any group or party such as the Brahman party or the non-Brahman party or the Justice party. The principle of the South Indian Liberal Federation—I was a member of the federation, but I don't know whether I am still a member, perhaps I am (laughter)—was that the party stands for communal justice. If any injustice has been done by any individual officer, that must be attributed to the officers who are responsible for that result. Therefore I do

16th March 1931] [Mr. Mahmud Schamnad]

not think either the Non-Brahman party or the Brahman party or any party as such is responsible for this state of affairs. Therefore, in the first instance, the Madras Government and then the respective heads of departments who took a particular attitude ignoring the claims of Muslims and other minority communities, not adequately represented, are responsible."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I did not want to take part in this debate except for the wholesale condemnation of the non-Brahmans by my hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan Sait. Sir, first of all, let me disillusion his mind of the idea that the Non-Brahman movement was started to antagonise the Brahman interests. It was started to help the Brahman. Sir, the Brahman were the intelligentsia of the country, and they were the most educated. They were fighting for their country. It would not be of much use unless other communities joined them. As the late Dr. T. M. Nayar said when lecturing on political reconstruction, if dreadnoughts are to be sent to fight, there is no use of one dreadnought going far ahead of others because it will be caught and destroyed by the enemy. So the dreadnoughts of all the communities should go together and fight the enemy if we are to win. It was on that principle that the Non-Brahman movement was started. Sir, hon. Mr. Yakub Hasan said that after the Non-Brahman movement came, all other communities have suffered. No, the intention of the Non-Brahman movement was to elevate all the depressed classes, and to create good will and trust among the members of the various communities, especially minority communities. That was the object. Of course, this principle of the elevation of the depressed classes did not start with them. Religious leaders and reformers like Sankara and Ramanuja started it, and they worked it religiously and socially. These did not end successfully. So, the Non-Brahman movement conceived that it would be better to elevate them politically, give them high employments and also find them places in the various local bodies, the legislatures and other public institutions. It had a salubrious effect. Sir, even before the Reforms came in, one Adi-Dravida was appointed as a Member of the Legislative Council, and the same, I think, on the Educational Committee. When representations were made before the Joint Parliamentary Committee it was the Non-Brahmans that went there and struggled hard to get representation for the various communities of the province and supported the claims of the Muslim community. As a result of which we have got a number of representatives of the depressed classes and backward communities adorning this very august body. Then, Sir, when the Non-Brahmans came into power they revolutionized the whole Presidency by nominating the members of the depressed and backward communities to local bodies and to the legislatures at the sacrifice of their own interests. In trying to elevate all these communities, in giving appointments and other representation, the Non-Brahmans themselves sacrificed a great share of their interests.

"Sir, coming now to the Muslim question, Mr. Yakub Hasan Sait was speaking of the Muslims from 1920. I want him to look to the

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [16th March 1931]

Muslims from 1912 when the Non-Brahman movement was inaugurated. Sir, what were they (Muslims) before? And what were they after the movement was started? Sir, among the various advantages they have got, I may say that on account of agitation of the Non-Brahmans in and out of season, their position vastly improved. We agitated in 1914 for a Muhammadan Executive Council Member, and what was the result? I have got the telegrams that we sent in those days; we sent cables to the authorities in England, and what was the result of that? The Muslims were given important posts in large numbers. Mr. Aziz-ud-din Sahib, from the position of a Deputy Collector, was made a Collector and then a Member of the Board of Revenue, but unfortunately for us he died. I know, Sir, when that great man, Sir Alexander Cardew, left India, with what feeling he expressed that all that he wanted to do for various communities he was going without accomplishing. Well, Sir, again, as a result of the agitation of the Non-Brahmans, there was an Executive Council Member appointed in Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah Sahib. So, Sir, when the Non-Brahman Ministry came into existence, we had a Muslim as Executive Councillor, a Muslim as Assistant Secretary, a Muslim as Revenue Officer of the Corporation, a Muslim as Director of Industries, a Muslim as Commissioner of the Corporation, and a Muslim for the first time President of the District Board of Malabar; and many more places were occupied by Muslims. Now, Sir, we have one Muslim in the Madras Services Commission. But where are the Non-Brahmans? For the sake of the Muslims, for the sake of the depressed classes, for the sake of the other minority communities, Non-Brahmans have sacrificed their interests and their share. Where are the Non-Brahmans now? Nowhere, especially the majority community. Sir, Mr. Yakub Hasan was speaking of the days before the communal Government Order came into force. I would very much like if he had taken statistics from 1928 and 1929 onwards, and say whether recruitments of Muhammadans were made according to Government Order or not. But let him see what the position was in 1910 and compare it with what it was in 1920. Then, Sir, even in the Secretariat, how many Muslims are there now? and what was their number before that time. These are all instances, Sir, of Non-Brahmans sacrificing themselves for the interests of the other communities and the Muslims. Mr. Kondappa referred to the communal Government Order, but I do not want to discuss about the communal Government Order now. The House will now see what a sacrifice the Non-Brahmans have made. For instance, what a sacrifice for the Non-Brahmans when they who form more than 85 per cent of the population restrict themselves to 33 per cent of seats in the Government Order giving 17 seats to 3 per cent Brahmans, 3 per cent Christians and about 6 per cent Muhammadans? I do not say that that is enough for Muslims, in view of their political importance. I dedicated a portion of my life for the Muslims. How much share have the Non-Brahmans got for their 87 per cent population and 85 per cent of tax-paying capacity? Is it not a sacrifice for them? But let not my Friend think that the Non-Brahmans have got everything. The sacrifice is Non-Brahman's sacrifice in the cause of the country. In fact, I request my Non-Brahman

16th March 1931] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

Friends like Mr. Kondappa and others to submit to communal Government Order and see that other communities progress even at the sacrifice of the majority community. I am glad the Ministers,—not only the former Justice Ministry but also the quasi-Justice Ministry that succeeded in which whether it was Dr. Subbarayan or Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar or Mr. Muthiah Mudaliyar—all worked for the communities. I know Dr. Subbarayan, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Mr. Muthiah Mudaliyar were strong on this matter, inasmuch as they took care to see that not a single community was dissatisfied. I ask my hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan, when he was a Nationalist, an ultra-Nationalist, whether he thought of his community. As for my Friend, Mr. Pocker, and my Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, they are Nationalists, but at the same time they never disregarded the claims of their community. (Hear, hear.) I have got great admiration for them, so much so that when I stood for a place against a Muslim gentleman and when my Friend, Mr. Pocker, wanted me to withdraw in the interests of the Muslims, I gladly did so. Who are the people that are sacrificing? It is the majority community. If the whole of India adopts towards the Hindu-Muslim question what the Non-Brahmans do in Madras towards the Muslims, then the Hindu-Muslim problem will be solved in no time. Even among the Non-Brahmans, the majority communities, the Nayakars, Vellalas and Balijas, are always giving up their claims for the sake of minority communities. You will find it even in the appointments of the present Ministry—most probably Mr. Rajan escaped by a fluke. The sacrifice also is on the part of the Brahmans. They had the power in their hands so long. Now they have to give it up and nobody will be willing to give up power. For the country's sake, I request the Brahmans to sacrifice their interests. I request Non-Brahmans for the very reason not to press their claims. I request Mr. Kondappa not to press the claims of the 87 per cent of the Non-Brahmans. Of course there is the pinch of unemployment everywhere. I have to seek appointments, day in and day out, to my Brahman children, to Non-Brahman children and to my beloved Muslim children. In conclusion, let me assure my Muslim brethren that the sympathies of the whole House will certainly be with them."

* Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"It is very gratifying to find Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar emphasizing the political importance of the Muslim community. Although I do not agree with him in the statistics quoted, I have always great regard for his political opinions. The motion before the House raises a communal question and, however much I would like to avoid discussion on communal matters which may prejudice the political atmosphere at the present moment, I cannot help offering a few remarks on it. It has been said, Sir, that communalism is opposed to nationalism and is an obstacle on the path of India achieving freedom. With due respect to those who hold that view, Sir, I beg to differ from them and for very good reasons. There is no doubt that communalism, which is opposed to country's freedom, is unpatriotic and deserves to be condemned. But a communalism, Sir, which, while aiming at country's freedom, tries to uplift communities and confines

[Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig] [16th March 1931]

its activities to internal adjustment of rights and duties, I dare say, is neither unpatriotic nor against country's interests. If one looks at the practical side of the matter, peculiarly circumstanced as India is, inhabited by persons professing different religions, belonging to different creeds and races and having different interests, it is no wonder that communities try to safeguard their respective interests. It is not peculiar to India. If one reads the constitution of Canada he will find clauses in it which safeguard the interests of different sections constituting the people of Canada—I mean the French, English and others. Poland is another instance. The League of Nations is deeply agitated over the settlement of the question of minorities. Therefore, Sir, communalism which seeks to adjust the rights and duties of communities that compose the nation is not at all unpatriotic.

“ Mr. President, Sir, you will kindly excuse me for a little digression in this matter. It is a matter of authentic history, Sir, that communalism has been in existence in India from the dawn of history, and speaking with definiteness historically possible, from the advent of the whites into India from their homelands in the Oxus valley in Central Asia. Color prejudice, race prejudice or culture prejudice, of which the whites of the present day are accused, divided sharply the white comers from the natives of the soil, and in spite of the merger of cultures of the white settlers and of the sons of the soil, the white races kept themselves aloof having got supremacy over the land, and in order to perpetuate their superiority and point of vantage, created under the false guise of religion, institutions, calculated to keep the sons of the soil backward and down-trodden. The communalism of that period was so rank and low that human beings were denied the common property of all, viz., the pursuit of knowledge. I do not wish at the present moment, Sir, to hazard a conjecture whether the so-called caste system was not one of those chains forged for the purpose in the scheme of communalism. Other races poured into India subsequently but they also succumbed to the circumstances of the period. Things were so demoralizing, Sir, that Lord Budha came upon the scene and, asserted the right of man and proclaimed the equality of mankind. But Budha and his worthy follower Asoka in their own time passed away, and again India relapsed into the same former state from which in spite of the influences at work during the Muhammadan period, it did not recover till recently. This was, Sir, the communalism that was in existence. Religious reformers and social reformers like Ramanuja and others, no doubt, preached freedom and equality of man, but they, in their turn became more communal than others. But during the past one century on account of the free and catholic education of the westerner imparted to India, India began to realize what mankind is. Inspired by the spirit of free education, the present communalism, which is a revolt against the worst communalism of the past, was started and the movement, Sir, has the noble aim to uplift mankind from the lower depths to which it has fallen, to the heights of self-consciousness from which he can realize the real stuff of which man is made. This is the real object of communalism which is now the butt of criticism. I do not

16th March 1931] [Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig]

say that this communalism may not degenerate and defeat its own purpose. But when it does so, it is certainly open to criticism and must receive the same fate as communalism in the past. I have always my sympathy with this movement, because as a Muslim I have been brought up in the traditions of Islam which stands for equality and self-respect of mankind. I expect, Sir, that this communalism would not deteriorate as its former predecessor. Now, as far as Muslims are concerned, I may be permitted to say that myself and the brother Muslim Members of this Council who represent the Muhammadan population in the Presidency, yield to none in our patriotism and our demand for self-Government. Brought up as we are under the influence of freedom-inspiring religion, Islam and its high ideals, we loathe to be slaves in our own country. History proves it and the modern struggle all the world over is a standing movement of the love of freedom of a Muslim. But, Sir, apparently our countrymen do not understand the real character of Islam. A Muslim has no pretensions, no guises and no cunningness.”

Mr. T. NARASA REDDI:—“ On a point of order, Sir, are all these things relevant to the motion under discussion?”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ Since the communal question has been raised the hon. Member will be quite in order. The hon. Member will kindly see that the hon. Minister is allowed some time for reply and the demand will be put at 12-7.”

* Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—“ My purpose in narrating all these things is this: In the first place it is to show why this communalism is not bad, and secondly to explain why I joined the ‘ Justice ’ party. Mr. President, Sir, the Mussalmans are not behind hand in their demand for freedom. But let this be clearly understood that they as a community have got to maintain their existence. They have a great stake in the land. Their existence cannot be brushed aside, their self-respect trifled with and their claims disregarded. I may plainly state with all the emphasis at my command that they will not allow such things to be done and anybody who attempts to do so would be doing it in vain and at his own risk. I am glad in this respect to see that some people in this Council do recognize their political importance.

“ Now, Sir, with regard to the Muslim representation in the department under discussion, it is a legitimate grievance if they are not properly represented in the services. I joined the ‘ Justice ’ party because it had for its programme the demand for full dominion status and communal justice. Sir, I do not at the present stage, venture to go further and enquire how far my expectations have been fulfilled. But I am bound to say this, that we are too near to assess the value of the work done by this Ministry, which was formed only a few months ago. If there are at present any disparities in the representation of communities in the services and if the representation is not given according to the communal Government Order, the party or the present Ministry, cannot be blamed for it, but its predecessor—I mean the United Nationalists Party, which had been in office for the last four years, and four years, Sir, is a pretty long time. So, if Muhammadans do not

[Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig] [16th March 1931]

find themselves in proper proportion or at least in proportion according to the communal Government Order, I will not blame the new Ministry formed only recently, for all the sins of the past. I await the reply of the hon. Minister in charge of this department to form my opinion, as to the justification of my having joined this party, and also as to whether communal justice will be done or not by this Ministry as has been proclaimed. It may be on account of the exigencies it is not possible for the Ministry to fulfil its promise forthwith. But I expect that this Ministry which stands for communal justice would certainly fulfil its promise better than its predecessors."

Mr. P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR then addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

"டிமாண்டு நெ. 5, ரிஜிஸ்ட்ரேஷன் சம்பந்தமாய் சிறிது சொல்லவிரும்புகிறேன். அவைகள் முக்கியமாய் என் அனுபவத்தில் உள்ளதையும் சொல்வதற்கு தருணம் கிடைத்தது.

"ரிஜிஸ்ட்ரேஷன் டிபார்ட்மெண்டு ஒரு விதத்தில் முக்கியமானது. ஜனங்களினால் உண்டாகும் பல பிசகுக்களில் சிற்சில பிசகுகளை மட்டும் நேரிடாது கண்டிக்கவும் ஒருவனுடைய சொத்து சம்மந்தமாக உள்ள தஸ்தாவேஜுகள் உண்டென்று பந்தோபஸ்த்திலிருந்து வரவும் உரியதாய் இருக்கிறது.

"இதை தவிர வேறு விதமாக பெரும் ஆளுகை திறமை இதற்கு அவசிய மில்லை.

"ஜில்லா ரிஜிஸ்ட்ரர்கள் கூடுமானவரை பொருப்புள்ளவருக்கும் விவேகிகளாய் மருக்கிறார்கள்.

"சப்-ரிஜிஸ்ட்ரர்களையும் கிராமாந்திரங்களிலிருப்பவர்களையும் சுமாராக எதிர்ப் பார்க்க முடியவில்லை.

"தஸ்தாவேஜுகளை எழுதியுள்ள ஷரத்தினால் இன்ன தஸ்தாவேஜ் என்று சாதாரணமாய் தீர்மானிப்பதுகூட அவர்கள் திறமை எடுக்க முடியாதவர்களாய் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஆதலின் பொருத்தமுள்ள சப்-ரிஜிஸ்ட்ரர்களை நியமிக்க வேண் டும்.

"பீஸ் விஷயத்தை அதிகமென்றும் குறைக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் சொல்லு கிறேன்.

"கடன் கொடுக்க முடியாது. டிக்ரி நிறைவேறுதலில் சொர்ப்ப துறைக்குகூட இன்கம் பிரஞ்சு தேவையாயிருக்கிறது. அவைகள் அவசியமானால் பீஸை இல் லாமலும் பெரிய தொகைக்கு மட்டும் பீஸ் இருக்க வேண்டும்.

"பேர் மாரி இருந்தால் அதற்கு தனி பீசம் ஒரே கிராமத்தில் பல நம்பர் ஸ்தலங்களுக்குள் ஒரு நம்பரில் சொர்ப்ப பெருமதிப்புள்ள கூரை குச்சு வீடு இருந்தாலும் அதற்கு தனி பீசம் வாங்குவதை விலக்க வேண்டும்.

"ஒரே கிரய பத்திரமானது விவகாரத்தை நிவர்த்திக்க பல தடவை திரும்பத் திரும்ப எழுதுவதில் சரியான ஸ்டாம்பும் சரியான பீசமே கொடுப்பது கிரயத் துறையில் பத்தில் ஒரு பாகமாய் விடுகிறது.

"நேமிலெண்டு தஸ்தாவேஜு, விடுதலை தஸ்தாவேஜு விஷயத்தில் ரிஜிஸ்ட் ரார்கள் சரியானபடி கவனியாமல் ஸ்டாம்பையும் பீஸையும் அதிகமாய் வசூலிக்க எண்ணத்தோடே கவனிக்கிறார்கள்.

"சிறிய தொகைக்கும் பெரிய தொகைக்கும் கொஞ்சமும் வித்தியாசம் ஏற்பட வில்லை.

"ஒரே ஏல சர்ட்டிபிகேட்டில் ஒரே மனிதன் சம்பந்தமாய் மொத்த துகையை கவனியாது தனித்தனி ஏலத்துகைக்கு ஸ்டாம்பை அதிகரிக்க யோஜிக்கிறார்கள்.

"பப்ளிக் நகல் வாங்குவதில் தஸ்தாவேஜுடன் நகல் எழுதிக் கொடுத்தாலும் அச்சுக்காப்பி கொடுத்தாலும் அதை அங்கேரிக்க இடமில்லை.

16th March 1931] [Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar]

"அதற்கு ஆபீசில் கம்பேர் செய்வதற்கு சார்ஜ் மட்டும் வாங்கலாம்.

"நகல் வருஷம் மாசம் தேதி சொல்லியும்கூட சர்ச்ச பீஸ் கேட்பதற்கு பொருத்தமில்லை.

"தஸ்தாவேஜில் ஷரத்தில் தள்ளிக் கொடுத்திருப்பதாக எழுதி விட்டால் அதற்கு அதிக ஸ்டாம்புடன் ஜில்லா ரிஜிஸ்ட்ரார் அபராதம் விதிக்கிறார் இது நியாய மில்லாதகாரியம்.

"இப்போது அப்பாய்ண்டுமெண்டைப்பற்றித்தான் சொல்ல வேண்டுமாய் பிரசி டெண்டவர்கள் ஆக்ரூபிப்பதால் இந்த ஹவுசில் ஒவ்வொரு வகுப்பினர்களுக்கும் இந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் உத்தியோகம் வேண்டுமாய் விரும்புகிறார்கள்.

"மிஸ்டர் நடேச முதலியாரவர்கள் எல்லா வகுப்பாரையும் ஸ்பீச்சில் சொன்னார். வைசியானைப்பற்றி அவர்களுக்கு சொல்ல தோணவில்லை.

"ஆனால் இந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் உத்தியோகம் வேண்டுமென்று எண்ணவே யில்லை அதைப்பற்றி பேச தயாரில்லை.

"பீஸ்தாரணைகளை மட்டும் பேசவிரும்பினேன்."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"Mr. President, Sir, as regards the plea put forward by the Muhammadan Members that they are to be treated fairly and squarely in the matter of representation in services from the point of view of their population, I wish to say that their political importance and past history have been receiving special recognition and that they are also being given special treatment. I do not agree with Mr. Kondappa that they are to be treated as an ordinary community. In fact, the whole basis of the settlement of the Hindu-Muslim question to-day depends upon that principle. So, it would not be proper for us to quarrel with them in this matter. As regards facts as they are and the present condition, Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig has sufficiently answered that the present Ministry is not to be blamed at all as they have been in office only for a short time, and that the faults of the previous Ministry cannot be levelled over their heads. I hope the hon. Minister will examine the question and see that they receive their due representation. Till now, the Muhammadan Members have been attacking communalism sitting opposite by being Swarajists one day, as Congressmen on another day and yet at another time as Independent Nationalists and to-day as United Nationalists, and saying that only the Non-Brahman Party was agitating the question of communal representation. Now, we see to-day that they find justification to rise up and agitate for the very thing for which the Non-Brahman Party has been agitating for some time past. I think that is a sufficient answer for their criticisms which have been levelled against us on previous occasions.

"So far as the depressed classes are concerned, I have given notice of a cut motion to show that they have not been adequately represented in the public service. I think there is all the more justification for the depressed classes being looked after in a more favourable spirit. Of course, it is well known that political power and representation in services are remedies for the social ills which bar the upliftment of a community. We hear so much about the elevation of the depressed classes and removal of untouchability in recent years. But in spite of all that, I do not think sufficient importance has been attached to

[Mr. B. Venkataramayya] [16th March 1931]

their problem from the point of view of their being entertained in public service in larger numbers. Of course, the plea of the dearth of a sufficient number of qualified candidates has often been raised. I think their problem cannot be solved by looking at it in that way. So far as the depressed classes are concerned, there are few, very few educated men who seek entrance into the services, and so I appeal to the hon. Minister in charge to let them enter office, even by viewing the rules in a liberal spirit and relaxing them in their favour if necessary."

* Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—"Mr. President, I am glad to note that there is after all here a mutual admiration society. Sometimes it is converted into a religious temple. But I do not like to deal with the communal question because much has been already said against the Brahman. I need not be misunderstood if I rise to speak on the floor of this House on behalf of the Brahmans. I only wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister one or two points and resume my seat. The first point is about the system of promotions and transfers in the department and another point is the system of introducing the maintenance of register of holdings which item is proved to be a wasteful item of expenditure."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The hon. Member cannot discuss that point. He will kindly resume his seat."

* Mr. N. SIVA RAJ:—"Sir, I do not know if the effect of prolonging this discussion further will do us any good, but I do wish to make a few observations on some of the remarks made in this connexion by some previous speakers. My hon. Friends, Mr. Kondappa Reddi and Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar with their interesting and elaborate statistics referred to the claims of the various communities but forgot the interests of one of the most important communities in this Presidency, namely, the depressed classes (Hear, hear). Sir, if there is any community which has got to complain against the department in the matter of the recruitment of their members to the Registration Department, it is the depressed class community. Sir, looking into the Administration Reports for the past few years, we find that in spite of the fact that the communal Government Order requires that a certain percentage of the appointments ought to go to the depressed classes, during the past regime no appointment has been given to them at all. But I am glad of the assurance given by the new Inspector-General of Registration in this matter, and since he assumed office recently he called for the names of the depressed class candidates and appointed two of them. No doubt, I am grateful to him and to the hon. Minister for the steps that they are taking to remedy the defects, and I am perfectly certain that in the future, knowing as I do both the hon. Minister and the new Inspector-General of Registration, they will see to it that the communal Government Order is properly applied and that justice is done to all the communities without any cause for complaint or grievance from any community. I am sure the cut motion has been moved only with a view to asking for justice being done in the Registration Department to the various communities."

16th March 1931]

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, the points raised by hon. Members in their speeches under this cut motion are very easy to reply (laughter) and therefore I will not take much time of the House in dealing with them. Before I deal with those points in detail, I may say this, that the appointments in this department, initial recruitment as well as promotions from one grade to another, are governed by a Government Order passed by the Government in accordance with the wishes of the members of this House. Sir, as the Minister in charge of this portfolio, I assure hon. Members that I will see that effect is given to that Government Order." 12-15 P.M.

"I will now refer to the speeches of my hon. Friends Messrs. Yakub Hasan and Pocker Sahib. Mr. Yakub Hasan while arguing his case had a fling at the Justice Party and the Ministers. He took the trouble of collecting statistics of appointments made in the Registration department during the past ten years and quoting them, stated that for all the acts of commission and omission during that period, the present Ministry and the Justice Party are responsible. My friend, I am sure, is aware that our party was the first party which fought for equal justice and equal opportunities to all. When we were fighting for the recognition of this principle, my friend and several others were attacking the party in season and out of season. Now, what was his programme and policy? Whenever he organized or joined new parties he never took the trouble of giving out his programme or policy. He simply used to say: 'I do not belong to the Justice Party, because it is a communal party.' But what is my friend doing to-day? He is, in his endeavour to get the claims of his community to appointments recognized, out-Heroding Herod. He says: 'I want every appointment to be given to Muhammadans in all departments.' So much so, even in regard to the appointments to which the communal Government Order cannot be applied such as the appointment of the Inspector-General of Registration, he wants the Government Order to be applied. He went further and said that there were two Muhammadan applicants for this post. To this I may give the reply that I gave on the floor of this House that there were no applicants for this post from members of the Muslim community. However, I may inform hon. Members that the Government did consider the claims of various communities and various officers and did not at all ignore or neglect the claims of any community or gentleman. As I said, there were no applications for this post from the members of the Muhammadan community. I am glad, Sir, that my hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan whatever his pretensions may have been and to whatever party he may belong has come to recognize the need to give the members of his community equal rights and opportunities with the members of the other communities in all departments. That is the policy of the Justice Party. I am glad that he has openly, on the floor of this House, endorsed the policy and programme of my party."

"Sir, I come next to the remarks made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Pocker Sahib. He is another gentleman who also had his fling at the Justice Party. He wants, however, to enjoy the fruits of the labours of this party. Sir, whatever criticisms they may make against the

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

[16th March 1931]

Justice Party and however much they may indulge in cheap sneers at the Justice Party, as far as my party is concerned and as far as I am concerned, in connexion with this portfolio, I may give the assurance that I am here to safeguard the interests of all communities. (Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Hear, hear.) Sir, Mr. Pocker said that he is not a communalist, but in the same breath added that the Mappilla community forms one-third of the Muhammadan community. He wants to subdivide the Muhammadan community. (Mr. B. Pocker Sahib: I never said that they are a separate community.) The hon. Member said that they formed one-third of the Muslim population. What does it imply? As a matter of fact, the hon. Member has asked how many Mappillas are there in the service? Are you going to differentiate between the Mappillas and the other members of the Muslim community? He wants this and yet he and others say that the Justice Party is a communal party. I do not want to pursue the matter further. Sir, as I said before, whatever may be the criticisms of my hon. Friends here, we stand for equal opportunities to all and equal justice to all communities.

“Sir, I will now give the House the figures showing the percentage of appointments held by Muslims in the Registration department. The appointments in the department are divided into various grades. There are first the district registrars numbering 33. Of these, four are Muhammadans. Then there are 31 selection grade sub-registrars and of these two are Muhammadans. Of upper-grade sub-registrars there are 93 and among these there are no Muhammadans. Of the 497 lower grade sub-registrars there are 34 Muhammadans and 14 of the reserve sub-registrars, 77 in number, are Muhammadans. Sir, the proportion laid down in the Government Order is no doubt 2 for every 12. I do not deny that that proportion has been reached. The reason for that is that the Government Order applying to promotions from lower grade sub-registrars to upper grade sub-registrars was brought into effect only in 1928. Hon. Members will see that it is on account of the shortness of time that it has not been possible to have due proportion in every grade of the service. But in course of time by the application of the Government Order I am quite sure that Muhammadans will have their due share. Just to show hon. Members that Muhammadans are increasing in number in the services I will read the following figures:—

Muhammadans.

	1st January 1929.	1st January 1931.
Lower grade (sub-registrars) ...	30	34
Reserve sub-registrars ...	10	14

“Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Hamid Khan, wanted to know the number of Muhammadan district registrars, sub-registrars, etc., in the different grades. I may inform him and the House that from 1st January 1928, out of seven district registrars there were two Muhammadans and out of 36 sub-registrars selection grade, five were Muhammadans and, of these five, two have since been promoted as district registrars. In the upper grade no appointments were made

16th March 1931]

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

in 1928. In the lower grade, six out of 68 are Muhammadans and in the reserve sub-registrars out of 58, there are 10 Muhammadans. In the case of initial recruitments also Muhammadans have been given their due share although in the other grade I admit that they have not got their due proportion. The reason for this as I said is the shortness of time. If my friends will wait for some time more, I will see that the Muhammadans get the share to which they are entitled.

“My Friends Messrs. Sahajanandam and Badeti Venkataramayya pleaded the case of the Adi-Dravidas. They asked that in the case of the depressed classes the Government should not insist on graduate qualifications for appointment, but that in their case S.S.L.C. qualifications should be deemed to be adequate, and that the age-limits should be relaxed. I believe the Government are treating the depressed classes in a special manner and it is due to this I believe that there are two sub-registrars now in service, one an Adi-Andhra and the other an Adi-Dravida. In addition to this there are fifteen clerks of this community and one Adi-Andhra clerk. My Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, referred to the question of the application of the communal Government Order to non-Brahman Hindus and pointed out the absence of representation of some sub-sect. It will not be possible to comply with his request without subdividing the non-Brahman community which, unless the House is going to insist upon, I am not going to do. In conclusion I may assure hon. Members that I will endeavour, as far as it lies in my power, to give effect to the communal Government Order and that I will communicate the sense of the House on this matter to the Inspector-General of Registration with reference to appointments to be made in this department.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Sir, in view of the assurance given by the hon. Minister that he will, in future, bring the principles laid down in the Government Order into practice, I have no objection to withdraw the motion.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand V—Registration for Rs. 30,19,100 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND VI—IRRIGATION (EXCLUDING CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT)—RESERVED.

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees 97,87,400 under Demand No. VI—Irrigation (excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project)—Reserved.’”

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move—

‘that the allotment of Rs. 47,79,100 for Irrigation—Other revenue expenditure financed from ordinary revenues be reduced by Rs. 100’.

12-30
p.m.

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [16th March 1931]

"My object in moving this cut motion is to urge the necessity for early decision concerning the Tungabhadra-Kistna project and for expediting sanction to this scheme.

"Sir, I had occasion, not long ago, to refer in general terms to the dissatisfaction in the country, and particularly in the districts affected by the Tungabhadra-Kistna project, concerning the inordinate delay of the Government in not coming to a decision about this very vital matter and particularly for expediting its sanction. Without going into the early history of this scheme I may say that the matter has been under discussion from the time of Sir Arthur Cotton about the year 1837, and time and again, on the recurrence of famines in these districts, Government started investigations and we had various investigation parties for making investigation into this Tungabhadra project and on every occasion when estimates were received, Government came to only one conclusion that they were not in a position to sanction the scheme. A scheme of such vital kind affecting the lives and welfare of the people of so many districts which are subject to periodical visitations of famines could never be shelved by any Government and luckily on account of this very unlucky feature of the persistence of famines, the project has not so far gone into the waste-paper basket. As I said before after every investigation that has been made so far, the Government passed orders saying that they felt unable to sanction the scheme. Now, Sir, may I draw the attention of the hon. the Revenue Member to the fact and the circumstances attending the existence of famines in these districts and of periodical visitations of scarcity. Sir, what does this famine mean? If I only refer to the famine of 1877-78, the horrors attending on that famine and the losses that it meant to these several districts, I am sure the House can come to no other conclusion than that the Government contrary to the expectations of the people failed to do their duty since they were bound to improve the conditions of these districts and to see that the grievances of the people of those districts were redressed. Now, Sir, in the famine of 1877-78, it is recorded that out of a total population of four millions at the time, about one-third died, i.e., 1,300,000 people died during that famine. Is a calamity of that magnitude not sufficient to move the heart of any Government? Is it not sufficient to force any Government that claim to be the custodian of the welfare of the people to take immediate action? Is not that one calamity sufficient to move any Government to immediately sanction the scheme which has been repeatedly reported upon by every Famine Commission as the only solution for mitigating the sufferings of the people of these districts? Several times on the floor of this House I asked for the sanction of this scheme and every time it was said on behalf of Government that the scheme was under investigation. And to-day also the hon. the Revenue Member may rise up and say that the scheme is still under investigation. Sir, we are tired of these investigations. For heaven's sake, do something if you want to have the confidence and goodwill of the people of these districts. It is not

16th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

a small matter. As I said before, if the death roll amounted to 1,300,000 people, you can imagine what the attendant horrors of this famine were. I ask what about the villages that were completely depopulated, the millions of cattle that died and the thousands of acres that went out of cultivation. If you take all that into account you will agree that any Government ought to hang down its head in shame.

"Now, Sir, I would just read a short extract from the remarks of the Irrigation Commission of 1901-03 concerning the conditions of these districts. This is what that Commission reports:—

'Excluding these seven districts, the remainder of the Presidency is more or less liable to famine excepting such small areas as are protected by works of irrigation. The most insecure districts are those known as the Deccan districts comprising Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur and Cuddapah, which have suffered several times from famine during the past century. They cover a total area about 27,500 square miles with a population of nearly four millions the majority of whom depend upon agriculture for their support.

'Owing to the general poverty of the soil over one-half of the cultivable area is assessed at rates not exceeding eight annas an acre; in Cuddapah the proportion rises to nearly two-thirds and in Anantapur to over three-fourths of the whole area. In the latter district more than one-half of the cultivable area bears a nominal assessment of two to four annas per acre and in Bellary nearly a third of the area is similarly assessed. More than two-thirds of the landholders pay less than Rs. 10 a year to Government for their lands. The disastrous famine of 1876-78 which swept away nearly a third of the population was followed by a succession of unfavourable years and the districts have not yet fully recovered from their effects. A very large portion of the cultivable area is still unoccupied and the recent census of 1901 showed that in two of these districts, Kurnool and Cuddapah the population was still about 4½ per cent less than it was thirty years ago; while in the remaining two, Bellary and Anantapur, the increase was not more than 4 and 6½ per cent against an increase for the whole Presidency of 22·44 per cent for the same period.

'But with the exception of the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, the Cumbum tank in Kurnool and the Tungabhadra channels in Bellary, there are no important irrigation works and the crops are almost entirely dependent on a very precarious and scanty rainfall. The proportion of the occupied area irrigated in a normal year from all sources including wells, amounts to only 3 per cent in Bellary, 7 per cent in Kurnool and 13 per cent in Anantapur.'

and so on.

"Sir, the point that I was dealing with was that the periodical visitations of famines, and the consequent losses occurring to the people, and the condition to which they have been reduced by these periodical visitations of famines have not yet forced the Government to take steps in accordance with the advice of their own advisers and thus to find out a solution by the carrying out of the Tungabhadra scheme. Now, Sir, to-day, after years and years of investigation repeatedly carried out and shelved, we have finally come to another investigation and I do not know what the effect of this is going to be. We have no information in this House as to what the total cost of this scheme would be and how the Government are going to solve the question of financing this scheme. Now, Sir, when we are dealing with the question of finance, I should like to know what the Government are exactly going to do. Are they merely going to say when the estimates are received, as they have said repeatedly before, that the scheme would

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [16th March 1931]

not pay more than 1 or 2 per cent and that they are not in a position to sanction the scheme. If that is going to be the case, I think my indictment will be thoroughly justified. It was Lord Curzon, to whose genius and far-sightedness we owe the Irrigation Commission, that first of all suggested a solution for meeting the financial difficulties that might arise in connexion with these problems, at any rate with regard to execution of such large schemes which were known to be unproductive. In accordance with his advice the Irrigation Commission was constituted and one of the most valuable suggestions that that Commission put forward was one that referred to the methods for financing large schemes of irrigation which were recommended by that Commission. The proposal of the Irrigation Commission was, to put it briefly, that the losses that were expected to occur from the execution of unproductive schemes should be clubbed along with the returns which would be received by the execution of productive schemes and that the net loss, if any, should be met from the Famine Insurance Fund, which was constituted ten years ago by the Government of India and which was to be made up from a tax that was specially levied. And from this Famine Insurance Fund it was accepted, as a policy, that the expenditure to be incurred in connexion with protective irrigation works and protective railways and occasional famines should be met. In accordance with this decision, the Government undertook the execution of a number of famine protection railways and at the time when the Irrigation Commission reported, the scheme of famine protection railways was completely finished and it was expected that, from the annual recurring sum of 150 lakhs of rupees which were to be set apart every year by the Government of India, at least 75 lakhs of rupees would be available for the financing of irrigation schemes. In other words, so long as the net loss from the execution of large schemes of irrigation works recommended by the Irrigation Commission was not more than Rs. 75 lakhs, it was to be met from this Famine Insurance Fund, which as the Irrigation Commission calculated would amount to 75 lakhs after meeting the other claims on that fund. Irrigation Commission also remarked that the actual amount that would have to be found and that must be treated as loss was not the sum of 75 lakhs but that it would only amount to a sum of 75 lakhs minus 31 lakhs.

12-45 P.M. "The latter sum of Rs. 31 lakhs is the estimated amount of recurring famine relief expenditure that would be saved by the construction of these protective irrigation works. As I said, the Irrigation Commission calculated that the annual loss on account of the execution of such schemes would be only Rs. 42 lakhs. As I asked before, may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member once again that, if the whole of this scheme is to be scrapped, what is to happen to the Famine Insurance Fund? Looking at the present budget, we see that Government are now diverting large sums from the Famine Insurance Fund for other purposes. I do not know exactly what the Government of India is doing. I should not be surprised if the whole of this amount which was raised by special taxes which were intended to be earmarked for

16th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

the constitution of the Famine Insurance Fund, has been swallowed up by the increased salaries paid to officers in accordance with the recommendations of the Lee Commission, etc. What I wish to ask the Government is 'are you now setting apart this sum for the specific purpose for which the taxes were originally levied?' Even from our present budget we can see that they are diverting the amount of the Famine Insurance Fund to other purposes. I would like to know why the original proposals of the Government of India and the Irrigation Commission have been scrapped. If you scrap the proposals and methods suggested by the Irrigation Commission for financing big irrigation projects, what is the Government's alternative? If Government do not propose to take up the Tungabhadra project—I hope it is not the case—because this scheme will land them in a loss of Rs. 20 or Rs. 30 lakhs and that they cannot bear that loss, I would like to know from the Government what their answer is to the cry of these districts for relief. No investigation is necessary at all to show that the Tungabhadra project by itself will result in an annual recurring loss. If you are not going to meet losses on account of this scheme, from the Famine Insurance Fund, I want to know what is your alternative. This year you are in financial straits; you do not know when you will recover; it will take some years for our financial position to be sound. Are you going to tell us 'we have no money now, the country is passing through a financial crisis'? If you cannot take up this project either this year or next year, when are you going to take it up? I should like to have a straight answer from the Government to that question. As I say, it is no use telling us that a scheme like this is going to result in a financial loss, because everybody knows it. The whole history of the scheme should have convinced the Government that, if you look at the scheme from the revenue point of view, there would be some loss. It is a foregone conclusion that it will result in a financial loss. But the reason why the people and the Government have not been able to abandon the scheme, must convince the Government that, some day or other, they must carry out this scheme. There is no way out of it. If you have any claim to be the custodians of the welfare of the people and if your hearts are not hardened against the cry of these suffering millions, you must take up this scheme. If one single famine, which resulted in reducing the population of these districts by over a million, does not move your hearts, I wonder what will move your hearts. In any civilized country this state of things would not be tolerated for a moment. A famine like the famine of 1877-78 should have been sufficient to force any Government to carry out this scheme of famine protection as recommended by the Government's own advisers. Repeated Commissions after Commissions have stated that the only solution for this problem is the execution of the Tungabhadra project. There are many considerations which should influence the Government to sanction this scheme. The fact that there would be some loss should not deter the State at all. It should find the requisite money to meet this loss.

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [16th March 1931]

“Now, Sir, let me briefly mention the scope of the scheme. At one stage the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee was asked to report upon this matter. This Committee recognizing the fact that in accordance with the present policy of the Government, the Government would not sanction the scheme since it would result in financial loss, came to the conclusion that the Tungabhadra project and the Kistna projects should be dealt with as part of one whole scheme and that the proposals put forward by previous committees to treat these schemes as two independent schemes, were most inadvisable. The Tungabhadra scheme, if taken by itself, would surely mean an annual recurring financial loss while the Kistna scheme was expected to be remunerative. If Government must be induced at all to sanction a scheme of this magnitude, it would only do so if some method was devised by which the annual recurring loss could be minimized. In accordance with the recommendations of the Irrigation Commission itself which reported that irrigation schemes of the future should be clubbed together and that the loss and profits of all future extensions of irrigation should be pooled together, the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee also recommended that Government should deal with the Tungabhadra and Kistna projects as parts of one scheme; they have in their report recommended a particular order of execution of this combined scheme so that, at every stage of progress of the combined scheme, the Government will be in a position to make the maximum amount of revenue possible. But, Sir, in accordance with the recommendations of that Committee, the Government merely sanctioned the investigation of a portion of the Tungabhadra project. The Committee proceeded on the assumption that it would be impossible for the Madras Government to come to terms with His Exalted Highness the Nizam, whose territories would be submerged if the site at Malapuram had to be selected for the Tungabhadra project and Sangameswaram for the Kistna project. Proceeding on this assumption the Committee recommended two other sites. Before I refer to this matter further, may I ask the Government whether they cannot now come to terms with the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam, because, I am informed on very good authority, that they are willing at present to co-operate with the British Government and that they would come to some understanding? If so, I should consider it a great pity, if the best sites that have already been selected should be given up and alternative sites selected. The best site for the Kistna project would be Sangameswaram. There is absolutely, no doubt, that Sangameswaram possesses enormous advantages. For the Tungabhadra project, I do not think there is a better site than what has already been selected, viz., Malapuram. Timmalapuram, no doubt, possesses some advantages which enable you to command a larger area in the Bellary district. From the standpoint of cost, it will probably cost us more than if we select Malapuram; if that site is selected, then a portion of the Nizam's territory will be submerged; if Timmalapuram is selected, a portion of the Bombay territory and Sangli State would be submerged. From the standpoint

16th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

of submerged area also, there is not much advantage gained by selecting the site at Timmalapuram. Except for advantage of extra area being brought under irrigation in Bellary West, I should certainly think that it would be better to go back to Malapuram site. I ask once again whether Government cannot come to some terms now with the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam. The advantages of the site itself should force the Government to do all that is possible to see if we cannot adopt the original site. To give you, Sir, some idea of the advantages that will be derived from the scheme as recommended by the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee, may I say that, besides providing water for irrigation and famine protection in the districts of Bellary, Anantapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool, it would provide for irrigation also in the districts of Kistna, Guntur, Nellore and may I add, for the information of my hon. Friend, Mr. Sundara Rao Nayudu, for Chingleput also? My hon. Friend, Sir, asked the hon. the Revenue Member the other day, whether Government was going to undertake a scheme for connecting Tungabhadra with Cooum. Though there is nothing intrinsically absurd in the proposal, and though I am not here to recommend the consideration of the suggestion to the Government, I may say, Sir, that it was part of the original Tungabhadra project that water should be supplied to Nellore; the Nellore south canal was proposed by Mr. Mackenzie to be extended up to Kalahasti, apart from the question of supply available and the source from which you should take it. From the standpoint of levels, the proposal for digging this canal right up to the Palar, does not present any engineering difficulties. Thus, two-thirds of the Chingleput district can be supplied with water. The expectations of my hon. Friend, Mr. Sundara Rao Nayudu, of Kistna-Tungabhadra water supplying the citizens of Madras with a certain dependable quantity of drinking water is not, I think, absurd.

“Sir, I need not dilate on all these points, for the scheme is no 1 p.m. doubt one of great magnitude; and provided the Government only solve the financial problems connected with this, the project should result in untold good to the people of the districts which I have mentioned. Apart from the direct advantages, Sir, there will also be indirect advantages of no mean kind. There will be an increase in the general prosperity of the people, it would produce a large income-tax and it would result in a larger return from stamps and customs. It will be a real God-send to many a bankrupt district board, for, the increase in the amount of cesses alone would bring in a good deal of money to the poor boards in the districts I have mentioned. It would change the entire aspect of the country, it would banish famine and water scarcity and where there is poverty and penury, it would produce plenty and prosperity. Looking to the sufferings of these people in the past—and their sufferings continue even to-day on account of periodical failures of rainfall and failures of crops—may I not at least ask the Government to look at the enormous incidental advantages that will accrue from the carrying out of a scheme of this magnitude, the prospect of Government

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [16th March 1931]

deriving not only direct increased revenues but also indirect revenues, the prospect of enriching the many poor local boards in those districts and enabling them thereby to carry out many benevolent schemes for social amelioration? May I not ask the Government to look to the enormous and untold advantages that will accrue from the carrying out of this scheme; and may I not ask them to waste no more time in keeping the people in suspense in the realization of their long-deferred hopes? May I not ask them to come to a decision immediately and to expedite the sanction of a scheme that will change the face of so many of the most ill-favoured districts of this Presidency?

“While on this question, may I know why Government should say that this particular project is unremunerative and therefore, it cannot be sanctioned? Is all Government expenditure remunerative, Sir? What is the return that you expect from the Police, or what is the revenue return that you expect from your schemes of buildings and roads? Government are bound, by the very responsibilities that they undertake, not to throw aside once and for all any schemes of irrigation of a beneficent nature on the ground that they are unremunerative. I would ask them once again to go back to the far-sighted and beneficent policy of Lord Curzon and see that all measures that he recommended and that the Irrigation Commission recommended, are adopted in this Presidency, and that they face all necessary expenditure on these projects with confidence. I am sure that by doing so, they will be enhancing the prosperity of so many of the worst districts of this Presidency.

“May I now take advantage of this occasion, Sir, to refer to a few other irrigation systems of this Presidency? The other day I asked my hon. Friend the Revenue Member what he was proposing to do about the upland drainage question in connexion with the Vennar in the Tanjore delta. He told us that the Government propose to divert water from a catchment area of about 80 square miles above the Grand Anicut into the Coleroon. He also told me that it was reported by the Chief Engineer that the diversion above Kachamangalam anicut which would have disposed of drainage of an additional upland catchment area of about 120 square miles was found to be very costly and that the matter was still under consideration. May I, Sir, draw the attention of the hon. the Revenue Member to the fact that the entire catchment area of the upland drainage entering the Vennar up to Tanjore is about 340 square miles? If he would divert water only from 80 square miles, what are his proposals with regard to the remaining 260 square miles? The point is this: From the standpoint of the people, the Government have got very queer ideas of considering whether they should sanction particular schemes in connexion with these deltas. The peoples' standpoint has been urged repeatedly on the floor of this House in connexion with the Economic Enquiry in the Godavari and Kistna districts. The argument of that Committee with reference to the question of disposal of the upland drainage was that these delta systems were giving the Government at present an annual return of

[16th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

somewhere about 18 to 20 per cent on the capital outlay and that if the capital cost was doubled, say by proposals for diverting upland drainage or otherwise, Government would still be deriving enormous profits from these irrigation systems. But what is happening now? The profits that are made by the Government in these delta systems are being utilized for expenditure in other districts. One, however, need not object to that so long as the Government are prepared to spend the requisite amount of money for ameliorating the lot of those who are paying for irrigation and who are suffering and clamouring for relief.

“Now, with reference to the scheme of diversion of water above the Kachamangalam anicut, supposing it costs Rs. 40 lakhs,—I do not say that Government should spend it—but supposing they do spend it, what should be the result? The Cauvery delta system would still be a remunerative problem; and the people who have been paying the cesses all these years, who have submitted to resettlements on a number of occasions, and to whom you have at every resettlement promised relief—are they not entitled to an expenditure by you of these few lakhs? What does it matter after all? You would still find, after spending these few lakhs, that the delta system is remunerative. But the real point is this: The diversion of upland drainage for 80 square miles above the Grand anicut would not give the necessary relief. No doubt there will be some relief; but you have got to deal with this question as a whole and you cannot stop with doing portions of it at a time. And whenever you want to take in hand a scheme anywhere in the province, you want to know if it will pay. I again ask, what is your proposal for the diversion of the upland drainage? We do not know anything. In answer to a question, all that I learnt is that the Chief Engineer has reported that it would be too expensive. I hope that the Government will come to some decision about it early, and give to the people of Tanjore the relief that they have been demanding all these years, from 1892, relief which you have promised and which up to to-day you have not afforded them.

“May I also revert now to the recommendations of the Economic Enquiry Committee for Godavari and Kistna, with reference to certain important irrigation improvements, and with reference to this question of the diversion of upland drainage? I think the Committee gave incontrovertible proof in support of their assertion that the Godavari Western delta was being starved for irrigation water both during the first and the second crop seasons. What was the reply of the Chief Engineer? He said that sufficient water is being supplied during the first crop season, that on the whole it was working alright and that the Yerrakalva and the Rallamadugu were bringing supplies at times, that rainfall came at other times and so on. If the Yerrakalva and the Rallamadugu are good irrigation sources, it would be something. The fact is that the Yerrakalva and the Rallamadugu are not helping even their catchments at all. For instance, the Anumalanka project for storage in a reservoir on the Yerrakalva was given up because the supply was not dependable. In cases like this, why can't you take more

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [16th March 1931]

water from the Godavari? Why should people be told to look to the Yerrakalva and the Rallamadugu, when several millions cubic feet of water are running to waste into the sea? The demand of the people is 'utilize that water and give it to us; it can be done easily'. We have been told, Sir, that they propose to make some improvements to the head sluice. That is all to the good; we are thankful to the Government for it and they are also going to do something to the anicut shutters that will enable them to take in more water at the Godavari anicut. Of course I am not a 'professional' man now and I cannot set myself against the Chief Engineer; but it seems to me, if I may say so, that the proposals about the Godavari anicut are totally inadequate. It can as well be made to hold up six feet of water instead of three; and why not do it at once? What have you done since the delta system was inaugurated? Your original ayacut was about four lakhs; now it is nearly seven or eight lakhs. What is it that you have done in the way of increasing the capacity of these canals? The canals were designed before to carry large supplies, and you have taken advantage of that for raising the ayacut. That is all that you have done. You have also taken credit for what you do not deserve. It was a thing designed by the originators of the scheme, and you have extended the irrigation to the utmost limit possible. Indeed, when the people are saying that the supply is insufficient and yet they are asked to pay the annual cess, you say you are considering the proposal of increasing the height of the water at the Godavari anicut. I hope you will think of proposals which will yield more water than the Chief Engineer recognizes. If you spend, say Rs. 20 lakhs, on the anicut, there will be considerable advantage gained for the delta, and the system will still pay handsomely.

"About the question of upland drainage again, whenever people make representations, they have been told that the matter has been considered and it is too costly. May I ask for an alteration in the angle of vision of the Government in this matter? They ought to look at it from the standpoint of the people who are paying to them such large sums of money that you are able, after meeting the demands of these districts, to meet the demands of other districts as well, from the revenue derived from these districts. May I know if there is really any limit to be put on the expenditure demanded by these people?"

1-15
P.m.

"Sir, the complaint of the people is that these systems are enabling you to derive a profit of 20 per cent on the capital outlay; and what does it matter if by new expenditure you should reduce the profit to 10 per cent. So, I wish that the Government's policy in this matter will have to be altered and that they will consider particularly the question as to how far schemes for the diversion of upland drainage like the one for the Rallamadugu are feasible. May I also ask the Government to re-examine the whole question of the drainage of the Kollari barrier scheme, which was considered time and after and every time Government gave the same unsympathetic reply? I hope it will not be long before Government accept the request of these people and give them the relief for which they have been asking all these years."

16th March 1931]

* Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, if I rise to support the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, it is mainly with the intention of eliciting information from the Government as to the stage at which the Tungabhadra and the Sangameswaram projects stand and particularly to focus the attention of the Government to the claims of the Nellore district with reference to either of these projects. Sir, the hon. Mover of this cut motion has given us a very comprehensive survey of the whole history of these two projects. So far as the Tungabhadra project is concerned, its origin is to be found somewhere in the efforts made about a century ago to launch a project of that kind for the purpose of improving the irrigational facilities of the Bellary district. Since the year 1898, the question has been engaging the constant and continued attention of the Government and one project after another has been embarked upon for the purpose of investigation and have stood either in the stage of investigation or after an elaborate enquiry have been shelved. I refer to the project framed by Colonel Patrik in the year 1898 which included the district of Nellore, but it was soon after shelved.

"Again, in the year 1909, Colonel Smart prepared another scheme, where also particular attention was paid to the inclusion of the Nellore district. Mr. Mackenzie prepared a big estimate which also provided for the inclusion of adequate facilities by way of irrigation to a large tract of the Nellore district. Even the scheme prepared by Mr. Mackenzie was shelved. Later, I gather that my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar was constantly agitating the question in his official capacity. Lastly, the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee was constituted somewhere in the year 1925 with a view to go into the whole question of the provision of suitable irrigational advantages to the Ceded districts. Sir, I do not wish to complain, but I wish only to invite the attention of the Government to the claims of Nellore. Unfortunately, there is not even one member coming from the Nellore district. The terms of reference to that committee were confined more or less to the Ceded districts and did not include, if I remember right, subject to correction, the provision of facilities for the Nellore district, but I am glad to be able to state, however, that the committee did consider the case of Nellore also and in several cases have come to certain conclusions which I regret to state have proved to be adverse to the Nellore district.

"Now, Sir, so far as that committee's report is concerned, the committee suggested first of all that with regard to the Tungabhadra project, the site of the dam should be changed from Kollapuram to a place called Timmalapuram and in doing so, they suggested that the Nellore district should be brought altogether within the project. This committee also considered the Sangameswaram project and suggested that instead of an anicut or a dam at Sangameswaram one should be constructed at a place called Kondaputtur(?). Even with reference to that scheme, the committee suggested that the project might be deferred till the Tungabhadra project was taken in hand. Therefore, practically

[Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur] [16th March 1931]

the committee's recommendations came to a case of abandoning the question of providing facilities for the Nellore district, if not deferring the question indefinitely.

“Then, Sir, I am very glad to see that the then Chief Engineer, Mr. Hopkins, took a completely different view so far as the case of Nellore was concerned. He did not consider the question that Nellore should be cut out from the Tungabhadra project. He opined that the inclusion of Nellore will make the Tungabhadra scheme more remunerative. Therefore he suggested that Nellore should be included in the Tungabhadra project and also came to the conclusion that the Tungabhadra scheme should also be considered along with the Kistna project or the whole thing should be clubbed into one scheme and if it was a question of conflict between the two projects, he came to the conclusion that the Kistna project would prove a remunerative scheme. That was the state of affairs when the Government order which has been referred to by me in the notice of cut motion that I have given, namely, G.O. No. 1973, dated 16th December 1926, came into existence. That Government order gave the people of Nellore a hope that the whole scheme will be considered—I mean to say that the Tungabhadra *cum* Sangameswara scheme will be considered—and that the case of Nellore will also engage the attention of the Government. But from the few answers given on the floor of this House by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar who was then holding the Irrigation portfolio, we hoped that the claims of Nellore would be considered. On another cut motion that you were pleased to move on the occasion of the Budget for 1926–27, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar replying stated that the case of Nellore will also be considered. In this state of things, I wish to know whether having regard to what seems to have now transpired with reference to the Tungabhadra scheme, the Government are going to keep Nellore in view, while considering the Tungabhadra scheme or whether the Government will take up the Sangameswaram project and provide the Nellore district a place in that scheme and consider that scheme along with the Tungabhadra scheme or whether they will take steps for providing suitable irrigation facilities for the Nellore district?”

“Now, Sir, I need hardly make out a case for Nellore, because from the history that I have placed before the House with reference to the question, the House will probably agree with me that the case for Nellore is, but for the two deltas that are supposed to exist in the district, on a par with Ceded districts. Sir, the Sangam delta has been adverted to as one of the projects which would improve the condition of the ryots of Nellore. It is true that the Sangam delta has to some extent improved one or two taluks of that district, but the remaining taluks are as dry and as arid as the other taluks and are in great need of help as any other portions of the Ceded districts. I am sure the hon. the Revenue Member is personally aware of certain taluks like Kanigiri, Kavali and Kandukur taluks and some other taluks of the district, where the state of affairs is no better than some of the worst places in the Ceded districts. Sir, from time to time, as the consideration of

[16th March 1931] [Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur]

these projects has been going on, the people of the Nellore district who are in great distress and who have been the victims of famine very often, have been hoping and hoping, fondly too, that some project for supplying water will be available to them and that their condition of adversity would be converted to one of prosperity. But, unfortunately, those hopes were raised only to be somehow or other left unfulfilled. I hope that the Government will be pleased to consider whether they can include Nellore in the Tungabhadra project, if they have not already included it and if they have not included Nellore, whether the Sangameswaram project will be taken in hand along with the Tungabhadra project simultaneously for the improvement of the irrigation facilities in the Ceded districts, so that Nellore also might have the benefit of certain advantages which the neighbouring districts have. With these few words, I have great pleasure in supporting the motion made by my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.”

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—“Mr. President, Sir, representing the Ceded districts, which have been subjected to famine for a number of years, I may say that the people of the districts owe a deep debt of gratitude to the hon. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar for the very able way in which he has been championing the interests of the poor ryots of these districts, both in this House and outside. He has seen with his own eyes the condition of the people of those districts and it is his firm conviction that their needs are very great which require immediate redress. In matters of irrigation, he is a great expert, probably second to none in this province among either the non-officials or officials and I may say, Sir, he is a kind of provincial Varuna, having all the knowledge of the water deity, but not the capacity of the water deity to redress our grievances. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will co-operate with him by acceding to his wishes and by providing the necessary funds, so that we may have at an early date the required relief for all the ryots in our districts. Sir, even if the Tungabhadra scheme should be extended to Anantapur district, only two taluks will get the benefit of that scheme, namely, the taluks of Tadpatri and Gooty. I believe, it was the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee so ably presided over by the hon. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar that recommended that two more taluks may be brought under this scheme, that is, the taluks of Anantapur and Dharmavaram. I do not know whether Government will be pleased to include these two taluks also under the Tungabhadra scheme. Even if these four taluks are included in the Tungabhadra scheme, still five taluks will be left out and those taluks are in very bad need of water. Sir, several schemes from 1900 onwards were investigated and for some reason or other were shelved, some on the ground that they were not productive but only protective works. I believe the Dorival Reservoir scheme was given up on the ground that it was not productive, but the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee considered that it was a protective work. That being so, I do not see any reason why the Government should not take up that work and give some relief to those tracts, which in the opinion of the Irrigation Committee are worst affected by famine.

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

[16th March 1931]

"Then, another scheme called the Ethodu project which was investigated many years back was also given up under some pretext or other and several other smaller projects were also investigated and dropped. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will place complete reliance upon the opinions of experts and will go deeper into the question and see that the projects are put into execution. After all the cost of each project is not much, but if all the projects are executed, they are likely to give considerable relief to the poor population inhabiting the other five taluks of the district. Sir, if we go into the history of the district along with the three districts, barring of course some of the big tanks which came into existence during the time of the Vijayanagar Kings, water-supply in the district is practically nil. After the Mysore wars, all these districts came under the administration of the British. No doubt taxes are being collected. There is, of course, the Famine Relief Fund and I do not think anything was spent out of this fund to give additional water facilities to the ryots of these districts during the 130 years. That is a sad commentary on the British administration of these districts. People are suffering even during good as well as bad years on account of the inadequate supply of water. They have been sinking in poverty deeper and deeper, and here is a benevolent administration which did not move a little finger to remove these outstanding grievances of the ryots. So, Sir, if any impartial tribunal is set up and if this administration should take its trial, I am quite sure the decision of that tribunal will not be in favour of this Government. I hope, at least now, though it is nearly 130 years, Government will not sleep over their responsibilities but will take courage in both hands and on the advice of expert members like the hon. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar will take up the works in hand and give necessary relief to the ryots of the districts.

"I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will not give a formal reply and thus forget his responsibility to the people, but I hope he will give a very sympathetic reply and act up to that reply before he lays down his office. I appeal to him on behalf of the suffering five millions of people in the Ceded districts to take some interest in them and give them adequate relief."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have nothing to add to what has been said by my esteemed Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, who is an authority on the subject. I only request the Government to take up the Sangameswaram project immediately. If there is any difficulty of carrying out this project I submit Government should make a strenuous effort to come to an agreement with His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government as soon as possible. I may remind the hon. Revenue Member that his predecessor Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar has set an example in this matter

[16th March 1931]

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

by taking strenuous steps to bring the Madras and Mysore Governments to an agreement and, as a result of that, now we have the Mettur project. I request the hon. the Revenue Member to see that action is taken on the Sangameswaram project immediately by completing the negotiations as early as possible. Sir, Executive Councillors may come and Executive Councillors may go, but their names will be remembered by the people only when they take up such beneficial projects. I hope the hon. Revenue Member will earn the gratitude of the people of this province by taking up this project. Of course there is the financial difficulty, but the necessary money can be got from the capital account; as it is to benefit the posterity you should not take it from the revenue account. Sir, by this particular project not only one district but various parts of the Presidency will be benefited. For we must remember that if Sangameswaram project is taken up it will benefit not only Nellore and the Ceded districts but also Chingleput district. Sir, we have been seeing member after member rising in his seat in this House and telling us how the Ceded districts have to suffer from famine off and on, and we have also heard representatives from Nellore saying that the project will be of immense benefit to the people of that district. And I wish to say a few words on behalf of the Chingleput district. Sir, in this district the yield of the land is poor, but the tax is heavy; so that every year the ryot is becoming poorer and poorer and sometimes he has to sell his land and migrate to other parts. Sir, there are so many rivers in the district, but there is no arrangement to conserve the water. It is allowed to flow into the sea and thus wasted. Not only in this district—but in every district—there are such rivers, but no attempts are made by Government to conserve their water; and especially is this true of Chingleput district? If only Government take some pains to conserve the waters in the rivers the position of the ryots will be improved.

"Sir, what will happen under the Sangameswaram project is this. Out of 90 millions of acres of land in our Presidency only 34 millions are being cultivated, 13 millions are forests, and 19 millions are uncultivable. Now if the Sangameswaram project is undertaken at least a million acres of land will be cultivated, it may augment the produce to meet the growing demands of the province. It may give work to a large body of labourers. It may also afford work to the repatriated labourers who are pouring into the province in large numbers. Sir, as time is up and as my friends are requesting me to stop and give them a chance, I resume my seat."

* Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, last time, during the discussion of the budget I made certain remarks in connexion with the Tungabhadra project, and I do not want to repeat the same thing now. I think there are three outstanding features which cannot be forgotten by anybody. Time after time members have drawn a lurid picture of the suffering of the people of the Ceded districts in times of famines. Every word of that description is quite true. Secondly great expectations have been raised in the minds

[Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar] [16th March 1931]

of the people of my part with regard to this project and they are believing that the Tungabhadra scheme will be carried out very soon. Thirdly, Sir, in order that this project may be put into execution already certain sums have been spent, and it will be unkind, I was about to say mere cruelty, on the part of the Government to delay the further progress of the scheme.

"Sir, the other day, the hon. the Revenue Member and after him the hon. the Finance Member expressed surprise when I said that the Ceded districts would be able to raise 13 crores, if the Government were to raise the financial difficulty. They said that probably I was over-optimistic; and they probably thought that I was a mad man raving when I said that 13 crores of rupees could be made available from the Ceded districts, as though it was a land flowing with milk and honey. What I said was that we will go begging from door to door, we will beg, we will steal, nay we will do anything to raise that money.

"As a matter of fact, Sir, the objection probably is that this is not a productive scheme. As a matter of fact, Sir, every irrigation project is not a productive project from its inception. May I ask what was the condition of the Kistna and Godavari districts before the irrigation schemes in those districts were undertaken? May I know what was said of those schemes when they were started? Did not famines ravage those districts before they were converted into a deltaic region? Were those projects in those districts productive from their inception?

"Sir, though I am not an expert, I think I can say, from the little knowledge I have of my district that the lands of the Ceded districts are very rich lands; they are alluvial lands; and if only Government are pleased to see that this project is at once given effect to, the price of lands will immensely go up and later on, probably in the course of ten years, or twelve years, may be, it may even be less than that period, the scheme may prove to be a productive one. Probably it may be only a protective scheme. But is it not desirable that instead of wasting money by lakhs and lakhs, every time when famines break out, I ask once again, is it not desirable that some constructive proposal is taken up so that the Ceded districts may be saved once for all from those periodical famines? I am sure the hon. the Revenue Member will be well-advised and I hope he will exert his influence with the Government to see that this project is put into execution.

"Well, Sir, I think so far as the Nizam's Government is concerned it is said that it may take some time before an agreement is reached with them. I may here tell hon. Members who may be interested to hear, that I had the privilege of conversing with Mr. Tasker of the Nizam's Government last Christmas when he had been to Bellary, and he told me that the Nizam's Government are very keen and very anxious to co-operate with the Madras Government in order to see the speedy execution of this project. However, I believe it may take time and probably it will be several years before the scheme is adumbrated and the plans and estimates are submitted. And in the meantime the

16th March 1931] [Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar]

people of my parts will have to go on suffering under the famines. So what I would suggest is to take up the recommendations of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee and proceed with the scheme at Timmalapuram site in the Bellary district leaving aside the Malapuram site for the present. This scheme will submerge certain villages in the Bombay Presidency but they will be only too glad to proceed with this, as it will be beneficial to them also. So I would request the hon. the Revenue Member to take up the reservoir scheme which is being kept in abeyance. I may also tell him that there is already distress in my district and if this project is proceeded with it will give employment to hundreds and hundreds of labourers. So I hope he will take the initiative in the matter and try to complete the scheme as early as possible.

"If they do not make a start, then I am afraid the people will only think that the Madras Government is tantalizing. Certainly that will be the impression. And I suppose probably the hon. the Revenue Member may reply that very soon we will have provincial autonomy and it will be left for us entirely to see that this project is carried out. That I believe will be more or less evading the question. So I would request the hon. the Revenue Member to see that at least this modest scheme is carried into effect by the Government."

* Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—"I move that the question be now put."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. the Revenue Member must be given an opportunity to reply to the debate. That will be the reasonable course to adopt."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, the speeches that have been made referred mainly to the Tungabhadra project. I listened with considerable interest to the speech of the mover of this resolution, in the course of which he gave us a very full account of the Tungabhadra project and its past history. Sir, I may say that in trying to persuade me to push on with the scheme he is endeavouring to convince a person who was already convinced. I sympathize very much with all that has been said regarding the delays in the past in bringing the scheme to fruition and it is the earnest desire of the Government to do all they can to have the scheme carried out with as little delay as possible. Now, Sir, the mover referred to the fact that there has been nothing but one investigation after another. I may perhaps remind him that the last investigation which was completed last year was made on the recommendation of the Ceded districts Irrigation Committee of which my hon. Friend was the President; and I am quite sure that he will agree that the investigation was wisely carried out. When we received the report of that preliminary investigation, I took steps to get into touch with the other Governments who were principally concerned, whether the site of the reservoir is at Mallapuram or at Timmalapuram: we are in correspondence with the Governments of Bombay, Mysore and Hyderabad. And I myself proceeded last

2-45
p.m.

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [16th March 1931]

August to Hyderabad and had a conference with some of the members of His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government on this subject, and I hope, as a result of the action we have taken, we may before long, have a joint investigation carried out to see if we can agree to some arrangement together for the execution of the project on the Tungabhadra and Kistna, for the two are necessarily correlated. I agree, Sir, that it is desirable, for administrative reasons as well as for financial reasons, that these two schemes should be regarded as one. The two reservoirs and the connected irrigation may be regarded as one project. I am afraid, Sir that until we have completed the arrangements with the other Governments concerned as to the share of water which we may give to each State and as to the submersion of land and the share of the expenditure, it will be impossible and impracticable for us to begin any scheme. Obviously we cannot begin, as suggested by the last speaker, to construct the Timmalapuram dam until we come to some arrangement with the Bombay Government as well as the other Governments concerned. For that reason, Sir, it has not been possible to make any allotment for this project in this budget, as the hon. Members are also aware, that owing to the present financial stringency we cannot obtain any loan of funds from the Government of India except for the Cauvery-Mettur project; nor can we raise money otherwise. We are however trying to come to some arrangement by which this project may be begun when the Cauvery-Mettur project is completed or within a short time of its completion.

"As regards the exact ayacut of the Tungabhadra project, and the question whether it will extend to the Nellore and Chingleput districts. I cannot say anything definite at the present time. The actual details cannot be worked out until we know how much water we can reasonably expect to obtain in a normal year—how many cusecs we shall be entitled to take under these two projects—and so it is impossible to say at present whether we can extend the irrigation as far as the Nellore and Chingleput districts. But hon. Members may be quite sure that we shall endeavour to make the best use possible of the water that will be at our disposal.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar referred to the Famine Relief Fund, and stated that we are using the Famine Fund for purposes other than that for which it is intended. The objects on which expenditure may be incurred from this fund are laid down in statutory rules which will be found in Schedule IV of the Devolution Rules, and I am not aware, Sir, that we have deviated from those rules in any respect whatsoever. Those rules lay down briefly that normally three lakhs a year should be added by this Government to the Famine Relief Fund. But if this fund exceeds at any time 40 lakhs, then we may reduce the amount to be credited to this fund. We may also use the excess to meet the expenditure on protective irrigation works and other works for the prevention of famine and the grant of loans to cultivators for relief purposes or in repayment of advances from the Provincial Loans Fund and so on.

16th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

"On a suggestion made in this House in the course of the discussion of the Budget last year, I took up the question whether it would be possible to find any irrigation works on which the amount in excess of the Famine Relief Fund can legitimately be spent, and as a result of that examination we have obtained sanction to carry out one irrigation work which otherwise would not be carried out.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar also referred to the Cauvery Irrigation Committee's report and certain measures which are recommended therein, some of which the Government have already carried out. Here again, Sir, we are handicapped by want of funds. The funds at our disposal are, as hon. Members are aware, quite insufficient for all the works recommended, and we are carrying out such works as can be most usefully carried out with the funds at our disposal. The scheme which my hon. Friend referred to, to drain 116 square miles of land by diverting the drainage across the Cauvery above the Katchamangalam anicut into the Coleroon is, as has been already stated, a very expensive scheme. Some 40 lakhs or so is, I believe, the estimated cost of the scheme, and at present it does not seem likely that we could get corresponding benefits from it. Meanwhile, we are examining the question whether we cannot give the desired relief in some more economical way. As I have already stated, and as hon. Members are aware, the diversion of drainage water from 82 square miles above the Grand Anicut is now being carried out, and will very shortly be completed.

"As regards the Godavari Anicut, the proposal was made to erect shutters six feet high on the anicut, but the Chief Engineer stated that at a very much lower cost a very considerable improvement can be effected in the supply from the anicut by a slight alteration in the existing shutters. He has carried out those alterations, and we are waiting to see what is the effect of the alterations. If more water is required, hon. Members may be quite sure that we shall take the matter into consideration and see what is to be done.

"My hon. Friend also referred to the drainage problems, particularly in the West Godavari district. I know that part of the country myself and when I was Collector of the district I endeavoured to see that the attention of the officers concerned was drawn to the desirability of improving the drainage facilities; and a great deal has been done since I was there as Collector, in certain directions. There have been, as the hon. Member himself stated, some investigations into the question of mitigating the damage done by the floods in the Collair Lake; hitherto no effective scheme has been devised which could be carried out at reasonable cost. And I am afraid I cannot hold out much hope of finding any practicable scheme. I will, however, ask the Chief Engineer if he can suggest any other means of affording relief in that direction.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Kondappa, referred to certain minor projects in the Ceded districts. These local projects have all been carefully

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [16th March 1931]

investigated but have been abandoned for one reason or another. It must be borne in mind that we have already a very large number of irrigation works—tanks and other works—scattered all over the province, and if we think of starting new works or new tanks, we have to be very careful that in doing so we will not in any way be depriving some of the existing irrigation works of their supply of water. Further we have already had examples of irrigation works being carried out and it being found by experience that the supply of water from the water-shed was insufficient for the expected irrigation. These considerations lead us to go rather cautiously with reference to new irrigation projects of this nature.

“There is another point to be considered in connexion with rain-fed tanks which it is proposed to construct as protective works, and that is that if there is scarcity of local rainfall, they naturally fail in the very years when we particularly want them to help us. I do not think that is sufficient reason for turning down absolutely any irrigation project, because I do realize that an irrigation work even if it does not function in a year of drought, may still benefit the people of the locality in other years and thereby enable them to be in a better position in years of drought than they could be otherwise. But we must not expect too much from such irrigation works.

8 p.m. “During the past year we have established an Irrigation Development Board and the Secretariat has taken up the examination of all those projects which had been rejected on one ground or another. It will be the duty of the Irrigation Development Board to examine such schemes or any other schemes that may be brought forward from time to time and decide what schemes could be placed before the Government either as productive or protective works or for execution as famine works. It is also their duty to watch the development of irrigation works after their execution by the public Works Department has been completed. That matter has not been anybody's duty so far but it has rested with the Government itself to watch the development. I hope, Sir, these facts will show that the Government are as anxious as any one else to push forward irrigation schemes and to develop irrigation projects. I can assure hon. Members that as long as I am in office I shall do my best to further the development of irrigation projects in the Presidency.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“In view of the very sympathetic remarks of the hon. the Revenue Member, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“I move—

‘that the allotment of Rs. 47,79,100 for irrigation be reduced by Rs. 100.’

[16th March 1931] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

“Sir, irrigation plays a large part in helping agriculture. Government must take up a bold policy and formulate a general scheme of irrigation which can be made applicable to the whole province. The West Coast districts have been entirely neglected in this matter. I find from the budget that about 98 lakhs are provided for irrigation works and out of this Rs. 17 and odd lakhs are to be spent for minor irrigation works. Government are spending absolutely nothing for irrigation works in South Kanara. In Malabar, they are spending a paltry sum of Rs. 50 or so. We are depending entirely on rainfall for our cultivation work. There is no conservation of rain water nor any attempt at utilization of river water. Much of our rain and river water is allowed to run into the sea carrying away with it much of the manure put into the fields. Why should not Government investigate the possibilities of minor irrigation works in the West Coast districts and see what scope there is for well or tank irrigation? They can repair old tanks and construct new tanks. They can help the people to put up bunds and utilize river water for purposes of raising a second crop or third crop. An adequate supply of water is what is most vital to the needs of the ryots. A survey of sub-soil water-supplies will make it possible for advice to be given in regard to the probabilities of finding water. I hope, Sir, the Revenue Member will pay serious consideration to this subject and do justice to Malabar and South Kanara.”

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, the object of my cut motion is to press upon Government the need for minor irrigation works in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara. The attention of the Government, was in previous years, drawn to this need, yet nothing has so far been done in that direction. Speaking in March 1927, Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar, who then represented Malabar, said: ‘There is an idea abroad that, as Malabar gets a large quantity of rainfall in the south-west monsoon it is a district flowing with milk and honey. That idea, Sir, is wrong. The Government, no doubt have not been pleased till now to grant us any major irrigation work and, although we want them, we shall be satisfied if they grant us some minor irrigation works at least.’ The reply of the then Revenue Member, Sir Norman Marjoribanks, to the speeches on this point was: ‘Another hon. Member referred to the need for minor irrigation works in the West Coast. I do not know if we are asked to investigate schemes of irrigation works in those districts. No doubt, a time may come for that.’ May I know, Sir, from the hon. the Revenue Member whether the time has not yet come? How long have Malabar and South Kanara to remain in the waiting list. The memorial recently submitted to His Excellency the Governor, by the Zamorin, Raja of Calicut and many others in Malabar, proves the urgency for minor irrigation works in the district. Sir, I shall read just one relevant paragraph from that memorial. ‘Your Excellency's humble memorialists most respectfully beg to submit that agriculture is the chief means of livelihood for the inhabitants of this district; that paddy,

[Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar] [16th March 1931]

coconuts, arecanuts, pepper and other produce form the principal produce of their land; that they have mostly to depend upon the rains for watering their crops as they have not had the benefit of any irrigation works by the Government; that the rains have in recent years become scanty or abnormally heavy; and that consequently their crops almost always fail and do not yield a reasonable outturn. This is the position we find ourselves in for some time past. There are taluks like Ponnani, Walluvanad and Palghat, which year after year suffer from want of sufficient rainfall. Some schemes have been proposed by Government, but none has fructified so far. The districts of Malabar and South Kanara should not in this manner be neglected any longer. Bunds or embankments which will not entail heavy expenditure will render thousands of acres profitable to the poor tenants. To instance but one urgent need, an embankment at 'Kunduchira' in the Kottayam taluk has been a long-felt want. At this place called 'Kunduchira' to prevent ingress of salt water into miles of paddy flats, poor tenants with subscribed amounts used yearly to put up, until some years back, a mud embankment. Though these temporary embankments did not achieve the results which a permanent embankment would have achieved, yet so long as that could be done it afforded great relief. Because of the growing poverty of the district and the consequent inability to find funds, the poor tenants have not in recent years been able to put up even the temporary embankments. The result is that over 10,000 acres of land have considerably deteriorated owing to absorption of salt water at high tides. During the pre-Reform Legislative Council days, the necessity for an embankment at 'Kunduchira' was urged upon Government by the late hon. Vengail Kunhi Raman Nayanar and Government had plans and estimates prepared. There is, I understand, a big file relating to this matter in the office of the Sub-Collector at Tellicherry. The hon. the Revenue Member will get full information on this point if a reference is made to the Collector of Malabar. May I appeal to him to do this and start at once at 'Kunduchira' and other places in Malabar minor irrigation works? I confidently trust this appeal will not be in vain."

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"I wish to draw the attention of the hon. the Revenue Member from the great projects, which we have already discussed involving an expenditure of 40 lakhs of rupees, to a minor matter under the head of Minor Irrigation. My only excuse for bringing that before the House is that many representations were made on that subject but these have not borne any fruit. I expect, Sir, that if we direct the attention of the hon. the Revenue Member, on the floor of the House, this matter will meet with a better fate. Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion to discuss the urgent necessity of a scheme being drawn that would ensure a steady and unfailing supply of water to the Tiruppattur big tank either through the excavation of a new channel direct to the Tiruppattur tank or by cleaning, widening, deepening or reconstructing the existing channels or by any other means that may be found more feasible. Sir, to the questions that

16th March 1931] [Mr. Yakub Hasan]

were put on this subject the answer was given that the first of these two or three schemes could not be taken into hand because the excavation of a new channel from the Reid Sahib's Anicut direct to the Tiruppattur tank would be a very costly one. But no idea was given how much it will cost. From the private sources I have gathered that the new channel would not cost more than Rs. 60,000. Sir, on account of this interruption of water from this anicut to the big tank, the agriculture in the neighbourhood has suffered very much and the Revenue Member himself has given an answer to a question that as much as Rs. 79,032-9-0 was given away as remission for four faslis 1336—1339. This remission which is a loss to the Government could have been saved by an expenditure of a paltry sum of Rs. 60,000 in taking a new channel from the Reid's Anicut to the Tiruppattur big tank. Then, Sir, the objection to another scheme was that the scheme would benefit the mittadars as they were on the way and that they refuse to contribute anything to the scheme. Because these mittadars who would benefit by this channel were not prepared to contribute towards the cost of it, that is no reason for the people at Tiruppattur to be deprived of this means of irrigation. Sir, the result is that whenever there was a little prospect of flow of water, the ryots resorted to the expediency of putting up sand bags on the anicut. One of the proposals was that the anicut should be so raised that the water that would overflow could be diverted on the other side. Even that proposal was not attended to with the result that these poor ryots had to go year after year, collect subscriptions, fill up the sand bags and place them on the anicut which is a most primitive way of diverting water. That scheme would not cost much and yet even in regard to that nothing has been done.

"Sir, in giving notice of my cut motion, I have said that my object is that either a new channel from Reid Sahib's Anicut may be brought direct to the Tiruppattur tank or that the existing channels may be cleaned, widened or deepened or reconstructed. Or, if either of these two schemes is not feasible, then I leave it to the Irrigation department itself to find out some other means of providing an adequate supply of water to this tank. Surely you cannot expect always that the ryots themselves should come forward with an expert scheme and place it before you, so that you may examine it and take it up. If a grievance is placed before you, it is your duty to do some other thing if one thing is not possible and give relief to the ryots by some means or other. So far I have spoken about the water that can come from the eastern side to the tank. On the west, there are two channels. Across one of these, called the Hanumanthan karai, several mud dams about 140 in number are being placed now and then to divert water to the neighbouring fields; even then water used to overflow these mud dams and some water used to flow to Tiruppattur. Sometimes the Tiruppattur people used to go up some way and remove some of the mud dams, so that the water may flow to their place. Now, Sir, about two months ago, Mr. Russell, the Collector, has permitted a 5-foot masonry dam to be constructed there in order to stop the overflow of

8-15
p.m.

[Mr. Yakub Hasau]

[16th March 1931]

water permanently, and this permission has been given *ex parte*, and the people of Tiruppattur were not consulted in the matter. To this also I wish to draw the attention of the hon. the Irrigation Member.

“There is a memorial before the Revenue Department about the supply of drinking water that used to come through another channel Pachal kavai to the Chetti tank. In this case too similar difficulty is being felt. But, if a new channel is excavated from the Reid Sahib's Anicut, that will also solve the difficulty about the drinking water. Now, many wells six of which have been constructed at the cost of the Government are all dry because the bed of the big tank is dry. If water comes into the big tank, then these wells also will get water, and this difficulty also will be removed. I do not wish to take up any more time of the House. But I would appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member to give his best attention to all these grievances and needs of the people who are entirely depending on the Tiruppattur big tank. If he simply promises to do the needful—N E E D F U L—in the matter and kindly sees that the needful is really done, I would take his promise and be quite satisfied and feel grateful to him on behalf of the long-suffering public of Tiruppattur.”

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—“Sir, the irrigation policy of the Government has been that of giving to those that have already got and of taking from those even the little they have already. Sir, it is the deltas that have been receiving the attention of the Government both in season and out of season, and the other areas, the upland areas, receive very little attention from the Government. Sir, even when the Mettur Project was proposed for the purpose of giving more water to the Tanjore district, a cry was raised in this Council with a view to drawing attention to the needs of such of the areas of the Presidency as are almost famine-stricken two years in three. Sir, the needs of the Ceded districts and the needs of the Coimbatore and Salem districts were prominently brought before this Council, and the then Irrigation Member gave a definite promise that the Upper Bhavani Project will be taken up and proceeded with along with the Mettur Project. Now, Sir, we know that after that promise was given an enquiry was made with the result that the Government dropped the idea of the Upper Bhavani Project. But still there is the Lower Bhavani Project which is admittedly a remunerative project. It is not a matter in which the Government is going to lose anything by undertaking the project. It is a matter, if anything, in which the Government stands to gain. But, in spite of that, the Government would not sanction the scheme and take it in hand. Well, Sir, it is unfortunate that the cries of people who are suffering do not reach the ears of Government, or even if they reach the Government, they do not find a response. Sir, most parts of the Coimbatore district get about 20 inches of rain in a year, and even that is not regular. Sometimes, the rainfall is such that we get a major portion of it within a few days, so that the agriculturist gets no benefit whatever from it, and

16th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

the result is the people have to live from hand to mouth, and most people become indebted. Even drinking water is found scarce in several places during several months in the year. In spite of all that, nothing has really been done to improve the state of things. So, I request the hon. the Irrigation Member not to delay sanctioning a matter in which the Government would not lose anything. It is a remunerative project. It is a productive project. The sooner it is undertaken the better it will be both in the interests of the Government as well as in the interests of the people.

“Well, Sir, there are several other projects, minor projects, which the Government can undertake. One matter, I would specially bring to the notice of the Irrigation Member is this, viz., the need for the resluicing and improvement of all the irrigation channels. Water is now allowed to be wasted, and especially in the Pollachi taluk as well as in the Gopichettipalayam taluk. For want of money resluicing has been waiting for some years in the channels from the Aliyar and the Palar rivers. If resluicing and improvements were carried out in those channels, several hundreds of acres would be brought under cultivation. Again, there is the Coimbatore water-supply scheme under which it was expected that about 2,500 or 3,000 acres of land can be brought under wet cultivation. Well, Sir, I don't know at what stage the proposals now stand, and whether the Government have come to any conclusion with reference to giving water for irrigation from the Coimbatore water-supply scheme.

“Then, Sir, there is one general matter about which I should just say a word or two, namely, the responsibility of the Government in keeping channels and tanks under repair. Well, Sir, they are collecting revenue, and that includes the duty not merely of the collection of revenue but also of seeing that the water reaches the ryot and that in sufficient quantity. For that, the tanks and channels have to be kept in good repair. Now, in most cases, so far as minor irrigation channels are concerned—now I do not refer to the technical classification of minor irrigation works, but I am referring to all irrigation works in non-deltaic areas—so far as these are concerned, the Government do not care to see that they are kept under repair, so that a sufficient water-supply reaches the ryot. This is a matter in which the Government are certainly bound to see that the channels and tanks are kept in proper repair and early attention is paid by the subordinates to prepare their estimates and to carry out the works as quickly as possible. This matter is one which the Government will have to consider without any delay. I am sorry, Sir, I have no time to refer to this matter at length, but I am sure the hon. the Irrigation Member realizes the importance of this and also the responsibility of the Government in the matter.”

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“Mr. President, Sir, the first two hon. Members who spoke on this motion come from the West Coast,

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [16th March 1931]

and they complained that the Government were not giving any irrigation facilities in Malabar and South Kanara. I am sure that the House will realise that in that respect those districts are in a more advantageous position than other parts of the province. It is true, as my hon. Friend from South Kanara remarked, that a great deal of water goes to the sea, and if another Periyar project could be undertaken there, it would add to the facilities for irrigation in the eastern side of the ghats but I am afraid it would not help the people of South Kanara. But I am doubtful whether there are any really important projects which could be carried out in the West Coast, considering the lavish rainfall in those districts. The nature of the country near the coast is such that any tanks would necessarily be small and in most years, their assistance in supplying water could be quite unnecessary. If any particular project which will really be useful, is suggested, I am quite prepared to consider it.

“ My hon. Friend Mr. Yakub Hasan, referred particularly to the Tiruppattur big tank and he asked that measures should be adopted to increase the supply of water to that tank. I have already given information in reply to a question, that certain proposals had been made which on examination had to be abandoned one as being too expensive and the others because they would benefit primarily mitta tanks and the mittadars refused to contribute. I shall bear in mind what my hon. Friend has said here and ask the Chief Engineer whether he can devise any measures which the Government can accept for the improvement of the supply to the tank.

“ My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, also, I think, referred to the minor irrigation works and the desirability of doing more work than has been done in the past. In recent years, the Government have spent a great deal of money on the repair of minor irrigation works. In 1925–26, the amount spent on the repair of minor irrigation works was less than Rs. 7½ lakhs, but in each of the last two years something over Rs. 12 lakhs; we expect to spend about Rs. 12 lakhs this year, and the budget allotment for the next year is Rs. 14 lakhs. We have also taken measures to ensure that repairs should be carried out as quickly as possible by empowering the Collectors to sanction estimates up to a certain amount without waiting for the allotment of funds by the Board of Revenue, so that they can take advantage of the best season each year, especially April, May and June, for carrying out these works. All these orders are having a definite effect on the upkeep of the minor irrigation works.

“ My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, referred to the Lower Bhavani Project that is now under investigation. Before detailed plans and estimates can be prepared, the question must be settled whether they should be prepared on the basis that the crops grown will be dry crops or on the basis that they will be wet crops. That question is under consideration.

16th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

“ We hope to finish this investigation as early as possible. I may say that I had a conference on this subject with the Chief Engineer and local engineers some months ago. 3-80 p.m.

“ Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar also referred to the desirability of improving certain channels under the Bhavani. That is a matter which has been under consideration for some time past. Our Engineers are considering the question how it can best be done. When they are able to work out definite proposals we will take up one or two channels as an experimental measure in order to avoid serious mistakes. If the experiments prove successful we hope to take up other channels later on. Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar also suggested that the Siruvani water-supply scheme for Coimbatore town might supply water for irrigation also. That is also under investigation. Gaugings are being taken and proposals are being examined to see what can be done in that direction.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The demand was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND VII—IRRIGATION—CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT—RESERVED

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—“ Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

‘ that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 81,53,000 under Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved ’.”

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—“ Sir, I beg to move—

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 81,53,000 for Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved—be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ My object in moving this cut motion is to urge the necessity for supplying water to Salem and Coimbatore districts from the Mettur reservoirs. The proposal for constructing a reservoir at Mettur was in the air for a long time and only now it is becoming a reality. The work of the dam has been begun and is in progress. For the purpose of constructing this dam, about 20 villages in Salem district had to be acquired by the Government and the inhabitants of these villages had to be driven away from that area. In this way the people of Salem have been made to sacrifice their previous homes for this dam. The people of the district of Coimbatore also were made to suffer a good deal by the construction of this project. But, it is pitiable to note that in the end the sufferings of these people have been ignored and water-supply for irrigation from this dam has been refused to their districts. In connexion with this scheme, I believe, with a view to extend the wet area of Salem a little more, some scheme down the river Cauvery was also contemplated. I think one of such was investigated in Namakkal taluk. The existing Pyyeri channel in Paramathi area was proposed to be widened and taken to a long distance. At present in the Namakkal taluk there is a wet area about 6,000 acres and, by this scheme which I have just

[Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder] [16th March 1931]

mentioned, some 5,000 acres more will come under irrigation. It seems that for this scheme survey has been completed, sketches have been prepared by the Revenue Department with the help of the minor irrigation overseers and the same submitted to the Chief Engineer of Mettur. I do not know what has become of it. It seems even the Engineer has remarked that this was a fruitful and easy scheme, and I request the Government to look into the matter, and set their heart to help the people of Salem. Then again, coming to the matter, dam proper, I submit that it is very hard to the people of Salem to deprive them of the benefit of this reservoir which has been built at a great cost and much at their expense. A year ago, on account of some agitation, a survey was ordered to examine the feasibility of supplying water to Salem from Mettur reservoir and it was in progress for about six months. But now I am sorry to understand that the Government have no idea of supplying water to the Salem district from the dam. In this connexion I have no hesitation to observe that the Government with a prepossessed object of not supplying water to Salem from the Mettur reservoir, but simply to satisfy the people, have sanctioned the investigation by their own Engineers and got a report as they wanted. But I would request the Government not to prejudge that Salem and Coimbatore districts should not be supplied with water for irrigation at all costs and then order an investigation to explore the matter once again. I will be satisfied if such an investigation is made by a non-official committee of engineers, like my hon. Friend Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and a retired Irrigation Engineer, Mr. Manikka Nayakar, one of our district men and their unbiased opinion is taken. I also learn that the river Cauvery has got a slope of about 6 feet in a mile and the lands on both sides of the river are not more than 15 to 20 feet in height. So, if the channels are taken some three miles up the river from convenient points it would be easy to irrigate the areas three or four miles down the river from the point where the channels are taken. We can thus easily irrigate a large area. Such things the Government are not taking into consideration. Besides Mettur, there are also other cheap irrigation sources in Salem district in abundance, but the Government are reluctant to take them up. From Mr. Lefanee's Manual of the Salem district compiled in about the year 1870 we can see that there are very many irrigation sources in this district which will give even 20 per cent return on the outlay. It is said that those were not taken up at that time for want of funds. I request that somehow or other funds should be found now at least to take up those works to provide irrigation facilities to the ryots of Salem. Some 10 miles down from Mettur just near Poolampatti in Turuchengodu taluk there is an old dam partly washed away. If that dam is improved we can take water by channels and irrigate about 15 to 20 thousand acres, in case the supply of water by channels direct from Mettur is found absolutely impossible. As I said, if this dam is improved it will help the Salem people to a very great extent by enabling them to irrigate a fairly large area. I earnestly request the hon. Member for Revenue to consider some of these possibilities and render help to the ryots of Salem."

16th March 1931]

*Rao Bahadur S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, as I have also given notice of a similar cut motion, I wish to say a few words. Sir, it is a well-known fact that Salem is one of the driest districts in this presidency where the annual rainfall is utterly insufficient for the purpose of cultivation. The poor ryots have to struggle for water and supplement the rainfall by resorting to lift irrigation from wells. Even these methods are by no means easy as the wells have usually to be dug very deep. When this is the state of affairs in the Salem district under our very nose, a project costing about ten crores of rupees is nearing completion and yet we cannot get a drop of water for our purpose. This scheme is intended to irrigate some portions of Tanjore which has already got plenty of rainfall and other facilities for irrigation. Seeing that Salem had no place in this scheme, a resolution was brought in and passed by this House expressing the opinion of the House on the claim of Salem district to participate in the benefit derived from this project. But I am told that the matter has been investigated and declared to be impracticable owing to the higher level and loose soil of the Salem district. I am sorry I am unable to see how it is impracticable. My opinion is that the Government, if they are really sincere, can make it possible to carry water to Salem, probably at an additional cost. Therefore, I would suggest, as proposed by my hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder that a committee consisting of some experts and some non-official members of this House should be appointed to go into this question once again and see whether this problem can be satisfactorily solved. I request the Government to adopt this course as early as possible."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, this is a matter which has been several times discussed in this House. I trust that it will meet with a better fate now. Sir, at the time when the Mettur Project was under contemplation, the representatives of both Coimbatore and Salem pressed on the Government the necessity for giving water from that project to these two districts. Sir, the justice of the demand was never questioned. Sir, the dam itself has been constructed submerging a vast area in these two districts. In other directions also these two districts have suffered a great deal on account of the construction of this dam. And, for all their sufferings, without giving them water for irrigation, the Government are taking water all the way down to the delta to parts of Tanjore adjoining the delta."

(At this stage the Deputy President occupied the Chair.)

"That seems to me to be most unjust and inequitable. It was in response to our demand that the then Irrigation Member gave us a promise that the question of giving water to Salem and Coimbatore would be referred to a committee and that he would abide by the decision of that committee. A committee was appointed including the hon. the Irrigation Member and the Chief Engineer as Members and they came to an unanimous conclusion that water should be given to both Salem and Coimbatore districts. I do not know what took place subsequently, but I was present when that unanimous conclusion was come to. All

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [16th March 1931]

that took place after that is a mystery to me. Apparently some estimates were prepared and the Government thought that a higher rate ought to be charged to the ryots of these two districts or something else and the decision of the committee was not given effect to.

“In the first place in a new scheme like Mettur project, I consider it is not at all proper for the Government to treat each portion separately and say what the ryots of each locality should pay. The scheme ought to be taken as a whole as also the total cost and all the rates ought to be brought to one level. That seems to me to be the only proper, the only equitable arrangement that could be come to in a matter like this. Instead of that the Government propose to collect from the Tanjore ryots Rs. 15 per acre and want the ryots of Salem and Coimbatore to pay Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 per acre. That is not the arrangement which anybody will consider as equitable or just.

“Then, Sir, it was stated that the nature of the country was such that an additional expenditure was to be incurred for the purpose of taking the two channels from the Mettur dam to Salem and Coimbatore districts. I ask what about the dam? The dam is constructed in Coimbatore and Salem districts and to say that for the purpose of taking two channels for supplying water to Salem and Coimbatore from the Mettur dam an additional cost has to be incurred and that therefore the ryots of Salem and Coimbatore have to pay a higher rate is a thing which I cannot understand. If water is to be taken even from the tail end of the dam an additional cost has to be incurred. Does it mean that the additional cost is the only cost which will have to be taken into consideration for the purpose of calculating irrigation revenue to be taken from the people? I do not quite understand what the Government means by saying that? In a big scheme like this the cost of taking a channel to a particular locality may be a little more and the cost of taking another channel to another locality may be a little less. How can the Government distinguish the two and say that the people of a particular locality should pay more than those of another locality? As it has been submitted very often, the people of Coimbatore and Salem have been put to a lot of expenditure and a lot of annoyance and loss and if in spite of that they cannot get water out of this Mettur project, then I should say that it is due only to their fate. If the dam happened to be within the territory of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore or that of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, will the Government, in the offhand manner in which they are now treating the claims of the people of Salem and Coimbatore, treat the claims of the people belonging to those territories, and take all the water and supply to the people of Tanjore and tell them ‘If you want water to be supplied you must pay Rs. 30 or Rs. 35 per acre.’ I want the hon. the Revenue Member to use his imagination and see whether the attitude that he and his Government are taking in this matter is justifiable.

“I have already said that the irrigation policy of the Government has been that of giving to those that have already got and of taking from those even the little they have already. As I have already said

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] 16th March 1931]

Salem and Coimbatore are on the verge of famine almost always. Even in best years they have not got enough of water even to drink. In a year when water is scarce and when there is no sufficient rainfall, I think their position can be imagined. Such being the case, to put us to all difficulties by framing all sorts of regulations with reference to the supply of water which is passing through our district and say that Government are not going to supply us water unless we pay a higher rate is most unjust, and the most cruel thing that the Government can do us. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will reconsider the whole situation and see what will be the feeling of the people who are living almost at the site of the dam and who are denied all the advantages and who are simply told ‘look at this dam and be satisfied’. Sir, this is extremely tantalizing, more tantalizing, than anything which had been done to the fabulous Tantalus himself in the good old days.

“Well, Sir, I think the subject can be reopened at this stage. However, I hear—I do not know how far it is correct—that the ryots of Pattukkottai are not prepared to pay Rs. 15 per acre which the Government want to collect from them. I do not know how far it is true. Even working at Rs. 15 per acre, the Government thought that the income might not be enough for a long time to come to treat the scheme as a productive scheme. Now the estimates have gone up and I think you will find that they are mounting higher than the original expectations. Now, Sir, if the ryots of Pattukkottai are not prepared to pay the higher tax which the Government want to impose, certainly the income will not be anything like what we expected with the result that the scheme will not be a productive one. The only excuse put forward by the Government was that they were treating this scheme as a productive scheme and that therefore they were taking water to the ryots of Tanjore, and that if they gave water to the ryots of Salem and Coimbatore, it would not be productive. Even admitting that this argument is fair, we object to the people of Pattukkottai being charged less than Rs. 15 per acre. It is up to the hon. the Revenue Member to do justice even now. I want him to reconsider the whole position. I say it is not yet too late, because the distributing channels are not yet completed. So it is not too late for him to reconsider the whole matter and do justice to the people of Salem and Coimbatore. I may say in this connexion, that by Government so doing, the supply of water to Tanjore will not be reduced very much. After all the water we are going to take is for about 20 to 25,000 acres each in Salem and Coimbatore districts. A very large quantity of water, out of this, about 40 or 50 per cent will still be available for the ryots of Tanjore, as all the surplus will get back to the Cauvery. For these reasons I press on the hon. the Irrigation Member the justice and the necessity for reopening this matter and doing justice to all.”

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“I wish to add a few words to what has already been said. Coimbatore and Salem always suffer at the hands of Government and in a matter like the Cauvery-Mettur Project, Salem and Coimbatore have been hit very hard. As my Friend, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar said, the erection of

[Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar] [16th March 1931]

the Mettur dam is of considerable disadvantage to Salem and Coimbatore people. As all hon. Members of the House are aware, the Cauvery for the most part flows through Coimbatore district and the rains wash off the manure-ridden lands of their manure and thus not only all the water is taken from us but the manure which have been provided for the lands are also taken away by the Cauvery. So, in addition to water all the manure which are put at the expense of Coimbatore ryots are also taken away to the advantage of Tanjore ryots. I think this question was referred to a committee of experts and they said that the cost of taking channels will be so heavy that the ryots of Coimbatore will have to pay something like Rs. 25 an acre. I cannot understand why in a scheme of this magnitude any distinction should be made between the ryots of Tanjore and those of Coimbatore. In this connexion I wish to instance the Pykara Scheme. In the case of that scheme although Coimbatore is situated next to Nilgiris and is the first district to get the advantage of the power generated there, I understand that the Government intend to charge a uniform rate to Coimbatore and other far off districts. The cost of the scheme should be taken as a whole and even though a district may be very close and another district may be far off, they should not be treated differently. I want that the same basis should be made applicable to Mettur Project also. If Tanjore is to be charged Rs. 15 per acre and the districts of Salem and Coimbatore are charged Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 it would be very unjust. The cost of the whole scheme should be taken into account and all districts should be charged the same rate. If this is accepted, I am sure the difficulty of supplying water to Coimbatore and Salem will be removed. So, I request the hon. the Revenue Member to take this aspect of the question into consideration and charge the same rate to Salem and Coimbatore as they charge to Tanjore.

“With regard to the sufficiency of water, there has been no difference of opinion amongst the Engineers. They are all of one opinion that there is sufficient water to supply some thousands of acres both in Coimbatore and Salem districts.

(At this stage, the hon. the President took the Chair.)

“There has been difference of opinion only with regard to the rates to be charged. If the Government would agree to the same rates being charged uniformly to Salem, Coimbatore and Tanjore, I am sure the whole problem can be fairly and equitably solved.”

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“Hon. Members have again raised the question of including land in Salem and Coimbatore districts in the ayacut of the Cauvery-Mettur Project. This is a matter which has been carefully investigated and it was finally decided that it was not possible to do so at a reasonable cost. As some hon. Members remarked, this question was referred to a committee of which the Irrigation Member himself was the Chairman. On their advice a very careful investigation was held but it was finally decided that only the Tanjore district should be brought under the Cauvery-Mettur Irrigation Scheme.

16th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

Investigations were made in Salem district in the year 1929 and four possible schemes were again investigated for the purpose of utilizing Cauvery—Mettur water in Salem district by—

(1) a channel to join up the Mettur reservoir with the east side of the late Mr. Moir's Nenjupet scheme;

(2) a channel from the reservoir further east from the river;

(3) extension of irrigation under the present open head channels in the Salem district; and

(4) an anicut and canal above the junction of the Bhavani and Cauvery river.

“None of these schemes is practicable at a reasonable cost, the engineering difficulties are great and the land would require much preparation by terracing, etc., to make it suitable for irrigation.

“The rate charged would have to be Rs. 27 to Rs. 32 an acre. In these circumstances all the proposals were rejected.

“Sir, it is found that, in every case, the expenditure would be very great, and it would be necessary to charge something like Rs. 27 to Rs. 32 an acre on the area to be irrigated. The suggestion was made to-day that the cost should be distributed over the whole scheme; that is to say, that Tanjore should pay the same rate as Coimbatore and Salem. The hon. Member Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar informed this House that he has heard that Pattukottai ryots are objecting to pay Rs. 15 an acre, which is the rate of water-cess approved by this Council. If they object to that rate they are hardly likely to agree to a higher rate for the benefit of ryots in Salem and Coimbatore districts. 4 p.m.

“My hon. Friend Mr. Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar said he understood that there was ample water for use in Salem and Coimbatore districts as well as Tanjore. According to the agreement with the Mysore Durbar, the new area that can be brought under the Mettur project is limited to 301,000 acres. If, therefore, we undertake any irrigation in the districts of Coimbatore and Salem, the area irrigated has necessarily to be deducted from the area of irrigation in the Tanjore district. I can only repeat that these problems have been very carefully investigated when the project was originally put forward, again in 1926 and again two years ago. I feel that we must come to some final decision with regard to the question of extending irrigation to these two districts.”

The cut motion was then put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandian. | 5. Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar. |
| 2. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. | 6. „ P. Bayappa Reddi. |
| 3. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar. | 7. „ A. Kondappa. |
| 4. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar. | 8. „ T. Narasa Reddi. |
| | 9. „ K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |
| | 10. „ H. B. Ari Gowder. |
| | 11. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. |

[16th March 1931]

Ayes—cont.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 12. Zamindar of Chemudu. | 22. Mr. G. Simhachalam. |
| 13. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami. | 23. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur. |
| 14. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 24. S. M. K. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur. |
| 15. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 25. Mr. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar. |
| 16. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiayar. | 26. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur. |
| 17. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 27. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. |
| 18. „ Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 28. „ C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 19. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Sehamnad Sahib Bahadur. | 29. Rao Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| 20. „ P. Khalifullah Sahib Bahadur. | 30. Mr. J. Kuppuswami. |
| 21. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. | 31. „ C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| | 32. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiayar. |
| | 33. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahmomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 14. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam. |
| 2. „ Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 15. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. |
| 3. „ Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 16. „ M. Devadasan. |
| 4. „ Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 17. „ N. Siva Raj. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 18. „ P. C. Moses. |
| 6. „ Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 19. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 7. „ Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 20. Diwan Bahadur A. M. M. Murugappa Chettiayar. |
| 8. Mr. H. R. Pate. | 21. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 9. „ H. A. Watson. | 22. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. |
| 10. „ R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 23. Mr. R. Foulkes. |
| 11. „ S. V. Ramamurti. | 24. „ C. Basu Dev. |
| 12. „ Hilton Brown. | 25. „ A. Ramakrishna Reddi. |
| 13. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib. | 26. „ Yahya Ali Sahib. |
| | 27. „ G. Sriramalu. |
| | 28. „ H. M. Jagannatham. |
| | 29. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. |

Ayes 33. Noes 29.

The motion was carried.

* MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the motion standing in my name—

‘that the allotment of Rs. 81,53,000 for Cauvery-Mettur project be reduced by Rs. 100.’

“ If hon. Members have spoken on the previous cut motion, they have done so with regard to matters which have been practically settled; but I have to press a point which has not yet been settled and in which, I hope, the Government will take the sense of this Council, if that question should come up for decision in the immediate future. Sir, I am referring to the disposal of buildings and lands which now comprise the works area. Within a few years, the project will be completed and it is perhaps appropriate that the Government should be considering the steps to be taken for the disposal of those buildings and other works which they have erected in connexion with the project. When such huge works are undertaken by Government, they must do so in order to enrich the country in all ways that may result from the completion

16th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

of such works. When this Government undertake such huge schemes, they look to their interest and concern, how far they can find scope for getting foreign articles. Unfortunately the spectacles through which the execution of these works is seen is always of alien origin. Time after time in this Council complaints have been made against the Government for using foreign materials to an inconceivable extent and for importing machinery of enormous value which cannot be used for any other purpose after the project is completed. Sir, no heed is paid to such complaints. But my present position is that the Government might not be as regardless of the opinion of the country as they have been so far with regard to the importation of huge machinery. We have created a big town as it were. What is it that the Government propose to do? The country is fighting for more industries. We have got power near at hand. I should like to know whether the Government intend to use that power and those works and buildings to the good of the country or whether they are going to sell that colony as it were, to foreign companies. Rumour is abroad that attempts are now being made to interest foreign countries in the purchase of this concern. I should very much like to ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether there is any truth in that rumour. If there is no truth in that rumour, what are the constructive proposals the Government have in regard to the disposal of this area? Having regard to the future development of this country, is it their desire to call for a conference of rich bankers and industrialists either in this Presidency or outside, and see if they can make use of these buildings for the purpose of any industrial concern that may advantageously be started? If concerns like these cannot be made use of for the good of this country, one would like that they are rather not developed instead of being developed to serve the interests of other countries. Having regard to the economic prosperity which is the business of the Government to bring about and having regard to the prospect of a flourishing indigenous piece-goods trade in the near future, I would suggest to the hon. the Revenue Member the desirability of seeing that this concern is made use of by Indian capitalists and by Indian concerns before he goes to other markets. Well, it may be argued that people are not coming forward to purchase these concerns. But I will say that no attempt has been made to interest the Indian capitalists and Indian bankers in the matter; if, after making all attempts for inducing Indian capitalists and Indian mercantile interests to take interest in the matter, nobody comes forward, then perhaps it will be a matter for consideration whether you must go to countries outside India. It is with this object, I move this motion, and I have no doubt that every Member of this House will agree with me in requesting the Government not to allow such a profitable concern to slip out of our hands. I have to refer to this point because our experience in this direction has been very bitter in the past.

“ Even with regard to hydro-electric schemes, we were considering whether local bodies could not utilize those powers for their own benefit and for augmenting their source of revenue. Yet, licences have been

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [16th March 1931]

given away to European firms even in spite of the protests made by influential members of the party in power. I do not want that the Government should again do us injustice by allowing these things to go out of the hands of the Indians."

4-15
p.m.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, in seconding this motion, even at the expense of repeating some of the very very important reasons given by my friend, I should like to impress upon the Government that in dealing with these projects, the Government of a country should keep two important principles in view. One of them is that wherever such important and huge projects are inaugurated, it is the duty of the Government of the country to see that the country in which these projects are started is benefited to the largest extent. The other principle is that the moment the power that is derived from these projects is begun to be utilized, it should be utilized in such a way that it is not in the interests of countries other than that in which the projects are inaugurated. The Mettur Project is one in respect of which the Government should keep in their mind's eye the acute problem of unemployment in our country. Instead of solving that problem to the extent to which it should have been done, the Government, even in the face of public protest and public censure, have been employing certain machinery where they could have avoided it. That of course is a question which is perhaps out-of-date now, because all the machinery required has been imported already and has been fitted up in the site. At least in the future, the Government's policy should be not to import machinery which will remove from the field a large number of labourers who can be employed in the project and who will get a daily livelihood thereby.

"The other important question in this connexion to be considered is: what are the Government to do after the project is completed? Are they going to keep the interests of the country in view, or are they going to utilize this power to the advantage of foreign countries? That is one question which has been put by the mover. The attitude of the Government should be, at least hereafter, to so use this power as to enable Indian capitalists and Indian labour to benefit; if they do so, they will be really benefiting the country. That is the object, Sir, with which the mover has brought forward this cut motion. Hon. Members of the House must be aware of the fact that in other countries, for instance, in England, the party has been endeavouring its best to try to start new projects which would solve the unemployment problem as far as possible. That principle should be kept in view here also, and in India too the unemployment problem can be solved to a very great extent by utilizing such projects as these for the benefit of the country."

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, this project is expected to be completed in another 20 or 24 months' time. After that, the buildings must be put to the very best use possible. The proposer and seconder of the motion have referred to the machinery that may be available after the project is over. Of course, the huge towers and such other machines may be

[16th March 1931] [Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapat Mudaliyar]

taken for use in other irrigation projects, but still there will be many buildings, costly buildings, left in that place. These buildings, Sir, are sufficient for a population of about 15,000, and I strongly feel that they should be put to the best possible use. The country on two sides of the locality is covered by forests; and they can very well be exploited to the advantage of the Province. These forests contain very good sandalwood, and it is my firm belief that a technological university may be started there, and Mettur may be made its headquarters, as it contains many buildings of varied types which are suitable for erecting factories and industrial concerns. Even if private Indian capital may not be forthcoming, I would urge on the Government the necessity of their finding out ways and means of putting these buildings to proper use. They may themselves start a technological university or some industrial concerns and put the buildings to proper use, without wasting the public funds so far sunk on these buildings. These buildings ought not to be handed over to foreign people at the expense of the interests of the people of this province."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, the question of disposal of the machinery and buildings has already been engaging the attention of Government; and as my Friend, Mr. Ratnasabhapat Mudaliyar has foreshadowed, such things as the towers may be used for other irrigation works. In fact, I have myself been hoping that they could be used for other irrigation works in this Presidency. If, however, in the meantime there is no likelihood of any other big project being undertaken by this Government in the near future it will have to be ascertained whether they can be used on any other works in India. There is also other machinery there which will be of use to industrial undertakings—things like locomotives, trucks, railway lines, hydraulic machinery and so on. They may be all taken over to and made use of by industrial undertakings; and the stone-crushing machines may be of use to local boards and municipal councils. But there remain the buildings on both sites, one site on the Coimbatore side and the other on the Salem side. We have already consulted all heads of departments as to whether they wished to have any portion of these buildings reserved for their use. It does not however seem likely that they will require very much, though one or two small suggestions, have been received. We have therefore asked the Director of Industries, in consultation with the Engineer-in-Chief, to draw up a pamphlet descriptive of the facilities available there—I do not mean merely the buildings there—the pamphlet will contain a description of such matters as the facilities for electric power, communication, etc., about which industrial concerns necessarily require information when they are considering whether it is worthwhile to take over the buildings or any portion of them and use them for their own private purposes. I hope that the pamphlet will be ready for publication very soon. I think it is in the printer's hands at the present time. We propose to send the pamphlet to any one who may be interested: and I should be very glad indeed if my hon. Friends opposite, or other hon. Members of this House, will get Indian firms to take some interest in this matter and ascertain

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [16th March 1931]

whether they can take advantage of the facilities which we shall be in a position to offer. I need not go now into the details of facilities available there, but I am sure there will be very great facilities for industrial concerns at Mettur and any industry will find very considerable initial advantages there such as good and well arranged buildings, a good water-supply, electric power machine works, hospitals, etc. I may say we should be only too pleased if we could find some company with Indian capital to take the settlements over. I am sure, however, hon. Members will not object if, in case no Indian company comes forward to take them over, we do our best to sell the buildings, in the interests of the project, and dispose of them to the best advantage."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Why not offer them to English firms in India instead of going to England or other countries?"

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"There seems to be a misapprehension in the mind of the hon. Member. I am quite willing to do so. We propose to broadcast the pamphlet, and if we can dispose of the buildings here, so much the better."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Apparently, if there is to be no preference, you will treat all offers as equal. That is what exactly we do not want. We want Indian claims should first be considered and if you are not able to get an Indian firm to acquire the buildings, then you can go elsewhere."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I shall certainly be prepared, other things being equal, to give preference to any Indian company which will make a reasonable offer and satisfy me that they are in a position to carry out their undertaking. If any hon. Members here are interested in this matter, I should be very glad to speak to them and discuss the matter with them."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"There seems to be a sympathetic response, Sir; and I hope this response will be translated into action when the time comes. I therefore withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I shall now put the main demand to the vote of the House. The question is:

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 81,53,000 minus Rs. 100, under "Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur projects—Reserved".'

The demand was carried and the grant made.

DEMAND VIII—HEADS OF PROVINCES AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS—
RESERVED.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees 3,56,100 under the head "Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Reserved".'

16th March 1931]

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 69,000 for "Other Charges" be reduced by Rs. 100 to ascertain the quantity and quality of food of animals'.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"On a point of order, Mr. President. May I know what 'food of animals' has got to do with 'Heads of Provinces, etc.?'"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"At page 125 of the Civil Budget Estimates, mention is made of 'Feed of Animals' for which a sum of Rs. 30,800 has been provided. So, the hon. Member is quite in order in moving this motion."

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, my object in bringing this motion is to ascertain the quantity and quality of feed the horses of His Excellency's Body Guards get. These animals are kept in stables for weeks sometimes months together without work. When they were brought out of stables they did not appear to be fresh just as well-fed horses would be. Their condition is not good. My impression is that they were not fed sufficiently. At the same time I like to ascertain whether their food was supplied by contractor and brought directly from bazaars by the officer-in-charge of these horses."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I am afraid I may have to give some figures in connexion with this motion. The normal ration fed to 70 horses of His Excellency the Governor's Bodyguard during the cold weather months:— 4-30 p.m.

For each horse.				PER DIEM.
Crushed oats	...	...	...	7 lb
Crushed barley	...	...	...	3 lb.
Bran	..	...	...	3 lb.
Salt	...	...	...	1 oz.
Hay	...	...	...	14 lb.
Green grass	...	...	...	9 lb. (in lieu of 6 lb. of hay).
Bedding	...	...	...	5 lb. (3 lb. is normally used for earth floors, but we have stone floors in half the stables).

"On an average in a month, four maunds of linseed are drawn and fed to special horses requiring linseed.

"All the grain is obtained on payment from the Supply Officer, Madras, and is the product of India. Hay, green grass and bedding are obtained from the Military Grass Farm, Madras.

210 DEMAND VIII—HEADS OF PROVINCES AND EXECUTIVE
COUNCILS—RESERVED

[Sir Mahomed Usman] [16th March 1931]

“As regards the average food given to horses during the hot weather, i.e., from 1st April to 15th October, the figures are:—

	PER DIEM.
Bran	3½ lb.
Crushed barley	2 lb. (boiled with evening feed).
Crushed oats	3½ lb.

This is only the average, as some horses will only get 8 lb. per diem; and the remounts will get 10 lb. per diem. Hay, green grass, bedding and salt remain the same as during the cold weather months. During April and May, oats are not available and therefore barley will be given in the place of oat.

“I have nothing more to add to the above. As for the quality, I may tell my hon. Friend, it is the best quality that is supplied.”

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN:—“I want to know from the hon. Member whether any contractor supplies the articles or the officer purchases them directly?”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“As I have already stated, all the grain is obtained on payment from the Supply Officer, Madras.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

‘that the demand of Rs. 38,600 be reduced by a sum of Rs. 100’ in order to elicit information why the convention of a period of five years in regard to the Executive Councillorship should be broken.

“Sir, let me assure the present incumbents of offices of Executive Councillorship and also this House that I have absolutely no personal motive, nor is it intended that my criticism should be against any particular individual of the Executive Council. But, whether there is any good by Indian gentlemen being in the Executive Council or not is becoming more and more a doubtful question, because from the omniscience of the inside knowledge which these Executive Councillors acquire soon after they get into office, it looks as though it is impossible even for the most progressive-minded person to extricate himself from those inducements of ‘inside knowledge’ to bring any fresh outlook to bear upon the affairs of the State. However, the authors of the Scheme of Government have had in mind by authorizing the conventional period of five years to Executive Councillors that the Executive Council might have the benefit of a fresh outlook of affairs from gentlemen who are recruited from non-official ranks. While this convention is observed even in regard to the official Members of the Executive Council, I am afraid it is not followed in so far as the Indian Executive Councillors are concerned. Sir, it is desirable that those gentlemen who have already been Executive Councillors for a period of five years should allow themselves to be replaced by others. In one sense these

16th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

Executive Councillorships are intended to satisfy the demands of the people to have a share in the Government of the country and also the legitimate claims of communities. At any rate, it has been the practice that one Member at least should be a Muhammadan. My hon. Friend, Sir Mahomed Usman, is there, because, I suppose, he is a member of the Muslim community. It is unfair and unjust that that community should be deprived of the opportunity to participate in the Government. Sir Mahomed Usman has had his laurels; he has enjoyed power and whether his administration was one upon which we can congratulate him or not is quite a different matter and I do not propose to go into that question at all. But, what I do say is that in the interests of the community and in answer to the legitimate demands of that community, it is desirable that other members of his community should be given a fair chance to participate in the administration of the country. I have no doubt that, if Sir Mahomed Usman himself were consulted, he would agree with me that so long as his term of office has been an unbroken period of five years, it is only proper that another member of his community should enjoy all those that are meant for an Executive Councillor under the present system of Government.

“Sir, my brethren of the Muslim community, whatever their regard for the present Muslim Member of the Executive Council may be, are really feeling that the retention of that gentleman for more than the conventional period of five years is in a way a reflection upon the eligibility of other Members of that community. This Government which is anxious to satisfy particularly the interests of the Mussalmans and depressed classes ought not to allow this grievance to be nourished by any such neglect of the convention. Moreover, there is no particular reason why the usual period of five years should be extended. If you do so, in the case of one gentleman, it may be considered to be a grievance if a similar privilege is not extended to another Indian Member. I have no doubt that my hon. Friend, Sir M. Krishnan Nair, may have reason to complain if his term of office is not also extended by a few more years. It is also unfair to that gentleman. While one gentleman is given an extension, it would be unjust if the other gentleman also is not given an extension. The country also ought not to feel, whether it was a good administration or a bad administration, that they are having too much of it. There must be, therefore, a change, so that the people may know if the past administration was good or bad by the contrast that it will afford to the succeeding administration or if the succeeding administration is going to be good they would feel that the past administration had proved a failure. From any aspect, it is desirable that from time to time there must be changes in the Executive Councillorship and five years’ period is certainly a period which is neither too long nor too short. Sir, even Governors and Viceroys are appointed on this convention. His Excellency Lord Irwin, than whom no other Viceroy is more popular, after the five

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [16th March 1931]

years' period is over, is looking to the shores of England and not to the land of India, and he refuses an extension. Therefore, it is desirable that His Excellency the Governor should observe and respect this usual convention of five years, so that there will be no complaints either from the country or from the community which considers itself to be neglected or from the Colleagues on the Executive Council itself.

"Sir, from the remarks I have made, it is not at all my intention to cast any reflection or any thought upon the administration of my hon. Friend, Sir Mahomed Usman, which may require an hour or two by itself either to praise or to do anything else. Sir, with these remarks, I move this cut motion."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have also given notice of another cut motion in order to press the same question. The point that I have in view in moving this cut motion is to impress upon the Government the necessity to recognize the principle that they themselves have laid down in making appointments to this high office. The object of the framers of the Government of India Act in giving these two appointments to Indians was that fresh Indian outlook could be brought to bear on the administration of the province. If this was not the object of the Government, they could still have continued to appoint civilian officers instead of appointing non-official Indians to hold these high offices. The object of giving these two places to non-official Indians was that after the period of five years was over, to bring into the Cabinet representatives of the people who would bring to bear the peoples' point of view on the administration. It was with this object that the period was fixed and the period was fixed not in the Act, but in the convention that five years should be the maximum period that a Member should hold the office. If that be so, what is the object that compelled the Government of Madras to deviate from that convention? An extension was given to the hon. the Home Member last year for a period of one year. I want to know what was the object in giving this extension of one year. It may be that the Government found the hon. the Home Member to be most fit for the place and that he was a gentleman who from the point of view of the Government is best fitted to discharge the duties of that office. Sir, if that question is raised, one might well ponder for a moment whether it is the point of view of the Government and not the point of view of the people that should prevail in such matters."

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"I rise to a point of order, Mr. President. I want to know whether the hon. Member is in order in referring to the extension which has been granted last year, subsequent to which there have been a number of meetings of this Council."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member will be in order if he says anything regarding the policy of extension, instead of referring to the policy of extension that has already been granted or to personalities."

16th March 1931]

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I bow to your ruling, Sir, although my hon. Friend's point of order does not hold water. After all I was saying that these extensions are wrong in principle, because these appointments are made every five years in order to bring fresh outlook to bear on the administration of the province. The other question was whether the Government of India had not in view the satisfaction of the claims of the various communities. The Government have appointed a member of the Muslim community, not because he might be there merely as one who could very well be a substitute for a civilian officer, but that he might be there, in addition to representing the Indian point of view, at the same time to safeguard the interests of the community which he is expected to represent on the Treasury Bench, without prejudice to the interests of the other communities. These are the points which I think compelled the Government to introduce this particular reform in the administration of the province. This principle has been deviated from by the Government. I most emphatically protest against the policy of the Government in giving extension to any member of the Cabinet from time to time."

"Sir, the Reforms may be impending; the Reforms may introduce provincial autonomy; it may do away with the necessity of appointing Executive Councillors. That is also one of the considerations to be borne in mind. But who knows when these Reforms will come? Who knows how many years it will be before the new Reforms will be in actual working? It may be one year; it may be two years; it may be three years or more. But are we going to have Executive Councillors to sit on the Treasury Benches till that day?"

"Then, Sir, as I was saying, the representative of the Muslim community is also a representative of the Muslim community even though he sits on the Treasury Bench. If the Government think that from the Muslim community they cannot get a suitable candidate for the place it is up to them to tell that the present incumbent will continue in office because the Muslims in the Madras province do not have another Muslim who can discharge the duties of the Home Member, however arduous they may be to the present incumbent. But the facts are different. The Muslim community can produce scores of highly qualified and able administrators who can discharge the duties of that office (Hear, hear) very, very satisfactorily, if not more satisfactorily than the present incumbent. That being the position, Sir, where is the need for the Government to continue to insult the community in the manner in which it has done?"

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, Government have said that for want of another suitable Muslim they have to extend the term of the present incumbent. May I know how the hon. Member is in order in referring to the insults offered to the Muslim community?"

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"You are only making matters worse."

[16th March 1931]

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Hameed Khan, will continue his speech."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I was saying that the Muslim community can put forward any number of able administrators who can discharge their duties very satisfactorily. (A voice: Perhaps you are aspiring for that post.) (Laughter.) No. I am not an aspirant to that post. And let me assure the Government of this: nor am I working for any particular person. I say it is an insult to the intelligence of the whole community to say that because the community is not able to find another person the same person should be continued. That is my point."

"Then, Sir, my next point is this: if Reforms were to come some years hence, is that a reason why we should continue to have the same Muslim member from year to year till that date? Sir, we have other members on the Treasury Bench; Sir, we had Sir Norman Marjoribanks; we had Sir Thomas Moir; you could as well have asked both of them to continue in office, instead of asking them to go away. Why was the convention of five years adhered to in their cases? And why not the same principle be followed in the case of other members of the Executive Council?"

"Then, Sir, I do not want to go into the administration of my Friend, the hon. the Home Member, because we are now considering the very principle of continuing the members of the Executive Council for a term beyond the period of convention. I hope Government will not insult our community. Sir, they have been ignoring the claims of the Muslim community in many respects. I hope Government will hereafter at least revise their opinion and not continue to insult the community any longer. This community has been regarded as the most loyal community. (Laughter.) And it is on account of that loyalty the Muslim community has been insulted, the Muslim community has been ignored, and I fear it is going to be insulted once more; for I am afraid the hon. the Home Member, the present incumbent, is to be given an extension for a further period. Sir, I second the motion."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, the question of the term of office of a Member of Council is a matter for His Majesty to decide on the advice of the Secretary of State. It is not a matter for the Local Government. I have therefore no information to place before the House. I cannot say why the convention that the period of membership of Executive Council should be five years has been deviated from in the past. We have no doubt that there were good reasons on each occasion. Nor can I say whether it is going to be deviated now."

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to oppose this cut motion, because there is no question of principle involved in this. Hon. Members are aware that the Government of Madras, at any rate

16th March 1931]

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

so far as the Reserved Half is concerned, is not responsible government. So long as it is not responsible government it matters very little whether the Government Members are in office for five years or fifty years. In the case of the ordinary public servant the period is 30 years. In the case of the village officer it is from father to son. In the last case you have a peculiar tenure of office. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: In the case of Public Prosecutors?) There you have a kind of absolute service descending from father to son. But in the case of the ordinary public servant, during good behaviour, the period is 30 years. But in the case of the Executive Councillors there is no principle, so long as they are not responsible to the people and to the Council. For the Government of Madras is only a subordinate of the Government of England, and they are carrying out practically the wishes of the British Parliament and the British Executive. So I do not see any principle involved or any violation of public rights or public interests.

"Mr. Hameed Khan said that the present Home Member does not care for the Muslim community and that he does not effectively represent the Indian interests or the Muslim interests. With regard to that, coming from that side of the House, it is not a sound argument; because in public service, a responsible administrator, the moment he gets into office, must forget his community and he must think that he is there for the benefit of all communities, and he must cease to belong to any particular community. That is the standard of administrative rectitude which ought to be followed. Therefore I do not see any reason why any particular member of a community the moment he is elevated to a particular office, should go on, in the primitive way, thinking of his community alone and move along narrow communal lines. So I advise my Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, to think less communally and to think more in a national way."

"Sir, I have great pleasure in opposing this cut motion, because there is absolutely no principle involved in it. And whatever is done by any particular Member of Government, or for the matter of that, by the Madras Government themselves, they have to do it at times in the teeth of opposition, because they have got their own limitations; and therefore they have to do things in a particular way. Sir, I don't think there is any policy or principle involved in bringing a cut motion like this, especially when we are on the eve of the Reforms. Expediency requires that the proposition ought not to be pressed but withdrawn gracefully. So I appeal to the hon. the Mover to withdraw his cut motion on the ground of expediency."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! இந்தியாவில் பிரிட்டிஷ் ஆட்சி தோன்றி பல நூற்றாண்டுகளாகியும் எல்லா வகுப்பினருள்ளும் அரசாங்க நிருவாக சபை அங்கத்தினர் பதவியைப் பெற்றனர். ஆனால் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் மாத்திரம் ஒரு உயர்ந்தபதவியும் இது காலும் பெறாது தாழ்த்தே கிடக்கின்றனர். இது தான் அரசாங்கத்தாருக்குக் குறிப்பிட்டுக் காட்டக் கூடியபெருமை போலும்."

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [16th March 1931]

“பிராமணர்களில் பலர், அப்பதவியை வகித்தனர். அவர்கள் வி. கிருஷ்ணசாமி அய்யர், ஸ்ரீ. சிவசாமி அய்யர், சர். பி. ராஜகோபாலசாஸ்திரியர், சர். டி. பி. ராமசாமி அய்யர் முதலானோர்கள். ஆதலால் இனி காலியாகும் பதவிக்கு பிராமணர்கள் விரும்புவது நியாயமாகாது.

“சுதேச மன்னர்களிலுள்ள அப்பதவியை வகித்தனர். ஆதலால் அவர்கள் விரும்புவதும் நியாயமாகாது.

“பிராமணரல்லாதார் பலர் அரசாங்க அமைச்சர்களாய் காலியப் பெயர்ப்புகளையிருந்தார்கள். தற்போது நிருவாகப் பதவிக்கு விரும்புகிறார்கள். ஆதலால் பிராமணர் அல்லாதார் விரும்புவதும் நியாயமாகாது.

“முஸ்லிம்கள் ஏற்கனவே கலெக்டர்களாயும், நிருவாக சபை அங்கத்தினர்களாயும், ஜுகெர்ட் ஜட்ஜுகளாயுமுள்ளார்கள். கனம் மகமத் அபிபுல்லா சென்னை அரசாங்க நிருவாக அங்கத்தினராயிருந்து, பறுபடியும் இந்திய அரசாங்க நிருவாக அங்கத்தினராய் மிகுந்தார். தற்போதும் கனம் சர் மகமத் உஸ்மான் பகதூர் அரசாங்க நிருவாக சபை அங்கத்தினராயுள்ளார். ஆதலால் முஸ்லிம்கள் விரும்புவதும் நியாயமாகாது. கிறிஸ்தவர்கள் ஏற்கனவே கலெக்டர் முதல் பல பதவிகளையும் அரசாங்க அமைச்சர், இச்சபையின் தலைவர் வரை எல்லாப் பதவிகளையும் அடைந்தனர். அரசாங்கமே கிறிஸ்தவ அரசாங்கம். ஆதலால் அவர்களும் விரும்புவது நியாயமாகாது.

“இந்தான் வரை யாதொரு பெரும் பதவியையும் பெறவில்லை. இச்சபையிலுள்ள ஜனப் பிரதிநிதிகளும் அரசாங்கத்தாரும் விநித மனத்தோடும் இரக்கத்தோடும் இனி காலியாகும் விதானத்தை ஒரு ஆதிதிராவிடர்க்குக் கொடுக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். இனி புதிய நுகுத்தத்தின்படி நிருவாக சபை அங்கத்தினர் எனும் பதவி இல்லையாம் எல்லாம் ஜனங்களுக்குப் பொறுப்பானின் மந்திரிகளென்னும் பதவிக்களாகிவிடப் போகிறது. அப்போது அரசாங்கத்தார் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவருக்கு நிருவாக சபை அங்கத்தினர் பதவி கொடுக்க முடியாது ஆதலால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்தற்கான இச் சந்தர்ப்பத்தைக் கைவிட மாட்டார்களென நினைக்கிறேன். ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் பல நாட்களாக ஏமாற்ற மடைந்து வருகிறார்கள். மகாத்மா காந்தியடிகளின் இயக்கங்களைக் கண்டித்து பொது ஜனங்களின் இயக்கத்திற்கு விமோதகமாகவும்கூறினார்கள். இந்த நிலையையே அரசாங்கத்தார் திரியேறித்து ஆதிதிராவிடர்க்கே அப்பதவியைக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். இச்சபையிலுள்ள காந்தத்தனிய அங்கத்தினர்களைக் கேட்டுக் கொள்வது, கனம் ஜெரால் மெய்யராயுள்ள மகாத் உஸ்மான் சாகேப் பகதூர் ஆதிதிராவிடர்க்கு அனவிலை உபகாரத் செய்துள்ளார். (கூகிளவும்) ஒரு ஆதிதிராவிடர் அப்பதவியை வகித்தாலும், அவரைப் பொன் கைநியாஸாகச் செய்ய முடியாது. தங்கள் அவரை வேண்டாமென்று அபிப்பிராயப்பட்டால், ஆதிதிராவிடர் ஒருவருக்குக் கொடுக்கப் பிரியப்படுகிறார்களா? (ஆம் ஆம் என்கிறார்கள்.) ஆதிதிராவிடர் முன்னோற்றம் பெற நீங்கள் விரும்பினால், அவர்களுக்குப் பெரும் பதவிகள் அளிக்க வேண்டும். ஆதிதிராவிடர் ஒருவர் பெயரில் அங்கத்தினராயிருந்தால் எத்தனை யோ பேர்கள் போலீஸ் குவார்ட்டென், டிப்டி குவார்ட்டென்ஸ்கள், சர்க்கிள் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள், சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் பதவிகளைப் பெற்றிருப்பார்கள். தற்போது கான்ஸ்டேபிள் வேலை கிடைப்பதும் அரிதாக விகித்தது. ஆதிதிராவிடர் நிருவாக சபை அங்கத்தினர் பதவியைப் பெற விரும்பு கொடுத்தால் சிமார்சு செய்தால் உங்களுக்குப் பெரிய கிந்தையுண்டாகும். ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் நிருவாக அங்கத்தினர் பதவியை வகித்தற்குத் தகுதியுடையவர்களா? என்று கேட்கலாம். நிருவாகத்திற்குப் பெரும் படிப்பு வேண்டியதில்லை. கனம் சர் மகமத் அபிபுல்லா என்ன படித்தார்? கனம் அஜுரன் சாகிப் பகதூர் என்னபடித்தார்? என்பதைச் சிந்தித்துப் பாருங்கள். சரியான மனச் சாட்சி பொது அறிவும் இருந்தாலும் போதும். சபாஷ் சபாஷ் பார்க்க வேண்டுமானால் என்னிடம் கொடுத்துப் பாருங்கள். அதனை எப்படி நிருவாகக் கொண்டு செல்கிறேனென்பதை நீங்களே தெரிந்து கொள்ளீர்கள். (சபாஷ் சபாஷ் என்கிறார்கள்) ஆரவாரம் பெரிதாயிருந்தது ஆதிதிராவிடர்களிலும் நிருவாகக் செய்யக்கூடிய மனிதர்

[16th March 1931] [Swami A. S. Sahajanandam]

களிருக்கிறார்கள். தற்போது மினிஸ்டர் செக்ரடெரி பதவிகூட ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்குக் கொடாதபடியால் அனைவரும் இரக்கம் வைத்து, ஆதிதிராவிடர்க்குக் கொடுத்தால் நீங்கள் புகழ்ச்சியடைவதோடும், ஆண்டவன் ஜனப்பிரதிநிதிகளாகிய உங்களையும் அரசாங்கத்தையும் ஆசீர்வதிப்பார்.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“Mr. President, Sir, from 5 p.m. the speech of the hon. the Revenue Member it is evident that my case is unanswerable. He has no reason to give except to seek shelter that it is an appointment made by His Majesty in consultation with the Secretary of State, perhaps on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor. That, Sir, supports my case completely and that I am quite right. But I am only surprised that my hon. Friend from Anantapur who is now perhaps the Public Prosecutor should oppose the motion just because of the breaking of principle or rule. If this argument is to hold good in his case, I am afraid he may never be a Public Prosecutor in that district, for his predecessor must continue in that post all his life, and then some other gentleman must be found, and he too in turn will have to continue there all his life. Now is there any chance for any other to aspire to his place? That is an argument which does credit neither to the Government nor to the gentleman who used it. On the other hand, it would be safe to say that the principle is there and will be observed, unless His Excellency in his discretion thinks it advisable to break it. One can understand such an answer. But to say that, instead of being adhered to, it should be broken and should not be put into effect is to rule out any change for all time to come. That is a quite untenable position. In my speech, I thought, Sir, that I made it clear that it was not in support of the advocacy of this body or that community that I made this motion, but it was only with regard to my objection to the breaking of the rule or principle, which would be considered undesirable not only by the country but also by the members of the community of those who fill up those places and also by other Colleagues in the Executive Council. It is only from that point of view that I raise this matter. I know that individual Members, those who are seated on this side or that side of the House are in perfect agreement with me so far as the principle is concerned, but owing to reasons which are quite obvious and which I need not explain they will not be prepared to support me. I therefore leave it at that, and withdraw the motion.”

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.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Tuesday, the 17th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	Moses, Mr. P. C.
Krishnan Nayar, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Campbell, <i>c.s.i.</i> , <i>c.i.e.</i> , <i>c.B.E.</i> , <i>v.d.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Stokes, <i>c.s.i.</i> , <i>c.i.e.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon. Mr. H. G. Bahadur B.	Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. P. N. V.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Nallathambi Sarkarai Manradiyar, Rai Bahadur N.
Alamelumangathayarammal, Mrs.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Palat, Mr. R. M.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.	Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Birley, Mr. Frank.	Pate, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. H. R.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Pooker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Raja of Bobbili.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Raja of Kallikota.
Hilton Brown, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr.	Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Indraiah, Mr. C.	Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Jagannadha Raja, Rao Bahadur G.	Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Ramamurti <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. S. V.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Khalif-ul-Isah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Kondappa, Mr. A.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.	Sabajanandam, Swami A. S.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Luker, Mr. F. G.	Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Mahmud Shammad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Simhaachalam, Mr. G.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
	Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
	Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
	Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.

[17th March 1931]

PRESENT:—cont.

Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.

Vedaohala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib B.
Waddington, Mr. H.
Watson, J.C.S., Mr. H. A.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur
Yakub Hassan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Chemudu.
Zamindar of Ettayapuram.

I.—SWEARING IN OF A MEMBER.

Mr. F. G. LUKER made the oath of allegiance to the Crown and then took his seat.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Police

Alleged lathi charge at Udipi on 26th January 1931.

* 625 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a lathi charge on or about the 26th January 1931 in Udipi;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative what are the circumstances leading up to the said lathi charge;

(c) what is the number of people wounded and what is the nature of the wounds inflicted on the persons during the said lathi charge;

(d) whether it is a fact that a Muhammadan youth received severe injuries as a consequence of the said lathi charge and is in a precarious condition; if so, in what condition he is, and what is the nature of his wounds and his age;

(e) what action the Government propose to take in the matter; and

(f) if the Government have no information, whether they will be pleased to call for the same?

A.—(a) & (b) On the evening of the 26th January 1931 a procession of about 100 satyagrahis started from Kalsanka and marched towards the temple square singing so-called national slogans and crying 'Gandhi-ki-Jai'. The procession was held up at Badagapett by the Sub-Inspector of Police as it was in defiance of an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, in force in Udipi. The Inspector of Police, Udipi Circle, who had by then arrived on the spot warned the processionists in Kanarese that they constituted an unlawful assembly as they were taking out a procession in violation of the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, and ordered them to disperse. The processionists did not disperse. The Inspector thereupon arrested nine persons who were the leaders and put them in a car. The other processionists then surrounded the car and would not allow it to proceed. The

[17th March 1931]

Inspector again warned the processionists to disperse; they refused to disperse and the Inspector thereon dispersed them with force.

(c) The Government have no information as to the number of persons who may have been injured during the course of the dispersal. No person was, so far as their information goes, seriously injured.

(d) It was reported by the District Magistrate that a Muhammadan boy (age unknown) was knocked down during the course of the dispersal and sustained an injury to the head. He was at once removed to the hospital and so far as Government are aware is not in a precarious condition.

(e) None.

(f) The Government have given such information as they have from the report of the District Magistrate made soon after the incident occurred.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know, Sir, as to whether the responsibility of the police ceases with the beating?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I once again suggest, Sir, that we may let bygones be bygones, especially after the settlement between the Government and the Congress. I may say that I shall try to give such information as I have got on these matters, but I think it would be better that both the Government and the Opposition should now turn their attention to the constructive work in regard to the future constitution of India."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, in view of the reply that has just been given by the hon. the Home Member, whether the Government of India is not going into the question of excesses on the part of the police? It may be that the Local Government may have to answer questions on the subject, and so these facts may be brought out, and then it will be opportune enough to adopt the suggestion."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"That question has been answered by the Government of India already."

Alleged lathi charge at Udipi on 26th January 1931.

* 626 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what the number of the reserve police who were taken to Udipi on the night of the 26th January was, how long they were kept there and for what purpose; and

(b) whether any enquiry has been made regarding the necessity for the use of lathi that day and the circumstances connected with the beating of the Muhammadan boy who got mixed up in the crowd of on-lookers?

A.—(a) The Government are aware that the District Superintendent of Police had to despatch a body of the reserve police to Udipi as a precaution against breaches of the peace. There is however no information as to the strength of the force or as to how long it was kept in Udipi.

[17th March 1931]

- (b) The Government are satisfied that the police acted with great restraint on the occasion in question and that force was only employed against those taking part in a banned procession. A Mappilla boy was knocked down as the processionists were in flight, and was not beaten by the police as alleged.

Alleged prevention by the police of the general body meeting of the Ramachandrapuram Club and Reading Room.

* 627 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretaries of Ramachandrapuram Club and Reading Room, East Godavari district, were informed by police officials that the general body meeting that was announced to take place at 5 p.m. on 25th January 1931 in the club premises could only be held if the members were prepared to be dispersed by the use of lathis;

(b) whether it is a fact that on refusal of certain members of the club playing cards to leave the club when asked to do so by a head constable in mufti, the head constable left the club and returned with a reserve constable armed with a lathi and then asked them to leave the club; and

(c) what were the circumstances which led the police to act in that manner and under what provision of law or authority they so acted?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The answer is in the negative. There being reason to suppose that anti-Government measures would be discussed at the meeting, a head constable in mufti was asked to attend and report what took place. He did not take the action ascribed to him.

(c) Does not arise.

Prevention of a business meeting of the Ramachandrapuram Club.

* 628 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether he has received a petition from Mr. B. Venkataratnam, ex-M.L.C., Vice-President, Ramachandrapuram Club and Reading Room, in which he stated that the police stopped a business meeting of the members of the club, on the 25th January last and if so, what action has been taken on it?

A.—Yes. The Government have obtained a report from the District Magistrate of East Godavari and the answer to question No. 627, to which the hon. Member is referred, is based upon that report. No further action is proposed to be taken on Mr. Venkataratnam's petition.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the hon. the Home Member expresses regret with regard to this question also?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I never expressed regret or any such thing. All that I said was, it is not worth while now pursuing these questions in view of the settlement between the Government and the Congress."

17th March 1931]

Forests

Assignment of reserved forest area in Omalur taluk.

* 629 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether petitions have been received from the ryots of Omalur taluk in Salem district for the assignment of land in reserved forest area for cultivation; and

(b) if so, with what result?

A.—Petitions have been received from the ryots of Bommidi and adjacent villages for the assignment of 1,045 acres of land in the Mallapuram and Mallapuram Extension reserved forests in the Omalur and Uttangarai taluks of the Salem district. The Government have decided to disforest and assign the area for cultivation. An area of 551 acres has already been disforested and the Board of Revenue has been instructed to take steps for the survey and assignment of that area. The remaining portion will be disforested after the forest department has removed the existing tree growth in the area.

Jails

Appeal by Mr. N. Damodaram for remission of sentence.

* 630 Q.—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have remitted a portion of the sentence of two years passed by the Madras High Court in Sessions Case No. 9 on one C. G. Dumaine, and released him; if so, what is the term of sentence thus remitted and for what reasons;

(b) whether the Government are aware that along with C. G. Dumaine, one N. Damodaram was also convicted in the same case for the same term of imprisonment and for the same offence;

(c) whether N. Damodaram has appealed to the Government to remit the unexpired portion of the sentence passed on him;

(d) what orders Government have passed on that petition; and

(e) if the Government have declined to remit the sentence as desired, what are the reasons which influenced the Government to do so, while they have released the co-accused in the said case?

A.—(a) Yes. The portion of the sentence remitted amounted to about one year. The sentence was remitted in view of the old age of Dumaine and the facts, throwing doubt on his guilt, brought to notice in the Judgment in C.S. No. 265 of 1928 on the file of the High Court.

(b) Yes, but the evidence against Damodaram was different from that against Dumaine.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government decline to interfere with the sentence passed on him.

[17th March 1931]

- (e) Damodaram was found guilty of the actual commission of the offence. Dumaine was found guilty only by force of section 34, Indian Penal Code. The attention of the hon. Member is invited also to the answer to clause (a).

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member, having regard to the indifferent health of this convict, Damodaram, also, whether he will be pleased to re-peruse the papers and see if any remission cannot be given to him, if not a complete remission?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not know whether he is ill at all, Sir. I have absolutely no information."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the substantial offence under which both have been convicted is the same?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The offence is the same, but Damodaram was charged with the actual commission of the offence. Dumaine was charged with the offence simply because he was a member of the firm. He was not directly concerned with the facts that constituted the offence."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Am I to understand that Damodaram was found guilty of an offence actually, and that Mr. Dumaine was punished because he abetted the offence, and if so, whether the Government makes a distinction or tries to make a distinction between the nature of the two offences?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government have not made any distinction. The Judge's charge to the jury itself says that Damodaram was really guilty of the actual commission of the offence, whereas Dumaine was guilty by force of Section 34, Indian Penal Code, because he was a member of the firm."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"If, as the hon. the Law Member says, the release of this prisoner was due to the manner in which the charge was delivered by the presiding Judge to the jury, I suppose the same thing holds good when the Government declined to interfere on the petitions presented by these accused before another judgment came in."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As I have stated in the answer to my hon. Friend's question, remission was granted by the Government for two reasons, first that he was old, and secondly, that there was some doubt cast on his guilt, in another case, a civil case, to which he was a party."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether both these convicts were not charged under the same section?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"One was charged under a particular section; the other was charged under that section read with section 34 of the Indian Penal Code."

Mr. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Is Mr. Damodaram a European or an Indian, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I am as much in the dark about it as my hon. Friend." (Laughter.)

[17th March 1931]

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Was the learned Judge who tried the case consulted about the remission of the sentences on these accused, and what was the opinion given, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The High Court is not always consulted in such matters. The Government exercise their discretion."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is it not the practice for the Government to consult the particular Judge who convicted the accused before the remission was given?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is not always the practice."

Transfer of Mr. Narayana Menon to the Vellore Jail.

* 631 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon, a prisoner in the Madras Penitentiary, has been transferred to Vellore Jail and if so, when and for what reasons;

(b) if the answer to question (a) is in the affirmative, whether the transfer has anything to do with the incident of 10th February 1931, when the said prisoner is alleged to have been severely beaten; and

(c) whether any officer of the Madras Penitentiary was transferred in connexion with the said incident of the 10th February 1931?

A.—(a) Yes, on 20th February 1931 in the interests of jail discipline.

(b) No.

(c) The Government have not the information but have called for it.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"When do the Government expect to receive the information which they have called for, Sir, having regard to the fact that the incident took place some weeks ago?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I cannot say."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what is the interest of jail discipline that is referred to in the answer? What is the interest of jail discipline for which Mr. Narayana Menon was transferred from the Madras Penitentiary to the Vellore Jail?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"He was in the Penitentiary for a period of between 7 and 8 years, and the Jail authorities thought that in such a case it was desirable that he should be transferred to the Vellore Jail."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether Mr. Narayana Menon, when he was in the Madras Penitentiary, was having the benefit of the company of a Visitor like Dr. Hogg very frequently?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Of course, he may have had many Visitors."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"When was Mr. Narayana Menon transferred to the Vellore Jail, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The answer is given in the printed paper."

[17th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether the transfer to the Vellore Jail was after the incident referred to in clause (b) of the question ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" He was transferred after the incident, but not on account of the incident."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know if it was not the incident that brought out the question of discipline to the minds of the Jail authorities ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Then, why was he not transferred previously, Sir ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It was not thought necessary by the authorities."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Have not the Government refused to transfer him even though the authorities wanted to transfer him previously ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" As a matter of fact, the transfer was in the discretion of the Inspector-General of Prisons."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" What about the Government? Have the Government had any occasion to refuse the request made by the Inspector-General of Prisons to transfer him to another Jail ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The Government have no option in the matter. It is left entirely to the discretion of the Inspector-General."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" My question is whether the Government did or did not refuse the request for transfer ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I have nothing to add to what I have already stated."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that Mr. Narayana Menon's family have permanently settled down in Madras ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" So far as I am aware, his family, except his two children, is in Malabar."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know, Sir, having regard to the request of the general public to release not only the Civil Disobedience prisoners but also the Mappilla prisoners, whether the Government are considering the desirability of releasing Mr. Narayana Menon of whose guilt at least the Law Member is not quite sure ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The Government are not considering the question."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know whether the Government will consider the question ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I cannot say, Sir, what the Government will do or will not do hereafter."

17th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether the hon. the Law Member himself will move in the matter ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I cannot say that now, Sir."

Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR :—" May I know whether the hon. the Law Member was a defence witness to Mr. Narayana Menon when he was tried ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Yes, Sir, in a formal matter and not on the merits of the case."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know whether the hon. the Law Member will consider to-day the release of Mr. Narayana Menon ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I shall certainly not consider it to-day, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I know if he will consider it to-morrow, Sir ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Neither to-morrow, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, even if the Government are not prepared to consider the question of the release of Mr. Narayana Menon, whether they will consider any application made on his behalf and retransfer him to Madras ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" As I said, it is entirely in the discretion of the Inspector-General of Prisons, and the Government have no intention whatever of interfering with his discretion in such a matter as that."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" What is the maximum period during which a prisoner is allowed to remain either in the Penitentiary or in any other jail ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" So far as I am aware, there is no maximum period."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Are there not prisoners in the Penitentiary who have been there for much longer periods than Mr. Narayana Menon ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I do not know."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Then, what is the principle under which Mr. Narayana Menon has been transferred at all ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" As I said thrice already on the floor of this House this morning, the principle is that the matter is left entirely to the discretion of the Inspector-General of Prisons."

[17th March 1931]

Public Service*Appointments in the Secretariat on a linguistic basis.*

* 632 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether, in accordance with the reply given to question No. 721 (supplemental) on 3rd October 1929, the Government have considered the question of appointing men to the posts in the Secretariat on the basis of due representation of persons belonging to several linguistic areas of the Presidency;

(b) how many permanent Assistant Secretaries, Superintendents and clerks (upper and lower divisions separately) are now in the office of the Legislative Council and in each one of the Secretariats; and

(c) of these how many are (1) Tamilians, (2) Kanarese, (3) Malayalces, (4) Andhras and (5) Muhammadans?

A.—(a) Yes, and Secretaries to Government have been instructed to observe the principle as far as practicable in making appointments hereafter to their respective departments.

(b) & (c) A statement^a is laid on the table.

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—"May I know, Sir, whether any general instructions have been issued to the Secretaries to Government in regard to this matter?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I do not remember the exact terms but some instructions have been issued."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—"Will the hon. Member be pleased to place a copy of the instructions on the table of the House, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I shall consider the suggestion."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—"In the answer it is stated that as far as practicable the principle will be observed. What steps does the hon. the Revenue Member propose to take to ensure the observance of this rule, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I shall consider what steps are necessary in order to see that the instructions are carried out."

Age restriction for the selection of Deputy Tahsildars and Tahsildars.

* 633 Q.—Mr. A. V. BHANOJI RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any age restriction for selection of Revenue subordinates of approved service for the posts of Deputy Tahsildars and Tahsildars;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, what is the age-limit; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to consider special cases of hardship on the recommendation of Collectors?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) There is no maximum or minimum age-limit prescribed for selection of Revenue subordinates for appointment as Deputy Tahsildars or Tahsildars.

^a Printed as Appendix on pages 293-294 infra.

17th March 1931]

Local Boards and Municipalities*Reservation of seats for Muslims on local boards and municipalities.*

* 638-A Q.—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is true that the Inspector, Local Boards and Municipalities, has reserved no seat for Muhammadans on the Guntur Municipality;

(b) whether it is true that the said officer has not reserved seats proportionate to the number and importance of the Muslim community, in the Municipal Councils and Local Boards in the Northern Circars and in the Guntur and Nellore districts; and

(c) if so, what steps the hon. the Minister proposes to take to put an end to the grievances of the Muslims in this respect?

A.—The Inspector's proposals in regard to the Guntur Municipality have not yet been received by Government.

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—"What is the basis of the reservation of seat for the minorities?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The question is still under the consideration of Government. The idea at present is to reserve to the minorities at least 50 per cent of the seats on the population basis. But of course other considerations will also have to be taken into consideration."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the hon. Minister is aware that there are complaints about this in the various institutions?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not know what complaints he is referring to?"

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Complaints about the reservation and distribution of seats and also that the claims of minority communities have not been carefully considered and that the allotment has not been done properly."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"With regard to the proposals of local boards, complaints have been received that the reservation recommended are not sufficient. All these are now with the Inspector of Local Bodies who has been instructed to look into them."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what steps are being taken by the Government with regard to the proposals submitted by the taluk boards and municipalities so as to afford an opportunity to the public to offer their criticisms?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The proposals of various local bodies are received and we are getting petitions from members of the public. Proposals are being examined and sent to the local bodies for remarks."

[17th March 1931]

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I know if the hon. Minister can assure us that due proportion of seats in accordance with the population will be given ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Yes, Sir, it may not be that they will get the full number entitled under population basis. Under the Act one-fourth can be reserved but it will be impossible to allot full number of seats on population basis for each community. The utmost that can be done is to reserve 50 per cent of what they will be entitled to on the population basis."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—" May I know whether the minority communities will get at least 50 per cent of the seats entitled on population basis ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I have already answered."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, what steps have been taken to place before the public the views of the local bodies."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I do not think it will be possible to place the proposals of the local bodies while they are merely in the discussion stage. Members of the district boards who are interested in it will know them. Any individual can write to Government and to the Inspector of Local Bodies on any particular matter and I assure that the points will receive consideration."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Are not the local bodies asked to publish the resolutions on the notice board and in the District Gazette ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I do not know if there are any such orders but resolutions of local bodies are published in the District Gazettes."

MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur :—" In view of the fact that 50 per cent of the seats only will be made available to the minorities by this arrangement, will the hon. Minister see that wards are so distributed that from general constituencies also the minorities may be returned ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Any proposal by any member interested will certainly be considered."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister has issued instructions that 50 per cent of the seats on the population basis is guaranteed to minority communities ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I have already answered."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" In the case of the Adi-Dravidas, may I know how the Government will proceed as there are no separate figures for them in the last census ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The Inspector of Local Bodies has been able to ascertain in the taluks. I do not know how he got the information. On the basis of that he will proceed."

17th March 1931]

Hindu Religious Endowments

Withholding tasdik to certain temples in South Kanara.

* 634 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state— 11-15 a.m.

(a) whether it is a fact that the tasdik amounts due to several institutions in the district of South Kanara have been held up by the Government at the instance of the District Temple Committee or the Hindu Religious Endowments Board for the past nearly two years; if so, under what powers the Board or the Committee issued the said instructions to the Collector;

(b) whether it is a fact that the tasdik amounts being the main source of income for several temples the viniyogas therein have been stopped or are not properly performed;

(c) whether it is a fact that, when the Board or the Committee ordered the withholding of the tasdik amounts, they did not make any arrangements for the proper carrying on of the ceremonies by the trustees in possession; and

(d) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) to (d) Government have no information and have called for reports in the matter.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know when the information was called for and what is the reason for the delay ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The information was called for on the 4th."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to place the report on the table of the House ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I will consider the question when it is received."

Public Health

Proposals regarding the free distribution of quinine in the coming year.

* 635 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what proposals have been made to the Government by the Director of Public Health regarding free distribution of quinine in the coming year;

(b) what further measures Government propose to take for the prevention and control of malaria;

(c) whether they propose to retain permanently the malarial establishment; and

(d) whether they have under consideration the establishment of any research stations for the study of preventive measures?

A.—(a) The Director of Public Health has submitted proposals for a revision of the areas in which quinine is distributed free and for an extension of the scheme to certain new areas, based on actual malaria surveys which have been done.

[17th March 1931]

(b) The recommendations made by the Special Malaria Officer for combating malaria in the areas investigated by him have been communicated to the local bodies concerned. The Government have also agreed to consider, if and when funds permit, applications from local bodies for grants for anti-malarial operations subject to the proviso that the grants when sanctioned will not ordinarily exceed one-third of the cost of such operations.

(c) The employment of the Special Malaria Officer and his staff has been sanctioned up to the 31st March 1932. The question of their further retention will be considered in connexion with the Budget proposals for 1932-33.

(d) No.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know, Sir, whether any local bodies have applied for grants for anti-malarial operations ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Notice."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government have settled any programme in regard to the very serious question of malaria ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The question is still in an experimental stage."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the reports that have been already received, may I know what steps have been taken and whether the proposals are to be extended throughout the Presidency ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The Government is not now in a position to pass general orders."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know how they are going to tackle the problem, whether they will start in the City and extend further later on ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Both the urban areas and the mufassal have been taken up. In the mufassal some taluk boards have been included and the Special Officer has been sending reports. His term is till about 1932 and as soon as his further reports are received the question of taking up a definite scheme will be considered."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government have any plans for the City of Madras ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Not yet ; it is for the Corporation to take it up."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" May I know whether the Government will stock quinine with the village officers so as to enable the villagers to have easy access for getting quinine ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" There is no objection but the experiment made in the past has been found to be unsatisfactory. Government will have no objection to stock quinine with village officers if there is a demand for it."

17th March 1931]

Agriculture*Deficiency in the burning qualities of tobacco in Godavari and Kistna districts.*

* 636 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Director of Agriculture has noticed that tobacco, deficient in burning qualities, is grown in thousands of acres in the upland tracts of West Godavari and Kistna districts ;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the ryots or any private individual interested in tobacco industry approached the Director of Agriculture regarding the same ; and

(c) if so, what action the Director of Agriculture has taken in the matter ?

A.—(a) The Director of Agriculture is aware that there are about 12,000 acres under tobacco in the two districts mentioned and that some of the tobacco raised there is deficient in burning.

(b) Mr. P. Narayana Rao, the Secretary of the District Temperance Committee, approached the Director of Agriculture and was informed by him that the department was starting work on tobacco on the Agricultural Research station, Guntur, and that until some definite information as to the right course to pursue was obtained, demonstration could not be undertaken.

(c) An experiment is already in progress at Guntur which will furnish information as to the effect of artificial manures on tobacco and the result of the experiment is awaited.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know when this experiment regarding the effect of artificial manures on tobacco was started ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Notice."

Admissions to the Agricultural College at Coimbatore

* 637 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of students who applied for admission to the Agricultural College at Coimbatore in June 1930 and the number of applicants who were given admission ; and

(b) whether Government are making any arrangements to admit a larger number in the coming year ?

A.—(a) 303 and 48 respectively.

(b) No. The existing class-rooms and laboratory are designed to take only 48 students per year and if the number is to be increased arrangements will have to be first made to strengthen the teaching staff of the College, further equip the laboratory, and provide additional accommodation for teaching purposes as well as lodging which is not possible on account of the present financial conditions.

[17th March 1931]

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know if the Government propose to consider how they can give admission to a large number of students in view of the large number of applicants who seek to enter the College?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"It is stated in the answer that in the present financial stringency it is not possible to put up any additional buildings and so it cannot be considered now."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know whether the Government has recognized the desirability of increasing the number of students in the College by providing for an increased accommodation or by other means?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Yes."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Then do the Government propose to have a College in the Telugu area?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"No proposal has been placed before the Government. Now that the hon. Member has said, the matter will be considered."

Popularization of middle school education in agriculture.

* 638 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Director of Agriculture has submitted any proposals to the Government for popularizing middle school education in agriculture; and

(b) whether the Government have considered how the type of education given at schools like the one at Taliparamba can be made to appeal to the cultivator?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No. If any useful suggestions are made they will be duly considered by Government.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I take it that no suggestion has been made to Government to make agricultural middle school education more useful and attractive?"

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Civil Courts

Proposed transfer of the Rasipuram taluk to the Namakkal District Munsif.

639 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to transfer the taluk of Rasipuram (Salem district) from its present Civil Court jurisdiction to that of the District Munsif of Namakkal;

(b) if so, on what grounds; and

(c) whether the Government will consider the conveniences of the litigant public also in that matter?

[17th March 1931]

A.—(a) The Government have not the information. Under section 11 of the Madras Civil Courts Act, 1873, the power to fix and modify the local jurisdiction of District Munsifs' Courts vests in the High Court.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Irrigation

Action taken on the report of the special party on short crop in Kistna Western division.

640 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received the report of the special party on short crop in the Kistna Western division;

(b) whether they have recommended any more lands to be included under ayacut and if so, how much;

(c) whether it is a fact that they have recommended that water can be supplied for these lands also until 15th November; and

(d) how much more land the Government have already agreed to include under the ayacut?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have not received the report.

(d) The Government have not come to any decision in the matter.

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

III.—ACTS ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that the under-mentioned Acts received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the dates noted against each:—

The Madras Services Commission (Amendment) Act, 1931—10th March 1931.

The Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931—11th March 1931."

IV.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

DEMAND VIII—HEADS OF PROVINCES AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS— RESERVED—cont.

The discussion on the above demand was continued.

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 38,600 for Executive Council be reduced by Rs. 100'

in order to raise the question of the division of provinces on linguistic basis. I know that the Local Government said that the resolution of this Council with regard to the Andhra Province had been sent to the Government of India. It is no doubt, Sir, that it is the Government of India that has to deal with this question and that the Local Government may not take any initiative on that. But, Sir, it is a question

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

17th March 1931

of great public importance and it is a question which has been agitating the public mind for at least two decades now. When we are going to consider almost immediately the Constitution of this country, this question of the distribution of the province on a linguistic basis must be tackled now. It is not necessary on my part now to enter into the details of the scheme from the financial and other points of view. But on the whole there is a very keen desire in this province and throughout the whole country for distributing the provinces on a linguistic basis, particularly as we hope when the franchise is going to be extended and true democratic institutions in this country are going to be introduced and are to be worked in the true democratic spirit. It is almost impossible to work the democratic institutions in the true spirit unless the ordinary man who is not acquainted with the English language can take intelligent interest in the administration. Unless the speeches in the Legislative Councils are delivered in the vernaculars and unless the ordinary administration including justice and orders of Government are conducted through the vernaculars, it is not easy for the ordinary man to take any active interest in the democratic institution, if the administration is carried on through a language with which he is not acquainted. And hence the necessity for the formation of the provinces on the basis of languages. The minor questions connected with finance and with regard to areas where there are two languages commanding equal influence can be investigated later on. I hope that the Local Government will see to it that their views on this matter are definitely expressed on this occasion, and I believe that they will be in favour of dividing this province on a linguistic basis."

* Rao Sahib D. KRISHNAMURTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, in supporting this motion, I beg to bring to your notice the following facts. Years ago, when Sir B. N. Sarma moved this question in the then Imperial Legislative Council, before the present Reforms, the then Government representative said that the Government maintained an attitude of benevolent neutrality on this matter. This was, however, one of the acute questions engaging the attention of people in the Andhra country, and they held Andhra conferences purposely to organize this province on a linguistic basis. The formation of Madras Presidency and of the various other provinces in India was based on different considerations after the British Rule began. Some were formed on the basis of conquest, some on the basis of annexation and some others on political grounds, without any regard for the languages of the people within the areas concerned. Thus, the present formation of the provinces was due to various accidents, and was not based upon any logical basis at all. If ever any improvements are to be made in this respect, the only feasible way is to bring together within an area people speaking the same vernacular. No doubt, the argument of Government against it would be on the ground of the cost of administration. Of course various political reforms have to be effected in this country, involving extra expenditure and it must be considered as one of the important instalments of such reforms to divide the country

[17th March 1931]

[Mr. D. Krishnamurti]

into provinces on a linguistic basis. When you want to democratize the country, so that every tax-payer may understand what is going on in the Government of the country and bring to bear his influence upon it, the only possible way to carry on any such Government is to divide the country on linguistic basis, and to carry on the administration in the vernacular of the people. For instance, let us take the Madras Presidency, where we have got four important vernaculars, Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese and Malayalam. If the province is divided on a language basis, the cost of administration would be considerably less in proportion to the area and population of the various smaller units. In supporting this motion moved by Mr. Koti Reddi, I hope the Madras Government will take up this question and press it upon the attention of the Imperial Government in proper time."

* MR. P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR spoke in Tamil as follows:—

“புறமான்” VIII விஷயமாய் பல்படித்த தக்கைய மடகாணத்தை அன்ஸ்து ராஜதாணியை பிளிக்வேறுமாய் நபது நன்மங்கள் கூறுகிறார்கள்.

“அந்த விஷயத்தில் என்னுடைய அபிப்பிராயம் இடங்கொடுக்கவில்லை. அவைகள் அப்படிச் செய்வதினால் ஏராளமான பணச் சிவன்கள் தோன்றும். ராஜ்யதானியில் பணச் சிவனை குறைக்கவே வேண்டும் உண்டாகவேண்டியது அவசியம்.

“இதன் கொஞ்சம் கஷ்டம் நமது நாட்டின்கள் சொல்வதில் இருக்கலாம். இந்த பாஜதானி கன்னை தேசம், தென்னுந்து தேசங்கள், மலபார், தமிழ் தேசம் இந்த பாஷைகள் பொருந்தியதே. பெரும்பாலும் மலபார் தமிழ்ச் சார்ந்ததே. இந்த பிராமின்ஸாவது தமிழ் பிரபலினிலே அன்புது வேறில்லை.

“ பல்லாபி, தாண்டாப், பல்சாய், நார்த் கண்டாடி, சவுத் காவரா, டாக் இவைகளை கண்டாடி தேரமாகக் கூறலாம். ஒன்றை பஸ்தாகப் பிளித்தால் சாம்பாங்களை குறைந்த தூரணையில் ஏற்படுத்தலாம். என்னுடைய அதிர்ஷ்டம் என்னை அங்கங்களையும் உண்டாக்க வேண்டியவரும். அப்பொழுது ஏராளமான சிலவற்றைக் காரணமொழுகும். அவையொன்றை அடுத்த மாகாணத்துக்கு வெளியே சேர்க்கையாகிய பந்தால் அசுவகனில் கண்டாடி, தென்னாற்கு, உரிசா தேரம் சேர்க்க எதுவா துமாபொன்றோ யோசிக்கலாம். எது எப்படி இருந்தாலும் நமது நலம் பின்பாடு நான் பொருட் கொடுப்பினும் சேலாவணியொருமொழித் தொன்றின்னை.

“ ஆலையாஸ் நான் என் லுடைய பழக்கம் அப்பிராயத்தை இந்தத் தெரிவிக்கிறேன். அங்கின் பாலையினும் மட்டும் இந்த மாகாண கௌன்சில் நடைபெறுவது சரியல்ல. வெள்ளையும் பெரும்பாகம் இம்மாதிரியானவர்கள் அப்பிராயம் டயார்க்கி வந்த காலம் முதலே இந்த உலாஸ்சியை தெரிவித்திருக்கிறது. இதை நமது அங்கக் கௌன்சிலான கௌன்சிலர்கள் ஊர்ஜிதப்படுத்துக் கொண்டுவராத காரணமே இப்பிராவினையை மிரிக்குமானது வந்திருக்கிறது. இந்த கௌன்சில் கவாணரின் கௌன்சிலாக இருந்து அப்பால் சுமார் 60 கௌன்சில் வரை அத் கமாக்கியதும் அப்பால் 1920-ம் ஆண்டு முதல் 120 கௌன்சிலாக்கியதையும் அறிவேன். அந்தந்த கால இயற்கைக்குத் தக்கபடி வந்தது சரியே. இப்போதய காலத்தில் ப்யூர் (pure) இங்கிலிஷ் பாஷையுடனாவும் இருந்தாலெழிய பேசுந்திறமையும் அறி யுந் திறமையும் பொருந்துமொன்று அன்றாது அற்பத்தியும் சொல்பதாக யுன். Yes Sir, No Sir, Come on Sir, Excuse Sir, Please Sir, Beg your pardon Sir, I know Sir, Good night, Good-bye Sir, Very well, thanks, Sir, என்று சொல்லுகின்றும் கையெழுத்து அளித்து விடாது. இங்கிலிஷ் போடு வகின்றும் இங்கிலிஷ் தெரிவிக்கவேண்டும் காட்டிக் கொள்ள வழியையாகி மது. ஹஸ்சில் பேசுவது சரியாம் கேட்பதற்கு இப்பான் கருவிகள் அமைத்திருந்

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

[17th March 1931]

all the four as a whole. Small provinces would not be able to finance large projects. They would not be able even to think of large financial commitments. To illustrate my point, I need only refer to the Mettur Project now on hand. Supposing the Madras Province had been divided into four small provinces, big projects like the one at Mettur can never become practical possibilities. In the other fields of activity of the Government much the same thing will happen.

I would submit to the attention of the House another important consideration. Provinces belonging to one language group will no doubt have a common tradition and a common culture. But there are certain matters in which the clash and combination of cultures will help to enlarge the horizon and widen the vision. In dealing with matters which are not of purely parochial interest, the dispassionate and disinterested counsel of an outsider may be of great value. For example, in the old Legislative Council the question of locating the headquarters of the Andhra University was very much to the fore. The Andhradesa people were very keenly divided on this question. It has not yet been taken as settled as I understand from the notice of a Bill proposed to be introduced in the House. In such matters, when local feelings and partisan ideas result in keen differences of opinion, the existence of an outside group in the Legislative Council would to a large extent bring to bear opinions enabling a dispassionate and independent consideration of the questions.

Some hon. Members suggested that, to enable the people to come into intimate touch with the details of administration, formation of provinces on a linguistic basis would be helpful. But I believe that, in these days, as more and more vernacular papers are coming into existence and the proceedings of any public body of importance are translated and published in the papers, even the ordinary illiterate country peasant is now getting into closer and closer acquaintance with the details of the administration generally. So, therefore, for that purpose, the province need not be subdivided. Logically considered, the matter cannot be confined to province of Madras only. If we take the Kanarese area into consideration, I believe there are as many Kanarese speaking people in the Native State of Mysore as in the Madras Presidency including probably North Kanara which is part of the Bombay Presidency. So that, if we are to work out this scheme to its logical conclusion, it should be remembered that we will have to divide not only the present province of Madras but also at least one Native State and take some slices out of it. I would therefore submit that in view of the various considerations involved in this question the problem is not a simple one as it may appear at first sight. The difficulties involved and the considerations to be borne in mind are very many and the question is of a very far-reaching character. Sir, we are anxiously looking forward to a scheme of reforms which will give us autonomy and until we work that scheme of provincial autonomy successfully, at any rate, it would be more to our advantage to go on pooling all our resources."

17th March 1931]

* Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, coming as I do from a district where half the population is Kanarese and the other half partly Telugu and partly Kanarese, I submit to the House that the feeling is very strong there that there should be a Karnataka province. I thought that there would be no opposition whatsoever so far as this proposition is concerned. As there is opposition, with the permission of the House I would bring to the notice of hon. Members what happened in this very House two or three years ago. This House on the motion of my Friend, Mr. Siva Rao, carried a proposition that provinces should be formed on a linguistic basis. Sir, from what I gather from the newspapers I believe that at the Round Table Conference also when this question was mooted the general feeling was that the provinces ought to be formed on a linguistic basis. Apart from these considerations, from a practical point of view also, on account of the peculiar condition of the Bellary district, this is a very desirable step. As I said, half the district of Bellary is Kanarese and the other half is partly Kanarese and partly Telugu. So much so, at one time, as probably hon. Members are aware, we were forced to be part of the Andhra University area and then, on our representation that we had nothing in common with the Andhras, we were made part of the Madras University area. And now, I believe there is a proposition coming before the House adding us on again to the Andhra University area. We are taken for a football and kicked from one to the other. To avoid all this, I believe, it is very desirable that the Karnataka province should be formed as early as possible and Bellary should be included in that province. Although it may be said that in a small portion of the Bellary district there are Telugu-speaking people, I say that as they know Kanarese also, Bellary may well form part of the Kanarese province. Under these circumstances, I commend this motion for the acceptance of hon. Members."

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—"Mr. President, I regret I have to oppose this motion for the simple reason that there are a number of Telugu-speaking people in the Tamil districts and Tamil-speaking people in the Telugu districts. Although my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, is pleading for the formation of a Kanara province, he is neither a Telugu nor a Kanarese. He is coming from Mylapore. Sir, if this splitting up of the Madras Province on a linguistic basis is to be accepted, I seriously suggest that the Tamils in the Telugu districts should be sent back to the Tamil districts and the Telugus in the Tamil districts should also be sent back to the Telugu districts. If this is done, I am glad to say that our district which is educationally backward will have the advantage of getting more funds at the hands of the hon. the Minister for Education. And when the Kanarese province is formed, I do not know where my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar will be, whether at Bellary itself or at Mylapore. I feel very great difficulty in supporting this proposition because our district is neither completely Kanarese nor completely Telugu. It does not consist of people who speak only a particular language. At this stage,

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

[17th March 1931]

I am unable to see what the financial effect of the splitting up also will be. But if it is going to be done, I strongly urge that the population in each area should be made to consist of people speaking the same language."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, the object of this motion is apparently to express the desire of the House for the division of the province into three or four provinces on a linguistic basis. I gather that some Members want the formation of an Oriya Province and others favour the formation of a Kanarese Province. Others again are in favour of an Andhra Province. Sir, this question of the formation of provinces on a linguistic basis has been considered before now. Hon. Members will remember that the Joint Select Committee on the Government of India Bill made certain observations on one of the clauses of the Bill to the following effect:—

"On the one hand, they do not think that any change in the boundaries of a province should be made without due consideration of the views of the Legislative Council of the province. On the other hand, they are of opinion that any clear request made by a majority of the Members of a Legislative Council representing a distinctive racial or linguistic territorial unit for its constitution under this clause as a sub-province or a separate province should be taken as a prima facie case on the strength of which a commission of inquiry might be appointed by the Secretary of State, and that it should not be a bar to the appointment of such a commission of inquiry that the majority of the Legislative Council of the province in question is opposed to the request of the minority representing such a distinctive territorial unit."

In the year 1927, the House passed a resolution recommending the formation of a separate Andhra Province and in that same year, in the Legislative Assembly a resolution was moved in favour of placing the Oriya-speaking tracts under one local administration. But that resolution was withdrawn after some discussion. The question of the division of provinces is one which involves various considerations.

12
noon.

"It seems to me that the hon. Member who moved this motion and those who have supported his proposals for a division of the province on a linguistic basis were moved largely by sentimental considerations. They do not seem to realize fully the administrative difficulties which will necessarily arise when we divide the province on a linguistic basis. There is also the difficulty of finance. Any province which will be formed newly should be self-supporting and be able to maintain its necessary establishments, and should have also sufficient money for the development of its own nation-building departments. I may suggest that, if there is a general feeling on the part of Members that any particular province should be formed, such as an Oriya Province or an Andhra Province, the better course would be for them to bring forward a resolution to that effect in this House rather than express their opinions by means of a cut motion. This cut motion, if it is passed, will not make it really clear what the opinion of the entire House is. Some Members may be in favour of one province and some may be in favour of another. I would suggest that if any hon.

17th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

Member thinks that there is a general feeling in the House in favour of formation of an Oriya Province, he may bring forward a resolution which if it is passed may be sent to the Government of India."

The motion was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Rao Bahadur G. Jagannadha Raju. | 19. Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar. |
| 2. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 20. " A. B. Shetty. |
| 3. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar. | 21. " G. Simhachalam. |
| 4. Mr. P. Bayappa Reddi. | 22. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur. |
| 5. The Raja of Bobbili. | 23. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur. |
| 6. The Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. | 24. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. |
| 7. Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao. | 25. Rai Bahadur N. Nallathambi Sankarai Manradyar. |
| 8. The Zamindar of Chemudu. | 26. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 9. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. | 27. " A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 10. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur. | 28. " K. Koti Reddi. |
| 11. Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu. | 29. " C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 12. " B. Venkataramayya. | 30. Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| 13. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 31. Mr. J. Kuppuswami Choudari. |
| 14. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 32. " C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| 15. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar. | 33. " U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 16. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 34. Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti. |
| 17. " Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 35. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi. |
| 18. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur. | 36. " G. Sriramulu. |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahmud Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 23. Mr. B. P. Sessa Reddi. |
| 2. " Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 24. " M. S. Sreshta. |
| 3. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 25. " P. C. Moses. |
| 4. " Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 26. " P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 27. " V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. |
| 6. " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 28. " A. Kondappa. |
| 7. " Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 29. " T. Narasa Reddi. |
| 8. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayarammal. | 30. " R. M. Palat. |
| 9. Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandian. | 31. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 10. " H. R. Pate. | 32. The Raja of Khallikota. |
| 11. " H. A. Watson. | 33. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. |
| 12. " R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 34. The Zamindar of Ettayapuram. |
| 13. " S. V. Ramamurti. | 35. Mr. Daniel Thomas. |
| 14. " Hilton Brown. | 36. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 15. " T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 37. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. |
| 16. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. | 38. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 17. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam. | 39. Mr. A. T. Luker. |
| 18. Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 40. " F. Birley. |
| 19. " M. Devadasan. | 41. " R. Foulkes. |
| 20. " N. Siva Raj. | 42. " W. M. Browning. |
| 21. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. | 43. " H. Waddington. |
| 22. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. | 44. Rao Bahadur Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |
| | 45. Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| | 46. " V. T. Arasu. |
| | 47. " H. M. Jagannatham. |
| | 48. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| | 49. Rao Sahib R. Srinivasan. |
| | 50. Mr. C. Krishnan. |

Ayes 36. Noes 50.

The motion was lost.

[17th March 1931

Demand VIII—Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—
Reserved—For Rs. 3,56,100 was then put and carried and the grant
made.

DEMAND IX—LEGISLATIVE BODIES—RESERVED

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to
move—

*‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,32,000
under Demand IX—Legislative Bodies—Reserved’.*”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“I beg to move—

*‘that the allotment of Rs. 2,19,300 for Legislative Council be
reduced by Rs. 100.’*”

“My object in moving this cut motion is to urge upon the Govern-
ment the necessity for a larger number of non-official days in the course
of every session.

“Sir, we know that in this Council and even in the previous Council
we have felt that the number of non-official days for every session have
been very small and that it has not been possible for non-official Members
of this House, even if they get their motions passed through the ballot,
to have an opportunity of getting them discussed in the Council because
the number of days that were allotted for non-official business was very
limited. If anybody takes into account the number of motions that
have been given notice of by hon. Members of this House, he will find
that it is only one per cent of these motions that has ever been taken
up for consideration in this House. Sir, if it were only for carrying
on official business this Council is to meet, I do not think that all the
money that is being spent on this Legislative Council is of any avail,
because, after all, on matters which are official, non-official Members
have only a very very limited power of dealing inasmuch as they can
only represent to the Government what their point of view is and cannot
make it binding on the Government to take into consideration all that
the non-official Members say with regard to the various motions that
are brought before the Government. Sir, if it is necessary that non-
official Members should make adequate representation of the grievances
of the people, it is quite essential that the number of days that are
allotted for non-official business should be increased.

“Sir, there are various reasons why the number of non-official days
should be increased because we felt during last session that there were
important matters of public importance which should be brought before
the Government through this Council, and that could not be done. As
a matter of fact, it is not also possible for any urgent motion being
considered during the Budget session.

“Sir, these are difficulties that are placed in the way of non-official
Members in this House. Out of 45 or 50 days that the Council sits

17th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

during a year, I do not think there are more than four or six non-
official days during the whole year. So, compared with the number of
days that are allotted for official business, the number of days for non-
official business is very very small.

“For these reasons, Sir, I plead that the number of days that are
allotted for non-official business should be increased.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“I may say that the views put forward before this House will be borne
in mind by the Government in allotting non-official days in the future.”

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—“I beg to move—

*‘that the allotment of Rs. 2,19,300 for Legislative Council be
reduced by Rs. 100.’*”

“Sir, the object of my cut motion is to bring to the notice of the
Government the necessity of appointing one more Superintendent to the
Legislative Council Office. The Legislative Council Office is at present
manned by one Superintendent and 13 clerks. This one Superintendent
is expected to pass all the papers that the 13 clerks deal with. Because
of the enormity of the work in the office I understand that papers relat-
ing to questions are now being passed by the Assistant Secretary. Hon.
Members of this House would sooner agree with me if they would for
a moment turn to the establishment of the other Government Depart-
ments working in the Secretariat. In the Chief Secretariat there are
four Superintendents for 19 clerks; in the Finance Secretariat there
are eight Superintendents for 24 clerks; in the Revenue Secretariat five
Superintendents for 22 clerks; in the Development Department there
are two Superintendents for 15 clerks; in the Law Secretariat there are
seven Superintendents for 31 clerks; in the Public Works Department
there are five Superintendents for 22 clerks; and in Local Self-Govern-
ment Department there are eight Superintendents for 35 clerks. Under
these circumstances may I, Sir, suggest the desirability of appointing
one more Superintendent to the Legislative Council Office?”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Sir, I beg to second the motion.
I may just point out that this department is one of the departments
of the Secretariat where there is not even a single Mussalman.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—
“Sir, it has not been brought to the notice of the Government that
there is a necessity for another Superintendent. If the Secretary to the
Council, Mr. Krishna Ayyar, thinks that another Superintendent is
necessary, if he applies to the Government, if he thinks that a Muham-
madan candidate is available and if recommendations in that matter
are made to the Government, the Government will be prepared to consider
the question.”

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—“Sir, in view of the assurance
given by the hon. the Home Member I withdraw the motion.”

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

[17th March 1931]

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Sir, I beg to move the motion standing in my name, viz.—

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,19,300 for Legislative Council be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I wish to know, Sir, what the necessity is for a Standing Counsel and what the reason is for having this Counsel. I want information as to what duties this Standing Counsel is expected to do and how he is to help the President. This seems to be a new appointment."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I shall give a brief history of this question. At the time of voting of demands in March 1925, Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar moved for the appointment of a Standing Counsel for the hon. the President. The then hon. the Law Member suggested that this question might be considered by a committee. A committee comprised of the representatives of all parties of the House was formed to discuss the question. The Chairman, Mr. M. Ratnaswami, stated that this question was discussed at the Presidents' Conference and as a result of the discussion the conference came to the conclusion that all interests would be served if the President was allowed to consult legal opinion whenever it was necessary and that the Government should undertake to pay for such consultations. The hon. Sir Thomas Moir, the then Finance Member, stated that he could quite understand that situations would arise when it would be inexpedient for the President to rely entirely on the advice of the Leader of the House or of the Advocate-General or the President's Secretary. He could see no financial objection for provision being made in order to enable the President to consult such people as he might think desirable and he was certain that no question would arise as to the propriety of the President's action on such occasions. He added that it should be made clear that the President retained his discretion of using any of the sources which were at present available to him. The hon. the Law Member emphasized the remark of the hon. the Finance Member that the President should not rule out the possibility of consulting the ordinary machinery open to him. A provision is made in the Budget each year on this account."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand IX—Legislative Bodies—Reserved—For Rs. 2,32,000 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND X—SECRETARIAT AND HEADQUARTERS ESTABLISHMENTS,
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,38,23,900 under Demand X—Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved.'

[17th March 1931]

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I beg to move the following motion, viz.—

'that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"There are two reasons, Sir, why I want to raise this question of the consideration of our financial condition and our commitments. One is the depression through which we have been passing through last year and which, so far as we can see, is likely to continue for another year or two at least. This depression is not special to India; all over the world there is this depressed condition. Trade is at a low ebb; prices are very low and the condition of labour also is very difficult. The question of unemployment is looming large in almost every country. In India the question of unemployment does not appear to be so acute as it is in other countries for the simple reason that we do not keep any statistics of unemployment; even in the best of times, employment is not very regular here. In agriculture especially, it is well known that employment is only a matter of temporary shift. In a condition like this, when the whole world is affected and when every country is taking stock of its revenues, of its available resources and of its expenditure, I think it is necessary that we, in India also, should do the same. It is absolutely necessary that we should not be caught napping and that we should not find ourselves in a difficult situation without being prepared for it. That, Sir, is the first argument.

"Secondly, the new Reforms are looming large before us and we are preparing ourselves for it. Before we enter into the new state of responsible government, it is necessary that we should make a proper examination of our available resources and our commitments; we should know where exactly we stand. When the old order of things under which the bureaucracy was managing things—I am not using that term in any bad sense—and we had dictation of policy from above—is going to yield place to the new order of things under which the direction will come from below and the policy will be settled by the democracy, we ought really to know where we stand, what our available resources are at the present moment, what are our commitments and what is the policy we can initiate with regard to important subjects like elementary education or total prohibition. We have to know whether we can afford to undertake such schemes. These are matters about which we ought to have information, definite information. So, it seems to me that this is the proper time when a special committee should be appointed to examine our resources, our expenditure and our commitments.

"Not only that; after this Council came into existence, we have been dealing with the salaries, allowances and other matters rather in a haphazard fashion. I know very well that a Retrenchment Committee was appointed in the year 1923 and it was asked to go elaborately into the question of allowances and to formulate its proposals. I find, Sir, that the proposals of this committee have not been always adhered to. A large number of exemptions and new ideas have been introduced

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [17th March 1931]
into the question of allowances, so that the time is come to examine anew these matters. In fixing the salaries of officers in the various departments, we have not been going on on any settled principles. Unfortunately there are services over whose pay and allowances we have no control. We have no power to fix the pay of some Imperial Services to which recruitment is made by the Secretary of State for India. The complaint about the very high scale that was fixed by the Secretary of State on the recommendation of the Lee Commission has been rather a standing one. Unfortunately we cannot raise that question in this Council; we cannot ask for enquiry about the scale of salary and allowances fixed for these Imperial Services. This has to be done elsewhere. But at the same time we feel at times the difficulty of doing the right thing with regard to persons whose salary can be fixed by this Council; the weakness or difficulty is due to a large extent to the fact that the scale of salaries and allowances which have been fixed for the Imperial Services by the Secretary of State is very high. It has been argued, 'if these Imperial Services are going to get such high salaries and allowances, why not poor Indians who have been appointed and who are doing the same work get the same salaries or something near those salaries'. That is the sort of argument that has been advanced; as I said, many of us have been weak in the past in dealing with this question. I submit, Sir, that the whole matter has to be looked at from a proper standpoint, from a new angle of vision, and from the justice of the case, justice not only to the officers who are appointed but also to the taxpayer, the man who works hard day in and day out and who finds the money for expenditure by the Government. We have to fix the salaries and allowances of a number of officers in various departments not merely in consonance with what the Secretary of State might have done in the case of one set of officers, but also with reference to the capacity of the taxpayer who has to find all the money, whether he can afford it, whether the poor country can afford to pay the high scale of salaries, and whether we require the present number of officers. That is the sort of question which we will have to consider. In fixing the salaries of officers, we have not been following any definite principle. Last year, I referred to two clear cases; there were two sets of officers appointed in the Education Department and in the Agricultural department. For both the services the same qualifications are necessary. If research officers are appointed in the Agricultural department, they ought to be paid, if anything, better. That being the case, one should have thought that the scales of salaries of the two departments would be fixed with reference to the requirements of the cases; if there is to be any advantage, it should be in favour of the Agricultural officer.

12-30
P.M.

"But what do we find? We find that the Agricultural officers are placed in a certain scale which has got no sort of relation to the scale fixed for officers in the Education Department, which is practically the scale previously fixed for Imperial officers. That is to say, if we take both the services separately, the Educational officers are in the Imperial Service while the Agricultural officers are in the Provincial

17th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

Service—I am speaking only with reference to pay—but the qualifications required of these two sets of officers are practically the same, or if anything, they ought to be better in the case of the Agricultural officers. I am giving only an example of what is obtaining in regard to services in so many departments. That is not a fair state of things at all. We ought to have some settled principles with regard to these services. All the Provincial services should be treated more or less on a footing of equality. We require the same sort of officers, for instance, in the Revenue Department and the Survey department where outdoor work is necessary. In other cases, where research work is necessary, we can have people who have been trained in the University and are fitted for such work. Simply because one man by accident enters one department rather than another, his pay and allowances should not be different. It is high time that the Government fixed a uniform scale of pay for all the Provincial services and also specified any special appointments for which they want special salaries to be fixed. One can understand that, but that is not what is going on. This is another point which we will have to enquire into.

"In all these matters, we must take into consideration the present state of our country, the scale of pay given in other countries, the requirements of the situation and things like that. We all see daily in the papers that this question is being raised in all countries, and that the scale of pay attached to officers is very much lower in many countries than what it is here in India. Comparison is often made between the pay given in an advanced country like Japan and that given here, and it is said that the scale of pay fixed in Japan is very much lower than what obtains here in India. It is often argued—and with very good reasons—that there is absolutely no necessity to keep up salaries at this high level.

"Then again, the number of officers of the various departments who go into the villages individually has become very large; and investigation is absolutely necessary into the reasons why so many officers of so many departments should go into the villages. In the old days, there was only one department, the Revenue Department, which either directly or indirectly was responsible for the whole administration of the village in any branch—sanitation, education, labour or local board work. The Revenue Department officials were then doing their work efficiently, and I do not think there were so many complaints in those days as we have now. Nowadays, we have more than a dozen sets of officers going into the village, and each of them has to obtain the usual mamul and the village people have to look to all his conveniences; and if anybody thinks that he has not been properly treated, immediately there will be a number of prosecutions for some reason or another. There may be, for instance, prosecutions for non-vaccination in one village, although in the next village there may be a large number of children not vaccinated. But if you want to know the reason for such prosecutions, you will have to find it elsewhere. Is it not possible to do something to avoid—not duplication or triplication, but—this multiplication of officers who are doing work in the villages? Even after

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [17th March 1931]

this multiplication of officers, we find that the old officers who were doing duty in all directions and who have since been relieved of most of such duties, still continue. For instance, there were 21 Collectors formerly with the usual number of Divisional Officers and Tahsildars; but even after the multiplication of officers and after these people were relieved of much of their work, we find that there has been no reduction in the number of districts, the number of divisions and the number of tahsildarships. On the other hand, we see that the number of collectorships has increased, the number of divisions has increased and the number of tahsildarships has also increased and we find a large number of officers doing work which is less than half of what it used to be in the old days. The Divisional Officer in the old days was also a Taluk Board President, and the Divisional Officer was then attending to many other works; he was helping the other departments and the work of the other departments had to go through him. We have now got a Labour Officer who has nothing to do with the Divisional Officer; we have a Minor Irrigation Officer who has nothing to do with the Divisional Officer, and we have so many other officers who have nothing to do with the Divisional Officer—and yet we have still got the Divisional Officer there. When we proposed some time ago that some of the districts might be abolished, districts like Chittoor, Madras and Nilgiris, which people were able to prove there was no necessity for, the Government said: 'You are partly correct no doubt, but it is difficult to abolish them'. I ask, where is the necessity for a Collector at Madras; what is his work, Sir? It is rather difficult to understand what sort of work is done by a Collector at Madras. He has practically no lands to look after; at any rate, what land he has got is so small that it can be attended to by the Collector at Saidapet quite easily. I for one do not see any reason for a Collector at Madras. Similarly, the Collector in the Nilgiris seems to me to be there more for attending to the Government House than anything else. The area which he has got under his command is very small and the work which he does—except perhaps for anything which the Government House may give him—is not very much. The Wynad can be easily attached to the Malabar and the rest of the Nilgiris district which will be only about a taluk and a half, may be added on to the Coimbatore district. There is absolutely no need for a Collector in the Nilgiris. Not only has there been a multiplication of officers in this way, but there has been multiplication in another way. In the same department, for instance, where there are two officers, an intermediary officer has been appointed to supervise the work of the lower one and to be responsible to the higher one. We have been raising objections in season and out of season to this system of appointing supervising officers. A most notorious example of this is the Revenue Board. Two resolutions were passed in this very Council asking for the abolition of the Revenue Board. Nothing but a lot of delay is caused by the existence of this board and it is doing no good whatever. There is no need for a Revenue Board to interpose between the Government and the Collectors. In other departments too, the position is no better—in fact it is much worse. If you take the

17th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

Engineering department, you have the Superintending Engineer, who is an intermediary officer; you take the Police department, there you have the Deputy Inspector-General of Police. Take the Forest department; there again is the Conservator of Forests. In every department you find the same policy of having officers between the district officer and the headquarter officer. Is there any need for them when we have so many departments? I for one should think that there is no need for the existence of these intermediary officers, and this is one of the questions which will have to be investigated.

"These are some of the questions, Sir, which will have to be considered by a committee to be appointed and it will take a pretty long time. Wherever the Committee recommends that there should be a change of policy or that there should be retrenchment, it ought to be carefully examined and if possible be given effect to. I have already said that ours is a poor country, where the average income of the ordinary man is only about Rs. 72 according to Professor Slater."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Rs 36 according to others."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"According to others it is lower, but I would take the figure of a European Professor of Economics holding the position he did. He said that the average income of a man in the village in this Presidency is about Rs. 72 a year. In spite of that and in spite of our present depressed condition, we are paying very large salaries to our officers and we are employing a very large number of officers, out of all proportion to the requirements of the province. The question of our resources also is bound up with the way in which we spend our income; and whether we are utilizing our resources in the best possible manner is also a question which should be considered. It may of course be a matter of policy to be decided by the Ministers and Executive Councillors concerned; but it is also a matter for examination by the Retrenchment Committee to find out whether there is any waste. There are ways, Sir, in which waste can be avoided."

"Even granting that the question of salaries and allowances is alright, there is the question of contingencies which covers a multitude of sins. What that word 'contingency' exactly means, it is not always easy to say. Very often, a number of things are included in it for which it will be very difficult to find justification. I do not want to go further into the matter as I think I have made out a good case for the appointment of a committee on the grounds firstly, that we are in a very depressed condition at the present moment, secondly that conditions in a poor country like India are not comparable to those in rich countries like England, and thirdly, that we are going to enter shortly into a new era of Responsible Government, at the beginning of which it is absolutely necessary that we should know where we stand. I therefore beg to move the motion standing in my name, with a view to press on the Government the necessity for the appointment of a strong but small committee which will sit for a sufficiently long time, go into all these matters and submit an exhaustive report."

[17th March 1931

12-45
p.m.

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I think it is high time that we take up this question of retrenchment in hand and set our financial position aright. We have seen during the general discussion of the Budget how the opening balances have been dwindling from year to year, and how our Budgets have not been balanced and that for a series of years we have been having deficit Budgets.

" Now, Sir, even though the provincial contribution of 3½ crores had been remitted, we have not had either reduction of taxes or any substantial money being spent on nation-building departments. It has been conceded that we cannot derive any further amount from land revenue, as that has reached the topmost level. Added to these facts, this year we are passing through an acute economic depression and our administration is top-heavy as compared with other western countries and it has no parallel at all. Even in countries like England, Australia and Canada, the salaries of officers are not so high as those obtaining in India. Imagine that the highest paid-officer in the whole world is the Viceroy of India and just look at the average income of India in comparison with other countries. The average income of an Indian is very low when compared to that of the people of other countries. That being so, why should we adopt such a high-level of salaries, I want to know.

" Of late, even in countries like Canada and Australia, on account of the economic depression, the Government officials have voluntarily given up a percentage of their salaries. I think it is in Australia that they have given up about 10 per cent of their salaries and coming nearer home, in the Central Provinces, the hon. Ministers have reduced their salaries by nearly 50 per cent. Therefore, I urge that Government should now seriously take in hand this question of retrenchment and cut drastically the salaries of officials drawing a thousand and over and also put an end to redundant offices like that of the Board of Revenue and other establishments mentioned by my hon. Friend, the Mover of the cut motion. If you are going to appoint a retrenchment committee and pre-determine not to give effect to the recommendations of that Committee, for God's sake, don't appoint such a Committee at all, but if you are really sincere about giving effect to the recommendations of the Committee which you are going to appoint, then the sooner you appoint that Committee the better for us. Further, Sir, we have to face still more serious times; when the new Reforms are ushered in, our responsibilities will be greater and it therefore behoves the hon. the Finance Member that he should not leave a very undue burden to his successor. He must see that the financial condition of the province is bettered."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, this motion requires no elaborate argument to commend it to the acceptance of the House. In spite of the increase of revenue—though it is not very much—and in spite of the windfall of the remission of the provincial contribution of 3½ crores, we have seen that the cost of the

17th March 1931] [Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar]

administration has been growing, so much so that in this year we are not able even to balance the Budget. Local rates were raised, first by the Act of 1920 and secondly court-fees and stamp duties were increased. Yet by the recent Acts passed last year, all these are insufficient to produce enough income. It is impossible to go on any longer in the same state. There might have been occasions for the multiplication of offices previously. I may here give one or two instances. When the income-tax work was done by the district authorities, as also local boards work, there was necessity for the multiplication of offices and increase in the number of officers and even for the division of big districts into two districts. It is time that a scrutiny takes place in order to see whether a combination of offices or a redistribution of official charges is not feasible. It would, no doubt, be difficult to suggest an offhand remedy, but careful investigation may be effectively achieved. Therefore, it is necessary that the whole question should be examined by an expert committee which will go into all these things in order to see that the cost of the administration is not unnecessarily kept up at a high level. That the House feels keenly will be obvious from the fact that during the general discussion Member after Member belonging to all the sections of this House urged the necessity for retrenchment. The Government of India also have taken steps in that direction. It may be said that there are certain offices which are beyond the province of the provincial Government in the matter of pay and emoluments, but if the Government move in the matter with the previous concurrence of the Government of India, and if enquiries are made by co-ordinated action between the two Governments, it may be possible to effect retrenchment even in regard to such appointments. It is therefore absolutely essential that this question should be taken up as early as possible, so that we may save a lot of money for more useful purposes."

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am very happy to be in a position to support the motion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar. The importance of the motion which is brought up for consideration in this House cannot easily be overrated. The present stress of financial conditions, the world-wide depression in trade and agriculture and various other factors have combined to create a position of financial difficulty, which perhaps within living memory is unparalleled. Added to these, we are face to face with a great change in the constitution of the Government of our country and of our province. I do not think any hon. Member of this House will disagree with me when I say that public economy should be the chief cornerstone of the edifice of Provincial and National Autonomy. It has been urged time and again that the citizens of this country should cultivate a sense of public spirit and a sense of just proportion, but I would submit that the sense of public spirit and the sense of just proportion are as much necessary and as much requisite for Governments as for individuals. Unless Governments and those who are in authority in governmental matters develop and exercise an almost sacred sense of

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

[17th March 1931]

rigid economy in public expenditure, no Government can function to ultimate success. I remember an incident in the life of a great English political leader. I refer to Mr. Gladstone. He was occupying No. 10, Downing street, and the garden of his (Prime Minister's) residence was not turfed. Somebody suggested to him, why not have it turfed. Mr. Gladstone replied: 'Where is the money to come from? The reply immediately came from his friend 'From the British Exchequer! Government will provide the necessary fund'. Mr. Gladstone said: 'What, for the amenities of a Prime Minister to take the funds of the Government and utilize them for his private amenities! He received this suggestion of his friend with surprise and obviously threw it entirely out of consideration. I do not say that that should be literally observed and carried out in every matter of detail, but that should be the spirit in which our public servants and administrators of Government should view the question of public expenditure.

"Various circumstances and factors have been pointed out by my hon. Friend which might be considered for the purpose of achieving retrenchment and economy. Generally considered, these may be classified under three headings. First is the suppression of superfluous officers and superfluous departments. I remember in one of Dicken's novels, a reference to what is called the circumlocution office, and he describes that the great purpose or object of the circumlocution office is how not to do a thing. He also describes the very successful and able way in which that object was sought to be achieved by even Government officials. I do not say that our condition offers an exact parallel to that, as that is obviously an exaggeration, an exaggeration which novelists and artists are entitled to indulge in. But it cannot be said that there is no foundation at all for applying that criticism to our Madras Government. Hon. Members have pointed out various departments which could possibly be abolished and whose work could be carried on by the remaining departments. One of the previous speakers referred to the Revenue Board as an instance. I will refer to another department, namely, the department of Inspecting Tahsildars. They are known in the village parts of my district as 'kal Tahsildars'; that is 'stone Tahsildars' and they generally go about the villages and if the village karnams are amenable and pay respectful obeisance to them, then all is well with them. On the other hand, if they stand aloof and do not pay these Tahsildars respectful obeisance, then woe unto them! Well, Sir, in a large village which probably contains thousands of survey stones, it would not be difficult for an Inspecting Tahsildar to find fault about a stone in a particular corner or other and blame the karnam. I understand that some years ago there was an arrangement by which the work of these Inspecting Tahsildars was carried on by the Revenue Department itself. The karnam is an officer of the Revenue Department under the immediate control of the local Tahsildar. The local Tahsildar will be in possession of all the necessary facts, records and other particulars for preventing any irregularities in the survey stones of the fields and I believe, as a matter of fact, this system of Inspecting Tahsildars was actually abolished and for some

17th March 1931]

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

years the work done by the Inspecting Tahsildars was actually done by the Revenue Department. I believe nothing calamitous had happened during that interval. For reasons best known to the Government, the system of Inspecting Tahsildars has again been revived. As a matter of fact, the private owner of the various survey numbers will certainly take very good care that his neighbour does not encroach upon his field and that each of the survey numbers in his fields is marked by well-defined boundary stones.

"Sir, the only place where protection may be needed for preserving these survey stones will be where Government porambokes abut on private lands, where only there is any possibility of a private land-owner encroaching on Government lands. I think instead of undergoing recurring expenditure on an establishment like that of the Inspecting Tahsildars with all their retinues, it would be far cheaper if some permanent landmarks are put up. Sir, I believe these Inspecting Tahsildars and their establishment create a rub or serve to create division in the harmonious working of the village administration by exercising a certain kind of independent control over village officers, which is not in co-ordination with the work of regular Tahsildars. I am giving this instance only with the view that Government may consider the desirability of reverting to the old system, i.e., the work of the Inspecting Tahsildars being done by the Revenue Department. I think then the work will be smoothly done and obviously it will be cheaper also.

"Similarly it may be possible to find out various posts and various other small sections of departments which might be abolished without any detriment to the efficient administration of the country.

"The next thing I wish to refer to is the wasteful expenditure in Government departments. We know as a matter of experience, taking for instance the department of Public Works, the rates which are offered by Government for carrying out buildings are much higher than what a private individual will pay for doing that same piece of work. And very often he carries out the same work in a much better way. I know cases in my own district where things have been done, then undone and once again re-done. In the case of a certain hospital, originally it was tiled, then the tiling was considered to be bad and so the tiles were pulled down, and instead of that the building was terraced. It was then found that the terracing was badly done, as it began to leak in the rainy season, and so once again fresh expenditure had to be incurred for the purpose of setting this state of affairs right. I am only giving this one instance to show how public money is being wasted. I submit that a greater sense of public economy in incurring expenditure and in carrying out public works should certainly be engendered. Again, for instance, my hon. Friend was referring to the various new departments that have been created in the districts, and he also pointed out that whereas this creation of new departments have resulted in the diminution of work of the regular officers,

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

[17th March 1931]

still, as a matter of fact, the number of these officers is always on the increase year after year, and it shows no signs of stopping at all. We know, Sir, as a matter of fact, that for the last several years, for instance, civil litigation is on the decline, and the number of suits filed in civil courts is going down year by year. And yet we find the number of civil courts is steadily on the increase. Sub-courts, additional sub-courts and temporary additional sub-courts and so on, that is the order of the day.

“The last item that has been referred to is the question of pay, i.e., the salaries and allowances of the officers in public service. Sir, as I said at the outset, public spirit is expected as much from the public servant as from the private citizen. What generally happens is that when it comes to a question of expending Government money, everybody, both Government servants and private citizens, join together and each tries to get as much sum as he could by way of salaries, travelling allowances contingencies, etc. So that, actuated to-day by that spirit, our brown brethren are competing with their white brethren in the matter of getting increased salaries, increased travelling allowances and increased contingencies, etc. Sir, I believe this sort of spirit will spell disaster to the country and to our future Government. I would therefore submit that in view of the various considerations which have been pointed out by hon. Members it is absolutely necessary that we should take stock of our present situation, that we should take stock of our resources and see in what all possible ways we can effect retrenchment. That, I say, is a necessary preparation for the future well-being of constitutional Reforms and provincial autonomy in this province.”

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—“Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion to call the attention of Government to the large sums of money given to their officers under the guise of allowances, and I want to point out the waste and extravagance that is prevailing at present in several departments of Government under this head. We see, for instance, a man drawing a pay of over Rs. 1,000 every month, and side by side with that we see him also drawing an allowance of Rs. 250 for doing no extra work. I ask why should this allowance be given? Is not the salary that he is already drawing sufficient? Does he not live on his pay?”

“Then, Sir, we see in the papers every Legislative Council in India passing a cut motion for effecting retrenchment. Only the other day we saw Mr. MacWatters' statement in the Council of State promising to appoint a Retrenchment Committee. But we don't see the Madras Government moving in that direction. Then, we see the South Indian Railway Company and the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company cutting down their expenditure. I saw in the papers that the South Indian Railway Company is going to reduce its expenditure by 36 lakhs of rupees. But in the case of the Madras Government, I see further posts are to be created. We see in Bombay the house allowances of various officers have been cut down. There was a resolution in the Assam Legislative Council that there should be a cut of over 50

17th March 1931]

[Mr. R. M. Palat]

per cent in the salary of all officers from that of His Excellency the Governor downwards. The hon. the Finance Member in his speech said that the amount that is paid by way of salary to the higher grade officials is about 174 lakhs, out of which the All-India Civil Service officers in the province take about 88 lakhs of rupees, which is non-votable. Then, we have 86 lakhs of rupees to pay to officers drawing a monthly salary of over Rs. 250. He said that if we were to effect retrenchment we could cut down the salary of these latter officers only. Now, if there is a 50 per cent cut, there will be a clear saving of 43 lakhs of rupees, and that will do away with the deficit Budget with which we are now struggling. And further, with this amount though it may not be possible to have teetotalism in the country, still a beginning may be made towards that end.

“Now since the salary of the All-India Service officers is non-votable, I would submit to Government that they should have as few of such officers as possible and that their policy should be to have as large a number of Provincial Service men as possible. For instance, Sir, we have three or four All-India Service officers in the Board of Revenue and we cannot touch their salary at all. So what I would submit to Government is that the sooner we reduce to a minimum the recruiting of All-India Civil Service officers the better it will be for the country. If we adopt that policy, we can utilize the surplus money in starting prohibition in the country and spend more money on education and hospitals which at present are under a great handicap for want funds. Sir, with these remarks I resume my seat.”

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, I welcome the motion that is before the House and especially the three-fold objects of the proposed committee. Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, has given a very comprehensive motion, for it not only deals with the question of retrenchment but also with the question of commitments and with the question of resources. I will take the question of resources first.

“The hon. the Finance Member in moving his Budget this year, as also his predecessor in office, expressed very strongly as regards the inelastic character of the revenues of our province; and it therefore behoves us, the Members of this House, to go into the question of finding new sources of revenue if possible. My own opinion, with which I am sure hon. Members would agree, is that the tax-payer is already burdened to the utmost of his capacity. Sir, even though the hon. the Finance Member may be optimistic in expecting an increase of 50 lakhs in this year's Budget, I beg to submit that I do not see eye to eye with him in that. For, I am sure the time will come when he will be disillusioned and his expectations falsified. I fear that at the end of the year there will be a deficit of not 9 lakhs, as has been anticipated by him, but 20 or 25 lakhs.

“Then, as regards the question of resources, I wish to draw the attention of hon. Members to the statement of Sir George Schuster in his Budget speech. As regards the resources of the country even the Imperial Financier is of opinion that the tax-paying capacity of the

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [17th March 1931

Indian has reached its limit; and that if new sources of revenue have to be looked for, it must be achieved only by improving the economic productivity of the citizen. Now with regard to the question of the economic productivity of the citizen, the same Imperial Financier has also made a statement, which I am sure hon. Members would have gone through carefully. He says that in order to improve the economic productivity of the citizen, the main responsibility is cast, not on the Imperial Government, but on the Provincial Government. In view of that statement, I wish to ask the Government a plain question as to what is being done by them to raise the economic productivity of the citizen.

1-15
p.m.

“ That brings me again to the question of nation-building services and nation-building industries and movements to be taken up on hand. When we as representatives of the people of this Presidency in this House make any proposal for the development of national industries, we are met with the short answer, ‘ financial limitations ’. One main ground for the appointment of this Committee is that of retrenchment in order to find money for the starved nation-building activities of the Presidency. Now, Sir, I shall leave the question of resources at that stage and pass on to the question of the need for retrenchment.

“ When one has noted carefully hon. Members of this House one after another rising up in their places and emphasizing the importance of retrenchment while considering the budget or while offering remarks on the budget that has been presented and when also one considers the fact that only the other day an influential and numerically strong number of signatures have been obtained to a motion or to a resolution to be moved in this House for the appointment of a Retrenchment Committee, I feel, Sir, that any attempt on my part to convince the House of the need of such a Committee would be like carrying coals to Newcastle. I will just mention one or two facts which have already been mentioned no doubt in a way by my predecessors who spoke on this motion, which will bring home to the hon. Members of this House the character of the administration and the heavy expenditure that we are incurring on the administration of our province. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, referred to the earning capacity of an Indian. He put it at the figure of Rs. 72 *per capita* if I remember aright. At the same time it must also be borne in mind that the figure of the earning capacity of the Indian has been put down at a much lower level by persons who have worked on that question and it has been put down at Rs. 27 per head per year. Now, when you consider the earning capacity of an Indian and when you consider the earning capacity of an inhabitant of Japan or of England, you will be astonished to find that the cost of administration or the pay of officers in India bears no comparison, bears no proportion whatsoever to the average income of an Indian. In India, Sir, as I told you, according to certain persons, the average income stands at Rs. 27 and according to others at Rs. 72 per head; you may take it any way you like. In

17th March 1931] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

Japan the average income of a person is Rs. 294. In England the average income is Rs. 1,319 *per capita* per year; in the United States it is Rs. 1,760 *per capita* per year. And yet you have this feature in the Indian Government that the salaries bear no proportion whatever to the actual income *per capita* of an Indian when compared with the salaries paid in other countries where the average income is not only ten times in some countries but in some cases it is even fifty times more than what it is in India. For instance, take England. The Members of the Cabinet in England are paid £5,000 per annum. Considering the average income of a person in England which is as high as Rs. 1,319, and the average income in India which stands at Rs. 27 *per capita*, we find the same spectacle, the same feature repeating itself in the Indian administration, namely, that Cabinet Members of Government of the provinces are paid over Rs. 5,000 per mensem and Cabinet Members of the Imperial Government are paid over Rs. 6,000 per mensem.

“ Now, Sir, there is also another reason why a Retrenchment Committee should be appointed at the earliest possible date. We have of late a competition, so to speak, for the creation of new appointments. Not only new appointments have been created but new departments have been brought into existence. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, described how these new departments are being created and worked. If I may just add a simile to that these new creations look like concentric circles which follow one after another but never meet, one department doing the work done by other departments over and over again. Like concentric circles they go round and round and do not meet. At times there has been a waste of public money upon the creation of new appointments and new departments which do not function in co-ordination. The task of co-ordinating the activities of various departments is one which must seriously engage the attention of the Retrenchment Committee. Sir, I would only again invite the attention of this House to Sir George Schuster's remarks on the question of retrenchment. Even the Simla gods have felt the necessity for retrenchment and the Imperial Financier has accepted in a sense that retrenchment is very essential, but he only warns us that retrenchment so far as the Imperial Services are concerned will not be possible for the present. And he says that retrenchment in the sense of increasing the taxes paid by the Imperial Services could be brought in by taking the higher incomes of the Imperial Services. However, that is the halting way in which the Members of these privileged superior services are asked to contribute to the exchequer. Leaving apart that question, Sir George Schuster also pointed out the necessity for a Retrenchment Committee, and he hopes to constitute one shortly to consider the position of the Imperial Services. Whatever may be our impotency as regards the Imperial Services for the present to alter the terms of the contracts under which they are recruited, we must have a Retrenchment Committee either Provincial or Imperial which must see that the terms of the contracts under which officers of the Imperial services are recruited are modified greatly so

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [17th March 1931]

as to suit the needs of the country and the money that we can afford to pay for such services. I am sure the Retrenchment Committee will bear that in mind.

“So far as the Provincial Services are concerned, we are in a better or a happier position, because the Provincial Services are under the control of this House, and when we are discussing a motion like this, I would ask you to remember the fact that the conditions of living have greatly changed for the better. We are now having cheaper prices, and bearing that in view I would ask this Honourable House in supporting the motion that has been moved for the appointment of a committee to demand that, so far as these Provincial Services are concerned, a bold step may be taken to cut down the cost of the administration. Such a step is essential, and I do not think we are a day too soon in supporting this cut motion. For very soon the new Reforms may be ushered in, reforms under which if we want to do any good and real service to the people, we must embark upon large nation-building activities for which, if we are not to be content with the rate of progress that we are having at present, we cannot find any finances. With these few remarks, I would urge upon the House the necessity of supporting a harmless but a highly necessary motion like the one now under discussion for the appointment of a committee to consider the question of financial commitments, the question of resources and the question of retrenchment.”

Mr. P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

“10-வது டிமாண்டைப்பற்றி பலசங்கதிகளை சொல்லியிருப்பதில் விஷயம் ஒன்றுதான் முக்கியம் அதாவது சம்பளங்களை குறைத்தல். இதில் அநேகர்கள் கொடுத்திருக்கின்ற விஷயங்கள் பிரஸிடென்டவர்கள் கொடுத்திருக்கும் பாய்வுக்குள் பேச எடுப்பார்களென்று தோணவில்லை.

“எப்படியும் அவசியம் குறைக்கவேண்டுமது என்பதைப்பற்றி பல புத்தி மான்கள் பேசியதிலிருந்து அவைகள் முடிவுக்குவருவது சந்தேகமற்றிருந்தால் நிகழ்மமாக. இந்த கீழ்க்கண்டகாரணங்களையாவது தாங்கள் கவனிக்கும்படி வற்புறுத்துகிறேன்.

“ஒவ்வொரு வகுப்பினர்களும் உத்தியோகமே வேண்டுமென்று சதா விரும்புவதிலிருந்து தங்கள் தொழில் அல்லது வேறு விதமாக தங்கள் காலகேஷனமார்க்குங்களைப் பார்க்கிலும் உத்தியோக வகுப்படியே அதிக உயர்வாக இருப்பதினாலே எல்லா வகுப்பினர்களும் போட்டியாகிறார்களென்று அறிந்து சம்பளத்தை குறைக்க எண்ணப்படாதா?

“பதார்த்த விலைகள் கிராக்கியாய் வரவதை ஒரு காரணமாக வைத்து 1920-ம் ஆண்டு முதலே இஷ்டப்படி சம்பளங்களை உயர்த்தி வந்திருப்பதை ஒப்போது பதார்த்தம் வாங்குவாரின்றி மலிவடைந்து இருக்கும் இந்த சந்தர்ப்பத்தில் கூட உலகத்தார்களிடப்பிரியத்தை எடுத்துக் கையாள்வதாதா?

“அநேக காலம் சண்டைபோட்டு யாசகம் வாங்கிய இந்தியா கவர்ன்மெண்டு நினைசன் மூணை சொச்சம் கோடியும் மற்றும் அதிகமாகிய ஸ்டாம்பு ரூட்டி என்ன, புதிய லோக்கல் போர்டு முதலிய வரிகள் என்ன எல்லாம் அடிப்படுப் பட்ஜெட் டிபிசெட்டில் தயாராகும்போது இந்த சமயம் என் கவனிக்கப்படாது? மா விரும்பு தால்தான் தாராளமாக ரொட்டி செய்யலாம்.

17th March 1931] [Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar]

“முக்கியமாக இந்த தருணத்தில் ஒரு கனவான்களும் இதையாவது விரும்பப்படாதா? அதாவது (1) என்கிரிமென்டு, (2) ரிட்ராஸ்பெக்டிவ் எபெக்டு கொடுப்பது, (3) டைம்ஸ்கேல், (4) அலவன்சு இவைகளையாவது பூரூ நிரூத்திவிடப்படாதா?

“சம்பளத்தை குறைக்க கமிட்டி தேவை. ஆனால் நியமிக்கும் விதத்தினால் உத்தியோக அபேகை எதிர் நோக்கமுறியவர்களை நியமிப்பதில் என்ன பிரயோஜனம் கிடைக்கும், அவர்கள் மேலெழுதுபவர்களை கீழே ஆதரிப்பதாக சயன் செய்யவேண்டியவரும்.

“கலெக்டர் ஆளுகையைப்பற்றி அவரது வேலை என்ன என்பதும் இன்னும் மற்றவிதமான கேள்விகளும் இந்த டிமாண்டில் கேட்டிருப்பவர்களை நான் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. பொருப்பில்லாது எழுதியுள்ளவைகளாக நீனைக்கிறேன். ஆனால் கலெக்டர் பெர்மனென்டு ரெலின்யூ சம்பந்தமன்னியில் மற்றய நடவடிக்கையில் ஜில்லாவுக்கு தகுந்தபடி கௌரவம் பொருந்தியவர்களை ஒரு சிறிய கூட்டமாக ஓர் அட்வைஸரி கமிட்டியாக ஏற்பாடு செய்தால் கலெக்டர் ஆளுகையானது ரொம்பவும் திருப்திகரமாயும் திறமையாகவும் இருக்குமென்பதில் சந்தேகமில்லை. புதிதாகவரும் டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் கலெக்டர்களுக்கூட சந்தேகமின்றி நடைபெருத்த எதுவாகும்.

“ஆன்ரபின் மிஸ்டர் ருமலிங்கம் செட்டியாரவர்கள் கண்டிஞ்சென்சியைப் பற்றி சொல்லியது அவ்வளவு பிசகுக்குரியதல்ல. பெரும்பாகம் வவுச்சர்களைப் பொருத்ததே.”

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-35 p.m.)

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—“The hon. the Finance Member in his speech introducing the Budget has given us an idea of what he considers to be the need for retrenchment which everyone in this House urged in the present economic condition of the Presidency. In his Budget speech a very tardy recognition of the need for retrenchment has been made by the hon. the Finance Member. He says up to now we have not considered it necessary to set on foot investigations into the possibility of a general retrenchment in expenditure. He admits that the provincial sources of revenue are either stationary or declining. The three chief sources of revenue in this province, are Land Revenue, Excise and Stamps and there is very little chance of our increasing the revenue in the three important sources of revenue. In regard to Land Revenue it has been very well shown in this House that if the present prices of the chief commodities of this province continue, there is very little chance of the Government getting any more revenue, in fact, it may be reduced. With regard to Excise it has been declared unequivocally that complete prohibition should be attained in the course of 20 years which means gradual reduction of revenue. With regard to Stamps it has been urged in this House that it is not proper on the part of the Government to make profit out of civil administration. It was pointed out in this House more than once that the Government is making at any rate not less than 50 lakhs of rupees on the administration of civil justice after meeting the expenditure. It is not proper that Government should look to administration of justice as a source of revenue. We thus clearly see that the chance of increasing the revenue is very little and as a matter of fact in the course of 5 or 10 years all the revenue from Excise

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

[17th March 1931]

and 50 lakhs from Stamps have to be wiped out. In this state of affairs, is it not proper to recognize the urgent need for retrenchment in the expenditure of the Government? The figures that are supplied to us in this Budget Memorandum, I will not say, are misleading but they do not really give us the key to the situation. We must go back to the pre-war period to have a true idea of the revenue and expenditure of this Province. It is a well-known fact that the prices of commodities have come down to the level we had in the pre-war days. The year 1912-13 may be taken as a standard year for the purpose of comparing administrative expenditure of this Province, because the price of commodities is almost the same as it was in 1912-13. What is the revenue that Government derived during those years? In the Civil Budget Estimates of 1914-15, the accounts for 1912-13 show that the revenue of this Province was 15 crores 51 lakhs. At present it is about 18 crores. So during the last 20 years so far as revenue is concerned there is only an increase of three crores. Let us see the expenditure on administration. The expenditure in the year 1912-13 was only 8 crores and 61 lakhs exclusive of provincial contribution and the expenditure to-day is more than double. I know that in certain departments which are intended to develop the material welfare of the country there is a distinct increase in expenditure such as education, medical relief and public health. But that is not enough. Compare the other departments like Land Revenue, Administration of Justice and Jails, you find in everyone of these departments there has been a considerable increase in expenditure. Let us take the expenditure on Police. The expenditure on Police alone has been more than double during these 20 years, whereas the general revenues in that period have not increased by more than 15 per cent. The same story is practically repeated in regard to every other department. So, Sir, the time has come when the Government must make up its mind, earlier the better, to see that drastic retrenchment is effected in the administration of this province. Various members of this House have shown possibilities of retrenchment in the various departments and it is not for us now to enter into the details. I am not very sanguine of the result of committees. It really means postponement. I am certain that Government will be glad to accept the cut motion of Rs. 100 if only for the appointment of a committee. Let the Government make up its mind to effect drastic retrenchment in expenditure. Whether the Government appoint a committee of their own or whether they do it in consultation with the Government of India it does not matter much; we want the result. If the Government undertake to do it themselves I will be very glad. I only request the Government to set themselves to work to see what retrenchment could be effected. Various members have shown the possibilities. We have dealt more than once with the necessity of cutting down not only the salaries of but also the number of supernumerary officials, like the Deputy Inspector-General of Police in the Police department. Again there does not seem to be any necessity for the Sub-Inspector,

17th March 1931]

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

the Inspector and the Deputy Superintendent. I believe the Inspectors can easily go. A few more Deputy Superintendents and the Sub-Inspectors can easily do the work. The Inspector does not do real work. He acts more as a Post office. In every department a number of such officers can be removed, and that without impairing the efficiency of the department. In the matter of education I believe it is quite possible that the Veterinary College, the Agricultural College and the Forest College could be amalgamated into one. You find there a number of common subjects. In the Agricultural College, veterinary science is taught. In the Agricultural College, botany is taught and botany is taught also in the Forest College. These colleges could be amalgamated into one. Thus the expenditure on superintendence and increased staff could be easily dispensed with. This is one direction in which retrenchment could be effected. There is no necessity for three colleges, especially when we are being pressed for accommodation in the Agricultural College. So also in the case of the Excise department. The hon. Minister should consider the possibility of doing away with the lower ranks of the excise officers altogether by entrusting some work to the Police. There is no necessity for a separate punitive staff for stopping the manufacture of illicit liquor, etc. In a number of other directions, as has been already suggested by various Members, it will be possible to effect retrenchment.

2-45
p.m.

"I have to charge the Government for recklessly spending during the past few years, without consideration for the future, large amounts of money on constructing buildings. When I pass by the side of the High Court, I shed tears at the sight of the new building under construction which costs a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs. I do believe the High Court is big enough to locate the Small Cause Court Judges and their offices, as it is being done now. Things like this have gone on without consideration for the future, simply because Government had a large provincial balance to draw upon and spend recklessly on brick and mortar. This seems to me most inexcusable, and I have to repeat that this kind of spending crores and crores on brick and mortar amounts to criminal negligence. I hope at least now, there is this satisfaction that there are no provincial balances left and that there will be no more money for unnecessary wastage.

"With regard to the salaries, Sir, I believe a good deal of retrenchment could be done first of all by way of reducing the number of officers. Seeing that the prices of foodstuffs and the prices of other commodities which are being used by the people have come down to the level of 1912 and 1913, it is absolutely necessary that the salaries of officers above a certain amount, must be drastically reduced. With regard to the pay of Imperial officers, we may not be able to do anything but that is no excuse for effecting retrenchment where we can. I am not one of those who think that because we cannot touch the pay of the Civilians it necessarily follows that the Government is obliged to pay to the other officers lower down proportionately high salaries.

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [17th March 1931]

On the other hand, once the Provincial Services receive pay on a scale which is consistent with the economic conditions of the country, it may well lead to a position in which the higher officers also will be quite prepared to accept much smaller pay than they are doing now. At any rate the future entrants into the Imperial Services can be made to receive much less than the high scale prevailing at present, if the Madras Government makes up its mind to see that the salaries of officers is reduced to a rate which is consistent with the economic conditions of the country. If you compare the salary of an average Government official with the income that is earned by a labourer or a ryot or even a lawyer, it seems to me that the Government officials get decent amounts. I am sure the position of a Government official getting even Rs. 50 a month is preferable to that of an average junior lawyer. The income of an average lawyer is not now much more than that of a Government officer who is just above the lowest rung. Such being the case, especially when graduates in Law offer themselves to take up service on Rs. 50 and 60 to begin with, I do not see why at a time when the prices of foodstuffs have come down very low, the Government officials should be paid a high rate. The mistake the Government did was that they thought that the economic conditions and the prices of foodstuffs would remain the same as it was just after the war, when the prices went up to a very high level. I have no complaint against the Government when they raised the salaries under those circumstances. It was then necessary to give relief to the Government officials. But now that the prices of necessities of life have come down to the level of what I do believe to be lower than the pre-war level, it is absolutely necessary to reduce the salaries to some extent. It is for the Government to prepare a detailed estimate on the basis of which retrenchment of salaries should be made. I do not think there is any use in cutting down a peon here and a duffadar there and leaving the rest as they are.

“Another thing, Sir, is this. The Government in raising the salaries last time also adopted the incremental scale of salaries, or the time scale, instead of the old scale of paying according to grades, which I think is a much better method than having a time scale of pay. I hope the Government will also consider the possibility of adopting the old graded scale. I also believe there is a great deal that could be retrenched in the amounts allotted for allowances, such as travelling allowances and other allowances. Big officers are transferred from place to place and are paid travelling allowance for themselves and their families, to go in trains while most of them maintain motor cars and travel in them and get, I believe, motor car allowance in addition. I have not gone into the details of this question of allowances but I think it is a direction in which Government might investigate the possibility of retrenching expenditure. Again, Sir, I hope the Government in future will adopt a system of paying salaries to Government officials which would vary with the prices of foodstuffs and other necessities of life. If you have an establishment to collect statistics with regard

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi]
17th March 1931]

to the prices of foodstuffs, and other commodities, it is just possible to adopt in this country such a system of payment according to prices prevailing at the time. That does not mean that the Government will have to fix the salaries of officials every year or every half-year, but by collecting statistics of prices of important commodities and necessities of life, they can find out the tendency of prices, and when the time comes when prices come down very much and continue to persist in that level for a pretty long period, it ought to be possible for the Government to reduce the salaries of officials. So also, if prices go up they ought to increase the salaries, so that the Government officials need not be at a disadvantage when the prices go up or at an advantage when the prices fall.

“That is the suggestion I make to the Government. Unless the Government makes up its mind to drastically retrench expenditure on administration, the time will soon come when there will be a crash in the finances of the province. No doubt, the hon. the Finance Member may not be willing to find new sources of taxation to prepare for the expected swaraj which will give responsible government to the representatives of the people. Perhaps he may turn round and say ‘that is the time when you should think of fixing the salaries in the fashion you like, and of finding ways for retrenching expenditure on administration to make room for the extra expenditure that may be involved in the Reforms.’ I hope the Finance Member will not think that his responsibility has ceased and that he need not think of the future. So even now, it is absolutely necessary in the interests of the future finances of this province that immediate steps should be taken to see that expenditure on pure administration is brought down to a lower level consistent with efficiency. It is a well-known fact that this country is one of the poorest countries in the world, and comparatively it pays the highest salaries to the officials. I am not one of those who believe that a high salary alone would prevent the salaried official from being above temptation. I have known people who receive very small salaries of Rs. 50 and 60 and who are absolutely honest, and I have known also people who receive not Rs. 50 or Rs. 60 nor even hundreds but a thousand or more, who do not pay for the supplies made to them on tours. When even big officials, paid highly, are not above taking supplies and not paying for them, how can you consider that high salaries alone will make people honest? I do not believe that moderate salaries alone will tempt people to become dishonest, or conversely that high salaries will necessarily make them honest. I believe a system has to be devised for having a check on these officers in order to prevent any corruption in the services. Once before, I made a suggestion to the Government in this respect, which they did not accept. I hope a time will come when it will be necessary to seriously consider the steps to be taken to prevent the possibilities of taking supplies without payment and to prevent other kinds of corruption. So the argument for high salaries on grounds of keeping up efficiency and preventing corruption

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [17th March 1931]

cannot hold water in these days when any number of very highly educated people are unemployed and are seeking entrance into Government service on reasonable pay. I only hope that the hon. the Finance Member will take up this question seriously, instead of avoiding it by appointing a committee or otherwise, and try in the course of the next few months to effect a substantial measure of retrenchment in the expenditure on administration."

* Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—"Mr. President, Sir, while supporting this motion for the appointment of a retrenchment committee, I wish to offer my own remarks. In so doing, I do not propose to reiterate what has been already said by the other Members of this House. No doubt, various proposals were made for effectively cutting short the expenditure of the Government. Oftentimes, the case of the poor village officers and the village menial servants escapes the notice of the Government. They forget that village officers and menials constitute the foundations, the pillars and corner-stones of the Provincial Administration. The duties and responsibilities of the village officers are multifarious. Their responsibilities are very great, but their salaries are the poorest. This class of persons have been in existence from time immemorial, even from the year 1802 when the Madras Karnams Regulation was passed, wherein I find the following reference:—

"The office of karnam being still of great importance to the preservation of the rights and property of the people, it is expedient to provide for the continuance of that office on an efficient establishment, for the purpose of facilitating the decision of suits in the Courts of Judicature, of preventing the diminution of the fixed revenue of the Government, and of securing individual persons from injustice, by enabling the public officers of Government and the Courts of Judicature to procure authentic information and accounts."

"That is how they have described the responsibilities of the karnams. So also is the responsibility of the village munsifs. There are any number of instances and cases in which the Government have to depend on the report of the village munsif as the basis. So, if the Government is only particular about the claims of the other members in the services, who is to take care of the status of these poor village officers and servants and who is to improve their salaries? I have my doubts that in cutting short the expenditure under salaries to officers, the Government will also try to reduce the salaries of the village officers who are really deserving of much more than what they now get. An argument might be put forward that their places are hereditary. In view of the Privy Council decision reported in 44 Madras 643, which is described thus:—

"The karnam of a village in Madras occupies his office not by hereditary or family right but as a personal appointee, although the appointment is primarily made of a suitable person, who is a member of a particular family. When karnam service lands have been enfranchised a quit-rent being imposed in lieu of the service and an inam is granted confirming the lands to the holder of the office, his representatives and assigns, the lands are his separate property, and not subject to any claim to partition by other members of the family."

the place of a village officer is not of a purely hereditary but of a selective nature. Therefore, the argument that the village officers should rest satisfied with the hereditary nature of their appointments does not

17th March 1931] [Mr. G. Simhachalam]

hold good. I therefore request the Government to see that their hands are strengthened by improving the salaries of the village officers who constitute the rock-bottom of the whole Provincial Administration."

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Sir, on the group of cut motions we have been considering on the subject of retrenchment, we have had very interesting debate. I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation—if a novice in parliamentary discussion may presume to congratulate a veteran—of the very interesting and sensible speech which the hon. Mover of this motion delivered. I do not wish to detain the House by taking point by point all the matters which were brought forward in the various speeches. There was one point, however, which I feel I should not pass over and that is the allegation made by one honourable gentleman that the nation-building departments have been starved in the past or are being starved in the budget which is now under the consideration of the House, or that they had not a fair share in the affluence resulting from the remission of the provincial contributions. That I think, a serious allegation and, if true, a very damaging statement for a responsible member of this House to make, particularly because such a suggestion if read outside the House is likely to be accepted as true. When an allegation of that kind is made on the floor of this House, one would expect that allegation to be supported by the maker with some sort of facts and figures. No such attempt was however made by the hon. Member and I was the more surprised that it should be so; because, I took some trouble in the speeches I made in reply to the debate and in the Budget Memorandum to make this point clear. I am therefore unable to understand how a responsible gentleman in this House can repeat that sort of thing. The facts are ascertainable not only from the current budget but also from a study of the budgets during the last five years or so since we had the provincial contributions released. The statement is entirely inaccurate and incorrect and I think it ought not to have been made lightly by a responsible member of this House.

"In my budget speech, to which I think Mr. Koti Reddi referred, I took the line that, on the budget as worked out, we need not contemplate general retrenchment; because, our financial position, so far as we can look forward, did not seem to require any such retrenchment at the present time. Further, general retrenchment is always a disagreeable and disorganizing operation tending to upset the work of the departments. I do not say it is not, on occasion, a good and necessary thing and, in my reply to the general discussion, I heartily welcomed the attitude which the House had chosen to take in connexion with this question. Hon. Members have now unanimously taken the line that we must look into our position and, if possible, save money. It has been suggested in the course of the present debate that other provinces and the Government of India are all having retrenchment committees and that therefore we too should have it. I do not think that such an argument is valid, because, after all, whether you need a retrenchment committee or not depends on your financial position. And the House

[Mr. H. G. Stokes] [17th March 1931]

will be glad to learn no doubt, if it has not already known it, that we in Madras are very much better off than practically any other part of India. I merely mention this, now, because one Member brought forward that argument.

“ Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, and I think one or two other speakers, complained that the retrenchment committee of 1922-23 abolished a number of posts and effected various economies but that those posts have now been restored and so on. Well, I think that you cannot expect Government, particularly a Government with more money than it knows what to do with, to retrench for all time, and never to appoint additional officers. A great many of the establishments which were created subsequent to the report of the retrenchment committee, were created in order to give effect to those very nation-building activities, which hon. Members desire to forward. When you desire to expand and do expand the activities of the Public Health, Education, etc., departments, you must have agents to do the work. When that is so, I do not think any blame attaches to Government. At the same time I quite recognize that periods must come when it is necessary to call a halt and, if necessary, to retrench. We have now reached a certain stage when we have to take stock of our situation. In this connection, I will remind the House that one of the principal things which were embodied in the budget figures is the principle that we should strive to balance our revenue and expenditure. The House also has accepted emphatically what I may call a policy of equilibrium. This will probably hereafter involve very much more careful adjustment of our expenditure to our available revenue and, consequently it may involve, probably will involve, some retardation of the rate of expansion which we have been adopting hitherto. That being so, it is not unreasonable that the House should now demand that the question of retrenchment should be thoroughly and seriously gone into and that it should be satisfied that we are not crippling our expansion by undue extravagance on the other side. That appears to be the present position. Sir, the Government, recognizing that, have decided that such an enquiry should now be instituted. In some respects, however, they are unable to accept the motion in the precise form in which Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar has brought it forward. They do not propose to have an *ad hoc* committee, a special committee appointed for this purpose. What they propose to do is, first of all, following the procedure of the retrenchment committee of 1922-23, to appoint a special officer with a suitable clerical staff to examine the expenditure of the various departments of Government and to analyse and see where and why expenditure has grown and to formulate suggestions for economy. When the proposals of this officer are worked out—the House will realize that it will entail a great deal of labour—the result of his labour will be laid before the Finance Committee which is a committee of this House having a considerable non-official majority. The Finance Committee will then be in a position to ask for further information, if necessary, or to suggest other lines of investigation and, in any case, to formulate their view of the matter.

17th March 1931] [Mr. H. G. Stokes]

They will then submit their report to the Government and the Government will, afterwards, very carefully consider the case of each department's expenditure item by item and pass orders on the proposals or suggestions.

“ Sir, one hon. Member wanted me to promise that whatever the committee recommended would be accepted by the Government. I would say that we cannot give an assurance of that kind. (Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: Salaries?) Oh yes, the inquiry will cover not only salaries, but all forms of expenditure or economy. I should contemplate that it would investigate also the question of the desirability of the incremental scales of pay and the question whether it is possible to have a sliding scale following the rise or fall in prices. For this purpose, however, I believe we shall need to have elaborate statistics prepared, showing index numbers and the like of the cost of living, and there may be difficulties in obtaining them.

“ Sir, in one other respect we cannot accept Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar's motion in its exact present shape. He proposes that the committee should investigate the resources available for the due administration of the province. I think, Sir, that the investigation of the resources available is rather too big an order for a retrenchment committee. It would lead us all into very speculative fields and I doubt very much whether any useful purpose would be served. The resources of the Government after all are pretty well known and I do not think the Government could accept an investigation by this committee or that a practical examination of the possible taxable resources of the Madras province would be useful. It is going too far and it will probably work a great deal of difficulty and possibly also make the enquiry ‘top-heavy,’ as members are fond of calling the administration, with the result that very likely the committee would do no practical work. With these remarks, I express the hope that the hon. Member will not press this motion.”

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—“ Sir, I am glad the hon. the Finance Member has recognized the necessity to look into the finances of this province. No doubt, Sir, the Finance Committee is a committee elected by this House but I would have preferred a smaller committee to make a thorough investigation into a complicated matter like this.

“ At the same time, it is a matter for the Government to appoint the committee even if my resolution is accepted in the form in which I moved it. It is quite open to the hon. the Finance Member to appoint the Finance Committee as the committee to go into the question of retrenchment, but there is no meaning in appointing such a committee if there is no change of procedure. I would only appeal to the hon. the Finance Member to enlighten us as to whether the Special Officer who is going to be appointed would go into the details of every department, whether the Finance Committee also will be in a position to review the details concerning each department and whether the Finance

3-15
P.M.

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [17th March 1931]

Committee may initiate enquiries. What I submit is that the Finance Committee should not depend upon the views of the Special Officer alone. If that is granted, I will accept the amendment proposed by the hon. the Finance Member and accept it in the form in which he has amended it."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishment—Civil Secretariat be reduced by Rs. 100'.

"My object in moving this cut is to protest against the policy of re-entertaining retired officers.

"Mr. President, I do not wish to take much of the time of the House, but I wish to point out that it is not a sound policy for the Government to appoint officers who have retired after doing service that they could afford to do before their 55th year. It is not always possible for officers who have served in Government for thirty or thirty-five years of their lifetime to come back again and to attend to office work. It is good for both officers and Government that the former should take rest after their retirement and that Government should give employment to younger men. There are many instances of officers having been re-entertained by this Government. I do not wish to go into detail, but I wish only to draw the attention of Government that it is not a sound policy nor is it economical for them to re-entertain people who have once retired. If they pursue this policy I ask what is to happen to those who are under that officer and who are subordinates to him. Their promotions are blocked and they have to wait till that officer thinks of retiring. It may be that that officer may once again be re-entertained. That has been the case in one or two officers. I may give the instance of one Mr. Pranatharthihara Ayyar. He was Inspector of Schools and after a long service he retired. I understand he is now in charge of censorship of books. There is also the instance of our famous Krishna Rao Bhonsle. I do not know how long these officers are going to be re-entertained, thus blocking the promotions of those who are under them. I have given only two instances but there are scores of instances like these where retired men have been re-entertained. I urge that Government should put a stop to this policy and give an opportunity to younger men and not block their promotions.

"With these few words, I move my cut motion."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I was not aware that Government had been re-entertaining a large number of retired officers. It is one of our principles not to re-employ retired men in ordinary circumstances. It is only on public grounds that such re-employment has been permitted in certain cases, and I believe such cases are exceptional. I regret that I cannot give the reasons why the two gentlemen referred to by the hon. Member have been re-employed after

17th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

their retirement. I was not aware that the hon. Member intended to refer to these cases, but I am sure there were public grounds for their re-employment. I may assure the hon. Mover that we are quite in sympathy with the principle underlying his motion, although we cannot bind ourselves never to re-entertain retired officers in future."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishment—Civil Secretariat be reduced by Rs. 100'.

"Sir, I move this cut motion to urge the appointment of more Muslims in the Secretariat departments. (Laughter.)

"Sir, it may be a case for laughter to some of my friends, when I rise in this House to put forward the claims of a particular community. It is just possible that they feel lightly over this question, because it does not affect them, and they have not yet begun to feel about anything other than themselves. Hence it has become a necessity that I should come forward in this House to bring home to them the necessity for safeguarding the claims of a particular community and to see that no distinction is made between one community and another. I wish that the mentality of those officers who want to make a distinction between one community and another is changed, and that all communities should prosper. Sir, the Mussalman community has not been treated in the way in which it ought to have been treated. Times have changed and are changing and younger men of various communities who have returned from England want to get themselves employed in Government. But still the old order continues and if a gentleman belonging to one community becomes the Superintendent of a department, he wishes to bring into his office members of his own community, may even members belonging to his own family. That has been the mentality all along. As long as this mentality continues in Government service, this country will suffer owing to communalism. That is why I say there should be a change in the mentality. Anybody that comes into power must change his mentality. He must not make any distinction between one community and another with regard to promotion or appointment. That is why I have come forward with this cut motion.

"Sir, in the Secretariat, there is hardly a single Mussalman as Secretary, nor is there any one as Under Secretary—I suppose there is one Assistant Secretary and one Superintendent and a few clerks. I have been in this House for some time and I have been asking whether Government have taken any steps to draw the attention of the officers concerned to make up this difference, but nothing has been done till now. Ever since 1924, there seems to be a handful of Muslims. There was the Staff Selection Board before and there is now the Madras Services Commission. Every clerk has to pass through that mill before he can be fit to be a member of the Secretariat. These are all obstacles that have been put in the way of people getting appointments, and yet the

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [17th March 1931]

Government say that this Commission has been brought into existence for helping backward communities to come forward. On the other hand, what do we find? Those communities for whom these obstacles have been brought into existence have not been able to secure appointments. Now I urge it is the duty of the Government to see that these obstacles do not work against particular communities. Recently, the hon. the Revenue Member in answer to a question replied that properly qualified persons are not found or are not coming forward or something to that effect. There are scores of graduates, 100 or 200, who are going in the streets in search of employments. They could have very well taken up their family profession, but after spending money upon a costly education, they naturally want to get themselves employed under Government. What is to become of them? Their lot is miserable. As long as there is Government service and as long as you employ men, I ask why can you not do justice to all communities. I hope that the authorities concerned will see that the mentality of those who have got the power of making appointments is changed and that justice is done to all communities.

* KHAN BAHADUR MAHMUD SHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, while supporting this motion I must say that I am sorry that we are forced to bring to the notice of Government this sort of communal distinction which is being made in the matter of giving appointments to various communities. As has been pointed out by the speaker, who preceded me, it is because we feel that the attitude of Government in the matter of encouraging Muslim community for appointments in Government service has been very unsympathetic, that we are forced to criticise the policy of the Government. Human nature being what it is, I think it is only natural that those who are in charge of giving appointments would like to give them only to men of their own community and to members of their own family. So it is the duty of heads of departments to look to such vagaries and check them, see that justice is done to all communities and that equal opportunities are given to all. While discussing about the Registration department all these things have been fully dealt with and so there is no necessity for me now to bring home to the Government the need for encouraging backward communities. I hope that Government will hereafter at least see that justice is done to Muhammadans and other communities."

* MR. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, Sir, though a Hindu, it gives me great pleasure to support my hon. and learned Friend from Madras in this cut motion. As my hon. and learned Friend has made out when speaking on this cut motion, Government do not seem to have considered the claims of Mussalmans at all in the appointments to the Secretariat staff. If my hon. Friends opposite have only taken the trouble to go through the figures furnished by the Government they would not have laughed over the matter as they did when my friend moved the motion. From the return furnished by the Government and placed on the table of the House only a few days ago, if you take into

17th March 1931] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

consideration, Mr. President, the various departments of the Secretariat and their sanctioned strength, you will find, Sir, that the proportion of Mussalmans to other communities is very small. 3-20 p.m.

"The sanctioned number of Gazetted officers in the eight departments of the Secretariat is about 26. Of these, Sir, you will be surprised to note that there is not even one Mussalman. The sanctioned strength of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and above comes to 181; out of these 181, there are only three Muslims. The total sanctioned strength of persons on Rs. 35 and upwards upto Rs. 100, is 152; out of these 152, there are only 17 Muslims. Out of the eight Secretariats, the worst sinner is the departments with which the hon. the Revenue Member is directly concerned; the second sinner is the department with which the hon. Member, Mr. S. V. Ramamurthi is concerned. I find, Sir, that, for the last six or seven years, there has not been even one Muslim in the Revenue Secretariat. That department seems to be a close preserve for two minority communities; I do not want to mention the names of those two minority communities."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"May I know the list to which the hon. Member is referring?"

MR. V. T. ARASU:—"The list is the return of officers holding permanent appointments corrected up to 1st April 1930. The Development department is the second sinner. I find that for the last six or seven years, there have been in all two or three Muslims in that department and that too for short periods."

"I have therefore very great pleasure in supporting the motion made by the learned Member for Madras."

* MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I am afraid that this Council is fed up with communal questions. Coming as I do from the mufassal, I gave notice of an interpellation regarding this communal Government Order. A question was asked by me regarding the appointments of Deputy Tahsildar in the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Godavari. The answer furnished by the hon. the Revenue Member was that there were direct recruitment of seven Deputy Tahsildars in Ganjam and no Muhammadan was appointed at all, though, I may inform the House, that there are Muhammadan graduates who have been working as clerks for about ten or twelve years in that district. The same is the case with Vizagapatam. I suppose that in East Godavari only, one Muhammadan has been appointed. If the communal Government Order has been applied in these districts, I am sure, that out of twelve appointments, at least two Muhammadans ought to have got in. I do recognise that attempts are being made in the mufassal by heads of departments to promote Muhammadans and minorities according to the proportion fixed in the Government Order. But my purpose in speaking on this cut motion is to draw the attention of the Government and the hon. the Revenue Member to issue instructions to the heads of departments to give effect to the Government Order as far as possible without efficiency being affected. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will pay attention to the legitimate grievances of the community."

[17th March 1931]

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, hon. Members who have spoken, have once again voiced the disabilities under which Mussalmans are supposed to lie in the matter of employment in Government services. As I think hon. Members are aware, some three or four years ago what is known as communal rotation rule was adopted in almost all services and departments except where expert knowledge is required, so as to provide for the due representation of backward classes, so far as candidates may be forthcoming. Attention has been particularly drawn to the fact that, in the Secretariat, there is a paucity of Muslims in the number of clerks and officers. But you will find that there has been one Muhammadan acting as Assistant Secretary in the Local Self-Government department for the past two years; he is a Gazetted Officer. In certain other cases also there have been acting officers and they have been actually doing the work of the department. I am afraid that, in many departments of the Secretariat, we do have difficulty in getting enough Muslim candidates. I hope, Sir, this difficulty will be removed in course of time. I have got some particulars as regards the selections made by the Staff Selection Board in 1927-1928 and 1928-1929 for clerkships; I find that in the year 1927-1928, the total number of Muhammadans who were eligible were three non-graduates and six graduates and all of them have obtained employment. In 1928-1929, the number of qualified non-graduate Muhammadan candidates was five; out of these, three have obtained employment; and the others will probably be employed. But we do want Muhammadan candidates to apply in large numbers. As I said the other day, when we have the results of these examinations held by the Madras Services Commission, if we find then that any particular community is not sufficiently represented, then the question of the measures to be adopted, —such as a temporary alteration of age restrictions, etc.,—will be considered by the Government in order to expedite the levelling up of the representation in the services, so that all communities may obtain fair representation in the services."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Sir, I withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—" Sir, I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name, viz.—

'that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" I wish to bring to the attention of the Government that in the Secretariat offices, there are very few people of the Andhra districts getting employment. It must be surprising that the very gentlemen who have been criticising about this communal representation are the very same persons who frequently bring this question before the House. Just now, the hon. Member, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, has referred to his own community. This is not a communal question of that kind; but it is communal in one sense. But I suppose it is a welcome proposition both to Brahmans and non-Brahmans alike. Considering the extent of the area of the Andhradesa and the importance of the population, I

17th March 1931] [Mr. B. Venkataramayya]

think it is unfair that only very few people of Andhradesa should be employed in the Secretariat. In urging that question, I include Muhammadans also. So, this question involves not a communal one of the kind which is often raised by the critics of communalism, but a broader one. Therefore I appeal to the Government to look into the unfairness of the situation and see that some opportunities are given to the people of the Andhradesa to be employed in the Secretariat. With these few words, I move my cut motion."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu. I do so for another reason. So far as the Ceded districts are concerned, I suppose they are generally considered to be backward; as a matter of fact, we are backward. That is to say, the people of those parts are inferior in educational qualifications. Somehow or other, they are not, by temperament or by tradition or by habit—it is a peculiar misfortune—pushing on not only with regard to appointments in Government service but also in other activities. It therefore happens that very rarely we come across graduates in those districts. If we do come across them, there are only very few; still less so far as double graduates are concerned. So far as M.As. are concerned, it is probably nil. Such is the state of affairs. The other day I gave notice of an interpellation for being answered. It was sent back to me saying that it would not be admitted. The interpellation was to this effect. . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member need not refer to the interpellation that has not been admitted."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" I bow to your ruling. What I was trying to explain is this and I hope that this fact will be borne in mind so far as the selection of various candidates from the Ceded districts are concerned; they should not be asked to compete whether with Andhras or Tamils. Compared with Andhras or Tamils, we will be washed out. I can assure hon. Members here that the Ceded districts will go to the wall if the Ceded districts are ranged in battle against the Andhras or Tamils. In that case, I do not think there will be any persons found competent to be employed in the services. I am sure that my hon. Friends from the Ceded districts will very strongly support me. It is to explain this point that I rise to second this cut motion."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, the object of this motion is to draw attention to the paucity of Andhra clerks, etc., in the Secretariat. That fact, Sir, must be admitted and it seems to be due to the fact that there is comparatively a small number of Andhras who are available for appointments in the Secretariat. I find on comparing the number of Andhras and the number of non-Andhras who were selected in 1929 for appointment as clerks in the offices in the city of Madras including the Secretariat, that 48 Andhra graduates applied and 22 were selected; 486 non-Andhra graduates applied of whom 201 were selected; as regards non-graduates, 4 Andhra non-graduates

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [17th March 1931]

applied but 2 were selected; 181 non-Andhra non-graduates applied of whom 106 were selected. That shows that there is a very much smaller number of applicants from the Andhra country compared with the non-Andhras for employment in the city of Madras. But as regards Secretariat departments, to which reference was made this morning, we have issued instructions to the departments of the Secretariat to see that more Andhras are appointed. I was not able to place the instructions on the table of the House then as I had not got them then. I have them now and with your permission, I shall be glad to read them.

"The Chief Secretary has sent the following memorandum to the Secretaries to Government in the various departments:

3-45 p.m. "It is observed that a preponderating number of clerical appointments in the Secretariat are held at present by persons of a single linguistic area, namely Tamilians. In view of the general demand as voiced in the Legislative Council for a fair representation of all such areas in the Secretariat, Secretaries to Government should endeavour, in making appointments in future to their departments, to see that adequate representation is given as far as practicable to representatives of other vernaculars."

"I hope that these instructions will have the desired effect of ensuring that all the linguistic areas are duly represented."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"I beg leave to withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"I move this cut with a view to protest against the policy of political discrimination in giving Government advertisements to daily newspapers."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, during the Civil Disobedience Movement, we did pass an order saving that Government advertisements should not be given to papers which have been brought under the Press Ordinance. Now that things have changed, and only this morning I told the House to let bygones be bygones and in that spirit, I intend to issue instructions regarding these advertisements."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I beg to withdraw my motion"

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, I move this cut motion—

'that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs. 100'

17th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

with a view to protest against the action of the Government in calling upon the printer and publisher of *Dravidan* to furnish security under the Press Ordinance. With your permission, Sir, I also move the other cut motion standing in my name, which is—

'that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs. 100'

for protesting against the action of the Government in demanding security from *Swarajya* without giving any warning and specifying the articles objected to.

"Mr. President, Sir, various questions were asked in this House of the hon. Member responsible for this portfolio in regard to this matter. He was pleased to reply that there was no need for the Government to give any warning to any paper before they took this step of demanding security, or as it were, preventing its publication. It is just but right and it well becomes a civilized Government to give an opportunity to its enemy to explain its policy and see if it cannot suit the requirements of the Government and so arrange its editorials and news publication as not to offend the susceptibilities of the Government. The Government of Madras did not do so; to my knowledge there are instances of the different way in which the Governments of other provinces have been dealing with questions of this kind. Even in Madras itself, the Government have made some discrimination between one paper and another; in dealing with one or two papers here, they made use of the Ordinance to suppress the papers or stop their publication, but they did give them notice and they did draw the attention of certain other papers to the publication of news and editorials. In the case of these two unfortunate papers, however, the Government did not think it fit to draw the attention of the editors and publishers to any articles to which objection was taken. I take it that the main object of the Government was to prevent the publication of articles which were objectionable. If the Government did not really mean to prevent the publication of other editorials and news which were not objectionable, if their *bona fides* were all right, then they should have resorted to giving a warning to the printers, publishers and editors and asked them whether they were prepared to so change their attitude as to be acceptable to the Government. That opportunity was not given in the case of these two papers. With regard to the *Dravidan* itself, I was really surprised that a paper which belonged to the party in power should have been treated in the manner it was done. The paper stands for one of the wings of the Justice Party, and I was surprised that the Party in power was a party to the Government taking such a serious step in dealing with their own paper. I expect my hon. Friends of the Justice Party will come forward with some explanation, or they may have given a brief to the hon. the Home Member who also belongs to that party, to deal with this question in their behalf. I hope the Government will not treat this matter in the way in which the hon. the Home Member has treated it, and say that they regret it . . ."

[17th March 1931]

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“There is no use of his saying that, Sir, because I did not say ‘regret’
in this respect.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“If I may quote the hon. the Home
Member’s very words, he said, ‘Nobody regrets more than the Gov-
ernment.’”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“That was with regard to that particular question, Sir, on behalf of
the Government.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“I only meant that much, Sir. Why
does the hon. Member get up and say that he did not say so? He has
regretted on behalf of the Government once, and that is enough. Well,
Sir, if any necessity arises for issuing an Ordinance and making use of
it in a province, the Government of that province should use their discre-
tion and use the powers they are endowed with under the Ordinance,
in such a manner as to give an opportunity to the people concerned to
so change their policy, if possible, as to make it unobjectionable and
to know what it is that was really objectionable from the point of view
of the Government. The Government should not also make any distinc-
tion between one paper and another in this province. One paper may
write very strongly, but the Government do not check it; while for
reasons of their own or for reasons known only to the Members of the
Government, another paper writing equally strongly is checked. That
ought not to be the policy of the Government. They should see whether
the article is really objectionable. It is only on the merit of the article
that the Government should take any action, and it ought not to be
on the likes or dislikes of any particular Member of the Government
towards the paper, who may want that a paper should be throttled. I
hope, Sir, that Government will not be moved by such considerations,
small as they are.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“Sir, I am exceedingly sorry that Mr. Hameed Khan should speak in
this manner, especially after the very sympathetic reply that I have given
just now. It looks to me as if Mr. Hameed Khan can flourish only when
there is trouble between the Government and the Congress. He does
not care to promote harmony and friendship in the country and between
the Government and the people. As to the *Dravidan*, I should say that
that paper was warned three times under the first Ordinance, though
security was not actually demanded. As soon as that Ordinance
expired, the tone of the *Dravidan* became noticeably more objectionable.
Within a fortnight of the promulgation of the second Ordinance the
Dravidan again published objectionable matter and was warned for this.
Only two days after the warning, it published another objectionable
article upon which a security was demanded. And I may say that
under the Ordinance, it is not necessary that we should give a warning
at all.”

17th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Why was not any warning given to
both the papers?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“Because we thought in the case of the *Dravidan* that it would improve;
but in the case of the *Swarajya*, that paper had been time after time
asking the people to break laws and enter the Civil Disobedience Move-
ment, and we therefore thought that no warning was necessary at all.
I may again say, Sir, that there is no use going now into all these
unpleasant matters. What we want at present is a spirit of friendship
and harmony as between the people and the Government in all possible
directions.”

The motion was put to the House and declared lost. A poll was
demanded by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, which was taken with the
following result:—

Ayes.

4 p.m.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabha-
pati Mudaliyar. | 10. Mr. G. Simhachalam. |
| 2. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya. | 11. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib
Bahadur. |
| 3. Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti. | 12. S. M. K. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur. | 13. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. |
| 5. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 14. „ A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai. |
| 6. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga
Chettiyar. | 15. „ U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 7. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 16. „ K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| 8. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad
Sahib Bahadur. | 17. „ K. Koti Reddi. |
| 9. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. | 18. Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| | 19. Mr. K. Pattabhiramayya. |
| | 20. „ C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| | 21. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Maho-
med Usman Sahib Baha-
dur. | 21. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah
Bahadur. |
| 2. „ Diwan Bahadur Sir
M. Krishnan Nayar. | 22. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami
Mudaliyar. |
| 3. „ Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 23. Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar. |
| 4. „ Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 24. „ B. P. Sesha Reddi. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur S. Kumara-
swami Reddiyar. | 25. „ M. S. Sreshtha. |
| 6. „ Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 26. „ P. C. Moses. |
| 7. „ Diwan Bahadur B. Muni-
swami Nayudu. | 27. „ P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. |
| 8. Rao Bahadur G. Jagannadha Raju. | 28. „ C. Indriah. |
| 9. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayarammal. | 29. „ P. Bayappa Reddi. |
| 10. Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandian. | 30. „ A. Kondappa. |
| 11. „ H. R. Pate. | 31. „ T. Narasa Reddi. |
| 12. „ H. A. Watson. | 32. „ R. M. Palat. |
| 13. „ R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 33. „ K. Ramachandra Padayachi. |
| 14. „ S. V. Ramamurti. | 34. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam
Pillai. |
| 15. „ Hilton Brown. | 35. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| 16. „ T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 36. Raja of Bobbili. |
| 17. Khan Bahadur Sahib Syed Tajuddin
Sahib Bahadur. | 37. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. |
| 18. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam. | 38. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. |
| 19. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 39. „ A. V. Bhanoji Rao. |
| 20. „ M. Devadasan. | 40. Diwan Bahadur A. M. Murugappa
Chettiyar. |
| | 41. Zamindar of Ettiyapuram. |
| | 42. Mr. Daniel Thomas. |
| | 43. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |

[17th March 1931

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 44. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. | 50. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi. |
| 45. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. | 51. „ G. Sriramulu. |
| 46. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. | 52. „ H. M. Jagannatham. |
| 47. Mr. C. Basu Dev. | 53. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 48. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar. | 54. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. |
| 49. Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti. | 55. Mr. C. Krishnan. |
| | 56. „ R. Foulkes. |

Ayes 21.

Noes 56.

The motion was lost.

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM in moving the following motion, viz.,

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs. 100 ’

to discuss the policy of the Madras Services Commission, and to abolish the same, spoke as follows in Tamil:—

“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே ! சென்னை சர்வீஸ் கமிஷனை எடுத்துவிட வேண்டும். அதன் கொள்கைகள் சரியானதாயினாலும், ஐயா ! ஒவ்வொரு மானாவன் படிப்பதற்கு லீட்டிலுள்ள பொருள்கள் எல்லாவற்றையும் செலவழித்துவிடுகிறான். மாதம் 50 ரூபாய்கள் செலவழிக்கிறான் கலாசாலை பரிக்ஷை யிற் தேருவது மிகவும் சிரமமாயிருக்கிறது. அப்படி தேறியவர்களை புறக்கணிப்பதற்கு இக்கமிஷன் ஏற்பட்டுள்ளது. கமிஷன் முன்னர் தேருமற்போனால் அரசாங்க உத்தியோகங்கள் எவற்றிலும் நுழைவதற் கில்லாமற்போகிறது. ஆகையால் ஏற்கனவே அரசாங்கத்தார் பரிக்ஷையில் என்ன மார்க்கு வாங்கியுள்ளார்கள்னா அவர்கள் கொடுத்தும் உறுதிப்படுத்தும் என்ன தகுதி கையாடற்கு யிருந்தோ அதன்வெ தகுதியாக கொள்ளவேண்டும். அப்படி இவ்வையாவை யுனிவர்சிட்டி பரிக்ஷை வெள்ளாம். ஆகையால் சர்வீஸ் கமிஷனை அடியோட ஒழிக்கவேண்டும்.

“நாட்டில் பொதுமக்கள் கலாசாலைகளில், மூலாதார கல்வாலைகள் அருகாமையாக ஏற்பட்டுள்ளனவா. அதிலும் உயர்தர மூலாதாரப்படிப்பு முறையின்படியாகி விட்டது. மூலாதார பட்டசாலைகளில் ஆங்கிலம், கற்றுக்கொள்ளக்கூடிய நடைபயிற்சி வரை படித்தபயிற்சி எங்கென்றும் தெரிந்தவர்களைக்கொண்டு மிகவுந்த சிமப்பட்டுமிடில் எங்கள், நடுத்தர கல்வாலைக்குப் பெய்திருவ. பொலதற்குள் வயது அதிகமாகிவிடுகிறது. படித்தா என்.என்.என்.வெக்கிக்குப்பெரிய பள்ளி பள்ளங்கூட இத்தேராமல் பொதினவா. ஆர்த்தக காலமயமாண் முனாவந்த தெறினூலும் பிளவா சர்வீஸ் கமிஷனில் தெருவா மிகவும் அறிதாதிவிருவதென், வயது அதிகமாகி விட்டது என்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் ஆத்திராவிடங்கள் கன்னி விஷயத்தல் பட்டி ருக்கும் கண்டங்களை யுலாப்நதும் உத்தியெங்கள்கனில் ஆத்திராவிடப் பர்த்ததிகள போதுமாவரை மிஸ்ஸாமயாலும் அவைகளை நியாப் உத்தியெங்கள் நிடுவ கிக்கும் தருதி பர்த்திரம் பார்த்துகொனாடு வரை தளர்த்துக கொக்கருப்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறோம். இத்தகு சரியாப் பதில் வரை வெகின்று பெய்மா கொ ப்பாரென்று நம்புகிறோம்.

* **Mr. M. DEVADASAN** :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I feel it my duty to support the motion of my hon. Friend, Swami Sahajanandam. Though he is hesitating whether the motion should be pressed to a

17th March 1931] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

division or not, I think it my duty to place certain facts before this hon. House for its consideration. Sir, there had been several devices in the past in the matter of making appointments to Government services. In the beginning, the officers themselves were appointing persons when there were vacancies under them. Subsequently, the Staff Selection Board came into existence and that Board was making appointments to bigger posts leaving smaller appointments to be made by the officers concerned, but the Government thought that system was working prejudicially to the interests of certain classes. Then, the Madras Services Commission was started and at the time it was constituted, we thought that it would remove favouritism and nepotism which existed before in several departments of the Government. I am afraid to say that the Services Commission is not favourable to us, but on the other hand it is more dangerous to our interests. The other day, when I spoke at the time of the General Discussion of the Budget, I said that the rules framed by the Services Commission in regard to examination and restrictions in regard to age should be relaxed in favour of the depressed classes, but at that time, I did not state in full the reasons in support of that request. Now, I find it necessary to state the reasons for complying with the request. In the first place, I must say that the condition of the depressed classes is entirely different from that of the other communities. First of all, there has been an inadequate representation of the depressed classes in several departments of the public service and when a few men apply for appointments in Government service, they are turned out on the ground of over-age or for some other reason. I can only say, Sir, that if these people are given a chance, I am sure they will rise equal to the occasion and will fulfill the duties which may be entrusted to them quite as satisfactorily as the people of other communities. The second reason why there should be a relaxation of the rules with regard to the members of the depressed classes is that these people have to rise in life after enduring many difficulties and troubles during the early stages of their education.

“ Sir, the class of people to which I belong has been admitted to be proverbially poor and it is therefore very difficult for the parents of the children to give them education in order to enable them to compete with other classes of men on a footing of equality. Coming as I do from the Tinnevelly district, though I am a Christian myself, I have often experienced difficulties in the matter of lodging and boarding. I do not wish now to detail those difficulties, since my hon. Friends are in a position to know them. I presume, Sir, the conditions prevailing in Tinnevelly are the same as those prevailing in other parts of the Presidency. You know the difficulties and disabilities under which the members of the untouchable community suffer.

"The other reason why there should be a relaxation of this rule is, that the facilities for training and culture that they receive while

[Mr. M. Devadasan] [17th March 1931]

they are boys are not the same as are available to other classes of people, but let me not be understood to mean that I envy the position of the other communities. I merely want to point out that there are several obstacles standing in the way of advancement of the people of my community. For these reasons, Sir, we are not able to compete on a footing of equality with the other classes of people. I, therefore, wish to point out to the Government that if these hard and fast rules are enforced in the case of the depressed classes, then they cannot be at all employed in Government service. I must say, Sir, that this would work a great hardship. In the past men who have not received sufficient education, men who had not obtained any degree and men who passed no examination were employed and yet they proved quite efficient in the discharge of the duties they were allowed to perform. I am sure, Sir, if the depressed class men are allowed a chance, they will also discharge those duties to the best satisfaction of the officers under whom they might be employed quite as much as members of other communities.

“Coming then to the rules framed by the Services Commission, I may say that by these rules the Government are not going to confer any blessing upon the people of my community. The rules so framed tend to exclude depressed class people from service rather than to admit them into it. I may also point out in this connexion that there is no necessity for compelling them to sit for the examinations conducted by this Commission; and as my hon. Friend, Swami Sahajanandam, observed, these people have to study under a difficult set of circumstances, inasmuch as they have to study hard by burning the mid-night oil for their school or college examinations. In addition they have to spend a considerable sum of money for the purpose and yet, after passing those examinations, it is really very hard that these people should again be asked to sit for the examinations conducted by the Services Commission. I may also state that these difficulties are not common only to the depressed classes, but they apply equally to other minorities. For instance, there are backward communities in my district, e.g., barbers and others who are backward in point of education, and in their cases also, the rules may be relaxed. After undergoing tyranny for centuries, it is very difficult for my people to compete with the other communities. I have to say that the efficiency of the students of these backward and depressed communities might be tested by the examinations they have already passed. I do not know what the Services Commission is going to do to my people. If examination by the Commission is insisted upon in the case of these depressed communities, it may hinder their progress. Simply to exclude them from service, the Commission may throw out their applications on the ground of not possessing the requisite qualifications. Now, I want to take this opportunity of saying a few words on behalf of a section placed under the category of Indian Christians. Recently, the Government have issued an order that the Christians should be differentiated from

17th March 1931] [Mr. Devadasan]

the depressed classes altogether. I must say, Sir, that the conditions of the depressed classes are the same all over whether they are Christians or Hindus. So far as the Christians coming from the depressed classes are concerned, their claims also should be considered in the same light as the claims of the depressed classes in general, but I do not want any of my Hindu friends to sacrifice their claims in favour of the Christians. What I want to urge is that when a Hindu Adi-Dravida is not available, then the claims of a Christian who is bold enough to call himself an Adi-Dravida should be considered. With these few words, I support the motion for reduction.”

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—“Mr. President, Sir, I am not one of those who believe that there is absolute necessity for having a Services Commission. But I don't believe my hon. Friend, Mr. Sahajanandam, will press for the abolition of the Services Commission. If there are any hardships with regard to the rules that have been framed by the Commission, that does not mean that a case has been made out for its abolition; it only means that the time has come to draw the attention of the Government and the Public Services Commission for a change in those rules. In every democratic country it is found absolutely necessary to have a Services Commission for making appointments so that political considerations may not play any part in the distribution of offices. I also feel, Sir, that the rules that have been so far framed, with or without the connivance of the Government (laughter) are not very satisfactory. A serious attempt ought to be made by the Services Commission not only to give effect to the communal Government Order according to communities, but also to take into account the educational backwardness of certain areas. For example, it is no satisfaction for the Ceded districts, if the required number of Brahmans or non-Brahmans is appointed according to the communal Government Order, if they don't get a chance. In this connexion, I may also say this: before the Commission came into existence, I have seen cases where the Collectors of these districts have imported graduates from the Northern Circars or other places to fill up vacancies in their offices, even though there were graduates available from the Ceded districts themselves. Perhaps their action might be justified when there were no graduates in the Ceded districts. But those days are now gone, and therefore to import outsiders now will be doing injustice to the districts. In this direction, the Services Commission is doing no better. They should so frame rules as to give a fair chance for all areas of varied educational development. I don't plead for each district separately but districts of similar educational attainments may be grouped together. If you take into account that point, perhaps you will have to group together the Ceded Districts or perhaps club together the districts of Chittoor and Nellore and the Ceded districts, as they are less advanced than the other Telugu districts and the rest of the Presidency.

“With regard to the examinations I feel it is real hardship to ask all candidates to sit for another examination to be held by the

4-15
P.M.

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [17th March 1931]

Commission itself. No doubt, the Commission has its own difficulty of choosing from hundreds of applicants suitable candidates for four or five vacancies. In spite of this argument which may be put forward I have my own grievance against examination as such. I don't personally believe that examination is the real test of efficiency in the case of all appointments. There are certain appointments where probably purely and highly intellectual work has to be done, and in such cases, examination may be justified. But in most other cases where there is not much of high intellectual work I don't see any necessity for examination. As a matter of fact, Sir, we come across several cases of men of high educational qualifications who have proved a miserable failure as administrators, and we also come across cases of men of ordinary educational qualifications who have made a mark in the field of administration. Then, Sir, it is also a sorrowful spectacle to see for ordinary appointments graduates being clubbed together with Intermediate and School Final students and asked to undergo this examination. I believe the University have conferred on them the degree after satisfying themselves about their intellectual qualifications. I hope the Commission will put a stop to this practice. Personally I am against examination. Let them set apart certain posts for candidates who have passed the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate, some posts for Intermediate students and some posts for graduates. Then, Sir, it may be argued that in the absence of examination, favouritism will be brought to bear. And I don't think that argument will hold water as examinations need not necessarily exclude favouritism. Because, Sir, since most of the posts do not need much of intellectual work, there is no fear of the less intellectual candidates proving incompetent. Take, for instance, the case of sub-registrars. An Intermediate or School Final candidate can very well carry on the duties of a sub-registrar as efficiently, if not more efficiently, than a graduate, who may not be satisfied with that position. When that is so, is it necessary that the candidate should pass the examination set by the Commission? I hope the Government will take into consideration this point and see that the test is not insisted in all cases except where purely intellectual work is required, as in the Finance, or the Audit or the Law Departments.

"Then, Sir, it is advanced by some that on account of the communal Government Order efficiency of the department is going down. I don't believe in that. I believe that success in most of departments depends upon the character, the physical energy, sympathy towards the people and on the knowledge of the local people, etc. Take, for example, a person who has passed the portals of the University with high intellectual qualifications. How can he prove a successful officer in the district administration unless he possesses in abundance the other qualifications referred to? As opposed to this, take the case of an officer coming from the ranks of the ryots, who has full knowledge of the life and conditions of the rural populations of an average Indian, and it needs no argument to say that he will ordinarily prove a successful officer.

17th March 1931] [Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

Again, take the legal profession. How many first-class graduates are there who have proved a failure in their profession? And how many third-class graduates are there who are earning both in Madras Bar and the mufassal ten times the amount that many a first-class graduate is earning?

"Then, Sir, from the point of finance a great deal of hardship is caused by the Commission requiring medical certificates from all applicants. For two or three posts, there are thousands of applicants and the Commission asks every one of them to produce medical certificate. Now this is only enriching the coffers of the medical officers. The proper thing to do is to ask the selected candidate to produce the medical certificate, and I hope Government will rectify this matter very early.

"Finally, Sir, I submit that Government should advise the Services Commission to make the appointments not only on the basis of the Communal Government Order but also on the basis of areas of varied educational progress as I have already indicated."

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member from Cuddapah when he says that the Commission works great hardship when it calls upon candidates to produce medical certificates along with their applications. For in the case of many of them there is absolutely no chance of being selected as things stand at present in the mufassal. What is at present obtaining in the mufassal is that this rule gives a lot of income to the medical practitioners especially to District Medical Officers. And thus it puts the poor people to unnecessary expenditure particularly at this time when they are hard pressed for money. Not only that, sometimes they are asked to go over to Madras, and this no doubt adds to their expense. And this additional burden is all the more felt by the depressed classes. So, I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will issue instructions to the Madras Services Commission not to insist any more on the production of medical certificates along with applications.

"With regard to the main motion itself, I have got very great sympathy with Mr. Sahajanandam. In fact the trouble is not so much with the Commission itself. I must state that the whole mischief is due to the communal Government Order. In fact no adequate representation has been given to the unfortunate depressed classes. For the depressed class community is put under the last category of various other communities, viz., 'others'. So the communal Government Order, at least in the interests of the depressed classes, should be revised at an early date. Supposing a depressed class member enters public service, even there he has to undergo certain peculiar difficulties. For it must be remembered that in the mufassal men in service are not free from caste prejudice. I may mention one case. There was a probationer from the depressed class community in the Revenue Department. He was the only man from his caste and all the other rest were castemen; and he, being an educated man, and as all educated men

[Mr. A. Kondappa] [17th March 1931]

are inclined, began to preach to his co-workers to practice equality. This was resented by his superior, a casteman and by other people who were associated with him. They thought that their prestige and dignity would be lost if this man were allowed to preach about equality of all men in season and out of season.

4-30
p.m.

“ So they took the first opportunity of sending him home; and in that way, sometimes weak men, incompetent men, who are in the good graces of officers with caste prejudices are allowed to prosper and rise, and very competent men, honest people drawn from the depressed classes suddenly find that their probation is terminated. That is a state of affairs which ought not to be tolerated in the interests of the depressed classes and in the interests of the efficient administration of the public services in this province. So, it is highly essential that in the case of the public service, the depressed classes should be largely recruited and protected because they have no godfathers either in the services or outside the services to champion their rights and see that they are protected and promoted. And whenever any depressed class man is sent out of the service, there should be a special enquiry by some outside authority; and unless such authority agrees, the depressed class men ought not to be sent out of the service. So, Sir, that is my experience, and I do not think the educated man, the ordinary educated man in this province, feels very much for the men of the depressed classes either in service or outside the service. Well, Sir, the high caste Hindu has been a sinner for ages. He has been taking the services of these unfortunate depressed classes for ages and when it comes to a question of giving a helping hand to the depressed class man he does not show his gratitude to him. Therefore, Sir, it is high time in the interests of the depressed classes that people of other communities, Indians as well as Europeans, Muslims and non-Muslims, Brahmans and non-Brahmans, join hands and try to serve them to give them a chance, to encourage them, to protect them and to bring them up till they come up to the level of other communities in the province. That is a sacred duty, Sir, which we, the people of the province, owe to the depressed classes of this Presidency.

“ With these remarks, Sir, I say that though there is no necessity to abolish the Madras Services Commission, there is every necessity to look sympathetically into the claims of the depressed classes and I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will communicate the views of this House to the Madras Services Commission so that they may take appropriate measures in order to advance and safeguard the interests of the depressed classes. If the hon. Member for Revenue gives that assurance I would request my hon. Friend, Mr. Sahajanandam, to withdraw his motion, so that we may be in a position to judge how things stand at the next chance a year hence.”

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of a similar motion for a token cut to draw the attention of the Government to the poor representation of Adi-Dravidas in

17th March 1931] [Mr. V. L. Muniswami Pillai]

the public service and request for special rules for an increased percentage in public service. Sir, if I rise to-day it is not to suggest the abolition of the Madras Services Commission for the constitution of which this Council, or rather the previous Council, was a party. But I rise to request the hon. the Revenue Member to make or draw up proper rules to facilitate the work of the Commission in the matter of giving an increased percentage of employment to members of the Adi-Dravida community. I am grateful to the hon. the Revenue Member for the sympathetic reply he gave at the closing time of the general budget debate when he assured us that this matter was receiving his attention and proper safeguards would be provided to ensure a better percentage of representation to members of our communities in the public services. Sir, according to the census I am told that we are one-fifth of the total population. But unfortunately our percentage in the public services is so very negligible as to be almost nothing. I do not think it is even one per cent. The question of our representation in the public services has been hanging fire for years together. Whether it be in the district boards, taluk boards, the municipal councils or in Government service either in the Revenue, the Judicial or the Police departments, we find the same disappointment. Time and again in this Council not only myself but other members of the depressed classes have been appealing to the Government that some tangible efforts must be made to give us our share, and as this question has now come on the anvil, I am sure the Government, at least the hon. the Revenue Member will rise to the occasion and do something. My hon. Friends who preceded me have clearly told us about the great hardship one is put to in the matter of getting employment or recommendation through the Madras Services Commission. It is not only that they have to spend many months to get their names included in the list, but they are put to a lot of expense in addition. To sit for the competitive examination they have to obtain a medical certificate, and have to pay a certain fee for admission to that examination. Having known the economic condition of the depressed classes and also knowing the smallest percentage that we form among the literate people, I do not think that that Commission would enforce their rules against a community so unfortunate in the sphere of the public services. I would therefore appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member that he will kindly see that the Madras Services Commission makes adequate and proper rules to see that a larger percentage of our men are recruited to the various services under the Government.”

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ Mr. President, Sir, although the mover of the motion indicated in his speech his desire that we should abolish the Madras Services Commission, I gather that that desire is not shared very widely in this House, and that it is generally recognized that the Commission is really essential for the purity of the services. Now, Sir, suggestions have been made by many hon. Member that the rules are made by the Commission. But I may point out at the beginning of my remarks that the rules are not made by the Commission but are made by the Government and the Commission

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [17th March 1931]

carry them out. It is quite true that the Government consult the Commission before they make the rules and generally accept their advice. But the responsibility for these rules rests with the Government and hon. Members are quite right in taking this opportunity to criticise the rules.

"Exception has been taken to the fact that certain examinations are held by the Commission for certain services. With regard to that point, we do not prescribe examinations in all cases but only in certain cases. One reason is that the Commission must under the law arrange the candidates in order of merit. There are two different ways in which that can be done. The Services Commission may either interview every candidate without holding an examination and decide on the result of such interviews, the order in which the candidates are to be put; or in the alternative, they may hold a competitive examination. In both cases, I may mention that the question of character and physical fitness are considered, the applications the candidates have to submit are scrutinized as to character, etc. It is only when they are accepted by the Commission as fit in these respects that the candidates are either admitted to the examination or allowed to appear before the Commission for interview. When the number of candidates is very large, examinations are held. I am told that in the case of clerkships for which the Commission have to select a number of candidates, the number of applicants is more than 4,000. Obviously it is impossible for the Commission to deal with such a large number of candidates for appointment by means of interviews. For that reason it is necessary to ask the candidates to appear for a competitive examination, even though they may have already passed University examinations. The examination for clerkships, which I think is the one which most hon. Members have in mind, consists of an examination in English composition, vernacular, precis writing and general knowledge, that is, four papers with 100 marks for each subject; and in addition credit is given to the candidates up to a maximum of 75 marks for proficiency secured in shorthand and typewriting either in the secondary school course or otherwise, and that mark merely depends on the production of the certificates. The fee for the examination is Rs. 5. Now, Sir, I am afraid there is no alternative but to continue these examinations for such appointments as clerkships for which there are many applicants. In the course of the debate an appeal was made by some hon. Members on behalf of particular areas, the Ceded districts in particular. As regards that point, I may mention that every candidate for this examination for clerkships and typists has to say for which district he wishes his name to be considered. He can choose only one district, and he is registered as a candidate for that district, and he cannot be employed in any other district than that for which he is registered. He cannot be transferred to another district without the permission of the Madras Services Commission.

"It has been suggested that it is desirable to protect those selected candidates who belong to the depressed classes. We have been told that in some cases their services are dispensed with without due

17th March 1931] [Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

enquiry. Now, according to the orders, the Collector distributes the successful candidates among the various offices in his district, not only in his department but in other departments also. And whenever any candidate leaves his appointment, the Collector must be informed. So, no person can be removed from the service without knowledge of the Collector. We have also provided that an appeal against any order dispensing with a candidate's services may lie to the Madras Services Commission. It will be realized that in that way the Government have given sufficient protection for candidates whose probation may be terminated on insufficient grounds.

"As regards the question of encouraging particular communities I already intimate that if it is found on a perusal of the results of the recent examination, that some protection for certain communities is desirable we might perhaps raise the maximum age of candidates from certain communities for a certain time. I am opposed to individual exemptions as they lead to complaints of favouritism. A general increase of maximum age by one year for, say, five years might give some relief to particular communities.

"My attention has also been drawn to the fact that the fees are high. The fee for a medical certificate is Rs. 7½ and the fee for the examination for a clerkship is Rs. 5. There are some other examinations for which the fee is Rs. 15. The question whether we should reduce the fee will be considered if it appears that the fee has a real effect of discouraging the candidates of certain communities. I am afraid there is sometimes the tendency on the part of candidates of backward communities to refrain from applying for clerkships in the hope that they will get some higher posts in the vacancies reserved for these communities. I would deprecate that attitude. It leads to candidates passing the maximum age without getting any post at all, though they might well obtain, if they had chosen to appear, inferior posts. We are doing our best, Sir, to see that communities are fairly represented in the Government service. Necessarily it will take some years to feel the result of our work because we can apply the correction only at the beginning of service in the department. Communal representation can only be enforced generally on candidates at the time of entering service and I am sure hon. Members will see that it will take some years for those who are admitted now into service to effect a marked change in the constitution of the services as a whole. I hope, Sir, that I have satisfied hon. Members that we are watching the effect of the present rules regarding communal representation. We have got to wait. The old idea by which persons were appointed on this recommendation or that, or for being somebody's friend or for having had a note from some 'god father' is gone. I hope it has ceased entirely. We are introducing a new system and necessarily it must be to some extent experimental. We have drafted the rules as carefully as we can. If in any respect amendment is found necessary I may assure the House that that amendment will be taken into consideration."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

[17th March 1931]

* The KUMARA RAJA OF VENKATAGIRI:—" I move—

' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats, by Rs. 100.'

to discuss the desirability of exempting for a reasonable period the candidates from among the Muhammadans and depressed classes from the age-limit prescribed under the existing rules relating to the recruitment to public service. Sir, the causes that contribute to the backward condition of certain communities and also to their inadequate representation in the services are all well known. It is unnecessary for me to state them in detail. Economic disabilities and social habits are responsible for the present pathetic condition of these two communities as far as the representation in the services is concerned. Age-long practices and economic backward condition prevent many promising young members of these communities from passing their examination in time to secure services under Government. When it is realized that at a time like this when everybody is anxious to secure good-will and co-operation of every community irrespective of its influence and strength and when all these causes are recognized to be real, I think it is unnecessary for me to deal at any length with this subject. I hope and trust that the Government will bestow serious and sympathetic consideration in this proposal of mine and I trust and let me hope that it will be possible for them to raise the age-limit so as to provide more reasonable facilities to these communities to get their due and legitimate share in the services. With these few words, Sir, I hope this proposal of mine will receive sympathetic consideration and acceptance by the hon. the Revenue Member and also the co-operation of the various sections of the House."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Sir, I think I have already dealt with this subject at length in my previous remarks and promised to consider them."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

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

' that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariats and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs. 100.'

I have given notice to elicit information as to what course they adopt in selecting people to higher and lower grades. All the clerks are to pass through the Madras Services Commission. When they pass that examination how are they to be selected to the higher or the lower grade, whether the examination marks of the Commission are taken into consideration or the marks in the University are taken into consideration? I want to know at the same time whether the claims of the minority communities are taken into consideration because they belong to minority communities though they may not have higher qualifications necessary for the upper grade. Then, Sir, I also gave the cut motion for asking why people appearing for the Madras Services Commission

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

17th March 1931]

should produce a medical certificate from a District Surgeon. They have to pay Rs. 5 as application fee and then Rs. 15 for medical fee. I want to ask the Member in charge, Sir, whether it is possible for the poor Adi-Dravidas and several other people even people in the high caste to pay Rs. 20 for application not knowing whether they are sure to get appointments or not. It is enough if they produce medical certificate from any ordinary medical practitioner or assistant surgeon and if they are to be confirmed then the Government pays the District Surgeon. Now the Government are not paying. The people are paying. It is a very great hardship. I do not know why there should be an examination for B.As. They pass S.S.L.C. and Intermediate and B.A. Why should there be another examination? Why should they not take the marks of these people from the University. Even the double graduates have to go through the examination to get an employment in Government service. All these things have no meaning. Why should clerks be appointed by the Madras Services Commission? If the clerks' appointment were to go to the heads of departments, it will not be so hard as it is now when it has to go to the Services Commission. Another thing is I see the Secretariat clerks doing work till 8 and 9 p.m. I want the hon. Member in charge to make an order that no electric lights should burn after 6 o'clock in the evening. They do that in order to please the superiors and the result is that in their fortieth year they become diabetic and before they get their pension they die. Then there should be a general rule that after eleven months of service every clerk should take leave for one month. I am telling this in the interest of the nation and efficiency. Another thing is if people drawing higher salaries go on leave they get their full pay and half pay. When the peons go on leave they do not get anything at all, if another peon is appointed in their place. I hope the Government will view this with consideration."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member has covered a good deal of the ground with which I have already dealt and I need not go about the same ground by repeating the answers I have given. He asked a question as to the method of recruitment to the Secretariat. Sir, the Madras Services Commission places the selected candidates in the same way as in other offices in the order of merit in different communities. If a Secretary wants a clerk of a particular community he will have to take him from the list of the Services Commission. Some promotion from the lower grade to the upper grade is permitted and this will not be provided for in the rules which are now under consideration. The hon. Member objected to the clerks in the Secretariat working after 5 o'clock. I entirely agree with him. I am afraid, however, that there are certain periods in a year specially during the Legislative Council Session when the work is unusually heavy in the Secretariat and when the clerks have to work long hours. It is not feasible to employ temporary men for the period as we must have clerks who have dealt with the file to put up the necessary notes and records. I also agree with my hon. Friend that

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell] [17th March 1931]

clerks in Government service should take leave from time to time in their own interest as well as Government's; we should not refuse them leave but we are not in a position to compel them to take leave.

"It has been stated that the fee charged for medical certificate is extraordinarily heavy; the fee is Rs. 7-8-0. If more is charged in any case, I shall be glad if my attention is drawn to such case. The pay of peons while on leave is governed by the Fundamental Rules. At present men in inferior service cannot under those rules have leave on full allowance. I am afraid the present is not a very good time to bring forward a proposal for increasing the expenditure."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

At this stage the House rose for the day, to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

V.—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

^a G.O. No. 101, Development, dated 23rd January 1931, passing orders on the audit report of the Industrial Engineering Workshop for the year ending 31st March 1930.

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

^a Printed separately.

17th March 1931]

APPENDIX

[Vide answer to question No. 632 asked by Mr. G. Simhachalam at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 17th March 1931, page 228 supra.]

Distribution of permanent Assistant Secretaries, Superintendents, Upper division clerks and Lower division clerks in the various departments of the Secretariat and the Legislative Council office on linguistic basis.

Name of the Secretariat or office.	Permanent Assistant Secretaries.								Permanent Superintendents.							
	(1) Total number.	(2) Tamilians.	(3) Kannarese.	(4) Malayalees.	(5) Andhras.	(6) Muhammadians.	(7) Others.	(8) Vacant.	(9) Total number.	(10) Tamilians.	(11) Kannarese.	(12) Malayalees.	(13) Andhras.	(14) Muhammadians.	(15) Others.	(16) Vacant.
Chief Secretariat	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	7	3	..	3	..	..	..	1
Finance Secretariat	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	7	..	2	..	..	..	..
Revenue Secretariat	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	6	..	1	..	..	..	..
Local Self-Government Secretariat.	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	6	..	..	..	1	..	..
Law and Education Secretariat ..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	7	2	..	..	..	1	..	..
Public Works and Labour Secre- tariat.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	7	..	..	..	..	..	..
Development Secretariat	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	1	1	..	..
Legislative Council Office	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	9	5	..	1	2	..	1	..	44	31	..	6	1	3	2	1

[17th March 1931]

Distribution of permanent Assistant Secretaries, Superintendents, Upper division clerks and Lower division clerks in the various departments of the Secretariat and the Legislative Council office on linguistic basis—*cont.*

Name of the Secretariat or office.	Permanent Upper division clerks.								Permanent Lower division clerks.							
	Total number.	Tamilans.	Kannarese.	Malayalees.	Andhras.	Muhammaddane.	Others.	Vacant.	Total number.	Tamiliana.	Kannarese.	Malayalees.	Andhras.	Muhammaddane.	Others.	Vacant.
Chief Secretariat	14	10	1	2	1	1	1	1	31	16	2	1	2	2	2	6
Finance Secretariat	18	13	1	2	1	1	1	1	10	6	1	1	2	1	1	1
Revenue Secretariat	16	12	1	2	1	1	1	1	6	3	1	1	2	1	1	1
Local Self-Government Secretariat	23	18	2	3	1	1	1	1	12	8	1	1	2	2	1	1
Law and Education Secretariat	18	11	1	4	1	1	1	1	13	11	1	1	1	1	1	1
Public Works and Labour Secretariat.	16	12	1	1	2	1	1	1	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
Development Secretariat	10	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	3	1	1	1	1	1	1
Legislative Council office	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	5	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	121	87	5	16	6	2	4	1	88	55	4	3	8	8	3	7

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Wednesday, the 18th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, Kt., The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
 Krishnan Nayar, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
 Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.O.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.
 Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
 Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
 Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
 Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
 Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
 Alamelumangathayarammal, Mrs. K.
 Arasu, Mr. V. T.
 Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
 Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur B. N.
 Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
 Basu Dev, Mr. C.
 Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.
 Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
 Birley, Mr. Frank.
 Browning, Mr. W. M.
 Devadason, Mr. M.
 Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
 Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.
 Foulkes, Mr. R.
 Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
 Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
 Hilton Brown, I.C.S., Mr.
 Indriah, Mr. C.
 Jagannadha Raja, Rao Bahadur G.
 Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
 Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
 Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
 Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
 Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
 Kondappa, Mr. A.
 Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
 Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.
 Krishnan, Mr. C.
 Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
 Kuppuswami, Mr. J.
 Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
 Mahmud Schammad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
 Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
 Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
 Moses, Mr. P. C.
 Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
 Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
 Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
 Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.

Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
 Nallatambi Sarkarai Manradiyar, Rai Bahadur N.
 Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
 Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
 Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
 Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
 Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
 Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
 Palat, Mr. R. M.
 Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
 Patnaik Mahasayo, Srman M. G.
 Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
 Pooker Sahib Bahadur, B.
 Premayya, Mr. G. R.
 Raja of Bobbili.
 Raja of Kalikote.
 Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
 Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
 Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
 Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
 Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
 Ramamurti, I.C.S., Mr. S. V.
 Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
 Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
 Ratnasabbapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
 Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
 Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
 Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
 Seetha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
 Shetty, Mr. A. B.
 Siva Raj, Mr. N.
 Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
 Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
 Broshta, Mr. M. S.
 Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
 Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur E.
 Srinamulu, Mr. G.
 Subbarayan, Dr. P.
 Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
 Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
 Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
 Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
 Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
 Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
 Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
 Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.
 Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur E. K.
 Waddington, Mr. H.
 Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
 Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
 Zamindar of Chemudu.

[18th March 1931]

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

I.—RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“Mr. President, I beg to bring to your notice the unfortunate death of our Colleague, Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja. We find from the newspapers that he died on the 13th instant. We all know that the late hon. Member was a very active Member of this Council for the last four or five years. During that time he has taken a very keen interest in the deliberations of this House, and has been on a number of Committees, and worked very conscientiously and honestly. It is a matter of very great regret that he is no more. So, I beg to move—

‘that an expression of the sincere regret of this Council at the death of Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja, M.L.C., and of deep sympathy with his family be placed on record and conveyed to them’.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Sir, on behalf of the Opposition I beg to associate myself with the remarks that have just now fallen from the lips of the hon. the Home Member. Mr. Dorai Raja, Sir, has been a very good friend of many of us here. As has been said, he has been an active Member of this Council. Being a scion of a noble family, he followed the traditions of his house, and has been a consistent and strong supporter of the Government. During the time he has been in this Council, he took active part in the debates, and we will miss him here as a friend and as a public worker. I therefore have much pleasure in associating myself with the remarks made by the hon. the Home Member on this occasion, and beg that you will be pleased to communicate to his relatives our message of condolence.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“Sir, I also associate myself with all that has been said on this occasion. The loss sustained by this Council on account of the death of Mr. Dorai Raja is one that every hon. Member of this House will feel very much. Mr. Dorai Raja has been an active Member of this Council. On many an occasion, he has expressed himself so strongly and so independently, even though it seemed to be against the current feeling of this Council. He never shirked from putting forward what he considered to be his view-point. He was not keeping good health for some time past, and in spite of bad health he made it a point to attend the Council as long as he could. His death is really a loss for which every Member of this House feels strongly, and I therefore associate myself with all that has been said by the Leader of the House and also by Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar on behalf of the Opposition.”

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“Sir, I would like to associate myself with the feelings of regret expressed by the hon. the Leader of the House, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and also the hon. the Chief Minister. Sir, I have known the late Rajkumar S. N. Dorai Raja for the past five years. Though coming from an aristocratic family, he had at heart the well-being of the poor and the needy. It is a great pity that his life has been so cut short. I therefore like to say that our sincere feeling of regret and sympathy may be communicated to his family.”

18th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, it is really a sad thing that our Colleague and Friend, Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja, passed away. Sir, no one can doubt this fact, that Mr. Dorai Raja had the courage of his convictions, and whenever he felt that he had to express views even against the popular opinion, he did it very graciously and very strongly. That is an admirable characteristic of the late Colleague of ours. He was a very able speaker and debater, and one who really contributed a good deal to the deliberations here, ever since he entered this Council, in the last and in this Council. Sir, we really feel the loss, and will miss Mr. Dorai Raja in this Council very much.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The question is—

‘That an expression of the sincere regret of this Council at the death of Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja, M.L.C., and of deep sympathy with his family be placed on record and conveyed to them’.”

The motion was carried *nem. con.*, all the hon. Members standing.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

Co-operation

Increase of Co-operative Banks in Salem district.

* 641 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the amount advanced by Government to each of the Co-operative Banks in the Salem district; and

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of such banks in the district?

A.—(a) Government have not advanced any amount till now to Co-operative Banks in Salem district.

(b) No. There is no demand.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“Sir, the answer to clause (a) is, ‘Government have not advanced any amount till now to the Co-operative Banks in Salem district.’ Am I to take it, Sir, that there was no demand from such banks?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“The answer is there, Sir.”

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—“My question is whether there was no demand from any of the Co-operative Banks in the Salem district for advance of money from Government?”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“I presume it is so.”

Public Works Department

Appointment of the Sanitary Engineer to Government.

* 642 Q.—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether a successor has been fixed upon in place of Mr. Westerdale as Sanitary Engineer to Government;

[18th March 1931]

(b) whether there is any proposal to take a man from the Public Works Department; and

(c) if so, what are his qualifications as a specialist in sanitary engineering?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I find the answer is, 'the matter is under consideration.' May I take it, Sir, that Government will carefully pay its attention to the qualifications of the Specialists in the Sanitary Engineering department when the appointment is made?"

[No answer.]

Registration

Representation of Oriyas in the Registration department.

* 643 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

- (a) how many sub-registrars there are in the Presidency;
- (b) how many of them are in the upper grade;
- (c) how many of them are in the selection grade; and
- (d) how many Oriyas there are
 - (1) in the lower grade of the sub-registrars,
 - (2) in the upper grade of sub-registrars, and
 - (3) in the selection grade?

A.—(a) 621.

(b) 93.

(c) 31.

(d) (1) 14 (9 are Oriyas by birth and the remaining 5 are persons whose first language is Oriya).

(2) None.

(3) One.

Medical

Appointment of certain professors in the Madras and Vizagapatam Medical Colleges.

* 644 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that advertisements calling for applications for the appointment of professorships of Anatomy and Physiology in the Madras and Vizagapatam Medical Colleges and for Anatomy and Pathology in the Madras Medical College, have appeared in the local and foreign newspapers;

(b) whether it is a fact that other professorial appointments are also proposed to be advertised for;

(c) whether it is a fact that one of the conditions of appointment is that the ages of intending candidates should be between 28 and 40 years;

(d) why the posts have been advertised for when Provincial Medical men with requisite specialization and teaching experience are available;

(e) whether the age limits are applicable to candidates from the services; and

(f) whether it is the intention of the Government, to exclude such officers?

[18th March 1931]

A.—(a) The Professorships of Anatomy and Physiology in the Vizagapatam Medical College and of Anatomy and Pathology in the Madras Medical College, have been advertised.

(b) The Medical Education Committee has recommended this course. The Government have not passed final orders on the recommendation.

(c) Yes.

(d) The posts have been advertised in accordance with the recommendation of the Medical Education Committee that recruitment to professorships in Medical Colleges should be made in the open market after advertisement of the appointments and that selection should be made solely on the grounds of merit and suitability. Men in the service also are eligible for the posts.

(e) Yes.

(f) No.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I find in answer to clause (b), 'the Medical Education Committee has recommended this course'. May I know why the Government has advertised in this special case without coming to a final conclusion?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"There are a number of recommendations of the Medical Education Committee. On some of them orders have been passed. One such was the case in respect of which the advertisement was made."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to clause (c) of my question which describes the age limit of the candidates should be between 28 and 40, has the Government explored whether there are any such candidates among the men in service who have rendered long service?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Yes, Sir. The matter has been brought to the notice of the Government. They will issue orders so that men in service may compete."

Mr. ABDUL HAMIED KHAN:—"Is the Government aware that there are men in the service who have been sent to England for higher studies, who will be qualified to take up these posts?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That also will be taken into consideration."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Have the Government come to the conclusion whether retrenchment is not possible by reducing the pay of these posts which are vacant and have to be filled up?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Government have not considered it."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government consider the point that the pay of these posts may not be reduced when once they are filled by direct recruitment?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I have nothing to say. The Government however will consider."

[18th March 1931]

Revenue Department*Receipts and expenditure in the copyist section in the Revenue department.*

* 615 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: With reference to the answer to my question No. 449 (a), dated the 27th February 1931, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was any year in which the expenditure on copyists and copyist examiners in the Revenue department exceeded the receipts and, if so, what were those years and what was the excess expenditure in each such year; and

(b) what the total amount of such receipts and expenditure for the last twelve years has been?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have called for the information.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“May I know whether the information when received, will be made available to the Members of the House?”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“I will consider the suggestion of the hon. Member.”

Reduction of the copyist establishment in the Revenue offices.

* 646 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: With reference to the answer to clause (b) of question 449, dated 27th February 1931, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether there was any reduction in the copyist establishment of the Revenue offices and if so, on how many occasions and in how many offices?

A.—The Government have not the information.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“May I know whether the information will be called for?”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“Sir, the compilation of this information would involve considerable time and trouble and I do not think it is worth it.”

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“This question was asked because the Government stated the other day that the strength of the copyist establishment in the Revenue department varied from year to year and consequently it could not be made permanent. Unless we know whether there has been any loss or not on account of these copyists, we cannot make out a case for their confirmation. So, I want to know what the total receipts and expenditure on the copyist establishment are.”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“The Government have already called for that information with reference to question No. 645.”

Jails*Ill-health of Mr. K. Mohideen Kutty in Cuddalore Jail.*

* 647 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Kurudikandathil Mohideen Kutty, prisoner No. 1977 in the Cuddalore District Jail, has been suffering from rheumatism or any other disease, and if so, how long;

18th March 1931]

(b) whether he has been admitted in the Hospital, and if so, how long he has been in the Hospital;

(c) whether the medical authorities of the jail had recommended that his further detention in the jail is dangerous to his health and that he should therefore be released; and

(d) whether the jail authorities have made any such recommendation to the Government, and if so, whether the Government have taken any action in the matter?

A.—(a) The prisoner has been suffering from chronic Myelitis since April 1929

(b) The Medical Officer, District Jail Hospital, Cuddalore, has reported that the convict is an in-patient in that hospital; There is no information as to how long he has been there.

(c) & (d) The Medical and Jail authorities have recommended the release of the convict on medical grounds under rule 514 (1) of the Jail Manual. The question of the convict's release is under the consideration of Government.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“May I know when the Government received the recommendation of the Jail authorities to release the prisoner?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“Recently. I am not in a position to mention the exact date.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“I find from the answer to clause (a) that the prisoner has been suffering from chronic Myelitis since April 1929. It is nearly two years. Is it only very recently that the Government have received a recommendation from the jail authorities for the release of the convict?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“There was a recommendation received some time last year, and the Government then made enquiries and found that the prisoner had only two relatives neither of whom was willing to take care of him after release. So the Government, in his own interests, could not send him out of the Jail at that time.”

Political Prisoners*Number and class of political prisoners.*

* 648 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the number of political prisoners sentenced up to date with particulars of the classes they have been placed under?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 286 on the 29th January 1931. The Government have no detailed information for the period subsequent to October 1930.

Arms Act*Cancellation of gun licences in South Kanara.*

* 649 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a considerable number of gun licences held by persons in the villages of South Kanara have been cancelled this time; and

V&H, 38/1/31
N31. 535

[18th March 1931]

(b) what the number of licences cancelled is and the reasons for such cancellation?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Sir, as the matter is a very serious one since nearly 500 gun licences have been cancelled, may I know why the Government have not called for the information?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Before I make up my mind to call for the information, I should like to know for what period the information is needed. The question is not clear."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether any gun licences were cancelled this year?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I want notice."

Cancellation of the gun licence granted to Mr. Chattukutti Nayar.

* 650 Q.—BASHEER AHMED SAYEED SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the gun licence granted to Chattukutti Nayar, son in-law of the Raja of Nilambur, was cancelled and the gun confiscated suddenly;

(b) if so, who was responsible for such cancellation of the licence and what was the reason or justification for the same; and what was the purpose for which the licence was originally granted; and

(c) whether a list of all the persons whose gun licences have been cancelled in Tellicherry together with the reasons therefor will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think we should call for the information, because Mr. Chattukutti Nayar has got the right of appeal. It is better that he exercises that right first."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether he has appealed?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"He has not appealed so far as I know."

Depressed Classes

Proposed acquisition of lands for the extension of the Ekambaranallur cheri.

* 651 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that valuable wet lands measuring about 147 acres are sought to be acquired for the extension of the cheri-site in Ekambaranallur of Wallajah taluk;

[18th March 1931]

(b) whether it is a fact that there are dry lands in the vicinity of the present cheri which are available for such a purpose;

(c) whether the authorities gave up the idea of acquisition of the wet lands in question on a former occasion;

(d) what is the amount which has been offered or collected from the Adi-Dravidas for the purpose;

(e) how many of the Adi-Dravidas who now want house-sites are really without houses;

(f) whether any petition has been sent to Government under section 48 of the Land Acquisition Act requesting them to give up the proposal and select some other site; and

(g) what action the Government have taken or propose to take on the same?

A.—(a) The hon. Member's attention is invited to notification published on page 1808 of Part I of *Port St. George Gazette*, dated 2nd December 1930.

(b) There are dry lands adjoining the cheri, but they are not wanted by the Adi-Dravidas.

(c) No.

(d) Rs. 516 has been paid as an initial deposit by the Adi-Dravidas.

(e) None of the Adi-Dravidas and Arundhatiyas for whom it is proposed to acquire the sites possess sufficient accommodation.

(f) Yes.

(g) The Government see no reason to withdraw from the acquisition.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In answer to clause (b) it is stated that the site is not wanted by the Adi-Dravidas. Are the Government aware that on a previous occasion the same question was raised and the matter was dropped?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Notice."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government does not deem it their duty to decide between one set of contestants and the other?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is not possible to answer a theoretical question."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, clause (e) of the question asks the hon. the Home Member to state how many of the Adi-Dravidas who now want house-sites are really without houses and the answer is that none of the Adi-Dravidas and Arundhatiyas for whom it is proposed to acquire the sites possess sufficient accommodation. It is no answer at all. I should like to have an answer to clause (e)."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is not possible for me to make the answer clearer."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why wet lands have been chosen for the cheris? On sanitary grounds I do not think they are suitable."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Evidently those were the only lands available."

[18th March 1931]

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" May I know why the Government are very particular about acquiring those lands only ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" For the benefit of those people. "

Alleged ill-treatment of depressed classes in Ramnad district.

* 652 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(i) to lay on the table of the House the report received from the Collector of Ramnad regarding the ill-treatment of depressed classes in that district as alleged in the memorandum submitted to Government by the President of the Adi-Dravida Mahajana Sabha; and

(ii) to state what action has been taken on that report ?

A.—(i) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to answer to question No. 658^a. The Government are not prepared to adopt the suggestion.

(ii) It did not call for any action.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know what the District Magistrate says in his report regarding the allegations made in the memorial ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The question has been fully answered in reply to question No. 658. "

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know what objection the Government have to place the report of the District Magistrate on the table of the House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" There is no necessity for that. I have given the gist of the report in the answer to question No. 658. "

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" May I know whether some miscellaneous cases are not pending with the Subdivisional Magistrate in connexion with this matter ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice. "

Mr. W. P. A. SOUNDARA PANDIAN :—" In answer to clause (a) the Government say that they are not prepared to accept the suggestion of the hon. Member. May I know what action they propose to take in the matter considering the grievous nature of the case ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" In view of the report received from the District Magistrate mentioned in the answer to question No. 658, I do not see what the Government can do in the matter. "

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" May I know whether the hon. Member has received any telegram from the President of the Ramnad Adi-Dravida Association during the last ten days ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I might have received some telegram; I do not remember it. "

^a Printed on page 307 infra.

[18th March 1931]

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" Will the hon. the Home Member kindly enquire whether there has been any murderous assaults on the Adi-Dravidas of some of the villages in Ramnad ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes, I shall enquire. "

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" What action will the Government take in the matter ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I should first enquire before considering the question of taking any action. "

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" Are the Government aware that the depressed class members both here and outside feel very deeply in the matter ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" It may be so, but we must get at the facts before deciding upon action. "

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Do Government propose to appoint any committee as asked for in the resolution of my hon. Friend, Mr. Soundarapandiyan ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" That question has been answered in another connexion. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Seeing that the notice of this question was given early, why have not the Government already called for the information ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" We have called for it and we have given the gist of it. "

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I merely rise to ask whether steps are not being taken by the police in connexion with cases where the Adi-Dravidas have made complaints and whether such cases are not pending before the Court of the Subdivisional Magistrate ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not know. I know that there is a lot of factious feeling there. "

Government Press

Alleged circularization of Mr. Justice Waller's judgment in C.S. No. 650 of 1927 amongst officers.

* 653 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table G.O. No. 723, Public, dated 4th October 1926; and

(b) whether the Government have accepted the judgment of Mr. Justice Waller in C.S. No. 650 of 1927 on the file of the High Court, Madras, and whether copies of the same have been printed and circulated among all the officers and, if so, for what purpose ?

[18th March 1931]

A.—(a) There is no Government Order numbered 723, Public, and dated 4th October 1926.

(b) The Government have not appealed against the judgment of Mr. Justice Waller in C.S. No. 650 of 1927 on the file of the High Court, Madras. Copies of the judgment were printed and communicated to Heads of Departments for information.

Motor Vehicles Act

Revision of the rules under the Motor Vehicles Act.

* 654 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Committee appointed to revise the rules under the Motor Vehicles Act have submitted their recommendations to the Government; and

(b) whether they have suggested any measures to reduce the number of motor accidents; and, if so, what action Government propose to take in this matter?

A.—(a) The sittings of the Committee have been postponed pending the receipt of the Standardized Motor Vehicles Rules which the Government of India have under contemplation.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to consult organizations of owners of motor vehicles which will be affected by these rules?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“The sittings of this committee have been postponed on account of the fact that the Government of India have summoned a committee including one or two representatives from Madras for considering the question of standardizing the Motor Vehicles Rules. Only after that committee has come to some decision we can take up the question whether this committee should sit or not. Everything will be considered after we know the decision of the Government of India.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“If there is any need for this committee to sit, will the Government consider my suggestion?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“The request of the hon. Member will be borne in mind.”

Police

Oriya Deputy Superintendents of Police.

* 655 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state how many of the Deputy Superintendents of Police in the Presidency are Oriyas?

A.—None.

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—“May I know why no Oriya was appointed?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“Because no suitable candidate was available.”

[18th March 1931]

Throwing of stones on picketers by the police at Frazer's Bridge road.

* 656 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether on Thursday evening (12th February 1931) policemen threw stones on peaceful picketers and sightseers while picketing was going on at Frazer's Bridge road at about 5 p.m.; and

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to call for information on the matter and what action they have taken to deal with the offending policemen?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Government have already satisfied themselves that the allegation is false. The second part of this clause does not therefore arise.

Memorandum from the Madras Piecegoods Association regarding police excesses in Godown street.

* 657 Q.—Rai Sahib C. K. REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he received a communication on or about 5th February 1931 from the Madras Piecegoods Association condemning police excesses by the free use of lathis on peaceful picketers of foreign cloth-shops in Godown street and also on innocent bystanders, stating that it is the presence of the police at picketing places that draws crowds, and requesting the Government to put a stop to the merciless belabouring of the unresisting volunteers and to the lathi regime;

(b) whether he proposes to comply with this request; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Government do not admit the correctness of either the allegations or the implications contained in the Association's letter and do not therefore propose to take any action upon it.

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Depressed Classes

Alleged ill-treatment of depressed classes in Devakottai subdivision.

658 Q.—Diwan Bahadur A. M. M. MURUGAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any reports either from the Collector of Ramnad or from the Divisional Officer of Devakottai regarding the alleged ill-treatment of the depressed classes in the Devakottai subdivision; and

(b) whether there have been any cases of actual ill-treatment of the depressed classes in the said area and if so, whether he will be pleased to place before the House the circumstances and details of the alleged ill-treatment?

A.—(a) A report was obtained from the District Magistrate of Ramnad on a memorial submitted to Government complaining of the ill-treatment of the depressed classes of Devakottai.

(b) No case of ill-treatment has been reported by the District Magistrate.

[18th March 1931]

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

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

DEMAND X—SECRETARIAT AND HEADQUARTERS ESTABLISHMENTS,
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED
—cont.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 8,14,500 for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments—Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"The object of this motion is to urge the need for the introduction of a selection grade for the clerks of the Secretariat who are in the lower division. There are a large number of clerks in the Secretariat who have reached the maximum pay in their cadre long ago. They have no hope of being promoted to the upper division at all. Sir, for these clerks in the lower division, it seems to me that there should be a selection grade introduced so that such of them as have been drawing the maximum salary for a number of years with no possibility of their being promoted to the upper division in the near future may have some increments given to them."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, the question of providing a selection grade for Secretariat clerks received consideration when their pay was fixed and the idea was given up mainly for two reasons. In the first place, there are seven Secretariat departments and it would be difficult to distribute these selection grade posts equitably among them all and, in the second place, the work of the clerks when they were promoted to the selection grade would not be altered in any way by any special responsibility being attached to them. There is, therefore, no particular justification for a selection grade. What was done was to raise the maximum pay of the Secretariat clerks, in the time-scale fixed. The maximum pay of these clerks is higher than that of the clerks in the ordinary Madras offices. The maximum pay in the time-scale of pay of clerks in (B) and (C) class offices was fixed at Rs. 65 and that for Secretariat (A) class offices was fixed at Rs. 80, the pay rising from Rs. 65 to Rs. 80 by increments of three rupees. If a selection grade is introduced, we should have to reduce the maximum pay in the scale to Rs. 65. On the whole, the Government thought that the present system is better than having a selection grade. Under the present arrangement, all the clerks can rise to Rs. 80 in the time-scale and also if qualified have the chance of promotion to be Superintendent and Assistant Secretary."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, I move—

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 93,300 for the Board of Revenue by Rs. 100'

18th March 1931] [Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar]

with the object of drawing the attention of the Government to the necessity of abolishing the Board of Revenue as it is an unnecessary establishment and as it would be a right step in the direction of retrenchment. I do not want to take much time of the House by dwelling on this question at great length. Sir, I have been a practising lawyer for the last 35 years and as such, I have had occasion several times to go to the Board on my own behalf as well as on behalf of my clients. Several times, I have made a request to allow me to appear before the Board and every time I have received the same stereotyped reply that I could not be permitted to appear. The stereotyped endorsement that the Board sees no reason to interfere is given to one and all. An institution of that kind in my opinion ought not to exist."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Mover of this motion has been very brief in presenting his case although this question of the abolition of the Board of Revenue is a very important one. This question has been discussed at considerable length on former occasions and has been considered very carefully from time to time. There are two ways in which the work now done by the Members of the Board of Revenue can be done. One by having Territorial Commissioners and the other by having a Board whose Members divide the subjects between them; in one or two provinces, there are, I believe, a Board of Revenue or a Financial Commissioner, in addition to Territorial Commissioners. If we adopt the system of having Territorial Commissioners, the expenditure is bound to be very much higher than it is now as we should require more Commissioners than Members of the Board of Revenue. It is impossible for the Government to take over the work of the Board of Revenue. The Board hears great many appeals from the Collectors' decisions and disposes of many details and carries out a great deal of detailed inspection. You can hardly expect the Member for Excise to undertake important duties now done by the Commissioner in connexion with these appeals, inspections and so on. There must be some intermediary between the Government and the local officers of the districts, and the present arrangement which has stood the test of many decades is the most economical method of providing this intermediate authority. For these reasons, I am afraid I cannot accept this motion."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, 11-30
Sir, I think I must press my motion to a division. Whatever may be a.m.
the fate of this motion, at least the voting strength will be taken into consideration by the Finance Committee which has been appointed as the Retrenchment Committee to go into the question of retrenchment in this Province."

The motion was put and lost.

* Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM, in moving the motion—

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,24,84,200 for District Administration be reduced to Rs. 100'

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [18th March 1931]

in order to discuss the work of the Collectorate, spoke in Tamil as follows:—

“கலெக்டர்களின் வேலைகள்.

“ஜில்லாக்களுக்கு கலெக்டர்களே அரசர்கள் என்று கூறலாம். அவர்கள் கையில் சிருஷ்டி, திதி, சம்மாரம் முத்தொழிலுமிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் மிகவுஞ் சுதந்தர வாதிக்கையிருக்க வேண்டும். அவர்கள் தங்களுக்கு மேலுள்ள மாகாண அரசாங்கத்தார் எவ்வித கொள்கைகள் கொண்டுள்ளார்களோ அவ்வித கொள்கைகளை அனுஷ்டானத்தில் கொண்டு வரவேண்டும். அவர்கள் உத்தரவுகளை அனுஷ்டானத்தில் நடத்திக் காட்ட வேண்டும். ஆனால் அரசாங்க நோக்கம், உத்தரவு, தனது மனசாட்சி முதலியவற்றைக் கொண்டு சிலர் அருமையாக நிருவாகஞ் செய்தார்கள். தற்போதும் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். தற்போது சிலர் அரசாங்க கொள்கை உத்தரவு, மனசாட்சி, தனது உத்தியோகத்தின் பொறுப்பு முதலியவற்றை கவனியாது நடந்து வருகின்றனர். அரசாங்கத்தார் சம்பளம் கொடுத்து அதி காரம் கொடுத்து மக்களுக்கு பாது காப்புச் செய்துகின்றனர். சிலர் அப்பதவியை யேற்றுக் கொண்டு அவற்றிற்கு எதிராக நடக்கின்றனர். அவர்கள் தங்களுக்கு மேல் ஒரு அரசாங்கம் இருக்கிறது என்ற கொள்கைகளை மறந்து விட்டனர்போலும் உதாரணம் வேறிடத்திலிருந்து சொல்வதைவிட எனது அனுபவத்தில் கண்டதைச் சொல்வதே சாலச் சிறந்தது. தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லாவிற்கு தற்போது கலெக்டராயுள்ளவர் கனம் F.L. பிரிக்ஸ்டாக் துரையாவர்கள் அவர்கள் அவ்வருக்கு வந்ததும் ஓர் பிரிட்டிஷ் ஆபீஸர் வந்துள்ளார் ஆதலால் இனி நான் ஒழுங்காடி விடுமென நினைத்தேன். இவருக்கு முன் கனம் உபேந்திரபாயவர்கள் கலெக்டராயிருந்தார். ஆனால் அவர் காலத்தில் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்குத் தீங்குண்டாக வில்லை. பெருந்தன்மை வாய்ந்தவர். ஒரு வகையில் அவர் பிராமணர்களுக்கு ஆக்கந் தேடினார். அது சிதம்பரத்தில் 1928-வது ஆண்டில் நடந்த முனிசிபல் எலக்ஷன் பேப்பர்களைப் படித்தால் தெரிந்து கொள்ளலாம். அவர் காலத்தில் தற்போது சிரஸ்தாராயிருக்கும் திரு C. V. வெங்கட்டராமய்யர் அவர்கள் சிதம்பரத் தில் தாசிஸ்தாராயிருந்தார். அவர் தாசிஸ்தாராயிருந்த காலத்தில் செய்த அக்கிரமங்களுக்கு அளவே இல்லை. அவர் தற்போதும் சிரஸ்தாராயிருந்து செய்துவரும் அக்கிரமங்களுக்கு கேள்வி முறையிலில்லை. அவர் எந்த உத்தியோகத்தை வலித் தாலும் அது சமையலிருக்கும் கலெக்டர்களை தன் அபிப்பிராயத்திற் கொண்டு தனது இஷ்டத்திற்கு அவர்களை ஆட்டி வைக்கிறார். கனம் உபேந்திரபாய் அவர்களுக்குப் பின் வந்து தற்போதிற்குக் கனம் பிரிக்ஸ்டாக் துரையாவர்கள் முடிவாகும் வெங்கட்டராமையர் வசம் தனது நிருவாகத்தை ஒப்புவித்து விட்டார். தற்போது தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லா நிருவாகம் வெங்கட்டராமய்யர் கையில் தானிருக்கிறது. இதனை பின் வருஞ் செய்திகளால் தெரியலாம்.

“உபேந்திரபாய் பிராமணர்கள் சார்பாகவே சிதம்பரம் முனிசிபல் நிருவாகத்தை திருப்பினார். அவருக்குப் பின்வந்த பிரிட்டிஷ் ஆபீஸர் கனம் பிரிக்ஸ்டாக் துரையாவர்கள் காலத்தில் நிருவாகம் நன்றாகவருக்குமென நினைத்தோம்! அவர் எப்படியோ இதற்கு முன் இரண்டு முறைசிரஸ்தாராயிருந்து சிதம்பரம் தாசிஸ்தாராயிருந்த C. V. வெங்கட்டராமையரை மறுபடியுஞ் சிரஸ்தாராயடைந்தார் இது அப்பதவிக்கு வேறொருவரும் வாய்க்கிழைக்கவேண்டுமா? அல்லது அவருக்கும் துரைக் காரணத்தாலோ தெரியவில்லை. கனம் பிரிக்ஸ்டாக் துரையாவர்களே வேறொரு காட்டிற்கு வரும்போதே பேப்பர்கள் பைசலாகாமலிருக்கின்றனர், உடனுக்குடனே துரையாவர்கள் கொள்கையெல்லாம் பேப்பர் பைசலாவது ஒன்றிலேயே திருஷ்டி, சிறதா, என்னும் கவலையே அவருக்கில்லை. முக்கியமாக ரெவினியூ போர்டுக் கும் கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு போகும் பேப்பர்களைத்தான் அவர் பார்ப்பார். ஆனால் தனக்குத் தோன்ற குடியானவர்களின் வேண்டுகோள் நியாயங்களை அவர் கவனிப்ப வில்லை. இந்த இடத்தில் வெங்கட்டராமைய்யர் என்ன எழுதி வைத்திருக்கிறாரோ

18th March 1931] [Swami A. S. Sahajanandam]

அதில் கண்ணை மூடிக்கொண்டு கையெழுத்துப் போடுவார். அது விஷயமாக ஏதே னும் ஆட்சேபனை மறுக்கவொப்பினாலும் அவற்றையும் வெங்கட்டராமையரிடமே கொடுத்துவிடுவார். துரையாவர்களுக்கு வெங்கட்டராமையர் அக்கிரமத்தைப்பற்றி ஒரு டி. ஓ. அனுப்பினாலும் அதனையும் வெங்கட்டராமையரிடம் கொடுத்துவிடுவார். வெங்கட்டராமையர் குடிகளுக்கு எவ்வித இடையூறுகள் செய்தாலும் பேப்பர் களைத் தங்கவிடாமல் பைசல் செய்கிறாரே என்னும் எண்ணமே துரையாவர்களுக்கு திருப்தியளிப்பதுபோலும்.

“ஏற்கனவே இருந்த அரசாங்க நிருவாக சபை அங்கத்தினர்களும், கவர்னர் களும், கலெக்டர்களும் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் மீது இரக்கம் வைத்து சிதம்பரத்தில் சிறிது இடம் கொடுத்து பாடசாலை துங்க உதவி புரிந்தார்கள். அது தற்போது நந்தனார் கலாசாலையாகவும், மாயர் ஹாஸ்டல், கிரே ஹாஸ்டல், திருப்பாணம்வார் பாடசாலை, சற்குரு பாடசாலை முதலியனவாக நடந்து வருகிறது. அதற்கு கனம் ஸர். பி. ராஜகோபாலாச்சாரியார், ஸர். சதாசிவ ஐயர், ஸர். ஜயார்ஜ் பாடிசன் இவர்கள் சிபார்சால் கலெக்டர் கனம் கப்பிதூரையவர்கள் 51 ஏக்கர் 60 சென்ட் நிலம் கள்ளிப்பாடி கிராமத்தில் 1920-ம் வருஷம் கொடுத்தார்கள். அதில் இது வரை சற்றேறக்குறைய 10,000 ரூபாய்கள் வரையில் பணஞ் செலவழித்து நல்ல நிலைமக்கு நிலம் வந்துள்ளது. அதன் அரசாங்க உத்தரவில் நிலத்திற்கு தனி கணக்கு வைக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் வருஷந்தோறும் கனம் கலெக்டருக்கும், கனம் கல்வி இலாகா டைரக்டருக்கும் கணக்கு அனுப்ப வேண்டுமென்றும் தவறான வழியில் பணஞ் செலவழிக்கக்கூடாதென்றும், கண்டிஷன்களுக்கு மாறாக நடந்தால் நிலங்களைத் திருப்பி எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்படுமென்றும் குறிக்கப் பட்டுள்ளது. அதில் எப்ரல் மாதம் 15-க்குள் கலெக்டர்களுக்கும், கல்வி இலாகா டைரக்டருக்கும் நிலத்தின் கணக்குகளை அனுப்ப வேண்டுமென்றிருக்கிறது. இதற்கிடையில் பாடசாலையில் அதன் சொத்துக்கள் அனைத்தும் ஒரு மனிதர் நிருவாகத்தில் இருக்கக்கூடாது அது ஒரு பதிவான சபையினிடம் ஒப்பு விப்பது நலமென்று முன்னர் ரெவினியூ மெம்பராயிருந்த கனம் ஸர். மகமத் அபிபுல்லா பகதூர் சிதம்பரம் வந்தபோது நேரே பார்த்து அதன் மாணேஜரிடம் சொன்னார்கள். உடனே 1923-வது ஆண்டு மார்ச்சு மாதம் ஸ்ரீநந்தனார் கல்விக் கழகம் எனவொரு சபையை ஏற்படுத்தி அதற்குச் சட்ட திட்டங்கள் வரைந்து சொஸைட்டி ரிஜிஸ்தரேஷன் ஆக்ட் 1860-வது வருஷம் 21 ஆக்டின் கீழ் பதிவு செய்யப்பட்டு பதிவான அதன் கீழ் தற்போது நிருவாகம் நடைபெற்று வருகின் றது. ஸ்தாபனங்கள், தனிப்பட்டவர் கையிலிருந்த போதும் சபையினிடம் வந்த பிறகும் வருஷா வருஷம் எப்ரல் மாதத்திலேயே கணக்கு அனுப்பிவிடுவது வழக்கம். கணக்குகள் போன பிறகு அவற்றை கழகத்தாரிடமிருக்கும் கணக்கு களோடு ஒத்திட்டுப் பார்க்கும்படி கனம் கலெக்டர் தாசிஸ்தாருக்கும் டைரக்டர் பாடசாலைகளின் இன்ஸ்பெக்டருக்கும் அனுப்புவார்கள். அவர்கள் வந்து கணக் கை ஒத்துப் பார்த்து எங்கள் கணக்கு புத்தகங்களில் குறிப்பெழுதி விட்டு மேலுக் கும் ரிப்போர்ட் செய்வார்கள். ஏதேனும் தவறுதல் இருந்தால் நேராகவோ எழுத்து மூலமாகவோ கேட்பார்கள். அவற்றிற்குப் பதிலளித்த பிறகு மேலுக்கு ரிப்போர்ட் செய்வார்கள் பின்னர் கலெக்டரும், டைரக்டரும் எங்களுக்கு ஆயுட் ரிப்போர்ட் மீது அபிப்பிராயம் தெரிவிப்பார்கள். ஆனால் உபேந்திரபாய் காலத்தில் 1927-28-ல் C. V. வெங்கட்டராமய்யர் சிதம்பரம் தாசிஸ்தாராக வந்து சேர்ந்தார். அவர் அங்கு ஆதிதிராவிடர்களின் முன்னேற்றத்தில் அழகாகாறு கொண்ட சிலர் வார்த்தைகளைக் கேட்டுக் கொண்டு எப்படியாகிலும் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களின் ஸ்தாபனத் தை அழித்துவிட வேண்டுமென்னுங் கருத்துக் கொண்டு தன்கையில் கிடைத்த அதிகாரத்தை துஷ்பிரயோகஞ் செய்ய ஆரம்பித்தார். 1927-28 ஆண்டுகளின் நந்தனார் கல்விக் கழகத்தின் கணக்குகளைப் பார்த்து தனக்குச் சம்பந்தமில்லாத தும் G.O.-விற்கு விரோதமானதுமான சில கேள்விகளைக் கிளப்பினார். நிலக் கணக்கிற்குச் சம்பந்தமில்லாத பயனற்றவைகளை பிரமாதப்படுத்தினார். தப்பு ரிப் போர்டு எழுதினார். அது கேள்விக்கு வந்தவுடன் பதிலெழுதவாமென கழகத் தின் காரியதரிசி காத்திருந்தார். அது விஷயமான ரிமாரக் கலெக்டரிடமிருந்து 1929-ம் (1930) ஆகஸ்டுமீ 18-யில் வந்தது. 1929-ம் (1930) அக்டோபர்மீ 10-யில்

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [18th March 1931]

டைரக்டர் அவர்களும் D.E.O. மீதும் ரிமார்க்கு அனுப்பினார். 1928-ம் ஆண்டு எப்ரல்மீ அனுப்பிய கணக்கிற்கு 1929-வது வருஷம் 10 மாதம் ரிமார்க்கு வருமானால் அதற்கு எப்படி பதிலெழுதுவது 1929-வது ஆண்டு கணக்கு 1929-வது ஆண்டு எப்ரல் மாதம் போயிருக்கிறது. அதன் முடிவும் தெரியவில்லை ஆகவே 1927-28, 1928-29 ஆண்டுகளில் குறிப்பாக என்ன தவறுகள் கண்டு பிடித்தீர் களென்று 1929-ம் வருட நவம்பர்மீ 11-உயில் கலெக்டருக்கு எழுதிக் கேட்டார்கள். அதற்குப் பதில் 1930-ம் வருட மார்ச்சுமீ 17-உயில் அது அபிவித்யல் கரஸ்பாண் டென்லி ஆதலால் கொடுக்க முடியாதெனச் சொல்லிவிட்டார். உடனே சிதம் பரத்தில் டிப்டி கலெக்டராயிருந்த கனம் லோபோ அவர்களிடம் சொன்னோம். அவர் ரிமார்க்கில் சொல்லியபடி கவுல் சீட்டும், பேரேடும் வைத்துக் கொள்ளுங்க ளென்றார். கவுல் சீட்டிருக்கிறது. எங்கள் கணக்கில் பிழைஇல்லையே எப்படி பிழையை ஒத்துக் கொள்வதென கேட்டார்கள் அவர்கள் எச்சரிக்கை செய்திருக் கிறார்கள் அதனால் பாதகமில்ல இதைப்பற்றி ஒன்றும் எழுதி கிளர்ச்சி செய்ய வேண்டாம் எதிர் காலத்தில் சரியாக வைத்துக் கொள்ளுங்களென்றார்கள். மார்ச்சு மாதம் 17-உயில் வந்தபடியால் புது வருஷம் அதாவது 1929-30-ம் வருட கணக்கைப் பார்க்கும் நேரம் வந்துவிடப்படியால் இதில் எவ்வாறு தணிக்கை நடக் கிறது பார்க்கலாமென்றிருந்தோம். 1930-ம் வருட நவம்பர்மீ 25-யில் கணக்கு சரியாகயில்லையென்று டைரக்டர் சொல்லுகிறாரென்று கலெக்டரிடமிருந்து கடிதம் வந்தது, டைரக்டரும் கலெக்டர் கணக்கு தவறென்று எழுதுகிறார் அடுத்த வருஷம் தப்பா யிருந்தால் நிலத்தை எடுத்துக் கொள்வோமென்று அடுத்த வருஷம் வருட நவம்பர்மீ 28-உயில் கலெக்டருக்கு 1929-30-ம் ஆண்டு கணக்குப் பார்த்த தாசில்தார் ரிப்போர்ட் என்னை அப்ஜெக்ஷன் நோட்டீஸ் என்னவென்றும் அவற்றை யனுப்பினால் பதில் அனுப்புகிறோமென்றும் கேட்டோம். 1930-ம் வருட டிசம்பர்மீ 18 உ-யில் ரிப்போர்ட் கொடுக்க முடியாதென்று எழுதிவிட்டார். உடனே கழகத்தார் அரசாங்க நற்சாட்சி பத்திரமுடைய ஒரு G.D.A. கொண்டு பரிசோதித்து அவர் சரியா யிருக்கிறதென்று கொடுத்த ரிப்போர்ட்டையும் அனுப்பி எந்த விதத்தில் பிசு சொல்லுகிறீர்களென்று கலெக்டருக்கும், கனம் டைரக்டருக்கும் எழுதினோம் அதன் காப்பி கனம் லேபர் கமிஷனருக்கும் அனுப்பினோம் அதற்கு முன்னிருந்த கலெக்டர் செய்த ரிமார்க்கை மாற்ற முடியாது இனி, பேரேடு, கவுல்சீட்டு, வவுச்சர் கள் வைத்துக் கொண்டால்எங்களுக்கு ஆட்சேபனை இல்லையென்று எழுதினார். 1929-30, கணக்கில் கவுல்சீட் இல்லையா? பேரேடு இல்லையா? வரவு ஐட்டத்தில் தப்புண்டா செலவிட்டத்தில் தப்புண்டா என்று கேட்டு 1931-ம் வருட பிப்ரவரிமீ 12-உயில் எழுதி யிருக்கிறோம் அதாவது குறிப்பிட்டுச் சொல்லவேண்டுமெனக் கேட்டிருக்கிறோம். இது வரைக்கும் பதிலில்லை. கனம் லேபர் கமிஷனரும், டைரக்டரும் என்ன நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்துக் கொண்டார்களெனத் தெரியவில்லை இதனைத் தெரிவிக்கவே பாடசாலையின் நிலைமைகளைப்பற்றியும் திருப்திபற்றியும் ஹாஸ்டல் கணக்குகளைப்பற்றியும் அவற்றை ஆடிட் செய்த லோக்கல்பண்ணு எக்சா மினர் ஆடிட் குறிப்புப்பற்றியும் இச்சபையில் கேள்விகள் கேட்டோம் திருப்திகரமாக வே பதிலளித்துள்ளார்கள். இது சம்பந்தமாக கனம் மாணிக்கவேலு நாயகரவா் கள் 413-வது நெம்பர் கேள்விகள் கேட்டார் அதற்கு அது சமயம் பதில் சொல்ல வில்லை. முழுவதும் பொய்யான அபிப்பிராயங்களை தனிமையாக கனம் ரெவினியூ செக்ரடரி எழுதி யிருக்கிறார். இதனை ஒத்துப் பார்த்தால் பொய் ரிப்போர்ட் என்பது வெட்ட வெளிச்சமாகிவிடும். நிருவாகத்தில் எவ்வளவு அக்கிரமங்கள் நடந்துள்ளன என்பது ராஜ் சாஹிப் தருமலிங்கம் பிள்ளையவர்கள் கேட்டுள்ள கேள்விகளைக் கொண்டு பார்த்தால் தெரியவரும். தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லா கலெக் டர் ஆபீஸைப் பொறுத்த வரை ஆகிராவிடர்களுக்கு யாதொரு நன்மையுமில்லை. பிராமணரல்லாதாருக்கு மிகவும் இடையூறே விளிகிறது. உடனே கிரஸ்தத்தாரை அவ்விடம் விட்டு மாற்ற வேண்டும். ஜில்லாக்களில் கலெக்டர்கள் நிருவாகம் சரியாக இல்லை.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The time allotted for the discus- sion of this demand is over. The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat. I will now put the main demand to the vote of the House.

18th March 1931]

[The President]

“ The question is—

‘ that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,38,23,900 under Demand No. X—Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved ’.”

The Demand was carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XI—MINISTERS, CIVIL SECRETARIATS AND
MISCELLANEOUS—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ On the re- commendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

‘ that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,68,200 under Demand XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred ’.”

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“ I beg to move—

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 2,40,000 for Ministers be reduced by Rs. 100 ’

“ Sir, the purpose for which I have tabled this cut motion is stated in the Agenda^a. You know, Sir, in the recent Act which was passed by the Legislative Council, it was taken for granted that a taluk board will be constituted in each revenue taluk as a matter of course, and that if it was to be deviated from it would be only in excep- tional cases it would be done so. Recently I have found that the Inspec- tor of Local Bodies has sent out a circular to the taluk board presidents to submit proposals for the constitution of circles and in doing so, he has not asked them to send proposals for circles for each revenue taluk but circles for each taluk board area. So that, if a taluk board president was so inclined he might have submitted proposals for circles comprising villages not only of one taluk but of more than one revenue taluk in his taluk board area. In that case the prin- ciple accepted, namely, that there should be a taluk board for each taluk cannot be given effect to. I want to know definitely what his idea in the matter is. Is he or is he not going to give effect to the principle accepted in this House, viz., that there should be a taluk board, as a rule, constituted for each taluk? ”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ Sir, the Act provides for a taluk board being constituted for each revenue taluk. It is the intention of the Government to give effect to it as far as possible. We have issued a Government Order on the 20th March to all those taluk boards which consist of more than one revenue taluk to show cause why the intention of the Act should not be given effect to. They are asked to give their opinion before 1st April. We have stated in our Government Order that it is our intention to go according to the strict letter of the law and to constitute a taluk board for each taluk unless there are very strong reasons to the contrary.”

^a To enquire why the Government have called for proposals for circles for each taluk board instead of taluks as contemplated by the new Act.

[18th March 1931]

11-45
a.m.

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Sir, I just want to know from the hon. the Chief Minister, what are the reasons which should guide the taluk boards to go against the spirit of the Act. The communiqué which the hon. the Chief Minister has referred to, is really very misleading. It looks as if the taluk boards have to show why each taluk should have a separate taluk board. I think that the burden of proof lies on the Government to show cause why they should club two or three taluks together, wherever they propose to do so. I do not know the purpose for which that portion of the communiqué has been issued. As a matter of fact, many taluk boards have taken for granted that the old taluk board areas will be retained ordinarily for the purpose of working the Act. I want to know what the difficulties are in the way of the Government and why every taluk should not have a taluk board of its own. The argument that may perhaps be advanced by the Government is want of finance. When it was seriously intended before the passing of this amended Act to divide each taluk into a number of boards, each firka to be constituted into a board, why should not at least a taluk be constituted into a board? The spirit of the present Act is to see that every revenue taluk has a taluk board. No doubt Government have taken power to amalgamate one or two taluks. I hope that advantage will not be taken by the Government of that provision to club two or three taluks together. I do not think that finance need stand in the way of Government. If there is a smaller area, I do not think it is necessary to spend much money by way of travelling allowance, etc. If two or three taluks are clubbed together, naturally the headquarters will be distant from some of the portions of the taluk board, and there will be more expenditure by way of travelling allowances. If the area is limited, the amount of travelling allowance that will have to be given is reduced though not in the same proportion.

"Secondly instead of maintaining a large staff of clerks why should not the board get on with a lesser staff, if the area is less when the work will be less? I do not think the Government will put forward the excuse of want of finance and not give effect to the spirit of the Act. I hope that the Government will issue necessary instructions so that there will not be a misgiving in the matter. I think that the communiqué throws the burden of proof on these taluk boards to show cause why two or three taluks should be separated. I think the burden of proof should be on the Government to show cause why they should amalgamate two or three taluks."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, if I understood the hon. Minister correctly, he argued that there should be a taluk board for each taluk and this communiqué asks every taluk board to show cause why that policy should not be given effect to in every taluk. I want only to add that in response to the circular issued already by the Inspector of Local Bodies, several taluk boards have submitted proposals on the basis that a taluk board should be constituted for each taluk. But I know also there are some taluk boards who have thought that

[18th March 1931] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

they were precluded from considering the question of suggesting a taluk board for each taluk and submitted proposals to suit the existing arrangement. I hope the hon. Minister will bear these facts in mind and ask for recommendations with regard to such of the taluk boards which have not already submitted proposals for the constitution of a taluk board for each taluk. I take it that he is agreeable to this suggestion of mine and I withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I beg to move the following motion, viz.—

'that the allotment of Rs. 2,40,000 for Ministers be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"This is to urge upon the Government the necessity of abolishing the posts of Council Secretaries. I make this motion on two grounds; first of all, on the ground of principle, and secondly on the ground of retrenchment of expenditure. On the ground of principle I would ask the Government what is the function that is allotted to these secretaries and which they are expected to discharge, to enable them to draw salaries from public funds. We had Council Secretaries during the previous Ministries also and experience has shown that, except that it was a bone of contention among several claimants of the party in power, no definite duties have been allotted to them; they have not been responsible to this House; how far they have been responsible to the Ministers themselves is always a mystery. If it is merely for the purpose of following a precedent—a bad precedent—I say it deserves condemnation and it ought not be followed. I do not know if the present Ministry has appointed these Secretaries merely because the previous Ministries had their Secretaries and they want to have the same paraphernalia. If it is on that ground, they ought not to have these Secretaries at public expense. If it is on the ground that the Ministers are not able to discharge their duties without the assistance of these Secretaries, I want to urge the following point. Before the Montford Reforms came into operation, we had three Executive Councillors discharging the same amount of work that is now being discharged by seven Members. So the work of three Executive Councillors was distributed among seven Members of the Government. It does not require any argument on my part to show that the work of any particular Minister is much less than that of any Member in the previous regime. Under these circumstances I do not see any reason why these Ministers should have Secretaries for themselves. The Executive Councillors have no such Council Secretaries. So far as the work of the administration goes, there is the permanent staff equally distributed between the Ministers and Executive Councillors and there is no pretension that these Council Secretaries have anything to do with the administration of the portfolios of the Ministers. During the time of the last Ministry, if I remember right, these posts were not filled for a long time. No doubt later on, they were filled, for what reason I cannot say. I sympathize very much with the hon. the Chief Minister

[B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur] [18th March 1931]

in the ordeal which he had to undergo in selecting these Secretaries and after undergoing such an ordeal, the Secretaries were after all appointed. Considering the ordeal which he had to undergo in choosing these individuals, I was hoping that he would rather refrain from making these appointments and laying this burden on public funds. So far as I can see and so far as my enquiries go, I am not able to find any public purpose that is served by the appointment of these Secretaries or by their continuance. If it is only a paraphernalia to the Ministers, I am sure that the present Ministers are very simple in their habits and they would not require such Secretaries to complete the paraphernalia.

"There is another point which I must refer to; of course, I do not wish to refer to any personality. The existence of these Council Secretaries without any statutory function to perform and without any definite duties to discharge, will mislead the public into thinking that these Secretaries are the people who guide the Ministers and that, if they are able to catch hold of these Secretaries by some hook or crook, they will be in a position to achieve everything through the Ministers. I only wish to point out that there is this likely danger, especially when these Secretaries are drawing fairly good salaries without any responsible work at all. In view of the fact that these Secretaries are drawing a salary of Rs. 500 each and that they are the right-hand men and advisers of the Ministers, people think that they could achieve everything if they get into the good books of these Secretaries. I think we must guard ourselves against this danger and the best way of guarding against this danger is to abolish these posts altogether. If the Government is not pleased to accede to this suggestion of mine, I hope they will take care to see that such an impression is not created in the minds of the public.

"Then, Sir, the other ground on which I make this motion is one of retrenchment. We have a very bad Budget with a deficit. Under such circumstances, is it necessary to go on spending Rs. 1,500 a month admittedly for nothing, admittedly for no return to either the people, or the Government or even the Ministers themselves? I say it is a very atrocious act on the part of the Government to continue the Secretaries at the expense of Rs. 1,500 a month out of public exchequer. It might be said that we are following a Parliamentary procedure. So far as that point is concerned, I do not know whether such an analogy can be drawn between our Council Secretaries and Parliamentary Under Secretaries. Our Secretaries are not Under Secretaries but Secretaries not having the shadow of the power of the Under Secretaries. Whatever might have been the justification on previous occasions—when we had no responsibilities—even under diarchy I cannot say we had real responsibilities—on the eve of getting full responsibility, full autonomy, we must realize that responsibility even now and begin to act from now.

12 noon. "If we have been spending money recklessly on these Secretaries and other paraphernalia, we can no more afford to do so hereafter. No doubt, when the foreigner was at the helm of affairs, he was doing so

18th March 1931] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

many things at which we were hurling criticisms; but hereafter we are going to manage our own affairs and we must perform our duties in the most economic manner and method possible. In view of the coming events, the coming full Responsible Government, we must begin real economy first. Of course there are ever so many other departments in which retrenchment can be effected; but to my mind there is not a more criminal waste of money than the retention of these Council Secretaries at a cost of Rs. 1,500 a month. If only the hon. the Chief Minister makes up his mind to do away with these posts, certainly this House and the public at large will appreciate it much more than anything else and will take it as a symbol of the policy which he intends to follow. With these words, Sir, I move my motion."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Sir, I have very great pleasure in seconding the motion made by my hon. Friend from Malabar. In this connexion, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. the Chief Minister to the rules framed by His Excellency the Governor, in G.O. No. 195 Public, dated 7th April 1921, where the functions of the Council Secretaries are very clearly defined. I shall read out extracts therefrom:

"Council Secretaries will be employed to work up replies to any questions or resolutions that may be handed to them by their Member or Minister and may further be given the responsibility of replying for the department in the Legislative Council when specially instructed to do so and upon lines approved by the Member or Minister.

"Similarly in the case of Bills, Council Secretaries will be employed to work up points of discussion and to speak on behalf of the department when desired by the Member or Minister to do so during the discussion of the Bill."

These are two main functions, Sir, of the Council Secretaries. We all know, Sir, this House full well knows, and you also, Mr. President, ought to know, the work they have been doing all along and on how many occasions they have participated in the discussions of this Honourable House; and how, even in the absence of some of the hon. Ministers, they have not been able to answer some of the questions put or meet the arguments advanced by Members of this House in the course of the debate. From the extracts I have just now read to the House, it would be clear that the main object with which they are appointed is that they should have a real training in the art of administration by serving experienced administrators like our present hon. the Chief Minister so that they may become Ministers themselves at a future date. They are supposed to be the prospective Ministers or what may be called budding Ministers, Sir (Laughter.) But what do we find? They are not being given any such training at all and they are also being treated in a very cavalier fashion. I myself know of instances when the Secretaries were shabbily treated by the permanent Secretaries. The Secretary to the hon. the Chief Minister—it is busily rumoured—has been very shabbily treated by the head of a department, of which the hon. the first Minister is the Chief."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"When?"

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Very recently, within the past few days."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"What department please?"

[18th March 1931]

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I shall not pursue that further. The hon. the Chief Minister himself will be able to throw some light on that question. Now, Sir, if the Ministers think that the present set of Secretaries are not capable of being entrusted with the responsible work of preparing replies to questions or answering any points raised by Members of this House, then there is no use in retaining them at all. But I, for my part, would not subscribe to such a proposition as I happen to know personally all the three incumbents. One of them, Sir, is perhaps the foremost medical practitioner in Tanjore, and it is at considerable personal sacrifice that he has accepted the place of Council Secretary. Another is an ex-Judge of the Small Causes Court and latterly had a very wide practice in the City of Madras and he has also accepted the post at great personal sacrifice; and the same is the case, Sir, with regard to my friend Mr. Madanagopal Nayudu. So, I cannot subscribe to the proposition that they are incapable of being entrusted with responsible work. A second reason for not entrusting them with responsible work may perhaps be that the present Ministers think that they have got the energy and time enough to carry on the work of replying to questions and meeting the arguments, etc., in this House without the help of their Secretaries. In either case, there is no need for retaining these three Secretaries at the expense of about Rs. 18,000 per annum. I would therefore appeal to the hon. the Chief Minister to reconsider this question and abolish these posts of Council Secretaries. It is an insult to the intelligence of the Secretaries to say that they are not capable of being entrusted with responsible work.

"One suggestion I should like to make to the hon. the Chief Minister. If he may not find it possible to abolish all the three posts, he may be content with retaining one. He may retain his own Secretary, Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu, who is capable of doing the work of all the three Secretaries put together and I can testify to that fact. Therefore, Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding this motion."

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—"Sir, the question of having these Council Secretaries or not seems to be a question of party politics just at this moment; but I do not like to take a purely party view in a matter like this. We are having Council Secretaries here purely on the British model and my hon. Friends will find at the present moment how in England some of the Cabinet Ministers on account of over work are unable to be present, and how on such occasions it is absolutely necessary there should be trained men in Parliament or in the House to take their places. When a Minister is unable to be at his post in the Council, the Council cannot wait till that Minister returns and places the necessary material or the attitude of the Government before the House. Anyway, His Majesty's Government should be carried on within the four corners of the Council Chamber. It is for that purpose that the Council Secretary here is appointed on the British model, and I do not see any reason why when we are developing a full-blown democracy at no distant date, we should in one breath ask for greater

18th March 1931]

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

freedom and in the next breath lay the axe at the very root of it by saying that we do not want Council Secretaries. My hon. Friend, Mr. Pocker, said we are going very shortly to manage our own affairs, that our Ministers are very capable, and so there is no necessity for these Secretaries. If his suggestion to take away these Secretaries is to be accepted, I say that will be one step how we will mismanage our affairs in the coming democracy. If we want to manage our affairs efficiently and well, we should have able and well-trained Secretaries to assist the Ministers, fit to take the places of Ministers in answering interpellations and in many other respects and also to help the House with their knowledge of particular branches of administration. Therefore, absolutely no case has been made out for the abolition of the Secretaryships. It is not right to say that they are receiving any big salaries; the salary is very little when we take into account the responsibility they have to shoulder at times in discharging the duties allotted to them."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Will you give any instances of responsible work allotted to them?"

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—"I shall give instances. Of course, I join my friends on the Opposition benches in thinking that the present Ministers are very active and they are very careful. They are able to attend to their duties very carefully, and I certainly compliment the Members of the Opposition Benches on recognizing the merits of the present Ministers. But that is not sufficient. A time may come when some of the Ministers may feel fatigued or indisposed and when their places will have to be taken by competent men, with the necessary experience and training. I have therefore the honour to oppose the cut motion of my friend Mr. Pocker Sahib. There is absolutely no justification whatever for this cut, and I say it is a challenge to the coming democracy in this province. I hope, Sir, Mr. Pocker Sahib himself, a proud advocate of democracy will think twice before he presses this motion. (Mr. B. Pocker Sahib: I have thought many times over it.) It may be that the Justice Party is in power to-day; to-morrow it may be some other party, the United Nationalists Party or any other party. I may be on this side of the House now; but my friends may take it that I will always advocate the presence of Council Secretaries either from this side of the House or from the other side. This is not a question of party, but a question of principle. The very constitution itself lays down the dire necessity for an institution like the Council Secretaries. With these observations, Sir, I have very great pleasure in opposing this motion and in supporting the proposition that Council Secretaries are an absolute necessity and that they ought to be there. Though they may be doing no work to-day, there will be a necessity soon, and probably the functions which they will have to attend to in course of time will be so great, that we will be in a better position at a later stage to appreciate the advantages of having these Council Secretaries."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Mr. President, in opposing this motion, I must thank the hon. the Seconder of the motion for having cut the ground from under the feet of the proposer of the

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam] [18th March 1931]

motion. The proposer of the motion, the hon. the Muslim Member from Malabar, began by questioning the functions which these Council Secretaries were expected to fulfil, and the answer to it was given by the hon. the Seconder. He read out the duties assigned to these Secretaries by the rules, and in that way one of the points raised by the proposer was disposed of. The hon. the Seconder while pointing out the functions assigned by the rules to the Council Secretaries wanted to blame the Ministers on the score that they were not giving proper opportunities to the Secretaries for discharging their functions. If the hon. the Seconder has taken the trouble to read carefully the rule which prescribes the functions, he would have noticed that it reads as follows:

‘Similarly, in the case of Bills, Council Secretaries will be employed to work up points of discussion and to speak on behalf of the department, when desired by the Member or Minister to do so.’

(Mr. V. T. Arasu: I have read out the portion.) To work up points of discussion is a matter which, I am afraid, will not come within the knowledge of the Members of this Council or of the President. That is a matter which would be exclusively within the knowledge of the Ministers; and as for answering questions and replying to debates, they are expected to do so only when called upon to do so by the Ministers, and we cannot expect them as responsible Ministers, to shirk their own duties if and when they can themselves possibly discharge them without calling upon their Secretaries who are expected to reply to questions and debates only when the Ministers really find it physically impossible for themselves to be present here. And the hon. Seconder of the motion has not instanced any occasion when a Minister finding it physically impossible to be present and answer a debate did not delegate this function to his Council Secretary.

“Another surprising argument advanced by the hon. Member from Madras was that in the pre-Reform days, there were only three Members of the Executive Council, that the same work, as he put it, was being discharged by the present enlarged Cabinet of seven Members, and that therefore there was no need for these Council Secretaries. I must express my surprise, Sir, that a Nationalist, like him, a United Nationalist though he be, to-day should want us to go back to pre-Reform days. Does he want to have the same state of things to-day as obtained in the pre-Reform days with a bureaucratic Government wholly irresponsible to the Legislative Council, the Legislative Council itself being a very small body, absolutely unrepresentative of the people?

12.15 p.m. “Does he think that with this enlarged Legislative Council consisting of people who pride themselves on the fact that they are the representatives of the people and when occasion arises do not forget to remind the members of the Treasury Bench that they speak on behalf of the people, does he think that the work that has to be discharged by Members of Government to-day is the same as it was in the pre-Reform days or does he want us to go back to those days? Is that the result of all his boasted nationalism? I am afraid that his argument that the

18th March 1931] [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

work in the pre-Reform days was the same as the work that exists to-day, and that the work that was done by three Members of the Council could be equally well discharged by seven members without the aid of Council Secretaries is one which cannot hold water.

“Another matter which the proposer of the motion referred to, is one which I wish had not been mentioned at all. He suggested or stated that an impression might perhaps be created in the minds of the public that if they were to get round the Secretaries, it would be possible for them to get anything out of the Ministers. The insinuation underlying that statement is such that I would rather make no further reply than to say it would have been more in keeping with the dignity of the House if no hon. Member of this House had mentioned a point like this.

“As far as the necessity for retaining the Council Secretaryships is concerned, I would submit that it is the Ministers who are in the best position to judge whether they are in need of the Secretaries' services or not and if they feel that they don't need them, it will be time enough to vote for a motion of this sort. But inasmuch as they are there to-day with the approval of the Ministers, the necessary inference is that they feel the necessity for retaining them. The rules say that these Secretaries are to be their confidential Secretaries. Their position is not that of the Parliamentary Under Secretaries as stated but of Parliamentary Private Secretaries. If the Ministers feel that they are in need of these confidential Secretaries—Ministers who have got a lot of responsible duties to perform, Ministers whose position is certainly quite distinct from that of Executive Councillors who are not under the Statute responsible to this House—the responsibility of the Ministers is certainly great—if these Ministers feel that they are in need of the services of confidential Secretaries, I think it would not be proper for the Council to deny them that right and therefore it is that I do oppose this motion.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“Mr. President, Sir, the history of the appointment of the Council Secretaries ever since the inception of the reforms has not been satisfactory. I am even referring to the days when the hon. the Leader of the Opposition, my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, was the Secretary. Sir, it is true that the Act has provided for the appointment of Council Secretaries and when my hon. Friend, Mr. Pocker, questioned the existence of any duties allotted to the Council Secretaries, he was only making much of the fact that no duties as such were assigned to the Council Secretaries and not that he is unaware of the provisions of the Act. I believe, he has as much knowledge of the provisions of the Act as any Member on the opposite side claims to have, but the trouble is it has become necessary for the hon. Seconder of the cut motion and also for Mr. Pannirselvam to read from the pages of the Act the specific duties of Council Secretary. As a matter of fact, we are alive to the duties allotted to the Council Secretaries but the necessity for going into the pages of the Act was whether these duties are now exercised

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [18th March 1931]

by them at all. The question is whether they are allotted at all and whether these Council Secretaries really have work and whether they ever have done that work. Sir, I do not want to enter into personalities, but it is an obvious fact that a Secretary can be a Secretary to any Minister that sits there. Ministers may change but the Secretaries won't change. That is not really the spirit with which the Council Secretaries were provided for in the Act. They must have been regular members of that party and they should be trained in the art of the administration, as it is said, so that they may become a second line of defence, when other matters come up for discussion in this House. But, none of these things are being done at present by the Council Secretaries. The complaint is that if you want a really Parliamentary Government to develop in this country, it is necessary to train as many members of your party as possible in the art of administration, and in order that at least some members are not put to out of pocket expenses they must be employed as Council Secretaries. They must be given responsible work, not in order to overshadow the Minister himself but in order to assist Ministers. Sir, My Friend Mr. Pannirselvam has tried to draw a distinction between Parliamentary Secretary and Parliamentary Private Secretary. If there are Parliamentary Private Secretaries, they are unpaid. In so far as the Public Exchequer pays these Council Secretaries, we expect them to be responsible officers of the Government in order to assist the Ministers in the discharge of their duties.

"Then again, Sir, there is absolutely no insinuation made by my hon. Friend Mr. Pocker when he said that it might be possible for some zealous Secretaries with all the zeal of a new comer, to try to influence the Minister; that is only a warning that might be given to anybody. It has no reference to any particular person and I do not think that any one of the present Secretaries has taken it as a personal matter because, none of them is yet guilty of that kind of conduct. So there is no meaning in saying that Mr. Pocker meant any insinuation. Sir, I must say that so far as the present batch of Secretaries are concerned, they are showing signs of activity. I now see they are taking down notes when budget speeches are made, but how far those notes are made use of by the Ministers I am not able to say. I also see some portions of the Council Chamber at least are furnished. My hon. Friend Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu has been very active and he had the courtesy to show me the improvements he had made. So far as the physical needs of the Members are concerned, I am very thankful to him because I also shared the physical amenities he has provided by his consenting to give a lot of furniture to my party. I know the difficulties the Ministers have got to face in appointing Council Secretaries. I do not think they are doing it only with a view to incur public expenditure, but it is only in order to avoid the incessant and persistent claims of party men that they have to do it. I admit that it is a very delicate position. Even in the matter of selection of Secretaries there is the question of Kammas, Kapus, Mudaliyars, Nayudus

[18th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

and all those things. (A voice from the Ministerialists: But no Chetti—**Laughter**.) There is not a Chetti in that party. (**Laughter**.) All these things come in and I dare say, if the rumour is correct, there is already complaint that there are already two Nayudus as Council Secretaries (**laughter**) and that there is no provision for a Mudaliyar. What I want to point out to the House is that these Council Secretaries are not appointed with a view to assisting the Ministers in their administration but only to satisfy the clamour of party men. That ought not to be the policy to be pursued in making these appointments. As it is said we are anxious to develop Parliamentary institutions to the level of what is obtaining in other countries, it is desirable that the consideration of the Council Secretaries assisting the Ministers must weigh much more prominently than the claims which seemed to have played a part in the selection of these Council Secretaries.

"Apart from this, the main question to-day is one of retrenchment of expenditure. We are asking the executive side of the Government to reduce expenditure in all possible ways; we are asking that all supernumerary appointments should be abolished. With the best of the intentions and with as much generosity as possible, it cannot be said that the Council Secretaries are necessary or they can be dispensed with, but the question is whether during the stringent times we are passing through, the Ministers should not see their way to reduce expenditure. Moreover, with regard to travelling allowance—that is a sore point—it is no doubt true that the Ministers must have the benefit of seeing several parts of the Presidency but in such cases I would particularly request the hon. the Ministers, in view of the fact that travelling has got to be done by the Ministers and Secretaries, to see that the secretaries might go in one direction and the Ministers in another direction, so that the work that can be done by one man need not be duplicated by two men. By this means we may have the benefit of the experience gained by the Secretaries.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Pannirselvam again attacked my Friend, Mr. Pocker, about the criticism that the work that was done by three persons is now being done by seven persons. I am afraid that my friend has been thoroughly misunderstood in regard to that matter. I do not believe the question of democracy or popular Government comes in in the matter of increasing the number. What Mr. Pocker pointed out was that the work done by three persons before is now done by seven persons. That does not mean he is against responsible Government being established. What he said was, and Mr. Pannirselvam himself will agree, that the work itself has not increased in volume (Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam—Yes, it has increased). No, the work is there. What was done by three persons before is now being done by seven persons. That is the nature of criticism that my hon. Friend Mr. Pocker has made.

"As I said, this is an old history and I do not think any criticism either from this side of this House or from that side is going to put an

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [18th March 1931]

end to this. There is no use denying the fact that some of these gentlemen who are appointed Secretaries cannot claim that experience which really Parliamentary Secretaries in other countries would be entitled to claim."

12-30
p.m.

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Sir, the point which I would like to draw special attention to is as regards the action of the Ministers in the choice of their Secretaries. There was a time nearly a year and a half back when there were no Council Secretaries at all, and the work did not stand still, but it was carried on in the same way as when there were Secretaries, if not better. The question I wish to ask the hon. the Ministers is what is the example that they have set for themselves or for others. The object in choosing Ministers to whichever party they may belong, is that they should enjoy the confidence of the House and on the answers that they give depends so much the conduct of the whole Council. It does not matter to whatever party they may belong. I hope the Ministers will set a good example in the choice of their Secretaries and see carefully whether those Secretaries do really discharge the duties that are entrusted to them. They must put their profession into action and there must be no difference between the two. Otherwise it will become annoying, if not very unpleasant. It is to avoid all these things that the Ministers should be careful in the choice of their Secretaries, and if they do so, then all credit is due to them. If the House gets good assistance from Council Secretaries of the right type, then all honour to them. If the Ministers do not translate their professions into action in the appointment of Secretaries, it will create a feeling of discontent and just resentment and we have a right to protest against our being treated like pawns in a game of chess. We hope the hon. the Chief Minister will explain to us the nature of the good work done by the Secretaries and if he is really able to convince this House of the good work done by them, we have no grievance. I hope he will respect the feeling of hon. Members in this House."

* Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I believe arguments have been put forward from both sides of the House both on behalf of the proposition as well as against the proposition. The position seems to be like this: that the posts of the Council Secretaries were created originally only to last for some time, and that they should be abolished when no need for them was felt. And now there is the financial stringency; Members from the other side of the House ask, 'why should they be appointed? They need not have been appointed.' Another argument put forward against the proposition is that if Council Secretaries are to be appointed, certain duties ought to be allotted to them. And in addition to this it is urged that if the Ministers are anxious to see the expenditure of the province reduced it is up to them to abolish the posts of Council Secretaries since they are not doing any functions at present.

"So far as I am concerned I have not been in the Council before. This is the first time I have entered the Council. But from the pro-

18th March 1931] [Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar]

ceedings of the Council I find that there have been Council Secretaries ever since the inception of the Reforms. There were Council Secretaries in the first Council, there were Council Secretaries in the second Council, there were Council Secretaries in the third Council, and now there are Council Secretaries. I think the tendency is to look upon it as a legacy and if it is considered as a good legacy by all means we can continue to have it; but if we are to consider it as a bad legacy, then it is time we abolish the posts. Now there is a proposal to have a retrenchment committee to go into the question of the reduction of expenditure in the province; I think hon. Members on the other side can await the findings of that committee. Further I think the House will be glad to hear from the hon. Minister when he replies that certain functions have been allotted to these Council Secretaries so that they may be trained in the policy both inside the Council as well as outside it. I hope this will satisfy them."

* Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, as was observed, this is an old question, whether the posts of Council Secretaries are to be continued or not. Now in view of the need for retrenchment it is urged that these posts should be abolished. But I may point out that in spite of the cry for retrenchment this office has gone on for the last nine years. So far as Council Secretaries are concerned, I am sure hon. Members are aware that they are there not from a purely party point of view, but that they are appointed more with a view to give non-official members a chance of getting into touch with the administration of the country and of getting into touch with the Parliamentary system of Government. [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: Is that generally done? (Laughter)] That is the spirit in which these posts were originally created. And if my friend asks me whether it is being observed, I can only answer so far as the present Ministry is concerned. If in the past it was not carried out, perhaps Members did not realize their duty; and if my friends opposite want to know the reason, let them ask the Leader of the Opposition about it. As regards the present Council Secretaries, during the last two months they have done their work splendidly well. (Hear, hear.) It may be that hon. Members opposite may not see eye to eye with me on the particular men appointed. Perhaps their time will also come when they will have to take up office and to appoint their party men as Council Secretaries and entrust to them the work legitimately due to them. Sir, their duties have been laid down by His Excellency, and it is in view of those duties and on our advice that Council Secretaries have been appointed. Sir they have been attending the Council for the last ten days, after the last January session, and they have been assisting us in answering questions and it may be, a time may come when we may have to be absent from the House, and on such an occasion, the Secretaries will be on their legs and be able to answer questions and conduct the debate on our behalf. I may assure the House that every opportunity is being availed of to train them in this, and we shall also train them in the light of criticism now advanced.

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [18th March 1931]

"I don't want to say more on this, except one point. I am one who believes in the constitution and one who believes in the working of this constitution. I think the institution of Council Secretaries has been conceived in the best interest of Parliamentary institutions. Therefore we are not justified in looking at it from a purely retrenchment point of view. If you feel that the Ministers are not doing their work properly, by all means vote down their salary or send them out of office. But as regards the Council Secretaries. . ."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know what is the nature of their work?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I refuse to answer that question. The nature of their duties is laid down in the rules and if my friend wants to know whether they look into this file or that file and such sort of private work, I only say to him it is not proper to ask such questions. We should only take into account the general effect of their work."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the allotment of Rs. 2,40,000 for Ministers be reduced by Rs. 50,000. If I move to reduce the salary of the Ministers by Rs. 1,000 per month each, I do so not as a party motion to censure the work of the Ministry during the months they have now been in office, but I do so in order to find out from the Ministers whether they have realized the financial position not only of this province, but also of the country as a whole and whether it is not necessary that they should come forward voluntarily with a motion to cut down their salary at least by Rs. 1,000 each. They have very illustrious examples in other provinces; for instance, there is the Central Provinces, where the Ministers who were receiving more than Rs. 4,000 have agreed to draw henceforth only Rs. 2,500 each. And then there is the illustrious example of Nawab of Chatari. When he was the Minister in the United Provinces, he voluntarily agreed to reduce his salary by Rs. 1,000. These are all illustrations to show, Sir, the direction in which the mentality of the responsible Ministers in the various provinces works. They have recognized the financial condition of the country; they have recognized that it is not good that they should draw such a high salary at such a time of financial stringency as the present one, and therefore they have set an example to their own countrymen who occupy high offices in the province by showing to them that they themselves are first prepared to receive a lesser salary than they are at present receiving.

"Sir, then comes the question of the enlargement of the Treasury Benches. This point was raised in the former motion, and it was pointed out that there were first three Members in the Executive Council; then it became four, and now we have seven Members. And they are now doing the same work, that was originally done by three Members, in spite of the contention of Mr. Pannirselvam, except perhaps that they have now to attend Council meetings and prepare answers to questions. Perhaps this is the only additional work they have to do

[18th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

in the administration of the departments. Besides, the departments under their control are also the same, except for the fact that the expenditure has increased by 5 lakhs, ever since the Reforms were inaugurated. We know, Sir, the financial condition of our province. We know what is the earning capacity of an average Indian. The other day, Sir, an hon. Member made mention of the fact that it is not more than Rs. 72 annually. And my friend, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, tells me that this is the opinion of an able expert European financier. Such being the case, is it not necessary that these hon. Gentlemen, who are also anxious to see democracy established soon and that more representation is given to the people, should realize first that it is their duty to come forward voluntarily for a reduction in their salary? Sir, I have proposed only a very very small reduction; and I have no doubt that the hon. Ministers will certainly be able to go on in office with Rs. 3,000 a month.

"But, Sir, it is pointed out that according to the Lee Commission, Civilian officers who are Secretaries to these Ministers will be drawing a higher salary. I don't think it is more than Rs. 3,000 in any case. Even supposing they get a higher salary, I ask why should they compare their salary with that of their Secretaries. They are people with greater power, they are placed in the office of Ministers and it is certainly an invidious comparison, if their salary is to be compared with that of their Secretaries. Therefore I submit that the question of salary should not stand in the way of accepting this reduction.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the main motion itself, as I said, they ought to set an example to other officers placed in an equally high position. In the coming democracy it will be necessary to reduce expenditure in view of the heavy burden of taxation that is already prevailing in the country. And if our income is accordingly reduced, it will be necessary for us also to reduce the salaries. Sir, Member after Member on this side of the House or on that side of the House in dealing with the Budget when it was presented by the hon. the Finance Member came forward one after another most emphatically with retrenchment proposals. I ask them whether they should not begin at home, and whether they should not advise their own Ministers to reduce their salaries and set an example to others so that they may also be willing to accept any reduction in their salaries. Sir, that is the way in which the Ministers can set an example not only to their own departments but to all other people. Apart from the officials who are receiving high salaries, it will certainly be improper for us to ask the other members in the service of the Government to receive less salaries than they are now receiving. If even responsible Ministers do not come forward to set an example in a matter of this character, we cannot expect others to do so. These are all the considerations that impelled me to bring forward this motion. It is only as a measure of retrenchment and in order to enable the hon. the Ministers to set an example to the other officers that I have brought this motion. I know that the hon. the Chief Minister leads a very simple life and he as an individual gentleman I have no doubt will very willingly agree; because he is not there

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [18th March 1931]

for the salary, but he is there to see how far and how much he can do to help his country, his province, in its advance; that is the object for which he accepted the Chief Ministership. It is not the salary that has attracted him to that place. Besides, Sir, the high salaries that have been fixed for these Ministers are responsible to a very large extent for the amount of trouble that we have in the formation of Ministries also. I know, and the hon. the Chief Minister knows much more than any one on this side of the House, the trouble that he had in forming the Ministry himself, how many applicants there were from his own party for the Ministerships. If the salary is reduced, I am sure, Sir, that his trouble will be reduced at least to that extent. Sir, these are all the considerations which have impelled me to bring this motion before this House and I would appeal to the hon. the Chief Minister and other Ministers to accept this motion; and I will not force them or make it necessary for them to accept it if they do not want it. I do not threaten the hon. the Chief Minister or the other Ministers or the Members of the party in power that I am going to press this motion; nor does this party make this motion a party motion or press it. But I would submit, Sir, it would be graceful on the part of the Ministers if they come forward and accept this motion and agree to a reduction of Rs. 1,000 per mensem in their salaries."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Sir, I think the scales of pay obtaining in India are very high. Especially it is so, Sir, considering the standard of living in this country and other countries. Even in countries like Great Britain, Australia and Canada, the scale of pay is not as high as it is here, and yet their standard of living is far higher. No doubt, the hon. Ministers may say 'While the Executive Council Members are already getting a far higher amount—at present they are getting about Rs. 5,000—, we are getting only about Rs. 4,000. Why should you ask us to voluntarily give up a further amount?' That is true, Sir, but we can only appeal to them as responsible Ministers. The others are somewhat irresponsible, whereas you are the representatives of the people, and also you represent the non-official Members of this House. Therefore, Sir, we can only appeal to you. Sir, when a similar motion was brought on the floor of this House, the trusted leader of the hon. the Chief Minister—I am referring to the late Raja of Panagal who was the Chief Minister—the Raja of Panagal agreed to give up a thousand rupees. And I am sure, Sir, that his trusted lieutenant and the present Chief Minister may also think seriously about the matter and see whether it would not be possible to reduce the salary at least by a thousand rupees a month. We are not asking for any very drastic reduction. Even in the case of the Central Provinces, Sir, as has been observed by my hon. Friend the Mover, the Ministers have agreed to forego nearly 50 per cent of their salaries—I think they had been receiving about Rs. 4,000, and they have now agreed to receive about Rs. 2,000. Therefore, I do not think it will be too much to expect the Ministry to forego a thousand rupees per month. I no doubt realize that there are many demands on their purse, when they occupy such a high position, but still they have to sacrifice a little and set an example to the Reserved Half. Such a

[18th March 1931] [Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar]

sacrifice may lead to sacrifices from other Members. The Indian Members of the Executive Council may follow suit. The European Members of the Executive Council may or may not follow; but we do not mind. I would only appeal to the hon. Ministers to set an example at this time when we are passing through acute economic depression. Sir, in these days of depression, if any person is not affected, I should say it is the highly paid official. All other persons following other professions are affected. The high officials are not at all affected; on the other hand, they stand to gain as the prices of foodstuffs have gone down considerably. Therefore, Sir, will we not be justified in asking the hon. the Ministers to forego at least a sum of Rs. 1,000 as long as this depression continues? If the depression ceases and the times change, probably they may go back to their old scale of pay. Sir, we have no intention of pressing this motion but only request the hon. the Ministers to see whether they cannot reduce their salaries by a thousand rupees voluntarily."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, this is another kind of matter which has been discussed in this Council for the last ten years. An appeal has been made, Sir, to the Ministers by saying that, though there was no intention to press it, we, Ministers, should voluntarily forego a portion of our salaries. Appeals are again made, Sir, that having regard to the present state of finances, the salary that is now being drawn is rather high; and more than once it has been urged that it is absolutely necessary for any sincere political worker who takes up the responsibility of office to accept a reduction in salary. All that I would say is this, Sir, that when the Reforms were on the anvil, and when Indian Members were consulted as to the status and privileges of Ministers, pay was one of those things which were put forward as necessary to keep up the equilibrium and prestige as between the two sections of the Government. Secondly, Sir, the Raja of Panagal in the previous Ministry, the first Ministry, had himself foregone Rs. 1,000 a month, and set an example in sacrifice. But we have to consider the question as to whether there should be a further reduction and as to whether in the new autonomous province the salaries should be still further reduced, or they should be put at a lower figure. These are the questions, which I would submit, ought to be dealt with no doubt in regard to the Constitution, but I am afraid the individuals composing the present Ministry cannot say anything about it. But so far as the position of my party is concerned, I may say that we have always held that for the office of a Minister which is the highest office occupied by a non-official in the province, the salary that is now paid is not too much. We have said so and we have been working on that principle. When, Sir, in the first Ministry, an objection was taken to the then existing salaries of Ministers, hon. Members who are now occupying the Opposition said that Rs. 3,000 was a decent salary for the Ministers. I raised that very question when they were on this side of the House, and asked them to say what they felt about the matter, as they came to office. I asked the last Ministry, consisting of my hon.

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [18th March 1931]

Friends Dr. Subbarayan, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, to make a statement as to reduction in their pay, whether, as they came to that position, they would take anything less than the former salary. The answer was 'No'; and it was said by the hon. Dr. Subbarayan then that if there should be any reduction of salary, it should be at their own instance, and that they should be left to do it of their own accord, and if they found that the matter was in any way forced upon them, they would take it as a vote of censure. My Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, who has moved this motion was one of the Swarajists then. He, apart from other considerations, was enthusiastically anxious about the salaries being reduced, and yet it behoved their party then to abide by the announcement made by Dr. Subbarayan that it should be left to him to reduce the salaries or not. Four years had passed, and we found they had not reduced the salaries at all. And now, Sir, from the party led by Dr. Subbarayan, Mr. Hameed Khan has moved this cut. I do not know, Sir, what the policy is, whether they agree with their leader in what he did during the four years he was in office, or whether they know what Dr. Subbarayan said then; and if so, why they advise another policy now. I submit, Sir, that in trying to come before this Council with this motion, with all the camouflage behind it, there is something which it is difficult to understand. I earnestly appeal to the House, Sir, that this matter should not be left to the individual whims or fancies of Ministers but should be decided on a definite principle permanently. A suggestion was made in the Reforms Enquiry Committee Report that instead of this question being, in season and out of season, made the subject of discussion on the floor of this House, there should be something like a Statute under which the salaries of Ministers should be fixed on a permanent basis. If the House should take up that question and try to decide it irrespective of the question who is in office or not and who is to get the salary, I should be quite willing to consider it, and it would be worthwhile doing it. But so far as this motion is concerned, I refuse to take the advice given by the Mover, whatever my profession and whatever my practice. . ."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I am not questioning your practice or any such thing."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am glad you do not question it, and I withdraw it, if you do not. But so far as this question is concerned, I would only repeat what Dr. Subbarayan said, and that is: 'with regard to the reduction of salaries, if any move of that kind ought to come, it ought to come from the Ministers themselves.' I would also repeat what I said on the floor of this House on that occasion; this is what I said:—

'The motion is for a substantial cut in the salary. So far as I am concerned and my party is concerned, we do not really think that the salary which is now fixed to the Ministers should not be given to them or that they are not entitled to get that amount. I am moving this for this purpose, namely, to express the opinion of this Council as to whether, in view of the former statements made by my hon. Friends on the Treasury Bench and also by this side of the House, the salary now claimed by the present Ministry and taken by the past Ministry is or is not a proper salary.'

[18th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

"Now, Sir, I would leave it to the House to say whether, in view of these statements, any reduction in the salary can now be justified by the party led by Dr. Subbarayan."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I am really surprised that the hon. the Chief Minister should have made the speech he has made. Well, Sir, it is rather difficult to understand what he really means by his speech. He has been always saying that the country is a poor one, that the ryots are poor, their needs are not attended to and that we have been paying our officers very high. So far as these matters are concerned, I am sure he has always been agreeing with me that there should be a limit fixed to the high salaries in a country like ours. It may be that with regard to the figure that is to be fixed we may not agree. I have always been saying in this Council that Rs. 3,000 is about the highest figure that we can fix for any office in the Presidency including that of the Ministers. Well, Sir, they may or may not agree with that, but I thought that so far as the principle that the present rate of salaries are rather high was concerned, he was at one with me. But what was he saying? He says that the Ministers are worth the amount. Nobody ever denied that a gentleman of the position and character and attainments of Mr. Muniswami Nayudu is worthy of Rs. 4,333-5-4 a month; indeed he is worth more. Nobody questions that. But the point is whether we, living in a poor country like India, can afford to pay the present salaries at the level at which they are. It has been the opinion of every public man here in India 1 p.m. that the salaries ought to be cut down. The salaries are as high as they are because we are under a foreign Government and the foreign Government has been increasing the rates of pay without any regard whatsoever to the conditions either in India or elsewhere or the requirements of the situation. It has been pointed out that even in richer countries the scale of pay given to the officers and administration and public men who occupy places like Ministers is not as high as in India. My learned Friend said that even in the Reforms Enquiry it has been admitted that there should be some relationship between what is paid to the Minister and the Executive Council Members. I suppose he means thereby that they should be paid the same. Well, Sir, this was exactly the argument advanced during the first two years of the reformed Council. I believe I was one of those who gave a cut motion for reducing the salaries all round. Then, Sir, luckily there was in your place a gentleman who knew the situation in the country and he thought, Sir, that he ought to take the lead and he voluntarily came to the House and announced that he would reduce his pay by a thousand rupees a month. So the Chief Minister was forced to forego his pay by a thousand rupees a month as also his Colleagues. That was the position as matters stood then. Once it is admitted that there is no necessity to keep the same level of pay for the two sets of officers, Executive Councillors and Ministers, if there is some disparity, I do not see why there should be any objection now to reduce the salary of Ministers as it is the same argument that would hold good. When

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [18th March 1931]

there is already a difference, when one set is getting Rs. 5,333 and the other set is getting Rs. 4,333 I submit that it does not lie with the Minister to advance the argument that he should remain where he is. There is absolutely no reason why it should not be lowered still. Again, Sir, we are here thinking of retrenchment in all directions and we are going to hold an enquiry into the matter. Only yesterday it was agreed to convert the Finance Committee into a Retrenchment Committee and have the present scales of pay re-examined. I put it to the Ministers now, Sir, how will they look if we are going to tell the officers, 'We are going to reduce the present scale of your salaries but we are not going to reduce the Ministers' salaries which will remain at Rs. 4,333.' Is that the sort of lead that you are going to give to the committee when it sits? I beg to submit, Sir, that the Ministers should look at the matter from that standpoint. There is the first standpoint of the level of the salaries here. That is a general question about which every public man has had his say. Then, there is the question of the capacity of the Provinces to maintain the officers at this rate. Thirdly, there is the question of giving the proper lead to the Committee on Retrenchment. I think these are matters which the hon. Ministers will think of. Then there is the question of Reforms. I am not one of those who think that the number of persons in charge of the administration should be reduced. I am not one of those who think that the administration should be confined in the hands of a few people. Democracy should be based very wide not only in the electorate but also in the number of people who take part in the administration. I would like that the number of Ministers is tripled or quadrupled because in that case we will have a large number of people taking interest in the administration and having a voice in the settlement of policies. There should be a large number of people studying questions. If that is to be the case and if you are to have a large number of Ministers, then there is the question of salary and there will be difficulty. These are not offices which are held for purposes of salary. Politicians come there not for the purpose of salary that they are going to get for the time they are there. It is for higher purposes and for larger interests that they are there. Being there I think it is their duty with reference to matters like salary not to consider merely the figure but to consider what is necessary for their expenditure. I know that this House will think that they should make no sacrifice when they are in office. They ought to be paid enough for keeping their position. But what is the amount necessary for keeping up the position of the Ministers of Government? That is a question on which there will be a difference of opinion. I think Rs. 3,000 is necessary for keeping the officers of Government in first rate condition of living in decency and also enabling them to incur all sorts of expenditure which they should legitimately incur on account of the position they hold. That is a matter which they have to consider and fix the pay accordingly. So for all these reasons it seems to me it is high time, especially when new Reforms are coming, to have an understanding and give effect to it. To say that we should

18th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

wait because the Reforms are coming and that the Reformed Government will take care of itself is not the proper attitude. Then a complete gap will exist between the present Government and the new Government. Things should be settled by adjustment and it is only then that things will improve. That being the case, I beg to submit that this is the time when the matter should be considered and we should come to an understanding as regards the pay the province can afford. Even though the Mover said that this is not a party matter and even though it was said openly, the Chief Minister said that there was something behind this motion. He believed it was not a motion for retrenchment. I would now make the thing clear by making an offer to the Chief Minister. If he would consider the matter later on—and I do not want a promise that he is going to reduce it now—if he will say that he will consider all the arguments and decide what he thinks proper in the circumstances, I am prepared to have the motion withdrawn. I may say, Sir, that if he would accept the offer and say that he would consider further, I will ask the Mover to withdraw."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I am surprised that a gentleman of the position, reputation and status in public life of the hon. Member from Coimbatore should make a statement placing the permanent officials and the Ministers on the same level. He said that the hon. the Chief Minister had always been at one with him in thinking that the scale of pay to the Government officers in our Province was high. That might be or might not be so. I have expressed an opinion already and it is not relevant to express any view on the matter at this juncture. My point is that that is not the right way of looking at things to compare the position of a Minister with a permanent servant of the Government. The position of a Minister is on a different level altogether. Ministries are manned by people who have to give up their previous occupations, who have to turn to a new mode of life altogether, cut themselves away, most of them, from their previous professions, shift from their native places on to Madras and live a standard of life which will be in keeping with the dignity and position of the highest office which this House can give to any Member of this House. Mr. Hameed Khan referred to the simple life led by the hon. the Chief Minister. He might be simple but the office that he holds compels him to live up to a certain standard. I am not here to enlighten my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, on points which are obvious and patent to any Member of the House if he will look at things with an unprejudiced view. Further the moment a gentleman occupies the distinguished post of a Minister, the general impression is that all objects good, bad and indifferent have a claim on his purse. Further you have to take into account that unlike the permanent officers of the Government their tenure is only for a short period and when this period is over they have to go back to their original professions beginning practically afresh and having forgotten their previous experience, and pick up the threads once again. It is in view of all these circumstances that as the Chief Minister said, the party has always been of opinion that a salary of Rs. 4,333 is by no means too high for the post of a Minister."

[18th March 1931]

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"It is not clear whether Mr. Pannirselvam has really supported the position of privilege and service to the nation appertaining to Ministers or whether he is not introducing an element of calculation in it. How many have sought the honour or expected to seek the honour of sitting on these Benches and serving the country without some little sacrifice in however humble a way? There were illustrious predecessors of some of the Executive Councillors—I do not wish to mention their names—who while getting tens of thousands outside have thrown up their income and accepted a salary which compared with the emoluments they earned was very poor. It is because they intended to lead the opinion and serve the country. It is in that spirit and for that purpose we wanted to place the honour and position of the Minister far higher than the sordid calculations of rupees annas and pies would lead us to. From that point of view Mr. Pannirselvam's advocacy for a salary of Rs. 4,000 has added little to the arguments if any against the cut motion. I desire and I expect the Ministry to consider the question thus in the way of setting an example in aid of the coming enquiry towards retrenchment.

1-15 p.m. "There is absolutely nothing behind the motion either by way of censure or anything else. What Dr. Subbarayan said in those days or what another Ministry did still earlier is not the criterion. Now, we have reached a stage in which the position of the Ministers has been well established. It is not by a comparison of salaries between the Reserved half and the Transferred half that we seek to measure the privileges and the possibilities for doing good to the country. No doubt, for some years past, there was a difference in salary between the two halves. I do not believe the Ministers have fallen in the estimation of the people. They will surely rise in the estimation of the people if they set an example, and I hope they will do it."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, I myself am in rather a delicate position, because, as the hon. the Chief Minister pointed out, I sat there for four solemn years, and during those four solemn years I received a salary which is the same as that of the present Ministers, and it will come with ill-grace from me if I were to say that there should be a reduction in the salary of Ministers. I am not going to say anything on that point. But I want to correct a misapprehension. I believe the hon. the Chief Minister speaking on the reduction of salaries referred also to my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar (who is not here now) having received the same salary. I confess to the hon. the Chief Minister that I never pressed the question of reduction of salary nor agreed to any reduction and I do not propose to do it even now. But, what I want to point out to the hon. the Chief Minister is that the time has come when people will demand reduction of salaries. People are beginning to think that gentlemen holding high positions in this country are getting economically much more than what they would be getting in other free countries. So I would like to press upon the hon. Chief Minister's attention that he should agree to the appointment of a committee for the reduction of salaries and not say

18th March 1931]

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

now that he is following the example of the past Ministers. So, it might be agreed that there should be a reduction in the salary for a Minister who occupies that position in days to come."

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is with very great pleasure that I heard the remarks of my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan. I think he has put the question on a ground which is absolutely unassailable. I believe, as he says, the times are coming when the question of the salaries and emoluments of the Ministers in this country, and especially in this Province, would demand a careful scrutiny so as to satisfy public opinion. But in stating this position, I should not be understood to subscribe to the various remarks that have been made by hon. Members on the Opposition Benches. I believe the position of a Minister in our Province is a position of high dignity and responsibility. Whatever emoluments and salaries have been allowed to the Ministers so far should be continued till a careful and impartial scrutiny of the whole matter is made and a satisfactory arrangement is arrived at. I believe it is not generous or fair on the part of individual Members of this House to say, 'thus far will be enough, no further will be allowed'. I believe we can only put it on this ground, namely, that if the whole matter is reviewed by a public committee which will take into consideration the future changes in the constitution that are going to be made and which will also take into consideration retrenchment in other spheres of Governmental administration, and certain figures arrived at which will be considered to be a satisfactory scale for the Ministers as well as for other Governmental officers, I would be most eager to welcome such a committee and such a scrutiny and enquiry."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am extremely sorry that the hon. the Chief Minister in his reply should so transform himself into a different person from what he really is, in making statements which rather come with difficulty from his mouth, and yet he remembers that it is the Chief Minister and not the plain and simple Mr. Muniswami Nayudu that is speaking. Sir, I made it very clear and made it very plain and went out of my way to make it clear, that it was not a censure motion, but that it was a suggestion to the hon. Ministers of this Government to make a reduction in their salaries voluntarily, taking into consideration the finances of the Province, taking into consideration the examples set by other Ministers in other provinces, and taking into consideration that it was not a question of emoluments for which they have come and occupied those offices but it is only for the opportunity to serve their countrymen that they are there. The hon. the Chief Minister referred to the fact of his party having come to a decision that the salary that they were receiving now was an amount that was not considered to be too high. May I remind the hon. the Chief Minister that one of the late Chief Ministers, the late Raja of Panagal, and Mr. A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar when giving evidence before the Joint Parliamentary Committee very clearly said that they were not asking for the transfer of more subjects to responsible Ministers for the sake of any emoluments but they were asking for that

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [18th March 1931]

transfer for the sake of affording them an opportunity for making it possible for them to serve their countrymen? They also said that those offices did not require salaries. May I remind the hon. the Chief Minister, if he has any time to look into that evidence that his Leader has given before the Joint Parliamentary Committee, that he will find that even against one of our own countrymen—I suppose it is Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar who thought that the Ministers should get the same salary as the Executive Councillors—it was his Leader the late Raja of Panagal who said that they were working there not for the sake of the remuneration or the salary but for higher considerations. Now, the hon. the Chief Minister comes forward with the plea that his party has come to the conclusion that the salary they are receiving is not in any case high. I am sorry that he should come forward with such an argument in support of his position. Sir, I do not know why my hon. Friend tried to throw the blame on me for making this motion sitting as I do with Dr. Subbarayan, and for joining his party. But I do not want to go into that question now. I can also twit my hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu in the same fashion, but I do not want to take that position, Sir, because it is not good that we should have this kind of recriminations in this House. But, Sir, how does this argument that I am sitting with Dr. Subbarayan make it possible for the hon. the Chief Minister to get the same salary as he does even now? I fail to understand the argument that, if Dr. Subbarayan when he was the Chief Minister stuck to that salary and did not agree to a reduction of the salary, he should also receive the same salary, as Dr. P. Subbarayan was receiving. Sir, Dr. Subbarayan lives in a particular fashion and his expenditure was on a particular scale. But are we comparing the expenditure of the various occupants of the Ministerial places? Are we going to see that it is necessary that the Chief Minister should live in a particular style? Sir, if to-morrow my hon. Friends vacate their seats and enable us to go there, you will see that Dr. Subbarayan and the other Ministers will be glad to receive only Rs. 3,000 and not more (laughter). Why don't you do so? We want the hon. Chief Minister to come forward and do so. I find, Sir, he is likely to agree to a committee to go into the question of salaries. (Voices: Oh!) I understand he has agreed to it. But whether he goes back upon it or not, that is another question. Further, Sir, I am extremely sorry that the hon. the Chief Minister did not take this question in the light in which I moved it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does the hon. Member press his motion?"

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"No, Sir. I withdraw it."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,99,600 for Civil Secretariats be reduced by Rs. 100.'

18th March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

"My object is to raise the question of the provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. The hon. the Chief Minister is one of the prominent members of the party that was responsible for bringing forward the Religious Endowments Bill and putting it on the Statute Book. He knows that the Board is now very much hampered in its work on account of financial difficulties. It has to come again and again to the Government and ask for loans, which it is not able to repay. The levy of a contribution from the temples is also very much resented by the people, and if the Board is able to do away with these contributions, its administration will become really very popular. The question of the provincialization of the Endowments Board has been again and again raised in this House, and the advantages of provincialization have been pointed out by the Endowments Board in its reports year after year. If the Board is relieved of the work of collecting contributions from the temples, it will be able to devote fuller attention to its legitimate work of administering the Hindu religious endowments, and by the removal of its present financial embarrassments the Board will command greater prestige in the eyes of the public and the trustees of temples. The Board's staff will have a sense of security which it has not now, and the chances of co-operation with it of the different Government departments like the Revenue department and the Registration department would be much greater, and it will help the Board in all branches of its work. I therefore appeal to the hon. the Chief Minister to take advantage of the position which he is now occupying and press upon the Government this question of the provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board."

At this stage the House adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Mr. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Sir, I want the hon. Minister to pay his very best attention to this subject. I remember, Sir, that in establishing this Board, the hon. Minister played a very important role. In the teeth of opposition and against great odds, he with his late lamented leader fought shoulder to shoulder and placed this useful piece of legislation on the Statute Book. Having done that, is he now going to allow this institution to languish for want of funds and proper and sympathetic care? Nobody knows better than the Minister himself about the state of the finances of the Board. I hear that the Commissioners of the Board have not received their salaries for the last two months. Is he going to allow this state of affairs to continue? Sir, you must have this institution going properly or you must scrap it. The latter course is now out of the question because, even those who opposed it in the beginning, now think differently and have recognized the necessity for this institution. Therefore, Sir, there is no going back upon this. We have to make it work more efficiently with little finance. I am glad that the hon. Minister proposes to introduce an amending bill although it deals only with the recovery of contributions from the temples. Sir, the very idea of a contribution is

[Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar] [18th March 1931]

not popular in the mufassal, because having been long accustomed to pay no contribution at all they dislike the idea of being worried by inspectors and other officers of the Board for the payment of contributions. Therefore it is necessary in the interests of the proper administration of the Board and of the smooth working of the Act that we should find other means for financing the Board. I do not see any reason why the State should not come in for helping the Board. Sir, in the case of the English Church I understand that the Government of India contribute large sums of money. Here, in this case, when the Hindus contribute the bulk of the revenues, why should not a small portion of that revenue be set apart for this Board? Probably the hon. the Finance Member might plead lack of funds this year. But that should not be a valid reason, because money is being found for other purposes and for supernumerary and unnecessary establishments. It is admitted that this institution is a very useful one and therefore I request the hon. Minister to use all his influence and with the might of his party induce the hon. the Finance Member to yield to some extent. Though it may not be possible this year to contribute the entire amount for placing the establishment of the Board on a provincial basis, let him at least get a subsidy of a lakh or a lakh and a half to keep this institution going. If he does this, he will be doing a great service to the country at large."

* Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, the question of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board has been discussed time and again on the floor of this House. Some members held the idea that the Board should be abolished while others maintained that it should go on functioning. This Board came into existence by the statesmanlike step taken by the late Raja of Panagal. I know that there was considerable opposition to the passage of his Bill creating this Board and it was that opposition which was to a certain extent responsible for very nearly defeating him in the elections to the Third Council. I do not think he was sorry for it at all. When the amending Bill came up before the House, there was a lot of opposition. But to-day, I may say, that if a referendum is taken on this question there will be a great majority in favour of the retention of this Board. As one who knows the condition in which the temples and mutts are existing in the south especially, I may say that an administrative machinery like the Board is very necessary to control them. For this purpose, the Board should be very vigilant which it is not to-day. It has become a mere post office between the Minister and the parties concerned. As the Board's authority is not final, they are sending up every bit of paper to the hon. Minister. I wish the Board is given powers to deal with at least ordinary questions. Now, if the Board is to function properly, it must be placed on a sound financial footing. Otherwise it would not function properly. I will give the House a glimpse of the present financial position of the Board. There are about five members including the President. I was told some time back that although it was about the 10th of the next month, the Commissioners could not get their salaries for the previous month. If this sort of thing

[18th March 1931] [Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar]

continues how can you expect the work to be got through satisfactorily? They are not collecting properly the contributions from the temples and mutts, as they are unable to do so, owing, to some extent, to the numerous exemptions granted by the previous Ministry. The fault is not of the present Minister because he has been in office only for six months. I will take another opportunity to speak about the policy of the present Minister. Sir, I am glad now to say that he has got a Bill for making the collection of dues easier. I hope when it is introduced in the Council it will be passed without any opposition. Sir, even if we make the collection easier, the success of the administration of the Board cannot be assured unless we place the Commissioners on a permanent footing. I see that most of the Commissioners are lawyers and if their posts are provincialized there is the possibility in future of sub-judges and others being regularly posted to this Board. These five or six persons should constitute a *regular* court with power to dispose of cases as they would in a court of law. They are not the final authority now. I would be very glad if the Board is given power to decide on questions of law, questions of policy alone being left to the Minister. I would urge upon the Minister to bring in a Bill to provincialize the appointments of these Commissioners in the near future and earn the congratulations of one and all. Sir, this being a token motion, if it is pressed to a division we would have to vote against it. I hope the hon. Mover will withdraw it after hearing the hon. Minister."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"Sir, I wish to say one word about this Board, or rather, the Act constituting it. According to it the smaller temples known as non-excepted temples, have to pay double the percentage paid by the excepted temples. They are paying three per cent of their income whereas the excepted temples are paying only one and a half per cent. It is quite unreasonable."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I would remind the hon. Member that we are on the question of provincialization of the staff."

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"Sir, my point is that even after provincialization of the staff this sort of injustice should not be perpetuated. They should treat excepted and non-excepted temples alike. Sir, we are now in sight of a Bill aiming at making the collections from temples easier by treating them as arrears of revenue. In this connexion therefore I would appeal to the hon. Minister to look into the classification of the temples as excepted and non-excepted, as otherwise, much injustice will be done to the smaller temples."

"As for the district committees, Sir, if at all they have to continue, let them function as deliberative or advisory bodies. Let not the collection work be entrusted to any staff employed by the district committees. Let it be entrusted to a staff employed by the Government. If this is done I think some savings also can be effected. I hope the hon. the Minister will bear this in mind and do the needful."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Let me say that I am entirely in sympathy with the object of the motion and appreciate very much the opinions expressed by various Members from

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [18th March 1931]

different sections of the House that they would favour any measure brought forward by the Government for the purpose of provincializing the Endowments Board. The question has been engaging the attention of Government. Even in the original Bill there was provision for this, but at that time public opinion was not strongly in favour of it. I am glad that opinion has now changed and that it is veering round to the view that provincialization of the Board is a step in the right direction. Sir, I had only a short time at my disposal. But within that short time I have got a Bill drafted and ready for introduction if possible this month for the purpose of enabling the Board to recover the contributions due to it as quickly as possible treating them as arrear of land revenue for the purpose of collection and also to entrust the Endowments Board with the powers of a committee during the time when a committee has not been or could not possibly be constituted. With these two provisions embodied in two clauses of a Bill, I propose to introduce it as a temporary measure. I propose to take up later on an exhaustive and comprehensive amending Bill. I have got two drafts made of it already, one by the late Sir T. S. Sadasiva Ayyar, the first President of the Board, and the other by Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, when he was Minister in charge of this portfolio. I wish to consider them in detail to see how far they can be made use of.

2-45
p.m.

"All the same I think I am right in assuming that the opinion of the House will not be against provincialization. There is another question as to whether, if the Board is to be provincialized, any contributions should be levied from the temples or not. I gather from one or two speeches that were made that the whole amount should be found from provincial revenues and that the temples should not be asked to contribute anything. To what extent it may be possible I cannot say at present. If only our finances permit I shall be glad to comply with the wishes of hon. Members of this House. In view of the statement I have made, I hope the hon. Member will withdraw his motion. But at the same time I cannot promise him that we can tackle the question immediately in the face of the present financial stringency."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—
Transferred—for Rs. 4,68,200 was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—RESERVED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 85,82,200 under Demand XII—Administration of Justice—Reserved.'

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 6,59,100 for High Court be reduced by Rs. 100.'

[18th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

"My object in moving this cut motion is to discuss the tardy disposal of suits in District and High Courts.

"Sir, I move this cut in order to raise the question whether it is not necessary that we should now call upon the High Court and the various District Courts to expedite their work and prevent arrears accumulating as at present. With regard to High Court about which alone I can speak, I must say that, although the number of Judges has been practically increased up to 16, although a Master has been appointed, and although the work has been distributed among all these Judges, the arrears have been increasing year after year, and no endeavour has been made to reduce these arrears. Year after year in this Council during the Budget time, the attention of the authorities concerned was drawn to this deplorable state of affairs, but to no purpose. We must look at the question not only from the official point of view but also from the point of view of the ordinary litigant who is involved in these suits. There are cases I understand which have been pending for years and years. I believe there is a case pending for the last about 11 years. I do not know why such a state of affairs should be allowed to continue. Formerly the plea was that there were not sufficient number of Judges. When the number of Judges has been increased and when a Master has been appointed who takes up a good deal of routine work previously done by the Judges, we find the same state of affairs continuing. It is therefore high time that this Government takes some steps with regard to this matter and sees that the work in the High Court and other District Courts is expedited and accumulation is prevented.

"Sir, I do not know if there is any hon. Member here who has given notice of a cut motion to urge upon the Government the necessity of giving a holiday to the High Court Judges during week days. I understand there is a cut motion given notice of by an hon. Member. I do not know what it is that impelled that hon. Member to be so solicitous to the Judges of the High Court as to ask the Government to allow them a holiday during the week. I suppose, Sir, you are aware that the Judges have got in a week two holidays, viz., Saturday and Sunday. On working days the Judges meet at 11 o'clock and go on till about 1 or 1-30 p.m., again sit at 2 or 2-30 p.m. and finish their work by 5 p.m. Besides this they have got a long vacation which I do not grudge giving them. I do not know why the High Court, just like the City Civil Court and Small Cause Courts, should not sit on Saturdays also. To this it is replied that they should be given time to write their judgments on Saturdays, so that they may deliver them on Monday. It looks as though this is not sufficient some Member wants to give them another holiday during the week. On the other hand I should think that just like other Government offices, the High Court should be asked to work on Saturdays also.

"Sir, with regard to vacation, as I said before, it is too long. It used to be said in favour of allowing this vacation that most of the

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [18th March 1931]

Judges, who are Civilians or Europeans, must have an opportunity of going to England and there must be enough time for them to go and return. I do not know how many Judges as a matter of fact do avail themselves of this vacation. If really any Judge wishes to go home in order to take rest or in order to see his people, he can avail himself of the leave that he can get. If he really wants to go home on his domestic work or private work he can certainly apply for leave and take it for two or three months and go home. I do not think any Judge wishes to spend so much money to go to England once every year during the vacation. Why could we not compare these Judges with higher officers in Government such as hon. Members on the Treasury Bench and so on? They do not want long vacation as the High Court Judges. I am sure they have also to work hard as the Judges of the High Court are expected to do. I do not see why this distinction should be made between one Member of the service and another. For these reasons I am moving this cut motion and I have no doubt that the Government will take the necessary steps to rectify matters."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"I have great pleasure in seconding the motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan. Delay in the disposal of suits and appeals and execution petitions is continuing in spite of the steps that the Government have taken and are taking to give facilities for the speedy disposal of cases. It has been suggested that a committee should be appointed to investigate into the causes of delay and to suggest remedies. Government ought to create additional courts and appoint temporary Judges to clear off the arrears, so that the permanent judicial staff may attend to their normal work. Sir, in this connexion I must say that the importance of the process establishment and its relation to the administration of justice has not been sufficiently attended to in spite of what the Civil Justice Committee have said about it in their report. This is what they say:—

'Opinion is almost universal that one of the main sources of delay in the disposal of suits and other original proceedings as well as of appeals and execution petitions is the delay in the service of processes. All proceedings in civil courts are initiated by the presentation of plaints or petitions and it is by the service of processes that the opposite parties are called upon to answer the case against them. Similarly the court executes its decrees and orders by the issue of processes. Delay in the service of processes necessarily entails delay in the hearing of civil proceedings. Conversely hasty or improper service gives rise to proceedings to set aside decrees or orders. A large part of the time of courts will be saved if a reliable and efficient agency for the service of processes can be devised.'

'It is therefore of the highest importance to institute a careful enquiry into the defects of the present system and the causes that contribute to the unsatisfactory character of the service of processes. It would be no exaggeration to say that in the interests of efficient administration of civil justice satisfactory service of processes is as essential as the competency and honesty of tribunals.'

"Sir I wish to know what the Government have done to effect the necessary reform in this branch of administration. Last year speaking on a similar cut motion during the Budget time the hon. the Law Member said that a large volume of work done by the Judges of the High Court had been delegated to the Deputy Registrar (now called the Master) and that, in this way the time of the Judges which would be otherwise spent in routine matters has been released for the purpose

18th March 1931] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

of disposing of cases. Government may very well make a similar arrangement to relieve the judicial officers in the mufassal also of their preliminary work, so that they may take up contested cases when the day's work begins. This will enable District Judge, Sub-Judges and District Munsifs to dispose of cases as speedily as judicial officers in additional courts are able to do now. I hope the hon. the Law Member will give his attention to the suggestions made by me."

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"In supporting this motion I should like to submit that the speedy disposal of cases does not depend only upon the number of holidays or the number of days in which the officers work. It depends, to a large extent, upon the co-operation and upon the healthy relations which exist between the bench and the bar. I may say that in a place where the relations between the Bench and the Bar are not healthy, as in the case of Mangalore Subordinate Court, the work cannot be speedily disposed of.

"I know of instances in the Subordinate Court of Mangalore, where 3 p.m. the senior-most member of the Bar and who is much respected, is most discourteously asked to button his coat before he argued. Another respected member of the Bar is similarly asked to stand erect and argue. Such things are done simply with no other object than that of teasing and insulting the members of the Bar. There was another instance which came to my notice where an advocate kept his car in the public road and in front of the Sub-Court. The Subordinate Judge, though he knew whose car it was, comes in and asks: 'peon, whose car is that? It is Nambiar's; ask him to have it removed immediately.' This is what took place. If this is the attitude that exists between the Bench and the Bar, I dare say that the administration of justice cannot be conducted properly, and there will be delays both on account of the Bar and on account of the Bench; ordinary petitions which might be disposed of in half an hour, often take two or three hours; so much so, the work does not go on. I have also given notice of cut motions to draw the attention of the Government to the attitude of the Bench towards the Bar and the client public. These are not the only instances so far as the Mangalore Sub-Court is concerned. I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the present Subordinate Judge of South Kanara is used to passing unnecessary remarks against the members of the Bar in his judgments. For instance, I may say that in one of the judgments he passed the following remarks: 'the defendant must thank those to whom he has entrusted his case'; while in another he remarked that the learned vakil cited 58 M.L.J. without caring to read the same. My submission is that these remarks are not at all necessary for giving the judgment in the case. It is the treatment such as this, which is meted out to the members of the Bar, which is, in a large measure, responsible for the delay in disposal of cases besides bringing the administration of justice to contempt because, without the co-operation of the Bar, the Bench alone cannot hope to dispose of suits quickly. Again, Sir, he loses his temper and passes orders which in sober moments he might not do and then the next day

[Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt] [18th March 1931]

he coolly changes his order saying that the court has power to change having in the meantime come to know of his mistake and illegality of his previous order without even giving notice to the party.

"Then, Sir, there is the other question of the appointment of Judges, Munsifs, etc. For instance, take the instance of the Sub-Court to which nowadays much of the work which was formerly disposed of by the District Court—such as land acquisition cases, etc., is transferred. People who are newly appointed as Sub-Judges, should not be posted to such courts; because these Judges are quite new to this sort of work and necessarily they will be much slower than experienced Subordinate Judges. I wish to bring to the notice of the Government also some other facts that should be taken into consideration in making these appointments. The Government must take care to see that people who have been either practising in the mufassal courts or those who are residents of those places, should not be appointed as Judicial officers in that district. Perhaps the hon. the Law Member will at once say that it is a common practice that people who have been practising in the High Court, are appointed as Judges of the High Court. The integrity and nobility of character which the high office of the High Court Judge calls for, is not called for in the case of the smaller courts. Moreover, the sanction of public opinion which is found in a big place like Madras, is not to be found in smaller places like the district headquarters and taluk headquarters. Such things will lead people to think that they cannot get sufficient justice at the hands of Judges who had been practising in the same place. I am not accusing any individual persons; but I would say that this state of things is not quite fair and is not in the best interests of the administration of justice. When a number of people could be found who have not been members of the local Bar or who have nothing to do with that particular district, it would be advisable to post these people in preference to those who have been members of the Bar practising before the courts over which they are asked to preside. With these observations, I resume my seat."

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—"Sir, I wish to offer a few observations on this subject of law's delays. No doubt, as my hon. Friends of the Opposition Benches stated, there is considerable delay in the disposal of cases. The grounds advanced by previous speakers are convincing in certain cases but they are not universal. I may state that delay is as much due in certain cases, to the Judicial officer as well as members of the Bar practising in that court. I may assure my hon. Friends that I have experience of the Bar not only of one court but also of several courts in three districts. I may assure hon. Members that the Bar is also responsible for the delay in the disposal of cases. I may give one classical instance without mentioning the name of the member of the Bar. He is a very distinguished criminal lawyer. If he knew or scented that the decision would go against him in a case either before the Magistrate or before the Sessions Judge, he had devised one very ingenious method of examining a number of witnesses from day to day, till the Judge felt that he was unable to record

18th March 1931] [Mr. A. Kondappa]

depositions further—even though he may be a good and painstaking Judge—and till the Judge came down and said 'Why do you want to examine so many witnesses; probably the judgment will be in your favour'. To attack the judiciary alone and say that they alone are responsible for the delays is not altogether well-founded. There are delays in some cases because members of the Bar do not prepare their briefs properly at home; instead of finishing cases within 10 or 15 minutes, they take a lot of time and waste the time of the court. If, in such cases, the Judicial officers observe 'You are wasting the time of the court,' the members of the Bar get annoyed and they endeavour to devise ways and means to retaliate and to prolong the case. Therefore, I seriously suggest to my hon. Friends on the Opposition Benches that the remedy does not lie solely with reformation of judiciary but the remedy has to be sought elsewhere also. We have to reform the Bar as well as the litigants. First, raise the character of the members of the Bar; make them realize their responsibilities; let them realize the honour of their profession. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'What about Public Prosecutors?') The Public Prosecutor is only a member of the Bar. If that is done, I am quite sure that there would not be considerable delay in the disposal of cases.

"At the same time, I may assure my hon. Friends in the Opposition Benches that I am not admiring the judiciary at all. The present judiciary, especially in the mufassal, is in my opinion far from efficient. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Subrahmanya Bhatt, stated, there are some members of the judiciary with likes and dislikes, prejudices and predilections. There may be an enquiry committee to go into the conduct of these Judicial officers so that they may be turned out after a short notice; or we may devise a system by which we may recruit Judges for a period of five or ten years; if public opinion or the expert committee thinks that they are unfit to occupy those Judicial offices, they will be turned out. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'What are they to do?') They have to go home or practise at the Bar. My suggestion is not only to reform the judiciary but to reform the Bar also. I may tell my hon. Friends that, even among the members of the judiciary, there are brilliant exceptions, men who are anxious to do their duty, men who are anxious to show every courtesy and consideration to the litigants, witnesses and members of the Bar. There is a large number of such Judicial officers in our province. Let us not condemn indiscriminately bad men and good men in the Judicial service. Perhaps the smaller number of courts is responsible for the delay in disposal of cases. We have got few courts in particular districts and we know what volume of work has to be turned out by a Judicial officer every day. Fifty or hundred members of the Bar will appear before the court; they will prepare elaborately facts and case law and present them to the Judicial officer. Ten or fifteen cases are disposed of every day; unless the officer is more than human, unless he is exceptional in capacity, in talents and in patience, he would not be able to deliver judgment in time. Some of the Judicial officers are working at considerable strain. When these are the facts, we

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

[18th March 1931]

cannot justly accuse the Judicial officers of unnecessarily delaying the cases. I know very well that the High Court has prescribed the rule that judgments should be delivered within a fortnight; ordinarily the Judicial officers would be unable to deliver judgments within a fortnight; and then the cases are re-opened and further re-opened. Some steps should be taken to remedy some of these defects."

3-15
P.m.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I shall intervene in the debate for a short while. Member after Member was saying that we are very extravagant in paying the Ministers very liberally. If we consider the waste of public funds which this Council has to sanction for the pay of the Judicial officers and the delay that is caused in the disposal of cases, I think we can cut down the pay of these officers and pay it to the Ministers. The outturn of work prescribed for these officers is very poor indeed. Even that outturn is not successfully turned out. I suggest, Sir, that there should be a committee going about the Presidency to scrutinize the work of these Judicial officers. My hon. Friend, Mr. Subrahmanya Bhatt from South Kanara, said that there was want of co-operation between the Bar and the Bench. I must say that there is too much co-operation between the Bar and the Bench with a vengeance to the detriment of the clients. Let the vakil for the plaintiff and the vakil for the defendant first co-operate and then let them come to the Judge. I think Government should come to the rescue of the clients more than to the rescue of the vakils, the Bar or the judiciary now; and it is high time that some deterrent action was taken to check the delay in the Judicial department from the District Munsif's Court up to the High Court, in the disposal of cases."

* Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am in full sympathy with the cut motion to urge upon the Government the necessity of taking immediate steps to clear off arrears of work in the High Court by the appointment of additional Judges. Sir, it has been said that a large sum of money is being wasted already on the Judicial department. I do not agree with that. I cannot accuse the Judges for the arrears. I know they are very much hard-worked. In respect of these arrears, it is said parties are also to a certain extent responsible. Whatever it is, the work in the High Court has increased, and nobody doubts it. It is now probably more than what fourteen Judges could do, and if you are not going to appoint additional Judges, how can you expect arrears to be cleared. To ask the present Judges to speed up, Sir, I think, is not a practical suggestion. What I would suggest is, appoint about half a dozen new Judges to deal with arrears

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"What about honorary Judges?"

* Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—"Will you accept one? In that case, certainly we can think of that proposal.

"If that could be done, Sir, the present Judges can take up cases that are filed from day to day and dispose of them without any delay; while the Judges to be appointed may take up the arrears. I hope

18th March 1931] [Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar]

they will be able to dispose of all the arrears in two or three years and I think the total amount to be spent on the scheme will not be more than 12 lakhs. I hope the hon. the Law Member will consider this proposal seriously. It is true that the Secretary of State has fixed the number of Judges; but I would urge upon him to address the Secretary of State in the matter. In the case of the district and sub-courts, some Members have said that there is inordinate delay and that the Judges should be asked to speed up. In the case of arrears in these district and sub-courts, wherever necessary, additional courts may be established.

"I remember that hon. Mr. Hameed Khan also said that the Judicial officers are enjoying holidays for too long a time. It is a controversial question. We have at present in the High Court about half a dozen Judges who would probably like to go to England and they would certainly like to have a holiday for two or three months. Not only the High Court Judges, but practically all the officers of Government are accustomed to enjoy two months' holiday every year. I do think the Ministers also enjoy four or five months' holiday on the hills every year. (Laughter.) So, I do not think it is right to say that the Judicial officers should be deprived of holidays. The same hon. Member also said that Saturday should be made a working day. I do not agree. Some Judges have said already that it is not possible for them to write out judgments during the week days as they have to prepare for their daily work in the court. I am therefore in favour of appointing more Judges for the disposal of the arrears and I hope the hon. the Law Member would do his best in the matter."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion myself, with a view to draw the attention of the Government to the need for the creation of a separate commercial court, attached to the Madras High Court.

"With your permission, Sir, I should like to make a few remarks in that connexion on this cut motion that has been moved by Mr. Hameed Khan. I am not going to express any opinion on the question, Sir, as to who is responsible for the delay in the disposal of suits. It may perhaps be that lawyers are to a certain extent responsible; and it may also be that the Judges are to a certain extent responsible—I am not going into that question at all. But what we do find from the discussion that has taken place just now on the floor of this House is that there is considerable delay in the disposal of suits, particularly in the disposal of suits pertaining to commercial transactions. I would urge upon the Government that suits arising out of bona fide commercial transactions, i.e., in the course of the business man's transactions—for example, the sale of goods, etc.—should be disposed of as quickly as possible; and for that purpose I would request the Government to consider the necessity of forming a separate court altogether and call it a commercial court. It might be well-known to the hon. the Law Member that in countries like England and France,

[Mr. V. T. Arasu]

[18th March 1931]

there are such courts called commercial courts, and these courts deal with cases specially pertaining to commercial transactions. The hon. the Law Member would also have noticed that somewhere about last month Mr. Brooke Elliot addressing the Madras Rotary Club, threw out this suggestion to the Government and made out a very clear and emphatic case in regard to this matter. He instanced very many cases arising out of commercial transactions still pending in the High Court which were instituted somewhere about the year 1917. If disposal of commercial suits is to take such a long period as 13 or 14 years, what will happen to the business man? He will certainly have to go to the wall. I am afraid, Sir, that the Government will come forward and say that it is not possible to appoint an additional Judge; but I am not suggesting for a moment that the Government should appoint an additional Judge for this purpose. There are at present two Judges in the Madras High Court sitting on the Original Side. Of these two Judges, one might be specially allotted this work of disposing suits arising out of commercial transactions and name it the commercial court. Such a step will, I am sure, facilitate the work of both the advocates and the Judges."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"Sir, I should like to say a word or two in this connexion. I am not going to cast any reflection either on the Bench or on the Bar. It is quite unnecessary to deal with that point. Both the Bench and the Bar happily—barring the exceptional instances which Mr. Kondappa mentioned—pull on very well in every part of the province. For one thing, we do not want additional Judges for expediting the disposal of cases. Some hon. Member suggested that some money can be saved here and utilized for the salary of the Ministers. It is entirely irrelevant in this connexion. All that we are concerned with now is the speedy disposal of cases, so that the parties may be benefited. The one way to enable the judiciary to dispose of cases more quickly is this: One hon. Member from the other side pointed out that a lot of administrative work in the High Court is being done by the Deputy Registrar. In a similar manner, if most of the miscellaneous work that is now being done by the subordinate judiciary—which in some cases occupies the time of the Judge for nearly two hours—is attended to by the ministerial officers, a lot of saving of time can be effected, and in that way quicker disposal can be assured. As it is, nearly two hours are taken up for miscellaneous work and one hour for lunch; and out of the five hours' time allotted to the Judge every day, only two hours will remain. In some cases Judges will attend half an hour late and thus only about an hour and a half is left. I would therefore suggest that if most of the miscellaneous work that is now done by the Judges is transferred to the chief ministerial officer of the court, much saving of time can be effected. I think this suggestion has been made in former years, but I do not know why it has not been followed up. I would request the hon. the Law Member to look into this matter and see whether it could not be adopted, with a view to relieve congestion of work."

18th March 1931]

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasaya:—"Mr. President, Sir, some of the previous speakers were rather hard upon the Judges, some upon the Bar and some upon the people. The hon. gentleman who said that the Bar alone was responsible for the delay, forgot that the litigants are more responsible for it. They very often fail to take witnesses and on that account adjournments are asked for. Therefore, if you insist upon Government demanding the disposal of a certain number of suits within a particular period, you will be putting pressure in favour of a more mechanical disposal. Disposal, of course, can be made in two ways. There are some cases where summary disposals can be made, and the Judges can say 'we have disposed of so many suits within such a short time.' There may be, on the other hand, some hard cases which will take a longer time. For instance, ten cases may be disposed of in one day, while one difficult case may take ten days for disposal. Each case has to be disposed of on its merits, and if you place a time-limit, then the disposal will become purely mechanical. What will the Munsif or Judge do if you ask him to dispose of so many cases in so many days? He will simply dispose of all the cases within time; but most of them will be decided ex parte or dismissed for default or for some other reason. The Judge can dispose of suits in that way. That is the sort of disposal you will get if you insist upon Government putting pressure on the Judges to dispose of suits more speedily. I think that is not the proper way of doing it. So far as my experience of the Bench for more than twenty years as a pleader goes, every Judge tries to dispose of suits as quickly as possible. But then, Judges do not want to dismiss suits for default, nor do they want to decide ex parte, and no member of the Bar would like a Judge if he does that. But still, there are some persons who care for mere disposal, and such Judges we do not like at all. Neither the Bar nor the people like such Judges. Would you like to have such persons to be set up as a model for other Judicial officers? I think nobody would like it. Therefore, I say it is wrong to ask the Government to put more pressure upon the Judges to dispose of cases more quickly; that would only result in a mechanical disposal of cases. How can you find out the nature of the suit in each case? And how can you find out whether a case is disposed of mechanically or not? If you fixed the number of cases to be decided in a particular period, then you must describe the nature of such suits; and for deciding that, you will have to employ another officer, and for that purpose, you will have to spend money. All Judges are respectable people, learned people, and I think you must leave it to their sense of duty to dispose of cases as early as practicable. If there are arrears, you must appoint additional officers to dispose of them. That is the only way to deal with the problem. Of course non-lawyers may say so much money is being wasted, and all that; but they do not know the difficulties in the matter. And so far as I know, Judges dispose of suits quite justly. I therefore hope the cut motion will be withdrawn."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Sir, this is not the first time that this question of delay in the disposal of cases is brought to the notice of Government. For the last few years this question has been

[Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar] [18th March 1931]

discussed on the floor of this House every year. As far as possible, the delays ought to be lessened for two reasons. One is that such delays entail greater expenditure on the public exchequer, and the second is that they cause great inconvenience and discomfort to the litigants and mean more unnecessary expenditure for them. No doubt, I am glad to say after these discussions on the floor of the House, the Government have moved in the matter; but judging from the results, I do not think they are quite satisfactory. I hope that they will pursue the matter further and try to lessen the delays as far as possible.

"Let me now give some figures, Sir, as to the delay caused as between the year 1928 and 1929 from the 'Statistics of Civil Courts' furnished to us. In the case of Revenue Courts, it is said that as regards disposals, there was a fall from 31,612 to 24,639. The number of suits pending has gone up from 7,708 in 1928 to 10,022 in the year under review, i.e., 1929—the increase being highest in Ramnad.

"The number of suits pending for over three months was 6,627 as against 4,923 in 1928 and it is also stated that an explanation is called for. That is with regard to Revenue courts.

"With regard to District Courts, it is stated that 'the disposal fell from 491 to 338 and the number of suits pending at the close of 1929 rose from 644 to 731. It is unsatisfactory to note that the pendency increases despite the fall in institution.

3-30 p.m. "Again, Sir, in the case of the Madras City Civil Court, it is stated:—'The number of suits pending at the close of 1929 was 387 as against 287 in 1928. It is disappointing to note that in spite of the remarks made by Government in G.O. No. 4436, Law (General), dated 14th November 1929, the number of pending suits was allowed to rise despite the decrease in institution.' Sir, in the case of the officer presiding over this Court, the Government themselves have admitted that in spite of their warning the pendency has been increasing. I should suggest that if they cannot mend this particular incumbent, they ought to end him by appointing another in his place. If a confidential report is called for from the High Court, I think, my statement will be justified.

"Then, with regard to disposals in the High Court, 'the number of appeals filed against the orders of the mufassal courts was 507 against 549 in 1928, the average for five years being 508. Three hundred and twenty-four cases were disposed of and 1,152 were left pending at the end of 1929, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 352 and 969 respectively. One hundred and twelve appeals were filed against the decrees passed on the Original Side of the High Court as against 143 in 1928, the average for the five years being 114. The number of appeals from the decrees of the City Civil Court was 58, the figures for the previous year and the average for the preceding five years being 58 and 73 respectively. Eleven appeals were disposed of against 32 in 1928, leaving 145 pending at the end of the year against 98 in 1928.' From the above figures, it will be clear that the disposal has not been so good as in the year 1928.

18th March 1931] [Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar]

"The disposal is unsatisfactory in the case of revision petitions also, but it is satisfactory only in the disposal of cases in the appellate courts where district courts and sub-courts act as appellate courts. The Government, in their order at the end of the report, have recorded: 'The Government note with regret that there has again been a fall in the disposal of ordinary and small cause suits by District Munsifs. They await a report from hon. the Judges on the result of the action taken by them in the matter of revising the existing standards of out-turn of District Munsifs' courts. The increase in the number of ordinary suits pending for more than one year in these courts is an unsatisfactory feature. The Government endorse the adverse comments of the hon. the Judges on the lesser number of suits disposed of by District Judges and on the rise in pendency despite the fall in institutions. That it was not possible for the District Judge, Trichinopoly, to dispose of even a single civil suit is regrettable. The increase in the pendency of suits in the City Civil Court in spite of a decrease in institutions is again disappointing. Government observe that there is still large scope for improvement in the matter of inspection of subordinate courts by District Judges.'

"Sir, my grievance is that no mention is made about the disposal of cases by the hon. Judges of the High Court and I do not know why no warning was given about the disposal of cases in that particular court. There also from the figures I have shown, the disposal is not so good as it ought to be. Therefore, may I know whether any confidential communication was sent to the hon. Judges of the High Court and if not what effective steps Government propose to take in calling the attention of the hon. Judges of the High Court to remedy this long delay in the disposal of cases? Personally I know that in the case of second appeals and first appeals, there are cases as old as seven or eight years."

* Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish only to make one or two remarks, as I have been associated with the working of the courts in my district so far as the administration of justice is concerned. Sir, hon. Members on the opposite side seem to forget that the administration of justice pays its way and has never proved a burden on the tax-payer. All their arguments were based on the assumption that the money of the rate-payer is being considerably wasted, but I believe that that view is not well-founded. Then, Sir, so much has been said against judicial officers, which I feel is rather hard. These officers are doing their work with the highest sense of responsibility and with probably a few exceptions, they are working to the utmost of their capacity. I am yet to know personally of a case, where the case was ready, the litigant was ready, the Bar was ready, but the Judge, in spite of having no judicial work on hand, adjourned the case simply because he wanted to have a holiday. It may be as some hon. Members have pointed out, there are individual cases of officers who are dilatory, but from the remarks made

[Mr. Yahya Ali]

[18th March 1931]

by my hon. Friend, Mr. Kondappa, it seems to me that he wants to generalize with regard to the whole service on the strength of a single instance.

"Now, Sir, as regards the High Court, I am sure hon. Members will remember that only recently the hon. the Judges of the High Court have issued a notification laying down certain rules for expediting work and certain rules which should govern the granting of adjournments, because the granting of adjournments, as the House is aware, is the bane of judicial administration. I am not personally acquainted with the working of the High Court, but so far as my acquaintance with the administration of justice in the mufassal courts is concerned, I may mention a few points that really retard the speedy disposal of work in courts. We have for instance the indiscriminate and uncontrolled law reporting which is making the work of the courts dilatory indeed. Then, we have the importation of the Madras lawyers, which again has got a good deal to do with retarding the work of these courts; and lastly, there is the frequent transfers of judicial officers by the High Court or the Government as the case may be and naturally officers on the verge of transfer or retirement, are not so interested in the disposal of work on hand. These are some of the factors which retard the progress of the work in courts, but on the whole, I should think, that so far as the work in mufassal courts is concerned, it is not certainly so bad as to characterize it as tardy. My hon. Friend who spoke before me, has placed certain facts and figures with regard to details, but from study of those figures themselves, I am sure, the House will see that with a certain amount of touching up here and there it will be quite possible for the disposal of cases to be brought up to the mark. It may be remembered that though the aphorism that justice delayed is justice denied is correct, it is equally true that justice hurried is worse than justice delayed."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, the criticisms that have been offered by my hon. Friends on this cut motion fall under two heads. The first criticism is the delay in the disposal of cases in the High Court and the second one is the delay in the disposal of cases in the subordinate courts. I shall first confine myself to the first point and that is the point particularly emphasised by the hon. Mover of the motion, Mr. Hameed Khan. I may say, in this connexion, that the High Court Judges themselves pay particular attention, as far as it lies in their power, to the disposal of cases as early as possible in the High Court. As my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan himself stated, necessary steps, to enable Judges to dispose of cases as speedily as possible, have been taken. About two years ago on the recommendation of the High Court, the number of permanent Judges of the High Court was increased by two. As my hon. Friends are aware, the number of permanent Judges was 12 before and on the recommendation of the High Court, the Government took necessary steps and obtained the sanction of the Secretary of State for the addition of two more permanent Judges in the High Court. Then again,

18th March 1931]

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

as my hon. Friend himself has admitted, some of the judicial powers which till then were being exercised by the High Court Judges themselves, were delegated to one of the Deputy Registrars who was thenceforward called the Master. Again, to relieve the congestion in the High Court and with a view to the speedy disposal of cases in the High Court, the Government on the recommendation of the High Court, are contemplating revision in the pecuniary jurisdiction of the City Civil Court. The High Court made a recommendation that the pecuniary jurisdiction of the City Civil Court, which as my hon. Friends are aware, is now only up to a limit of Rs. 2,500, which is less than the pecuniary jurisdiction of district munsifs in the mufassal, should be raised to Rs. 10,000. The High Court have also recommended that the City Civil Court may be invested with insolvency jurisdiction up to a limit of Rs. 2,500. The Government examined these proposals and are convinced that the High Court's proposals are on sound lines and after an examination of the Statute, they have come to the conclusion that it is not possible for the Local Legislature to undertake legislation for enhancing the jurisdiction of this court, because the local legislature has no power to interfere with the jurisdiction in any way of the High Court. If we raise the pecuniary jurisdiction of the City Civil Court to Rs. 10,000 and confer insolvency jurisdiction also to a limit of Rs. 2,500 we shall be interfering with the jurisdiction of the High Court on the Original Side. It is thus only the Central Legislature that can undertake legislation in this matter and the local Government have made a recommendation to the Government of India for undertaking the necessary legislation.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan, on the question of delay in the disposal of cases in the High Court, referred to a cut motion notice of which has been given by another hon. Member, to the effect that one day's holiday in the middle of a week must be granted to all the hon. Judges of the High Court. My hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan is against that proposal. May I say that, in this respect, I believe the High Court Judges themselves will agree with him and I also agree with him? As a matter of fact, the power of granting or taking holidays rests in the High Court itself, and I feel confident that in the existing circumstances of the High Court, the learned Chief Justice and his Colleagues will not be desirous of taking holidays in the middle of a week generally. My hon. Friend then proceeded to say that they should sit even on Saturdays and he also added that the vacation that they now enjoy is rather too much. May I say that on these two points, I differ from my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan? The Judges do want free days for the purpose of writing long judgments in important cases. No doubt, in ordinary and petty cases, particularly in second appeals, they may be able to write judgments, sometimes on the Bench itself and sometimes in the mornings in their houses, but in writing long judgments in important and complicated cases which involve a large number of points, they certainly do require time and I think it is very necessary that the learned Judges of the High Court should have Saturdays and Sundays for this purpose.

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

[18th March 1931]

3-45 p.m. " May I say that in my experience as a Judge for a brief period of four years, I found that Saturdays and Sundays were very useful for the purpose of writing judgments in complicated cases ?

" With reference to the vacation, observations, I should say, irrelevant observations were made by certain members about the holidays that are alleged to be enjoyed by the Ministers, and I should say they are neither here nor there. With reference to the vacation of Judicial officers, I should say their work is particularly heavy and taxing, and I think it is but right that they should have such vacations. Further it has been the custom for High Court Judges and other Judges to enjoy vacations and I see no reason whatsoever to interfere with them.

" Mr. Shetty and several others referred to the delay in the disposal of cases in the mufassal courts. I am very sorry to say that there is some truth in their observations. There is delay in the disposal of cases in certain instances. And here again, I may say that the High Court are doing everything in their power to take steps to reduce this delay as far as possible. Perhaps my friends are aware that the High Court are calling for quarterly reports from the mufassal courts with reference to disposal of suits. As my Friend Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar pointed out, the High Court in their annual administration report review the work of the Judicial officers and refer to the delay and apportion blame wherever they find it necessary. Hon. Members can thus see for themselves that everything possible is being done in the matter. Steps have also been taken for the speedy disposal of cases by the amendment of the Madras Civil Courts Act. Till about two years ago, when there were heavy arrears in a Munsif's court or in a Sub-court, the only step that Government could take was to appoint an additional Munsif's court or an additional Sub-Judge's court as the case may be, with all the necessary paraphernalia such as head clerks and so on. Now, by an amendment of the Madras Civil Courts Act, provision has been made to appoint, on the recommendation of the High Court, additional Munsifs and additional Sub-Judges in those Munsif's courts and Sub-Courts where there are arrears. So also, as my hon. Friends are aware, by a recent amendment of the Madras Civil Courts Act, power has been given for the appointment of additional District Judges in those District Courts where there are arrears of work. The High Court after examining the delay in the disposal of cases, have recommended to Government the opening of twelve additional temporary courts during the next year. But on account of the present financial stringency (laughter) it was found possible to sanction only four such courts. And the necessary provision has been made in the Budget for the coming year.

" Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar and some others suggested the appointment of a roving committee, and pointed out that that committee should go about the country and check the disposal of cases in the courts. And one of my friends also went to the length of saying that if a Judge was found guilty of delay, he should be sent home to sit quiet or allowed to practise again at the Bar as he likes (laughter). May I say that this is a very unsatisfactory proposal? I believe it will interfere very much with the independence of Judicial officers (hear, hear) and I am sure

18th March 1931] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

that everyone of my friends in this House is as anxious as myself to preserve the independence of the Munsifs, Sub-Judges and District Judges. For if the work of a Judge is to be judged by a committee, I am sure that every Judicial officer will feel that the post is not worth having. (Hear, hear.)

" Then my Friend, Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, said, with reference to the pay of Judicial officers, that the salary that is paid them is too high. May I tell him that I beg to differ from him? "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I did not say . . . " (Cries of ' Order, order ' as both the hon. Members were on their feet.)

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member from Coimbatore will resume his seat."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir. M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Sir, I am glad that my hon. Friend thinks that there is some need for explanation, whatever that explanation may be; and in any case, Government do not believe that the present pay of the Judicial officers is high. As a matter of fact, the work of the Judicial officers is extremely taxing, both in the mechanical side and in the intellectual side. Sir, it is rather notorious that our Judicial officers, at least a very large percentage of them, suffer from diabetes and die without earning pension. That is due largely to their sedentary habits which they are obliged to follow by reason of their heavy work. Considering these points, I do not think that the pay of our Judicial officers is in any way high.

" Then coming to the remark let fall by Mr. Kondappa and some others to the effect that the work of Judicial officers, though there may be some delay, should not be judged by a sort of arithmetical method, I agree fully with them. There are cases which may be disposed of very easily; but there are, on the other hand, cases which take days together and even months to be disposed of. Hundreds of witnesses will have to be examined; hundreds of documents will have to be scrutinized; arguments lasting for several days will have to be heard; and finally sufficient time will have to be taken for writing out judgments. All these, it is needless to say, must surely take time, and therefore it is not correct to say that because a certain Judge has disposed of only a few cases, there is great delay in the disposal of work in his court. So, if Government are to take into account the quantity of work alone, then surely their policy will affect the quality of the work of the Judicial officers. And I need not say that Government are quite alive to that danger.

" Lastly, may I refer to the suggestion made by my Friend, Mr. Arasu? He said that he did not want additional Judges to be appointed. He, however, wanted that a special Judge should be appointed for the purpose of deciding what he calls commercial cases. May I tell my friend that commercial cases as they exist in European and other Western countries are absent in our province? And for the very few cases which partake of that character, there are already rules in the Civil Rules of Practice. I have had several conversations with the Judges of the High Court on this matter and they invariably have told me, and I think that

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [18th March 1931]

my lawyer friends in the House who have experience of litigation in the High Court will agree with them that commercial cases, as is understood by that phrase in the West, do not exist here. The only cases which may be called by that phrase are only cases of promissory notes, of settlement of accounts, etc., and it was for that reason that the High Court thought it necessary to recommend to Government to raise the pecuniary jurisdiction of the City Civil Court to Rs. 10,000. If they thought that there was any necessity for a special Judge for dealing with commercial cases they would not have come forward with that recommendation.

“ These, Sir, are my arguments against the cut motion and I hope my Friend Mr. Hameed Khan will withdraw his motion.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. D. V. NARASIMHASWAMI:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 6,59,100 for High Court be reduced by Rs. 100 ’

4 p.m. to draw the attention of the Government to the communal disproportion in the Judicial service and to press for communal justice in the matter of future recruitments and promotion. Sir, though the non-Brahmans, the Muslims and the depressed classes constitute about 90 per cent of the population of this province, we find in the Judicial Service only 30 per cent of them is represented. The hon. the Law Member, while he was on the non-official side, was a strong advocate of the non-Brahman cause, and now that he is the Law Member I hope he will take steps to secure adequate representation for the non-Brahman community in the Judicial Service. With regard to the recruitment of District Munsifs, though this Council has time after time passed resolutions, the High Court have paid no attention to them and they have been having their own ways in the matter. Sir, we have by the appointment of the Public Services Commission brought all the posts in the public service under Legislative control, and so I ask why not we adopt the same method with regard to the recruitment of District Munsifs.

“ But by the time these non-Brahmans rise up from the position of District Munsifs if they are to go by seniority, it will really take a long time for them to become Sub-Judges or District Judges. Now, Sir, the only way for the Government coming to the rescue of the non-Brahmans is to recruit Sub-Judges and District Judges directly from the Bar. I may submit, Sir, this is not a new suggestion. Already, the previous Law Member, the hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, set an example by recruiting one member of a particular community for the post of District Judge. Here we have got a precedent, Sir, and now the hon. the Law Member can as well follow that precedent, to see that the inequality is remedied. All that I say is that we do not want communal preferment, but we only want communal justice. Therefore, Sir, I earnestly appeal to the hon. the Law Member to see that the claims of non-Brahmans are recognized and that they are adequately represented in the Judicial Service.”

18th March 1931]

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—“ I should like to know, Sir, whether we cannot discuss the question of recruitment for the Judicial Services generally on this motion. We have only got about 40 or 50 minutes and the question of recruitment is specifically raised in this motion though not in a general form. I should like to know whether you would allow the general question to be discussed under this motion.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ I will allow the general question to be discussed under this motion.”

* Rao Sahib D. KRISHNAMURTI:—“ Sir, in rising to support the motion moved by Mr. Narasimhaswami, I have much pleasure in submitting to this House that this is a very old and chronic question. Time and again the opinion of this House has been expressed on this matter in sufficiently strong language, but unfortunately this knotty question has not yet met with justice at the hands of the High Court. The High Court which is supposed to be the palladium of justice is treating with any amount of injustice the claims of the various communities, non-Brahmans, Muhammadans, Christians and members of the depressed classes. (Hear, hear.) It is not for want of eligible and efficient men belonging to these communities; but it is a certain kind of reluctance to look facts in the face and an intention perhaps to keep these services a preserve to a particular community. A glance at the list of these appointments will convince any fair-minded person that there is an inordinate and unnecessary predominance of a particular community in these services while fairness and justice require that certain methods ought to be adopted with a view to preserve the honour and meet the claims of other communities. It is not a simple matter. This matter has been engaging the attention of the Government as well as this Council for a number of years, but unfortunately it must be said to the detriment of the non-Brahmans that their claims have been continuously ignored. The only course and perhaps the only reasonable course that must be followed now is to impress upon the hon. the Law Member the desirability of taking away the recruitment of these services from the hands of the High Court and placing it in the hands of some other body like the Public Services Commission, with a view to facilitate a policy of affording equality of opportunities to all communities. I am submitting to this House that these services not only carry with them big salaries, but also carry with them a certain kind of respect and a certain social status. They carry with them a certain amount of influence and have got a tendency to raise the social status and elevate the position of the various communities to which the members of the service belong. I may, Sir, without offence to some members of this House, submit that Sarishtadar or a Sub-Judge or a District Munsif of a particular community wields considerable influence in the places in which they work. It is no wonder that if members of the depressed classes, Mussalmans or non-Brahmans occupy these places, they would have a certain amount of influence upon the social condition of the various communities to which they belong. I submit, Sir, that this is a question on which there is strong feeling in this House and it is not a matter which can be delayed any longer not only with regard to the recruitment of Munsifs but also

[Mr. D. Krishnamurti]

[18th March 1931]

with regard to direct recruitment of Sub-Judges and District Judges. The latter question was once taken up, but unfortunately for the non-Brahmans, it was dropped. I see also a cut motion in the name of Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya Nayudu to draw the attention of the House and the Government to the desirability of recruiting District Judges and Sub-Judges directly from the Bar. I understand, as I already said, this question was taken up once and facts and figures were also collected; but much to the disappointment of the non-Brahmans, it was dropped. There is no other course to adopt but to devise a new procedure and policy which would certainly secure for the non-Brahmans their legitimate and lawful share in various offices under the Government."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, this is not the first time that complaints are heard in this House about the proportion of appointments held in Judicial Service and in other services by the different communities. Well, Sir, certain rules have been framed and I believe they are being given effect to for the purpose of bringing about satisfaction to all the communities. I should think, Sir, that it is high time that reference to these matters we agree upon certain principles, and we ought to be satisfied that those principles are being followed and not to give room for any more heat among ourselves in these matters. But there are certain other matters which probably require attention. For instance, Sir, it has been the recommendation of the Public Services Commission as well as of people who thought about recruitment of officers after the Reforms, that there should be a body which is not connected with the political atmosphere, that should be charged with the duty of making recruitments to the several branches of the service. Such a body of an all-India character has been created for the whole of India, and we have followed the footsteps of that all-India organization and adopted the course of having a statutory body for the purpose of making recruitments. Now, Sir, in all cases recruitments to the higher services are made—I speak subject to correction—by the Public Services Commission, or, to use the euphemistic language which is ordinarily employed, these appointments are made on the recommendation of the Public Services Commission. But in this particular department, Sir, the recruitment is still in the hands of the High Court, so far as the District Munsifs are concerned. The High Court is certainly the highest Judicial authority in the Presidency, and I will be the last person to cast any aspersions on the way in which things are done by the hon. the Judges of the High Court. But at the same time, I could say, Sir, that the hon. the Judges of the High Court are not quite in touch with the people. They are more or less isolated, as they should be in their judicial work, and as Judges they should not be mixed up with the local feelings and local conditions or prejudices. So, they are a bit isolated and therefore they do not really understand the feelings that actuate the people, and the Government, as the custodians of the administration of justice, cannot really dictate to a body like the hon. the Judges who ought not to be in any way subordinate or accountable to the Government. I think it is a strange anomaly in this province that the Government should be responsible for the administration of justice, no doubt under the supervision of the High Court,

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

[18th March 1931]

but at the same time they should have no voice in the direct recruitment of persons who dispense with justice in the province. This is a matter which is peculiar to this province. All the provinces in India do not follow a settled practice, and here in Madras the appointment of District Munsifs is left to the hon. the Judges of the High Court. It seems to me that the Government must reconsider the position and they should exempt the hon. the Judges of the High Court from the rather difficult position in which they are at present placed. For the administration and for the allotments for pay of the officers, the Government are responsible, but for the recruitment to the appointments the High Court are responsible. I think it is a very anomalous and difficult position both for the High Court as well as the Government. So, I would suggest to the Government to consider whether this work of appointing District Munsifs and other officers cannot be taken away from the hands of the High Court and vested with the Public Services Commission. I submit, Sir, that in making these appointments the High Court is itself a bit handicapped. In regard to this matter, we in the mufassal have got a grievance and I, for one, consider it a legitimate grievance, that the mufassal practitioners have not got the same sort of chance for being appointed to the Judiciary as the people practising in the High Court. I do not say, Sir, that they purposely or with any settled intent, give preference to the practitioners in the High Court. It is not so. But the mere fact that the Judges happen to know some people personally and they know their merits, gives them a better chance. I have got nothing to say against the actual appointments made. They are all mostly, except when they are misled in a case or two, excellent appointments; and I have nothing to say about the appointments themselves. But it so happens that the hon. the Judges of the High Court come into contact with the practitioners in the High Court and they naturally give preference to those people, with the result that we in the mufassal have got a just grievance. It is also a fact that the hon. the Judges of the High Court know certain people in Madras and therefore very often it happens that influence, that is what we in the mufassal believe of the metropolis, tells against the mufassalites, as some people believe that appointments are given to people with recommendations got in the metropolis. It may be right or it may be wrong; I am not asserting it as a fact. But the mere fact that there is such a feeling and such a grievance is enough to make it incumbent upon the hon. the Judges of the High Court not to put themselves in that awkward situation, and for the Government to tell them that it is no longer their intention to continue them in this delicate position, and to take away the work of making appointments to the Judiciary from their hands and vest it in the Public Services Commission. There is one other matter about which I should like to talk in this motion. I have been speaking about the necessity for the change in the way in which recruitments are made to the cadre of District Munsifs. The Public Services Commission as well as several other committees which had to deal with the Judiciary have gone into the matter and come to this conclusion that at least a fair proportion of the higher appointments, i.e., of Sub-Judges and District Judges, should be made directly from the Bar. That was a

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [18th March 1931]

recommendation which was made by the Lee Commission also. If I remember aright the Lee Commission made recommendations to reduce the number of I.C.S. officers in the Judiciary. They said that the remaining offices should be thrown open to the Provincial Service, a part of which should be open to the Judicial officers who are in the service and as District Munsifs, Sub-Judges and the other part should be recruited directly from the Bar. That is a recommendation which has been made by the Lee Commission itself. I think the Public Services Commission made the same recommendation before that. I should like to ask the hon. the Law Member, where do we stand with reference to this proposal. I know that some appointments were made, both of Sub-Judges and District Judges, directly from the Bar some years back. Where are we now? I believe the last appointment that was made was that of Mr. Chandrasekhara Ayyar about a couple of years ago. After that I do not think any appointment has been made from the Bar. Now, I should like to know when the recommendations of the Lee Commission are going to be given effect to. I believe the Lee Commission recommended about twelve appointments of District Judges to be thrown open to the officers outside the I.C.S. of whom, Sir, six, I believe, are to be from the Provincial Services consisting of Munsifs and Sub-Judges, and the other six to be directly recruited. Now, what is the position? When is effect going to be given to the recommendations of the Lee Commission, when are the appointments going to be made? And in making the appointments I would ask the Government again to vest the power in the Public Services Commission.

4-15 p.m. "No doubt, Sir, it is necessary to consult the High Court in certain matters. But I feel a difficulty in consulting the High Court in matters like this because the High Court comes in contact with only a section of the people. There are practitioners living in the mufassal. The High Court has no direct opinion of these people. The opinion of the High Court with reference to them will be that of the District Judges. The District Judges are not always the best Judges in so far as the recruitment to the higher grades of officers is concerned. Even if the opinion of the District Judges is to be obtained I do not see why it should be taken through the High Court instead of coming direct. Government have to consider other matters than the recommendations of the District and High Court Judges like character and a number of other things and they have to satisfy themselves. It seems to me that people living in the mufassal and particularly people who have to deal with particular Judges will be handicapped when appointments are made on the recommendation of people who are not directly in touch with the mufassal practitioners. Therefore the mufassal practitioners are always handicapped when appointments are made directly by the High Court or on the recommendation of the High Court. That is the position.

"In the matter of filling up vacancies in the High Court Bench the claims of the mufassal practitioners are not taken into consideration. Sir, the cases that come to the High Court are mostly appeals from the lower courts. So far as Judges dealing with these cases are concerned the person who has had mufassal practice who knows the situation there,

18th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

who knows how things are done is, if anything, in a better position to deal with these matters than a man who only practices in the metropolis and deals only with appeals. I do not see any reason why the mufassal practitioners should not be considered as they have not been hitherto, in filling up vacancies in the High Court. That is a matter which the hon. the Law Member will have to consider. After all the practitioners in the mufassal, at least some of them, are as good as any practitioner in Madras. It may be that the practitioner in Madras may get more money but so far as real work, real character and real learning are concerned, I think one can find as good lawyers in the mufassal as in Madras. Such being the case I do not see why mufassal practitioners should be ignored in making appointments to the High Court. So, I beg to submit that we have to consider this question of recruitment to this Judiciary from the bottom to the top altogether and we have to frame, Sir, proper remedies. I hope the hon. the Law Member would have already considered the matter and will be in a position to tell us what he is going to do in these matters."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Mr. President, Sir, even at the risk of tiring the House and the hon. Members on the Treasury Bench I venture to reiterate the perpetuation of injustice done to certain communities in the Judicial department. I would not have done so if it were not for the fact that the attempt to do justice to communities in services has not been applied in this department. I mean to say that the communal Government Order has not been applied to this department. I have carefully examined the ratio obtained from this department of the several persons in the department belonging to different communities. The disparity is so glaring that a running man can find it out. And speaking for the Mussalmans the disparity is greater. In some grades of Judicial Service there are no Muhammadans at all at present. I mean the Subordinate Judge's grade. Even in the High Court there is not a single Muhammadan. It has often been said, Sir, when Muhammadans have raised this question that there are not sufficient numbers qualified to take up the appointments. As I have remarked in my previous speeches on this subject the excuse is nothing but a bogus one. There are Muhammadans who have been practising both in the High Court and mufassal, who have put in a lot of service and who have been dealing with very good cases and I do not know what is meant by saying that they are not efficient. And the Muhammadans all along have been pressing on the attention of the Government the injustice that is being done to them in all departments and nowhere is this injustice more than in this Judicial department. There is considerable amount of dissatisfaction, especially among the educated classes that their claims have not been taken into consideration. It is nothing but an insult to the intelligence of the Mussalmans to say that these persons who are double graduates and are earning their livelihood as vakils in the mufassal better than others of their standing and who have made their mark in the Bar are not competent and qualified men and that they are not forthcoming. I may reiterate again, Sir, that a double graduate, a Muhammadan graduate, is in no way inferior to a double graduate of any other community including even Brahmans. (Hear, hear.) So, it is a very

[Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig] [18th March 1931]

serious matter and the Government is dealing with educated persons who are considerate. We never want that they should be appointed merely because they are Mussalmans. Therefore, Sir, it is very high time for the Government to allay the feelings of the Muhammadan public and an intelligent public and especially when they ask for mere justice."

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Persons who are appointed to the Judicial department must naturally possess evenly balanced temperament so that they may dispense even-handed justice to all parties whether they belong to this or that community. It is therefore very clear that any person who sits on the Bench cannot start with a communal bias for the result will be chaos and misunderstanding between different sections of the community. The natural result of their communal bias being carried to the Judicial department will inevitably be in the administration of justice being corrupted and be made a party question. It is really surprising that though this question has been mooted for any number of years, still the Members of the Council have not educated themselves into the right impression that in so far as Judiciary is concerned at least there must be no difference of opinion as to the nature of the persons to be recruited. The qualifications required are experience, capacity and the ability to understand the real points in issue. If you would consult the pages of the Law Reports, you will find that the judgments of Munsifs and Judiciary are being upheld by the Privy Council. The Privy Council have on several occasions remarked that the judgments of especially the courts of first instance, viz., the Munsif and the Subordinate Judges' Courts have been characterized by an evenly balanced appreciation of the evidence, oral and documentary in particular cases. It is not a matter of infrequent experience that the judgments of lower courts are confirmed while those of the appellate courts are reversed. Hence it is very clear that the system of appointment and recruitment of District Munsifs and Subordinate Judges is the very best and it could not possibly be altered without affecting the character and the capacity of the persons who should sit on the Bench to administer even-handed justice. Further, it is very clear that if any departure is to be made it will only be a leap in the dark and would inevitably lead to confusion, a result which should be devoutly avoided. The Judiciary according to the new ideas that we are going to expound in our new administration will be responsible for pointing out to the public at large the national ideals which are languishing for support and the ways in which they could be vivified so that they may stand out as ideals for the new Government to copy. This process is going on even at present for in matters of social life or of education or of religion, the old antiquated ideas will have to be given up and new progressive ideas will have to be pointed out by the Judiciary so that the legislature may collaborate with them in enacting new statutes which will have the effect of infusing new life and blood into the old questions so that they may be suited to modern conditions. If you analyse the Law Reports you will find that a considerable portion of the reports on litigation is taken up with questions relating to Hindu Law of Adoption, Succession and Women's Estate. You will find that the system of land

18th March 1931] [Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar]

tenures and mortgages occupy an equally important place in the Law Reports as reported. Therefore a good deal of work has to be done in respect of the exposition of archaic systems of law and Judges find themselves quite confused as to the way in which the old texts have to be interpreted according to modern ideas. Therefore the Judiciary will have to be a creative body of new and fresh ideas which will vibrate in resonance with the new life which is now circulating throughout India and the legislature I must also point out must be sufficiently keen enough to appreciate those circumstances so that the legislation that has now to be brought on the anvil must correspond to the new vital forces which are now being realised throughout the land.

"Therefore, these two departments, namely the Judiciary and the Legislature, should collaborate together, if you want that India should march on the new road of judicial advancement. But, if you want to continue to follow the archaic system of administering justice according to archaic laws, the position of India will be an anachronism in the onward march of civilisation in the modern world outside, and India will be handicapped by the fact that you are not able to grasp the new development of ideas, so that India cannot go forward along the world current and be the light of the world."

4-30
p.m.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President I wish to state in this connection, Sir, that when questions of communal justice in the recruitment for appointments are considered, it is necessary for us to find out what the fundamentals are that govern the procedure. There is no doubt in a country like ours that we have, besides the common law, various laws like the Hindu Law and the Muhammadan Law, which have to be dealt with in the administration of justice. It is also necessary that it should be the earnest endeavour of the Government to see that it encourages people belonging to the different communities, so that they might be responsible for the proper interpretation of the laws from the point of view of the various religions and of the various customs and habits of the people. So far as the Mussalmans are concerned, we have in this province time after time brought home to the Government that in the making of these appointments this community has suffered considerably. I have figures before me, Sir, which show clearly that in the Gazetted appointments, which include, I believe, the appointments in the High Court of Judicature, the District Judges, the Subordinate Judges and the District Munsifs, in the year 1924 there were only six Muslims as Gazetted officers, and I find in the year 1930 the same number continues. In the course of six years, the number has not undergone any change. In the Court of Small Causes there is only one Muhammadan gentleman; in the City Civil Court there is none, and in each of the offices of the Advocate-General, the Administrator-General and the Public Prosecutor, there is none. So in those various offices of the Judicial department there is not one Muhammadan. There is perhaps one Muslim Subordinate Judge, and I understand there are two District Judges who are permanent. Of course, the question of the appointment of a Muslim

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [18th March 1931]

Judge to the High Court has been agitating the minds of the Muslim community for long, and representations have been made from various quarters in that behalf, and each time the answer came from the side of the Government that there were not efficient persons forthcoming in the province for appointment as Judges of the High Court. Sir, with regard to this question, I might tell the House that there are several lawyer friends here present who are Mussalmans and there are several others outside this House, and if the Government could think of appointing them I have no doubt they will find a large number to recruit from. Recently, some appointments were made to the High Court, and I do not think that if we take the ordinary criterion on the basis of which appointments are made, the Mussalman legal profession will be found to be lacking in any respect behind other gentlemen who are appointed to the High Court Bench.

"Sir, with regard to the question of recruitment to the services that has been raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, I do agree with him that the recruitment of District Munsifs should be transferred from the High Court to the Public Services Commission. Then, Sir, I do not know if he pursues his argument much further with regard to promotions also. Well, Sir, I would not agree that we should take the same principle with regard to promotions also, because it will be doing injustice to the people already in service, and it is just possible that those gentlemen who belong to particular communities which are not now well represented will also suffer, because there are many persons belonging to different communities other than Brahmans, who will certainly suffer if the question of communal consideration is stretched to promotions.

"Sir, I think it is better that in the initial stage, when recruitments are made, particular care should be taken to see that communal justice is done, and that even at the expense of reducing the numbers of a particular community which has been monopolising appointments in the judicial services, in order to enable members of other communities to come up to a certain level. The Government can consider that question and do communal justice at least so far as initial appointments are concerned."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"One word, Sir, with regard to the Oriyas. Unfortunately for the Oriyas, there is very poor representation even in the Judicial department. This morning I brought to the notice of the House that there is not one Oriya holding the appointment of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, when the hon. the Home Member was pleased to say that he could not find anybody among the Oriyas fit for the place. But in the case of the Judicial department, there are a number of Oriyas who are fit to be appointed to these judicial posts. But, unfortunately, the word 'Oriya' is not found in the communal Government Order, because nobody remembers that Oriyas exist in this Presidency at all. (A voice: Are they not Non-Brahmans?)

18th March 1931] [Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo]

That is a mistake to suppose so. There are Brahmans and Non-Brahmans among the Oriyas. Because we are not cared for here, we wanted a transfer from this Presidency but we are not allowed to go and to be amalgamated with another province. Our case was not so bad in the pre-Reform days, when our local officers would understand our difficulties and would encourage us. Now, unfortunately, the Public Services Commission knows very little about Oriyas, nor do they care to know who the Oriyas are, and I am afraid that if these appointments are to be made by the Public Services Commission, they would do us scant justice. At least in those days the European Civilian officers took care to know our difficulties and to sympathise with us. I think the constitution of the Public Services Commission is such that it is independent even of the Government. If the appointments are in their hands, the Government will say 'we have nothing to do with appointments, and we cannot do anything. There is the Public Service Commission.' Therefore, I would prefer so far as Oriyas are concerned that the appointments should be made by the High Court, because there will be one or two Judges who had put in service in our district of Ganjam, but in the personnel of the Services Commission there is none who knows us. Therefore, I say that some special reference ought to be made in the communal Government Order with regard to the Oriyas; Oriya is only a geographical division, and among the Oriyas there are Brahmans, Non-Brahmans and even Muhammadans. Just as you have Andhra Muhammadans speaking Telugu, there are Oriya Muhammadans speaking Oriya. So the division as Brahmans and Non-Brahmans in the Government Order is not a logical division, and will not help us, the Oriyas. You will have also to take the geographical division into consideration and include the claims of people like Oriyas, who are so very poorly represented in the services."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, at the outset, I may say that I quite understand and appreciate the strong feeling that exists in this House with reference to this question of recruitment to the Judiciary. Of course, there is the other side which I may say was so very ably represented by my hon. Friend, Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. In this connection, I wish to take this opportunity of saying that the Brahman Munsifs, Brahman Sub-Judges, Brahman District Judges and the other Judges as a class are all very honourable, honest and capable. But, with reference to this particular question, I can quite understand the strength of feeling in this House.

"Now, with reference to the recruitments to the ranks of the Judiciary, as my hon. Friends are aware, the lowest rung in the Judicial ladder is that of the Munsifs, then come the Sub-Judges, then the District Judges and then the High Court Judges. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, more than once mentioned, the recruitment to the ranks of the Munsifs is entirely in the hands of the High Court under a statute. With reference to the necessity for recruiting Munsifs

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [18th March 1931]

from other communities than the Brahman community, we forwarded to the High Court in the past, proceedings of this Council and the High Court has written to the Government that as far as efficiency permits they recruit Munsifs from the ranks of other communities also. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chetiyar, said in this connexion that this power of appointment of Munsifs should be transferred from the High Court to the Public Services Commission. I think it is not possible because the statute (The Madras Civil Courts Act) has specifically vested the power of appointment of munsifs in the High Court.

"Then, coming to the next rung in the ladder of Judicial office, namely, the Sub-Judges, the present practice is for the High Court to recommend, for the appointment of Sub-Judges, Munsifs who in their opinion are capable of doing work as Sub-Judges, and ordinarily the Government accept their recommendation. There is no direct recruitment to the rank of Sub-Judges. I may say that the Government are considering the question of making direct appointments to the ranks of Sub-Judges, and in considering that question, naturally this question of communal justice also will be considered by the Government. Of course, it is too early for me to say what the conclusion will be.

"Then, my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chetiyar, said that he wanted to know how the position of the District Judges so far as direct appointments to this rank are concerned stands now. Now, the position is this. So far as the appointments of District Judges are concerned, there are only 26 appointments of District Judges. The Secretary of State has said that out of these, eleven appointments may be made as 'listed posts.' Of these eleven, six are reserved for the Provincial service and five are reserved for the Bar. In this connexion I may refer to the arguments of my Mussalman Friends. I am quite in sympathy with their aspirations and say that in the ranks of the District Judges who have been primarily recruited from the Bar, there are two Muhammadan Judges who are permanent. Two in a list of five appointments, it cannot be said, I believe, is an inadequate representation.

4-45 P.M. "With reference to the claims of the Muslim community I may say again that the Government are alive to their sense of responsibility and wherever possible they will do what they can to help them. I may point out in this connexion, that the Chief Judge of the Presidency Small Cause Court is a Muhammadan gentleman and that the Chief Presidency Magistrate is also a Muhammadan gentleman. The observations of my hon. Friends Messrs. Mahboob Ali Baig and Hameed Khan will, I may add, be borne in mind.

"With reference to the High Court Judges, the position is this. In the first place the appointment rests really with His Majesty the King on the recommendation of the Secretary of State. The local Government does not possess even the power to make recommendations. But whatever is possible will be done. I believe that these are the only

18th March 1931] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

points to which reply is needed. In conclusion, I may say that, as was done on former occasions with reference to this communal representation, I shall forward copies of these discussions to the High Court."

The motion was put and carried.

Demand XII—Administration of Justice—Reserved for Rs. 85,82,200 minus Rs. 100 was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XIII—JAILS—RESERVED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,27,700 under Demand XIII—Jails—Reserved.'"

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that the allotment for Jails—Reserved for Rs. 21,86,000 be reduced by Rs. 100.'

for the purpose of censuring the administration of jails.

"Sir, I think I had better preface my remarks by saying that when I gave notice of this motion the Gandhi-Irwin Pact was not known. I therefore used the word 'censure' though what I really had in mind was the necessity to urge for a thorough information of the jail administration. I request the hon. the Law Member therefore not to get agitated. (The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—I never feel agitated on anything.) (Laughter.) I see. Well, Sir, then I request that he might be responsive to the criticisms made with regard to the jail administration and induced to take in a little of the zeal for reform which younger men may feel on this question. Sir, the hon. the Law Member is past the age of having any zeal for reform. (A voice: Hear, hear.) I request therefore that he might be so minded as to take that zeal from the Members of this House and investigate into the conditions prevailing in the jails of this presidency to-day. Sir, the jail is a hoary institution and as such the conditions prevalent therein are reminiscent of mediaeval ages. Sir, in other countries jail reform has progressed considerably that they are to-day largely houses of reform but the jails in our presidency and in our country remain still as institutions where humanity dare not step in at all. Ideas of punishment have undergone considerable change and the view that is taken to-day of the purpose of jails is that they might serve as schools of reform for those people who happen to commit offences against society. It is from that point of view that I ask this Government to view the administration of jails and make such reform as would be consonant with the prevailing notions of reform of jails in other countries.

"Sir, jails are sealed books to the public. Nobody knows what is happening actually behind the closed bars of the jails. They would have remained a sealed book even now but for the political workers who for having disobeyed laws, were imprisoned in them. It is through them

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [18th March 1931]

that we now know the conditions prevailing there. Sir, instead of dismissing the statements of these political workers who have suffered imprisonment as mere personal grievances or as grievances without any foundation, it would be profitable for the Government if they take advantage of these representations and find out what the real state of affairs is and if their representations were true to remedy the defects and see whether improved methods should not be introduced. Sir, the searchlight of criticism is now very much upon the jail administration. The sacrifices which these political workers have made not only outside the jails but also inside the jails to the extent of even losing their lives have thrown a flood of light upon these institutions. Sir, one Jitendranath Das had to sacrifice his own life in order to impress upon the authorities the inhuman conditions prevailing in the jails. Owing to the prejudice the Government had against the Civil Disobedience Movement and against the political workers it might not have been expedient for them at one time to recognize the existence of such inhumanity in the jails. But now that that atmosphere has changed it is advisable that the Government should, instead of being coerced, take upon themselves the responsibility of examining these conditions. It necessitated the sacrifice of more than one soul to make the Government of India agree to the classification of prisoners under three heads. Political workers who had a standing and status in life were, at the discretion of the convicting Magistrate, put in what is called A class. Sir, so far as the physical comforts of those who were put in A class are concerned, I am in a position to say that there is not much to complain. There is undoubtedly the restraint on liberty, and the refusal to give readable books and such other harmless amenities. But in spite of it all, there is the undoubted fact that A class prisoners are better treated. Now coming to B class prisoners, I am afraid, Sir, I cannot say the same thing. I learn that needless restrictions are placed upon them. The distinction that was drawn between the status in life of the so-called A and B class prisoners is very delicate. Most of those persons who were condemned to B class could easily have been put in A class; but the prejudices of the convicting Magistrates had a lot to do in making this classification. The result of this is that B class prisoners though they were equal in status to A class prisoners had to suffer many indignities. This could have been easily avoided by a more liberal policy on the part of the Government. Sir, coming now to C class prisoners who constitute the permanent population of the jails, I am afraid the stories that we hear about their condition of life in jails would do credit to no administration. Sir, it is said that in order to know the actual prison life one must be actually in prison and then only one would be able to realize what prison-life means. As a matter of fact, social workers in other countries have of their accord, in order to gain first-hand knowledge of the conditions of life in jails, gone in as convicts, of course only with the knowledge of the superior authorities keeping the jail officials alone completely in ignorance of the real object of these social workers. No such thing is happening in this country. The hon. the Law Member is blissfully unaware of the conditions of jail life. I do not know if, during this tenure of office so far, he has visited the

18th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

jails more than once or twice. But even when he visits, as when distinguished persons visit the jails, he can only see the bright side of things. If there is anything—certainly there will be many such things—that ought not be seen by superior officers, it will certainly be concealed from their view. Therefore the hon. the Law Member cannot be in a position to appreciate the miserable conditions prevailing in the jails to-day. But having regard to that fact, he must lend a listening ear to the representations made by ex-prisoners—persons who had been convicted of offences not involving moral turpitude.

“There are to-day fortunately hundreds of them available. There is no motive for these persons to misrepresent what happened in jails.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Cannot the debate be continued to-morrow?”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“Yes, Sir.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The House will now adjourn to 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

Thursday, the 19th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Uman Sahib Bahadur, Kt., The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Krishnan Nayar, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Methu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Maniewami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Narayanawami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Alamelumangathayarammal, Mrs. K.	Palat, Mr. R. M.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. O. R.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Premayya, Mr. G. B.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.	Raja of Bobbili.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Raja of Kallikote.
Birley, Mr. Frank.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Devadason, Mr. M.	Ramalinga Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Indraiah, Mr. C.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.	Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Kondappa, Mr. A.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.	Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Sreshtha, Mr. M. S.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Kuppuswami, Mr. J.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Luker, Mr. F. G.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. B.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. O.
Mahmud Schaunad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Munikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.	Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib B.
	Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
	Waddington, Mr. H.
	Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
	Wright, Mr. W. O.
	Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur,
	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.

[19th March 1931]

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Arms Act

Crop protection licences granted in South Kanara in 1929 and 1930.

* 659 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications made to Government for crop protection licences in South Kanara in 1929 and 1930; and

(b) the number of gun licences granted in 1929 and 1930?

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

(b) The figures for 1929 are contained in statement III appended to G.O. No. 972, Public (General), dated 11th August 1930, which has been published. The figures for 1930 have not been received yet.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“May I know, Sir, whether a large number of the applications made to the Government for crop protection licences were refused?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“I should like to have notice.”

Law and Order

Instructions regarding methods to combat the civil disobedience movement.

* 660 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Local Government have received from the Central Government any instructions regarding the methods to be adopted in combating the civil disobedience movement and, if so, what the said instructions are?

A.—The Local Government have no authority to furnish any information to the hon. Member.

Police

Alleged ill-treatment by the Police of Messrs. Krishnaswami Ayyangar and Parthasarathi in Rattan Bazaar.

* 661 Q.—B. POKKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. S. Krishnaswami Ayyangar, an Advocate, was kicked by a policeman with his boot, in a watch shop near G. Cunniah Chetti's shop at 4-45 p.m. on 12th February 1931;

(b) whether Mr. S. Krishnaswami Ayyangar was prevented from taking a photograph of a volunteer who had fallen down by the beating of the Police;

(c) whether Mr. R. Parthasarathi, was also assaulted and prevented from taking a photograph of the same incident, and whether it is a fact that his camera was destroyed as a result of the assault on him by the Police;

19th March 1931]

(d) whether it is a fact that Mr. Venkatarama Sastriyar had an interview with the Commissioner of Police along with Mr. S. Krishnaswami Ayyangar and another advocate; and

(e) whether the Commissioner took any action or conducted any enquiry on the representation made to him by Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar and if so, with what results?

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

B. POKKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“May I know why the Government cannot call for the information and place it on the table of the House?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“In view of the Settlement that has been arrived at, we thought it was not necessary to pursue the subject.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I request the Government to call for the information and place it on the table of the House?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“I have no objection, but I thought there was no necessity to pursue these matters, any further.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“It is not a question of pursuing matters, but it is a question of our getting knowledge of facts. We have tabled a question and we want answer to that?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“I shall consider the suggestion.”

Unemployment

Action taken on the recommendations of the Unemployment Committee.

* 662 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what action the Government have so far taken to give effect to the recommendations of the Unemployment Committee?

A.—The recommendations of the Unemployment Committee and the action the Government have so far taken to give effect to those recommendations are given below:—

Chapter IV—Farm Colonies.

“Small farms of lands at the disposal of Government should be made available for middle class educated young men who possess no lands 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.”

The recommendation regarding the grant of farm lands to unemployed persons possessing no lands was referred to the Agricultural Advisory Committee, and the Committee reported that as suitable land was hardly available for such a scheme, individual applications may be dealt with on their merits.

[19th March 1981]

Chapter V—(1) Recommendation No. 24.

“Larger facilities should be given for education for a practical career, and especially for agriculture. The Committee hopes that zamindars will encourage specialists in agriculture to a greater degree.”

A committee appointed by the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, has recommended that the elements of agriculture might be taught in select higher elementary and middle schools with the aid of school gardens. This question is engaging the attention of Government.

(2) Recommendation No. 25.

“The secondary school course should be reorganized when necessary to suit the requirements of agricultural and technical and industrial schools and higher technological institutions.”

The Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Board is not in favour of any training being given for particular trades or occupations as part of the secondary-school course, but on its recommendation Manual training has been made a compulsory subject in all high schools for boys.

(3) Recommendations Nos. 26 and 27.

(26) “Extension of primary education and necessary training of the requisite number of teachers and the improvement of their prospects is a remedy for unemployment.”

(27) “Improvement of the general status and position of teachers is necessary.”

In recent years with a view to providing elementary schools in all villages having a population of 500 and above, the Government have distributed grants to local bodies, village panchayats and private agencies, and these grants have been utilized for the opening of 6,850 schools. Additional training schools have also been opened to meet the increased demand for trained teachers for elementary schools.

Most of the elementary schools are either under local bodies or under private agencies, and the pay and prospects of teachers in these schools are primarily a matter for the

Trained teachers of the secondary grade—
Rs. 35, 35-1½-50-1-10.

Trained teachers of the higher elementary
grade—Rs. 25-1-50.

Trained teachers of the lower elementary
grade Rs. 20-1-30.

managements. The Government have commended to local bodies the adoption of the scales of pay noted in the margin which

have been sanctioned for schools under Government management. But though improvement has taken place in the pay of teachers in some areas, local bodies have not generally adopted these scales of pay mainly owing to want of funds.

19th March 1981]

They have recently been permitted to utilize for the purpose the proceeds of the education tax and the equivalent Government contribution and this should enable them to make a substantial improvement in the pay of teachers.

As regards schools under private management, the Government have, in recent years, allowed increased grants on account of pay of the teachers.

(4) Recommendation No. 28.

“Special efforts should be taken in the training of teachers to make them really interested in agricultural and rural occupations”.

Provision is made in all training schools for the teaching of manual training. Nature study is also included in the list of compulsory subjects in elementary training schools. The question of training teachers in the elements of agriculture in certain training schools is under consideration.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—“May I know whether any applications from middle class educated young men for grant of farm lands have been received by the Government?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“I am nominally in charge of this subject. I have to get the information from the department of Agriculture which is under the charge of my hon. Colleague, the Second Minister. Therefore I would request my hon. Friend to put a question to my hon. Colleague, the Second Minister after giving him notice.”

Jails*Ill-health of Mappilla prisoners in Alipuram Jail.*

* 663 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many Mappillas convicted of offences connected with Malabar Rebellion died (i) in the Andamans and (ii) in the jails of this Presidency, giving particulars of the respective diseases of which and the respective ages at which they died, the particular jails in which death occurred and the number of deaths in each year;

(b) whether any medical authorities connected with the Alipuram Jail had recommended that the continuance in jail of certain Mappilla prisoners was dangerous to their life, and that therefore they should be released immediately in the interest of their health, and whether any such recommendation was conveyed to the Government by the jail authorities of Alipuram Jail;

(c) whether any of the Mappilla prisoners in Alipuram Jail have been sent to the Tuberculosis Sanatorium there, and if so, how many; and

(d) whether the Government have ordered the release of any such Mappilla prisoners in Alipuram Jail?

[19th March 1931]

- A.—(a) The Government have no information.
 (b) Yes. The jail authorities recommended from time to time the release of prisoners on medical grounds under the rules in the Madras Jail Manual.
 (c) The Government have no information, but have called for it.
 (d) Two hundred and seventy Mappilla prisoners have been altogether released on medical grounds.

B. POKKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“With reference to the answer given to clause (a) of the question, may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether the public are not entitled to know whether certain number of prisoners who have been put in certain jails have died from there or not?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“What is it that my hon. Friend is suggesting? Does he suggest that I should call for the information?”

B. POKKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“Most certainly.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“Yes, I shall consider the suggestion.”

Supply of raw rice in jails.

* 664 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the case of prisoners accustomed to raw rice the Government have issued instructions to the Superintendents of Jails to supply raw rice, but that the cost of raw rice should not exceed that of boiled rice;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the cost of raw rice is always higher than that of boiled rice;

(c) whether he is aware that raw rice supplied to prisoners in Cannanore Jail is not fit for consumption; and

(d) whether the Government have issued instructions regarding the supply of split dhol, buttermilk and increased quantity of salt?

A.—(a) The Government informed the Inspector-General of Prisons that raw rice and split dhol might be issued to such of the convicts as were accustomed to them, care being taken to see that the total cost of diet per day was not exceeded. The hon. Member is also referred to the answer to clause (f) of question No. 57 given at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 27th January 1931.

(b) The Inspector-General brought to the notice of the Government that the issue of raw rice and split dhol to such of the prisoners of the ‘C’ class as are accustomed to them was not possible without incurring extra cost.

(c) No.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to questions 194-A and 194-B. The question of the supply of split dhol has been dropped. The report from the Inspector General of Prisons referred to in the answer to question No. 194-A has since been received and is under consideration.

[19th March 1931]

Irrigation

Supply of water to Tiruppattur tank.

* 665 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Tiruppattur big tank in the North Arcot district has received its full supply of water ever since 1917;

(b) if not, the cause of such inadequate supply;

(c) the names of the tanks that get their water-supply through Pachal kawai and Hanuman kawai respectively, in the Tiruppattur taluk, North Arcot district;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the anicuts at the origin of Pachal and Hanuman kavais are in a dilapidated condition; and

(e) if so, whether any estimate has been prepared for keeping the above two anicuts in good condition and if so, what they are?

A.—(a) Not in all years.

(b) Partly insufficient rainfall, and partly the unsatisfactory condition of the channel and anicut before repairs were carried out in 1923-24.

(c) The Government have not the information.

(d) No

(e) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

Tanks supplied by the Kurusalapet Reed Sahib channel and the Tiruppattur tank.

* 666 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the tanks that have their water-supply through Kurusalapet Reed Sahib channel; and

(b) the names of the tanks that get their water-supply from the Tiruppattur tank?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not the information.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Will the Government be pleased to call for the information?”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“Yes, Sir.”

Repairs to the Reed Sahib channel.

* 667 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Public Works Department has prepared an estimate of about Rs. 35,000 for repair of Reed Sahib channel, and if so, for what items of work and the cause of delay for executing the work;

(b) whether any estimate has been prepared or whether any steps have been taken to keep the Pachal and Hanuman kawai anicuts in good condition; and

[19th March 1931]

(e) whether any memorial from the Public Ryots Association, Tirupattur, and the Muslim Publicity Board has been received to the effect that, on account of the inadequate water-supply, the ryots suffer much and the value of lands is very much lowered; and if so, the action taken on the same?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not the information.

(c) Yes. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers to clauses (e), (f) and (g) of question No. 144 given on 28th January 1931.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Will the Government be pleased to call for information in this case also?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Yes, Sir."

Medical

Promotion of Sub-Assistant Surgeons to the cadre of Civil Assistant Surgeons.

* 668 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any Sub-Assistant Surgeons have recently been promoted to the cadre of Civil Assistant Surgeons;

(b) whether any one or two of the Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the selection grade, who are senior to those that have been promoted, were kept back;

(c) if so, the reasons for doing so;

(d) whether the communal Government Order applies to promotions also;

(e) if not, whether the communal Government Order has been applied in the case of the three promotions recently made; and

(f) whether it is proposed to promote one or more of the Sub-Assistant Surgeons to the grade of Civil Assistant Surgeons?

A.—(a) & (f) Four Sub-Assistant Surgeons have recently been promoted as Civil Assistant Surgeons. There is no proposal to promote any more at present.

(b) Yes.

(c) According to the Statutory Rules issued by the Government, special merit or the possession of special qualifications is the chief consideration for making such promotions. The promotions were made on this principle.

(d) No.

(e) No.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know from the hon. Minister whether the question of seniority was not considered in making these appointments?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Promotions from Sub-Assistant Surgeons to Civil Assistant Surgeons are done only on merit and seniority."

[19th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the hon. Minister is aware that there are one or two seniors in the department and their claims have been ignored in making these appointments?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not know. I shall call for the information."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the hon. Minister consider the advisability of adhering to the communal Government Order in making such appointments and thus consider the claims of Muhammadans?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The communal Government Order is strictly followed and appointments are made by Public Services Commission. But in some cases, as in this case, it is done not only according to seniority but also according to merit."

Agriculture

Average outturn of cotton, etc., in certain villages of Hospet taluk.

* 669 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state for the current fasli—

(a) the average outturn of cotton, choolam, sujja and korra of the villages of Chikka, Jagiganur, Hirejagiganur-Jowka Jiraganur, Gonahal, Humpadevanahalli, Somalapuram, Hannahalli, Mavinahalli, No. 2. Muddapuram and Somapuram of Hospet taluk;

(b) the average estimated yield of hingeri cotton; and

(c) the average yield for the whole of the ayacut of each of the villages respectively?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, may I know how the hon. Minister for Public Works has been put in this agenda as the Minister in charge of this subject. May I know if it is a mistake? I think it really belongs to the hon. the Revenue Member. Any how it is stated that the Government have no information. Am I to understand that the Government will ask for information on these points?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Government have no information, but if my hon. Friend wants I shall certainly get it."

Education

Withholding of grants to schools for refusing admission of depressed classes students.

* 670 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether grants have been withheld from any institutions for refusing admission to depressed class pupils and if so, where; and

(b) whether there are at present any schools from which caste pupils have withdrawn on account of the admission of depressed class pupils and which are now continuing with depressed class pupils alone and if so, what they are?

19th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the hon. Minister is aware that there are one or two seniors in the department and their claims have been ignored in making these appointments? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I do not know. I shall call for the information."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Will the hon. Minister consider the advisability of adhering to the communal Government Order in making such appointments and thus consider the claims of Muhammadans? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The communal Government Order is strictly followed and appointments are made by Public Services Commission. But in some cases, as in this case, it is done not only according to seniority but also according to merit."

Agriculture

Average outturn of cotton, etc., in certain villages of Hospet taluk.

* 669 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state for the current fasli—

(a) the average outturn of cotton, cholam, sujja and korra of the villages of Chikka, Jagiganur, Hirejagiganur-Jowka Jiraganur, Gonahal, Humpadevanahalli, Somalapuram, Hannahalli, Mavinahalli, No. 2. Muddapuram and Somapuram of Hospet taluk;

(b) the average estimated yield of hingeri cotton; and

(c) the average yield for the whole of the ayacut of each of the villages respectively?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no information.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, may I know how the hon. Minister for Public Works has been put in this agenda as the Minister in charge of this subject. May I know if it is a mistake? I think it really belongs to the hon. the Revenue Member. Any how it is stated that the Government have no information. Am I to understand that the Government will ask for information on these points? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Government have no information, but if my hon. Friend wants I shall certainly get it."

Education

Withholding of grants to schools for refusing admission of depressed classes students.

* 670 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether grants have been withheld from any institutions for refusing admission to depressed class pupils and if so, where; and

(b) whether there are at present any schools from which caste pupils have withdrawn on account of the admission of depressed class pupils and which are now continuing with depressed class pupils alone and if so, what they are?

[19th March 1931]

A.—(a) A case of an aided elementary school in Tiruppattur, Ramnad district, having refused admission to Adi-Dravida boys in 1929-30, was brought to the notice of the Government. In that case the Director was requested to instruct the District Educational Officer to recommend to the District Educational Council to withhold the teaching grant from the school for 1929-30. It is understood that the District Educational Council passed a resolution accepting a committee's recommendation that the grant paid for that year might be recovered from the grant due to the school for the year 1930-31. No other case has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to paragraph 4 of the Director of Public Instruction's letter printed in G.O. No. 35, Education, dated 9th January 1931, copy of which has been placed in the Council Library. The Government have no further information on the subject.

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to call for information and say whether, due to want of room in the school, admission was refused not only to Adi-Dravida boys but also to boys belonging to other castes?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"Yes, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether 'want of room' was given as a lame excuse?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"I cannot say that."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"The cause of 'want of room' applied both to Adi-Dravida boys as well as caste boys. Seeing that a private gentleman has really endowed a large amount of money on this institution, will the hon. the Minister be pleased to consider the question of renewing the grant to this institution?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"I shall call for the information and then consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"Will the hon. Minister be pleased to order the management to admit the Adi-Dravida boys in any case?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"That cannot be done if there is no accommodation."

*Release of prisoners convicted in connexion with the civil
Disobedience movement.*

670-A Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many prisoners convicted in connexion with the civil disobedience movement are still in jail;

(b) why they have not yet been released; and

19th March 1931]

(c) whether the Government propose to release those convicted for cutting palmyra trees and if the reply is in the negative the reasons for the same?

A.—(a) & (b) There are now 182 prisoners including the five Bombay prisoners. The reason why these have not been released is that the Government have called for judgments in these cases by telegram to see whether they are guilty of active violence.

With reference to clause (c) of the question, where men are guilty of spathe cutting, orders have been issued for the release of such prisoners. And many of them must by this time have been released.

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"Will the Government consider the desirability of releasing men whose release will not cause any recurrence of offences in future?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"Government want to construe the order as liberally as possible."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know if all those prisoners who were convicted of other offences in connexion with the civil disobedience movement under section 188 will be released?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"If my hon. Friend means all prisoners who have been convicted for disobedience of orders under section 144, then they will be released."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Will people convicted of offences under section 108 come under this release?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"No, they will not come."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—"May I know when the wire referred to calling for the judgment was sent?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The wire was sent some days back. Recently the telegram has been repeated."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—"Are all these telegrams not heeded to by the authorities?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"They certainly do pay heed. It will take some time because the District Magistrates have to get copies of judgments from the several convicting Magistrates who are scattered in different parts of the Presidency. The matter cannot be done quickly."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Police

*Arrest and remand in Madras of ladies connected with the civil
disobedience movement.*

671 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANIA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of ladies were arrested in Madras in connexion with the civil disobedience movement during the last one month; if so, how many were arrested and how many were released;

[19th March 1931]

(b) whether it is a fact that the ladies not released were kept in remand for a long time; if so, for how many days in each case and what was the cause of the delay; and

(c) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) So far as Government are aware the numbers are 13 and 1.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) None.

Prosecution and acquittal of Mr. V. A. Sundaram.

672 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the prosecution evidence tendered by the Police officials in their prosecutions of Mr. V. A. Sundaram, one of the satyagrahis, before the Second Presidency Magistrate;

(b) whether on the denial of the prosecution story by the accused, the Magistrate believed in the innocence of the accused and acquitted him; and

(c) if so, what action the Government have taken against the Police officials concerned for manufacturing a case against a citizen?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have perused newspaper reports of the case.

(c) None, as there was no finding in the Magistrate's judgment that the case was a concoction.

Press

Demand of security from presses.

673 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of presses in the province from which security has been demanded and the amount of security demanded owing to the civil disobedience campaign; and

(b) what presses furnished the said security and what presses were closed owing to the demand?

A.—(a) Thirty-seven presses under Ordinance No. II of 1930. The total amount of security demanded was Rs. 45,500.

Two presses under Ordinance No. X of 1930. The total amount of security demanded was Rs. 1,000.

(b) A statement^a is appended.

^a Printed as Appendix on page 437 infra.

[19th March 1931]

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

II.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

DEMAND XIII—JAILS—RESERVED—cont.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti will continue his speech on his cut motion."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Last evening I was speaking of the 'C' class prisoners; I was speaking for nearly 16,000 of our fellow-beings. I do not think an appeal made in their behalf will go in vain.

"Sir, the 'C' class prisoners come from the poorest of our population. Unlike in the other countries, we have no population which may be called 'criminal.' Such offences as are committed in this Presidency are due to poverty and some of them are undoubtedly due to land disputes. As a matter of fact those who are convicted in land disputes are not directly concerned in the dispute, but they are fomented by wealthy landholders. These people go to jails in connexion with offences such as murder, grievous hurt and so on committed during those disputes. A considerable part of the offences committed in this Presidency, to repeat it again, is due to factious troubles. In very few cases it is due to women. If, therefore, we analyse the causes for which these people go to jails, the necessity for treating them in quite a different way from which they are treated now will be evident. Our convict is more or less of the type of Jean Valjean who pilfered a loaf of bread in order to protect his starving mother and was committed to prison for that offence. But in a free country like France he was able to become a big industrialist and a leading member of the society but unfortunately in our country offences committed even for protection of one's family under starving conditions are punished with such punishments as to make the offender a criminal all through his life. I mention this point in order to show there is absolutely nothing of a reformatory character in our jails. As a matter of fact the atmosphere that is prevailing in jails is one of tense fear from the convict upward to the Superintendent. Each one is afraid of his life. The apologists of Official Government may defend the circumstance but it is still a fact. There are what are called convict night watchmen, convict overseers and convict warders. Over and above these officers, there are paid warders, paid jail officers like deputy jailors and jailors and the superior officer, the Superintendent. In this hierarchy of officialdom, the convict warder plays a very important part. He acts as the link between the official section of the jail and convict section of the jail population. In no country is this convict warder system allowed. In this country when a committee examined the question of the jail administration, witness after witness condemned this practice of having convict warders. Still on grounds of economy and on grounds which are peculiarly applicable to this country, that system is still retained. That is the most horrible system that can be ever conceived. The warder is promised a certain amount of remission in his term of imprisonment if he conducts himself properly. One way of distinguishing themselves and making their services necessary is to beat the convicts, to foment trouble and to suppress it. This practice goes on from day to day; we know nothing of it; the high walls that surround these jails screen every enormity that is being committed in jails. We are thoroughly unmindful of the troubles and of the tyranny and cruelty that is going on in jails. It is

11-15
a.m.

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [19th March 1931]

not unusual for the services of the convict warders being sometimes availed of by aspiring jailors. There are instances of deputy jailors acting in the places of jailors for a time and aspiring to become permanent jailors. These deputy jailors would avail themselves of the services of the convict warders to gather a number of convicts to attack the Superintendent when he comes round for inspection. The convicts have to obey the convict warders lest any disobedience should mean punishment to themselves. The Superintendent also is in mortal fear of these convicts; that is why he takes a number of people when he goes on examination. These people are not only the paraphernalia of the Superintendent but they are bodyguards for protection from the possible attacks of the convicts. Then the deputy jailor who is acting as the jailor comes in, gives blows to these attacking convicts, demonstrates his fidelity and helps in order to protect the Superintendent's life and gets himself promoted as a permanent jailor. If one looks into the motive with which these things are done, one should feel the necessity of looking into these things a little more carefully and set them right.

"If jails are intended for the purpose of training and giving instructions to the convicts and of reforming their character, it can only be done by a Superintendent who is accustomed to that sort of work. But the sort of Superintendents we employ is totally unfit for any kind of that work. As a matter of fact, most of them are ignorant of the vernaculars. Therefore, there is no question of these people trying to reform the character of people in jails. So, the fundamental object of putting these people in prison, viz., that their character should be reformed is not achieved at all when the Superintendents who are expected to do this work are totally ignorant of the language in which they could possibly put themselves in conversation with the convicts. The only channel through which the convict can approach the Superintendent, if he dares do, is through the convict warder. The convict warder in order to get remission of sentences can do anything. He becomes the sole monarch of the jail administration. This is a state of things which is most undesirable.

"Apart from these questions, let us look into the clothings, diet and other necessities which the Government give to the convicts. The clothing consists of one jubba, one lungota, one kudutha, a cap and a strip of cloth. It is hardly possible to conceive that with these insufficient clothings, people in jail can get on comfortably. Moreover, when a convict enters into the prison cells for the first time, he is not given a washed set of cloths but is asked to pick from a scrap heap of soiled cloths which are left behind by the released convicts. So, the first lesson we teach in sanitation to these convicts is to pick up a soiled cloth and to wear it. The second lesson in sanitation we teach him is to ask him not to bathe except once a week. 'C' class prisoners are not allowed to bathe every day; they can bathe only once a week; they are asked to go in a large number to a place where there is a long perforated pipe from which water drops; they are asked to bathe within a short time of half an hour or one hour. Thus a large number of convicts go to that place and bathe by the driblets of water that come down from the perforation of a long pipe. On account of special conditions in England, people can go without a bath for a number of days. But in India which has very hot climate where people, however poor they may be, bathe in the way-side pipe every day, if not twice a day, they are compelled to bathe once a week; they are not allowed the required quantity of water for bathing; they are asked to

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [19th March 1931]

bathe in driblets of water coming down from a long perforated pipe within a short time. Hon. Members can conceive this sad state of things. Under such conditions how can any man keep himself clean? Again there is another abominable feature with regard to this bathing. As I said, the set of clothes which is supplied to these prisoners is insufficient. A prisoner cannot wear the ordinary cloth when he bathes; he has got only one strip of cloth to cover himself when he bathes. If he bathes with that strip of cloth, it becomes useless and he cannot clean his body. Therefore he is obliged to bathe in complete nakedness. That is one kind of training which we give to our convicts. Some of these people who have some sense of decency would rather forego their bath than to bathe naked.

"Then we come to the question of their latrine accommodation. We ask municipalities and local boards to insist upon rules of sanitation being observed by the people. But what is the condition of the jail population which the State takes care of. One seat is reserved for six persons. I cannot describe the horror of this thing, and within a fixed time the whole of the jail population have to finish their calls of nature; therefore there is mad rush to get into the privy; in the mad rush it does not matter where they ease themselves. It is such a hellish thing for them even to satisfy their calls of nature.

"During nights, the accommodation in the cell is very abominable. Many cells, I am told, are full of bugs and mosquitoes. For fear that the mosquitoes would die for want of breeding places the jail authorities themselves supply a mud pot for the convict for urine purposes; a mud pot is placed in the cell so that mosquitoes may not complain of places of breeding. The result is the man who is already dirty by not being able to bathe daily, has to put up not only with the nuisance of bugs and mosquitoes but with the most offensive smell of his own urine.

"Now we shall go to the question of food. With regard to diet, the Government have, no doubt, with the best of intentions prescribed some sort of diet; they fixed up the price of the food that can be supplied at a certain level. Though that amount may be comparatively less inadequate to-day on account of cheapness of articles, till recently no quantity of food that can satisfy the hunger of even an ill-fed and ill-nourished man, can be got for the amount of As. 2-9 allotted to each convict. The supply of food-stuffs is given to contractors. As a merchant I know that we have got several qualities of commodities to sell; we call one quality, jail quality; that is the most inferior quality that we can come across. When persons come to buy commodities and when we know that they are not likely to pay good prices, we begin first by showing the jail quality. It has become a byword in the market that jail quality means the worst quality conceivable. It is that quality that is supplied by the contractors to the jails. That is the sort of stuff that is supplied to these prisoners, and in the course of transit from the contractor to the convict, as is done by the Chinese tax-collector, so many reductions are made so that when it reaches the convict, he gets very little value for the money that is spent for him by the Government. In the first place the food is cooked in iron vessels. I do not know, Sir, why the Government should insist upon having these iron vessels when, at a slightly higher cost, we can have brass vessels and copper vessels which are as long standing as iron vessels; therefore it is unnecessary to wound the feelings of people by cooking food in iron vessels.

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [19th March 1931]

11-30 a.m. "Now they are supplying what are called chapatis which are nothing but a mixture of the worst quality of ragi and which have the appearance, I am told, of a charcoal and the taste of sand. Along with it, they are also given what is called a soup. That soup is made of galjaraki (ಗಜ್ಜಾರಕಿ); you know, Sir, what galjaraki means. It is a leaf which is not touched by human beings. There is neither salt nor chilly in the soup. They are given also a broth. The broth is a hash of some rotten greens, more often it is *mullanghi*, and particular care is taken that *mullanghi* which is only putrid is supplied to the jails.

"Again on the advice of Western doctors and experts, our Government have introduced what is called 'germinating dhol.' They say that the germinating dhol has got more nutritious qualities than the ordinary dhol and the convict should therefore be fed by this germinating dhol. Apart from the question whether it possesses any nutritious qualities or not, its sight and smell are simply horrible. The smell, I am told, is stinking; and people tell me by way of comparison that it is a hundred times worse than (*kalaneer*) the water we give to cattle in which all things are put and which is allowed to remain over-night before it is given to the cattle the next morning. It has got a very offensive smell, and I am told this germinating dhol is a hundred times worse than that kind of rotten stuff. It may have, no doubt, some nutritious qualities; but for the matter of that, cod liver oil also has such nutritious qualities. I would like to know how many of us here would like to take cod liver oil in its unpurified state on the only ground that it has got very nutritious qualities? So, granting that the germinating dhol has got great nutritious qualities, it remains to be known whether people can put it into their mouth to get the benefit of the nutritive qualities after it gets into the stomach. When even its smell is so offensive, what is the good of its nutritious qualities? The convict would rather like to go without taking this stuff. But then refusal of food or throwing away food constitutes a prison offence and when we begin to think of prison offence, it is really horrible. No doubt, on paper, according to the Jail Code, flogging cannot be resorted to except with the approval of the Inspector-General of Prisons. But who is the party that gets the sanction from the Inspector-General of Prisons. The recommendation will have to go from the convict warder to the deputy jailor, from the deputy jailor to the jailor, then from the jailor to the Superintendent, and from the Superintendent to the Inspector-General. What is the direct touch between the Inspector-General and the convict, in order to know why this punishment is suggested for the convict and whether it is right or wrong? Naturally the Inspector-General of Prisons has got to deal with all the jails in this Presidency and he can only trust the man on the spot, even as the Government trusts the man on the spot. Therefore, there is no use in saying that flogging is subject to the approval of the Inspector-General of Prisons as a mitigating circumstance.

"Apart from the punishment of flogging, there are other kinds of punishments, such as the bar fetters and the staple fetters. I wish the Government exhibit those instruments here for the benefit of Members of the Legislative Council who can understand what it would be like if people are punished with those fetters. I am told the bar fetters are put in rings on the legs; there is a long rod right up to the stomach and the man cannot stop and could go only like a wayward bull or buffalo which we generally see

19th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

punished by the shepherds. And this is done continuously for three days! The staple fetters seem to be a more horrible form of punishment than the bar fetters. The convict's hands are tied up to a long rod fixed to a beam, in such a position as to allow the feet just to touch the ground; and the man is allowed to remain like that. The maximum number of hours for which one can be punished with these fetters is four hours, out of which three hours may be continuous: and there must be at least one hour's interval after the first three hours. But, Sir, these punishments are for what purpose? Are they for indiscipline? If so, if the man is treated properly in the jail, there will be no room for any indiscipline at all in jails, especially in our Presidency where there is no criminal tendency and no desire to revolt or rebel. It is purely the humiliations and indignities offered to the convicts, which are encouraged in jails, that now and then drive the convicts to protest. And in the first place, even for these protests, there are many unrecognized floggings by the warder and the other officials, then come the bar fetters, the staple fetters, then the cellular punishments and solitary confinements. I was under the impression, Sir, that solitary confinement meant that each convict would be given a small room and that he would be allowed to have his food and other things there. I thought, therefore, it was much better than going out and working on ragi or flour mills. But I am told that solitary confinement means very much more than that. It appears that the cell that is given is completely dark except for a few chinks here and there. The man has simply to gaze upwards and downwards and he becomes dazed. It is a very horrible form of punishment, Sir, and nobody knows—whatever the official statistics may say—how many convicts are put into these solitary cells, for what time they are put in there and when they are released. Probably the hon. the Law Member is as ignorant of such things as any Member of the House here, because there is no chance of these things being known at all. We have after all got to trust the Superintendents of the Jails. My point is that the Superintendents are carrying on the jail administration in a way entirely different from that in which they were intended to do.

"Again, Sir, increase of sickness has been a salient feature of the year 1929, and this is noticeable particularly in Trichinopoly. Complaints were made on the floor of this House even when things were going on there, that dysentery was very much on the increase in the Trichinopoly Jail, and time after time we requested the hon. the Law Member to give the prisoners some buttermilk. But the hon. the Law Member, with his experience of this world—ripe experience at that—doubted the efficacy of buttermilk and wanted to trust the experiments being made by experts. That was of course an answer intended for this House; but I do not know if he was himself satisfied with that answer. He does not know that in this country, buttermilk is a healthy requirement and that even the poorest man does not consider buttermilk as a luxury; and he would not admit of the experience of myself or of those who are clamouring here for that kind of relief. He would rather trust an European doctor imported from England, to examine, analyse and give a thesis upon the utility of introducing buttermilk in the jails. I do not know, Sir, if the experiments have come to an end and if buttermilk is going to be introduced in the jails at all. If any evidence is necessary to convince him of the necessity of buttermilk, he may as well refer to books already written on jail-life. There are many English doctors who have acknowledged the usefulness and the efficacy of buttermilk as a jail diet.

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [19th March 1931]

"Sir, I would beg the hon. the Law Member not to give the ordinary reply that he generally gives that the Government have no reason to suppose that there are any extraordinary conditions, that the Superintendents are satisfied with the jail diet and that the Government in their turn are satisfied with the Superintendents' report, and all that kind of thing. I want the hon. the Law Member to imagine whether, if these grievances could not have really crept in, it is his duty to examine the question apart from the representations made here. Superintendents of jails can never bring these matters to the notice of the Government; it is not possible. With that only channel shut out, is it not the duty of the hon. the Law Member to know from those who have been released from prison what the actual conditions are, whether he could go to the assistance of the prisoners so far as the rules allow and whether he could not do something to alleviate the distress of these people? That is my fervent appeal to him.

"If I have spoken these things even on the first motion, it is because we want to persuade the hon. the Law Member to appoint a committee to examine the present jail conditions and suggest such reforms as may be necessary in order to convert the present deterrent forms of punishment in jails into reformatory forms of punishment.

"While on this, Sir, I would like to mention one or two matters with reference to the Jail establishment itself. I am not satisfied only with making representations on behalf of the convicts. The grievances of the Jail establishment in so far as their pay, comforts and other things are concerned, seem to be equally bad. Even there, there is discrimination as between the Indian and European establishments. Europeans are given more pay and Indians are given less pay; even in places where Indians can be very satisfactorily employed. European warders are brought in, recruited from ex-military men. The children of Indian officers are denied the benefits of education in so far as jails situated far away from towns are concerned. The quarters allotted to the Indian officers are anything but satisfactory. I beg the hon. the Law Member to examine these things also. As a matter of fact, the cost of such conveniences as the Government deny will be re-imbursed from the convicts. It is necessary that the Indian official should be satisfactorily placed, in order at least to place him above temptation.

"Sir, there is one other remark which I should like to make. Each convict, when he enters the prison, is made to hand over all his possessions to the jailor or other official stationed at the gate. Supposing, for instance, a man has got ten clothes, he is given a chit to the effect that such and such a convict left ten clothes. Those ten clothes may be of a particular type and size. When the convict returns, no doubt he gets the ten articles, but not the same ten clothes which he had left. Instead, he gets only ten torn pieces of a cloth. That is the way in which the jail officials deal with these convicts. Again, Sir, I am told that in some cases, valuable possessions such as rings, buttons, etc., disappear when the convict comes out and demands their return.

"In this connexion, Sir, I would like to speak a few words about the question of remission. Four days in a month is the maximum period of remission prescribed for convicts for good conduct and industrious work, that is, for people sentenced to rigorous imprisonment.

19th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

"While the full benefit of this remission is given to European convicts, such as in the case of Collett and Domaine, the Indian convicts are not treated on the same lines. This is a matter which the hon. the Law Member has got to look into. Apart from the ordinary remission, the Local Government have got the power to grant as much remission as possible. If the Government are satisfied that the detention of a person for a time was able to bring home to the prisoner concerned the nature of the guilt and that there is a tendency to reform, remissions are intended to be exercised very largely in favour of the convicts. As I said, Sir, the convict population in our presidency is not a criminal population. It is a poor population who for want of employment commit petty thefts and get into the jails. In such cases, it is necessary for the Government not only in the interests of economy but also in the interests of the persons concerned to release these prisoners by giving them ample remissions.

"Sir, I am very sorry to note that a large number of Mappillas are still in jails. The occasion which necessitated the imprisonment of these Mappillas has now disappeared and there is a tendency for them to settle peacefully. Whatever might have been the reasons which led to their conviction of imprisonment, as there seems to be now a talk of peace everywhere, there is no reason why the Mappillas alone should feel the soreness of long term imprisonments. In this connexion I must reiterate particularly the case of Mr. Narayana Menon. I must say that Mr. Narayana Menon, granting that he was guilty of the crime with which he was charged—with which I dare say the hon. the Law Member would not agree, because he was a defence witness in that case. . . ."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. My evidence was purely a formal matter and not as a defence witness."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, the hon. Member made us believe that he was thoroughly innocent and I take him at that. Coming to the question of the release of Mr. Narayana Menon, granting that he was guilty of all those things, has not the occasion arisen to review his case dispassionately and without prejudice and to find out if he could not be released. Granting that, if he is let out, he misconducts himself, will it be a difficult matter for this Government to look him up again. There are, however, so many sections in the armoury of the Government and there is the octopus-like section 144, which can bring in anybody from the Prince down to the peasant into the jail. Having regard to all those powers, will it not be right that the Government should again consider the desirability of letting him out of the jail.

"I am glad, Sir, that the hon. the Law Member just now stated that, excepting 182 persons, all the other persons who were convicted in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement or of political offences have been released. A particular case has been brought to my notice. One Somayajulu of Madura was convicted under Section 124-A along with two other persons Srinivasavarada Ayyangar and Krishna Kunja, but I noticed in the papers last evening that Krishna Kunja was released, and I am yet to know if this Srinivasavarada Ayyangar who was also convicted under the same offence was also released. I shall be glad if this man also is released. I dare say

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [19th March 1931]

that the case of Mr. Annapurniah is receiving the attention of Government and that despite the former statements made by the Government they will be in a position to release him. I make bold to offer these remarks in order to impress upon the Government the immediate necessity of appointing a committee of inquiry; whether of officials or non-officials, it does not matter, so long as the persons selected have got some zeal for reform and so long as they know how prison systems are conducted in other countries; that will do for the purpose. So, I beg hon. Members of this House, to whatever party they may belong, because this is a matter in which all of us are concerned and there is no question of party labels in this matter, to support the motion. As a matter of fact, I am willing to modify the word 'censure' and request the Government to appoint a committee. While I am speaking on the first motion, I am actually speaking on a later motion, notice of which I have given, namely, the appointment of a committee of enquiry. There is a flood of light thrown upon the jail administration and therefore it is necessary that these grievances should be redressed and I hope the hon. the Law Member will not lose the opportunity of distinguishing himself as a reformer of jail administration and of relieving the distress of those people whose distress it is not possible for us to see, being behind the jails, so that posterity will bless the hon. the Law Member. I therefore formally move my motion for the appointment of a committee, which run thus:—

'That the allotment of Rs. 21,86,000 for Jails be reduced by Rs. 100.'

Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—“Mr. President, Sir, I have also given notice of a cut motion to request the Government to appoint a committee to go into the question of the conditions in the jails of this Presidency. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, has made out the case for the appointment of a committee to enquire into the conditions of jail life in this Presidency in a way in which I myself do not feel I would be able to do. Sir, he has told us the difficulties of C class prisoners regarding the diet that is supplied to them, regarding the clothing given to them and in regard to the punishment meted out to them.

“The analysis given by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami, has clearly brought out the necessity for the appointment of a committee to go into the question, to find out ways and means and to improve jail life in this Presidency. I do not want to take up the time of the House by repeating all the grievances enumerated by the previous Speaker, but I would just refer to the fact that the diet supplied to the prisoners is said to be extremely unsatisfactory. The food that is now given to the prisoners is not according to the previous habits of the prisoners concerned. The rice that is used for the diet of the prisoners is not the rice to which they are ordinarily accustomed. On a previous occasion, I raised this question by means of an interpellation addressed to the hon. the Law Member asking him whether the Government could not find it convenient to supply boiled rice to those who are accustomed to take it and whether raw rice could not be supplied to those who are accustomed to it, but nothing as yet seems to have been done in that direction. Sir, the sauce that is supplied to C-class prisoners has been very graphically described by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatachalam Chetti, but the description of it given to me by one of the relatives of a prisoner is that it emits a smell which one feels in one of the latrines of the Railway station. That is the sort of food that is given to them.

[19th March 1931] [Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari]

“About the other things, my hon. Friend Mr. Venkatachalam Chetti has elaborately dealt with them and I do not propose to go into those questions, but I would only say this. The other day when the hon. Sir M. Krishnan Nayar was describing himself as constitutionally and temperamentally incapable of wounding others, I was nodding my head by way of approval. We, on this side of the House, are not so unreasonable as to be unable to appreciate merit in the Members of the Treasury Bench when there is merit in them. I know that the hon. Sir Krishnan Nayar has considerably raised himself in the estimation of the public by the imagination, by the resourcefulness, by the promptitude and may I say by the high sense of duty and responsibility which he has exhibited in the matter of the release of President Patel. I had given notice of a motion for the release of President Patel, but Sir Krishnan Nayar was so shrewd, if I may say so, he was so selfish, that he would have the credit for himself and not allow it for the House. His handling of the question of the release of President Patel was characteristic of a great statesman and a past-master of popular psychology. He knows when to hit and where to hit. A good act must always be praised so that more good acts may come. It is proper that we should appreciate a man's good deeds, so that he may try to become more good and do more good acts. This is the spirit in which I want to tell the hon. Sir Krishnan Nayar how the country has appreciated his greatness and his magnanimity in this respect. May I appeal to him now to see that the great name that he has built up for himself does not suffer, to see that he rises to the occasion and that he tries to leave the impress of his personality and the impress of his constitutional incapacity to cause suffering to others, by having a thorough investigation made into the conditions of jail life and by putting the jail administration on more modern, up to date and humanitarian lines.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Sir, my district is famous for jails. We have got the Central Jail in Bellary with a population of 800 prisoners and then we have got another jail at Alipuram which had a population of more than 6,000, but the population of these jails is now dwindling to less than that. Unfortunately or fortunately, whatever it may be, my district is famous for jails. It was once famous for several other good things, but now it is notorious for bad things—jails. On account of the fact that we have got some jails in my district and on account of the fact that I happen to be in the privileged position of being a non-official Provincial Visitor to jails, I am intervening in this debate. Well, Sir, so far as my visits to these jails are concerned, I have taken particular care to make enquiries into the various complaints that have been placed before me by the convicts, whether they be from ordinary convicts or from those convicted in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement—and whenever the grievances have been brought to the notice of the Superintendents of the Prisons they have been certainly very prompt in redressing them so far as they lay in their power and if it is not in their power they have been prompt enough in bringing those grievances to the notice of the Inspector-General of Prisons. . . .

“And it happened, Sir, in several cases the grievances were redressed. 12
But apart from that, however, so far as the gloomy picture that has been noon.
drawn by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, that stands good to-day. Well,

[Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar] [19th March 1981]

Sir, as a matter of fact, in spite of the several reforms that have been introduced, the fact stands good at present, the fact that prisoners suffer from those hardships which have been detailed in minuteness for the information of hon. Members of the House. Probably some hon. Members here may be aware of Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai. He was almost known to be an expert in connexion with these jail matters. He agitated and agitated and got a committee appointed and on account of that committee several of the great hardships of the convicts were remedied. But as time elapsed new difficulties have arisen; and not only that, with the evolution of time there are certain amenities of life also now claimed by the convicts. For example, time was when ragi was used to be given as diet for prisoners without any difference of caste, creed or colour. That time may be considered to be the primitive stage of prison life. But that day had passed, and option was given to prisoners to name the diet they required. Then there came a time when they were given option in order that they might have certain supplies made in certain parts of the year. But apart from all those grievances, as pointed out by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, with reference to the supply of diet, with reference to clothing, with reference to accommodation, with reference to the communications the convicts may be allowed to carry on with their relations, and with reference to convict warders—Sir, these are the several cases which require careful consideration. And it is not too late in the day for a committee being appointed to go into these matters, so that the hardships may be removed, or if not removed at least minimised. I have not the least doubt—I may say the hon. the Law Member richly deserves the encomiums which Mr. Satyanarayana Choudari bestowed on him—the hon. the Law Member will realize the need for the inquiry and I hope he will do all in his power to remedy these grievances.

“One word more I wish to say on this matter, and that is in connexion with the under-trial prisoners. First they are committed to sub-jails, and after they are committed to the Court of Sessions they are kept in the district jails, and there they are subjected to all sorts of bad treatment. After all, Sir, they are only under-trial prisoners, and as a matter of fact I have seen with my own eyes under-trial prisoners being confined in cells, most dirty, most insanitary, full of bugs and full of mosquitoes. That is certainly a matter requiring immediate relief. Because, after all they are only under-trial prisoners; they may be after all innocent. It may be the case has been a concocted one, brought forward at the instigation of enemies, or it may have been due to the action of vindictive relatives, or some other persons. So, their innocence or guilt has not yet been decided. And if the courts pronounce a verdict of innocence then it will be working mere hardship on these under-trial prisoners for all the woes to which they have been subjected. I am sure, and I have not the slightest doubt, the hon. the Law Member will look into these matters; and as it is now clear that almost every Member in the House is urging for the appointment of a committee I hope he will accept the suggestion.”

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—“Mr. President, Sir, in speaking about this motion regarding the administration of jails, as the hon. Mover has traversed the whole ground, I wish to emphasize only one aspect of the question. And that is the question of the release of the Malabar rebellion prisoners.

19th March 1981]

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad]

“Sir, this question has several times been discussed on the floor of this House. Every year during the Budget session also this question is being discussed and the real nature of the case is being brought to the notice of the Government. Sir, I understand resolutions were passed in this House during the previous Council for releasing the Malabar rebellion prisoners.

“I may point out here that these prisoners were convicted not in the course of a regular trial. For there was no regular trial at all. There was only a mock trial. The prisoners were undefended, and mostly they were convicted on the evidence of a single police witness. So, Sir, there was no evidence let in at all. The trial was only a *nankavasthi* one (Laughter). I say that the trial was only a farce.

“Then, Sir, I wish to bring to your notice that some of the persons accused of rebellion were persons who were dead and gone long before the date of the rebellion; such persons were also charge-sheeted, and when it was found out that those persons no longer existed the case had to be withdrawn against them. And there were other instances in which charge-sheets were laid against persons who were already in jail at the date of rebellion for offences said to have been committed before.

“Well, Sir, the hon. the Law Member himself must be aware of the innocence of some of these prisoners at least. Because he seems to have given evidence on behalf of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon, one of the rebellion prisoners, although it is said to be only a formal evidence he had more than once pleaded on his behalf and on behalf of others in this House and tried to bring home to the Government that they were really not guilty of the offences charged against them. Sir, this is said to be a time to forget and forgive. Then, I ask, ‘Why not forget their cases also?’ ‘Why not forgive those unfortunate human beings who are suffering untold miseries?’ They also may be supposed to be, and as a matter of fact they are, political prisoners, since they were convicted on account of the non-co-operation movement started by Mahatma Gandhi. That being the case, when prisoners, convicted for political offences are being released I hope and believe that Government will not be vindictive towards these poor prisoners but will release them also, and thus show that they are prepared to ‘forget and forgive.’ What is it that prevents the hon. the Law Member from taking action in the matter? I hope he will rise to the occasion and carry out what he himself preached when he was on this side of the House. But if he finds himself helpless, if he wants help from the other Members of the Executive Council, let him request them: ‘നവമിരിക്കുന്ന സഭാംഗങ്ങൾ എന്ന നാണക്കേടുകൾ വരുത്തുകൊണ്ട് എനിക്ക് സഹായിക്കണമെന്ന നിങ്ങളുടെ സഹകാരസഭാംഗങ്ങളോടു ആവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നു’ Sir, I feel this is the time when the Hon. the Law Member should come to the help of these unfortunate beings and do justice to them.”

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—“Mr. President, Sir, having had the privilege of spending more than two years in a number of jails stretching from Coonoor on the West Coast to Cuddalore on the East Coast, I have had opportunities of closely studying jail life from within. Therefore I listened to the speech of Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti with great interest. I may say, Sir, that with regard to things connected with the life of prisoners there is much room

[Mr. Yakub Hasan]

[19th March 1931]

for improvement, and there are serious grievances that require to be redressed. I must, however, say, Sir, that things are not quite so bad as they have been depicted.

12-15 p.m. "Even in these civilized times the jails are maintained as something like secret institutions. Peoples outside the jails have no opportunity to know about the real state of things prevailing there. There are official and non-official visitors who visit the jails, but every time a non-official goes round, a jail official follows him and the prisoners do not feel at liberty to mention anything about their grievances. The jailer takes note of what a prisoner tells the visitor and he makes it very hard afterwards for that prisoner for having dared to make the complaint. So, nobody has the courage to draw the attention of visitors to the grievances of the prisoners. The prisoners are allowed to have occasional visits from their relations. Then, too, Sir, the time given to them is very little and an official of the jail is present at the time and they can tell nothing to their relations. All communications with the outside world are cut off altogether, and therefore if things were to be worse than they are at present, there could be no surprise. Sir, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti has made out a very good case for enquiry into the jail administration and I would urge upon the Member in charge to agree to the formation of this committee, so that necessary improvements may be made in the jails of this Presidency. There are always many long-term prisoners for whom jail is their home for a large part of their lives. To them, Sir, especially the jail authorities ought to be more considerate than they are. Some of these prisoners are educated people, and some long-term prisoners who were brought from the Punjab, were all educated. The services of the educated prisoners should be utilized for teaching the other convicts; libraries should be provided and a large number of books kept for the use of prisoners than is the case now; also some papers and magazines should be allowed to be read by them. Sir, though most of the jail officials are good men and are humane in their treatment of the prisoners, still the very fact that these officials have been in jail for the whole of their service, for 25 to 30 years, and they have been dealing with prisoners for such a long time, itself makes them callous. They are always surrounded by prisoners; they begin to think that the general state of things that surrounds them is the established order of life, and they lose some of their good qualities and consequently become indifferent to the sufferings of prisoners. I know, Sir, for instance, that one doctor used to perform major operations without giving chloroform to the patient. Such a thing no doctor dare do outside the jail. But prisoners in the jails are at their mercy, and they can do anything they like with them, so much so that when this doctor performed an operation, the whole jail was affected by the cries of the prisoner who was operated upon."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Is he in service now?"

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"I do not want to say anything so that attention may be drawn to that particular doctor. But this has taken place in a jail and I simply mention it so that steps may be taken to see that such cruelties are not practised in jails. If a warder beats a prisoner, appeal is provided

19th March 1931]

[Mr. Yakub Hasan]

to the jailer; if the jailer ill-treats a prisoner, an appeal lies to the superintendent; and if the superintendent does not attend to it there can be an appeal only to the Inspector-General of Prisons. All officials are of the same disposition and there is hardly any chance of an appeal succeeding; and all officials are so much dependent on one another that the superintendent dare not find fault with the doctor, and the doctor dare not carry tale against the superintendent if anything goes wrong. Whenever I brought to the notice of a superintendent a certain case, he simply said, 'Mr. Yakub Hasan, I am helpless; I cannot do anything in the matter.' That was the reply I always received. I hope a committee will be appointed which will look into these matters. I have several things to say about jail administration, but I would rather place those facts before a committee than before this House.

"In bringing my remarks to a conclusion, Sir, I would say that the Mappillas, who are now suffering in jail with long terms of imprisonment, deserve much consideration at the hands of the Government. If the Mappilla rebellion, the so-called Mappilla rebellion, and the causes that led to it had been properly enquired into, it would have been found that agrarian causes were at the bottom of it which gave the rebellion the turn that it had taken. No doubt there was agitation about the Khilafat, there was agitation for freedom of India and there was non-co-operation; but if Mappillas were contented people and they had not other local troubles the rebellion would never have taken the turn that it actually did afterwards. Because the Mappillas were against the janmis who were ill-treating them, they were also against the Government. They said to themselves, 'This Government is here, and our lot is like this; we are suffering so much and there is no remedy for this from this Government. Let us see who are the persons that are responsible for this.' That was how they thought. Who are the Government in Malabar so far as these ignorant Mappillas know? There is the Collector, the deputy collector, and the tahsildar. The Mappillas thought: 'Here are the officials who constitute the Government. We have got the janmis who are giving us trouble. These two are at one supporting each other' and so on. The result was that when this excitement came in, they burst out into an outbreak. And these men, being military spirited people—some of them did service in the War and returned from Bagdad and other places—rose up in rebellion. It was found in that rebellion that it was ex-soldiers who took up arms against the Government because they were smarting under grievances which they attributed to the Government. So, Sir, all these things have to be taken into account. It was really an unfortunate affair. Now that our memories of the Malabar rebellion are getting every day weaker and weaker, and at this time when we are thinking of the future, when new constitution is expected to be ushered in and better times are going to come, will you still keep these Mappillas in prison? It is not the Mappilla prisoners who are alone suffering. Thousands of people related to them are suffering. In fact the whole Mappilla community is under a ban. Now, if we realize this fact we would agree that we should give peace to the whole Mappilla community by releasing all these Mappilla prisoners. It will mean that the Government will thereafter be at peace with the Mappilla community. I ask you to give them a chance and tell them to behave better in future. That would be extending your right hand of friendship to the whole Mappilla community. This gesture on your part will be interpreted by Mussalmans in a broad sense. Now, Sir, why did you release thousands of political prisoners throughout

[Mr. Yakub Hasan]

[19th March 1931]

India. Was it not to tell Mr. Gandhi that the Government was prepared to give the prisoners freedom so that they might come out and talk about the future constitution and sit at the Round Table Conference and all that. But here are these ignorant Mappillas in jail. Don't you want to tell them that the Government have nothing against them any more, and in future if they behave better Government may even help them. The release of a few hundred prisoners will not make much difference. You must look at this question from a greater, wider and nobler point of view than from a mere technical point of view as has been the case with some individual prisoners."

B. POCKER Sahib Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, in obedience to your mandate I shall be very brief and will not take more than five minutes. I do not want to speak a word on the general subject which has been the matter for discussion. I only want to say a word about the proposition before the House that the subject matter of reference to the committee should also include the release of prisoners convicted of offences connected with the Malabar Rebellion and also release of State prisoners who have been confined under the Mappilla Outrages Act and the State Prisoners Act. I want to refer only to one or two points. As regards the causes which led to the Rebellion and which have been the real cause for confinement of such a large number of Mappillas in jails, there have been differences of opinion. On the one side the people have been maintaining that the real cause of the whole trouble—the trouble itself being as old as a century—was the agrarian trouble. On the other hand, the Government have been maintaining all along incessantly that the Rebellion was the consequence of the non-co-operation movement. Now, let us look at the question from both these standpoints. I do not want to say which version is correct.

12-30
p.m.

"Well, take it from the point of view of the agrarian question. That the agrarian question has been agitating the Mappillas and that it has been responsible for many an outrage in the previous years has been admitted even by the committee appointed by the Government in the eighties. It is as a result of that that the Mappilla Compensation and Tenants Improvements Act came in and it alleviated the trouble to a certain extent. But even after this rebellion the hon. the Law Member took up the matter seriously and certainly all the credit goes to the hon. the Law Member for having brought about the Malabar Tenancy Bill which has become law at present. Since the coming into force of the Malabar Tenancy Act, the agrarian cause is disappearing. I may just remind the hon. the Law Member of his own speech which he delivered as early as 1923 in this very hall in supporting the resolution for the release of the Mappilla prisoners who were convicted in connexion with these rebellion offences. It was in that connexion that he himself was saying that these Mappillas contributed towards the labour in the district and their absence would be very much felt not merely by the Mappillas but by the janmis, the tenants and by all classes of people. If not on any other ground at least on economic and agrarian grounds these Mappillas should be released. If that plea in 1923 was a valid one, it must be much more valid after a decade has expired. Now, Sir, from the Government's point of view, they have all along been maintaining that the Mappillas are incited by the non-co-operators. The ground on which the Government have been deliberately refusing the release of Mr. Narayana Menon though they have been convinced of his innocence is that he has been responsible

[19th March 1931]

[B. Pocker]

for inciting the Mappillas. I certainly do say that the Government is absolutely wrong but I do not want to enter into this question at present. Taking the case from the Government's point of view, if it is the non-co-operation movement that is responsible for the Mappilla rebellion and if the non-co-operation movement is responsible for confining all these people in jails for all these years is it not fair that the Government should release these Mappillas also when they have released the prisoners confined in jails on account of the non-co-operation movement. Well, when the very Leader, Mahatma Gandhi, who has been responsible for non-co-operation and who has been confined to jail under the very same kind of Regulation under which many of the Mappilla State prisoners have been confined, has been released and also all non-co-operation prisoners have been released, is it not fair and just to release all these Mappillas who are none but the dupes of non-co-operationists? Now, Sir, from all these points of view it is only very legitimate and proper that the Government should release all these Mappilla prisoners whether they are people convicted for rebellion offences or whether they are people confined under the Mappilla Outrages Act and State Prisoners Act. As regards the prisoners convicted of rebellion offences I may say that my experience is that all these trials during the rebellion were nothing but farce. Simply tens of thousands of people were produced before courts, some nominal witnesses were examined and the Mappillas were despatched to jail under the farce of a trial. I have been dealing with hundreds of such cases in the High Court. It is not necessary for me to say anything on those points because we are now in the fortunate position of having as Law Member a gentleman who knows all about it. So far as persons who are confined under the State Prisoners Act and the Malabar Outrages Act are concerned they have been confined outside the provinces without any kind of trial, without bringing home to them what kind of offence they were guilty of. People in hundreds have been kept away for a number of years and have been kept in jail. They are thrown out in several cities outside the Presidency on a pittance of 5 to 8 rupees which is physically impossible for any human being to live upon. In this connexion I must express my appreciation of the policy of the hon. the Law Member as regards sending the Mappillas to Andamans. I must really feel thankful to Providence that He has taken away the portfolio from the hon. the Muslim Member and transferred it to the hon. the Law Member who has been kind enough to stop sending Mappillas to Andamans any further. Though the scheme has not been formally cancelled I am very glad to express my appreciation of his acting up to his convictions as against the policy of the Muslim Member who thought that it was taught in the teachings of Islam that these people should be sent to the Andamans. I appeal to the hon. the Law Member to act in the same spirit, act to his conviction and release these people who are innocent, because they, if they are guilty of anything, have suffered sufficiently. After all the term that still remains to expire is only little and in a short time they are bound to come out. Not only that, on the eve of conferment of full responsibility to the people I do appeal to the hon. the Law Member to act with grace and to advise his Government including the Muslim Member to see that these prisoners are released with grace thus giving some encouragement to this community that has suffered very heavily for the last one decade. If they are treated in this way I am sure there will be peace and plenty in this country."

[19th March 1931]

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I have also given notice of a cut motion with a view to urge upon Government the necessity of appointing a committee to go into the question of classification, treatment, diet, and health of political prisoners. My motion relates only to political prisoners and, therefore, I shall confine myself to political prisoners. As I had occasion to say when the budget was generally discussed questions relating to political prisoners are questions which concern the flower of Indian manhood and womanhood. Many great lives were in jail until recently, and if the agreement arrived at between Mahatma Gandhi and His Excellency Lord Irwin is not going to achieve permanent results, what would be the position again? However much some of us might differ from the methods of persons who honestly believe, and perhaps rightly believe, that future Free India has to be worked out, not within Council Chambers, not within the Assembly Halls, not even at the Round Table Conference, but within prison walls, there can be no doubt that the lives of these great men are lives which ought to be the glory and pride of any nation and that it is the sacred duty of persons who have an opportunity of serving those lives to serve those lives properly and well.

"Rules and regulations there might be codified in the Jail Manual but we should see that there is an amount of human touch about the rules and regulations. This position I shall illustrate from an answer that was given on the floor of the House by the hon. the Law Member. My hon. Friend Mr. Shetty from South Kanara asked a question: 'Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state (a) the number of A, B and C class women political prisoners in Vellore Jail; (b) whether any representations have been made to the Government regarding their treatment and if so when and by whom; and (c) what steps have been taken to remedy the grievances complained of?' The reply was: 'A representation was made by certain A class prisoners in the Central Jail, Vellore, that female prisoners should not be placed in C class and that the female prisoners of the C class were not supplied with oil for the hair or washing materials. The criteria for classification of prisoners laid down by the Government of India do not contemplate any special classification of female prisoners. Female prisoners of the C class are being supplied with oil and washing materials.' On this answer my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnasabhapaty Mudaliyar put a supplementary question: 'May I know if the hon. the Law Member will be pleased to have the chivalry to classify all the C class lady prisoners under class B?' The hon. the Law Member replied: 'I am afraid I have no option whatever to be chivalrous in a matter like this. I wish I could.' Now, Sir, here is an admission by the hon. the Law Member that, though he feels that the position ought to be otherwise, he is helpless because of the rules and regulations.

"Now, Sir, regarding the treatment of political prisoners one or two answers furnished on the floor of the House to the interpellations of some of my hon. Friends will amply bear out that political prisoners are not properly treated. My hon. friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti put these questions: 'Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state (a) What was the number of prisoners that resorted to hunger strike from March to October 1930; (b) the reason for such hunger strike; (c) the jails in which such hunger strikes took place; (d) the class of prisoners amongst whom hunger strike was resorted to; (e) the duration of each strike; and (f) how each case ended?'

19th March 1931]

[Mr. V. P. Narayana Nambiyar]

The answer to that question is: '1,608 persons resorted to hunger strike.' Whatever be the reasons for the hunger strike and whatever be the duration of each hunger strike, the one inference to be drawn from the fact that 1,608 persons resorted to hunger strike is that all is not well with the treatment accorded to political prisoners and that there is something wrong somewhere. Again, Sir, when the question of my hon. friend Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar relating to the transfer from jail to jail of Mr. T. Prakasam came up before the Council, one of the answers was: 'Transfer of prisoners from one jail to another within the Presidency is ordered by the Inspector-General of Prisons under rules 468—473 of the Madras Jail Manual.' Now are lives of gentlemen like Mr. Prakasam footballs for the Inspector-General of Prisons to play with?

"The next point, Sir, relates to the diet of the political prisoners. We have heard a good deal about this on the floor of the House. The normal dietary of an individual should consist of proteins, carbo-hydrates, and fats in certain proportion. Proteins are contained in dholl, carbo-hydrates in rice or wheat, and fats in ghee or coconut oil. Yet, the hon. the Law Member in answer to a question said: 'As an experiment a thousand prisoners in the Alipuram jail, on the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Prisons, are being given buttermilk instead of split dholl and Government are now watching the result of that experiment.' Now, can buttermilk be supplied only by removing dholl?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Law Member may be given some time to reply."

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR :—"Now, Sir, I come to the classification of political prisoners. There is the rule that magistrates should look to the previous status of prisoners' life, still, what is it that is actually taking place? There was a question put by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti about the number of persons convicted for political offences in all the courts of the Presidency from March to October 1930, the number of convictions against which appeals were launched, the number of such appeals confirmed by the Appellate Courts, the number of appeals in which the sentence was quashed or revised, the number of persons placed in each class of prisoners by the convicting Magistrate, and instances of the classification ordered by the Magistrates having been revised by the Government either on appeal on behalf of the prisoners or on notice by the Government. Now, from the reply to this question we find 176 cases have been mentioned as instances in which the Government had to revise the classification made by the Magistrates. All these facts prove that a committee ought soon to be constituted by Government.

"Mr. President, Sir, just a word about the Mappilla Rebellion prisoners. My hon. Friend, Mr. Poeker, has urged that the Mappilla Rebellion prisoners ought to be released. Though Hindus had suffered much at the time of the Rebellion, I do not hesitate at the present juncture to join saying that they ought to be released."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not wish to take up much of the time of the House, because I hope the hon. the Law Member will have to say a great deal. Sir, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti has made out a very good case for the appointment of a committee to enquire into the conditions of the prisoners. I hope the committee to be appointed

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [19th March 1931]

will be a non-official committee consisting of Members of this House, or otherwise a committee consisting of some Visitors to the jails. Gentlemen like Mr. G. Narayanaswami Chetti will certainly be of no use. I suggest that in consultation with the hon. Leaders in the House a satisfactory committee should be formed. That is what I wish to suggest. I hope that this committee will not only enquire into the present comforts and conveniences and treatment of the prisoners but will also suggest changes that the Government will have to make in the Jail Rules and in the Jail Manual. I wish also to point out that the undertrial prisoners ought not to be treated in the manner they are now being treated, because they are not convicts. They are people whose guilt has yet to be proved. They may be mostly innocent people. This is another matter which I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member to be included in the scope of the enquiries of the committee to be appointed. In regard to the appointment of jailers and other jail officials, there should be a change of policy; they should not prefer Anglo-Indians and Europeans only to these appointments. Indians should also be appointed as jailers and deputy jailers.

"Then, Sir, in the matter of the treatment meted out to lady prisoners in the Penitentiary, I have found myself, when I visited it recently, that there is absolutely no provision made for the convenience of the lady prisoners, who are undertrial prisoners. Recently, a batch of them was taken into the Penitentiary, and they suffered for want of necessary conveniences. I hope the hon. the Law Member will also take this matter into consideration."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I am very glad to say at the outset that the conditions which existed at the time when these cut motions were given have altered completely since then, and the causes of irritation that naturally existed at that time are no longer in existence. I may also say this, that I feel grateful for the friendly spirit that pervaded the criticism in this House regarding these jail matters.

"Now, going into some of the details referred to by my hon. Friends, I may say that, as I shall not have time enough to reply to all the detailed criticisms and suggestions made by my hon. Friends, I will go into the criticisms and suggestions made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, who moved this cut motion referred in general to the discomforts of the A and B class prisoners and in more detail to the discomforts and inconveniences of the C class prisoners. My Friend himself has admitted that so far as A class prisoners are concerned he has practically no complaint to make. He referred particularly to their diet. I may say that with reference to their clothing and bedding, the A class prisoners are entitled to have their own clothing and bedding. Even with reference to their diet, they are entitled to supplement the jail diet with diet at their own expense. Then, as regards B class prisoners, my hon. Friend has some complaints though they are not very serious. My hon. Friend said that with reference to B class prisoners they ought to be given all the conveniences which are ordinarily given to the A class prisoners. I may tell my hon. Friend and the other Friends in this House that so far as food is concerned, there is absolutely no difference between the food supplied to the A class prisoners and the food supplied to the B class prisoners. There is, however, this difference that unlike the A class prisoners the B class prisoners are not entitled to supplement the food which is given in the jail with food at their

[19th March 1931] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

own expense. So far as clothing is concerned, there is no doubt that there is some difference. I say that the difference is not a great one. For instance, the B class prisoners are not entitled to have their own clothing but the clothing supplied to them in the jail. The clothing given to them is different from the clothing that is given to the C class prisoners, and is much superior to that of the C class prisoners.

"My hon. Friend's attention naturally was directed more largely to the treatment of the C class prisoners, and he dwelt upon their food, clothing and the sanitary arrangements available for them in the jail. With reference to the food that is supplied to C class prisoners in general, I know very well that the observations that I am about to make are not applicable in their entirety to the Civil Disobedience C class prisoners who were in jail. These observations with reference to food and clothing and other matters apply more to the ordinary C class prisoners and not to the Civil Disobedience Satyagraha prisoners, for many of these latter come from the class of society higher than the class to which the ordinary C class prisoners belong. With regard to the food that is supplied, I wish to draw the attention of the House generally to the weight that is gained or lost by these C class prisoners. I have got here statistics for the years 1925 to 1929, showing the percentage of the prisoners who gained weight, who remained stationary and who lost weight in each of those years, on the food that was given to them:—

Year.				Percentage that gained weight. (2)	Percentage that remained stationary. (3)	Percentage that lost weight. (4)
(1)						
1925	..	..	..	72.74	18.63	8.63
1926	..	..	..	73.96	17.07	8.17
1927	..	..	..	74.59	19.09	6.32
1928	..	..	..	75.37	18.86	5.77
1929	..	..	..	79.30	20.41	8.28"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I respectfully draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I am very sorry that I cannot yield to him, and I have only a very short time left for me to speak."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"In the case of all Satyagraha prisoners, they lost weight."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The figures I have given are from official records. In 1925 only 8.63 per cent of the prisoners lost weight, and in 1929 only 8.28 per cent. If my hon. Friend had been only attending to what I was going to say, probably he would not have got up. So, it is clear that the percentage of prisoners that have gained weight by their stay in the jail on the food supplied to them far exceeds the percentage of those that remained stationary and the percentage that lost weight."

"Then, my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, said that when he visited the Penitentiary he found that the women prisoners had not the necessary conveniences. Women prisoners did not have the necessary conveniences in the Penitentiary, because that jail was not intended for women prisoners."

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

[19th March 1931]

In this connexion hon. Members will remember that these women prisoners were kept in the Penitentiary only for a very short period, probably for one or two days, till they were convicted or discharged. There is a jail which has been constructed exclusively for women convicts, which is called the Presidency Jail, in Vellore, to which are sent all the women who are sentenced to imprisonment. There all conveniences are provided for women prisoners. They are given oil and combs for dressing the hair and also looking glasses. These things are supplied even to C class prisoners, not to speak of the extra conveniences provided for the A and B class prisoners.

"I will then refer to the undertrial prisoners. My hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, I believe, referred to the case of the undertrial prisoners. Instructions have been already issued to the Inspector-General of Police and the Jail authorities to treat the undertrial prisoners well till they are convicted. So far as undertrial prisoners are concerned, the instructions issued are that they should be allowed to wear their own clothes and have their own bedding, and if they have no clothes of their own they are at liberty to wear the clothing supplied in the jail. As a matter of fact, these undertrial prisoners are divided into two classes, what may be called the higher class and the lower class, and they are treated differently, the treatment that is given to the A class prisoners being given to the higher class undertrial prisoners. So, these instructions which have been issued for the treatment of the undertrial male prisoners apply to the undertrial women prisoners also. The Penitentiary is not one of our jails intended for the imprisonment of women prisoners, and that is why we have a separate prison for women.

"Then, my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, referred to the system of convict-warders. I may tell my hon. Friends that Government are not enamoured of the system of convict-warders. On various occasions, the system of convict-warders and the desirability of putting an end to that system have been considered, and I believe the number of convict-warders is gradually becoming less and less. I believe also that the time will come—I cannot say when that time will come as we have now to pass through a financial depression—when there will be no convict-warders.

"I think Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti referred to the question of the supply of buttermilk to prisoners, and some of my other friends referred to the supply of raw rice. As I stated in answer given to the questions in this Council, I had personal conversations with the Inspector-General of Prisons about the supply of raw rice and buttermilk to such of the prisoners as want it. I officially called on him to submit a report on this matter, and the report has been received, and it is under consideration. Here again, I may submit that the urgent need for supplying buttermilk to prisoners has ceased to exist, because in the case of the Civil Disobedience prisoners a large majority of them were no doubt accustomed to a kind of diet which included buttermilk, and the question was urgent only when they were in the jail. As almost all those prisoners have been released now, there are now left only the ordinary C class prisoners who are not generally accustomed to a diet of buttermilk.

1 p.m.

"In any case this report of the Inspector-General of Police regarding the supply of raw rice and butter-milk is under consideration and the Government hope to pass orders soon.

19th March 1931]

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

"My hon. Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti referred to some individual cases. These cases are included in the 177 cases which yet remain to be examined. After examination their cases will be decided.

"I feel grateful to my hon. Friend Mr. Satyanarayana Choudari for all the very kind things he said of me personally. It was very kind of him to have done so.

"Sir, I wish to say a word or two about the treatment of Mappilla prisoners, and the necessity, as my friends urge, for their release. I would at the outset assure hon. Members that the Government regard the Mappilla prisoners with sympathy. I shall here give a brief account of how the Government have been dealing with them. As my friends are aware the rebellion broke out in the year 1921 and it was in that year and at the beginning of the next that a large majority of Mappillas were convicted. They numbered about 7,000. With reference to these, in 1922, practically immediately after their conviction, as many as 1,291 were released. Then in the year 1924, Mr. Hilton Brown who is now one of our Secretaries here was appointed Special Officer to examine the calendars of these prisoners and, as a result of that examination some 764 prisoners were released. The House will remember that all these were premature releases. Again in 1927 the question was examined by the Government and it resulted in the release of 2,324 prisoners. Subsequently, again, another batch of 1,288 prisoners was released. Now I venture to think that hon. Members will agree that the Government have been sympathetic on their part towards these Mappilla prisoners. With reference to the appeals—the passionate appeals—made by my hon. Friends Messrs. Pocker and Yakub Hasan whom it is a pleasure to listen to even when they criticise the Government, I will say, Sir, that the cases of the Mappillas remaining still in jail numbering about 1,300 or so will be examined by the Government. The cases of persons who have been detained either under the Mappilla Outrages Act or under the State Prisoners Regulation will also be similarly dealt with. Those who have been detained under the Mappilla Outrages Act are very small in number. There are only 16. Those detained under the State Prisoners Regulation number about 188 or so. (A Voice: What about Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon?) The case of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon and the cases of other individual prisoners (Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari: Including Mr. Annapurnayya) will also be considered from time to time.

"In conclusion, I can give this assurance, namely, that the Government will carefully consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend for the appointment of a committee. If such a committee is to be appointed, I am afraid, as my hon. Mr. Hameed Khan suggested, it will not be a purely non-official committee. (Mr. Hameed Khan: Non-official majority.) I trust that the hon. Mover will withdraw his motion."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, if the withdrawal of the out motion would facilitate the earlier consideration of the suggestions made, I shall only be too glad to do so. (The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar: I shall begin to consider this after the Budget discussion is over.) Very well, Sir, I beg leave to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XIII—Jails—Reserved—For Rs. 27,27,700 was then put and carried and the grant made.

[19th March 1931]

DEMAND XIV—POLICE—RESERVED.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—
 “Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—
*‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,63,33,900
 under Demand XIV—Police—Reserved.’*”

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—“Sir, I beg to move—
*‘that the allotment of Rs. 13,47,300 for Presidency Police be reduced by
 Rs. 100.’*”

“My object in moving this cut motion is to condemn the Police administration, especially the Malabar Special Police. Sir, from the activities of this force in the city of Madras, the country has become fully aware of its potentialities. I wish to know why this Malabar Special Police was brought into existence and why it is being maintained. Is it intended to overawe the Mappillas and keep them in terror? Is it possible for a handful of 500 men to keep in subjection a million and a half of people? If the Government think so, they are mistaken. Do they not know, Sir, that at the time of an outbreak on a former occasion, when a handful of Mappillas charged with their knives the European soldiers they had to run away leaving their guns behind them? What is the history of the last rebellion? Its history shows that what succeeded in the end was not force, but pacification and love. Sir, the fact that you are maintaining that force shows that you still continue to distrust them. You forget that only trust begets trust. If you only trust them and treat them well by being not vindictive, you can succeed. By maintaining this force there you make them suspect your motive. When they see this force in their midst they despair of your trust, your love. Your distrust exasperates them. And the object of keeping this force there would seem to be to exasperate them. Because, so long as this force is there the presumption will be that you distrust them and think that there is danger still and therefore there is necessity for the continuance of the Mappilla Outrages Act? Can it not be removed from the Statute Book? The Outrages Act and the Special Police seem to be intended to justify each other. The Special Police justifies the existence of the Outrages Act and the Outrages Act is intended to justify the existence of the Special Police. What is the result of the existence of these? The Outrages Act really outrages the sentiments of the Mappillas. It is an outrage on the fair name of the British administration. It is an outrage on the morality of any nation. Sir, the hon. the Law Member admitted the other day that all the outbreaks except the first one, nearly 30 of them took place after the passing of this notorious Act. What does it show? It shows that the passing of this Act has not had any effect. It was no remedy at all. Are you justified in passing such an Act on account of a single riot taking place in one part of the country? Rioting takes place all over the presidency occasionally. Are such enactments passed in such cases because of such riotings? Now in this case what has been the result of this Act? Have riots ended? They still continue. That also shows that the Act itself is one of the causes of the outbreaks. It exasperates the population. It makes them desperate. Therefore, Sir, I request the Government to remove the cause of distrust which gives rise to the deplorable outbreaks and save so much as four lakhs of rupees spent annually on the maintenance of the

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad]

19th March 1931]

Malabar Special Force. You must have known, Sir, from experience of what has happened during all these years that one of the causes of all these troubles is the continuance of the Outrages Act. Sir, I want the Government to learn by experience that this is harmful and unnecessary. Sir, the Government in this case is like a donkey which will not learn by experience. When you want a donkey to go forward, it goes backward. Similarly when you want the Government to go forward they go backward. I ask them to be bold. Let them not be afraid to do justice. Sir, in this connection, for the benefit of the hon. the Home Member, I may repeat a couplet here: (The couplet is quoted). It is in Arabic. It says: ‘Don’t be afraid to do justice. That itself will save you. That itself will make you prosperous.’ So, I am asking the Government to take courage in both hands and go forward boldly to do justice. Sir, I fear the Indian Members are afraid to help forward. I pity them. Let me appeal to the European Members to help the Indian Members as the latter are not capable of taking the initiative. After all, this Government is known as the British Government and therefore any credit or discredit attaching to the administration will go to them. Sir, the Gandhi-Irwin Pact is likely to facilitate the introduction of Reforms at an early date and when that Reforms come, it is likely that the European elements in the administration may gradually disappear. That is what the Round-Tablers tell us. When this is so, are they going to leave this Act in the Statute Book as a land-mark of their administration of this country and as an heritage of British rule to the Mappilas? Sir, do not make us curse your memory. Let us remember you with love. The hon. the Home Member was preaching the other day to forget and forgive. I would request him to remember those words and practise them. With these few words I move my cut motion.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—“Sir, if I rise to speak on this cut motion it is with a genuine desire to see that the Police force is brought up to a morale and state at which it can be of public service to the people of this country. Sir, my conception of a Police force is that it is a Civilian body organized for the purpose of preserving tranquillity, safety and preserving law and order in the country. They must be characterized with qualities of restraint, politeness and friendly co-operation with the citizens so that their unpleasant work of tracing the criminals might be facilitated. But recent events have shown to what a deplorable state the Police have fallen. If I to-day mention instances which unmistakably indicate the state of corruption in the Police administration, it is not with a view to rake up old memories, nor is it with a view to find fault with the Government, but it is with an ardent desire to impress upon the Government the necessity of curbing some of the undesirable spirits with which the Police are to-day blandishing. The civil disobedience movement has no doubt compelled the Government to give a certain latitude of power to the Police. It is perhaps inevitable but I refuse to believe that the acts committed by the Police in several parts of the Presidency were either authorized or approved by the Government later on. I am willing to admit that for the sake of expediency and for keeping up the prestige of the Government during troublous times, it was necessary for the Government to deny the allegations made against the Police and not even to take any action against the officers of the Police who committed these excesses. I do not propose to complain against that attitude now. My request to the Government is that they should know by the allegations made

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [19th March 1931]

against the Police to what extent the Police have gone and whether they are likely to repeat the same thing once again with or without the connivance of the superior officers. If it is possible for a police-man to do unlawful acts during troublous times, it is surely possible to do the same acts, even in peaceful times. However vigilant the Government may be, it would be impossible for the Government to check the excesses committed by individual Police officers in remote corners of this country. In some of the many instances which are brought to the notice of the Government, at least in some cases the superior officers were blissfully ignorant. In some instances the acts were committed with vindictive spirit. My fear to-day is that whatever may be the settlement or the promise that the various underlings of the Police force have given to their superior officers, the former would still be dominated by a spirit of vindictiveness. I need not go more than a week ago for an act of vindictive character. I am referring to that unwarranted charge made against a small meeting in Guntur. If I may be permitted to say the real reason why that charge was made I will mention it, not as a complaint against the Police officer but as a possible source of encouragement to individual Police officers to commit excesses. One Circle Inspector, I am told, whose name is Kanakaraju was by some mischievous persons ridiculed during these troublous times as Sunakaraju and wanted to wreak vengeance upon the people even after the settlement and when he made a lathi charge upon the people he is alleged to have said 'Is this blow one of Kanakaraju or Sunakaraju?' If that is the way in which the Police have committed excesses. I would ask you to imagine to what extent these subordinate officers could go.

"Again, Sir, in Peddapuram a Sub-Inspector had the effrontery to attack a small crowd of boys who had gathered in a school to attend a lecture on educational subjects. It appears the Magistrate of the place also attended that meeting and he even said, if private information is correct, to this Sub-Inspector that it was not a political meeting and that the subjects discussed there purely related to education. Still the Sub-Inspector must wreak his vengeance and therefore he made a lathi charge in order to disperse the crowd.

"I may mention one other instance which has not yet been brought to the notice of Government. In East Godavari one Circle Inspector, who is now promoted to the Deputy Superintendent of Police and who unfortunately belongs to the community to which my hon. Friend, the Home Member, belongs sent for a Congress volunteer who was preaching prohibition in the early hours of the morning. By sending a constable to his house, the man was brought to the Police station and he was made to wait till the next morning when this worthy officer came to the station and ordered the police constable to take hold of the Congress volunteer, brought in a pot of toddy and made him forcibly drink the toddy by holding fast his hands and feet."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"What is the name of the officer?"

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I do not want to mention the name here, but I shall mention it to you in private.

"Sir, that was the state of affairs. How can that man complain against the Police? Any complaint made either by any Congress volunteer or by anybody else during these troublous times was of no avail. Therefore the

19th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

matter was left as hopeless. I may mention to what excesses the Police officers are capable of going. That is because the restraining force at the top has relaxed considerably. Politics has entered into the minds of most of these Police men who have got to do public service. Unfortunately that is the state of affairs that is existing now. They would seem to think that they are serving the Government by annihilating what are called the enemies of Government. They seem to think only for the day and not for to-morrow. That is the state of affairs.

"Sir, in Tinnevely one instance was brought to the notice of Government by means of a question and I have no doubt my hon. Friend, Mr. Thomas, would support me when I say that one Inspector and one constable were responsible for attempting to outrage the modesty of a village woman. The husband of that woman was tied in the open street to a pole and was beaten from morning to evening. The public were no doubt witnessing the whole thing but the Indian public, as you all know, are the most docile public and they merely passed off one by one until the villager was left to himself. Unfortunately the villager has not yet been sophisticated by modern civilization and he took the law into his own hands and stabbed a police man for attempting to outrage the modesty of his wife. Of course the village man was charged for murder, but luckily the presiding Judge was wise who not only acquitted the accused—probably owing to the able advocacy of my hon. Friend, Mr. Thomas—but also passed severe strictures upon the Police officers concerned. But the unfortunate thing is that the Government would not mete out the punishment to the man who deserved it but to one subordinate to the principal man who committed the crime. In that dirty transaction unfortunately the Police constable was made the scape-goat, whereas the responsible officer was probably transferred on promotion. That is the state of affairs. If that state of affairs continues how can you expect any morale in the Police force? Have the Police become so corrupt to-day? In this connexion I may say a word to the Members of Government and that is this: these Police forces are intended to serve us and in order to trace thefts and thus to be of some benefit to the society. It is from that point of view the Government should look at these questions.

"Now, Sir, I would like to refer to the question of the Malabar Special Police. The Malabar Special Police was formed in substitution of the Military regiments that were stationed there. The Government of India did not want to station those regiments there and to debit the charge to their revenues. They asked the Provincial Government to make their own arrangements in the matter. The Provincial Government therefore created a force just after the Malabar Rebellion to protect the troubled area but for all practical purposes it was intended to do service in situations where ordinarily you would require the Military force. Excepting for the fact that they were not regarded as a Military force the duties that they were expected to discharge were purely military. Therefore it is, they were stationed in Malabar and probably in some other parts of the Presidency. Where naturally you want to meet emergencies and where you would otherwise require military force, you would have necessarily not to call for the military force, but to resort to this Special Force. Though you have kept the Reserve Police, which is intended to be used where the activities of the ordinary civil force is not sufficient, you do not make use of the former but

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [19th March 1931]

bring in Malabar Police to deal with situations which ought to have been met by the ordinary Police and the result is that both these sections of the Police get demoralised. The Malabar Police has got some prestige about it and it has to be requisitioned where fire arms may become necessary. You remove the fire arms from that force and give them dog beating sticks, thus bringing the Malabar Special Police to the level of the dog beaters. That is not a desirable state of affairs. You have completely made that force useless for the purpose for which it was intended."

At this stage the House rose for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, I was referring to the Malabar Police, and was trying to persuade the Government from putting the Malabar Police to the use they did in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement. I think that opinions differ with regard to the retention of this force even in Malabar. My esteemed Friend, the hon. the Law Member, when he was a non-official, while not agreeing to the disbandment of the Malabar Police, did not want to make that a permanent force; he anticipated a time when it would be possible for the Government to disband the force. I would only make the suggestion to the Government to examine if the conditions in Malabar would allow the disbandment of this force.

"I will come to the question of the City Police, not in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement but with regard to ordinary duties. It is a well known fact that there have been as many as half a dozen murders during a year and a half and to the best of my information, not one of these murders was detected. There was the murder of a woman in daylight in train; that murder was not detected. There was again the murder of a young man in Mannady; that was not detected. Very recently, about six months ago, a whole family was attacked and the result was the husband and wife of that family were murdered. Till to-day no trace has been found of the murderers. The Police seek refuge under the pretext that the matter is under investigation and they sometimes bamboozle the members of the family by saying that they were not able to give any information leading to the detection of these murders. It seems to be no compliment at all to the administration of Police in the city that these murders should be left undetected even after what is called the Crime Branch was inaugurated. I hope, Sir, that the hon. the Home Member will interest himself in this matter and see that the superior officers are punished if they fail to detect crimes. Apart from these murders there have been numerous cases of burglary and petty thefts. None of these has yet been discovered. This is a very unfortunate state of affairs. That shows that the Police have become thoroughly inefficient in the discharge of their duties. They cannot put forward the excuse that they were engaged in checking the Civil Disobedience Movement. The force that was used for combating the Civil Disobedience Movement was separate from the one that is intended for the prevention of crimes.

"In this connexion I would like to mention one matter. The hon. the Home Member appealed to the House to let bygones be bygones. The Members of this House would be very glad to reciprocate these sentiments provided the hon. the Home Member is prepared to remove all causes of irritation. One

19th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

cause of irritation that is still existing is this; the retention of the same Police Officers in the same localities. Sir, allegations have been made of excesses in all parts of the Presidency. To retain these Police officers even after the Settlement, will either make the people take vindictive action against the Police or the Police would be vindictive towards the people. I do not want that any such unfortunate things should happen. I would therefore commend to the hon. the Home Member the suggestion that in cases where there have been some serious charges of excesses, the superior Police officers might be transferred to other places so that their presence might not provoke unnecessary reprisals. I would particularly mention the city of Madras. By this suggestion I do not mean that the Government should punish these officers. I only want them to remove this source of irritation; the presence of these persons would be a source of irritation to the public.

"There is one other point which has been referred to in this Council time after time, viz., increasing expenditure in the Police administration. The hon. the Home Member himself was a party to criticise the Government for their excessive expenditure. It is unfortunate that he should himself become responsible for still further increase in expenditure. Granting that normal increase in expenditure is necessary, while he is pursuing a sound policy of peacefulness, he should examine the possibility of abolishing the increased force for which he had taken the sanction of this Council for additional amount. We are looking forward to peaceful state of affairs; there is no necessity for maintaining the present strength of the force which will only provoke disturbance.

"Now, Sir, I might remind the hon. the Home Member of the promise he made last year in connexion with the publication of what were called obscene books in Telugu. He said he would constitute a committee to examine the books and would permit publication thereof if that committee of Pandits certified that they are not obscene. That promise still remains to be translated into action. Those Telugu books do not contain any obscene things. I see heaps of books in English with regard to which a mere look of the front page would deter any decent man from looking into the second page. Such are the books which we get from England, France and other countries. We are, as a matter of fact, corrupting our young men by the importation of such literature. Books in Telugu literature suffer in this manner, books of classic interest and of high diction. I request the hon. the Home Member to bear in mind these suggestions; let him not say that these are all mere gas; we are serious about them; we want that these suggestions should be considered by the Government; we expect, Sir, good response to this appeal."

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, there was a time when the Police were considered to be toothless snakes; now they are considered to be the most ferocious and devouring reptiles. I am sorry to say that that is the feeling of the people. If the Government take the trouble to sound the feeling of the people in the country, they will find that the body of men who are considered as untouchables and undesirables are the Police. The attitude of the Police towards us is most deplorable and cruel. They come down upon depressed classes for the crime committed by the caste Hindus because they know that there are none at their back to help them, because they have no money; and because, the Magistrates, the Subordinate Judges and the Indian Officers all put together, would always say that the

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

[19th March 1931]

evidence of the depressed classes is not reliable. Whenever they want the evidence of the Adi-Dravidas for the purposes of the Government, the former say that when an Adi-Dravida comes to a court, takes an oath and gives evidence, it should be taken as gospel truth. I do not want to dilate on this point. But I want to give an instance, how the Police deal with the depressed classes, which happened two years ago. There was a Muhammadan Sub-Inspector somewhere near Perambur and he got down at the Railway station, Ambattur; a poor Adi-Dravida was waiting on the platform expecting his master. As the Adi-Dravida did not salute the Sub-Inspector, the latter got wild, took his stick and beat the former. I brought this fact to the notice of the Government and I do not know what punishment was meted out to the Sub-Inspector. He has now been promoted as a Circle Inspector and posted to the very same place. He is now very vindictive against Adi-Dravidas and their sympathisers. I know personally of cases where there were clash between caste people and Adi-Dravidas, the Superintendent of Police calls for a report from the Inspector or Sub-Inspector of the localities; the Sub-Inspector goes there or sends his deputy and forwards a report to the District Officer. The latter officer never verifies whether the facts mentioned in the report were correct or not. Even when true facts were brought to his notice, he never disbelieves the reports of his subordinates. This is due to the fault of the District Superintendents. When Europeans were heads of the Police Department, at that time the Police were considered to be toothless snakes. Now Indian element has predominated into the service. I am not against Indianization of the services. But I am pointing out the incapability of these Indian Officers, to control their department and subordinates. Well, Sir, sepoys and soldiers are quite in a different standing from that of the constable. A sepoy or a soldier is generally confined to his quarters, he is generally looked after by the superior officers who keep an eye on his movements, to see that nothing untoward happens, as any bad name in respect of a particular individual will affect the good name of the whole troop. Whereas, the case of a police constable is different. His reputation is well known. Whenever he gets out of his house, he tells his wife that he would come back with enough for the day's market expenses. He generally falls upon basket women who sell vegetables on sides of streets, or cartmen or rickshaw drivers, collects money from them or if he happens to go into some Adi-Dravida's backyards takes away any vegetable that are grown there, because he knows there is nobody to question him. When a complaint is made, of course, the District Superintendent of Police thinks that if the constable is punished or prosecuted, the name of the whole police force will be spoiled, and so lets the man alone with a warning. Thus the constables take more and more courage; and whatever vagaries they are up to, they are certain that in the end they will be let off. That, Sir, is a wrong policy. I hope the District Superintendents of Police will take these things into consideration, and that the hon. Member in charge of the Police portfolio, will try to change the attitude of the Police officials towards the depressed classes. I have given one instance. Sir, I hope that is enough to show that these Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors are responsible for it. At the instances of castemen the Police take hold of our people, make a statement before a Magistrate and class them as criminal tribes. The Magistrate does not want to make any enquiries, because he thinks the Policemen would not tell a lie. Thus these poor people are made to suffer for years and years together—they

2-45
p.m.

19th March 1931]

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

could not go anywhere and could not do anything without the knowledge of the Police. That is the treatment accorded to the Adi-Dravidas by the Police. When we take these cases to the Magistrates, he sides the Police. Therefore, the remedy I would suggest is that you should recruit depressed classes men for the Police. Government may say that there are not sufficient applicants. I tell you, Sir, a talaiyari or a village constable is far superior in his honesty and in his keenness of duty than an ordinary constable, even an educated constable who may have read up to the II, III or IV Form and who works in the towns. You cannot say you have not sufficient stock. You have good stock there for recruitment, especially these talaiyaris on whom the whole village depends for its peace and safety. I do not therefore see why the Government should say that they cannot find good men from the depressed classes and so on. Another thing I would suggest is that the Government should employ more detectives in the Police department. I am sure the depressed class people would be more useful to the country as detectives and would do good work. I hope the hon. Member in charge will consider all these matters and do all that is necessary for the improvement of the department."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not want to traverse the ground already covered by my hon. Friend from Madras, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. But I should like to draw the attention of the House to two salient points in the Budget figures provided in regard to the Police department. From a superficial glance at the Budget figures, no doubt it would appear that the Budget estimate for the Police department for the coming year is smaller, considerably smaller than what has been provided for in the last year or has been actually spent in the previous years. But on a closer examination, it would be clear to the hon. Members of this House that the Police department proposes to spend in the coming year much more than what it spent in any of the previous years. For instance, Sir, certain items of expenditure which should legitimately have come in under the demand for the Police department have been transferred to Civil Works and other demands, as has already been pointed out by Mr. Koti Reddi and others on different occasions. Under Part II schemes which have been approved of by the Finance Committee of this House, you will find that the Police department proposes to spend about three lakhs on the strengthening of its force in the coming year. This is how they propose to spend :—

	RS.
Strengthening of the Armed Reserve	2,49,703
Increasing the strength of the Armed Reserve, Madras City	27,400
Training of the Armed Reserve in the Northern Circars for emergency work	11,740

Another big item of expenditure is the appointment of a Deputy Superintendent of Police as Personal Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General of Railways and Criminal Investigation Department, for which a sum of Rs. 9,810 has been provided. These are some of the important items of expenditure proposed to be incurred during the coming year under Part II schemes. All these, as I said, amount to about Rs. 3,10,000.

[Mr. V. T. Arasu]

[19th March 1981]

"Sir, the hon. the Home Member has been expressing the wish, in the course of his replies in the course of the past few days, that political conditions in this country would settle down. May I therefore appeal to the hon. the Home Member that since the need for strengthening the Police force has ceased—or at any rate we hope and trust it has ceased for the time being—he need not spend the money that has been sanctioned by the Finance Committee for strengthening the armed reserves both in the mufassal and in the Madras City? That is an item which I would like the hon. the Home Member to consider with a view to bring about a saving to the Government. Besides, you would agree with me, Mr. President, when I say that the creation of these additional reserves would create in the minds of the people a feeling of resentment and exasperation.

"Coming now to the Madras City Police administration, I am afraid I may be compelled to speak at some length, and I crave your pardon, Sir, for protracting my speech. Honourable Members of this House may perhaps not be well acquainted with the system of Police administration in the City of Madras. Therefore, for their information, I would like to give them certain figures pertaining to the City Police administration. In the Madras City, Sir, there are in all about seven gazetted officers, 138 non-gazetted officers and 2,020 men, constables and head constables. This Police force is divided into three departments at present. It was not the case before the year 1929; but in that year, according to what is known as the 'reorganization scheme' which is considered to be a pet scheme of the present head of the Police department, the Police force was divided into three divisions, namely, Crimes, Traffic, and Law and Order. The main function of Police force is acknowledgedly the detection of crimes. In the Administration Report of the Madras Presidency Police, the Inspector-General himself admits the fact that the main function of the Police force, at any rate in the City of Madras, is to see that the person and property of individuals are safe and secure. But hon. Members of this House would be astonished to know that out of seven gazetted officers, 138 non-gazetted officers and 2,020 men, only two gazetted officers, eight non-gazetted officers and about 50 constables are in charge of the Crimes department. They are supposed to be entirely in charge of the personal safety and property of the citizens of Madras who number no less than six lakhs according to the latest census. The Traffic department has got, one gazetted officer, 30 non-gazetted officers and about 500 constables and head constables. The Law and Order department on the other hand has got three gazetted officers, about 100 non-gazetted officers and 1,500 constables. The function of these three departments are very clearly defined in the Administration Report submitted to the Government and placed on the table of this House. The functions of the Law and Order department are defined as:—

'The Law and Order department was evolved out of the station or divisional police.'

—that was the system which prevailed prior to the year 1929—

'To it has been assigned all purely local work and routine work such as beats, patrols, bandobast, the supervision of licensed houses and the investigation of purely petty crime and minor traffic and other offences under the special and local laws.'

19th March 1931]

[Mr. V. T. Arasu]

"And to this minor department, Sir, as the Inspector-General himself admits three gazetted officers, 100 non-gazetted officers and 1,500 men have been allotted. It is not their duty to detect crimes or to safeguard the person and property of the citizens; they are above it—they are supposed to be in charge of *Law and Order*. What that term *Law and Order* means, no body knows. I see the hon. the Home Member laughs at the idea, Sir; but I have gone into these details and have studied these matters for some-time past, Sir, and therefore I can assure the hon. the Home Member that the present Law and Order department does practically no work. The officers of this Law and Order department even if there be any theft or burglary under their very nose, do not think it their duty to detect it. Therefore there is a shrewd suspicion in the minds of a certain section of people that these Police officers themselves are parties to some of the burglaries that we have recently had. But I for one would not subscribe to that proposition, and in making that statement it was not my intention to give publicity to it. Nevertheless it must be admitted that that feeling exists. It is up to the hon. the Home Member to check its spread. And the hon. the Home Member would also do well to bear in mind the fact that burglaries have become matters of daily occurrence, and therefore take up this matter for his personal consideration. On this occasion I may say that the Traffic department is doing good work, and on account of the existence of this department, we are not having such frequent motor accidents in the City of Madras as we used to have prior to 1929.

"As regards the Crimes department, Sir, as I have said, there are only about fifty men, eight non-gazetted officers and two gazetted officers. But what is the result of this division of labour? For I consider the Police force as essentially a labour force employed by the Government. I submit to the Government, Sir, that the whole Police force in the Madras City has been demoralized by this division of labour and the main functions of the Police force have been relegated to the background. This is not an irresponsible statement, Sir, and I would presently substantiate the same by means of facts and figures submitted by the Inspector-General himself. The Crimes department is located in Egmore, and it is its duty to receive complaints from people as to crimes happening in any locality. On receipt of a message either from the divisional police or from a private individual or individuals, what do the Crimes department officers do? One of them simply goes to the place—there he does not get the co-operation of the local station police—makes some enquiries in the surrounding places and comes away. The investigation of Crime begins and ends there. This is the duty of the Crimes department. You can very well understand how without the co-operation of local police officers, who are supposed to be in full possession of facts pertaining to the bad characters in that division, it is possible for the Crimes department officers to investigate the case and bring the offenders to book. It is absolutely impossible. I do not for one moment suggest that the officers in charge of the Crimes department shirk work or anything of the kind. Personally, I should like to take this opportunity of paying a tribute to that band of officers who are doing their work whole-heartedly. But it is the system that is defective and I shall explain to you how it is defective. The crime officer, as I was saying, goes to the scene of the occurrence, say, in Washermanpet in a morning; and in the same afternoon or a few hours hence, he gets another telephonic message that there has been a murder or theft or some

[Mr. V. T. Arasu]

[19th March 1931]

other crime in Mylapore. So, the officer has got to run there at once. He has so many irons in the fire that he is not able to devote any attention to any of them. Thus all that the crime officer does is to simply run about from one end of the city to another utterly incapable of doing any substantial work by way of detection. That is the reason why it has not been possible for the Crimes department to check the growth of crimes in the City.

“ Again, Sir, before coming to the facts relating to the abnormal increase of crimes in the City of Madras, I should like to make one observation, and that is—and I think the hon. the Home Member would also be well aware of the fact, and one in which criminologists all over the world are agreed—that the rise or fall in the number of crimes is dependent on the rise or fall in the price of foodstuffs; and the Inspector-General of Police himself admits it. In a chart included in the administration report, the Inspector-General emphatically states that with a rise in the price of foodstuffs there has always been an increase in the number of crimes. But, curiously enough, in the City of Madras alone it is not so. Hon. Members are fully aware of the fact, and more than one hon. Member speaking on different occasions have laid emphasis on this fact, namely, there has been a considerable fall in the price of foodstuffs. In spite of that fact, what is the case? The following is the statistics of crimes for the past three years:—

“ Classes 1 to 5—Offences under the Penal Code excluding nuisances and offences against religion. In 1927, 2,568 cases were reported; in the year 1928, 2,656 cases were reported and in the year 1929, the year in which the reorganization scheme was introduced 3,294 cases were reported.

“ In regard to class 6—Nuisances, offences against religion and offences against special and local laws. In the year 1927, 27,621 cases were reported; in the year 1928, 30,972 cases were reported; and would the hon. Members of the House believe me if I say—I am reading out from the statement—that in the year 1929, the number of cases reported rose up to 70,788; that is, from 30,972 in 1927 it rose to 70,788 in the very year in which the reorganization scheme was inaugurated.

“ Let me proceed further. Under the heading grave crimes like murder, in the year 1927, the number of cases reported was 8; in the year 1928, the number was 9 and in the year 1929, the number of cases of murder was 10. In regard to dacoities: in the year 1927, there was no case of dacoity in the City of Madras; in the year 1928, there was only one and in the year 1929, two cases were reported. Then coming to robbery: in 1927, there were 13 cases of robbery; and in 1928 the year previous to the reorganization scheme, there were only three cases reported in the City of Madras. But in the year 1929 after this so-called reorganization scheme was inaugurated it rose to 19. Then as regards house-breaking and lurking trespass, the number of cases reported was 325 in 1927 and 325 in 1928, somewhat the same as in the previous year; but in the year 1929, it rose to 456. Coming to ordinary thefts, in the year 1927, the number of cases reported was 1,574; in the year 1928 it was 1,629; and in the year 1929 it rose to 1,810.

“ Therefore, Sir, you will find that the number of cases of crime instead of decreasing as a result of the reorganization scheme, has increased abnormally, and is it not time, Sir, I ask, that the hon. the Home Member thought of

[19th March 1931]

[Mr. V. T. Arasu]

revising the whole scheme, and revived the old divisional or station police system, when, I should submit, things were getting on better—at any rate, we were not having such a large number of cases of thefts or of crimes. It is local influence that counts much in the matter of detection; and the divisional police officer, who is the man on the spot, being in possession of that influence, is better fitted than an officer of the Crimes department to keep watching the bad characters in the City. Now it is the duty of the Crimes Branch to keep watch over the bad characters and they are not able to do that work without the aid of the local police. Therefore it is no wonder that burglaries have become a matter of daily occurrence in the City.

“ The figures I have quoted above relate to the year 1929. In regard to the year 1930, the hon. the Home Member himself, in reply to a question of mine put the other day, has admitted the fact that there has been a considerable increase in the number of burglaries and thefts of telegraph wires in the City of Madras recently. According to the Government themselves there have been about 147 cases of burglaries within a period of two months, i.e., from the 1st of December to the 1st of February. There has also been of late a large number of thefts of telegraph wires and it is a curious phenomenon which Madras has never before experienced.

“ Sir, in view of all these facts, I will strongly urge upon the hon. the Home Member to reconsider the whole matter and see if he cannot abolish the present scheme and revive the old system, which to all intents and purposes had been more effective and efficient in the matter of the detection of crimes. If on the other hand the hon. the Home Member feels satisfied that the present system is effective and efficient let him at least appoint a small committee consisting of Members of this House to go into the question and take the evidence of some of the officers of the department. He will be surprised to find then that some of the officers of the department itself are not in favour of the present scheme. Only they are not able to express it openly, because it is a pet scheme of the present head of the Police department. With these remarks, I resume my seat.”

* Mr. FRANK BIRLEY :—“ Mr. President, Sir, quite apart from my maiden modesty I may feel in addressing this House for the first time I feel a certain diffidence in intervening in a debate on the subject of the Police. I am diffident because I feel that my views may be discounted by the hon. Members of this House because they may consider my views to be biased in favour of the Police. I hasten to assure my hon. Friends that any bias I may have is due to nothing deeper than the fact that the Police have never caused me any personal discomfort and the hon. Members of this House may equally well be accused of bias for identically the same reason which I hope hon. Members will appreciate.

“ On the other hand, I am fully conscious that as a moderately law abiding citizen the Police have added to my comfort and to my peace of mind not only during the past year but for many years before that. And these inestimable benefits have been showered on me not because I am a European but rather because if I have not always meticulously observed the law at least I have taken care not to be found out.

[Mr. Frank Birley]

[19th March 1931]

"Mr. President, Sir, I ask the hon. Members of this House to give my remarks their full face value without discounting them because they are the views of a European—they are rather the views of a law-abiding citizen. I am quite prepared to grant that I have made little or no temptation to be otherwise.

"Let us then endeavour dispassionately to consider the question of the condemnation of the administration and the conduct of the Police. It is a well-known axiom in all countries that a policeman's lot is not a happy one, and it follows that the lot of those whose duty it is to order their comings and goings is also unhappy.

"And why? Because, Sir, the Police are seldom called upon to function actively except in unhappy circumstances. But such circumstances are not of their creation. They do not even care the joys of the breaker of the law. They did not even have a hand in the making of the laws. The ebullition of spirits, the intoxication, the exuberance of the man in the crowd who feels rightly or wrongly that he is fulfilling a patriotic duty in deliberately breaking the law, has no counterpart in the minds of the Police themselves, nor, if I may say so, in the minds of the hon. the Home Member.

"But, Mr. President, Sir, it so happens that even the members of the Police force are human beings and as such are subject to identically the same passions as are their brethren who do not happen to have joined the Police force. Is it surprising then, that on occasions even the mildest policeman is mildly annoyed? Picture to yourself, Mr. President, the scenes which the Police have to face. Confronted by a crowd of angry people, stoned, insulted by the foulest invective, they have repeatedly stood firm in a manner in which I can assure you, Sir, that the Police in no other country in the world are ever called upon to do. They have stood until the certainty that the situation was getting entirely out of hand, has forced itself upon the officer in command. Then, then, Sir, is the time that the human element comes into play.

"Mr. President, Sir, it is idle to argue that on occasions the Police have not, shall we say, been a little more vigorous than the circumstances warranted. But it would be nothing short of gross injustice and base ingratitude to condemn a gallant and self-sacrificing body of men because they have proved after all to be merely human.

"Perhaps it is unfortunate that the impracticability of obtaining an entirely disinterested tribunal to inquire into certain charges against the Police has obviated the possibility of such a course of action. Courts of inquiry can not only condemn—they can vindicate, and Mr. President, Sir, I ask this House to refrain from condemnation and if the hon. Members can not vindicate, let them at least say 'not proven'. I have refrained from any comment on the detailed criticisms of the administration and the organization of the Police Force because I feel that such a criticism is hardly my forte. The work of organization is work for an expert and we must accept that the Inspector-General of Police in Madras is an expert. He has spent his whole life in studying the question and I feel, Sir, that I am not competent to criticise his methods in the detailed matters either of organization or of administration."

[19th March 1931]

Rai Sahib C. KOLANDAI REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, although I am as much a law-abiding citizen, although I am a meticulous follower of law as the previous speaker, yet I am obliged to tell a different tale and to sound a different note. Now, Sir, I like the Police as I like any other official; and I may also say that the Police are indispensable so long as human beings are made of flesh and blood and not of ether. All the same I must submit that the Police administration in this Presidency, especially in connexion with the Civil Disobedience movement, has won such a notoriety that it has become a by-word. Sir, in shooting, beating, biting, kicking and dragging inoffensive beings it has won such a name that it will not be easily forgotten; nor can time eradicate it. I am afraid, Sir, when the history of India, I mean present India, comes to be written, the Police administration of this Presidency, especially in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement, will occupy a long chapter and that the blackest chapter. By saying so I do not mean that the hon. the Home Member instructed, induced or taught his subordinates to play all their tricks and to indulge in the orgy of lathi charge, etc. All the same I should say that he has given them a clean *carte blanche*; or perhaps he is so soft that they have taken a *carte blanche* themselves. (Otherwise we cannot understand the inhumanities perpetrated by the Police becoming licensed libertines. Now, Sir, I beg to admit, and I know it very well that the Police are very good servants, but unfortunately they are bad masters. They are something like fire. If it is kept under control, it is of great utility; but if uncontrolled it becomes an engine of destruction. In our college days, Sir, we used to call the Police, *neruppukuchis*. (Laughter.) How apt it is I need not dilate upon. (Laughter.)

"Now to proceed further, because they are bad masters, because they must be kept in trim, because they must be kept under proper discipline and control, the Legislature has placed the Police under the direction of the Magistracy. But unfortunately what is the case at present? It is the Police that have to issue mandate and the Magistracy is to obey. It is the Police that are to issue orders, and the Magistracy have to carry out those orders. In other words it is the tail that wags the dog, and not the dog that wags the tail. (Laughter.) I do not want to use stronger language by quoting the vernacular proverb (Laughter.) I know as a matter of fact how helpless the Magistracy are and how they have been more or less followers of the Police, if not their camp followers. In these circumstances it is no wonder that all these inhumanities and atrocities have been perpetrated with impunity.

"Now, Sir, coming to the hon. the Home Member, who is the Head of this department I am sorry to say that I am obliged to say some things which are, at least, not sweet. Now, what I submit is that if he as the Head of a department, has the grit to control his subordinates, it would have been allright. But unfortunately he is so soft, Sir, that he looks like a mass of clay, impressive receiving impressions from the Police, but leaving no impressions upon the Police. Otherwise, Sir, when we brought and placed our complaints before him, not only in those Adjournment motions but also on other occasions, especially with regard to the incidents connected with the picketing of shops and more especially with regard to the beating of Messrs. Bashyam, V. A. Sundaram and others, what did he say? He simply utilized what the Police had put up, an account

8-16
p.m.

[Mr. C. Kolandai Reddi]

[19th March 1931]

containing cock and bull stories, which is on the face of it ridiculous and absurd. He swallowed all those things quietly and placed them before the House here. Now, Sir, even a new-born babe could not be expected to believe such preposterous stories as these. Now, Sir, if he had taken the trouble to verify the truth of those statements, which it would have been very easy for him to do, if instead of defending them vigorously, but as worthy of a superior he had at least censured them in our absence or at least admonished them to behave well, and told them that they are public servants, i.e., the servants of the public and that since they are eating the salt of the public they should be true to the public and treat them well, it would have been well. I repeat, Sir, had he admonished them secretly at least, the subsequent atrocities would not have taken place. Sir, on the 5th or so of this month there was, as we all know, rejoicing throughout the Presidency over the Truce Settlement, a Settlement between two noble Souls, one a great Christian and the other a living Christ. Now, Sir, we all know what trouble these two Souls took in arriving at that Settlement. We all know how many anxious nights they passed. We all know how accommodating each was towards the other in order to bring about peace in this troubled land. Now, Sir, after the Truce was announced, when in the whole of India and not only India but all the world over, there were rejoicings, ineffable rejoicings, what did the Police do then? At Peddapuram they went against an old woman, who wanted to deliver a lecture to the boys of a high school there. From a printed statement about this that was circulated among the Members here this morning, it appears that, it was a meeting got up by that woman to speak on women's education to the school boys of Peddapuram, which is an Indian-Christian institution. At that meeting there were the headmaster and other teachers too. While that woman was delivering the lecture, in rushed the hero of the affair, in the shape of the inspector of police along with his posse of men and of course equipped with lathis. Sir, do you think that if they had been kept under control properly by the hon. the Home Member after we had first represented to him, the Police would have behaved so badly, so illegally and so brutally as this?

"Now, Sir, it goes without saying that every one in that meeting was beaten; and the school boys were beaten black and blue simply for listening to a lecture on Women's Education under the auspices of the headmaster and the rest of the staff. Now, Sir, this occurred I think just more than ten or fifteen days ago.

"Unfortunately, Sir, the northern districts have been victims to this more than the rest of the Presidency. (Laughter.) I do not know why the Police have such a fondness for the northern districts. Coming to Guntur, there too there were meetings of rejoicings on the Truce Settlement, which was considered to be almost miraculously arrived at. Under the circumstances when every man, woman and child is lost in joy, they held a meeting to celebrate that occasion. Now, Sir, these Police heroes go in a batch, as graphically described by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, and whether it be Kanakaraju or Sunakaraju they beat every one indiscriminately. In this Mr. Konda Venkatappaya also suffered much and was arrested, and no doubt subsequently he had to be released. There was not one beating but repeated beatings; even the women and children were not spared, and not even the woman with a child of one year in her hands who happened to be there was

19th March 1931]

[Mr. C. Kolanda Reddi]

spared? Do you think if such things had occurred in any other civilized country, it would have been tolerated for a single moment? And what action was taken by the hon. the Home Member and the Magistracy to see that such people are not molested? Nothing at all. Nothing but the foulest abuse was heaped on the peaceful meeting, and the Police were encouraged to abuse their powers most grossly and brutally.

"Now, Sir, such things occurred in many other places, and my own place, Bezwada, also did not escape. I gave notice of an adjournment motion on this, and it was knocked on the head. (Laughter.) In Bezwada the people celebrated the truce settlement by holding a meeting. While the meeting was going on some *golema* prevailed at one corner. And who was responsible for it? Of course, the Police! They are supposed to be preservers of peace in the country, and they themselves disturb the peace in the name of maintaining law and order. (Laughter.) Now, Sir, while a woman was addressing the meeting a Police constable came forward and snatched away the national flag that was planted there and the audience were beaten. Another flag was put up and the meeting went on. Meanwhile, as though this was not enough, Police boldly took the Magistrate to the meeting and asked him to declare it an unlawful meeting. The Magistrate was quite new for the post; he was only very lately elevated to that office. He was quite new and so raw that he had to simply obey the Police order and declare the meeting unlawful. So, Sir, what I say is what Gods propose some other gentlemen dispense. (Laughter.) Sir, I do not want to use more forcible language than that and therefore I do not wish to quote the vernacular proverb.

"Now, Sir, similarly, what such great souls, such noble souls as Lord Irwin and Mahatma Gandhi propose, the — what can I say? — chelas, the sishyas and the subordinates of the hon. the Home Member try to dispose. In these circumstances, Sir, I am obliged to support the cut motion with all the ardour that I can command." 3-30 p.m.

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA :—"Mr. President, Sir, with regard to demand No. XIV, I have given a cut motion of Rs. 100 to draw the attention of the Government to the necessity of effecting retrenchment by abolishing the cadre of circle inspectors and reducing the constabulary to three-fourths of its present strength. I am not going to say anything, Sir, with regard to the other cut motion which has been discussed now. So, I propose to confine myself to this subject. In the several districts we have got sub-inspectors to be in charge of stations and who will take up the work of investigation assisted by head constables. Then over them are the circle inspectors, and just above them the Deputy Superintendents of Police, and just above these deputies there are the District Superintendents of Police. So far as the ordinary work of investigation goes, the sub-inspectors of Police with their knowledge and training are quite competent to do the work. And with regard to supervision, the highly trained superior officials of the cadres of Deputy Superintendents, Assistant Superintendents and the District Superintendents of Police are quite sufficient for purposes of supervision. Therefore, it is, in the interests of efficiency and economy necessary to abolish this cadre of circle inspectors. And then, Sir, in the mufassal districts, it is felt, Sir, not only by the public but also by the police officers themselves that the constables which the officers have to manage are too many and on account

[Mr. A. Kondappa]

[19th March 1931]

of the number of constables who could not be usefully employed, they have to exercise greater supervision and control and several officers in charge of circles and stations feel the necessity for reduction in the number of constables. Otherwise they have very often to take disciplinary action, and that is why circle inspectors are given a lot of work on account of that, and if suitable retrenchments are effected, there would not be any difficulty for the district police force to maintain order. Of course, by this out motion I do not want that the reserve force at the headquarters of districts should be reduced. In order to meet emergent situations there must always be a reserve force but so far as the general force is concerned, in each station the number of constables instead of being attached to the station itself, must be attached to the sub-inspectors, so that he may use them whenever exigencies arise in the interests of the department. That seems to be the view of several members in the service and also that is the view of the men in the mufassal. For these reasons, I submit, Sir, that in the interests of greater economy and in the interests of greater efficiency of the police service, these retrenchments ought to be effected. And, as I have already said, this Police department, the Public Works Department and the General Administration of our province, these three services put together consume one-third of the revenues of our province. I may compare these three departments alone to the white elephant. These constitute the white elephant of the Madras Government. It is high time, Sir, that this white elephant should be replaced by a comparatively more useful animal like the farmer's bull, so that it may be of greater use and less costly. So, that is my appeal to the Government. Let us not have this white elephant very long with such expensive propensities and we shall have these departments reduced in size and simultaneously make them more useful."

* Mr. N. SIVA RAJ:—"Mr. President, Sir, I just wish to make a few observations in connexion with this motion which has given an opportunity to some members of the Opposition to talk, some of them with such eloquence and enthusiasm that indeed does credit to this House. Granting for a moment that what they relate and that everything that they allege is true, I, for one, would not rake up the question of Police excesses at the present moment. (A voice:—"Were they excesses?") Granting it for a moment, I say that I, for one, would not rake up the question of Police excesses, if there were any, at the present moment. My friends of the Opposition who condemn the Police action, each in his own way, have forgotten the simple fact that greater men than themselves, particularly Mahatma Gandhi, their erstwhile leader, have abandoned the idea of any enquiry into the Police excesses. These gentlemen by raking up that question at the present moment seem to me to rush in where angels like Mahatma Gandhi have feared to tread. (A voice:—"The Police have done that.") I think, Sir, no useful purpose will be served by trying to attack the Police for their past conduct. On the other hand, there will be every harm done at the present moment if they talk in the same strain that they have chosen to do to-day, in attacking the Police. That is so far as the excesses are concerned. Even with regard to those excesses, Sir, there is to be found a very good explanation in the speech of my hon. Friend Mr. Birley. After all, the Police force consists of human beings exactly like my friends sitting on the Opposition and myself, and they are indeed liable to commit certain excesses in times of emergency, in times of stress, in uncontrollable moments even as my friends here do

19th March 1931]

[Mr. N. Siva Raj]

when they get themselves exasperated at some supposed wrongs, and lash themselves into fury at the Police excesses, as they have done to-day. Anyhow, Sir, I will be content with the position which Mahatma Gandhi himself has taken up, namely to leave the question of the Police excesses alone till the Gandhi-Irwin Settlement ends in complete satisfaction to all communities.

"Now, Sir, there are one or two matters in which I am interested and which I want to press, taking advantage of this motion. It is with reference to the representation of the members of my community in the Police services. I have, Sir, the unfortunate experience of being told by the Inspector-General of Police that, particularly with regard to what is called the Criminal Investigation Department, no member of my community is efficient for the department. It is not for the reason that he is otherwise unfit, but simply because he happens to be a member of my community. He says it and says it with great force, Sir, that the efficiency of the Police force would suffer simply because a member of the depressed class community is appointed to the C.I.D. He says that the C.I.D. officers will have to do so many different kinds of work that it is not advisable for the Government to entertain a member of my community in the Police service. I would urge, Sir, that even if the country or the society outside does not encourage the depressed classes, the Madras Government at least must go out of its way and teach a lesson to the public outside that there should be no caste barriers existing, particularly when Members of the Round Table Conference are agreed on the proposition that no caste or community shall keep any man away from his legitimate office or from his legitimate place.

"Another matter, Sir, in which I am particularly interested at the present moment is with reference to some events that happened in the Ramnad district. It is with great reluctance, Sir, that I have to refer to that incident. It looks as if behind that incident there are quite a number of influential and wealthy gentlemen. But whatever it is, the point I want to make in this connexion is that the Government ought to intervene and give protection where there is real need. Here is a harrowing tale of innocent persons being done to death almost without question and without detention (A voice: "By whom?") and probably by the Police. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: "By the Police?"). Yes, whereas my friends of the Opposition get excited over the Police excesses, I fear I have got to exasperate myself here on this occasion on account of the incapacity of the Police. Here in this case they are not doing their duty in that they are not able to bring to book the offenders who committed these crimes in such an open-handed manner and probably with the connivance of the Police. And I hope, Sir, that the hon. the Home Member will see to it that so far as these incidents are concerned, he appoints a committee of enquiry into the present condition of the poor depressed classes in the Ramnad district. They have already sent telegrams and made personal representations to the hon. the Home Member to enable him to realize the difficult situation in which these unfortunate classes are placed. And the reason seems to be that simply some of these depressed class people chose to wear shirts and ties, which probably they have learnt in foreign countries where they might have gone to earn their living. That seems to be the cause of the whole trouble, and I trust that the hon. the Home Member will appoint this committee of enquiry into these matters."

[19th March 1931]

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, appeals have been made on both sides that by-gones should be by-gones and the dying embers should not be further disturbed. I sincerely respond to these appeals and agree that we should not take up old differences. At the same time, I think the Police have gone out of the way especially in the two instances which have been given by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, that is the lathi charges at Guntur and at Peddapuram. And I would like to suggest to the hon. Gentleman, the Home Member, that he ought really to cause an impartial enquiry to be made into these two instances, because even from the answer that he gave in regard to the Guntur incident, we the members of the Opposition are not satisfied that all is well. You know, Mr. President, truce was concluded on the 5th instant, and the hon. Gentleman himself admitted that telegraphic orders were communicated to the Magistracy and the Police that action which was taken by the Police in the past should cease, and that there should be no such disturbances and lathi charges as were the usual order of the day before this truce was signed. But in spite of it, in two places where there has been trouble already the Police have acted in a high-handed manner and there have been these disturbances. I hope that the hon. Gentleman will get up in his place and say that he is quite prepared to order an impartial enquiry into these two instances because they are distinct from other instances that had previously happened. We are willing that there should be no enquiry into these other instances because there has been a pact and to go against that pact is beyond this side of the House. At the same time I would like to point out to the hon. Gentleman the Home Member that it has been commonly argued that disobedience of the law leaves a dangerous trail behind it of resistance to lawful authority of all kinds. But it must be granted on the other side that misuse of power and actual encomiums showered on the Police who were undoubtedly guilty of excesses in many cases will leave even a more dangerous trail behind (Hear, hear). Mr. President, I would like to tell the hon. Gentleman who is at the Head of the Police department that it is far more important that Government officials would use their powers, their great powers, amidst an ignorant and helpless population—because that is what the Indian population is to-day—with great care and with due consideration for law and the limitations of the authority conferred by law. It is much easier for the Police who are controlled and disciplined to know exactly what is permitted to them under the law than for an ordinary citizen who is ignorant and illiterate to know it.

3-45 P.M. “It is undoubtedly a fact Mr. President . . . (A voice: May I ask whether it is a written speech?) I have some notes; because even in Parliament when leaders responsible to the country make a statement they have to make it in such a way from written statements so that they may make it within the time allotted. It is undoubtedly a fact that the Police specially have been encouraged to feel free and easy in overstepping lawful authority. I would like to point out to the hon. the Home Member that this is a great injury to the progress of democracy, perhaps even greater than monetary corruption. Therefore, Mr. President, I would like to make this clear as I made it last time when there was a motion on the Police Demand that the hon. Gentleman, the Home Member, should see that, now that peace has been made he is as much concerned with the keeping of law and order as anybody else in this House, that the Police do not exceed the limit that is conferred on them by law and when they do exceed such

19th March 1931]

[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

limit, there should be a proper enquiry so that the public at least may be satisfied that the Government do not take the *ipse dixit* of the Police whether they have exceeded the limit or not. I would make a fervent appeal that now that we are living in a peaceful time these things became things of the past and that the Government should have the control which is absolutely necessary on Police actions so that there may be no recurrence of the incidents that we have mentioned.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad, I think, is the only gentleman who spoke in a most hysterical fashion to-day. On the whole I am very glad the tone of the debate was very much better on account of the fact that we meet after the settlement that we all welcomed so much. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, told the House that acts were committed by the Police with a spirit of vindictiveness and wanted that I should make enquiries. I may tell my friend that if he brings to my notice any particular act committed by anyone I am thoroughly prepared to enquire. As regards the Tinnevely case I think in reply to a question I have said that Government have taken action in punishing the officers on whom strictures were passed by the District Judge. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: The real culprit has not been punished.) The Government examined the report of the Inspector-General of Police and the real culprits have been punished. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, criticised the Malabar Special Police. Hon. Members know the circumstances under which the Malabar Special Police was constituted about seven or eight years ago. Mr. Schamnad asked why not immediately disband them at present. I do not think that that is the feeling of the Hindu Members from Malabar. They all think that the Malabar Special Police is a necessity at present. I look forward to the day when the feelings between the Hindus and Mussalmans would be such as to make the Government dismantle the force. At present I do not think it is necessary to consider the question of abolishing the Malabar Special Police. It is very essential that it should be there on account of the fact that it has had a very good influence in preserving law and order. I have been asked why they are being taken to the other districts. Sir, whenever troubles arise and when we find that the City Police or the District Police is not sufficient to actually meet the situation . . . (A voice: How was it found out?) In such circumstances we are perfectly justified in taking them for the maintenance of peace and order in the City or the mufassal. (Mr. Hameed Khan: Insulting the Madras Police.)

“ My hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, also said that in some instances individual Police officers have by their acts become very unpopular and in the general interests of the Police administration he asked that the question of transferring them should be considered seriously. I see I have so far received no report on this from the Inspector-General; but still I am prepared to discuss this with him.

“ As for the question of reduction of expenditure, Sir, the other day my hon. Colleague, Mr. Stokes, told the House that a Retrenchment Committee would be appointed and it would be the duty of that committee to go into the expenditure of all departments including the Police.

[Sir Mahomed Usman]

[19th March 1931]

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, again said that I gave an undertaking last year to appoint a committee of pandits to examine Telugu books whenever it is brought to the notice of the Government that there are certain obscene things in them. For the last one year no new case has arisen. (A voice: What about the old cases?) I may assure my hon. Friend that I shall consider the question of doing so when the necessity arises. (Voices: Old cases?) Mr. Sastri, to speak of an old case, has given an undertaking and there is no use for him to bring it to the Legislative Council so that he may get out of the undertaking. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: But you have promised. Forget and forgive.) As I have said the other day my friend Mr. Hameed Khan flourishes only when there is trouble between Government and the people. Now that there is peace, he shows his great displeasure. (Laughter.)

"Mr. R. Srinivasan has brought to my notice certain grievances. Sir, it must be remembered that the depressed classes have these age long grievances against the caste-Hindus. He said that the Police are identifying themselves with the higher caste and not with the depressed classes. As far as I am able to enquire I am told there is no such thing. In the circumstances pointed out by my hon. Friend I shall still discuss with the Inspector-General of Police to make sure that the Police are absolutely neutral and do not take sides.

"It has been brought to the notice of the House that we should not abolish the armed reserve. This armed reserve has been brought into existence on account of the fact that we found that the existing police were unable to cope with the situation in connexion with the civil disobedience movement. I think even this question will be examined by the Retrenchment Committee.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, criticised the Crime department. All that I was able to gather from him was that the Crime department requires a larger staff and if that was given it may be thoroughly efficient. I may say that the Crime department was the result of the re-organization scheme in the City of Madras that has been brought into existence by that very able officer Mr. Cunningham who is now the head of the department. To all that my friend Mr. Arasu was able to say about theft I had already answered in reply to a question. It is said that 147 cases of burglaries have been reported. I may just say what kind of burglaries they were. The property lost was petty and unidentifiable such as cigarettes, clothes without dhoby marks, cotton rope, rice, electric light shades, lamp, motor oil, planks and cash. In half the number of cases the value of property lost was less than Rs. 50 and in 54 cases it was below Rs. 20. The work of a great department is questioned simply because these petty things were lost somewhere (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Somewhere?)

"Referring to my hon. Friend, Mr. Birley, I am very thankful to him for the very good words he has said about the department under my charge and for saying that Police were his friends. A similar sentiment would have been expressed by several hon. Members here but for the fact that there have been recently clashes between the civil disobedience people and the Police. (Voice: You did not beat.)

19th March 1931]

[Sir Mahomed Usman]

"My hon. Friend Mr. Kondappa said that he wanted the abolition of the circle inspectors, and the reduction of the Police force by three-fourths. It is very difficult to abolish the circle inspectors as they are the supervising officers over the sub-inspectors and constables. If circle inspectors are abolished the efficiency of the Police will suffer a great deal. As for reducing the number of constables, I am getting requests from various local bodies that they want more constables posted for traffic duty. In these circumstances I do not know if it is possible to reduce the number of constables. The Retrenchment Committee will no doubt consider that question.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj, has pleaded for the appointment of depressed classes in Police. I have discussed this question with Mr. Cunningham and both of us agree that there is no bar to the appointment of the depressed classes. If proper candidates are available they will be appointed. He also brought to my notice the incidents in the Ramnad district. There has been a great deal of factious spirit amongst the depressed classes and caste-Hindus and I have called for the report of the District Magistrate and the District Magistrate thinks that there is nothing in the allegations made. But I shall once again go into the question.

"My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, referred to the incidents at Guntur and Peddapuram. As for Guntur it has been pointed out to me that a certain inspector was responsible for going and beating a number of people on account of some private feud he had with them. I shall pass this on to the Inspector-General for investigation.

"As for the Peddapuram incident of the 10th March 1931, my hon. ^{4 p.m.} Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, has given a short notice question, which I was not able to answer because I was not able to get at the facts until yesterday. Now, with regard to this matter, I am in a position to say this: No report has been received from the District Magistrate, who is believed to be conducting jamabandi in a remote part of the district, regarding the above incident, though on receipt of the first telegraphic information from non-official sources a wire was sent to him calling for information, which has been followed by telegraphic reminders. However, the Inspector-General of Police has yesterday forwarded with comments, the report made to him by the District Superintendent of Police, East Godavari, who visited Peddapuram on the 14th March under instructions and held an enquiry.

"One Duvvuri Subbamma was standing on the steps of the U.L.C. Mission High School, addressing an audience of some 500 boys on the subject of female education when Sub-Inspector, S. C. Krishnamurthi, in mufti, with one head constable and four constables armed with short lathis turned up and, though Mr. Samuel, the headmaster, assured the Sub-Inspector that there was nothing of a political character in the speech, the latter ordered the gathering to disperse at once. When the Police started to execute this order, the crowd bolted in all directions helter skelter and a number of boys fell down and received abrasions. Duvvuri Subbamma was not molested. The Sub-Inspector denies that there was any lathi charge, and states that he took the decision to disperse the gathering because he believed that it had been pre-arranged by local ex-satyagrahis—but according to Mr. Samuel only one ex-student who can be placed in that category was

[Sir Mahomed Usman]

[19th March 1931]

present. It is not possible to say more because some of the boys who were injured have laid a complaint against the Police for trespass and assault and the case is *sub judice*, but the Inspector-General considers that *prima facie* the action of the Sub-Inspector appears to have been entirely without justification, and has directed that he should be placed immediately under suspension. Upon the information before them at present, the Government are unable to understand why, if the crowd had to be dispersed, any force or show of force was needed to effect dispersal but they must have more material before them and in particular the report of the local magistracy and the views of the District Magistrate and the Sub-Inspector's full explanation, before committing themselves to an opinion which might prejudice their future action. I can however assure this House that if the Police are proved beyond reasonable doubt to have wantonly abused their powers the Government will not hesitate to award those found guilty exemplary punishment. Whatever exactly may have happened unhappily there can be no question that local opinion has been antagonised and irritated at a time when every section of the community should be doing its best to maintain a calm and peaceful attitude, but it is hoped that nothing more will be said or done to aggravate these conditions, and I can assure the House that as soon as the case now pending has been disposed of, the question whether any and if so what disciplinary action should be taken against the Sub-Inspector concerned and his men will be examined and decided with no avoidable delay.

"My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, has made an appeal to me, and in that connexion I may assure this House that while it is my duty to see that law and order is maintained it will also be my endeavour to promote feelings of friendship between the Police and the public. I would therefore request the House to pass the Police Demand to-day without a cut as a generous gesture of the feeling that we now entertain about letting by-gones be by-gones, so that all of us may concentrate our attention on the Round Table Conference and on the constructive work of evolving a most suitable constitution for the future Government of India." (Loud cheers.)

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is the hon. Member withdrawing the cut motion?"

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"With the permission of the House, I beg to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave with drawn.

Demand XIV—Police—Reserved—For Rs. 1,63,33,900 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XV—AGENT FOR GOVERNMENT CONSIGNMENTS.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,100, under Demand XV—Agent for Government Consignments'."

Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—"Sir, I oppose the Demand, and my object in doing so is to bring to the notice of the Government the necessity to bring forward a Bill to make certain amendments in the Madras Port

19th March 1931] [Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari]

Trust Act of 1905. There are at present fourteen members on the Board of Trustees of the Madras Port Trust, besides the Chairman. Five of them are nominated by the Government and all these nominees are Europeans. Four are nominated by the Madras Chamber of Commerce which is also a purely European body, two by the Madras Trades Association which consists of the European firms in the city, such as Messrs. Addison & Co., Messrs. Wrenn Bennett & Co., and other European companies; then one by the South India Skins and Hides Merchants Association and one by the Madras Piece-goods Merchants Association. It would be seen from these figures that the proportion between Europeans and Indians on this Board is 11 to 4. The Madras Port Trust Act was passed in 1905. Whatever justification there might have been then for providing for a preponderating majority of Europeans on the Board, I must submit that times have now changed. Now, Sir, the European interest in the trade of the port consists mostly of middlemen's dealings. That is they act only as import and export houses, while the great mass of dealers who hand over the indents to them and ship their goods are all Indians. Now, Sir, in these days when Europeans themselves claim nothing more than equality with the Indian commercial interests, there is absolutely no justification why this preferential treatment ought to be continued for European interests in the future. What I would therefore submit to the Government is that they must come forward with a Bill providing for at least seven seats to represent Indian interests on this Board, and in distributing these seats proper representation should be given to the Grain Merchants Association and the hardware merchants, to press whose claims my hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed had given notice of a cut motion under this Demand. But he is not present here to move it. However, I would, while opposing this Demand, request the hon. the Law Member to consider the suggestion I have made sympathetically and liberally and to see that the necessary legislation is brought forward to satisfy the feelings of the Indian merchants in this matter."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, a representation from the grain merchants, containing exactly the same statements as were made by my hon. Friend in this House has been received by the Government, and the Government have forwarded that representation to the Madras Port Trust for their opinion. On receipt of their opinion, all the points referred to by my hon. Friend will be considered by the Government."

The Demand was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XVI—ELECTRICITY—RESERVED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 68,58,700, under Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved.'"

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,50,500 for Hydro-Electric Survey be reduced by a sum of Rs. 100'

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [19th March 1931]

in order to disapprove the action of the Government for issuing licence to a private firm for generating and distributing electric energy.

"Sir, in making this motion, I am only echoing the feeling of this House in the objection raised by the Erode Municipality in regard to this matter. I have no doubt that later on in this debate I can count upon the support of my hon. Friend, Mr. Ratnasabhapat Mudaliyar. Sir, this question was raised on the floor of this House by means of interpellations, and my hon. Friend, Sir Krishnan Nayar, gave certain evasive answers that it instilled a sort of suspicion against the Government disposing of the rights and privileges which would result in great profit to the local bodies. Sir, local bodies in this Presidency have mainly to depend upon rates and taxes, whereas in Western countries they count upon rates and taxes as secondary sources of income, the main source of income being the income by municipal trading and by fully exploiting the resources available from public utility services. My hon. Friends who have travelled abroad would agree with me in saying that this condition prevails in respect of the local bodies in the Continent. But, unfortunately, in India, local bodies have to depend, as I said, mainly on rates and taxes.

4-15
p.m.

"These rates and taxes are being levied at a rate which would admit of no further increase. And yet, the demands on the purse of the local bodies have become more numerous and more insistent; so much so, the presidents of the local bodies find it very difficult to balance their budgets and approach the Government from time to time for doles and contributions. If an opportunity like the one which has presented itself to the Erode Municipality for distributing electric energy which is generated by schemes undertaken by the Government the municipality is not going to be allowed to avail of, the Government by such absurd policy will be depriving the local bodies of a source of income which they greatly need. Sir, my great regret is that my hon. Friend Sir Krishnan Nayar who would have supported a policy of the sort I am advocating with greater vigour and with greater knowledge of affairs than myself if he had been a non-official, on account of the mere fact that he is the head of the administration so far as this subject is concerned, would now give the go-by to those arguments and reasonings and try to find arguments to support the other point of view. The actual facts connected with this particular case will be explained, I suppose, with greater knowledge of them by my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnasabhapat Mudaliyar. But I gather, Sir, that one Octavius Steel Company have applied for licence long before the Government thought of giving licence for the purpose of distribution of electric energy. When the Erode Municipality applied for licence to distribute the electrical energy to Erode the prescribed time for making such applications had not expired and yet the Government pleaded inability to grant them the licence on the ground that the licence had already been issued to a firm. Sir, my point in mentioning this case is that even if there was any technical flaw in the manner or date of submitting applications by municipalities for distributing electrical energy, the Government should have overlooked it and given preference to them. I think it is the duty of the Government to assist the municipalities in such matters and enable them to organize and reap the benefit of such undertakings to the full. Far from doing their duty in an advisory capacity they stand in the way of the local bodies undertaking such schemes by granting licences to private firms whether

19th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

Indian or European. By this action the Government are in the first place denying the local bodies the full benefit of these schemes in their areas. In the second place they should have preferred an Indian firm as against a European firm which has no direct interest in this country. I am told that this licence covers a very long period. It means that it would not be possible, within a measurable distance of time, for the municipality to take advantage of this scheme. Sir, I am further told that the rates charged by this company are high. Having once secured this licence from the Government they seem to think that they can charge such rates as would make it impossible for the people of this municipality to fully benefit by it. This is very deplorable. So therefore instead of merely criticizing the Government for having granted licence to a firm, it has become necessary for the House to warn the Government not to commit such costly mistakes in respect of other schemes. It is their duty, Sir, to assist the local bodies to organize undertakings of this kind and improve their finances. Contrast the reply given by the hon. Sir Krishnan Nayar with that given by the hon. the Revenue Member yesterday in connexion with the disposal of buildings put up in connexion with the Mettur works. Sir, he was good enough to say that he will consider the claims of Indians in preference to others in the matter of the disposal of those buildings. I hope, Sir, that the same spirit will permeate my hon. Friend Sir Krishnan Nayar and that he will see that no such costly mistakes are made hereafter.

"Sir, the pressing or withdrawal of this motion depends on the answer that will be vouchsafed to this House by the hon. Sir Krishnan Nayar. If he is in a position to assure this House that he will give the fullest opportunities to local bodies to take advantage of these schemes and that only when local bodies fail to do so he will consider the claims of private firms whether Indian or European this motion will be withdrawn. But if he does not give an assurance of that sort in his reply then the hon. Members and those presidents of local bodies who are Members of this House who find it difficult from day to day to balance their budgets and who necessarily therefore have to go and beg the Members of Government for doles and contributions should stand by me and carry this motion."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"I take it, Sir, that we are discussing the whole question and not only the case of the licence that has already been granted. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: Future licences.) In rising to second this motion that has been moved, I would request the hon. House to bear in mind the fact that we are dealing with a very important matter which is of a monopolistic character. It is not a case of allowing a municipality here or a local board there to have a scheme of its own for the purpose of augmenting its resources. If that were so, the question would not have assumed the importance that it has. Sir, electric power is a thing which is not available in any measure that we want. It is limited. Not only that. When once power is generated and distributed in an area by a person or set of persons, there will be no room for a similar undertaking in that area. Such being the case, the question of generating and utilizing power is a matter of very great importance. Sir, these are days of industrialism. These are days when power is used for all purposes in life. Even in agricultural operations electrical energy is being utilized. From

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [19th March 1931]

this the importance of a limited supply of power can well be imagined. This question is even more important than the question of the acquisition of oilfields in other countries where it is a very contested question. At least with reference to oil wells it can be said that it may be possible to work other and new ones. But in the case of electricity the sources that are available are very limited and hence the question of distribution assumes great importance. Such being the case, it is necessary for the Government to consider deeply before they commit themselves to a policy which would affect the industrial future of the country.

"Sir, the hon. Member who moved this motion spoke about the interest of the local bodies in the matter. No doubt the local bodies are interested in this matter. For lighting and sanitation electric energy is an important element. In another respect also this question concerns the local bodies. They can acquire some profit out of these undertakings. For these reasons, as far as possible, within the areas in which these local bodies function, they ought to be allowed to have their choice both in generating and in distributing electrical energy.

"Sir, this question concerns the future welfare of the country also. Sir, in future for industrial purposes the energy generated would be very much in demand. Therefore it is absolutely necessary to ensure that power is supplied to the various industrial enterprises at as cheap a rate as possible. Sir, in granting these licences one main point has got to be kept in mind. It is necessary to see that none of those engaged already in an industrial pursuit is given preference over the others in the matter of these licences. If any such preference is given, the licensee would bring pressure on the other persons, who are his rivals from his advantageous position in matters which are not germane to the distribution of power. (Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar: Hear, hear.) For instance, Sir, it is said that for the distribution in Coimbatore of the power generated at Pykara one of the companies at Coimbatore who are the managing agents of a cotton mill are going to be appointed as the chief agency. Sir, nothing more damaging to the industrial progress of Coimbatore can be conceived. Sir, this is a company which is going to utilize a large amount of power. What is to become of the rival companies? Already they are handicapped on account of lack of finance as is usually the case with Indian industries which are struggling to come up. We know that the complaint has been raised, not only here but in the Legislative Assembly also, that the Imperial Bank has been financing certain interests and has been working to the detriment of certain other interests. It is not a new complaint which I bring to the notice of this House to-day. Sir, if in addition to this advantage which certain interests enjoy at present, you are going to vest this power of distributing electrical energy in the hands of those agencies which are interested in particular undertakings, what is going to be the position of the Indian undertakings in that area? I beg to suggest, Sir, that the Government ought to consider this matter very deeply. It is not a matter of a few hundreds or thousands of rupees going into the pockets of one man rather than another. The whole industrial advancement of a large part of this province depends on how the Government are going to act in regard to this question.

19th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

"I hope the hon. the Law Member will rise to the occasion and will realise his position in the matter and will not be swayed by any weak arguments that will be advanced by this side or that side. 4-30 p.m.

"Sir, the Coimbatore Municipality and some of the industrialists have already said that if this power of distribution is going to be vested in the hands of those who are likely to use it for ulterior purpose, they the former are not going to use this power. Most of the industrialists and the Coimbatore Municipality have already passed resolutions and have sent them up to the Government that it is a most dangerous and damaging thing to them if this power of distribution is vested in the hands of a rival company. If the Government overlooks the interests of the country and entrusts this distributing power in the hands of a private rival company, I do not think any other private company will apply for power to this company, even at the risk of paying a little more for this power they may have to generate from fuel. I hope, Sir, when we are thinking of self-government, of looking to our own interests and our industries and making our position as good as anybody else's in the world, the Government will not go out of the way and find out weak arguments and old correspondence to think of a company in whom they want to vest this power of distribution. In such a big thing as the Pykara scheme I hope they will not be swayed by old correspondence so as to commit the country and the interests of industrialists and others in the hands of a company and much less to one who are consumers of the power themselves.

"Then, again, Sir, as I have already said in my general remarks during budget discussion, in all these public utility services, they ought to be vested in the hands of public agencies of a local character. When the scheme is a small one the matter is different. In cases where ultimately such schemes are intended to benefit the country as a whole, I ask whether it is not the duty of the Government that they should entrust the power of distribution in the hands of public bodies which would safeguard the interests of the country. Even if power is vested in a private company of Indians that private company will certainly look to their own interests. It will see whether it can increase the return on its capital. If it is vested in a private concern it is very likely that it will look to the return for the services of the persons who work it. That is not a state of affairs which we can look on with complacence. Now they are talking about paternal Government and the Government being the custodians of the interests of the country, and all that. If that is so, it is for them to see what may ultimately be to the public interest as a whole, and not entrust this power of distribution to any particular agent or company. If they once part with their power, it may not be possible for them to acquire it for 30 or 40 years with the result that by the time they take it back, vested interests would have grown up and they will not be able to do justice between one locality and another and between interest and interest and between industrialists and agriculturists. What do we find in the case of the Mysore State? They always sell power to companies or public bodies or persons. I do not see any reason why when a small State like Mysore is able to undertake the work of distribution, a big Government like the Madras Government should not do the same. Is it because they have not got officers enough to run the scheme, or because they are not able to construct the transmission lines or because they are not able to

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [19th March 1931]

find the necessary money? Do they seriously think that private people will be in a better position than themselves for distributing this power? I do not think the Government will go to the extent of saying that. In the absence of that the Government have got only one course left for themselves and that is to undertake the power of distribution themselves both in the interests of the country and in the interests of the limited power that is available. It is absolutely necessary that the Government should have this power of distribution in their own hands and sell power to particular companies or to individuals or to local bodies. That I think is the best course for them to adopt.

"I will mention one word about the Pykara scheme and the correspondence about which we have heard. It has been stated that one company called the Nilgiris Power Syndicate had the right of generating power from the Kunda river and this right was transferred to it from the Tata company. The Government said that it was only in consideration of the fact that the Government took over the right of generating power themselves, they, in return, promised Nilgiris Power Syndicate the right of distribution. That is the way in which a case is sought to be made out for this Nilgiris Power Syndicate taking over the power of distribution. To this argument the reply is obvious. In the first place when the Nilgiris Power Syndicate obtained their licence by transfer it had no reference to the Pykara scheme whatever. When the licence was obtained it was agreed that they were not only to distribute the power, they had the liability and the duty to generate power as well. If the Government think that they will not be able to find the agency or the finances necessary for generating the power, it will be some excuse for them to expect a private company to undertake the power of distribution. But we are here spending huge sums of money. About two or three crores are going to be spent for generating the power, and I do not see why the Government should give over the power of distribution to somebody else.

"Not only this. What were the conditions which were existing at the time when the Nilgiris Power Syndicate was asked to give up its licence and what are the conditions now in Coimbatore? During the last five or six years, five new spinning mills have come into existence and they will be able to take a large portion of the power that is going to be generated in the near future. Well, Sir, can it be said that the interests of these mills were taken into consideration? Have the Government any right to drive themselves to a position like this? (Hear, hear.) Have they the right to commit the future once for all, simply because they want some company to be helped by giving this right of distribution? Well, Sir, if at the time when the Government promised this company the right of distribution they came to the Council and asked them for their opinion and they gave their sanction, one would have thought that with their eyes wide open they gave their consent and they could therefore not question the grant now. Even the most important body concerned, the Coimbatore Municipality, was not made aware of this fact that the power of distribution was going to be given over to the Nilgiris Power Syndicate. Now what is going to happen? Messrs. Stanes & Co. who are the managers of the Nilgiris Power Syndicate are going to take power to a large extent. Now these seven or eight mills which I referred to above are as good customers as Stanes & Co. There are other persons.

19th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar]

What is the position of each one of these? When one of the consumers who is also the managing agent for distribution is going to take power, what is the position of the other consumers?

"Does it mean that the person who has got the power of distribution will distribute it equitably? Of course, it is human nature to benefit oneself first. I do not fight with anybody for that. But what about the other consumers? With regard to giving power to other people, supposing a time comes when cotton yarn is on the market and it is not possible to sell it and there are two rival mills and one rival mill wants to take away all the power that is necessary for them, other mills who have not got this power of distribution will not get their due share of power and in that way they will be affected by that mill which has the power of distribution also. I do not think it is possible for one to be so very scrupulous as to distribute the power equitably especially when there is so much trade competition.

"Not only that. What about the body of agriculturists and industrialists, who want this power. For instance the agriculturists draw water from wells nowadays, they have not got sufficient cattle and grazing is not so very easy as it was previously. If they can get power cheaply probably they will use power for the purpose of drawing water from wells. Moreover the wells are not situated near each other and they are far off. If the power of distribution is given to a private Company they would much prefer that it should be distributed in the town itself rather than giving it to agriculturists whose lands are far off. In that way the agricultural industry will suffer. Supposing there is competition between Coimbatore and Tiruppur in the matter of distribution of power. The person who has got the power of distribution would like to concentrate all the power that would be available to him in the place where he has got an interest. In that case will he give preference to Tiruppur? Sir, I ask whether it is fair and whether it is in the interests of larger distribution of energy that the Government want to give over this right to a private company? If it is entrusted to a private company naturally they will fix the maximum rate possible.

"Sir, this is a matter in which several interests are concerned. If the Government want to give this power of distribution to anybody else and not keep it themselves, that person I think should be the local body concerned. They will be handicapped by giving the distribution to outside agency.

"They are sure to be one of the consumers themselves. If it is to be given to a private agency it ought to be an Indian agency. As it has been said in the Assembly, more than once, we ought to see in a case like that, that the private company is formed and managed in India, and two-thirds of its Directors would be Indian and the managing agency will be in the hands of Indians. These points have been formulated, I think, in the Legislative Assembly and they should be adopted here also. I do not think that in a case of such huge dimensions the Government should think of giving it to a private agency. That I do not contemplate. If the Government feels it necessary for any reason to give it to a private company, I would impose these conditions. I would press upon the Government the necessity for keeping this power in their own hands for all the reasons I have given.

[Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar] [19th March 1931]

"I may also say, Sir, that the difficulties I mention are not imaginary. I will give one particular instance. I do not like to go into personality. It is not my idea that I should be personal. But the incident has already occurred. So, it seems to me that I have to mention it. The very company that is going to manage the Nilgiri Power Syndicate to whom the Government wants to give this power of distribution, that company was taking power from Messrs. Vincent & Co. and distributing it as special agents to certain bungalows. Since a particular bungalow was given to a person whom the company did not like—perhaps they did not find him to be a very good neighbour—they stopped the supply of power to that bungalow. There is a company which has been given the power of generating and distributing power in the Coimbatore Municipality. From that company, the Managing Agents of the Nilgiri Power Syndicate are taking a certain amount of power and they are distributing it to half a dozen bungalows. Simply because there was some sort of ill-feeling between the gentleman in one of these bungalows and themselves, they have stopped the supply to that bungalow. Is that the sort of persons who are going to manage this huge scheme properly? This point is a material one to the question at issue, because the Government is already contemplating the question of giving this power of distribution to this very company. This is the record, past record of the company. This took place within the last thirty days. Are you going to entrust the power distribution to this company? Do you really expect that that company is going to act properly and to behave properly? Will you be justified in entrusting this huge business of distributing power to this very company? I do not want to use very strong language. This is how the company has been behaving. Are you going to entrust it with any responsibility? I am putting that question to the hon. the Law Member straight. I hope that he will at least now reconsider his position and decide that in the interests of the country as a whole, in the interests of our industrial progress and in the interests of public bodies and agricultural improvement, this power of distribution should be kept in the hands of the Government itself. If any power of distribution is going to be given to anybody at all, it must be given only to local bodies who are interested in the particular areas to which that power of distribution is given. That is the appeal I make to the hon. the Law Member and through him, to the Government. In these days when we are talking of reform and responsible Government and in a matter like this where the industrial and agricultural progress is in the hands of the Government, it will not do to throw away our power in a half-hearted and half-considered way and then tell the people we have done it. That should not be done especially at a time like this when we are going to have a new Government. At any rate for the time being, the Government may keep it in its own hands. When responsible Government is given, then the Government may if it finds it absolutely necessary hand it over to anybody it likes. That would be fair. With these words, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion that has been moved."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"Sir, I shall confine my remarks to the policy of the Government in regard to the development of hydro-electric schemes about which I have given notice of a cut. During the general discussion on the budget the hon. the Law Member stated in his reply that Government have already investigated several schemes of hydro-electric development and for paucity of funds and for some other reasons they are putting off the execution

19th March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

of these schemes. I wish to know how long the Government propose to wait before carrying out the schemes which they have investigated. In western countries they have made use of hydro-electric power for developing industries and agriculture. Even in a small country like Switzerland, the loom of the lace-maker, the machine of the watch-maker is being driven by hydro-electric power. This power has gone even into the homes and farms of the peasants. Grain is threshed, butter is churned, water is pumped, and even food for the cattle is said to be prepared by means of this power. In Germany and France they have extended this power to the country districts. Not only in European countries but also in backward countries like Palestine and Belgian Congo and in Asiatic countries like China and Japan, they are making use of this power for very many purposes. Coming nearer home, in India itself Mysore had led the way in this matter; the power station at Sivasamudram is one of the biggest electric installations we have in this country. Electricity has added to the beauty of cities in Mysore; it has brought comfort and convenience to her people; it has also facilitated the development of industries big and small. Electric pumping sets are being given to the ryots there. In Mysore they have invested a capital of Rs. 631 lakhs and they have realized a net profit of Rs. 32 lakhs from electric undertakings. I understand that the revenue from these undertakings comes only next to Land Revenue and Excise Revenue. In Madras, Major Howard, the Chief Engineer in charge of hydro-electric schemes has, in a lecture delivered last month, given a glowing picture of the benefits which will accrue to this Presidency, if we undertake a programme of hydro-electric development and make cheap power available to the people. Sir Gangaram has shown the potentialities of this power by utilizing a six feet fall in a place at Punjab for irrigating something like 80,000 acres of land. This scheme was shown to his colleagues on the Agricultural Commission in the year 1927 and they have written about it in their report. We have plenty of natural reserves of water power available in this Presidency in the Western Ghats, in the Nilgiris and even in the plains. Madras is admittedly most backward in the matter of electric development even as compared with the little state of Mysore. If this Government have the vision to see the possible demands for power for industrial and agricultural purposes in the future, they ought to formulate a scheme of hydro-electric development spread over the whole of this Presidency and they ought to execute it by taking loans. If the hon. the Law Member will, during his regime, make it possible to undertake a definite programme of hydro-electric development for the whole of this presidency, this act will always be associated with his name and it will go down to posterity as one of the best schemes of reconstruction undertaken for the economic development of this Province."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, I would like to add my voice to that of Members who have preceded me, to impress upon the hon. the Law Member the necessity for the inauguration of a correct policy in the matter of handling hydro-electric development in this Presidency. Since we are now at the beginning of the development of this power, it is necessary for the Government to come to a decision at once as to how they are going to manage this development. Are they going to employ private agencies for the distribution of power or for development? Are they going to develop this power through Government agency and entrust the distribution to private agencies? What is it they are going to do we should

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [19th March 1931]

like to know. This is a matter of great importance and the question of policy should be decided at once. No doubt should be left in the public minds as to what the Government would do in the future. In this country all great schemes of development have been launched and managed by Government. Take, Sir, the question of irrigation development. Once only in the history of this Presidency has the Government committed the mistake of entrusting irrigation development to a private company. The history of that development is a melancholy page in the history of Irrigation development in this country. After exceeding the estimates, after wasting a lot of money, after mismanaging the whole concern, at the time when the Company was about to collapse, our benevolent Government purchased the whole concern in the end for an extravagant sum, I mean the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal. The work is worth only Rs. 70 lakhs. The Government had to purchase it when the Company was about to collapse, at a cost of Rs. 2½ crores; it is not at all worth this amount. I hope, Sir, that the Government would make up its mind once and for all in the interests of the country at large, to take up the development of hydro-electric power and distribution through Government agency alone and not to entrust it to private agencies. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, has given very cogent reasons in support of this proposition, urging the necessity for inaugurating such a policy. I hope, Sir, that the hon. the Law Member will recognize the strong feeling not merely in this House but throughout the country that the Government should not hand over the development and distribution of power to private companies."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock on the 23rd instant.

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

19th March 1931]

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 673 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1931, page 382 supra.]

Statement showing the presses that furnished security and those that closed owing to the demand of security.

1930.

Names of Presses, that furnished security.

1. Andhra Patrika Power Press, Madras.
2. Swadesamitran Power Press, Madras.
3. Tamil Nadu Press, Madras.
4. Andhra Grandhalaya Press, Kistna.
5. Cocanada Printing Works, East Godavari.
6. Current Thought Press, Madras.
7. Vaman Press, Madras.
8. Bharati Press, Berhampur.
9. Sri Sowbhagya Press, Bezvada.
10. Vani Niketan Press, Nandyal.
11. Everymans Press, Madras.

Presses that closed down.

1. Krishna Swadesi Press, Masulipatam.
2. National Press, Kistna.
3. Tirunavakkarasu Press, Arni.
4. Simhapuri Press, Nellore.
5. Gautami Madra Nalayam Press, Sitagaram, Rajahmundry.
6. Eswara Vilasa Printing Works, East Godavari.
7. Lalaji Printing Works, Madras.
8. Saraswati Sangam Printing Press, Madras.
9. Ananda Vilasa Press, Cannanore.
10. Swarajya Printing and Publishing Company, Madras.
11. Ramakrishna Press, Nellore.
12. Darul Uloom Press, Madras.
13. Navasakti Press, Madras.
14. Satyagrahi Press, West Godavari.
15. Oolian Press, Karaikudi, Ramnad district.
16. A proposed Press at Srivaikuntam.
17. Al-Ameen Press, Calicut.
18. Aindravati Press, Kurnool.
19. Kajata Printing Works, Tenali.
20. Sarada Press, Nellore.

1931.

1. Vidya Vilasam Press, Calicut.

1. Dravidan Press, Madras.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Monday, the 23rd March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Usman Sahib Bahadur, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed. | Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A. |
| Krishnan Nayar, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. | Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A. |
| Campbell, <i>c.s.i.</i> , <i>c.r.e.</i> , <i>c.b.e.</i> , <i>v.d.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. | Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V. |
| Stokes, <i>c.s.i.</i> , <i>c.r.e.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon. Mr. H. G. | Nallatambi Sirkarai Manradiyar, <i>Rai Bahadur N.</i> |
| Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. | Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A. |
| Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T. | Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V. |
| Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. | Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P. |
| Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur. | Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur O. Palat, Mr. B. M. |
| Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur. | Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T. |
| Alamelungathayarammal, Mrs. K. | Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K. |
| Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A. | Pooker Sahib Bahadur, B. |
| Arasu, Mr. V. T. | Premayya, Mr. G. R. |
| Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B. | Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V. |
| Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N. | Raja of Bobbili. |
| Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. | Raja of Kallikote. |
| Basu Dev, Mr. C. | Raja of Parlakimedi. |
| Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P. | Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A. |
| Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V. | Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala. |
| Browning, Mr. W. M. | Ramamurti, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. S. V. |
| Davis, <i>M.B.E.</i> , Mr. J. A. | Raman Menon, Mr. K. P. |
| Devadason, Mr. M. | Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S. |
| Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V. | Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M. |
| Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S. | Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A. |
| Foulkes, Mr. R. | Ranganatha Mudaliyar Mr. G. |
| Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M. | Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T. |
| Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A. | Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B. |
| Hilton Brown, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr | Ratnasabbapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S. |
| Indriah, Mr. C. | Sahajanandam, Swami, A. S. |
| Jagannatha Raju, Rao Bahadur G. | Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr. |
| Jagannatham, Mr. H. M. | Shetty, Mr. A. B. |
| Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C. | Siva Raj, Mr. N. |
| Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K. | Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A. |
| Krishnan, Mr. C. | Sreshtha, Mr. M. S. |
| Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. | Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur B. |
| Kuppuswami, Mr. J. | Sriramulu, Mr. G. |
| Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R. | Subbarayan, Dr. P. |
| Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur. | Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P. |
| Mahmud Sobamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur. | Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C. |
| Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A. | Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T. |
| Moidu Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M. | Syeel Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib. |
| Moses, Mr. P. C. | Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G. |
| Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Sahib Bahadur, K. P. V. S. | Vedaohala Mudaliyar, Mr. M. |
| Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I. | Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M. |
| Maragappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M. | Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti. |
| | Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K. |
| | Waddington, Mr. H. |
| | Watson, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. H. A. |
| | Wright, Mr. W. O. |
| | Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur. |
| | Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| | Zamindar of Rirlampudi. |

[23rd March 1931]

I.—SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS.

The following Members made the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Crown and took their seats:—

The RAJA OF PARLAKIMEDI.

The RAJA OF KIRLAMPUDI.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Proposed disaffiliation of the Salem College.

* 674 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the College at Salem is threatened by the University with disaffiliation;
(b) what are the reasons for such a step; and
(c) how long the College is in existence?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Because the University considers that the College is not being maintained at a proper level of efficiency.

(c) The College classes were opened in 1879.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what steps the Government have taken to bring the college to an efficient level?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It is for the municipal council to see that the college is made efficient. Such aid as the Government can give, they are prepared to give. They have already expressed their willingness to give it; but it is a matter between the university and the college at present. Unless the college is able to satisfy the university that its affiliation should continue, I do not see how the Government can help the municipal council."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if want of suitable buildings for the college is one of the grounds of its disaffiliation with the university?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Yes, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if Government have taken any steps to decide the question of sites for the construction of buildings?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The Government have decided."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In that case, may I not ask why the Government should not postpone taking any action until the new buildings are put up?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It is not a case of the Government taking action. It is the Syndicate that has to take action."

23rd March 1931]

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"May I know, if in case the municipality of Salem is not able to bring the college up to an efficient level, whether the Government will be pleased to take up the college themselves?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"No, Sir."

Deputy Inspectors of Muslim schools.

* 675 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government will place on the table a list of the Deputy Inspectors for Muslim schools with their respective jurisdictions;
(b) what is the total number of Muslim schools under the jurisdiction of each of the said Deputy Inspectors of Schools; and
(c) what is the number of visits that these Deputy Inspectors are required to pay to each of the schools within their jurisdiction in a year?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement^a is appended.

(c) A Deputy Inspector is required to visit each school once a year for conducting the annual inspection. He is also expected to visit as many schools as possible a second time for suggesting improvements in their working.

Local Boards

Construction of a road between Idur and Mudur.

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

(a) whether the memorial sent on 22nd November 1930 by the villagers of Mudur, Keradi, Hallihole and Jackal in Coondapoor taluk regarding the necessity of converting the Idur-Kunjadi-Mudur cart-track into a pakka road has been received by him;

(b) whether the memorial presented to His Excellency the Governor in October 1930 at Coondapoor by people of the abovementioned villages making the same request has been considered by the Government; and

(c) what Government propose to do in this matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) It is under consideration. The Government cannot sanction any grant for the improvement of the cart-track without an equivalent contribution from the local funds.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether, in view of the extreme necessity for this road in an interior place of the Coondapur taluk, the Government will be pleased to make a full grant?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir; if the taluk board is unable to take it up, the district board may come to its assistance."

[23rd March 1931]

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" May I know if there is a rule in the Local Self-Government Department that in the case of grants to the local bodies the local bodies will have to bear two-thirds of the total cost, and the Government will pay one-third ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The Government gives half the amount and the local board gives half the amount."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Will the Government consider the question of the feasibility of granting two-thirds of the total cost and ask the local bodies to contribute one-third, in view of the fact that last year many of the grants lapsed because the local bodies could not meet their portion of the costs ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" There were no lapses. The question whether the Government may give two-thirds of the cost will be considered in connexion with the grants to village panchayats."

Agricultural Loans

Summary recovery of loan granted to Mr. Chattukutti Nayar.

* 677 Q.—Mr. BASHIR AHMED SAYED : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the loan of Rs. 2,500 granted to one V. Chattukutti Nayar under the Agricultural Loans Act and Land Improvements Loans Act, has been ordered to be recovered summarily, by the Revenue Divisional Officer of Tellicherry in spite of the fact that the work for which the loan was sanctioned had progressed and was nearing completion ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the order of recovery is issued and sought to be executed when the said Chattukutti Nayar is still in jail as a political prisoner ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the order of summary recovery of the said loan is made because the said grantee has taken part in the satyagraha movement ;

(d) if not, what is the reason for ordering such summary recovery of the same ;

(e) whether the said Chattukutti Nayar appealed to the District Collector against the order of the Revenue Divisional Officer impeaching the veracity of the report made against him by the tahsildar ;

(f) how the appeal was disposed of by the District Collector and on what grounds ; and

(g) whether a copy of the appeal and the order will be placed on the table of the House ?

A.—(a) to (g) The Government have not the information.

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to call for information in connexion with this matter ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I don't think it is necessary for the Government to call for information at this stage. There does not seem to be sufficient interest in this question, and the person affected, Mr. Chattukutti Nayar, has a remedy in appeal to the Board of Revenue, if he is dissatisfied with the order of the District Collector."

[23rd March 1931]

Irrigation

Proposals of the Chief Engineer regarding the strengthening of the Tank Restoration Scheme, etc.

* 678 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to paragraph 5 of G.O. No 1973 I., dated 16th December 1926—

(a) the proposals of the Chief Engineer for the further strengthening of the Tank Restoration Scheme establishment and the repairing of the Tungabhadra channels and their anicuts in the Bellary district ; and

(b) the proposals further considered by the Development Department for the use of electric drive for pumping in Bellary and the other Ceded districts and the conclusions arrived at thereon ?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraphs (d) (v) and (iii), and (e) (ii) of Section "I. Existing Irrigation Works" in the statement laid on the table on 1st October 1929 in answer to question No. 672. The survey of subsoil supply in Bellary has been completed. The results have not been such as to make it worth while to undertake a survey of a similar kind on a large scale.

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the hon. the Revenue Member will be able to consider the question of the formation of irrigation panchayats in order to help the minor irrigation overseers in connexion with the distribution of water and also in connexion with the Tank Restoration Scheme ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" If any definite proposal is made for the formation of such panchayats, I shall be quite prepared to consider it."

Supply of water to Cumbum tank

* 679 Q.—S. M. K. BAYABANI SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of villages that depend upon Cumbum tank for wet cultivation ;

(b) the total extent of the land under the above tank fit for wet cultivation in each village if the tank has a full supply of water ;

(c) in view of the successive failure of rains during the past thirty years resulting in severe famine to the villages under the tank, whether the Government will propose considering any minor irrigation work for supplying water to the tank ;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government had once contemplated to divert the "Wuppabagu" river into Cumbum tank as the said river gets into floods every year ; and,

(e) if so, whether the Government will consider the desirability of taking up the scheme again ?

A.—(a) Fourteen.

(b) The total registered wet ayacut in all the villages is 5,183 acres.

[23rd March 1931]

(c) The Government will consider the question on receipt of a report from the Chief Engineer (vide answer to question No. 527 given on 4th March 1931).

(d) & (e) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 527 given on 4th March 1931.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what were the points referred to in question No. 527 referred to here ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" One of the points referred to in question No. 527—I am speaking from memory—was whether there was any proposal under consideration for the improvement of water-supply to the Cumbum tank."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether in the scope of that enquiry will be included the question as to how best the present water can be utilized ; because I believe that a considerable quantity of water is being wasted ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I shall consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."

Public Service

Applications from members of the depressed classes and Christians for the posts of Deputy Tahsildars during the years 1925--30.

* 680 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received from the depressed classes for the posts of Deputy Tahsildars during the years 1925—30 ;

(b) how many of them were appointed ;

(c) the number of applications received from the Indian Christians ; and

(d) how many of them were appointed ?

A.—(a) & (c) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to applications for the posts of probationers for the Madras Revenue Subordinate Service. The Government have not the information.

(b) None.

(d) Two Indian Christians were appointed.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—" May I know with reference to the answer to clause (a) whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information ? It is said here ' Government have no information ' ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" It is very difficult to collect the information in regard to the number of applications. I doubt very much whether we have any paper showing the total number of applications."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know if it is a fact that an Adi-Dravida also applied for the post and that his application was rejected simply because he was a Christian Adi-Dravida ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I must ask for notice of that question, Sir."

[23rd March 1931]

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" May I know, in the case of these appointments, whether applications are called for by publication in the Gazette and then appointments are made ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Yes, applications are invited."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" May I ask if the Government have also considered the desirability of mentioning in the notice calling for applications, that in the case of the depressed classes, the age limit will not be strictly followed, in view of the assurance given by the hon. the Revenue Member some time ago to that effect ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" If any concession of that nature is made in the rules, it will certainly be included in the notification."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" With reference to clause (a), may I know the number of applications received for direct recruitment of Deputy Tahsildars from the depressed classes ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I am afraid I cannot give that information, as I think it will be very difficult to collect the statistics for the whole of the years 1925—1930."

Inadmissibility of acting allowances to lower division clerks acting in the upper division.

* 681 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that acting allowances are not given to lower division clerks when promoted to the upper division in acting arrangements in the Secretariat ; and

(b) whether this is the sole reason why no chances are given to lower division clerks to act in the upper division ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) It is not a fact that no chances are allowed to lower division clerks to act in the upper division.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know if it is not a fact that clerks in the lower division who have more experience and also the same qualifications, do the same work as the upper division clerks, when they are made to act, and yet they are not given any allowance ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" It is stated in the answer that no allowances are given."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know why the allowances are not granted ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Because in Fundamental Rule No. 30 which affects officiating promotions from the lower to the upper division it is laid down that these allowances cannot be given ' unless the officiating appointment involves the assumption of duties or responsibilities of greater importance ' than those attached to the lower division."

[28rd March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know what is the percentage of clerks promoted from the lower to the upper division to the total number recruited directly ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I must ask for notice of that question. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know if outsiders are directly appointed to acting vacancies in the upper division, and if so, what pay they are given ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" It is quite likely that some of the acting vacancies are filled by direct appointment, and in that case, I presume the pay given is the lowest in the scale, viz. Rs. 70. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" If outsiders are appointed direct and are given the minimum pay of the upper division, why should not the lower division clerks when they are made to act in the upper division, be given the same minimum pay ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I have already explained that it is not in consonance with the Fundamental Rules. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, whether Government have classified these appointments in different scales of pay according to the responsibilities involved, and if so, what responsibilities does each appointment carry with it ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" The work of the upper division clerk is similar, in some respects, to that of the lower division clerk, and that is why when the latter is made to act, he is not given an acting allowance. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Will the hon. the Revenue Member kindly look into this question, and see that the grievances of these clerks are remedied ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" That is a general question, Sir, which would require an alteration of the Fundamental Rules. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, considering the difficulty and hardship to which these clerks are put, whether the Government will take steps to amend the Fundamental Rules ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" That is a question which should be addressed to the hon. the Finance Member. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the hon. the Finance Member will be pleased to consider this matter ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" I must ask for notice of the question. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know if there is any difference in the quality or the responsibility of the work that is done by the lower division clerk and that done by the upper division clerk ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Under Fundamental Rule 80, the difference is not such as to entitle the lower division clerks to an increased pay or an allowance for officiating as upper division clerks. "

[28rd March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Is it not a fact that graduates who have been in the lower division for four or five years have been asked to do the same work as a raw graduate who has been appointed to the upper division directly ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I cannot answer these vague questions. "

Promotion of non-graduate lower division clerks to upper division.

* 682 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether non-graduate clerks of the lower division in the Departments of the Secretariat are promoted to the upper division ;

(b) if so, how many have so far been promoted in each of the various departments ; and

(c) what are the communities to which such candidates that have been so far promoted belong ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) If the hon. Member will specify a reasonable period, an attempt will be made to collect the information required.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Sir, may I know whether any consideration of communal representation has been given to the promotions of clerks from the lower division to the upper division among the graduate clerks ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I must ask for notice of the question. "

Appointment of Muslims in the Secretariat.

* 683 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur : With reference to the answer to question No. 446 (b), dated the 27th February 1931, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many Muslims eligible for appointment to public service applied for employment in the different departments of the Secretariat in 1928, 1929 and 1930 ;

(b) how many of these have been appointed ; and

(c) how many vacancies have been filled up in the Secretariat during these three years respectively ?

A.—(a) The numbers cannot be given as no register of applications is maintained. Selection has been made hitherto as required from the Staff Selection Board list and will be made hereafter from that of the Madras Services Commission.

(b) & (c) The information is not readily available and cannot be collected without much labour.

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the hon. Member will be pleased to consider the claims of the Lingayat graduates in the Madras Secretariat ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" We cannot take into consideration the claims of all subdivisions of communities. "

[23rd March 1931]

Exemption of copyist-examiners, etc., from the Public Service Examination.

* 684 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether orders have been issued exempting copyist-examiners, readers, amins and attenders who have passed the S.S.L.C. examination from passing the Public Service Examination according to G.O. No. 1302, Public (Special), dated 27th September 1930?

A.—No.

Civil Courts

Applications from members of the Depressed Classes and Christians for the posts of District Munsifs during the years 1925—30.

* 685 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many applications were received from members of the Depressed Classes for the post of District Munsifs during the years 1925—30;

(b) how many applications were received from Christians during the years 1925—30;

(c) how many were appointed in cases (a) and (b); and

(d) how many Brahmans and how many non-Brahmans have been appointed as District Munsifs during the years 1925—30?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have called for the information.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“ May I know, with reference to clause (d), when the Government will have the information ready? Government say here that they have called for the information.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I have written to the High Court to supply the Government with information, and I do not know when it will be received.”

Filling up of copyists' posts in the District Court of Tinnevely.

* 686 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of copyists employed in the District Court of Tinnevely;

(b) how many vacancies of copyists' posts were filled up last December in the District Court of Tinnevely;

(c) how long the vacancies were kept unfilled;

(d) the communities to which the new copyists belong;

(e) what was the special necessity for appointing more copyists;

(f) whether applications were received in the years 1926 to 1929 for the posts of copyists; and

(g) why the applications were not considered then?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

11-15 a.m. Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“ May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that the copyists are put to a great deal of hardship, because the vacancies have been filled up?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ The Government are not aware of anything and that is the reason why they have called for the information from the High Court.”

[23rd March 1931]

Forest

Extent of forests added to the reserves in South Kanara.

* 687 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any forests have been added to the reserves in South Kanara during the last two years and, if so, where and what their extent is; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to reserve further areas?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (b) of the Legislative Council question No. 1251 answered on 24th January 1930.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“ With reference to clause (b) of the question, may I know from the hon. Law Member what extent of land is proposed to be reserved in Kasaragod taluk and whether that area contains patta lands?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I have referred my hon. Friend to the answer given to question No. 1251, which gives all the details.”

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“ May I know what progress has since been made after that question was answered?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ No progress has since been made after that question was answered.”

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the neighbouring landholders have protested against this proposal of reservation?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ So far as I am aware, not; but for an accurate answer, I want notice.”

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“ What is the necessity for reserving any more forests?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I can only refer my hon. Friend to the answer to the question referred to in the answer.”

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know whether the hon. Law Member is aware of the fact that in the Bellary district there is what is known as a Kosgi reserve and that there are very many applications for its disafforestation?”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ That question does not arise out of this.”

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“ May I know whether the Malaria Officer who was such to investigate the cause of malaria has reported that the spread of malaria is co-extensive with the spread of reserve forests?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I am not aware of it.”

[23rd March 1931]

Jails*Release of Borstal School prisoners.*

* 688 Q.—Mr. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that two boys, one A. Palanivelu and another, salt satyagraha prisoners, alone have not been released from Rajahmundry Borstal School yet, while all others have been released; and

(b) if the answer to clause (a) is in the affirmative, the reasons for the same?

A.—(a) All satyagraha Borstal inmates have since been released.

(b) Does not arise.

Diet given to Mr. Blake.

* 689 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether one Mr. Blake, who was brought from Coimbatore to the Madras Penitentiary, was ordered by the Magistrate to get mixed diet;

(b) if so, why they gave him European diet in the Madras Penitentiary; and

(c) whether the Government propose to recover the extra cost of the difference in the diet from the officer concerned?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Government have called for a report from the Inspector-General of Prisons which is awaited.

Depressed Classes*Ill-treatment of depressed classes in Devakottai division.*

* 690 Q.—Mr. W. P. A. SOUNDARA PANDIAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received the report from the District Collector of Ramnad regarding the alleged ill-treatment of the depressed classes in and around Devakottai division in Ramnad district; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the same on the Council table?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to answer to question No. 652.

Government Press*Overtime allowance drawn by the foreman in the type-foundry section in the Government Press.*

* 691 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the rates of pay of the type-casters working on the mono. machines in the Government Press, their duties, their service and their time of attendance;

23rd March 1931]

(b) whether it is a fact that the type-foundry section of the Government Press worked overtime for twenty days in January 1931 at four hours per day from 7 to 9 a.m. and from 5-30 to 7-30 p.m. and if so, why;

(c) whether there are two foremen in the said section and, if so, what are their duties and their rates of pay;

(d) whether it is a fact that the senior foreman works from 9 a.m. to 5-30 p.m. with an interval of one hour and the junior from 6 to 9 a.m. and from 5-30 to 11 p.m.; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the senior foreman worked overtime hours for the said twenty days and drew overtime allowance and, if so, why?

A.—(a) The rates of pay, service, hours of attendance and duties of the mono-caster attendants are given below:—

Designation.	Rate of pay.	Service.		
		RS.	Y.	M. D.
One mono-caster attendant	25—1½—40/25	20	9	7
Do.	25—1½—40/25	3	9	8
Do.	20—1½—35/20	2	9	7
One type-caster	15—1 —30/22	14	9	9
Do.	15—1 —30/15	6	3	0
One finisher	15—1 —30/24	12	10	0
One type-caster	15—1 —30/27	20	11	0
One finisher	15—1 —30/15	4	3	0

Hours of attendance.

Monday to Friday. First shift 6 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 2-30 p.m.
Second shift 2-30 p.m. to 7 p.m. and 8 to 11 p.m.

Saturday ... First shift 6 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.
Second shift 11-30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The men are engaged in casting work.

(b) The type-foundry section worked overtime for 16 days in January 1931 ranging from 2 to 3½ hours for urgent work in connexion with the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

(c) No. There is only one foreman in the scale of 60—4—100/76. He is in charge of the section.

(d) The foreman of the type-foundry section, in addition to his ordinary duties, supervises the monotype section also during office hours from 9 a.m. to 5-30 p.m. The engraver in the type-foundry section supervises the monotype section from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 5-30 p.m. to 11 p.m. on week days and 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 2-30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

(e) The foreman worked overtime for 16 days, and drew overtime pay because he had earned it for the extra work done.

[23rd March 1931]

Labour*Provision of employment to coolies returning from Malaya.*

* 692 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what steps the Government have taken to provide employment for coolies who returned from Malaya; and

(b) how many of them who returned last year are left unemployed?

A.—(a) None.

(b) The Government have no information. The labourers have presumably returned to their villages and found employment there.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“ May I know whether the Government will take some steps to provide employment in the case of immigrants from Malaya, because I find that they have taken no steps up till now in regard to these persons ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ It is not possible for us to do anything.”

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“ May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that in the case of the immigrants from South Africa they have taken steps to find employment for them ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ They are on a quite different basis.”

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“ With reference to clause (b) of the question, the answer given is ‘ The Government have no information.’ May I know whether the Government maintain a register of immigrants returning from foreign countries to this land ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ No, Sir.”

Police*Alleged remissness of duty on the part of the police of Mudukulattur, Ramnad district.*

* 693 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the police of Mudukulattur, Ramnad district, refused to register a complaint of serious assault alleged to have been inflicted on a member of the depressed classes in Veerambal village by certain members of the Thevar community of Elanjamboor and that the sub-assistant surgeon refused to record a ‘ dying declaration ’ from the same man; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will take any action against the officers concerned?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[23rd March 1931]

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“ Will the Government call for the information ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ If the hon. Member gives more definite particulars, the suggestion will be considered.”

Transfer of a depressed class head constable from the Karaikudi Police Station.

* 694 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that there was only one depressed class head constable in Devakottai division at Karaikudi Police Station and he was transferred abruptly; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons that prompted Government to transfer the only depressed class head constable in the locality where the depressed classes were assaulted, plundered and injured by the Kallar leaders and their men?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“ With reference to clause (a) of the question, it is stated in the answer that the Government have no information. May I know whether the hon. Member will call for the information ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ I will consider the suggestion.”

Alleged oppression of a depressed class head constable by the caste police constables of Aruppukottai.

* 695 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that a depressed class head constable at Aruppukottai was not allowed by the caste police constables to draw water from the well meant for the use of the Police Force; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Government to establish equality of citizenship in the Police Force?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Medical***Appointment of Oriyas as Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons.*

696 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasaya: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons there are in the Presidency maintained out of provincial funds;

(b) how many of them are Oriyas;

(c) how many of the Oriya Sub-Assistant and Assistant Surgeons are Brahmans and how many of them are non-Brahmans;

[28rd March 1931]

(d) the number of Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons maintained out of provincial funds who are working in the district of Ganjam including the Agency Tracts and in the Agency Tracts of the Vizagapatam district;

(e) how many of them are Oriyas;

(f) whether the non-Oriya Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons posted in the Ganjam district including the Agency Tracts and in the Agency Tracts of the Vizagapatam district are required to pass any Oriya test;

(g) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to prescribe an Oriya test;

(h) whether in making postings to the said area care is taken to select persons who know Oriya; and

(i) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to issue directions to post persons who are either Oriyas or who know Oriya?

A.—(a) Two hundred and fifty Civil Assistant Surgeons and 555 Sub-Assistant Surgeons (excluding lady doctors).

(b) One Civil Assistant Surgeon and six Sub-Assistant Surgeons.

(c) The Civil Assistant Surgeon is a Brahman. Of the six Sub-Assistant Surgeons one is a Brahman and the remaining five are non-Brahmans.

	Assistant Surgeons.	Sub-Assistant Surgeons.
(d) Ganjam district (including Agency) ...	5	31
Vizagapatam Agency	2	36

(e) Three (Sub-Assistant Surgeons)—two in Ganjam and one in Vizagapatam.

(f) No. But Sub-Assistant Surgeons employed in the Agency tracts are encouraged to learn Oriya by the offer of rewards.

(g) The Government see no necessity to prescribe the test.

(h) Yes; as far as possible.

(i) The question does not arise.

Irrigation

Classification and increase of water-rates in the Presidency.

697 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have classified water sources and increased water-rates in some districts;

(b) what are the districts in which this was done and what are the classifications and rates adopted;

(c) what is the additional income according to the Government by this increase in water-rates in each district; and

(d) what is the provision of law under which the Government have raised water-rates in this way?

23rd March 1931]

A.—(a) & (b) The question of the reclassification of irrigation sources is considered at resettlements. In recent years there has been no general reclassification of irrigation sources, except in the Kadarambam tract of the Trichinopoly district. As regards irrigation sources in this tract the attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 6 (a) of the Special Settlement Officer's report printed in G.O. No. 373, Revenue, dated the 28th February 1927, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press. The scale of water-rates now in force in ordinary tracts is given in note (2) on page 1 of revised Appendix 1 to Chapter 1 of Board's Standing Orders, with which should be read the explanatory note at the head of the appendix. The scale has been in force since 1898.

(c) The Government have not the information.

(d) The Madras Irrigation Cess Act, 1865, gives the Government power to fix the rates of water-cess.

Public Service

Exemption of copyist examiners, etc., from the Public Service examination.

698 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether orders have been issued by the Public Services Commission, exempting copyist examiners, readers, amins and attenders who have passed the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examinations, and are now doing duty, from passing the Public Service Examination according to G.O. No. 1362, Public (Special), dated 27th September 1930?

A.—No.

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

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32—cont.

DEMAND XVI—ELECTRICITY—RESERVED—cont.

The discussion on Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved was then resumed.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“ Mr. President, I have given notice of the following cut motion:

‘ That the allotment of Rs. 1,50,500 for Hydro-Electric Survey be reduced by Rs. 100 to consider the desirability of issuing licence for distribution of energy to local bodies or Government itself to undertake such distribution’.

“ Sir, before I come to deal with the question in a general way as to why local bodies should be given preference in the matter of licence for electricity in urban and other areas, I should like to refer to the case of Coimbatore. The question of the supply of electricity to Coimbatore was first mooted in October 1919, when Tata Company applied for licence to undertake the generation of electric power from the Kunda river and to distribute that power to the municipal areas of Ootacamund, Coonoor and Coimbatore. This request of the Tata Company was referred to the municipalities

[Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhanati Mudaliyar] [23rd March 1931]

concerned and in consultation with them a licence was issued to the Tata Company for generating power from the Kunda river to the three municipalities and the agreement was entered into on the 18th October 1920. The licence was actually issued in G.O. No. 311, dated 19th October 1920. Certain conditions were imposed by this agreement and they are, that the scheme should be completed within two years from the date of the issue of the licence and that Tata Company should give to the Coimbatore Municipal Council a sum of six lakhs so as to enable the municipal council to complete their protected water-supply scheme, without which the Government and Tata Company thought that they will not have sufficient industrial concerns to utilize their power which will be generated on a very large scale. Subsequently, owing to financial difficulty, the Company found it difficult to work out the scheme and they applied for an extension of time for five years, but the Government thought it worthwhile to extend the time by only four years subject, of course to the same conditions under which the original agreement was entered into. They have also issued a licence on the same conditions on which the original licence was issued, namely, that Tatas should give the Coimbatore Municipal Council a contribution of six lakhs towards their water-supply scheme and that is contained in G.O. No. 338 I., dated 31st August 1921. The Government have stated in that order that they had no objection to transfer the rights of the Tata Company to the Nilgiri Power Syndicate. Government were also pleased to agree to the alteration of article 7 of the Indenture, according to which the amount shall not be demanded until the syndicate was actually formed and the execution of the Coimbatore water-supply scheme was actually put on hand.

"Subsequently as the Kunda Scheme was not taken up, or for some other reason, the Pykara Scheme was taken on hand and when this scheme was taken up by Government, they have cancelled the licence originally issued to Tata & Co., and subsequently issued it to the Nilgiri Power Syndicate and this fact was communicated to the municipal council in G.O. No. 27 W., dated 8th January 1926. Subsequent to that, the municipal Council did not know what transpired between the Government and the Tatas on the one side and the Nilgiri Power Syndicate on the other. In this connexion, I must say that the Tatas, when they transferred their licence to the Nilgiri Power Syndicate, themselves became members of that Syndicate. In the letter addressed to the Government on 2nd April 1927, the names of persons to whom the licence should be transferred were given and they are : Tata & Sons, T. Stanes, Mr. Laird and Mr. H. B. Gibbs. I may say for the information of the Government and of this House that some of the customers of Stanes & Co., have become members of this syndicate and that as a result of some correspondence between the Government and the Company, it seems the Government have promised them in a way that they would be given preference in the matter of granting licence for the Pykara Scheme. Afterwards, as soon as the public came to know that the Pykara Scheme was being worked out, the Municipal Council of Coimbatore was the first to apply for licence and they applied for it on 31st July 1930. The Nilgiri Power Syndicate followed it up and they applied for licence on 7th October 1930 and subsequent to that the Madras Electric Supply Company applied for a similar licence in January 1931; but the Government thought it proper to publish the draft licences of the Nilgiri Power Syndicate and of the Madras Company, but they have not thought it worthwhile publishing the draft

23rd March 1931] [Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar];

licence of the Coimbatore Municipal Council, even though they applied for the licence first. I do not understand the reasons for still withholding publication of the Coimbatore Municipal Council's draft licence. After the three licences have been submitted to the Government, the other municipal councils in the district, the taluk boards of the district, the District Board, Coimbatore, the Agricultural Association and the Ryots' Sangham have all objected to the grant of a licence to the Nilgiri Power Syndicate or for the matter of that to any private company or individual. But it was only for the draft licence of the Coimbatore Municipal Council that there was no objection either from the public or from any body else. Not only that, but most of the industrial concerns have also objected to the grant of licence to the Nilgiri Power Syndicate, because they knew the persons constituting that Syndicate, and they feared that the interests of other mills will not be safe in their hands. I may, in this connexion, invite the attention of hon. Members of this House to what my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, stated the other day as regards the attitude of T. Stanes & Co. with regard to the supply of electricity to one of the bungalows situated in the midst of their private property.

"Having said so much with regard to the draft licence of the Coimbatore Municipal Council, I will now deal with the question in a general way as to why Government should prefer local bodies to private companies and if local bodies are not given preference, my contention is that Government themselves should take up such a scheme and work it out on a remunerative basis. The generating and supplying of electric power are functions within the scope contemplated by the District Municipalities Act. This Act makes express provision for electric schemes to be exploited and maintained by municipalities. Rule 38 of Schedule IV of the Act expressly recognizes the competence of municipal councils to undertake such works. It provides—

'The objects of expenditure connected with the public safety include the following :—

(a) the lighting of public streets, and the provision, purchase and exploitation and maintaining of electric, gas or other undertaking for lighting public and private streets, places and buildings.'

"Apart from the specific provisions in the District Municipalities Act, enabling the municipal councils to undertake the generating and the distribution of electricity, it is now well recognized that public utility concerns like the supply of electricity are functions mainly to be kept under the control of public bodies in preference to private individuals and companies.

"Public opinion is strongly in favour of public utility concerns being entrusted to local and municipal bodies or undertaken by Government. I venture to think that the public would get cheaper and more efficient service if the distribution is entrusted to the municipal council rather than to any company or private person. The company will naturally have its eye on earning increased profits and the public cannot derive the benefit of the minimum rates that are possible. The municipality on the other hand need not take into account the question of earning profits but can divert its attention solely to the supply of cheap and efficient power. Even if profit is made by the municipal council in the undertaking, this profit will accrue to the benefit of the tax-payers who are themselves in turn the consumers of electric power. A company with its managing agency system and the preference that it will naturally give to its own favourites in the matter of purchase of necessary materials will have to incur greater overhead charges

[Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapat Mudaliyar] [23rd March 1931]

and recurring expenditure than by the municipality. Even if the Government were to stipulate the maximum rate that could be declared as dividend and profit and that the surplus should be used for the reduction of charges, the public will not be benefited by such stipulation. It will always be open to a company if it finds that the profits exceed the stipulated sum, to raise the working expenses and thereby show reduced profits.

"In my opinion the general scheme of the Electricity Act and the rules made thereunder contemplate a preferential right to local bodies in the matter of generation or the distribution of electric power. Government have followed the acceptance of this by the issue of licences in favour of the Municipal Councils of Madura, Tanjore, Conjeeveram, Hindupur, Bezwada, Kurnool, Cocanada, Bellary, Masulipatam, and the Union of Sembiam. These Councils have been given not merely the task of distributing power but the more difficult task of generating it.

"In this connexion I may mention the case of Coonoor and Ootacamund. They get their electric power from the Pykara Scheme. When they have been given the licence to distribute power within their municipal areas, I cannot understand why Coimbatore, which has the first place among municipalities and which is a bigger municipal body than Ootacamund or Coonoor, should be denied that concession.

"It is well known that Government themselves took up the generation of power even after going to the length of compensating certain firms to whom licences have been given for the generation and distribution of power for the reason that the Government thought, and thought rightly too, that this supply of electric power should be nationalized and the best advantage possible of such nationalization should be given to the public instead of putting them under an unfair system of monopoly which would inevitably result if the licence were granted to private concerns. Originally the licence for generating power concerning Pykara was given to Power Securities Corporation; but when they thought that was going to be a very big scheme, and they rightly thought, and the licence should be withdrawn, they paid £10,000 as ransom to the Power Securities Corporation for revoking the licence. They have also agreed that if there be any purchases made in the power within the country that Corporation should get ten per cent of the purchase value of the materials required. Then they get a commission of ten per cent on all the labour; then even if a labourer is disabled in connexion with the work or if he should suffer any injury and if any compensation is to be paid to him, then even in that compensation the Power Securities Corporation is to get ten per cent commission. So also with regard to danger light. So it is after giving so heavy a ransom as this that the Government have taken upon themselves the Hydro-Electric Scheme. That being so, I cannot understand why Government should give the licence for distribution, which is a very important matter, to private companies. If the Government are not able to take up the scheme themselves, they can do the next best thing by handing over that function to the local and municipal bodies. And in this connexion I shall presently quote what Mr. Howard himself says in regard to this.

"Now what applies in the case of the generation of power applies with greater force in the case of the distribution of the same and the introduction of a middleman in the shape of a private concern is bound to injuriously

[23rd March 1931] [Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapat Mudaliyar]

affect the interests of the public concerned. It is patent that while some local bodies might fight shy of taking up schemes of this sort involving both generation and distribution of power, no body worth its name would fight shy of taking up the mere distribution work if they were given the chance. When the adjoining State of Mysore with its generating power at Sivasamudram is having distribution power in their own hands, I cannot understand Government, having undertaken generation of power after paying a heavy ransom, giving the distribution of power to a private company and making that firm earn all benefits of this scheme?

"This is what the Chief Engineer of the Mysore Hydro-Electric Scheme says, and it has appeared in the last week's *Hindu* :—

'Mysore has been a pioneer in hydro-electric development in India, and if Bombay is excluded, its power station on the Cauvery at Sivasamudram is still in the forefront of Indian Electric Installations.'

"He then adds :—

'The capital invested on all schemes so far including the Krishnarajasagara Reservoir is Rs. 6,31,52,209 and the net profit realized has totalled to 32 lakhs to the end of 1929-30 after paying working expenses, interest, depreciation and other indirect charges.'

"That scheme was launched in 1909 and in the course of twenty years it is yielding a net income of Rs. 32 lakhs after setting apart necessary sums for depreciation charges, etc.

"Referring to the Administration Report of the Mysore State, with regard to this branch I see—

'the net revenue during the year after setting apart the contribution of Rs. 4,65,721 to the Depreciation Funds was Rs. 32 lakhs as against 29 lakh in the preceding year, resulting in a return of 12.75 per cent on the total capital of 254 lakhs excluding any part of the Krishnarajasagara works.'

"Now if Mysore had not undertaken the distributing work themselves they would have realized only a profit of 2 or 3 per cent on the capital spent on that scheme. When the Mysore State is having both generating and distributing current in their hands, I cannot understand why this Government should not adopt the same policy. I would now request the Law Member who is in charge of this portfolio to nationalise this scheme and to bestow much thought on and consider this proposal favourably to the local bodies. But, if that is not possible, I would request that Government themselves take up the matter. I would also appeal to the hon. the Chief Minister who is the custodian of the interests of the local bodies to take up this question and fight for their cause.

"It is only in connexion with the General Discussion of the Budget that the hon. the Finance Member said that the reduction of a few posts here and there or the lowering of the scale of salary is not going to give us a gold mine. It would give us only a few lakhs of rupees. But here there is a real gold mine which will yield enormous sums of money to the State. I request the hon. the Finance Member to catch hold of this mine for the benefit of at least the local bodies. Sir, in the Mysore State, next to Land Revenue and Excise, the Krishnarajasagara Scheme is yielding 32 lakhs of rupees by way of revenue. So I would ask this Government also to adopt this scheme. Finally I would request the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Chief Minister to consider this question favourably and adopt the policy adumbrated in the cut motion.

[23rd March 1931]

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am glad that the Government are trying to do their utmost to make the hydro-electric scheme at Pykara a success. But I do not understand the psychology, why the Government should try to get private firms as the distributing agency of the current.

11-45 a.m. "I have carefully listened to the arguments advanced by my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar and I entirely agree with him in thinking that the matter of distribution should not be left in the hands of private agencies. Having known the depressed condition of the country, it will not be advisable at this stage anyhow to try a private medium for the distributing agency. We are all trying to take the electric current at a very low rate specially in the Nilgiris and those districts which are going to get the benefit of the electric current to be produced at Pykara. If the medium is to be left in the hands of a private agency, certainly they are going to make money over the matter, and consequently it is the poor men that are going to be deprived of the benefits that they may get from this scheme. Sir, in the year 1930 when this matter was discussed on the floor of this House, I made certain remarks in my speech about the facilities to be offered to the ryots by getting current from the Pykara Scheme. I may quote here a few sentences from my speech. I said—

'In the small pamphlet that was placed before us in this House a few days ago suggestions have been made as to the help the ryot could get by supply of current for pumping water for irrigation purposes. At present we are entirely dependent on rainfall and rainfall alone for our cultivation. I hope the Government will do something to help the ryot in getting water-supply by the power that could be got from the scheme. I think this could be of immense advantage to the ryots.'

"The hon. the Law Member, replying to the debate said:

'with reference to the suggestion that water for irrigation may also be used from these hydro-electric schemes, I do not know if it is possible, and in any case, I shall consult the Chief Engineer for Electricity in this matter.'

"So far I do not think anything has been done in this matter and I would like to know from the hon. the Law Member about this matter in particular. Sir, I have given a token cut in this demand to draw up the necessary rules for recruiting men from unrepresented communities in the services. In 1929 I brought to the notice of this House the way recruitment is being made to the services, that is, to get men for this hydro-electric scheme. I do not think there has been any change in the angle of vision in regard to recruitment to this important scheme. I know most of the important places in the scheme are occupied by one community and that community alone. And then the Law Member, after listening to my speech, promised to look into this affair, but so far I do not think anything has been done in this matter. I find even accountants have been recruited from other countries. As a matter of fact not only Madras, but even other provinces have been able to produce the best of accountants. We have several Government Diplomaed Accountants and others in this province and I do not see any reason why even the accountants' posts should be given to others. I would appeal to the hon. the Law Member to carefully go into this matter and get some facilities for people who have already been trained in the various things connected with electricity and to provide employment for such people. I know that, from the Cordite Factory itself, the Government are contemplating to reduce nearly 200 men, men who have had experience in electricity and who would be making themselves useful in regard to the scheme. So I request the Government to carefully consider this matter.

23rd March 1931] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

"Sir, one other matter. In my earlier speech just now I spoke about giving the work of distribution to private companies. I may say that in Ootacamund the Municipal Council has been given the work of distribution, and so far I presume that that body has been executing the work in a satisfactory way, and I do not see any reason why other municipalities should not be given such preference."

Mr. J. A. DAVIS:—"Sir, it is not right to make out that the Ootacamund Municipality has been given some favoured treatment under the Pykara Hydro-Electric scheme. I therefore rise to make the situation clear. We are the distributors, but so far the Pykara Scheme has not proved a gold mine to us. And the rates under which the licences are given are indeed so low that we certainly do not make any profit out of the distribution. But there was this advantage, that when the Pykara Scheme was lagging behind, it was the Ootacamund Municipal Council that came forward and undertook to spend a certain sum of money which the Government have put into the preliminary scheme, namely, the Glen Morgan Scheme. It was for that reason that under the Pykara Scheme we are the distributors. We would indeed welcome all municipal councils to be given the work of distribution, but at the same time we would, in fairness, expect other municipalities to do what we have done; for we have been called upon to pay more than half of the cost of the transmission line from Pykara to Ootacamund. We have also been called upon to put in a transmission line from Ootacamund to Coonoor. This cost us some lakhs of rupees. I think if every local body will come forward and meet the Government in the same liberal spirit, I am sure the Government will be very willing to make them also distributors. We want to see fairplay all round; and on that condition we are quite willing to support the suggestion that local bodies should make the distribution. But I certainly will not be party to the Government giving compensation to certain municipalities, without some agreement in respect of municipalities which have come in so far with money. Let the municipalities come forward with a proposition to share in the Pykara scheme and let them also be prepared to provide a share of the money required, and I for one would certainly support it."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, two main points have been urged by my Friends with reference to this demand the other day and to-day, and then some isolated cases have also been referred to. I shall reply to each of these separately.

"Now, one point that has been urged by my friend, Mr. A. B. Shetty from South Kanara, is this: that the generation of electric power from large hydro-electric sources should be kept as far as possible in the hands of the Government. He also urged that other hydro-electric works than the Pykara works should be undertaken by the Government. With reference to these suggestions, I may repeat what I said at the time of the General Discussion of the Budget. It is certainly the policy of the Government to keep as far as possible such important schemes as the generation of power from hydro-electric sources in their own hands. As was referred to by my hon. Friend, Mr. A. B. Shetty, and my hon. Friends, Messrs. Ramalinga Chettiyar and Ratnasabhapatil Mudaliyar, both to-day and at the time of the General Discussion of the Budget, these are public utility concerns, and it is certainly the policy of the Government to keep, as I submitted, as far as possible, the undertaking of such big schemes in their own hands. My

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

[23rd March 1931]

friend, Mr. A. B. Shetty went further and said that the Government should now undertake other big hydro-electric schemes like the Pykara Scheme. I am entirely at one with my friend, Mr. A. B. Shetty, and I wish that the Government could undertake such big schemes now. I am very sorry, however, to say that it is not possible for the Government to undertake such big schemes along with the Pykara Scheme at present. Till the Pykara Scheme is completed it is not possible for the Government to undertake any big scheme. As I mentioned in my reply at the time of the general discussion of the budget there are other big schemes. The Chief Engineer for Hydro-Electric Schemes has submitted to the Government two alternative schemes with reference to the Papanasam Falls in the Tinnevely district. The smaller of these schemes itself would cost more than fifty lakhs and the larger of these schemes costs about one crore and thirty lakhs, a little more than the estimated cost of the Pykara Scheme. And it is not possible for the Government now—I am afraid for some years more—to undertake either of these two schemes. Even for the present, the Local Government, as my hon. Friends are aware, has to depend upon themselves for finding funds for the completion of this Pykara Scheme. The Government of India, like the Provincial Governments now, have their own financial difficulties, and they have told this Government that it is impossible for them to assist this Government with loans for capital expenditure except of course for the Mettur Project for which they have already undertaken to supply us with funds. That is the reason why this Government had to take more than sixty lakhs of rupees from the Provincial balance for the Pykara Scheme during 1931-32. I am afraid therefore, that, however desirous the Government as also my hon. Friend Mr. Shetty may be to undertake other big schemes simultaneously with the Pykara Scheme, the Government are not now in a position to do so. I need not go into the details of this matter. My friend rightly referred to the development of electricity in other countries like Japan. I am aware of the development of electricity in those countries and the benefits which those countries derive from the generation of electric power.

“Another point that has been referred to by my friends in the course of the discussion is this, that the power of distribution of energy that will be available from the Pykara source be kept, if possible, in the hands of the Government themselves. In this matter also I agree with them. But I am again not in a position to give any specific undertaking about that matter, but I can make this promise, namely, that Government will seriously consider the question whether it will be possible for themselves to undertake the distribution of energy that will be available from the Pykara Scheme about the end of 1932. In fact, this question was considered in connexion with Erode and Salem—I will come to that when I deal with Erode and Salem—and it was found that the Government had not the necessary agency at that time for themselves to undertake the distribution. However, if possible, the Government will do it, and in any case, the Government will keep the suggestions made by my hon. Friends on this point in their mind.

“Then, another point, that was referred to by my friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti and other friends in this House was this, that wherever possible, preference should be given to the local bodies—in this particular case, the local bodies have been mainly municipal councils—and that private companies, whether European or Indian, should not be given this concession.

23rd March 1931]

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

As a matter of fact, as far as possible, the policy advocated by my friend has been kept in view by the Government, and the Government have been following that policy. For instance, with reference to the Conjeeveram municipality, they applied for power as also a private company. I may say here that the applications of these municipalities are for generation and distribution. With regard to Pykara Scheme, the generation is on a very big scale, but in the cases of these municipalities generation is comparatively on a very small scale. As I said, when both the Conjeeveram municipality as also a private company applied, the municipality's claim was preferred, and the licence was granted to them. So also with reference to Masulipatam. Certain private individuals also applied along with the municipality. It was the municipality that was preferred. Then, again, with reference to Virudhunagar a private company applied and the municipality also applied. It was to the municipality that Government granted the licence. Then again with reference to Vizianagram, the municipality as also a private company both applied. The private company has been told that they would not be given licence for the Vizianagram municipality, and the application of the municipality is still under consideration. Then, again, with reference to Guntur, the licence was granted to a private company, Messrs. Chari and Chari, only with the consent of the municipal council. I shall mention some of the other municipalities to which licences for generation and distribution have been granted; these are Madura, Bellary, Kurnool, Hindupur, Cocanada and Bezwada. Then, there is the case of Salem and Erode, and that is a case by itself. For Erode and Salem the licence has been given to a private firm known as Octavius Steel and Company, about which there have been some questions in the Council, and in reply to one of those questions I gave detailed information to this Council. The power from the Pykara Scheme will be available for distribution about the end of 1932, and by that time it is necessary that arrangements should be made for distribution of energy from this source to Erode and Salem. With that object, this Government entered into an agreement with the Mysore Government, under which the Mysore Government promised to sell energy to this Government. It was thought necessary and desirable that part of this power which the Mysore Government have agreed to sell to this Government should be distributed within the limits of Erode and Salem. This Council sanctioned the supplementary demand which was moved by me for a sum of about Rs. 5 lakhs for the purpose of constructing the transmission lines from Mettur to the limits of Erode and Salem. At that time, i.e., as soon as this Rs. 5 lakhs was sanctioned by this Council and as soon as the Government undertook the work of constructing transmission lines, the Government also considered this question of the Government themselves undertaking the distribution, and it was found that the Government did not possess the necessary agency, the necessary equipment and the necessary appliances for the distribution of energy. The Government no doubt possess the agency and appliances for the generation of electricity on a large scale from Pykara Falls, but they did not possess the necessary agency for the comparatively small work of distribution, and it was thought that if the Government undertook this work the work would be delayed, and the result would be that the taxpayer would lose the interest on the sum of Rs. 5 lakhs which the Council sanctioned. So, the municipalities of Salem and Erode were consulted on this matter. The Salem municipality at first stated that they did not want to undertake the distribution work and that it

12
noon.

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [28rd March 1931]

might be given to Octavius Steel and Company. The Erode municipality said that they wanted to undertake the distribution. But it was found that they were not in a position to do so. It was on these considerations, viz., that the municipalities were not able to undertake the work, that the Government also could not undertake it, and that the taxpayer should not lose the interest on the Rs. 5 lakhs, that the work was entrusted to a private company which was accustomed to do this kind of work and which had the necessary agency, namely, Messrs. Octavius Steel and Company. In one way, I am glad that this question has been raised now, for it gives me an opportunity for giving all this information to this House, which I could not give in answer to an interpellation.

“Then, my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar and my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar referred in detail to the need for the granting of a distributing licence to the Coimbatore municipality. Now, there are several applicants asking for distributing licences to this municipality. There are the Nilgiris Power Syndicate, another private company called, I think, the Madras Electricity Distributing Company, the Coimbatore municipality itself and also the Coimbatore District Board. But I do not think that there is any conflict between the District Board of Coimbatore and the Coimbatore municipality because my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar is the President of the one and the Chairman of the other. As Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar said the other day, several private consumers of energy such as mill-owners have sent letters to the Government saying that if the licence be granted to the Nilgiris Power Syndicate, they themselves will not take the energy. Now all these applications, namely, those of the municipality, of the Madras Distribution Company and of the Nilgiris Power Syndicate, are now before the Government, and the Government have not come to any conclusion. I can give this assurance to my hon. Friends, namely, that the Government have not made up their minds and that they will consider all the applications very carefully, and that whatever conclusion they may come to will be in the interests of the general taxpayer. These are the points referred to by my hon. Friends, and I suppose that on this assurance the cut motion will not be pressed.”

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—“Mr. President, Sir, when the hon. the Law Member replied to the debate raised on the question of electricity, on the motion that we do not approve of the policy of the Government giving the distribution of electric energy to private firms, he said that it has given him an opportunity to give us some information which he could not give at question time. But, I am sorry to state that I was very much disappointed with the information that he has given. As regards the question of distribution, the hon. the Law Member said that the Government had an agency only for the generation of power. We find, Sir, in the Budget Estimates that as much as about 68 lakhs is to be spent on hydro-electric schemes in this Presidency. We are told that as regards the more difficult and costly part of the work, as it were, namely, generation of electric power, the Government have an efficient agency, but as regards the agency for distribution the Government had not any. It is really, Sir, very unfortunate that the Government should take up this attitude with regard to an industry which is considered a national asset. When we feel that it is a national asset as much as, if not more than, railways, I fail to see how the hon. the Law Member

28rd March 1931.] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

should say that so far as distribution is concerned, he does not mind leaving it to outside agencies, because the Government have not the machinery. When the scheme was planned for a big project like the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme, the Government should certainly have made provision for the purpose of distribution as well. Now, for the first time, after the scheme has been worked for some years—even before that scheme was worked up a minor scheme for the purpose of accelerating the introduction of electric power, namely, the Glen-Morgan Scheme, was actually put into operation—after the Hydro-Electric Scheme has become a possibility, the Government now say that they have not got the machinery for distribution. I think, Sir, it is a sorry confession of the lack of forethought on the part of Government with regard to providing for contingencies which ought to be expected. When they laid the Hydro-Electric Scheme, the Government should certainly have also considered the necessity to have an agency for distribution. What happens now is that the Government undertakes the generation of current, prepares a big scheme on the opinion of its expert officers and spends a lot of money, and when it comes to a question of distribution, it hands over the work to an outside agency. The people in the country do not get all the advantages that they would otherwise get if the Government had really the distribution in their own hands. The current, I take it, would cost something like 4 or 5 pies per unit to Government to generate, but I expect when it is distributed by the new licensees the consumer may have to pay even as much as 8 annas per unit. I think, Sir, that is not really working up a scheme to the advantage of the nation, and further there is also the question of solving the unemployment problem. We know, Sir, that many of our young men do not find employment and in spite of expert knowledge they are not able to make that knowledge useful to the country. If the Government had taken up the work of distribution also many of our young men would be employed by the Government even in the distributing department. My hon. Friend, Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai, complained that all communities had not been given full opportunities in the formation of the establishment of the hydro-electric schemes. While I sympathize with him in that grievance, I desire to state that it is only a limited number of people that are now employed by the Hydro-Electric Scheme, and there is a scramble for a few posts. If the distribution had also been with the Government, many of our young men irrespective of caste, creed or community would have found employment. The Government say they do not possess the necessary administrative machinery but I may say that they would get the machinery at a moment's notice if they want it. I think the want of an efficient staff is an excuse that should not have been put forward by the hon. the Law Member. I also desire to draw his attention to the fact that once a licence is given to a company, it is given for twenty or thirty years.

“At present we distribute the current supplied by the Mysore 12-15 Government, but by the end of 1932 we expect to get current from Pykara P.M. itself. The licence now granted by the Government will enable the licensee to go on distributing current for the next twenty or thirty years. As it is, even when we get current from Pykara this licensee will be entitled to arrange for its distribution. I fear, Sir, we have really committed ourselves for a period of twenty or thirty years. I wonder if this is the right way to develop an industry which we consider to be a national industry. I am not going into the question whether it would have been advantageous to give the licence to a

[Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar] [23rd March 1931]

local body or an Indian or European firm. All that I am concerned with is the question whether the Government themselves should not have undertaken this distribution themselves and run it wholly as a national industry. If the Government had done this, it would have benefited the State, relieved unemployment and conferred advantages to the people engaged in industries and so on in many ways. I think, Sir, that many hon. Members of the House will agree with me that the answer given by the hon. the Law Member was disappointing. I hope, Sir, that at least in regard to future commitments he will not follow this policy and commit the country for long periods of twenty and thirty years as he has done in the present case.

"I have given notice of another cut motion under this demand in order to discuss the need for establishing a central broadcasting station in the Presidency. I have brought it to the notice of this House on more than one occasion that the Government, if it really cares to improve the amenities of the people, can certainly erect a powerful broadcasting station in Madras and make it useful to the whole Presidency. You may be aware, Sir, that the Madras Corporation, with its slender resources, has been maintaining a broadcasting station in Madras and people within a radius of 100 miles of the city have been regularly and clearly listening to the broadcast from the Ripon Buildings. I am told that even people as far away as those at Allahabad and Lahore and Colombo, when atmospheric condition do not hinder, have been able to hear the Madras station although the station has only about 160 watts power. It may be said, Sir, that the cost of erecting a station and broadcasting for a year would be very heavy and that the Government in a lean year like this cannot undertake the policy of erecting a broadcasting station. But that is not really so. I may here give this information to the House regarding the broadcast given by the Madras Corporation and the expenditure connected therewith. The Corporation got as a gift from the Madras Radio Club a set which originally cost the Radio Club something like Rs. 5,000. That is the set that is working in Madras. The Madras Corporation has been incurring an annual expenditure of Rs. 12,000, including the payment made to artists and musicians who give the broadcast music at the centre and also the cost of the loud speaker installed at the beach. The House will realize therefore that the cost of erecting and working a broadcasting station in the Presidency would not be too much.

"Again, Sir, it may be said that broadcasting and electricity are Central subjects and therefore it is the Government of India that should take the initiative in these matters. But, I think, Sir, that excuse also the Government cannot plead seeing that a small local body like the Madras Corporation has itself taken the initiative and installed a set. When that is the case, where is the difficulty of the Madras Government I wonder? Of course we require a more powerful set than the one which the Madras Corporation has. I believe there is a Board constituted under the orders of the Government of India in charge of the broadcasting stations at Bombay and Calcutta. They have been incurring a lot of expenditure on broadcasting and we are getting broadcast messages from Bombay and Calcutta. In these circumstances I do not see any reason why the Madras Government should not launch upon a broadcasting scheme. If a broadcasting station is erected in Madras, preferably in a central district like Coimbatore or Salem—Madras messages cannot be expected to travel distances on the west or east as they might on

23rd March 1931] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

the north or south—messages can be broadcast and heard throughout the Presidency. About the utility of it it is not necessary for me to speak. But I may in passing mention that in addition to the music that may be broadcast every evening and heard at all receiving places in the Presidency, we could also broadcast, at certain fixed hours, the news of the world, the state of the market, the prices of foodstuffs and so on and also the conditions of the weather and the time when floods could be expected in the rivers. All these would be helpful to the agriculturists.

"Sir, in imparting education also, a broadcasting set can be made to play a very important part. If we have receiving sets in our schools it may be possible for one who is at the broadcasting station to speak to all the schools at the same time on any chosen subject. This will also help in the running of night schools at which adult education can be imparted. As I have already stated, the Government need not be afraid of this proposal on account of cost. I say it is a comparatively cheap scheme. The Government can undertake to meet the cost of erecting a broadcasting station and sending out messages every day. For receiving the messages thus broadcast, the local bodies can be expected to spend on the installation of necessary receiving apparatus. The Madras Corporation can dispose of its transmitting set and install a few receiving sets. The various municipalities in the Presidency will also have their receiving sets and receive messages regularly. If this is not considered possible in the current year even after what I have said regarding its utility and the urgent necessity for having one, cannot the Madras Government at least give some subsidy to the Madras Corporation and make it more efficient? I am told, Sir, that the Municipality of Saidapet is contemplating the erection of a receiving station at Saidapet so as to receive messages from Madras. I request the Government to be a little more imaginative in these matters and get out of the ordinary routine and do something which would be really beneficial to the people of this presidency."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—"Sir, Several hon. Members have dwelt at great length on the attitude of the Government in giving the licence for the distribution of electricity to Salem and Erode to a private company instead of either giving it to the local bodies concerned or keeping it for themselves. It is not therefore necessary for me to deal with that point in any detail, except to associate myself with their remarks about the matter. Now I shall confine myself to mentioning the objects for which I have given notice of a cut motion under this demand. Sir, my object is to raise a discussion about the desirability of supplying electricity to wayside towns and villages in the Erode-Salem line which is to be put into operation in the near future. For a question which I put during the last sessions of the Council on the subject, I got the answer that there is no proposal at present to give electricity to the wayside stations between Salem and Erode. Sir, there are some important major unions like Thiruchengode and Yedepadi and other important villages where electricity may be required for use with much advantage. It would be agreed on all hands that if a scheme is put into force to supply the rural area with electricity, the country would be greatly benefited. My hon. Friends, Messrs. A. B. Shetty and Ramalingam Chettiyar, referred to the various uses to which electricity can be put. From what I know, agriculture also can be greatly helped by saddling electricity to agricultural operations. In this area are many rice and other mills which could be run with electricity. So, it cannot be said that this part of the

[Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder] [28rd March 1931]

country is not in need of electrical energy. In these circumstances I would request the hon. the Law Member to consider the desirability of supplying electricity to the unions and other villages which I have referred to, if the public of those places demand for it."

12-30 p.m. The hon. the PRESIDENT: "The question is—

'that the allotment of Rs. 1,50,500 for Hydro-Electric Survey be reduced by Rs. 100.'

The motion was declared lost.

A poll was demanded by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Rao Bahadur G. Jagannatha Raju. | 25. Mr. A. Harisohandrudu. |
| 2. Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 26. " K. Kesava Ramamurti. |
| 3. " V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 27. " Mahboob Ali Baig. |
| 4. " K. P. Raman Menon. | 28. Dr. P. Subbarayan. |
| 5. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam. | 29. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. |
| 6. Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 30. Mr. Yakub Hasan. |
| 7. " M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 31. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar. |
| 8. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 32. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. |
| 9. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. | 33. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib. |
| 10. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar. | 34. Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 11. Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar. | 35. " V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar. |
| 12. " C. Indriah. | 36. " M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 13. " P. Bayappa Reddi. | 37. " A. B. Shetty. |
| 14. " R. M. Palat. | 38. " Abdul Hameed Khan. |
| 15. Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu. | 39. " Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. |
| 16. The Raja of Bobbili. | 40. " K. A. Nachiappa Gounder. |
| 17. The Raja of Kallikote. | 41. " A. P. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai. |
| 18. The Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. | 42. Rai Bahadur N. Nallatambi Sarkari Manradiyar. |
| 19. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram. | 43. Mr. U. C. Subramnaya Bhatt. |
| 20. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. | 44. " J. Kuppaswami. |
| 21. " A. V. Bhanaji Rao. | 45. " K. Pattabiramayya. |
| 22. Swami Sahajanandam. | 46. " V. T. Arasu. |
| 23. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. | 47. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 24. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya. | 48. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 14. Mr. M. Devadasan. |
| 2. " Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 15. " N. Siva Raj. |
| 3. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 16. " P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. |
| 4. " Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 17. " V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 18. " G. R. Premayya. |
| 6. " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 19. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 7. " Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 20. Mr. J. A. Davis. |
| 8. Mr. H. A. Watson. | 21. Rao Sahib P. Subramaniam Chetti. |
| 9. " E. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 22. Zamindar of Kirlampudi. |
| 10. " S. V. Ramamarti. | 23. Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| 11. " Hilton Brown. | 24. " G. Sriramulu. |
| 12. " T. Sundararao Nayudu. | 25. " H. M. Jagannadham. |
| 13. Syed Tajadin. | 26. Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur. |
| | 27. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. |
| | 28. Mr. C. Krishnan. |

Ayes 48.

Noes 28.

The motion was carried.

Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved—for Rs. 68,58,700 minus Rs. 100 was put and carried and the grant made.

28rd March 1931]

DEMAND XVII—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

'that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,93,58,400 under Demand No. XVII—Education—Transferred'."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 19,93,000 for University be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, I propose in this motion to ascertain from the hon. the Minister for Education as to what the position is with regard to the several proposals that have been made in his department and what exactly he is going to do hereafter. Well, Sir, I may at once say that I do not make this motion with a view to obstruct his work or to find fault with his work. It is too early for censuring his work and I do not consider Education is the proper field where any obstructive tactics can be played. Having said that, I ask the hon. the Minister to be courageous and take up the several fields of educational activities and effect improvements in those fields in which improvements are possible.

"Well, Sir, about the importance of elementary education it is unnecessary for me to speak. For, it is well known that elementary education is the basis of life generally, in whatever field one may work and also in all the activities of human beings, whether it is political, economic or anything else. That being the case, every country in the world has been making elementary education compulsory in their areas and they are forcing it on the people in spite of the fact that freedom is ordinarily considered as the birthright of individuals. So far as higher education in India is concerned, we have never lagged behind any other country, but so far as the expansion of elementary education is concerned, I think we have been lagging behind most of the other countries in the world. That is a matter which he will have to seriously consider. So far as elementary education is concerned, it is high time that we make up for our lethargy in the past, and undertake a bold policy of compulsory elementary education so that at least in the course of 15 or 20 years there will be nobody in India who is uneducated. That is the sort of policy which ought to be adopted by him. In this connexion I may at once state that the Government have been adopting a policy of option, given to local bodies for introducing compulsion in their local areas. It is a matter in which I cannot possibly agree with the Government. If there is one matter in which compulsion ought to be resorted to, it is this matter. It is not a matter in which option ought to be given to particular local bodies. It is even more important than vaccination in which nobody thinks of giving option in introducing compulsion in local areas. So, Sir, elementary education being as important as it is and being of a really necessary character, it is up to the Government of the day to take the responsibility and introduce compulsion even though they may have to act against the wishes of some. They must consider it as their essential duty to introduce compulsion and diffuse more elementary education although other matters suffer. Complaint has generally been heard in this House that we are paying more attention to higher education than to primary education, and that more attention ought to be paid to this question of elementary education. Not long ago a committee which was appointed by

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [23rd March 1931]

the Government to help the Simon Commission to frame its report went into this question fully and dealt with the prevailing conditions in our country. They state in their report that very few, tragically few, of the people who went to school went even up to the fourth standard. That means there has been so much wastage of public funds, of energy and everything else. It is not education at all. The mere fact that a boy was educated in the elementary school up to the first or second standard and then he kept away from the school does not mean that he got any benefit by going to school. It is waste of his time, waste of the time of the school and also waste of Government's money and finally waste of the opportunity given to the boy which was not availed of. That ought not to be the state of things. Some years ago, a committee was appointed by the Government—I believe it was in the year 1924-25—to consider the question of secondary education. That committee went not only into the question of secondary education but also it had something to say about elementary education because secondary education has to be built up on a solid foundation of elementary education. They said that there ought to be a self-contained course of five years in which elementary education ought to be imparted to boys and girls so that such of those as may not proceed further may have enough to begin life with. A proper curriculum extending over a period of five years including subjects like agriculture, handicrafts, hygiene, public health, co-operation and things of that sort ought to be provided for those boys so that they, after the completion of five years, may be in a position to start their lives properly equipped. That was the recommendation, if I remember right, of that committee. When they were asked to consider the question of secondary education, they considered this question of elementary education also because they thought that elementary education has to be the basis of secondary education. And that a minimum basic knowledge ought to be possessed by boys when they entered the secondary course. Well, Sir, five years seem to me to be the minimum and I do not think any boy who does not pass through these five years should be considered as having passed through the elementary course. I say this course should be made compulsory and any penalty that is attached for not sending boys to school should also be attached for not making the boys undergo the course through all these five years. That seems to me to be absolutely necessary. During these five years the boys ought to be imparted knowledge of a practical character. It should not be merely the teaching of certain textbooks which some of us are familiar with. It should be more practical and have some relationship to practical life of the people, such as the village life, the village administration, the village sanitation, agriculture, some industries like carpentry and things of that kind which will show that education is not merely of book knowledge but is of a practical character. So I would urge the hon. the Minister for Education to make this his object and during the term that he is in office to make a real effort for making elementary education free and compulsory, and to see that the elementary education course comprises at least five years, and that during these five years the boy is given a comprehensive knowledge of practical things so that he may become fit, after the course is completed, to take his place in the village life to which he is entitled. That I request the hon. the Minister to make his ideal during the term in which he is holding his office.

12-45 P.M. “The next question is secondary education. I just now referred to a committee which was appointed for the purpose of considering the question of secondary education in this Presidency. It is three or four years since that committee reported. I am yet to know what is the outcome of the

23rd March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

labours of that Committee. That Committee sat for over two years and it was a big Committee consisting of about 35 people; the report was a long one, a very comprehensive one which dealt with almost every side of secondary education. But so far as I can make out, very little advantage seems to have been taken, by the Government, of the labours of that Committee and of their report. I should like to know from the hon. Minister what he is going to do with that.

“One of the difficulties we have had in recent times has been the question of getting trained teachers. It has been said that it is not possible to improve elementary education since we cannot get trained teachers in sufficient numbers to do the work. With reference to the training itself, I think there is some difference of opinion as to what sort of training ought to be given. This Committee, which had a large number of people who were doing teaching work, came to the conclusion that the difficulty could be surmounted by adding the subject of teaching as one of the optional subjects for the School Final curricula. Some of the educationists on the Committee said that it was possible to introduce teaching as one of the subjects for the School Final course and if boys who took up this optional subject and passed, were appointed as teachers, this difficulty of finding teachers would be solved. In addition to this, there is another advantage also. Under the present arrangement a boy, after passing his School Final, has to join a training school and study there for two years; it is waste of time and money. I should like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has accepted that recommendation, whether he is going to give effect to it, and if not, what he is going to do in the matter. That seems to be a very important matter because it will solve the big question of training teachers. At present there are so many training schools in the Presidency; we can do away with them, if teaching is included as an additional subject for the School Final course.

“It was also suggested that some practical side should be given to secondary education by making Agriculture or some handicraft and physical education compulsory for the secondary education course. Here again I should like to know what has been done by the Government. I know, Sir, that it is not possible to have ‘Agriculture’ as an optional subject in all the secondary schools and nobody wants it; nor is it possible to have some sort of handicraft in every secondary school; the Government can, at least, start by having a few schools here and there, as it is necessary to give the boys some sort of practical knowledge, and further many boys may not be able to continue their studies further. So far as University education is concerned, no doubt it is open to students to specialize in special subjects. But a large number of boys will stop with secondary education; and what are you going to do for them? Are we to ask them to undergo some other course? So far as such boys are concerned, many courses are blocked to them. The Agricultural College does not provide for any sort of education for School Finals; they provide education only for graduates and under-graduates. With regard to the Medical College also, the same difficulty crops up. Most of the Medical schools will be abolished; there are going to be only three Medical schools hereafter; there is very little room for people who have passed the School Final course. Similarly in the Engineering College also, there is room for under-graduates and graduates only. So far as the School Final candidates are concerned, there is no chance of their being trained properly for any profession, after they pass their examination. If anything can be done by

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [23rd March 1931]

way of having a few schools for giving some sort of practical training, the moment they leave the school, they can enter some profession or other; that will be a god-send to the people especially in a time like this when unemployment is very acute. I should like to know from the hon. Minister what he is going to do in the matter, and whether he is going to make a beginning by starting a few schools in which Agriculture will be taught. If a few schools are started where mechanical engineering, or cabinet-making or some other handicraft is taught, students will be able to make a living after they leave the school. In the matter of secondary education, recommendations were made to liberalize the syllabus and give more option to people to undergo training in various subjects. Subjects like music, cooking, domestic economy, etc., were recommended to be added as optional subjects, so that women and persons who may be inclined to take up fine arts, etc., as optional subjects, and specialize in them may do so. It is not our object that every school should train people in all these subjects. You can provide two or three schools in the Presidency.

"So far as University Education is concerned, provision has already been made for fine arts and domestic economy being taken as optional subjects. It is absolutely necessary that these subjects should be taught in the high school classes and secondary schools. I should like to know whether provision has been made for this purpose. Unless provision is made for these subjects in the secondary schools, there is no use of having degree courses in these subjects; if these subjects are not taught in the secondary schools, it will not be possible to specialize in these subjects in University courses.

"With regard to Universities, I am sorry to say that we have got already too many Universities. I am one of those who think that three Universities are too many for our province. But nobody is going to propose that any one of them should be abolished. I hope it is not our idea that the same subjects should be taught in every institution. All I can say is that the Madras Presidency is not a very big place for which we want a large number of Universities, and that we do not want to have duplication of the same subjects being taught in all of them. I would like to see that each University in the province, specializes in some subjects, so that if anybody wants to specialize in any particular subject, he may go to that particular University. That ought to be the way in which Universities should develop here. It was said, Sir, that in Vizagapatam there was going to be a Technological College and that they were going to teach electrical and marine engineering there. I am yet to know whether any beginning has been made in that direction. I want to know whether any attempt has been made for having a decent college for this purpose in Vizagapatam. It was also said that Madras was going to specialize in mechanical engineering and some other subjects and that we were going to have a Technological Institute. Only two days ago I heard that the school, which was hitherto called the Trades School, was going to be called hereafter the School of Technology. That will not solve the question, as merely changing the name is not going to give additional facilities. We do require some definite course in mechanical engineering and electrical engineering; if we do that, then we will be in a position to do without the help of outsiders. The question of machinery is a very big one; we are to-day getting heaps and heaps of machinery from outside, machinery worth crores of rupees. We find it difficult even to put together spare parts of motor cars. That is a field

[23rd March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

which we can take up and in which we should take our rightful place with other nations. If we do that, we will be in a better position to solve the question of engineering, etc. I should like to know what exactly has been done and what is going to be done in the immediate future.

"Then there is the question of utilizing the graduates that are turned out from the women's colleges and schools. Our province can rightly be proud of having two colleges for women and a number of high schools for women and the woman who pass out of these colleges and high schools are better than most others in India. We ought to recognize the fact that we are getting a large number of graduates from these colleges every year. The question is how they are going to be made use of in the development of this province. One of the courses open is to utilize them as teachers not only in girls' schools but also in every school. They need not be confined to girls' schools only. In other countries I think women are employed as teachers in boys' schools. I do not see any reason why we should not do the same thing. So far as the education of young boys are concerned, I think, if we employ women teachers there is advantage. Women teachers are likely to understand the position and needs of boys better than men teachers. This is a field in which women can be employed more and more. I should like that the hon. Minister should consider this question.

"Then there is the big question of retrenchment. If there should be 1 p.m. retrenchment in education, where is it to be? Certainly it cannot be in elementary education for which we want more money than what is provided.

"There is also another point to be considered, in connexion with elementary education, and that is, whether schools which employ only one teacher and which are far away from towns, are really doing any good work. From my own personal knowledge, I can say that the teachers in some of those schools are more often out of the village than in it. In spite of it, they are able to get on because there is nobody to take them to task. In some cases, some teachers engage themselves as document writers, stamp-vendors postmasters and in various other ways. It is certainly not to the advantage of the schools or the boys that such a state of things should exist. I would therefore ask the hon. the Minister to seriously consider the question of consolidation of schools and see whether it is not possible to abolish these one-teacher schools. It is better that we have, as far as possible, four or five teachers in every school; but if that is not possible, we should have at least two teachers. Anyway, the schools with only one teacher should go at once. If we have four or five teachers in a school, each can specialize in a particular subject and better instruction can be given to the pupils in various subjects. If, however, for any reason such as that any locality is too far away from the surrounding villages, it is necessary to have schools with less than four or five teachers, I should think that at least two teachers should be employed; otherwise, I am afraid the school will not be doing the work for which it is intended. It will not be humanly possible for one teacher to teach five standards. So, that is also a point to be considered. Except in this way, no retrenchment is possible, so far as elementary education is concerned. If retrenchment is really to come, it should come from the head 'direction' in the higher quarters. For instance, when the last Retrenchment Committee sat, it was found that there was no need for so many officers in Madras. There were then one Director, two Deputy Directors and one Deputy Directress. The Retrenchment Committee thought that at least

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [23rd March 1931]

one of them could go; but unfortunately what was done at that time was, instead of abolishing one of the Deputy Director's posts, the Government abolished the post of Deputy Directress with the result that two years hence, the post was revived and the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee was therefore given effect to only in name for a short period. The real difficulty at the present moment is this: Even very small matters are now being referred to headquarters. For instance, an indent, say for Rs. 250, for a middle school has to pass through the District Educational Officer to the Director, to be passed by him. That means so much waste of time for so many people. This is absolutely unnecessary. The Government have issued instructions as to what schools should be provided with what articles. If so, why not leave it to the District Educational Officer to pass these indents? If this is done, a large portion of the work done at the headquarters will vanish.

"Again, Sir, there are a number of returns which I think are quite unnecessary. It is quite possible, by some delegation of powers, to make long correspondence with the headquarters unnecessary, and thus save time and save also some establishment in Madras. It ought to be quite easy to get on with only one Director, an Assistant Director and a Manager of the office. As it is, Sir, the Director's office looks like a huge establishment probably enough to administer the province in all departments. Of course, almost every department is like that; and a standing example, as I submitted the other day, is the Board of Revenue. We all think of the Board of Revenue because it is there and we come in touch with its work very often; the Director's office is practically the same thing—only our attention is not directed to it to the same extent. In this Director's office, there is the same delay, there is the same prolonged correspondence, and all the other things we see in the Board of Revenue. This state of things should be remedied. There ought to be more of decentralization, and more power should be given to the officers in the districts. If that is done, I am sure we can save a lot of establishment.

"Again, Sir, with reference to the district agency itself, it seems to me that having one officer for each district is a new policy. I do not think it is absolutely necessary. It is a matter which will have to be gone into by the hon. the Education Minister. Hitherto we had only one Educational Officer for two or three districts, but we now have one officer for each district. The work of supervision is done by the Deputy Inspectors here. I do not think it is necessary that we should have one officer for each district.

"I do not want to take up any more time of the House. I would only request the hon. the Education Minister not to allow time to pass without making a real impression on it, to take courage in both his hands and see that a real step forward is taken in elementary education."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The motion before the House is—

'that the allotment of Rs. 19,53,000 for University be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Let me remind the House that the time allotted to this den and is four hours. I think, as usual, under this motion for reduction, all the issues covered by the several motions for reduction that have been given notice of, might be raised and discussed."

23rd March 1931]

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second the motion moved by the hon. Member from Coimbatore, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar. In opening his speech, the hon. Member said that the motion was not so much to obstruct the work of the hon. the Minister, as it was to give him suggestions for guidance in the future. That of course may be the attitude to be adopted by us, but at the same time, sufficient time has already been given to the hon. the Minister to show how far he has progressed in preparing a scheme for improving the system of education, even though he may not yet have arrived at any definite results. Surely, he can now come forward and say that he has already made a beginning in the directions pointed out by the hon. the Mover.

"Taking the Administration Report for the year 1929-30, it is stated that Government have ordered that in recruiting candidates for the Madras Educational Service, equal opportunities should be given to all communities. This is a statement which the Government have made here; but I wish to know how far the Government have succeeded in seeing that that policy has been followed by the Education Department.

"Coming next to the Beasley Committee, the recommendations of which the Government say they have already given effect to in some ways—by making physical training compulsory in all secondary schools—we are told that all boys, and girls, schools have been directed to submit a report each year. I do not know if those reports have been supplied to Members of this House. I do not know what the report itself suggested and what schemes have been prepared on the basis of that report. We all know, Sir, that in the Annamalai University Act, physical culture has been made compulsory. I do not know why the hon. the Minister should not take a leaf from that Act and see that the Madras University Act also is amended, so as to make physical culture compulsory even in the university courses. Various figures are given with regard to the increase in the number of students both in elementary and in secondary schools. I must say, however, that I cannot fully agree with the statistics given here. I find that the increase shown here is substantially very much more than what it actually is. I request the hon. Minister to see that these statistics are further scrutinized and verified. I do not think the statistics have been prepared on a scientific basis. We all know that in our province, as well as in other parts of the country, the percentage of literate people has been considerably low. We find from the report here that the percentage of pupils under instruction to the total population was 6.8 in the previous year, while the increase has been only .2 per cent for 1929-30. This is really a deplorable state of affairs. I do not know what scheme the hon. Minister has adumbrated or proposes to adumbrate in order to see that this deplorable state of affairs is removed.

"There has been a considerable decrease in the strength of the professional colleges. I want to know whether the Government have made any enquiries into the reasons for this decrease. Is it a fact that our boys are not taking to college courses as they used to do formerly? Or is it a fact that finding that higher education does not pay them, they have ceased to pursue their educational career further? Or is it a fact that they have taken to other courses, more profitable to them, such as technical and professional courses, to the extent to which they obtain in our province? This is a matter which I hope the Government should investigate.

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

[28rd March 1981]

"With regard to the University itself, I find it has instituted a course of Ayurvedic system of medicine in the Oriental Studies Group, whereas they have not included the Unani system of Medicine in the same Oriental Studies Group. I hope the Government will draw the attention of the University to this matter and see that it introduces the Unani system also in the Oriental Studies Group.

"With regard to the University Training Corps, it is only very recently that the Government thought of having such a corps in our Universities. I think it is only six or seven years since this system was inaugurated; and I do not know if the time that has elapsed since then has been utilized to increase the usefulness of this institution, so that it might be as widely spread throughout the province as it ought to be. Evidently, the amount of money that was allotted to it is not enough. I hope that steps will be taken to see that the University Training Corps are increased and that every college in the province has got a very fully equipped Training Corps attached to it.

1-15
p.m.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the Government Muhammadan College itself, the Government have made certain improvements in introducing two subjects, English and History. They also sent three young Muslims to England for higher studies and they have also returned and been appointed as assistant professors in charge of their respective subjects. That, of course, is due to the previous Government and I hope the present Government will continue the good work that was done by the previous Government. They should also see that they open a Philosophy class in that college, because the Mussalmans require that that subject also should be taught in the Muhammadan College.

"Coming to the question of a Technological College for the province, my hon. Friend, the Mover, has dealt with this question. Sir, this is one of the most important questions that should engage the attention of the Government. If we have been opening one university after another, we have done so in order to improve the culture of the various communities speaking different languages. For instance, we have constituted the Andhra University and we have also constituted another university for the Tamil people, and that is the Annamalai University. What we insist upon is a Technological college to begin with which will develop later on into a very useful Technological University in times to come. The attempt on the part of the Government to introduce the teaching of electricity and such other scientific subjects in the Engineering College has been welcomed, but that will not do. The Government ought to move faster in regard to these matters, because we have to move with the times. For this purpose, we have to adopt modern scientific methods that are obtaining in other countries.

"Sir, the number of secondary schools in the province has decreased from 528 to 526 and I do not know the reason for this decrease. The report before us does not satisfy us as to why there has been any reduction in the number of secondary schools. I thought there has been a demand for more and more secondary schools in the province, especially from the cut motions that we find on the agenda given notice of by members of all communities, Hindus and Mussalmans. The demand for more secondary schools has been more insistent from Cuddapah, Nellore and other districts, and I do not know why Government have not thought it fit to increase the number of these schools, but on the other hand, we find a decrease in the number by two.

28rd March 1981]

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

"With regard to elementary education, the hon. the Mover has dealt with the question to a certain extent. We find from the report that the number of elementary schools has risen only by 350. I do not know if this increase is at all satisfactory if we take the whole area of our province into consideration. On this point, I have to differ from the hon. Mover with regard to the scheme of Mr. Champion, the Deputy Director in charge of elementary education in Madras. Even after a perusal of the report of Mr. Champion I am unable to see that he has made out a case for the scheme. I find in the report that Mr. Champion suggests that both boys and girls belonging to various communities, Mussalmans, Hindus, Adi-Dravidas, etc., should be concentrated in one central school. At the same time, he suggests the continuation of small schools round about that central school. One can very well suggest to Mr. Champion that he might present this report to an expert on town-planning rather than to the Education Minister or to the Education Department, because it is only when we start new villages or new towns that such institutions can be actually worked, but under the present state of affairs his suggestions are impracticable. First of all, Mr. Champion suggests that the school should not be far away from the localities from which boys and girls belonging to the various communities can go. According to the Elementary Education Act itself, there is need for a school within an area of one mile. If we give effect to Mr. Champion's suggestions, what will happen is that the very salutary requirements of Mr. Champion will have to be given the go-by. When Mr. Champion deals with the advantages of a central school, he says it will be possible to reduce the number of schools and thus reduce the expenditure. Coming to the question of supervision, he thinks that there will be better supervision by having a central school instead of a large number of schools. He goes on to say that communal and caste prejudices would be removed. He also says that he is in favour of co-education. He also refers to the advantages of his scheme in respect of Muhammadan and Adi-Dravida education. He knows that he is suggesting impracticable things, and that they are ideal suggestions. I do agree that his suggestions are ideal and that they can be brought about only in case we set up a new village where all communities are inhabiting round about a particular area, in which case it will be a good thing to have a central school. But, if we take any village or town we can never find all the different communities living round about any particular area. In regard to co-education, he says that the experience of the Government has been that wherever they have got mixed schools, the girls have been in a minority. If we really want to encourage female education, it will not do to have a mixed school at present. We have to go farther and as a matter of fact we have to wait for some time more before we can think of mixed schools for boys and girls. Further, I do not think, parents will come forward in large numbers to send their girls willingly to such mixed schools. With regard to Muhammadan schools, I do not think any purpose will be served by this scheme of mixed schools. Although Government may have in view this idea of a mixed school, one compartment for Hindus, another for Adi-Dravidas, a third for the Muhammadans and a fourth for some other miscellaneous communities in the same school, by which they can bring about an *esprit de corps* among the students, it is impossible to attain the object which Mr. Champion seems to have in view. His object can be realized only in a school where there are 50 or 100 or 150 students, but in a school where you have got a large number of students, say 500 to 1,000, to mix up boys and girls of different communities, will not be as

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [23rd March 1931]

advantageous as Mr. Champion seems to think. Then, in the case of the Mussalmans, there is also the language difficulty. Most of the Mubammadan schools are run with Urdu as the medium of instruction. If we have to retain that language I do not know what purpose will be served by having these mixed schools, so far as the Mussalmans are concerned.

"Then with regard to inspection also, I do not think that supervision will be materially affected by concentrating the different schools in one central school, as the author of the report seems to think.

"Further the idea is to have ultimately one headmaster with high educational qualifications to supervise all the schools in the building. One knows how very difficult it is for a headmaster to manage a school consisting of about a hundred or hundred and fifty boys. If, on the other hand, 500 or 1,000 children are going to be placed in charge of a headmaster, however highly qualified he may be, I do not know if that scheme will be at all successful. Then what will happen is that the teachers will be more responsible for the boys than the headmaster, because he will have no opportunity to know any boy at all as it will be impossible for any one person to know all the 500 or 1,000 boys at the same time. Further, his official work will increase and he will have to devote more time to his desk than to the inspection or education of the students in the various classes under his charge. But, as I have already stated, the scheme adumbrated in Mr. Champion's report can be possible and practicable only under very ideal circumstances. It will be possible only if we start a new town or village with a school building in a centre which can accommodate all the students in one building, but under the present conditions it is not a practicable thing."

At this stage, the House rose for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I was saying that from the point of view of Muslim education this scheme is not satisfactory. Sir, we know that although attempts have been made, yet greater attempts ought to be made to have combined schools for all communities. But at this stage that is not possible on account of various reasons. There is the question of language, the medium of instruction, and the question of the development of culture of a particular community; then there is the question of age, in which there is difference between the age of Muslim boys going to school and that of the boys of other communities; there is the difficulty of gosha system standing in the way of the rapid spread of education among Muslim girls; and then, it is impossible to combine both private managed schools and the public managed schools on account of the question of buildings and other difficulties that are insurmountable. Mr. Champion in his statement says that as long as Muhammadan children have to be taught at schools those subjects which they ought to have learnt already, it is not possible to introduce that scheme. So much with regard to elementary education.

"The other day the hon. the Minister said that Government have not given their approval to that report. Whereas I find from the Administration Report that Government have given their general approval to the proposal of admitting into schools both sexes of all communities. If that is so, I wonder how the hon. Minister, the other day, in answering some question said that Government have not dealt with the report as yet. I do not

[23rd March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

know if I am correctly representing the thing, and I hope the hon. Minister will state what he has to say on this matter when he speaks. I hope Government will not create trouble by not consulting public opinion with regard to Muslim education. I say that unless the Muslim community has accepted that scheme, they will not put it into effect.

"Sir, it is believed that elementary education has been introduced in about 25 municipalities and some other places. I must say in this connexion that the introduction of compulsory education has not been satisfactorily carried out. To my mind it appears that municipalities are satisfied by merely formally passing resolutions introducing compulsion in certain areas or in the area comprised in the municipality. They have not gone beyond passing resolutions by making necessary provisions for the introduction of compulsion. In the case of various municipalities I am afraid they have not increased the number of schools, and in the case of Muslims, particularly I must say they have taken shelter under the provision in the Elementary Education Act, that no Muslim boy should be compelled to attend school unless religious instruction is provided for in that school. They safely escaped under this clause and thereby they denied the Muslim boys the necessity of having to go to school. If statistics are taken in areas where compulsion has been introduced, I am afraid, it will be found that not even 10 per cent of the boys of school-going age attend these schools.

"With regard to the quality of the training that is given to teachers it is high time that we revise the course of training that is given to teachers. It is a very very old system that we have in vogue and it is high time that we raise the standard so that education in the elementary schools could be made better than what it is to-day.

"Then, Sir, Government have not brought forward any scheme with regard to the duration of school-life. We know in a large number of cases that we have a large number of pupils in the lower classes but as we come to the higher classes the number begins to dwindle to very insignificant numbers. Ultimately we find that it is mere waste of public money, as was remarked by the mover.

"With regard to girls' education we miss here our ex-colleague, Mrs. Muthulakshmi Reddi, who used to fight for the cause of women. But I hope the present lady Member will fight for their cause, and so I don't want to take up that subject. In this connexion I want to say that though Government have spent a very large sum of money on girls' education yet, they find it impossible that,—even though I and my other colleagues in this Council have been agitating, and not only ourselves but the Muslim Educational Association in Madras and other Muslim educational bodies in the city have been agitating for the last three or four years for starting a Muslim secondary girls' school in north Madras,—for want of funds, which after all may be ten or twelve thousand rupees a year, the institution is being postponed. I hope the attitude of Government with regard to education of girls, especially those of backward communities, will change, and that they will not hesitate to spend money in that direction.

"Sir, Government have not given sufficient attention to the question of adult education. We know in other countries, in foreign countries, especially England and the like, which have advanced considerably in education, Government are doing much in the direction of adult education

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [23rd March 1931]

But in this country nothing has been done in that direction. Although Government are aware of the fact that the percentage of literate people is very low, yet they have not done anything in the matter. So we ought to take particular care to see that our adults are educated to the extent that they may be able to read vernacular newspapers and understand the general conditions obtaining around them. Sir, Government can very well help to improve and advance education in the province by helping local bodies with sufficient funds for opening libraries and reading rooms in different centres and localities. It is not enough if they support universities by endowing them with lakhs and lakhs of rupees to be concentrated in one particular area. The education must be spread out, and if that should be the aim of Government they can achieve it generally and quickly and speedily by having more libraries and more reading rooms started in various parts of the country.

"With regard to salaries of school assistants in secondary schools, agitation has been going on in this House for a very long time. Almost ever since I came to this Council, Member after Member has been asking by means of questions as well as also during Budget time to raise the salary of school assistants in the subordinate service. To these Government have been replying for the last four or five years that they are preparing a scheme on this behalf, and till this date no scheme has as yet seen the light of day, to relieve the distress of these poor teachers who have to maintain a higher standard of life than their co-workers in other departments drawing the same scale of salary. I hope Government will give their best attention to this matter. The pay of pandits and munshis too has been before the Government for a fairly long time and as yet nothing has been done in the matter.

2-45
P.m.

"Sir, with regard to the grants that the Government are giving to orphanages, we recently considered that question and the Government have not thought fit to see that the various communities are dealt with equitably. There is one particular community which is taking advantage of this particular amount that has to be distributed among all the communities. Sir, the policy of the Government should be that they must come to the rescue of other institutions as well and distribute the amount among the various communities instead of giving a major portion of it to one particular community which is maintaining institutions for itself.

"Sir, with regard to the question of Muhammadan education, of course, various Muslim Members of this House have already given notice of motions to request the Government to appoint a committee to enquire into Muslim education in the province so that they can suggest ways and means by which Muslim education can be improved and can be brought up to a higher level or at least to a level to which it has risen amongst the other communities. No doubt, the Government acknowledge and the members of the other communities, I hope, admit that Mussalmans have not yet advanced to the extent to which they should have done. There are various disabilities from which they suffer and they are at the mercy of local bodies which are not very sympathetic to Muslim education. In most cases from reports received we know that the local bodies have been rather indifferent so far as the education of Mussalmans and Adi-Dravidas is concerned. Sir, with regard to that question there are so many matters to be considered that it is impossible for any member to rise up and state before the Government the

23rd March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

complete case in order that the Government may attend to it. It is necessary that a committee should be appointed consisting of some Mussalman representatives of this Council and expert educationists, so that they can go into this question and suggest ways and means by which they can see that the education of Muslims in the province is raised and that facilities are afforded to the Mussalman community in regard to this matter. With these few words I have great pleasure in supporting the motion."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA :—"Mr. President, Sir, I may, in passing, refer to the Elementary Education Act. The Catholic community has been very nervous as to what principles may be established in regard to the education of the masses and how the Catholic community may fare under the new regime. In this matter our sentiment is the same as the Muslim sentiment; and although we, Christians, are a weak minority, so far as this question is concerned we are sailing in the same boat with our powerful Muslim brethren. (Hear, hear.) I shall not deal further with this question because no doubt the proposed Elementary Education Act will be fully considered and the sentiment of the Catholic community will be fully ascertained before any decisions are arrived at.

"I now pass on to the next question, that is, the policy adopted by the Education department towards the depressed class community, and such members of that community as embrace Christianity. It has been a sore point with the Indian Christians that a discrimination is being made between Christians and Hindus among the depressed classes. We hear a good deal now about protection of minorities. We hear that all religions should be treated in the same way, and recently the Minorities Sub-Committee of the Round Table Conference came to the conclusion that there should be no discrimination whatever between religions. That being so, we have been feeling rather sore about the matter that the Indian Christians have been treated badly, and that such of the depressed classes as embrace Christianity have been treated differently from the Hindu depressed classes. This question is involved with the administration of the Labour department. But, with your permission, Sir, I wish to say what I have to say on that matter in this speech, because the arguments that I will have to adduce will be the same as on this question. When the Labour Demand comes in, I shall, with your permission, only supplement these remarks I make now, if necessary. Probably I may finish all my remarks in this speech itself. In other countries, the uplift of the depressed classes has been left to themselves and to missionary and philanthropic agencies. But in India it has been found that the depressed classes cannot be left to themselves. For ages they have been in a depressed condition. It is not possible for them all at once to rise in the social and economic scale. And it has been found that in the interests of the State and in the interests of the depressed classes themselves they should be helped by the State. The question is whether the application of this principle does not imply that this aid should be continued even when the Hindu depressed class members become Christians. If, the moment a Hindu depressed class member becomes a Christian, he rises in the social and economic scale to a very great extent, then that policy might be justified. But is that so? Speaker after speaker at the debate of 1929 pointed out that the depressed classes among Christians are not treated better than the depressed classes among the Hindus."

[23rd March 1931]

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—"May I rise to a point of order, Mr. President? Is the hon. Member at liberty to deal with a subject which does not pertain to Education? He speaks about the treatment accorded to different depressed classes."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I think he is referring to their treatment with regard to Education. Therefore he is quite in order."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA :—"It may be of interest to know how the Labour department came into existence. The reason why I am speaking on this subject is this. So far as the Christian depressed classes are concerned, the scholarships which they receive are received only from the Educational department but among the Hindus, such scholarships are given by the Labour department. As a matter of fact, whatever I have got to say pertains both to this Demand and to the Labour Demand. It might be within the knowledge of many Members of this House that the idea of helping the depressed classes has been before the House for several years. In 1919 or 1920, I believe there was a resolution that hostels should be provided for members of the depressed classes. That resolution was seconded by a Christian, a Catholic Archbishop of Madras. It was, however, thought that a concrete and elaborate scheme should be devised for helping the depressed classes, and as a result, the Labour department came into existence. This Labour department has done excellent work and the only drawback has been that so far as the Indian Christians are concerned, such of the depressed classes as became Christians have not been treated in the same way as the Hindus have been. The depressed classes form a minority. . . ."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"On a point of order, Mr. President, may I point out that the question of scholarships and education of the depressed classes comes under Demand No. XXVIII? I think, as I believe the hon. the Minister also will agree, that we will have an opportunity of discussing this question of scholarships for depressed classes under that Demand."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member must try to confine himself to Education demand. If he is going to speak about the Labour department and depressed class education, I think he can very well reserve his remarks for another occasion."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA :—"I shall reserve my remarks about the Labour department when that demand comes up for discussion. I am now speaking about the question of the treatment of such of the depressed classes as become Christians, under this Education Demand. Even the League of Nations has recognized only three classes of minorities, namely, linguistic, racial and religious. They have not recognized social and economic minorities. But so far as this country is concerned, as I have already pointed out, there is a very strong reason why such a minority should be recognized. But whatever the reasons are for recognizing this minority among the Hindus, the same reasons apply, as I pointed out, to recognizing it among the Christians. So far as the Educational department is concerned, I urge that the position as between the Hindus and the Christian converts may be equalized. I have had a conversation about this with many hon. Members who represent the depressed classes. I must say they took a very fair view of the matter and they told me that they would have no objection whatever to this discrimination being removed. So far as the depressed classes are concerned,

23rd March 1931]

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

I may assure them that there is no intention whatever on our part that they should suffer. What I say is whatever privileges the Hindus have got, we must have also, in the Education department. As regards the activities of the Labour department, I shall make my remarks in a later speech. I thought it would be more convenient to the Members and may also save their time if I spoke about it now alone. But, anyhow, I shall refer to the other aspects of this question later on. I hope the House will take a very generous and humane view of the question and that they will see that the depressed classes are helped, even though they may be Christians. It may be said that the Christian religion should not have any depressed classes at all, but unfortunately that is not possible. If you look at the history of conversion, it will be found that missionaries have concentrated on the religious aspect of the question. They left social matters to the converts themselves so far as they could. They preferred salvation of the soul to social uplift or reform. It has been found that even the Portuguese in the plenitude of their power, when they made conversions centuries ago, allowed caste to remain, and even to this day the descendants of these converts observe caste. Again, in Madura when Fathers Beschi, de Nobili and Brito, the famous missionaries, converted Hindus, they allowed caste to remain. So the fact remains that caste is observed among Christians. It may be wrong, but still it is a fact. I may here quote what Mr. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib said :

"I am afraid Government are making this distinction without a difference between Hindu depressed classes and Christian depressed classes. I know the Christians very well. There is really no difference at all between a depressed class Christian and a depressed class Hindu. I submit, Sir, that the depressed class Christians must receive support at the hands of the Government equally with the depressed class Hindus because the Government, being neutral in the matter of religion, they should not make any distinction. If the Government help the depressed class Hindu they do so not because he happens to be a Hindu but because he is a depressed class man. I submit that the depressed class Christians should get the same help at the hands of the Government which the depressed class Hindu gets."

"And this has been the opinion of a very large number of people. I was conversing with many hon. Members of this House coming from different districts and they all tell me that so far as members of the depressed classes becoming Christians are concerned, they do not change their places in the social or economic scale. I say that there is no reason whatever why any discrimination should be made between the Hindu depressed classes and the Christian depressed classes and I beg the hon. Minister for Education to be good enough to consider this matter sympathetically and fairly and see that no discrimination is made between these two depressed classes."

* Mr. K. KESAVA RAMAMURTI NAYUDU :—"I wish to say a few words 3 p.m. regarding the starting of a high school for girls in Cocanada. There are now two higher elementary schools for girls in Cocanada. They originally belong to the Government but they are transferred to the municipal management. Government pay a sum of Rs. 3,800 and Rs. 2,000 and odd to the two schools. In the aggregate it comes to about Rs. 6,000. During the Ministry of Sir A. P. Patro he asked the then District Educational Officer that a scheme should be prepared for converting one of the schools into a high school. According to that it would cost about Rs. 6,000 in the first year, Rs. 8,000 in the second year and Rs. 10,000 when it becomes a full blown high school. After Dr. Subbarayan took up the portfolio he did not give effect to that scheme at all. Now there are two schools and one of them may be abolished and thus Rs. 6,000 got to start the IV form this year only. The hon. Minister for Education need not put himself to the necessity of fobbing off this request with the usual excuse of want of funds. If the Government do not like to

[Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu] [23rd March 1931]

close down one of the schools they may at least give as a preliminary measure a middle school according to the scheme prepared by the municipal school which costs about Rs. 4,200. That means Government will have to pay Rs. 400 more to convert the school at Suryaraopet into a middle school. But I request the hon. the Minister for Education not to postpone the consideration of raising it to a high school to that of converting it into a middle school. Many girls seek admission into boys' schools. Some go to the Pittapur Raja's College, some go to McLaurin High School, some go to Rajahmundry and some to Vizagapatam but many give up their studies. As everybody knows, it is child marriage and the gosha system that stand in the way of girls getting admission into boys' schools and I request the hon. Minister to neutralize the tyrannies of these social laws by giving greater facilities to girls for higher education by opening a larger number of secondary schools for girls. I also want that there should be a change in the course of studies which are now given in the girls' schools. They should be taught especially painting and music to beautify their homes and sweeten their lives. They must be taught physiology, hygiene and other things to make them intelligent mothers, efficient housewives. So I request the hon. Minister once again to give his serious and sympathetic consideration to the question of opening a high school for girls at Cocanada and supply a long-felt want of the City."

* **MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI**:—"Mr. President, in speaking upon Education, I feel, Sir, that I cannot but make reference to the progressive increase of expenditure from the year 1926 up to the present day. That that time should synchronize with the Ministry of Dr. Subbarayan is a matter upon which I take a certain amount of pleasure. Sir, I, as a leader of the Congress party, was criticized for having given support across the bench to the Ministry without giving that support from behind the bench. I do not propose to answer that criticism, but if that fact be certain I feel that what we have done is perfectly justified by the expansion of education in the Presidency from 1926 up to now. But while feeling so pleased at the increase of expenditure, I am afraid my criticism against the continuance of the policy laid down by Thomas Babington Macaulay should be geometrically increasing. Sir, education is a national work and I do not believe that with every change in the Ministry there should be change in the policy of education. But what I desire to-day to point out is that in spite of admittedly reactionary or the unsatisfactory nature of the present educational system, no Ministry has attempted to make it adaptable to either the existing conditions or to the future needs of the country. We have broad-based distinctions of elementary education, secondary education, higher education, collegiate education and technical education. In none of these divisions of education are we able to produce young men who could be called to be useful to this country. It is true that in elementary education we have made very high strides. At any rate on paper we have declared that several municipalities have adopted the compulsory free elementary education system, and I also admit that some moneys are given either by educational contribution to local bodies or by the levy of the educational cess or other methods. But when you compare the number of pupils who are in elementary schools with those who go into the secondary schools you find that the money that you spend on elementary education has become a waste. For instance, take one community of depressed classes. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, was speaking of the depressed classes. I may say here again that during my Friend Dr. Subbarayan's regime the number of pupils of the depressed classes has

[23rd March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

increased considerably and in fact some of the schools who prohibited entry of depressed class boys either because of the locality or of the custom have been replaced by schools which threw open their doors to such people. (Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandian: Question.) My hon. Friend, who was, I believe, the whip of Dr. Subbarayan's Party, must look into the records which have been published by the Government, and I may mention for his information particularly that in the Ramnad district where the depressed classes seem to have very legitimate complaints against wealthy landlords and other caste men that have been in that district the number of depressed class pupils in schools have increased. The number of depressed class pupils in the secondary schools is very small. Sir, I was mentioning about the necessity of a thorough change in the system of education. There is considerable overproduction in the Universities. What is it that the Minister wants to do with these people? Is it merely to manufacture discontented young men who are neither useful to themselves nor to the country? If the amount that has been spent by young men, not only by the Government but by the poor parents is calculated and if it be capitalized it would be enough for the maintenance of the families of young men for all time to come. There is no well thought-out policy with regard to education. Secondary schools there are with curriculum which is perhaps out of date. Boys are not taught in subjects which will be immediately useful to them. For instance, the one way by which you can create an interest either in a technical line or an agricultural line would be to introduce text-books which deal with subjects relating to agriculture, trade and commerce. We have got all sorts of text-books which treat of legendary subjects or modern frivolities. There is not any attempt to interpret legends into modern thought. I must request the hon. Minister to examine or to create a committee of learned men to advise on this subject-matter and bring out text-books so that they may become useful for those boys. Sir, my hon. Friend, the Minister for Education, in reply to addresses presented to him for building grants and equipment grants has been practically replying that on account of want of funds he is unable to respond to the requests of those bodies. But, he has this year asked for the same amount as was normally spent in the years previous. There was no doubt an increase of 80 lakhs in the current year. But it is due to the Annamalai University. This year he had 270 lakhs and for next year he is budgeting for 271. Having, therefore, regard to the fact that the amount has increased by one lakh, why should you go on singing the same swan song when reasonable requests for building and other grants are applied for? There is some other thing to be considered. Fighting the civil disobedience movement has travelled from the Home Department to the Educational department also. They have got what is called a black list and a white list with regard to institutions managed by local bodies. Many of these boards' applications for grants are readily granted if they are in the white list and are rejected if they are in the black list. I know it and I want the Minister to contradict it. At one time a particular municipality thought that the refusal of a particular grant was due to the hoisting of the National Flag, and subsequently when they modified the previous resolution Government after considerable hesitation granted them and said that the original refusal was not due to that cause. I do not want the present Government to continue that kind of policy.

"I wish to say a word or two about the District Educational Councils. These Councils are no doubt constituted with very laudable objects but

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [23rd March 1931]

Unfortunately the elected men that come out of these constituencies are in many cases gentlemen who ought to be really in elementary schools or in the elementary education council. The Minister for Education ought to examine the constituencies of the District Educational Councils and so construct the constituencies as to ensure the sending of useful men so that they may act as a healthy check in regard to elementary education in their localities.

3-15
p.m.

"I find, Sir, that in these District Educational Councils managers of aided institutions are also given some representation. Unfortunately, I am not quite convinced of the utility of these teacher-managers being on the District Educational Councils. Their presence affects very much the disbursement of grants among schools in the locality with the result that those schools which are represented by these gentlemen on the District Educational Councils are likely to receive rather a somewhat partial treatment than other schools which had not their representatives on the District Educational Councils.

"Then, there were Secondary Education Boards constituted. No sooner they were constituted, than they died a premature death. So far as Madras is concerned, I was myself a member of the Secondary Education Board; there was held only one meeting of that Board and then there was no other meeting, and I myself slipped out of it. I do not think any useful purpose will be served by the continuation of these Secondary Education Boards, unless their constitution is suitably changed.

"Again, about the year 1922 or 1923, committees for admission of boys into Government colleges were formed when the Justice Ministry was in office. These committees are still continuing to exist. The personnel is there without any change for so many years. I think with the change in the Ministry there must be a change also in the personnel of these committees, so that people who to-day are really in touch with the student-population and who really know what the demands of each community are should be put in instead of those old members.

"Then, with regard to the personnel of the Educational department, I am afraid there is still the same bias in favour of Europeanization. Next to it, the phenomenon which is attracting the attention of the public is Malabarization. I should think, Sir, that both these things ought to receive some check. It looks as though whenever the services of a specialist is required he is to be found only in an European. The air is thick with the rumour that a special officer was appointed with regard to the elementary education. Well, Sir, I welcome the idea of the appointment of a special officer for the purpose of examining the present system and giving a right direction to the future scheme of elementary education. But, what I want to know is, why do you want an European or an Englishman for all these purposes? It is necessary that Indians who have specialized in these subjects ought to be given a chance to work out schemes. They will be in a better position to come into touch with the rural population. They would have all the advantages of being Indians, so that their proposals might receive the support of the country. There is no use of merely drafting in exotic methods without knowing the actualities of this country. I would therefore particularly commend to the consideration of the hon. the Minister the appointment of an Indian in regard to this matter.

23rd March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

"Sir, with regard to girls' schools, I am afraid the usual building grant that is given to these girls' schools is insufficient. The Government must make an exception with regard to girls' schools. We are just now progressing in the matter of female education and such philanthropic and public attempts as are made by private bodies towards the construction of buildings for girls' schools and colleges must be welcome by the Government and something more than the usual grant should be given in such cases."

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member who preceded me said that none of the depressed class members opened their mouths. We were only waiting for an opportunity. Sir, we have been pleading our case as depressed classes for a long time, and we got some help after all from the Government. But hon. Members like Mr. Sreshta do seem to be anxious to get matters mixed up to deprive us from the help we are getting. In reply to that hon. Member, I should like to say that there is no such community as the depressed class Christian community. There is no upper Christian or lower Christian community. Of course, there are various denominations; such classification is religious, and if there had been such a community, they should have come forward in a body. Then, again, it is said that those who are converted into Christianity are of the same kith and kin of the depressed classes, who are called Adi-Dravidas. In the Simon Commission Report, it is stated that anyone who is a Hindu that is converted to Christianity does become a Christian."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, on a point of order, Sir, may I point out that it is not relevant for the hon. Member to talk of Christianity and conversion on this motion? We have got another motion on which the question of scholarships to Christians may be raised. I think the hon. Member, Mr. Srinivasan, will have then an opportunity of replying to any comments then. I do not think he is relevant in talking of Christians now."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member will have to confine himself to education."

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN :—"I only want to draw attention to the fact that educational grants that are given to depressed classes are in danger of being taken away by the Christians when they are mixed up with the depressed classes. There are depressed men in all communities, and provision is made in the Grant-in-Aid Code that any person who is poor can apply to the Government for aid or scholarship or school fees. But whereas in our case, we have been treated as untouchables for ages past, and it took nearly half a century for us to urge the Government to meet the vital needs of our community."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I again rise to a point of order? The hon. Member is speaking of Christians. As Christians we have no complaint against the Education Department. Our complaint is in connexion with the Labour Department for which there is another grant. There is no question of Christian or non-Christian in connexion with this grant."

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN :—"I will have no complaint, Sir, if they do not use the term 'depressed classes' in the sense in which it is applied to us. The Government give us something with one hand and take it away with another hand. I will give you an instance, Sir. After our strong fight for

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

[23rd March 1931]

half a century, the Government provided us with ten seats in this Council. Those ten seats were to represent the Parayans, the Pallans, the Malas, the Madigas, the Valluvans, Chakkiliyans, Tottiyans, Cherumas and Holeyas. Out of these ten seats now two of them are given to the Christian members who are not any one of the communities concerned. Thus the Government had taken away two seats out of ten reserved to us. That is why I said that Members like Mr. Sreshta try to undo what the Government had done to uplift us. If the Government propose to mix Christians and depressed classes they will retard the progress of the latter. I do not want to talk about the Labour department now as you have already ruled. Again in the Round Table Conference, Messrs. K. T. Paul and Pannirselvam figured as representatives of the Christian community while there were two members of the depressed classes represented by their community. I therefore request you, Sir, to permit me to show what our endeavours have been all along. We pleaded and pleaded for a long time to get back into the Hindu fold from which we were segregated centuries ago, with a view to build our nation. What is the use of bringing in the Christian to work against the advantages we are slowly gaining? I hope such an attempt will not be made by any hon. Member of this House. Time after time, year in and year out such a motion as is brought by the hon. Member Mr. Sreshta was to us something like a pin prick.

"There is another important point. The Government cannot separate one community from another, and they cannot amalgamate two communities together. If they try to mix two communities in the matter of giving special aid, they will be committing a great mistake. If they want to mix us with others, they have to ask our consent. In the nomination of the two Christian Members, the Government should have taken our consent. There are responsible bodies among depressed classes whom they could consult on these matters. If the Government will treat us liberally in the matter of educational grants, they should not take advantage of our weakness. I hope the matter of mixing up Christians and depressed classes will not be countenanced by the hon. the Minister for Education. Our people are already suffering a lot at the hands of the caste people in the matter of starting schools and admission into schools. There are numberless complaints about the iniquitous treatment meted out to us in this respect of education. I would also like to bring to the notice of this Council the attitude of the police to us. If the police be only just and give us some help. . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I am afraid the hon. Member is straying away from the subject under discussion. He need not mention anything about the police in connexion with this grant, but confine himself to education."

Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN :—"I referred to police because they were not helpful to us when castemen interfered in establishing schools. Sir, I do not want to take up much of the time of the House. I hope the hon. Minister for Education will do us full justice in the matter of educational facilities."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"Mr. President, Sir, the Education Minister has many difficult problems to solve. The first question which he has to tackle is the devising of a satisfactory system of mass education. We are spending, Sir, about Rs. 145 lakhs out of Rs. 251 lakhs in the Education Budget for elementary education. But, as it has been pointed out, a great deal of this

23rd March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

money is being wasted because the present system of elementary education is ineffective. Our attention has been drawn first by Mr. Statham in his report and subsequent to that by the Agricultural Commission and by the Hartog Committee to the wastage and stagnation in our elementary schools. Only 22 boys out of every 100 and 16 girls out of every 100 that come to our elementary schools stay there till they complete the course. Thus in the case of the great majority of our children the little education they receive does not enable them to attain literacy. Many children are allowed to stagnate in a class for two or more years.

"The problem before the Education Minister is to stop this wastage by adopting some form of compulsion to retain children in schools till they complete their elementary course. I understand that the proposed Elementary Education Bill incorporates a provision for this purpose. I wish to know how this Bill proposes to apply compulsion to parents to make them keep their children at school till they finish their elementary course. I also wish to know why the introduction of the Elementary Education Bill is being delayed. It is not proper, Sir, to compel children to remain in badly staffed and ill-equipped schools. The scheme proposed by Mr. Champion has for its object the reduction of the uneconomic multiplicity of little schools and also the economizing of expenditure on them. I am in hearty sympathy with it. I have not been able to appreciate the arguments advanced by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, in condemnation of this concentration scheme. We ought to encourage co-education and we ought to see that children of different communities are made to receive their education in common schools. It will not only economize the expenditure we have to incur on elementary education, but it will also make for national solidarity. For universal compulsory education, it has been estimated that the annual recurring expenditure would be $6\frac{1}{4}$ or $7\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees. We are still a great way off from being able to reach this sum for making elementary education universal and compulsory. I understand that local bodies have been asked to prepare concentration schemes and to establish central schools. In this connexion, I wish to know to what extent the Government propose to help the local bodies financially in establishing these central schools. Then again, Sir, we want a more adequate inspecting staff. I suppose each deputy inspector and junior deputy inspector is asked to inspect more than a hundred schools. What manner of inspection will be possible under these conditions I do not understand. There must be an increase in the inspection of staff in some proportion to the growth in the number of schools.

"The subject of adult education has already been referred to by previous speakers. Adult education is necessary for attacking the problem of mass illiteracy. One of the main causes for the slow growth of literacy is the relapse into illiteracy of many of those who pass out of our elementary schools. The remedy for this also is adult education. We must therefore, take steps to devise proper measures for adult education. The Government are now doing very little in this direction.

"The next problem which the hon. Minister has to tackle is the remodelling of secondary and university education. The Hartog Committee in discussing the subject of secondary and higher education have shown how there is waste and ineffectiveness throughout the whole of our educational system. We are producing school-finals and graduates in needless profusion. They find it

3-30
p.m.

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[23rd March 1931]

difficult, if not impossible, to get employment. The main problem in education is how to provide varied forms of training suitable for boys of varied attainments and circumstances. As the Hartog Committee says, in the present system there is little, if any, choice of the type of school to which we can send our children. The passage from the elementary to the high school and college seems to be the normal procedure for every student. We must make it possible for the students to step off this educational ladder at various stages and take to some form of vocational training. Progressive countries in the West have done so. In Sweden, for instance, they have continuation schools with a vocational bias for students who do not go on to secondary schools. In England in the Hadow Report that has led to the raising of the compulsory school-age, they have suggested that there should be post-primary schools with vocational bias for boys who do not go on to secondary schools. In the United States of America, a boy is allowed to make his choice after he has reached the eighth grade course in general education. He can either go to special technical or industrial schools or continue his general education and then specialize. The committee appointed by the Bombay Government to consider the reformation of primary and secondary education has suggested in its report recently issued that a definite vocational bias should be given to education after the primary stage. The development of higher elementary schools with a vocational bias, they state, should be the accepted policy of the Government. They have further recommended that a vocational subject must be made a compulsory subject for the school-final examination. There is some difference of opinion, Sir, as regards the introduction of vocational instruction in secondary schools. There are people who say that our secondary schools must confine themselves mainly to giving general education. While we are all agreed that vocational education must be based on a sound system of general education, no one can deny the necessity or usefulness of giving a vocational bias to the instruction that we impart in our secondary schools.

"As regards university education, the Hartog Committee has pointed out that our universities are overcrowded with students who are profiting neither intellectually nor materially by their university training. If, as the committee says, a large number of those students who come for university training without being really fitted for higher work are diverted at earlier stages to some form of practical training which would be more suited to their capacity, our colleges can confine themselves to their proper function of giving good advanced education to students who are really fitted to receive it and thus produce graduates who will become more fruitful and less disappointing agencies in the life of the community. The proportion of our professional students to arts students in this Presidency is stated to be only 18 per cent while in Bombay, United Provinces and Central Provinces the proportion is stated to be 30 per cent and over. In all self-governing countries they are making due provision for commercial and technical education. In Japan, for instance, they have got Universities of Commerce and Technology while here we have not been able to found even a faculty in Technology or Commerce in our university. We must concentrate hereafter on imparting that sort of education which has been neglected in the past. The recommendation of the Unemployment Committee for a readjustment of our educational programme has been turned down by our Government after deliberating over it for a long time as it is evident from the answer furnished to my question the other day. We must see to it, Sir, that a readjustment

23rd March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

of our educational policy is made so as to make it conform to the needs and circumstances of the time and to enable our young men to take their proper place in the economic life of the country."

MR. C. BASU DEV :—" Mr. President, the time allotted for the discussion of this demand would seem to be short judged from the fact that several hon. Members are anxious to contribute to the discussion of so important a subject as Education. I, therefore, cannot with any propriety or justice occupy more than a few minutes of the time of the House. Further, Sir, I do not think I have that inordinate fondness to hear my own voice or the untiring tongue which enables some hon. Gentlemen of this House to speak at great length on all possible occasions even if it be to repeat."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Hon. Members are at liberty to talk at great length." (Laughter.)

MR. C. BASU DEV :—" Even if it be to repeat things which have been repeated *ad nauseam* on the floor of this House. I will therefore confine my remarks to one or two important questions connected with mass education. Mass adult education is a necessity and a very important and urgent necessity. Sir, I am glad that of all the hon. Gentlemen who spoke on this demand, there is at least one who championed the cause of adult education, I mean my Friend, Mr. A. B. Shetty. The masses groping in darkness and steeped in ignorance fall easy victims to their primitive ideas and passions, and what is worse, easy dupes of their educated and enlightened brethren (Hear, hear) and remain as stumbling blocks in the onward march of the country. The masses of India or rather, the illiteracy and ignorance of the masses, are so shockingly great that any attempt however courageous it may be to relieve their economic position is bound to prove infructuous. Such, Sir, is the opinion of the Economic Enquiry Committee which had been sitting the whole of last week. The loans recommended to small ryots do not at all stand the ghost of a chance of reaching the ryots. Again, Sir, the co-operative movement which, to my mind, is certain to be an effective panacea for all the economic ills the masses are suffering under, requires a measure of education and understanding of a right type which alone can serve any useful purpose. Our masses are so very woefully lacking in that general outlook that much spade work has to be done. They are steeped in ignorance and in old-world ideas. They are unable to adjust and adapt themselves to the rapidly changing times. They therefore grumble and murmur at an iniquitous system of society which condemns them to utter grinding penury and ignorance while a few enjoy all the nicest and the best things and go on adding to their wealth. Even from the point of view of the safety of society, I think, Sir, mass adult education has become a matter of great national importance. They are attracted by the spectacular experiments, dangerous and impracticable though they may be, of a new order of society in Soviet Russia. That to a considerable degree attracts them and works on their imagination. Only the other day, you would have seen in the papers, how even the saintliness of Mahatma Gandhi was not proof enough against the excited and ignorant passions and ideas of some members of the Girni Kamgar Union at Bombay. All the world over it has been realized that only a right type of education and a better and safer order of society can stand the oncoming shock. It is therefore that civilized countries in the West are feverishly pushing on their schemes of education in spite of their domestic troubles. The primary and elementary education that is obtaining

[Mr. C. Basu Dev]

[23rd March 1931]

here is hopelessly inadequate and not at all on the proper lines. This education has not helped to create good and intelligent citizens, nor has it succeeded in widening the outlook and narrow conservatism of the parents or their surroundings. They therefore still hold to their old prejudices and live in the same miserable stagnant pool of ignorance and narrow outlook in which the whole population is steeped.

3-45
p.m.

"I would therefore appeal to the hon. the Minister for Education that he would courageously and determinedly launch upon a scheme of mass education if he wants India to have an enlightened, educated and informed democracy and if he wants India to keep her proud place in the comity of nations of the world. We know how smaller countries than ours worked in the eighties to raise themselves from their economic and intellectual backwardness by the introduction of a system of mass education. Mass adult education has saved Denmark and has given her a new life morally and spiritually and has created perhaps the most enlightened democracy in the world. Thanks to the courageous help of the State of Denmark, the Danish farmer has been converted into a politician and philosopher and the whole country has been emancipated politically and economically. I do not want to take much of the time of the House. I would once again appeal to the hon. Minister in charge to launch upon a scheme of mass education and if he cannot find the necessary funds, let him scrap the Universities and utilize the money thus saved for the imparting of mass education. I would like to impress upon the hon. Minister the very urgent necessity to launch upon a scheme of mass education and I do hope that with sufficient sympathy and support of one and all of us sufficient funds will be forthcoming, if not from the banks, at least from the landed aristocracy. Unfortunately sometime back I was rather unnecessarily severe in attacking the landed aristocracy. But I must say, now that he has the support and sympathy of all of us in the scheme of adult education, the hon. Minister will launch upon a bold scheme of adult education and thus usher a new era of educational life in this province."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—"Sir, education is of supreme importance to mankind. A man without education may be called a cannibal or a savage. Man with education is a gentleman. Education can be divided into three parts—elementary, high school and collegiate. All cannot hope for high school and university education. But elementary education must be imparted to all. Illiteracy in India is very great, especially among the depressed classes. The need for educating them has been overlooked for ages. It is but right that large sums of money should be spent for the education of these people. If it is not done so, surely this community will be a great stumbling block for the development of political and economic life of this country. Before Government launch upon a scheme of elementary education, it is but right that they should make it compulsory for the depressed classes. Now we have elementary schools in almost every village, either aided or otherwise. Government spend large sums of money in grants, but I have felt always that money which is spent in grants is a mere waste, for the reason that a village school which has got a total strength of 30 to 40 boys has only an average attendance of eight boys. On every occasion when the Inspector comes for inspection, the teacher goes round the village, collects all the pupils and thus brings them to school just to show the Inspecting staff a satisfactory attendance of boys, thus duping both the public and the Government. So, if we are to start a school for about three or four villages I think all the schools

23rd March 1931]

[Mr. G. R. Premayya]

thus started can be run very properly and education made very effective. In that case the money that is spent will be well spent. If there is one central school for every four or five villages, it can be run very easily. I have found that boys going to distant schools sit there the whole day and learn their lessons better. I would strongly support the policy of the Government if it is along the lines I have suggested."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"The grounds of education—elementary, secondary, collegiate, mass, labour and depressed classes—have been traversed by hon. Members who spoke before me. I endorse every word of what they said except the wrath of Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti who was against the production of more graduates. What if there are more graduates in this country and they are handicapped from seeking appointments in Government offices? Has he not known of a European graduate, for instance, an Master of Arts of Oxford, coming out to India as a merchant's clerk? Let our graduates also understand that education is not intended for people becoming clerks in the Revenue Board office or some other Government offices, but that they can use it in many other ways. As to my hon. Friend, Mr. Basu Dev, who was remarking that Mr. Shetty alone of all the speakers spoke about adult education, he is new to the Council and many other hon. Members in the previous Councils were speaking about nothing else but adult education and continuation classes and education of the depressed classes with much greater result than what it was before they came into the Council."

"As my hon. Friends have traversed the whole field, I will strike a fresh field and a pasture new. I want the hon. the Minister to let me know the policy that he adopts in the recruitment of candidates for the Madras Educational Service. Some people are recruited in the scale of Rs. 250—25—800. Some others with similar qualifications are recruited on Rs. 400. There are others who were recruited in the transitional period between the abolition of the Indian Educational Service and the coming into existence of the present Madras Educational Service. They are in the scale of pay of the Indian Educational Service and some of them will be reaching Rs. 800. I want the hon. the Minister to let me know whether he is going to allow them to continue in the Indian Educational Service or bring them down to the Madras Educational Service. If the latter course is adopted, it would be a great disappointment to them who believed that they were recruited in the Indian Educational Service."

"Imagine a professor of the Presidency College, the one College that is second to none in the Presidency, that it is intended to be a repository of the best intellect available in the service to impart instruction to students appearing for the highest examination in Arts, being started on Rs. 250; Rs. 75 of this amount goes towards rent for the house he has to live in, Rs. 75 for the conveyance to carry him from his home to the College and Rs. 100 for maintaining himself and his wife and children and for purchasing up-to-date books on science. Realizing all these difficulties, Sir, Dr. Subbarayan was good enough to formulate a scheme. He divided the Madras Educational Service into two classes—Class I and Class II. The former for men of merit and experience who occupy positions of responsibility and respectability in the department. That scheme was passed in this Council and I do not know why it is shelved and not given effect to, except in the Women Service, the scale of which is Rs. 400—50—1,200 with a selection grade of Rs. 1,250 to Rs. 1,500. Let the Minister cut away the tail end of the

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [23rd March 1931]

scale and make it selection grade of Rs. 400—50—1,200, giving those that are already in the Madras Educational Service the increment according to the service they have put in. I heard there was a grievance that many of those people who will be benefited by the scheme with European University qualifications and that people with Indian University degrees should also be kept on the same level. The scheme was shelved. No doubt, we are all patriots. Our alma mater is more to us than all the universities in the world. If an Indian can get a first class degree in our University, and if he gets also a first class qualification of a European University, why should he not be preferred to occupy a chair in the Presidency College. If necessary, let the hon. the Minister insist on people who aspire for professorship in the Presidency College getting themselves qualified by undergoing training in any European University in addition to the Indian qualification, by giving them study leave. In going abroad they come in contact with master minds, with great scientists and with great research scholars and thus their outlook is broadened. They will come to know how science is progressing all over the world. In Japan what they do is this: if they want a man to occupy a professorial chair, they send him for two years to study in the Universities of Europe and America. He attends the various universities and spends a month or two and watches research and other works of master minds. I hope that the Madras Government will try their best to send our people before giving them a chance of being appointed as professors in first grade colleges to England on study leave and get themselves fully equipped.

4 p.m. "Coming to female education, the huge amount of money that is spent on female education is of no value to a majority of people in this Presidency. Coming to Muslims, there is only one school in the southern portion of the City—the Hobart Training School; it is not attracting people from Mannady and other places on the northern side of the City. There should be another school there. I am not content with the present number of schools. The Hobart Training School should be raised to a college. There should be another college in Georgetown. There should be at least one college and two high schools for the Muslims.

"As to the other people, the majority communities—Vellalas, Nayakars and Balijas and other Hindu backward communities and depressed classes—I would like to know from the hon. the Minister how many students belonging to these communities are reading in Queen Mary's College. What is the use of spending money on such colleges? Out of the 85 per cent of the majority communities, there is not even one woman out of 100,000 reading in the high schools. This matter should attract the attention of the hon. the Minister. He should see that a number of schools all over the Presidency are established both for full-purdah Muslim girls and half-purdah caste Hindu women and other backward communities. These communities do not allow their girls to go out of their houses after twelve years of age. How are they to be educated? I want schools to be established on purely zenana lines so that these communities may be benefited. Until then the majority and other backward Hindu communities will not be properly educated. I appeal to the hon. the Minister to see that some arrangement is made for educating these people. I stay here to impress this point on the attention of the hon. the Minister although something causing me anxiety is distracting me outside from here. I stay here to impress upon the hon. the Minister the necessity for having zenana schools for Hindus and zenana schools for Muslims. With these words, I resume my seat."

23rd March 1931]

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Basu Dev, speaking a little while ago, passed a rather general stricture on hon. Members of this House. He said that some Members of this House were fond of hearing their own voices. I wish the hon. Member had realized that hon. Members of this House know as much of their responsibilities as the hon. Member himself, if not better. I am inclined to think that if that remark applies to any hon. Member of this House, it applies to the hon. Member who made that statement. For, Mr. President, metaphors and similes dangled throughout the speech of my hon. Friend which lasted for nearly ten minutes, and that was all. There was absolutely nothing that can be said to have thrown any light on the subject-matter of this debate. At any rate, if the hon. Member's speech had been less ornate in diction and more based on facts, it would have been of some benefit to the hon. Members of this House. This is quite a different matter altogether.

"Now, coming to the subject under discussion, I shall confine myself to elementary education. The hon. the Third Minister, in reply to a question put by me sometime in the month of January, said that he was not in charge of factories. That was in reply to a question, Sir, whether he was aware of the fact that a large number of children of school-going age are employed in unorganized industries like the Beedi industry in the City of Madras. I have always credited the hon. the Third Minister with greater sense than he exhibited on that occasion. I asked what steps the Government proposed to take to drive these boys out of these factories and into schools. The reply of the hon. the Minister was that he was not in charge of factories. I ask the hon. the Education Minister once again whether he is going to give the same answer to-day. The hon. the Minister must by this time be aware, Mr. President, that six to seven thousand children of school-going age are, instead of going to school, working in the Beedi factories in the City of Madras where compulsory elementary education is supposed to have been introduced. I ask why is it that compulsion has not been enforced in the case of these children?

"Along with my colleagues of the '29 Madras Youth League' I have for some time past been working in that direction. I am sorry to confess that our efforts were all useless. We even a convened conference of several prominent non-officials in Madras to concert measures for removing these children out of the Beedi factories. To this Conference, His Excellency the Governor of Madras has been kind enough to send a message appealing to the citizens of Madras to improve the lot of these children by bringing them out of the unhealthy surroundings in which they are at present working, and send them to schools. Even this conference was not able to do anything in the direction as the employers of these children would not consent to any proposal for taking these children out of their control. Thus, Mr. President, all non-official efforts have proved useless; and that is why I am urging the Government to take up this matter. When the distinguished Head of the Madras Government was so much interested in this problem, I am surprised, Sir, that a responsible Minister should have come forward with the reply that he was not in charge of factories. This is not a matter pertaining to factories. It is a matter concerning the education of thousands of children who go without it.

"Coming to the administrative side of the Education department, I should like to make a passing reference to the Women's Educational department, and particularly to recruitment to that department. There is a very widespread feeling that in the matter of recruitment to Women's Educational Service, the present Deputy Directress, I mean Miss Lowe, is somewhat partial towards people belonging to a certain linguistic area. I am inclined

[Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayammal] [23rd March 1931]

“இச்சட்டை அங்கத்தினருள் ஒருவராகிய V. T. அரசு அவர்கள் பீடி பாக்டரி யில் சிறுபிள்ளைகள் வேலை செய்கிறதைப்பற்றிப் பேசினார். வாசிக்கத்தக்க பருவம் வந்த சிறுவர்களை, பலசரக்குக் கடைகளிலோ, மண்டிகளிலோ, கள்ளுக்கடைகளிலோ, சாராயக்கடைகளிலோ, பின்னும் பல தொழில்கள் செய்யுமிடங்களிலோ சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளக்கூடாதென்ற சட்டம் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று சில சீர்திருத்த மகாநாடுகளில் நானும் பேசியுள்ளேன். இப்போதும் அது அவசியமென்றே தோன்றுகிறது. ஏனெனில் கட்டாய ஆரம்பக் கல்வியானது எங்கும் அனுசரிக்க வேண்டியிருப்பதால் தொழில்கள் செய்யப் பிள்ளைகளை அனுப்புவதைத் தடுக்க வேண்டும். தடுக்காவிடில் கட்டாயக் கல்வி எப்படி வியாபிக்கக்கூடும்? மாட்சிமை தங்கிய நமது கவர்னரவர்களும் யாவருக்கும் கல்வி பரவச்செய்யவேண்டுமென்று சொன்ன எண்ணம் எப்படி நிறைவேறும்? ஆதலால் இவ்விஷயத்தையும் முக்கிய மாய் கவனிக்கவேண்டுமென்று அறிவித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“சினிமாக்களில் சிறுவர் சிறுமிகளுக்கு கல்வி அபிவிருத்திக்காக மாத மொரு முறையோ, இருமுறையோ வித்தியாபிவிருத்திக்குத்தக்க காட்சிகளைக் காட்ட ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். இவ்வப்பிரயயத்தைக் கவரன்மென்டார் நன்கு, கவனித்து தக்க ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்.

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“Mr. President, Sir, before I begin to speak on this motion, I would request the hon. Minister in charge of Education, not to misunderstand me, if I am forced to criticise his department rather vehemently. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Don't be hysterical!) For, when I feel strongly about any subject, when I feel that injustice has been done in any particular case, I generally cannot help expressing my feelings rather strongly. That is not hysterics—nothing of the sort. It is my nature; I cannot help it. I say so, because, one or two of my friends on the other side told me that they did not like my speech the other day. I asked them what the matter was whether I misstated the facts. They said, no. When I asked them whether my arguments were wrong, they said, no.”

B. POKKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“On a point of order, Sir. May I know how all these things relate to education?”

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“I asked them, Sir, whether I used any expression which was objectionable or unparliamentary. They said, no; but they said I looked very fierce. I told them that under that fierce face, there was a lamb's heart.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member may look fierce but he must go on with Education.”

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“So, even if the Education Minister describes my speech as hysterical—which I believe, it is not—I do not mind, provided it is parliamentary.

“Speaking on this subject this morning, my Friend, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, said that five years' stay of boys should be made compulsory. What I say is: there is no use of making a boy stay for five years in a school, if he is not going through five classes during that period. If he is to be stagnant in one class, there is no use of having him in the school for five years. The real thing that is required is that the boy should be made to pass through five classes. The chief complaint now-a-days as regards elementary education is that most of the schools are single-teacher schools. I know of many schools in my own locality, intended for Muhammadans and others that applied for recognition and help with a view to have more classes and more teachers. No aid was given and they had to continue as single-teacher

23rd March 1931]

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad]

schools. They could not even get recognized. So, I think, the Education department or the District Educational Council was responsible for continuing them as single-teacher schools.

“Then, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar also said, with reference to the report of the Committee on Secondary Education, that instead of having separate training schools for teachers, we could train them in the high school classes, by introducing a training section for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination. I agree with that, Sir, as by this means a lot of money could be saved which might be spent on expanding elementary education.

“Many of my friends have spoken on the question of concentration. Concentration is no doubt an ideal, but it is not a practical proposition. So many of the communities in this Presidency are backward in education, and require separate schools. They cannot get on along with the other advanced communities. For instance, the Muhammadans, the depressed classes and so many other backward communities will certainly require separate schools. The depressed class children will find it very difficult to prosecute their studies along with boys of other communities in the schools. The chief difficulty in the case of Muhammadans is that—it is especially so in the case of the Mappillas—the boys do not go to schools where there is no religious instruction. In order just to induce them to go to school, a number of Mullah schools where religion was being taught were taken over by the Educational department and while retaining those Mullahs in these schools in order to induce the Mappillas to continue to send their children to school, the Educational authorities introduced secular education and paid a small sum to the Mullahs of those schools in the beginning. In course of time, as general education was begun to be imparted these became pukka schools; but then objection was raised on the ground that these Mullahs were not trained. There are now about 2,000 odd Mullah teachers in these Mappilla schools and they are to be sent away if they are not trained. The Educational Officer, Malabar, reported that sessional classes might be opened in addition to the training school at Malabar, where these Mullah teachers could be trained, and thus retained and so that also, along with these Mullah teachers, the boys going to the schools might not leave the schools. That proposal was made with a view to maintain the strength of these schools. The Educational Officer proposed to have at least four such training sessional classes; but I am sorry to find that only one class has been sanctioned for this year. I am afraid hon. Members are not interested in this affair. It was an hon. Member on the other side, Mr. Palat, who said the other day that this amount is intended for teaching religion. Not at all; it is only intended to train the Mullahs in teaching all subjects. And if they are not trained, they will be sent away according to the rules of the Education department. It is true that these Mullahs teach religion, but they do so only outside school hours. If these untrained Mullahs were allowed to teach, such education, it was thought, would be of a narrow type and not of a liberal kind. So, it was thought that these Mullahs should be trained even to teach religion so that a broad outlook and a liberal view might be developed in the young boys. With that object, Sir, the opening of these sessional classes were recommended by the District Educational Officer of Malabar.

“It has been recognized that separate school for Mappillas are necessary. 4-30 Now there are 1,500 odd Mappilla schools in Malabar and 100 odd schools in p.m. South Kanara. Soon after the Malabar Rebellion, a committee was appointed to go into the question, whether the Mappilla schools should be continued

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad]

[23rd March 1931]

separately or whether they could be amalgamated with the other schools. That committee reported that it was necessary to continue these schools separately, as otherwise Mappilla education would suffer. What is aimed at now by training the Mullah teachers is to liberalize education. In Mappilla schools, boys of other communities also are admitted, and religion is taught only to Mappilla students and even that not during the school hours but outside the class hours. I am sorry that Mappilla education does not receive the help and support that is necessary. Sometime back there was a special officer appointed to look after Mappilla education, but now that post has been abolished and no one else has been put in charge of their education. I consider that a special officer is quite necessary for the purpose. And, if you cannot appoint a special officer, I would even suggest that the Labour Commissioner may be asked to take charge of Mappilla education. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Do you voice the opinion of the Mappillas in that matter?) Well, Sir, when it is recognized that Mappilla education and the education of other backward communities should not be treated along with the education of the other advanced communities, it is but natural that some special arrangement should be made for the purpose. Sir, I find that some of my hon. Friends behind me are not in favour of Mappilla education being transferred to the Labour Department; then I would suggest that some other means may be found which will be acceptable to the Mappilla population.

"Sir, one of the Members of Government remarked the other day, in connexion with the abolition of the Outrages Act, that the Mappillas are barbarous. He might have said so in joke, because he is one of my esteemed friends. Granting that the Mappillas are barbarous, what is your duty towards them? Your duty is to make them civilized and not to devise means for exterminating them or to make them more barbarous.

"I want to ask the hon. Minister in charge of Education, now that he has been in charge of the department for the last six months, what policy he has or what new scheme he has in view especially about Mappilla education and how he is going to solve the problem of Mappilla education. I also want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is going to apply this concentration scheme in regard to Mappilla education also. I must then say in this connexion that I have to thank the present Director of Public Instruction and his Indian Deputy for the interest they have shown to a certain extent in the matter of Muhammadan education, because they are responsible for sending three Muhammadan young men to England for being trained there and also for appointing two or three Muhammadans as District Educational Officers. For these of course my leader, Dr. Subbarayan also is partly responsible. In conclusion, I repeat that I want to know from the hon. Minister what his policy is regarding Mappilla education. With these few words I resume my seat."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—"Mr. President, Sir, many hon. Members who have spoken on the policy of the Government with reference to elementary education referred to the Champion Report, which appears to have been accepted on all hands as the last word on the policy that has to be pursued in regard to elementary education in this province. Speaking for myself, I must confess that I am all admiration and praise for the report as far as its logic and cogency of reasoning go, but I am afraid mere logic and cogency of reasoning alone will not make a scheme workable and it is on that basis that I have certain criticisms to level against the scheme and certain complaints to make. My first complaint is that in this

23rd March 1931]

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

very well-thought-out report, wherein Mr. Champion has taken account of all circumstances which he thought to be relevant to the matter under discussion, he has ignored one community altogether, a community which I believe can legitimately claim to have been the pioneers in this province as far as education is concerned, a community which has been responsible for the advancement of literacy among the backward masses of people—I refer to my own community. In paragraph after paragraph, Mr. Champion in his report refers to the susceptibilities of the caste Hindus as against the Adi-Dravidas, and the feelings of the Muhammadans in the matter of having their own separate schools but does not refer at all to the Indian Christian community. I have carefully scanned the report page after page and line after line and in not a single place has he referred to the Christian community, or its feelings or its views in the matter of education. In talking of central schools, he sets apart a place for Hindus, he has made provision for Muhammadans and has allotted a place for the Adi-Dravidas or depressed classes and he also speaks of accommodation being provided for girls, but wherein does the Indian Christian come who forms a very important and respectable section of the people though a minority as far as number goes? Wherein does that community come in, I am not able to see. If I refer to this point, Mr. President, it is not because my communal pride is piqued, but because of the fear that in giving effect to the recommendations of the report of Mr. Champion, my community might again be ignored by those who are responsible for working this report and giving effect to its recommendations. It would be seen that if this scheme were to be given effect to, practically very few aided schools particularly those of the higher standard will be allowed to come into existence. The central schools, as Mr. Champion himself recognizes, will in the future mostly have to be schools established by municipalities and local boards and it is only in the case of well-established longstanding aided schools with buildings of their own that he is prepared, according to his report, to show some consideration and to allow them to exist. The other aided schools which, in the opinion of these who would be responsible for giving effect to this report, are not longstanding and are not well-established and have no buildings of their own, will have to be scrapped, either by their being merged in some other aided schools or some central local board or municipal schools. It is to avoid the danger that might emanate from an indiscriminate use of this power that I wish to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that the Christian community also exists, that the Christian community has played a noble part in the field of education in the past, that the feelings of the community in the matter of education should be respected and that that community should be afforded all facilities for continuing the beneficial activities for which they have been noted in the past. As far as the working of this scheme, a logical scheme as I began by saying, is concerned, it is on the persons that will be responsible for translating the report into action that the success of the scheme would mainly depend. The report itself visualizes the District Educational Councils as the bodies that would be responsible for giving effect to this report; but, in my opinion, the educational council itself counts for little in the actual working. The position of the District Educational Council vis-a-vis the District Educational Officer is this, that so long as the District Educational Council plays 'the good boy' by endorsing the recommendation of the District Educational Officer or the Deputy Inspector of Schools, the resolutions of the Educational Council are given effect to, but the moment the Educational Officer or Officers and the District Educational Councils come into conflict, the result is practically a stalemate. Instances have not been want-

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

[23rd March 1931]

ing in my own district where the starting of a particular school was for some reason or other not favoured by the District Educational Officer and the District Educational Council, consisting of people with special knowledge of the locality and the circumstances attendant on the starting of the school ventured to differ from the Educational Officers. The higher authorities are always there to think or to pass orders that the District Educational Officer is in the right and that the Council is in the wrong. The reason that is generally put forward for brushing aside the almost unanimous opinion of the Educational Council is the reason which has been made mention of in this report itself that Educational Councils and local bodies are prone to give too much importance to the recommendations of local individuals. This is what is stated in the report itself: 'As long as local bodies continue to yield to the pressure of individuals for schools near their homes, so long it will be impossible to eliminate the small inefficient school.' On the other hand, the impression in the minds of the members of Educational Councils is that the officers of the Education department constitute, so to say, a stumbling block to the advancement of education. As a matter of fact the position is this. The man at the bottom of the ladder puts forward a proposal and, if that proposal passes through the Educational Council, well and good. It then gets the blessing of those above. If, however, the District Educational Council finds it necessary to differ from the recommendations of the local officers, immediately not only is the Council's resolution brushed aside, but, to add insult to injury, some ulterior personal motive of the sort mentioned in this very report is imputed. If I refer to these things, it is because of the experience I have myself had and I have been connected in one capacity or another with these Councils from their inception. It is not as if that we find always reasonable District Educational Officers. To-day in my own district we have a District Educational Officer who is seldom able to see eye to eye with the District Educational Council or its Executive. I do not wish to apportion blame for this state of things. I merely beg leave to draw attention to one or two points. This District Educational Officer has, if I may be pardoned for saying so, had the impudence to send to the honorary president of the Educational Council for remarks a report in which personal allegations had been made against the president himself. This is indicative of the relationship between officers and the Council and the cause of this is merely that wherever the District Educational Council chooses to differ from the recommendations of the District Educational Officer the District officer immediately begins ascribing some personal motive and the natural consequence is that the members of the Educational Council probably with much greater justification, return the compliments, a task which is by no means difficult when we remember that in a district like mine where the whole department is an agharam of pristine purity, consisting as it does wholly of Brahmans who hail from the district and most of whom come from the sacred shrine of Kumbakonam. Almost all of them have spent practically their whole service in the district, what if there be a rule that an officer should not continue in a particular place beyond a certain period. In a district where there are about 15 or 16 circles it is the easiest thing to comply with the rule and at the same time continue in the district by shifting them from one circle to another. These 15 or 16 Deputy Inspectors go on migrating from one circle of the district to another complying with the rule for official purposes and not losing hold at the same time of the monopoly of the place. Added to this, the District Educational Officer of the day is also a Brahman of Kumbakonam. So, when you place these people

4-45
p.m.

[23rd March 1931]

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

all of the same locality and of the same district concentrated in a particular place, it is inevitable that they, with their net work of relations all round, should have local prejudices and developed their own likes and dislikes. If it be the word of officers like this that is going to carry weight with the Deputy Directors and the Director of Public Instruction and I believe that the state of things in my district is only typical of what obtains elsewhere, I feel sure that the recommendations of the District Educational Council are not likely to be viewed with favour and with the best possible intentions and it will be impossible for any one to satisfactorily work the Champion report.

"Next again, Sir, I must submit that the proposal for what they are called 'mixed schools' is certainly one which does not commend itself to me. It would be alright if little children below the age of 8 or 9 are to be allowed to mix together irrespective of sex. But in the case of older children, let us not, for heaven's sake, import all that you find in the west. These mixed schools I would rather not have and that for very obvious reasons. I would certainly not desire to let my children above the age of, say 9 or 10, to be admitted into such mixed schools."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I thought that you are more liberal than that." (Cries of "No, no.")

* Mr. A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"It is not a question of being liberal. If not wanting to expose my children to unnecessary dangers and if wishing to guard them against avoidable temptations is to be illiberal, I am proud to be called an illiberal individual (hear, hear) and I can only hope that when Mr. Arasu comes to a more respectable age (laughter) he would equally be illiberal. One solution suggested in the report is that a separate standard might be kept for girls and another standard for boys. These school classes might be managed by mistresses in the lower standards for boys and girls and for the higher standards there may be men teachers for the boys. I say this because I have some experience not exactly by actual management of Taluk Board Schools of the troubles which the presidents of taluk boards are put to when in the same school we have got a master and a mistress, particularly in out-of-the-way villages where for instance a young girl of 18 or 19 just out of the training school is being asked to serve in a school where there are young men as teachers in trying to avoid the almost inevitable scandal and consequent unpleasantness. Therefore the very entertainment of the idea of employing members of both sexes in the same institution particularly in out-of-the-way places where public opinion is not sufficiently articulate, where those in authority can't go promptly, look into matters and rectify defects particularly in these matters, is most undesirable and it is best as far as possible to keep the men teachers and women teachers apart.

One other point which I crave leave to refer to, Sir, is to the question of the depressed classes. I do not know why Rao Bahadur Srinivasan should have lashed himself into a fury at the speech of Mr. Sreshta. It is not our case that the Hindu depressed classes should be deprived of any of the amenities or special privileges placed at their disposal at present. We want them all that they now have and to get more. What we ask the Ministers and the Government is not to club the Christian and Hindu depressed classes together and deprive the Hindu section of their share but to recognize the fact that a depressed class individual if he is untouchable when he is a Hindu his conversion to Christianity does not make him any the less untouchable. If as a Hindu, he is not allowed access to public wells he is in no way

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

[23rd March 1931]

better if he be a Christian (A voice : 'Not always'). Practically always and as far as my experience goes I can say 'always'. (A voice : Then why should he become a Christian ?) That is another matter. It is not for Government to enter into the why and wherefore of things in matters of this sort. I admit that Christians like myself who claim to be of high caste have not yet shaken off our prejudices out of our minds and are helpless in our endeavour to treat our fellow Christians on terms of equality. I take the blame for it. I admit that we are not able and that our social surroundings make it difficult for us to take into our households a depressed class man and treat him as one of our own. But, there is the fact that I am not able to do it or unwilling to do it. Whatever the cause may be the fact remains that the depressed class Christian is as much a depressed class man as any other depressed class individual and is as much in need of help. If Government gives Rs. 50,000 for the benefit of the Hindu depressed classes let them also allocate some amount for the Christian depressed class people and help to ameliorate their condition. In the meanwhile we the educated section of Christians will do our best to raise the level of the depressed among us just as the caste Hindus are doing their best to uplift their Hindu brethren. Till we ultimately obtain that goal towards which we are all striving, till then do not ignore this man, do not think he has become an unlifted individual by reason merely of his change of faith. All that I ask is : Recognize facts ; face them and find a solution."

*B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—Sir, at this lag end of the day when it is five minutes to five, I shall not be bothering you except to touch on one or two points on which I wanted to speak. You know, Sir, that the problem of all problems that face this country as well as Great Britain at present is the Hindu-Muslim problem. If you just analyse the problem and trace the causes thereof the only or rather the main cause that you can find is the disparity of the degree of educational advancement between these two communities. If the Hindus had taken care to take the Muslims along with them in the matter of education or if the Government had taken care that the Muslims also go along with the Hindus at the same pace, I say the problem which confronts us at present could not have arisen. This becomes quite obvious if we particularly refer to the Mappillas on whom this disparity in the matter of education works very serious consequences. The Mappilla problem has been before the eye of the Government for over a century. If you trace the Mappilla outbreaks you will find that the very first of its kind had taken place about 1835 or so. Now it is nearly a century since the Government was confronted with this Mappilla problem and recently it culminated in the rebellion of 1921. Now, considering the gravity of the problem, considering the enormous proportions which it had taken in 1921, I ask, Sir, what has the Government done in order to solve this problem. The Government have again and again been maintaining and the people also have been saying that the main cause of the rebellion was the ignorance of the Mappillas and lack of education among them. Now, if you just examine the Budgets from the years 1921 up till now you will find that practically nothing has been spent on Mappilla education so far, by way of attempting to remove the ignorance of the Mappillas in the rebel area which has been admittedly the main cause of the rebellion. No doubt the hon. the Minister may point out some little things done here and there. One such act is said to be the appointment of what has been called by misnomer the Mappilla Special Officer. Except the fact

23rd March 1931]

[B. Pocker Sahib].

that the gentleman appointed to the office happened to be a Mappilla he had no special power to deal with the Mappilla problem nor was he commissioned to tackle the question of Mappilla education particularly with a view to trace the causes of the backwardness of Mappillas in education and to suggest ways and means to remedy the same. He was only an assistant to the District Educational Officer to attend to the routine work and thus relieve him of a portion of his ordinary work. This is all the Government have done. Not being given any power to improve Mappilla education, he has not been able to do anything in that direction and ultimately what the Government has done is just to abolish the post ; and the Mappilla gentleman who held that post has been transferred to some other district. I must express my appreciation that one Muslim gentleman has been posted to South Malabar as the District Educational Officer and I am glad to say that he is just trying to deal with the problem and is attempting to do something in that direction after a decade of the rebellion. Now, Sir, in this connexion what I wish to point out to the Government is this, viz., that the Government have to approach this question from the proper point of view. That is, the Government has to find out what the causes are which led to the Mappillas being backward in education.

"Well, Sir, though all Muslims are anxious about their religious education, the Mappillas particularly are keen about it. Sir, if you trace the backwardness of Mappilla education to its root cause you will find that the real reason lies in the fact that there is no provision for religious instruction in those elementary schools that exist at present throughout the district. Recently the Elementary Education Act has been introduced in some of the areas in Malabar, for example, in some of the amsams of Ernad and Ponnani taluks, and in none of these places I must say have the Mappillas been able to take the fullest advantage of the provisions of the Act. In section 49 of this Act there is a provision that unless religious instruction is provided for in the school, no Muslim parent can be compelled to send his children thereto. Hence the Muslims in those area are not able to derive the fullest benefit by the introduction of this Act. Thus, it is only for names-sake that the Act has been introduced so far as the Muslims are concerned. This is the cause for the failure of the Act to operate beneficially so far as Mappillas are concerned. In working out this Act, in introducing compulsion in particular areas, Government ought to take care, particularly in areas where the Mappillas are predominant, to see that religious instruction in Islam is also introduced as part of the syllabus. If that is done the operation of the Act so far as the Mappillas are concerned will be a success.

"Now in this year's Budget I find provision has been made for training Mullas in Mallappuram. No doubt it is a move in the right direction, but I must point out that it is quite inadequate to the needs of the community. So it is that some leading Mappilla gentlemen submitted a memorial to Government to open an Arabic College in some central place in Malabar with a view to turn out properly qualified teachers fit to give religious instruction in all the schools and with the object of advancing the studies of Arabic language among the Mappillas who are very much interested in the development of that language. Unless Arabic is introduced in schools and colleges I dare say that the Mappillas will not be in a position to avail themselves of western education to any appreciable degree,

[B. Pocker Sahib]

[23rd March 1931]

So, I request the Government to give this matter more and more serious attention than now. We know that Government have to spend lakhs of rupees—nay millions—in quelling the rebellion and in keeping the Mappillas in prison. But the best way of avoiding such waste of money is by improving the education of the Mappillas. To do that will require only a much smaller sum of money than what Government had to spend in quelling the last rebellion and in maintaining Mappilla prisoners. If the Mappilla prisoners were released, the money that is being spent on them can very well be saved for the improvement of Mappilla education. In this way the community can be rescued from the mire of ignorance and rendered an asset to the nation.

“Now I want to refer to two other points.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“It is time that the House should rise.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“Then I shall reserve what I have further to say for to-morrow.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The House will now adjourn and meet to-morrow at 11 a.m.”

IV.—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

^a (1) *Statement relating to the assault of Mr. M. P. Narayana Menon, with reference to the undertaking given by the hon. the Law Member on the 13th March, in answer to question No. 596.*

^b (2) *G.O. No. 148, Development, dated 2nd February 1931, recording the audit report of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, for the year ending 31st March 1930.*

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

^a Printed as Appendix II on pages 508—510 infra.

^b Printed separately.

[23rd March 1931]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 675 asked by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1931, page 441 supra.]

Number and name of range of each Deputy Inspector (Muhammadian).	Headquarters of the range.	Extent of the range (jurisdiction of each Deputy Inspector).	Number of boys' Elementary schools in the range on 31st December 1930.	Remarks.
1. Vizagapatam.	Waltair ..	Ganjam, Vizagapatam and East Godavari districts (including agencies).	149 (a)	(a) Excludes 12 Secondary school Urdu classes.
2. Beswada ..	Beswada ..	West Godavari and Kistna districts.	130 (b)	(b) Excludes 7 Urdu sections in non-Muslim schools.
3. Guntur ..	Guntur ..	Guntur district and Podili and Darsi divisions of Nellore district.	187 (c)	(c) Excludes 8 Urdu sections in non-Muslim schools.
4. Kurnool ..	Kurnool ..	Kurnool district	140 (d)	(d) Excludes 1 Urdu section in a non-Muslim school.
5. Bellary ..	Bellary ..	Bellary and Anantapur districts.	184 (e)	(e) Excludes 25 Urdu sections in non-Muslim schools.
6. Cuddapah.	Cuddapah ..	Cuddapah district ..	160	
7. Madras ..	Madras ..	Madras and Chingleput districts, Tindivanam, Gingee, Villupuram, Chidambaram and Cuddalore taluks of South Arcot district.	85 (f)	(f) Excludes 3 Urdu sections in non-Muslim schools.
8. Vellore ..	Vellore ..	North and South Arcot districts (excluding portions included in No. 7).	159 (g)	(g) Excludes 2 Urdu sections in non-Muslim schools.
9. Tanjore ..	Tanjore ..	Tanjore district	102 *	* Number as it stood on 31st March 1930.
10. Trichinopoly.	Trichinopoly.	Trichinopoly district, Dindigul, Palni, Periyakulam and Bodinayakanur municipalities, Dindigul, Palni, Nilakottai and Periyakulam taluks of Madura district.	61 (h)	(h) Excludes 5 Urdu sections in non-Muslim schools.
11. Coimbatore.	Coimbatore ..	Coimbatore, Salem and the Nilgiris districts.	90 (i)	(i) Excludes 28 Urdu sections in non-Muslim schools.
12. Ramnad ..	Madura ..	Madura municipality, Madura, Melur and Tirumangalam taluks of Madura district, Sivaganga, Tirupattur, Tiruvadanai, Paramakudi and Ramnad taluks of Ramnad district.	87	

[25rd March 1931]

Number and name of range of each Deputy Inspector (Muhamadan).	Headquarters of the range.	Extent of the range (jurisdiction of each Deputy Inspector).	Number of Boys' Elementary schools in the range on 31st December 1930.	Remarks.
13. Tinnevelly.	Tinnevelly ..	Tinnevelly district, Virudhunagar, Sivakasi and Srivilliputtur Municipalities and Srivilliputtur, Sattur, Aruppukottai and Madukulattur taluks of Ramnad district.	114 (j)	(j) Excludes 1 Urdu section in a non-Muslim school.
14. Kanara ..	Mangalore ..	South Kanara district ..	127	
15. Chittoor ..	Chittoor ..	Chittoor district and Nellore district (excluding Podili and Darsi divisions).	134 (k)	(k) Excludes 28 Urdu sections in non-Muslim schools.
		Total ..	1,909 †	† Excludes 116 Urdu sections in non-Muslim schools.

NOTE.—The statement excludes Mappilla schools in Malabar for which there is a separate inspecting staff.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide item IV—Papers placed on the Table of the House at page 506 supra.]

LAW (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT.

STATEMENT TO BE PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

With reference to the undertaking given by the hon. the Law Member on the 13th March 1931 in answer to question No. 546, the following statement is placed on the table of the Legislative Council:—

Statement.

On the 10th February 1931, M. P. Narayana Menon who was confined in the Madras Penitentiary was assaulted by a convict called Nallaperumal Tevan. The injuries inflicted were as follows:—

- (1) A contused abraded wound 1" in diameter on the left cheek bone.
- (2) A contused wound 1" in diameter on the right side of the forehead.
- (3) A small abraded wound on the left knee-cap.
- (4) A small abraded wound lower third back of left forearm.
- (5) A small contusion on the left parietal eminence.

[25rd March 1931]

He was examined by the Medical officer of the Jail, Major S. C. Contractor, I.M.S., and the Sub-Assistant Surgeon on duty. His injuries were not serious. His health also was not found to be seriously affected on account of the assault.

2. The Superintendent of the Jail made enquiries to ascertain the cause which led to the assault. The statements of the two persons chiefly concerned and of the jailor were obtained and they are reproduced below:—

Statement of Nallaperumal Tevan.

"Narayana Menon gave evidence in a certain case in December and as the Superintendent believed him I was fined 10 days' remission. This convict Narayana Menon has been exercising considerable influence over all the convicts of the jail. Yesterday morning after the Monday morning inspection by the Superintendent, Narayana Menon called me a dog and told me that I was disturbing him in his sleep at night by making noises. I was very angry with him as he has done me much harm. Yesterday morning before the inspection Narayana Menon went and reported me to the jailor. I did not fall in at yesterday's inspection because of this. Therefore I assaulted Narayana Menon to-day."

Statement of M. P. Narayana Menon.

"I was passing urine in my bath room after 12 o'clock just before going to my work. I heard some one coming. I thought it may be totie (scavenger) and when I was just getting up I recognized Perumal and he began to beat me. I did not report him to the jailor yesterday before inspection. I did not call him a dog yesterday, and did not talk to him at all. I do not believe that he has any grievances against me and he has not done it on his own."

Statement of Mr. A. J. Gonsalves, jailor.

"Convict No. 1695 Nallaperumal Tevan in his statement to the Superintendent on 10th March 1931 said that convict No. 2607 M. P. Narayana Menon had reported him to me on the morning of 9th February 1931 as having disturbed him (Narayana Menon) the whole night by shouting in his cell. Narayana Menon made no such report to me."

As a result of this enquiry, Nallaperumal Tevan was awarded 25 stripes.

3. Narayana Menon was in the Penitentiary for a period of 7 years, 3 months and 27 days and during this period he was not previously assaulted by anybody. It appears, however, from the evidence of Nallaperumal Tevan that he had a grudge against Narayana Menon as he believed that he had been punished by the Superintendent on the strength of the evidence given by Narayana Menon. It has also been ascertained that there was no misunderstanding between Narayana Menon and the jailor or other jail authorities.

4. There is no out-quarantine in the Penitentiary. Nallaperumal Tevan was confined on disciplinary grounds at night in a block of cells usually set

[28rd March 1931

aside for condemned prisoners and disciplinary cases. He had been transferred to this block some 10 days previous to the assault on Narayana Menon. The enclosure situated near this block is reserved for under-trial prisoners and Nallaperumal Tevan was not confined in this enclosure.

On the day on which the incident took place no other convict occupied the block except Nallaperumal Tevan. Convicts were confined previously and have been confined subsequently in this block on disciplinary and other grounds.

5. All possible precautions are taken against indiscipline of this kind. The rules relating to general discipline, as laid down in the Jail Manual (Chapters XVIII and XIX of Jail Manual), are enforced.

U. RAMA RAO,
Secy. to Govt., Law (General) Department.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Tuesday, the 24th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, Kt., The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl, N. V.
Krishnan Nayar, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Nallatacobi Sarkarai Mauradiyar, Rai Bahadur N.
Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	Narasu Reddi, Mr. T.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Palat, Mr. R. M.
Alamelumangathayarammal, Mrs. K.	Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.	Pate, I.C.S., Mr. H. B.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Raja of Bobbili.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.	Raja of Kallikota.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Raja of Parlakunedi.
Birley, Mr. Frank.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Davis, M.B.E., Mr. J. A.	Ramawurti, Pandit Ganala.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Dbarmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Hemichandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Hilton Brown, I.C.S., Mr.	Rangaswami Reddiyar, Mr. M. B.
Indriah, Mr. C.	Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur O. S.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.	Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayulu, Mr. K.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.	Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. B.	Sreatha, Mr. M. S.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Mahmud Sohamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Muhammad Meera (Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.	Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.	Vedaohala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
	Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M.
	Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib B.
	Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur B. K.
	Waddington, Mr. H.
	Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
	Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
	Zamindar of Mirzapuram.

[24th March 1931]

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

Police

Strength of police staff engaged in traffic control in the Presidency.

* 69) Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the strength of the police staff engaged in traffic control at present in each district of this Presidency ;

(b) in which places the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police have asked for increase in the traffic control staff ; and

(c) in which places Government have sanctioned the extra staff asked for ?

A.—(a) The strength of the constabulary employed on traffic control in each district at present is as shown in the annexed * statement.

(b) & (c) In 1929 the Inspector-General of Police submitted proposals for strengthening the traffic control staff of all districts except Jeypore, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Chittoor, Chingleput, Malappuram, Malabar and South Kanara and the Railway Police, Trichinopoly, costing roughly one lakh per annum. The Government considered the proposals to be too ambitious to be adopted *en bloc* and sanctioned additional staff only for Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and Rajahmundry, involving an addition of three head constables and 71 constables. In September and October 1930 the Inspector-General of Police submitted proposals for additional staff for traffic control in the following 12 towns :—

(1) Cocanada.	(5) Salem.	(9) Vellore.
(2) Bezwada.	(6) Vizagapatam.	(10) Tinnevely.
(3) Masulipatam.	(7) Ellore.	(11) Palamcottah.
(4) Guntur.	(8) Bellary.	(12) Tuticorin.

In view of the present financial stringency he subsequently reported that extra staff need be sanctioned for the present only for Cocanada, Bezwada and Masulipatam towns. But even this restricted proposal did not pass the Finance Committee.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ In view of the present financial stringency, may I know whether the Government will be prepared to reduce the present traffic establishment, as it is not a matter of very great urgency and there are so many things unattended to in so many departments ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ It is not advisable to reduce the traffic establishment, because it is very essential in preventing accidents. As a matter of fact this establishment is not at all overstaffed.”

* Printed as Appendix I on page 582 infra.

24th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May it not be reduced to a minimum ? There are so many things undone ; for instance, the clamour for the postponement of kists, the clamour for reducing the revenue assessments, the clamour for seeing whether the present assessments are not heavy, the clamour that the resettlements are not to be carried out. Government have to consider so many matters. This is not a very urgent matter.”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ If my hon. Friend refers to the statement in the appendix, he will find that the staff is the very minimum, and many local bodies want that we should increase the traffic establishment.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—“ May I know whether the Government are aware that on account of the fact that they are employing European sergeants on a very much higher salary than is paid to Indians, the expenditure has increased, and that if they do not do so, the expenditure will go down ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I do not think that that has anything to do with this.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—“ May I know whether there are European sergeants employed in the traffic establishment ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Yes, there are.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—“ If they are employed in the department, how does the hon. Member say that my question does not arise ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Well, Sir, I have times without number stated on the floor of this House that the Government have to employ certain people who have some Military training for looking after the traffic duties. I do not see any reason why they should be displaced.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ For regulating traffic in the streets, do you want these highly paid men, when you can employ constables for such duties ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ They are not very highly paid.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—“ May I know whether the Government will not be able to secure Indians who have had Military training instead of Europeans ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Yes, certainly.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—“ Why not the Government employ them ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ We cannot dismiss all these people now.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—“ May I know whether the Government will stop this employment of Europeans hereafter ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ I cannot give an undertaking to that effect.”

[24th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask why Military training is required for regulating traffic?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I think it is very essential. It adds to his efficiency."

Acquisition of Lands

Proposed acquisition of the South Indian Railway Labour Union premises.

* 700 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether acquisition proceedings have been started to acquire the site of the South Indian Railway Labour Union premises;

(b) whether the Labour Union had applied to the Collector of Trichinopoly for the land adjacent to its present site and whether the Union was told that its request could only be considered after its registration under the Trades Union Act; and

(c) whether the Government would now consider favourably the granting of the adjacent site or any suitable site on darkhast?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not the information.

(c) Does not arise.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government call for the information?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I do not think it is necessary to call for the information. If the union is dissatisfied with the order of the Collector, it may appeal to the Board of Revenue."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if the Government are aware that the foundations for the Railway Labour Union premises were laid on the land by Mahatma Gandhi?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"No, Sir."

Assignment of Lands

Assignment of house-sites in Madras to non-combatants.

* 701 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether lands belonging to the Government are available for house-sites within the municipal limits of Madras;

(b) if so, in how many cases of non-combatants, assignments of such sites have been made;

(c) how many house-sites are yet available for assignment; and

(d) whether the Government propose to assign such house-sites for non-combatants in future?

A.—(a) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

(b) & (c) The Government have not the information.

(d) The sale of sites at the disposal of Government in the City of Madras is governed by the rules contained in Appendix XXIV to Board's Standing Order No. 21. No change in the rules is contemplated.

[24th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the Government will place that report, when received, on the table of the House?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I will consider the hon. Member's suggestion."

Assignment of waste lands to the members of the Depressed Classes.

* 702 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received from the members of the Depressed Classes in the districts of Tinnevely, Ramnad and Madura, for the assignment of waste lands during the years 1929 and 1930;

(b) the number of applications which were considered favourably during the years 1929 and 1930;

(c) how many of the applicants were asked to pay market value for the lands assigned to them;

(d) what amount of money was realized by the Government in cases of assignment; and

(e) how many applicants other than those of Depressed Classes got assignments of lands on payment of market value in the three districts mentioned above?

A.—(a) to (e) The Government have not the information and are of opinion that the labour involved in compiling it would not be justified by the result.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"In the answer, the Government say they have not the information; but are they aware of the fact that the depressed classes are asked to pay market value at the instance of other classes of people long after the occupation of the lands by the depressed classes?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"If the hon. Member will draw my attention to particular cases, I shall look into them."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if the hon. the Revenue Member is aware whether in the majority of cases of assignment of lands to the depressed classes, they were asked to pay the value after they entered upon the land?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I have no information on that point."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask why these poor people are asked to pay the market value, considering the fact that generally the lands assigned to them are worthless; and when people cannot make a living on them, how will they be in a position to pay the market value?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"If the land is worthless, its market value will be nil and it will be no hardship to be asked to pay nothing."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"With reference to the answer, may I know if the Government feel it difficult to get the information required?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"We are of opinion that the labour involved would not be justified by the result."

[24th March 1931]

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know if the Government will be pleased to call for the information at least with reference to clauses (b) and (c), though not on all points? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I think, Sir, that it would involve such an amount of labour that no useful purpose would be served by collecting the information."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Is it not a fact that there are orders prohibiting Collectors from assigning lands of any value to these people, and that valuable lands should not be assigned to them? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I do not think there are any orders prohibiting Collectors from giving valuable lands to these people. The rules regarding the assignment of valuable lands under projects the assignment of which is prohibited generally apply to them as well as to other people."

Floods

Breaches in the Vyasarpadi lake.

* 703 Q.—Mr. H. M. JAGANNATHAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that owing to the breaching of the Vyasarpadi lake on the 29th or the 30th of November last nearly the whole of the Perambur division and parts of some other divisions of the City of Madras were flooded and that serious damage was caused to a large number of huts and houses in those divisions;

(b) whether the breaching of the lake was altogether unexpected and, if not, what precautionary measures had been taken to prevent its breaching and to warn the people who were likely to be affected thereby;

(c) whether it is a fact that the bund of the lake was breached by the villagers of Vyasarpadi and others in order to prevent the inundation of their own lands; and

(d) whether any steps are proposed to be taken to prevent a similar breaching of lake in future?

A.—(a) to (d) A report has been called for.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know, with reference to clause (a) of the question, whether the Government have received any report about the damages caused in this case during the last floods? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" We received a report on the floods, but not with reference to the particular points mentioned in the question."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Will the Government be pleased to place that report on the table of the House? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I will consider the hon. Member's suggestion."

[24th March 1931]

Irrigation

Improvements to the anicuts of the Nambiyar river.

* 704 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many anicuts there are on the Nambiyar river in the taluk of Nanguneri;

(b) how many sluices are under the control of the Public Works Department;

(c) how many are under the control of the Revenue Department;

(d) how many tanks get their supply of water from this river;

(e) whether it is a fact that the tank under the last anicut gets filled up much earlier than the other tanks on account of sluices falling into disrepair and growth of trees and shrubs along the river;

(f) whether the ryots complained of the bad state of this irrigation source; and

(g) whether anything was done in this matter?

A.—(a) to (g) The Government have not the information.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" The Government say in the answer that they have not the information. Will the Government be pleased to call for the information in view of the fact that there has been failure of crops on account of neglect of these irrigation works? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I shall call for the information."

Land Tenure

Report on the working of the Malabar Tenancy Act.

* 705 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have issued instructions to the District Judges of South and North Malabar to watch the working of the Malabar Tenancy Act and submit annual reports on the working of the same?

A.—No.

Hindu Religious Endowments

Constitution of District Temple Committees.

* 706 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 the term of the present District Temple Committees comes to a close shortly; if so, when;

(b) whether it is a fact that no steps have been taken to substitute for the present system of nomination to the committees the system of election provided by the Hindu Religious Endowments Act; if not, what are the steps taken;

(c) how the Government propose to fill up the vacancies in the District Temple Committees after the expiry of the present term of the Temple Committees;

(d) in the case of nominations to Temple Committees, on whose recommendation the Government nominate;

[24th March 1931]

(e) whether recommendations have been received already in respect of any Temple Committees and, if so, which of them and who have been recommended; and

(f) what action the Government have taken or propose to take to expedite the substitution of the electoral system instead of the system of nomination?

A.—(a) The terms of office of the twenty-two temple committees named below have already expired; those of the others will expire on the dates noted against each.

List of temple committees whose terms of office have already expired.

1. Ganjam District Committee.
2. Vizagapatam District Committee.
3. East Godavari District Committee.
4. West Godavari District Committee.
5. Guntur District Committee.
6. Nellore District Committee.
7. Chittoor District Committee.
8. Cuddapah District Committee.
9. Kurnool District Committee.
10. Bellary District Committee.
11. Anantapur District Committee.
12. North Arcot District Committee.
13. Chingleput Circle Committee.
14. Tiruvallur Circle Committee.
15. Salem Circle Committee.
16. Dharmapuri Circle Committee.
17. Tiruchengode Circle Committee.
18. Madura Circle Committee.
19. Palni Circle Committee.
20. Periyakulam Circle Committee.
21. Kistna District Committee.
22. Ramnad District Committee.

Temple Committees whose terms of office expire hereafter.

Name of the committee.		Date of expiry of term of office.
1. Trichinopoly Circle Committee.	Temple	25th March 1931.
2. Turaiyur Circle Committee.	Temple	Do.
3. Ariyalur Circle Committee.	Temple	Do.
4. South Arcot District Committee.	District	8th April 1931.
5. South Kanara District Committee.	District	13th May 1931.
6. Nilgiris District Committee.		20th May 1931.
7. Coimbatore Circle Committee.		19th August 1931.

24th March 1931]

Temple Committees whose terms of office expire hereafter—cont.

Name of the committee.		Date of expiry of term of office.
8. Erode Circle Committee	...	6th May 1931.
9. Kumbakonam Circle Committee.	Circle	29th April 1931.
10. Madura Sri Minakshi Sundereswarar, etc., Devasathanams Committee.		3rd February 1932.
11. Tanjore Circle Committee	...	1934.
12. Negapatam Circle Committee.		1935.
13. Tinnevely Circle Committee.		1933.
14. Tuticorin Circle Committee.		1933.

(b) The Temple Committees of Tanjore, Negapatam, Tinnevely and Tuticorin have already been constituted by election. Paucity of funds to meet election expenses is the main difficulty that stands in the way of constituting the rest of them also by election. Government are considering how best the difficulty can be overcome.

(c) & (d) The matter is under consideration.

(e) Yes, in respect of some of the committees whose terms of office have expired. The recommendations are confidential and I regret I cannot divulge them.

(f) The Government consider an amendment of the Act to modify the system of election provided in the Act is necessary and will consider what amendments may be made along with proposals for a general amendment of the Act.

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"In the answer to clause (b) the Government say they are considering how best the difficulty about elections is to be overcome. There are several committees which cannot incur the expenditure. What is the Government going to do in such cases?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"As I have said in the printed answer, the Government are considering about the modification of the present system of election, so that a more simple and satisfactory method may be evolved."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Without expenditure?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I have an indication of the lines on which the Government propose to amend the Act?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I cannot say that now, Sir. The idea is to amend the Act so as to evolve a better method."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know what is the answer to question (d), Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Until now, Sir, the nominations were made on the recommendation of the Religious Endowments Board."

[24th March 1931]

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" With reference to clause (d), may I know what the hon. Minister proposes to do for the representation of the depressed classes ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I am afraid I cannot do anything, Sir. They will have to come by means of election, either directly or indirectly. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—" May I take it that there will be no further nominations ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" In a case before the High Court a doubt was thrown on the power of the Government to nominate members to these committees when once they exercised that power in the first instance. That question is being considered, and, if we are advised by the Government's legal advisors that we have no power, we will not nominate; if we have the power, we shall consider. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Are we to understand that they do not propose to nominate members till the Act is amended ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" They won't nominate till they are satisfied that they have the power. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" In answer to (b) it is said that paucity of funds is the main difficulty. May I know whether the Government are convinced that this reason, adduced by several committees, is true ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The Government have examined the financial position of these committees and find that, except in one case, no committee has got the funds to conduct elections. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether in all districts these committees have not been conducting elections for their members ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Except in Tanjore, no other committee conducted elections. "

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Is there any immediate proposal to dispense with the committees and entrust the Government with the duties performed by these committees ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" There is no such proposal, but in cases in which it has not been possible to constitute committees, it is proposed that the power should be exercised by the Board. "

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know who is looking after the duties of these temple committees during this interregnum ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Unfortunately none, Sir. "

24th March 1931]

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Is the Government aware that, so far as the North Arcot District Committee is concerned, it has not functioned for more than three or four months ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Yes, Sir. "

Local Boards

Electoral Divisions of Local Board areas.

* 717 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether various local boards have sent up suggestions for the division of wards, firkas and circles in respect of the several districts in which election is to be held under the new Local Boards Act ;

(b) whether any opportunity is given to the public to examine, criticise or make suggestion in respect of such proposed divisions and if so, what and how ;

(c) whether the Government have received any objections from several quarters to the division made by the local bodies ;

(d) whether the Government will consider the desirability of the Inspector-General of Panchayats or the Inspectors or Deputy Inspectors of local bodies being entrusted with the particular work or being consulted on this matter ; and

(e) whether the Government have received any representation from the Muhammadans of the North Arcot district regarding any such divisions proposed by some of the local bodies ?

A.—(a) & (d) The proposals are received by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards in the first instance who will get them scrutinized by his mufassal staff and submit them to Government with his recommendations.

(b) It is open to any person interested to submit to Government any representation on the suggestions of the local bodies in the matter.

(c) Yes, in some cases.

(e) Yes. A representation was received from certain residents of the Gudiyattam Municipality in regard to the Municipal Council's proposals for the division of the municipality into wards and for the reservation of seats.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether any representation has been received from the Gudiyattam Taluk Board ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I am not able to answer that question, because I have not got the information with me now. "

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Has not the Government received a memorial from the Muhammadan residents of Vellore Municipality on this subject ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I do not know whether it is received or not. But one representation seems to have been received by the Inspector of Local Bodies. "

[24th March 1931]

Representation of the depressed classes on the municipalities and local boards.

* 708 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement giving the number of seats proposed to be reserved for the depressed classes in the various municipalities and the local boards and state what steps will be taken by Government to scrutinize the recommendations of these bodies to safeguard the interests of the depressed classes.

A.—No decision has yet been reached regarding the number of seats to be reserved for the depressed classes for the municipalities and local boards. The recommendations of local bodies will be scrutinized by the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils and by the special staff appointed to arrange for and conduct elections.

Medical*Facilities to Medical Officers for Post-graduate study.*

* 709 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have under consideration any scheme of post-graduate study for medical men; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take any steps to make it possible for Diploma-holders in medicine to get higher qualifications or obtain a University degree in medicine?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Medical Education Committee has made certain recommendations for raising the standard of the L.M.P. qualification—vide paragraph 6 of the Committee's report (extract* attached). These are under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Government have decided to extend the L.M.P. course to five years and are only awaiting orders in connexion with that matter?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Surgeon-General recommended that, pending improvements to be made in the Medical School at Rayapuram, the proposal may be given effect to in 1932-33."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Are the Government aware that a few weeks ago the Academic Council passed a resolution for admission of the L.M.P. Diploma holders to the University degrees under certain conditions?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not know, Sir."

24th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government have any idea of abolishing diploma courses and sanctioning a degree course alone in connexion with the improvement of Medical education?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Not that I know of."

Transfer of Mr. G. Kurmanadhan from the Government Headquarters Hospital, Ellore.

* 710 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the head clerk of Government Headquarters Hospital, Ellore, Mr. G. Kurmanadhan, has recently been transferred from Ellore to Chittoor as a subordinate clerk and whether another clerk has been posted to his place from Coimbatore;

(b) what is the amount of travelling allowance involved as a result of the arrangement;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Surgeon-General has issued a circular that clerks in the Medical department should not be transferred outside their districts unless there are bad reports against them; and

(d) if so, what are the special reasons for making this arrangement?

A.—(a) Mr. Kurmanadhan, Senior clerk (pay Rs. 60 per mensem in the scale of pay of Rs. 35—60) of the office of the District Medical Officer, West Godavari, was transferred to the office of the District Medical Officer, Chittoor, in the vacancy caused by the dismissal of a clerk in that office. The District Medical Officers' offices at Ellore and Chittoor have each three clerks and all of them are on the same time scale of pay of Rs. 35—60 and there is no head clerk in either of them on a higher scale of pay. The transfer was effected by the Surgeon-General. As a clerk well experienced in office work was required at Ellore to take the place of Mr. Kurmanadhan, the second clerk of the District Medical Officer's office, Coimbatore, who has experience of such work was transferred to Ellore.

(b) The travelling allowance drawn by the clerk transferred from Coimbatore was Rs. 67-5-0. Mr. Kurmanadhan has not been paid any travelling allowance.

(c) & (d) No such circular has been issued by the Surgeon-General.

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"Does not the transfer of a senior clerk to the post of a subordinate clerk involve a degradation of status, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I think not."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"Is it not usual that the man on the spot, in this case the District Medical Officer, is consulted in effecting transfers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not know what the practice is at present with regard to the point. But I may, however, state that the question of transfers within a group of districts which are near each other is being considered."

[24th March 1931]

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA :—" Is it not a fact that the District Medical Officer protested against the transfer and requested for a cancellation of the same ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I do not know, Sir, I shall enquire."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the office of the District Medical Officer is very much handicapped by the transfer of the head clerk from Coimbatore also ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I shall enquire."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA :—" Is it not a fact that an application was made for mutual transfer and that application also was rejected ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I have no information."

Tolls

Levy of tolls or provincial tax on motor vehicles.

* 711 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) in which provinces of this country tolls are not levied on motor vehicles; and

(b) in which of these a provincial tax is imposed on such vehicles ?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know if the Government did not get this information in connexion with the Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" No, Sir."

Mr. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Will the toll gates disappear from 1st April ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Government hope so."

Tramways

Medical examination of tramway motormen.

11-15 a.m. * 712 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any medical certificates are required by the Police from the tramway motormen, and if so, who issues the medical certificates to them, and if not, why not;

(b) who tests the tramway motormen and who certifies as to their competency to drive trams;

(c) what is the nature of the test in the case of the tramway motormen and whether they are tested on the line or in the workshop, and for what period; and

(d) whether the Government propose to promulgate similar rules to apply to the tramway motormen as in the case of motor vehicle drivers ?

[24th March 1931]

A.—(a) No; under section 24 (2) (h) of the Indian Tramways Act, 1886, it is primarily for the Corporation of Madras to frame rules in this matter and the Corporation have not framed any such rules.

(b) The officers of the Madras Electric Tramways Company, Limited.

(c) A copy of a letter from the Agent of the Company indicating the tests, etc., is attached.

(d) As indicated in the reply to clause (a) the matter is primarily for the Corporation of Madras.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister the difference between qualified conductors who are certified by doctors, in regard to motor vehicles, and those that are driving tramcars ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I do not know how the question arises."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know why the Government are making a distinction in respect of the motor vehicle people ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Because the Act says so."

Fisheries

Alleged distress of fishermen on the West Coast.

* 713 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to place on the table of the House the report called for by Government as stated in reply to question No. 229-E on 29th January 1931 and state if the Government propose to take action on the same ?

A.—A copy of the report of the Director of Fisheries is placed on the table. The Government do not propose to take any action in the matter.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask, Sir, why in view of the admitted trouble Government say that no action will be taken ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I do not know how it is possible for the Government to give any relief. The report says that, until famine conditions prevail, State relief is unusual and inadvisable."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask what the famine condition is ? Should some of the people die ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I believe there is some definition in the Famine Code."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" That refers to the ordinary labourer. This refers to a peculiar isolated community ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I do not know what relief can be given. I do not see any way to help them however much I desire to help them."

[24th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask the hon. Minister to make further enquiries to see what can be done ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Well, Sir, I shall make further enquiries."

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Irrigation

Resolution of the Irrigation Advisory Board, Kistna Western and Central deltas.

714 Q.—Mr. P. C. MOSES: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that at every meeting of the present Irrigation Advisory Board for Kistna Western and Central deltas, at least one resolution pertaining to the inclusion in ayacut of dry lands and penalization thereof was passed; and

(b) whether the Government intend to accept the recommendations of the said Board regarding the inclusion of dry lands in ayacut and penalization thereof?

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

(b) The proceedings of Irrigation Advisory Boards are sent to the Executive Engineer, not to the Government.

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

II—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32—cont.

DEMAND XVII—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED—cont.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The discussion on the cut motion of Mr. T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar will be resumed."

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, as Mr. Pocker has been good enough to waive his right of continuing his speech this morning in my favour, I would mention two or three points on which he would have laid stress if he had spoken. We wanted that a high school should be established for Mappillas in a central place in Ernad. In the last few years as many as seven or eight high schools for Muhammadans have been brought into existence in the Madras Presidency, in Tamil Nadu especially. It is necessary that a high school should be established for the Mappillas in Malabar. I need not say much about it because the reasons are very obvious. He also wants that liberal grants should be given to the Jamiat-e-Dawal-vo Tabliq Islam which is doing very good work here. It has got an orphanage and it is looking after the industrial education particularly of the Mappillas. Mr. Pocker also wants that the Government should show special generosity in awarding scholarships to the Mappillas specially for technical education.

"Sir, I had myself given notice of three cut motions (1) to discuss Mr. Champion's proposals in regard to elementary schools, (2) to discuss the need of including religious education in the curriculum of elementary

[24th March 1931]

[Mr. Yakub Hasan]

schools intended for Mussalmans and (3) to urge the modification of the Elementary Education Act and the rules prescribed under the Act so as to do away with the proviso permitting exemption being given to children of Muslim or other communities of school-going age. Sir, I have much to say on this subject but as I wish to give time to the hon. the Minister for Education for making a full reply to all the questions raised on the floor of the House, I would try to take as little time as possible. I wish to tell you, Sir, that the time has come when we should change our policy as regards religion in the matter of education. Sir, religion in the elementary stage is very very necessary and when a child leaves the side of its mother who is generally illiterate and goes to school the first thing that should be taught to him or her is religion. So, in elementary stage it is specially necessary that religion should be taught and the children should be trained to give due importance to religion in life. I would like that Koran should be taught to Mussalman children, Baghavad Gita to Hindu children and stories from the Bible to the Christians in all the elementary schools. It is the scriptures alone that are the first thing in any religion that ought to be taught to children. Muslims specially attach great importance to religious education. As soon as a child learns the Arabic alphabets he is taught Koran and Koran is the first book that is placed in the hands of the Mussalman and everything else comes next. Because Urdu is also written in the same script as Koran, children learn Urdu very quickly, and because so much religious literature is found in Urdu, it is called the Mussalmani language. Therefore all parents of children including those who speak local vernaculars as mother tongue do want that Urdu should be taught to their children. There is a demand in Malabar also that Urdu should be taught in the Mappilla schools. So, Sir, separate schools are absolutely necessary for Muhammadans and elementary schools especially ought to be located in all the places in the Presidency inhabited by Mussalmans.

"Sir, Mr. Champion's report deals with elementary education and he has suggested ways and means of consolidation and concentration of elementary education. I have examined the report very carefully and I find that his proposals are not workable. I will not go through the details for want of time. But I would only say this much that the Government have been rather hasty in their Government Order, dated 2nd April 1930. They said that 'the report is communicated to all taluk boards, municipal councils, district boards and district educational councils. All local bodies which maintain elementary schools are advised to prepare in the light of the suggestions made in the report as modified in paragraph 1 above, schemes for consolidation and concentration of elementary schools in their areas and submit them to the Director of Public Instruction.' So far, Sir, it is all right. Then it is said that the Director of Public Instruction will carefully examine such schemes before they are put into operation. I submit that the examination of the Director of Public Instruction alone is not enough. This is a great departure from the present order of things and no steps should be taken in this direction until the various schemes are carefully considered by a committee. Sir, I would therefore ask the hon. the Minister to modify that Government Order and direct that the Director of Public Instruction should place all the schemes submitted to him before a committee and only after that committee has made the recommendations, after thoroughly examining the

[Mr. Yakub Hasan]

[24th March 1931]

schemes, that they should be brought into operation. Sir, there are elementary schools, Muhammadan schools, Adi-Dravida schools and other schools. Because Adi-Dravidas are not admitted in most of the other schools and because Muhammadans do not attend these other schools for some reason or other, they have become practically high caste hindu schools.

"I would in passing say, Sir, that the more backward is a community the more it is necessary that particular attention is paid to their education. On that principle, Sir, I would ask the Education department to give their first and foremost attention to the Adi-Dravida community. Our progress in civilization will be measured not by the progress of the upper classes but by the progress the whole body of people make. So, it is a national problem, Sir, that sooner the Adi-Dravidas are lifted, the better it would be for the nation at large. Sir, the Hindus and Mussalmans have sinned grievously in respect of the Adi-Dravidas and the sooner we atone for it even at the cost of others, the better it would be for all.

"Next to the Adi-Dravidas I would draw the attention of the department to the Muslim education because they are very very backward. There are several peculiarities in their system of education which prevent them from making greater progress than they have done. The question requires a thorough examination. I would urge upon the Government the necessity of appointing a committee for thoroughly threshing out the problem of Muslim education for which several Muhammadan Members have given notice of motions. I will not take any more time but I would once more urge, Sir, that a committee for Muhammadan Education should be appointed as soon as possible."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am very thankful indeed to the hon. Members of this House for this very interesting and instructive debate in the course of which I have listened with much profit to various views regarding the vital questions which relate to the Department of Education. The spirit of sympathetic and helpful criticism in which the hon. Member from Coimbatore, Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalinga Chettiyar, initiated this debate has, I am glad to say, been kept up throughout though in one or two exceptional cases the spirit lay hidden under somewhat needless extravagance of language which was due perhaps to causes like youthful enthusiasm.

11-30
a.m.

"Well, hon. Members are by this time aware what exactly the policy of the Government has been for sometime past, with regard to Education. His Excellency the Governor, when he opened this House in January last told this hon. House what the policy of the Government of Madras is with regard to Education. Speaking on elementary education, His Excellency then said;

'We have come to the conclusion that the primary need is extension of elementary education. We have therefore decided that in future the funds available shall be primarily devoted to the spread of elementary education.'

"His Excellency the Governor has, on subsequent occasions, also, laid special emphasis on this policy of the Government of Madras, and it was indeed very gratifying to note that, during the whole of the debate on this Demand, the hon. Members of this House have expressed their concurrence with this policy of the Government. With a view to working for the further expansion and development of elementary education, the Government have sanctioned the appointment of a temporary Deputy Director. Dissatisfaction was expressed

24th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

by some of the hon. Members of the House at the appointment of an European officer for this purpose. I quite appreciate the soundness of that criticism. Even before this debate, I had heard from several hon. Members of this House including my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar himself, that it was not very suitable to have an European officer in charge of this work. Some at least of the measures that the Government try to undertake for the expansion of elementary education, take for instance the measure of compulsion, would at the beginning meet with some amount of public opposition. Public opinion will have to be educated and prepared for the acceptance of such measures. I think an Indian officer, who can get into intimate relations with the masses, who can appreciate their feelings and sentiments, will be better suited for this kind of work than an European officer. (Hear, hear.) Having regard to this feeling amongst a considerable section of this House, I am glad to say that the Government have decided to appoint an Indian officer instead of an European officer. (Hear, hear.) But I must at the same time say that the hon. Member for Madras, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, was not justified in saying that this was a question of Europeanisation. There was nothing done to benefit an European to the detriment of an Indian. It was a case of only an European officer who is already in the service being deputed to do this particular kind of work. He would have been in the service all the same whether he was doing this work or not. What the Government have now decided to do is to put an Indian officer in the place of that European officer. Much less can I follow my hon. Friend with regard to his remarks about Malabarization. Well, he did not choose to talk more frankly and openly on it; his charges were not explicit and were left merely as matters of inference, and so I do not feel called upon to reply to that criticism.

"Sir, the two main points on which the debate mainly turned with reference to elementary education were compulsion and consolidation, the two words which were so freely used by the hon. Member who spoke on this subject. As regards compulsion, Sir, hon. Members are aware that for the first time a provision enabling local bodies to introduce compulsory education in their areas was made in the Act of 1920. Experience has shown that the provisions made in that Act are not adequate and also not effective. It was left to the local authority itself to decide whether in the whole or any portion of the area under its jurisdiction, it was prepared to introduce compulsory education. Very often, it happened that local influences were brought to bear on the members, either of the municipal council or of the taluk board, to veto proposals intended to introduce compulsory education. A proposal for the making of elementary education compulsory necessarily involved the imposition of the education tax. Of course, I need hardly tell the hon. Members of this House that people do not easily and willingly yield to any additional taxation. And then the question of school-age was another very important matter. School-age was defined not in the Act itself but under the Statutory rules framed under the provisions of that Act. School-age, taking the case of boys for the present, was defined as meaning an age which was not less than 6 and not more than 11. This definition, as pointed out by the hon. Member, Mr. Schamnad, was not a satisfactory one. It is not the number of years that a boy spent at the school that mattered very much. He might have been taught till he was 11 years of age, perhaps stagnated in a class or two, and ultimately got out of the school when he was eleven years of age without having

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [24th March 1931]

attained any permanent degree of literacy. That was a point which was emphasized by my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad. It was necessary therefore to give a better definition of the term school-age so as to make compulsion more effective. These are the two main defects that experience has shown to us to require immediate remedy, if we are to make any considerable progress towards the introduction of compulsory education. The question therefore of amending the Elementary Education Act so as to bring in better provisions with regard to these matters, has been engaging the attention of the Government and of my predecessor, Dr. Subbarayan, for a number of years. A Bill was first published, and the storm of opposition that that Bill raised was so great that it had to be dropped, and a revised Bill was prepared and it was published. After careful scrutiny by a body of Members of the Legislative Council who had been specially invited to sit and deliberate over the provisions of the Bill, the Bill has been published, and criticisms of varied kinds have been received. There is a large mass of them, not of a unanimous kind certainly. They have been just examined. There is also another important question to be examined, that is the bearing of the amended Madras Local Boards Act on the provisions of the Bill as published. As hon. Members are aware, in the new Local Boards Act, panchayats also have been brought within its purview. So a panchayat will become a local authority within the definition of that expression in the Elementary Education Act. The provisions will have to be re-examined in the light of the amended Local Boards Act. These matters are being examined and I can tell the hon. Members of this House, Sir, that it will be brought before the House at as early a date as possible. In the Bill as now drafted, it is provided that the initiative in the matter of compulsion ought not to be left to the local authority, because, as I said, several forces will be at work which will tend to the negating of proposals with regard to compulsory education. The idea under the new Act is to give such power of initiative to the District Educational Councils which will have their name changed into District Committees. There is not much purpose in changing the name. But the District Committees which will correspond to the present District Educational Councils will have the power of initiating measures of compulsion. This by itself will be an improvement over the existing state of things. There is, however, a further provision also made in the new Act that the Government must have powers to call upon a District Committee to introduce compulsory education either in the whole of its area or in any part of it which is suitable for the introduction of compulsory education. I think, Sir, with these two provisions in the new Act it will be possible to have an extended area of compulsory elementary education in the future.

"As regards school-age, the definition which was found in the rules is sought to be incorporated in the Act itself, and the definition will aim at fixing school-age not only with reference to the number of years that a pupil is called upon to spend in the school but also with reference to the standard of education which he is to reach. The maximum and the minimum will be prescribed; the maximum will be higher than that prescribed under the existing rules, but it will be made compulsory that he should go up to a certain standard of education. If that definition is accepted the result, I hope, would be that there will be much less of wastage, much less of lapse into illiteracy, than what we find to be the case at present.

24th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

"Well, Sir, with regard to extension of elementary education by means of introducing compulsion in large areas, what I can say at present is this, Sir, that the Government have the idea of introducing this Bill at as early a date as possible. There are other provisions in the Bill which will also help in the further expansion of elementary education. But I do not propose to mention any of them at present in any detail.

"Consolidation, as I said, Sir, is another matter on which we have heard a great deal of comment. Naturally enough, the report of Mr. Champion has come in for a considerable amount of criticism, from some quarters favourable and from other quarters adverse. This is the first debate which this House is having after that report and the Government Orders thereupon were published, and so it is natural that there should be such an amount of discussion. Before I proceed to tell you about the scheme itself, I hope I am right in saying that we all of us do recognize there are two matters in respect of which improvement is urgently called for. They have been described as 'educational efficiency' and 'financial economy' by Mr. Champion in his report. Educational inefficiency at present results from the numberless single teacher schools that we find all over the province, and that also leads to wastage of money and effort. If it is conceded that these two defects must be remedied as early as possible, we must think of some scheme which would give us a solution. Mr. Champion, after a great deal of thoughtful labour, has produced this report. There is no alternative proposal which the Government have got before them, and as far as I am aware, none has been put forward so far by anybody who can with some amount of authority speak on this subject. I do not on that account mean to say that this scheme ought to be forced down the throat of the masses however unwilling they may be to accept it. Mr. Champion himself has not been unmindful of the great difficulties that will be encountered before the scheme is enforced.

"I shall just read a small paragraph from his report which will explain the position :

"We have reached the position that while educational efficiency demands the disappearance of the smaller schools and their conversion into larger schools, a comprehensive programme of amalgamating schools is not at present possible. As long as the Muhammadan children have to be taught the general subjects through the medium of Urdu, as long as the caste intolerance necessitates the maintenance of separate schools for depressed classes, as long as separate schools continue to be provided for girls of school-age, as long as the local bodies continue, due to pressure on individuals, to open schools near their homes, so long will it be impossible to eliminate the small inefficient schools. The existence of these obstacles may be deplored, but cannot be denied. While, however, recognizing the impossibility of overcoming the tendencies that make for the existence of small schools, it is possible to make a move in the direction of the creation of these schools to prevent the indefinite multiplication of small schools, to hasten the process of fusing separate schools into a smaller number of larger schools."

"I do not think, Sir, any hon. Member of this House who opposed the scheme put the case of those who opposed it any higher than Mr. Champion himself has put. The chief merit, I take it, Sir, of this scheme is its great elasticity. It does not require that all the existing schools should at once be squeezed into a steel-frame constitution. The success of the scheme does not depend upon its immediate or simultaneous introduction throughout the province. He wants us only to move a step forward. I appeal to hon. Members of the House to look at this report not through the stained glasses of communal and other sentimental opposition, but in the light of modern conditions and of modern ideas. Sir, if looked at from that point of view,

11-46
a.m.

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [24th March 1931]

many of the objections that have been raised will disappear. In the larger interests of the country, I hope my hon. Friends sitting opposite particularly will agree that it is most undesirable to separate pupils of various communities and to segregate them in different schools unless it is absolutely necessary to do so on account of difficulties which it is not possible to overcome. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: What about the sexes?) The difficulty with regard to the co-education of boys and girls is something entirely different. It is not based on caste intolerance. It is caste intolerance, Sir, that we are all preaching against; and need we perpetuate it by the establishment of separate schools? The case of boys and girls, as my hon. Friend Mr. Pannirselvam pointed out, does not depend upon any such intolerance. It is based upon entirely different considerations and Mr. Champion himself realizes that it will take a much longer time to fuse boys and girls' schools together than it will take to fuse the schools of separate communities together. As I said, Sir, the scheme that we have before us is a very elastic one. It does not compel its immediate introduction. Local bodies have been consulted and it is for them to say whether in any areas within their jurisdiction it is possible to introduce the scheme put forward by Mr. Champion. If they consider the whole matter in the light of the many considerations which Mr. Champion has put forward in support of his scheme and if they look at it in a dispassionate sort of way, I am sure several local bodies will agree with this. One can conceive of areas where there is no Muhammadan population or Adi-Dravida population at all. Why should it be difficult to introduce the scheme in such places? Again, there might be Muhammadans who do not care for instruction in Urdu or Arabic. We know that even now there are several places in the South where the same language is spoken by the Hindu and the Muhammadan population. Sir, I shall not detain you any further on this question of consolidation. I see no immediate danger of any existing state of things being seriously disturbed. If you look at it, as I said, in a sympathetic manner, you will find more in the report to support it than you imagine at present there is.

"With regard to the individual requests made by several hon. Members of the House, I am sorry that, for want of time, I am not in a position to reply separately and I hope hon. Members will forgive me for my not doing so: but I can certainly assure them that their representations and their points of view will be certainly borne in mind and I shall do my utmost to meet their wishes.

"My hon. Friends representing the depressed classes need not have the slightest apprehension in their minds that I will embark on any new policy or depart in any manner from the present policy to the detriment of the members of the depressed classes. If I do anything it will not, in the least, prejudice their vested interests and the rights and privileges which they enjoy.

"I also see that there is a considerable body of opinion among my Muslim brethren here that Muslim education has not received the amount of attention that it deserves. They do seem to feel sincerely that if a committee consisting of some of their Members with an expert adviser to help them is constituted, probably they will be able to evolve a scheme which might be of some use for the future. I am prepared to appoint such a small committee and leave it to the hon. Members of the Muslim community and to the expert to try and evolve a scheme which might serve a useful purpose.

24th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

"Sir, I have come to the end of my speech. In conclusion let me say that with the co-operation of this Honourable House and with the aid of the broader and more advanced outlook on life that has now been awakened in the country, I am prepared, in the words of my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, to take courage in both hands and take a bold step forward for the better equipment of the masses of this country to undertake the responsibilities which will soon devolve on them as the citizens of one of the brightest Dominions of the British Empire (Cheers)."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand XVII—Education—Transferred for Rs. 1,93,58,400 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XVIII EDUCATION—RESERVED (EUROPEAN).

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,49,300 under Demand XVIII—Education—Reserved (European).'"

The Demand was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XIX—MEDICAL—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 84,33,900 under Demand XIX—Medical—Transferred.'"

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 7,52,200 for Medical Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, the object of my cut motion is to criticise the Medical Policy of the Government. Sir, for any man living in the world he must have food and medicines. In all the civilized countries medical colleges have been established. After the British came to India they established medical colleges here also and introduced the western system of medicine. We have two medical colleges in the city and to these students from all over the province come for study. For the five years' course in these institutions facilities for study as well as for stay are very necessary. For the Medical College at Vizagapatam there is a hostel attached and for the one at Rayapuram also there is a hostel attached to it, but the students who take up the higher courses in Medicine in the Madras Medical College there are no boarding and lodging facilities. The absence of a provision for this purpose acts as a great hindrance to the students who come from the mufussal, in pursuit of their studies. There have even been two or three deaths every year among the students due to the absence of proper hostel accommodation here. Although this fact has been brought to the notice of the Government, nothing has been done up to now to render help in this direction. On account of the absence of proper places to live in, they live scattered all over the city in the midst of unhealthy surroundings. Consequently they get diseases and some die before the completion of their course. I request the Government therefore to provide suitable hostel accommodation for students of the Medical College.

[Mr. G. R. Premayya]

[24th March 1931]

"Sir, in connexion with the management of the district headquarter hospitals I have to make a few observations. Ever since these were taken over by the Government, eminent doctors have been put in charge of them. The Government have also been sending out trained compounders to these hospitals. But with regard to the nurses the matter is different. They have no such training. I wonder why the Government do not give the nurses also some training. Would it not be less expensive and less troublesome than the training of compounders? I request Government to give the nurses also some training. At the same time I do not want that they should bring them to Madras for the purpose. Two nurses can efficiently be trained in the district hospital with the money that one nurse gets here in Madras.

"Sir, the treatment of depressed class patients in the headquarter hospitals leaves much to be desired. I have found that the treatment given to out-patients belonging to the depressed classes is most deplorable. On several occasions when these people have to go to the doctors for prescription, they have to stand apart from the caste people. The timid villager who is afraid to approach the doctor is sometimes made to stand in the sun. Now, Sir, when the times have been changing and when the politicians expect and demand mutual goodwill and sympathy among communities, this touch-me-not question persists. This is the treatment given to out-patients belonging to the depressed classes. As regards the treatment given to in-patients, I do not know what to say. Whenever a caste man arrives in the hospital seeking admission as an in-patient, a depressed class man is discharged to make room for him. Such unhappy state of affairs we find in the district and taluk headquarter hospitals.

12 noon. "Although the Government have made provision for some Indian lady doctors, yet, there is not a sufficient number of lady doctors to attend to the needs of the Indian women. Indian women feel shy to disclose their ailments to male doctors. I would therefore appeal to the hon. Minister to award more scholarships to Indian women students so that they may qualify themselves as lady doctors.

"As regards medical stores, I am told that all the hospitals in the presidency should depend upon the Government Medical Stores for the supply of medicines and the prices of medicines which are purchased from the Medical Stores are abnormally higher than those of the medicines which are obtained in the local market. I wish to know why that is so. I am at a loss to understand why the Government should compel the hospitals to get their supplies of medicines from Government Medical Stores at an abnormally high price.

"As regards the medical building that was constructed in my place—Guntur—by the Government, I must say a word or two about it. Government spent lakhs of rupees on the construction of this building, and now the building is empty. Before Government made up its mind for the use of the building, why should they spend such large sums of money on that building? I ask why not the building be given over to the authorities of Indian Medicine? When people say there is need for more women doctors in this branch of medicine, why not the Government come forward and say that the building which I have referred to above will be allotted for the training of Indian women doctors and that such training will be given there. If the

[24th March 1931]

[Mr. G. R. Premayya]

hon. Minister comes forward with a request for more money for this purpose, I dare say that every section of the House will whole-heartedly support him and it will not be difficult for him to start a school for women in Guntur.

"With regard to the grant for Indian medicines, Government are not coming forward with liberal grants. The western medicines are administered practically only in presidency cities and towns. But in villages the villagers cannot get western medicines. They are entirely depending upon the native doctors and midwives. That medicine still remains undeveloped. If more people are taught the Indian system of medicine and they are encouraged to live in villages, certainly the country will support the Government. Otherwise they will say that the present system of imparting medical education is not done in the right direction.

"Sir, the Government get a large income from the ryots by way of land revenue. Land revenue is the biggest income that the Government get from the villagers. I ask what fraction of that income the Government spends for the people in the shape of medical relief. Whenever there is cholera or plague or smallpox in villages, you cannot see a single doctor coming there. It is only when the ryots are happy the doctors also go to villages and visit people. No doubt we have doctors and inspectors receiving fat salaries but what is the result? When the villagers are in need of them they are not to be found. The villagers do not know that they have a right to ask the Government for medical relief. Sir, we have several diseases in India. Some of them cannot completely be overcome but their growth can be checked. Leprosy, tuberculosis and diseases of that sort cannot be overcome completely, but their growth can be checked. I ask why not the Government provide for more scholarships for young students to go to foreign countries and specialise themselves in these diseases, so that when they return to this country they may be of service to our people? I ask the hon. Minister whether he can do anything like that during his tenure of office?

"Sir, we see several people living under the trees and in the streets suffering from diseases enumerated above. Who are going to help them at the time of need, i.e., when they are in need of medical aid? Several people die for want of medicine even to-day and will die even to-morrow and the day after. But if to-morrow these doctors and nurses who attend to the sick in the Presidency towns are made to attend to the diseases prevalent in villages, then most of the diseases prevalent in villages can be swept away. I wish that the Medical Department should take steps to supervise the work of these doctors efficiently. With these few words I move my motion."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! நீதிபரிபாலனம், போலீஸ், ஜெயில், கல்வி முதலான இம்மாதிரிகளில் ஏராளமான கடமையானவை கொஞ்சி இருந்தேன் இவைகளில் இடந்தரவில்லை. எனக்குப்பின் விருப்பவாழ்க்கையும் அனுமதிக்கிறார்கள். ஆதலால் எந்த இடத்தில் பேசுவதற்குத் தயாராகவேண்டுமெனத் தெரியவில்லை."

* "The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I wish to explain the procedure that I have been following in view of the remarks that fell from the lips of the hon. Member, Swami Sahajanandam. I have been trying when the question of policy is being discussed in the House to call from all sections of the House

[The President]

[24th March 1981]

and so serve almost all the interests that are represented in this House. With regard to the Depressed Class Members, I may mention that I called two other hon. Members from the depressed class community as I thought that others also must have their chances, to discuss questions of policy. If the hon. Member Mr. Sahajanandam thinks that, whenever he has spoken the whole House has spoken, and whenever he has not spoken the whole House has not spoken, he is not right.

"Anyhow, to avoid any misapprehensions I shall follow the order in which the motions are printed in the agenda, if that procedure meets with the approval of the House."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM continuing said :—"ஜில்லாக்களின் தலைநகரல்லாதவிடங்களிலுள்ள வைத்தியசாலைகளில் ஆதிதிராவிட நோயாளிகள் சரியாகக் கவனிக்கப்படுவதில்லை. தலைநகர்களிலுள்ள வைத்தியசாலைகளில் சில நல்ல டாக்டர்கள் கவனித்தாலும் கம்பவுண்டர், நர்சு முதலானவர்கள் சரியாகக் கவனிப்பதில்லை. எங்கும் ஓர் ஆதிதிராவிடவேஷமே காரணமாயிருக்கிறது. ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் வைத்திய சாலைகளிலும் கைவிடப்படுகிறார்கள்.

"அனைத்தாக முனிசிபல் எல்லைகளல்லாத விடங்களிலுள்ள அன்புத் திரிகளில் நோயாளிகள் தங்குவதற்கு வார்டுகளில்லை, படுக்கையும் இல்லை. சாதாரணமாக, ஸ்ரீமூலனாம் என்னும் முனியன் டவுனில் அன்புற்றில் இருக்கின்றது. அங்கு நோயாளிகள் தங்குவதற்கு வார்டு இல்லை. அவர்கள் கிழக்கே 21 மைல் தூரம் வரவேண்டும், மேற்கேயும் வெகுதூரம் போகவேண்டும். அப்படி போவதற்குள் பினியானிகள் அப்பத்துக்குள்ளாகிறார்கள். போகவர உதவியின்றிய எழை ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் இறக்கின்றார்கள். ஆகையால் ஒவ்வொரு வைத்தியசாலையோடும் வார்டுகளுக்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் பார்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும்.

"(2) விவசாயத் தொழில் செய்யும் ஆதிதிராவிடப் பெண்கள் விஷயம் மிகவும் பரிதவிக்கக்கூடிய நிலைமையிலுள்ளது. கம்பினிகளைக் கவனித்து உதவி புரிய கிராமங்களில் யாரும் முன்வரவில்லை. என் அறையாவதில் தெரிந்த ஒன்றை இந்த குறிப்பிடுகிறேன். திருப்பரம் தாலுகா பண்ணைப்பட்டு கிராமத்தில் ஒரு ஆதிதிராவிடப் பெண் பிராணிக் அளவறைப்பட்டு கிண்படைந்து முடியாமல் குழைந்ததையே வெள்ளை எருக்கையுடையதாய்க்காய் மருத்துவசிக்ிகள் பெண்ணை அசையாமல் விடுத்துக்கொள்ள அவள் புறமுண்டி கண்ணைக்காட்டி மனையியை அசையாமல் விடுத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பது செய்து குழந்தையை வெளியில் எறியுதார்கள். இந்த கொடூரப்பலாதை கொடுக்கும் நடுங்குகிறது. வயற்றொழியில்செய்யும் பெண்களுக்கு உதவி புரிய அரசாங்கத்தார் ஏதேனும் முயற்சிகள் எடுக்க வேண்டும். கிராமங்களில் ஏற்புற கிராமம் நான்கு கிராமங்களை வட்டமாகக் கிழக்கு ஒரு மருத்துவசிக்ி ஏற்படுத்தி பெண்களை கவனிக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும்.

"வைத்திய சாலைகளில் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் சரியாக நடத்தப்படவில்லையானாலும் கிராமங்களிலுள்ள எழை ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் ஜாதி ஷிந்துக்களிடம் அடிப்பட்டு வந்து டாக்டர் சர்ட்டிபிகேட் கேட்டால் இல்லையென்று சொல்லிவிடுகிறார்கள். சமீபத்தில் சென்ற மருத்துவ சிர்க்காழி தாலுகா வன்னவையடியில் நடந்த கூலகத்தில் அடிப்பட்ட ஆதிதிராவிடன் சிர்க்காழி ஆஸ்பத்திரிகுப் போனவன் எதிரிகளின் சூழ்ச்சியால் ரகிய கொடுக்கவில்லை. ரிசிக்ரிக்ரிக் படுவு செய்யவில்லை. ஆனால் மருத்துவமாதிரும் போட்டனர். சர்ட்டிபிகேட் கேட்டால் கொடுக்க மாட்டேனென்று சொல்லிவிட்டார்கள். இப்படி இருந்தால் எப்படி ஆதிதிராவிடர் ஜீவிப்பது. பின்னர் அடிப்பட்டவர்கள் போய் கேட்டால் 25 ரூபாய்கள் ரீஸ் கேட்டார்களாம். கடலாறில் போலீஸ் கான்ஸ்டேபில் வேலைக்கு மலா கொடுத்தவர்கள் டாக்டர் சர்ட்டிபிகேட்டிற்குச் சென்றால் 25 ரூபாய்கள் கேட்டார்களாம். சர்ட்டிபிகேட்டுக்கு 25 ரூபாய்கள் கொடுப்பதற்கு ஏழைகள் எங்கு போவார்கள். சிதம்பரம் போன்ற இடங்களில் சர்ட்டிபிகேட் பெற 10 ரூபாய்கள் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

24th March 1981]

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam]

கஞ்சிக்கில்லாமல் அடிப்பட்டு அவன்வைப்பட்டு வரப்பலனை பத்து ரூபாய் கேட்டால் எப்படி எங்கிருந்து கொடுப்பான். பணம் இல்லாமையால் ஏழைகளின் கேஸுகள் அடியொரு கெடுகிறது. அதற்காக ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு ஏழும் இல்லாமலாக சர்ட்டிபிகேட் கொடுக்க மந்திரிகள் உத்தரவு செய்யவேண்டுகிறேன். அடிப்பட்டவர்களானாலும், உத்தியோகம் விரும்பியவர்களுக்கும் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு இலவசமாகவே டாக்டர் சர்ட்டிபிகேட் கொடுக்க அரசாங்கத்தார் உத்தரவு செய்வார்களென்று நம்புகிறேன்.

"முக்கியமாக கிராமங்களில் இந்திய மருத்துவமாதிரி நாட்டில் சிறப்பாக சித்த வைத்தியத்துவையே செய்ய வேண்டுமென்று சொல்லுகிறேன். தமிழ் நாட்டின் சீதோஷன் ஷிந்துக்கும் தமிழ் நாட்டின் உணர்வுகூறும் அயல் நாட்டு மருந்து கொடுப்பதை விட தமிழ் நாட்டின் மருந்து மருந்துகளைக் கொண்டே வைத்தியம் செய்வது நன்மையாகத்தான் இருக்கும்.

"எனக்கு ஒரு சொகம் மருத்துவமாதிரி கொட்டி. மருத்துவர்களும் எல்.ஓர்.சி. பட்டம் பெற்றவர்களும் சிறப்பாக மருந்து கொடுத்து நெல்லரிசு சாரம் சாப்பிடக்கூடாது, மருந்து சாப்பிடுவதற்குத் தகுதியும் வைத்தார்கள்; திரைவில். முடிவில் தமிழ்நாட்டின் மருந்துகளைக் கிராமங்களில் என்னுள்பிணைக்கு இவற்றால், அதாவது ஆறு பைசா வைத்திருந்தால் திருத்தது. அதாவது பொருள் சிக்கலத்தை உத்தேசித்தும் ஜனங்களின் நன்மையை உத்தேசித்தும் இந்திய மருந்துகளையே உபயோகப்படுத்த அரசாங்கத்தார் முயற்சி எடுக்கவேண்டும்.

"பழையநாலத்து வைத்தியர்கள் என்னாறு பயிற்சி பெற்றார்களோ அதே மாதிரி பயிற்சி பெற ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்யவேண்டும். தற்காலத்து முறையோ வெணில்; ஐஸ்கூல், காலேஜ்களில் தமிழ் மருந்து மருந்துகளைக் கிராமம் பாட புத்தகங்களில் இதில் இரண்டு பாகம், அதில் இரண்டு பாகம் வைத்து பொதித்து தமிழ்ப் புலமையை நிரப்பிவிட்டதாக நினைக்கவேண்டும். இதில் இரண்டு பாகம், அதில் இரண்டு பாகம் எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் மருந்து மருந்து மருந்தாகாது; முறையாக, நிகண்டுக்கும் மருந்து செய்யும் முறையும், அதற்கு மருந்துகளைக் கையாளுக முறைகளும், அறுவடைத்தல் கருவிகளும் இல்லை. பழைய மருத்துவர்கள் நாடி பரிசுஷமிலேயே பெரும்பாலும் தொய்க்கை கண்டு கொண்டார்கள். அதற்கு மேல் நகக்குறி, முகக்குறி முதலிய பரிசுஷுகள் வைப்பார்கள். அப்படிப்பட்ட பாடங்கள் கற்பிக்கப்படுகின்றனவா? ஆபுத சிச்சை முறையும் கற்பிக்கவேண்டும். வெறும் ஆபுத சிச்சை என்ன செய்யும், எடுத்ததற்கெல்லாம் அறுக்கும்படி தூண்டும். சித்த வைத்தியத்தில் பேர் பெற்ற திருணர்களுக்குக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் கிராமாந்திரங்களில் தனிமையாக இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு விளம் பரம் தேவையில்லை. அவர்களுக்கு இடங்களுக்கு ஜனங்கள் தானே தேடிப் போகிறார்கள். அப்படிப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு மிகவும் உதவி புரிந்து அவர்கள் மருந்தை அரசாங்க கலாசாலையில் வைக்கவேண்டும். உதாரணமாக சிதம்பரம் தாலுகா பண்ணைப்பட்டு கிராமத்தில் சத்தியம் வைத்தியரென்று ஒருவரிடமிருந்து. அவர் பெரிய பெரிய சர்க்குலாவை வைப்பதில் பிணிகளை எளிதாகத் தீர்த்துக்கொள்கிற சமர்த்தர். அவர் ஒரு சர்க்குலா தீர்த்துவிட்டால் மலாயம் செய்து கொள்ளவில்லை. இவ்வாறு பெரும்பாலும் இருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்களைக் கேட்டால் தமிழ் வைத்தியத்தை ஆதரவாகப் பார்ப்பதற்குரிய வழிகளைச் சொல்வார்கள்.

"சென்னை எழுப்பில் கலாசாலை மருத்துவ சிர்க்குலா. அங்குமொரு மலர்களை முதல் நாள் நான்குச் சோதித்தார்கள். பாகம் முதல் நாள் பார்ப்பதைத் தவிர மறுநாள் முதல் பார்ப்பதில்லை. இவ்வாறெல்லாம் நன்றாகக் கவனிக்கிறார்கள். தொத்து நோய்த்தான் நோய் திராவிடரையும் அவர்கள் ஆயுள்வரை மருந்தும் இடமும் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் வேலைகொடுக்க பார்க்கவேண்டும்."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR :—"Sir, in view of the feeling in the House that I have been speaking on various motions, I wish that chance may be given to others."

[24th March 1931]

12-15
P.M.

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Mr. President, in view of the feeling of the House that some Members are monopolising its time to the exclusion of others, I shall try to be as brief as possible. I shall try to confine my remarks to very important points. I would urge upon the hon. Minister that a new orientation of policy in the Medical department is absolutely necessary. We are to-day passing through very anxious financial times and under the coming constitution, the demand on public finances will be manifold; many lines of activity will demand attention. It will be necessary for the heads of departments, and the Ministers who are in charge of the departments, to concentrate their attention on the necessity for doing the maximum good out of the money available and, if possible, to effect retrenchment. In the coming days, Government will have to face some loss from some items of revenue, because we cannot expect to get the same income from Land Revenue. The future income of the Presidency may not exceed Rs. 12 or 18 crores. It is therefore obvious that, for the reasons I have given, our expenditure on the departments should be cut down as far as possible to minimum limits. The importance of extension of medical relief is admitted. We should maintain hospitals not only at Presidency headquarters, but also in district headquarters and taluk headquarters; further more, we should bring medical relief within the reach of the rural population.

“ In this connexion I would like to point out to the Government the necessity for considering whether they should continue their present policy of depending for medical relief entirely on a paid medical staff. This House has rightly insisted on the larger employment of honorary agencies. In this country, Sir, the Government policy has been to rely for medical relief on paid establishments; whereas, if you look at any other country in the world, they have always started with and depended on the honorary system. I am not aware of any country in the world where the Government depend almost entirely on a paid establishment for affording relief to the people. In accordance with the popular demand for the larger employment of honoraries, the Government no doubt employed honorary surgeons and physicians in some hospitals. I think they are treated as supernumeraries. These honorary surgeons and physicians have been giving relief to the paid men, but no financial relief has been afforded to the Government. It means that the present paid medical officers are relieved of a certain amount of their work which is done by these honoraries, with the result that, instead of the Government gaining, these paid officers are gaining and devoting more time for private practice. I do not think, Sir, that this is the intention of the House when it insisted on the system of employing honorary workers. I would ask the Government to look into the matter and see whether they should keep all the existing medical cadres indefinitely and how long they are going to stick to the present system. It must be obvious to any one with common-sense that the ideal will never be reached if we go on increasing our paid medical officers as we have been doing for the last few years. A few years back, our Medical budget was only Rs. 45 or 50 lakhs: to-day it is Rs. 95 lakhs. The system must necessarily be altered. Of course, the question is a very difficult one. I do not expect the hon. the Minister to give an assurance straight away. All I ask is that that ideal should be kept in view. Some day or other he must decide the question of reducing the existing medical cadres and of extending the system of employing honoraries to a very large extent. I do not say that it will be possible to eliminate all the paid establishment; there are certain

[24th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

appointments for which you must have paid men. (Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro :—What kind of honorary officers?) The Government must appoint as many honorary surgeons and physicians, honorary assistant surgeons and physicians as possible in Madras as well as in the mufussal. My hon. Friend, Sir Patro, out of ignorance of the system that is followed in many countries in the matter of medical relief, laughs at me when I am referring to the system of employing honorary men. In England they are employing honorary officers. The same system is followed in practically all the western countries. In the United States they do not have paid officers; in France they do not have a paid medical establishment. I do not see why it should be impossible for us to aim at the same ideal. We do not want that the hon. the Minister should achieve the ideal all at once. He must aim at that ideal. The Government propose to take over taluk headquarters hospitals. If the Government want to solve the problem of affording medical relief to the rural population, they must first of all find money for it. They can find money only if they adopt, to a large extent, the system of employing honorary officers and of reducing paid medical establishments.

“ With regard to subsidies for the system of rural dispensaries, the Government have, no doubt, budgeted for a certain amount this year, and every year, but they have not been able to work up the system up to the amount budgeted for. There are, no doubt, considerable difficulties in the matter of subsidized medical practitioners settling down in rural parts. Till very recently, there was a large amount of interference on the part of the Taluk Board Presidents; the rural medical practitioners have not been properly treated. I think, Sir, that the present Minister has been trying to do his best to have rural dispensaries in many places. I have no doubt, Sir, that the system of rural medical relief, with the help of subsidized medical men will eventually enable us to reach the goal. The Government should find money to provide for 300 or 400 more rural medical practitioners. The necessary amount may be found in this way; it is not necessary that Government should continue to pay subsidy to these people for ever. I think that the subsidy may be given for a limited period of five years; after five years, the subsidy should be taken away and given to new men in charge of new dispensaries. If we adopt this system and if Government provide for subsidies for about 600 rural medical practitioners every year, it will be possible, by adopting the system of rotation, to have rural dispensaries in most of the villages in a very short time, say 10 or 15 years. Then we shall have a network of these subsidized dispensaries all over the Presidency. I hope the hon. the Minister would consider this suggestion.

“ I shall now turn to the question of medical education. One of the problems that have been engaging the attention of this House and the people outside is whether we should continue the present system of conferring degrees to some students and diplomas to other students. The question is whether we should keep on for ever the Medical College course along with the L.M.P. course. People have been agitating that there should be only one medical course. There are a certain section of people who have been agitating that the diploma course must be for five years. In all the countries in the world we have only one standard of medical education. In England also there is only one standard. There is absolutely no difference either in the standard of medical education or in the status of those who get University degrees and those that get the L.R.C.P. & S. Here we have a caste system

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [24th March 1931]

as it were, in which you put the L.M.Ps. on one side and the degree-holders on the other side. I think, Sir, that that system should be done away with. I have myself come to this conclusion after a good deal of anxious consideration. The question came up before me when I was in charge of the Medical portfolio. I must confess that I hesitated a little then. There are very good reasons why we should adopt the system I suggest. After much consideration, I must say, Sir, that I have changed my views in this matter. The analogy of the Public Works Department has been quoted. There are three different grades of people who have been practising the profession of Engineering. In that department, these people are allotted definite and different tasks. A sub-overseer can never call himself an engineer. A supervisor is not an engineer; the former's functions and responsibilities are quite different from those of the latter who is a degree-holder. In the Medical department, every medical man whether he is a L.M.P. or M.B.B.S. is called a doctor; he presumes to treat all sorts of cases; the analogy of the Public Works Department does not apply to this department at all, because every medical man, whether he is a degree-holder or a diploma-holder, takes up all sorts of cases. It is necessary that every man practising this profession should possess the same standard and qualifications. I do not think we should have different qualifications for these people, a lower standard and a higher standard. I have no doubt that we should follow what is done all the world over and have only one course and nothing else.

12-30 P.m. "In this connexion, Sir, I should like to impress on the Government the inadvisability of closing down all medical schools; because, instead of keeping these medical schools, we may have, in course of time, to keep more medical colleges. Statistics at present show that we have got about 2,400 registered medical practitioners practising the allopathic system; but it is nowhere near the number that we require for solving the problem of medical relief in the rural parts. It may be that we will find that the number that we require will be more than can be supplied by the colleges at Madras and Vizagapatam. In any case, I would ask the hon. the Minister, before he transfers these schools to other departments, for instance the Guntur Medical School, not to do this until such time when we will be in a position to turn out a sufficient number of students from the medical colleges to meet the medical demands of this Presidency.

"Coming now to the question of the indigenous system of medicine, Sir, I think it is high time that the Government came to a decision as to what exactly the sphere of activity of students coming out of the School of Indian Medicine is to be. Where are they going to be employed and to what extent? At present, the School of Indian Medicine is turning out a certain number of students every year, and local boards, I believe, have been given the option of employing them. But in the case of the subsidised dispensaries in the mufassal, there seems to be no clear principle, to enable one to see which of these two systems should be practised in a particular place. It is certainly a very difficult question to decide. But are you really going to continue allowing graduates of the School of Indian Medicine or the L.M.Ps. or M.B.B.Ss. to be appointed according to the whims and fancies of the local bodies or taluk boards? I would ask the Government to come to some decision as to the jurisdiction of work of these two systems of medicine. Otherwise, one would not know what the demand for students coming from the School of Indian Medicine is, and what the demand for the other class of

24th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

medical practitioners is. And certainly, in the final scheme of medical relief which the Government are going to adopt, with 600 or 700 rural dispensaries, some decision ought to be taken as to what part of the total number should be allotted to the students coming out of the School of Indian Medicine.

"I have nearly finished, Sir. I would like to mention only one or two points more. There is the question of private practice, which of course is a very difficult question to decide. I would like to know from the hon. the Minister whether he has come to any decision on this question which has been engaging the attention of the Government for many years now. I would also like to point out one fact, that some of the medical practitioners are running private dispensaries and nursing homes. It is a fact and the hon. the Minister can take it from me. If only the Minister cares to enquire, he will find that it is so. This is wrong. I think a limit ought to be placed on such private practice, so that private practice may not come into clash with the official duties of these doctors.

"I hope the hon. the Minister will consider all these questions I have mentioned and will be in a position to give an immediate reply in regard to some of them and come to a decision in regard to the others as early as practicable."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In rising to speak on this motion, Sir, I would like to confine myself to one or two items that I have now before me. The hon. Member, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, has dealt fully with the medical policy of the Government, and I have no doubt that most of the hon. Members here will agree with him in his remarks. I do not therefore propose to say anything on that matter.

"In regard to the specific question of appointments in the Medical College, the Government have been advertising both in India and elsewhere. That procedure seems to me to be rather out of date. We should now see, whenever there is vacancy in the Medical College, such as the post of Professor of Pathology or Professor of Anatomy, etc., whether we could not get people from our own country. I do not think it is necessary that we should advertise simultaneously in England also. I have no doubt that the members of the staff of the College who are sent out to England for higher studies and who qualify themselves for such posts can very well occupy places like these.

"As regards the question of the number of higher officers in the department, I hope the hon. the Minister will look into it and reduce the number as early as possible, retaining the minimum number necessary.

"On the question of Muslim representation in the services, I should only like to say that no Muslim has been appointed during the past four or five years, although we have been agitating all the while. In fact, I should say the Muslim representation has decreased now. I think there are now one or two Muslims employed as civil surgeons, but that number has been so, for the last five or six years. Even the gentleman who has been for some time acting as Chief Medical Examiner has now gone on leave, and I do not know how the Government propose to fill the post. The Government recently selected sub-assistant surgeons for recruitment to the selection grade; but I am sorry to say that not one of the four is a Muslim, even though there are senior men in the cadre who could very well have been promoted. Even

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

[24th March 1931]

in the Surgeon-General's office, last year or the year before, some hon. Members were trying to see that at least one Superintendent in that office was a Muslim. I hope that the opportunity that has now arisen in that office will be availed of by the hon. the Minister to see that justice is done to the Muslim community in regard to the Superintendent's post.

"With reference to the School of Indian Medicine, it has been in existence for some years now. Although the hon. the Minister has been saying that he is very sympathetic towards Indian systems of medicine, yet I hope he will not deal with that institution in the step-motherly way in which it is being dealt with on some occasions. I also find that in that institution, a Malabar gentleman has been appointed to teach the Ayurvedic system in Telugu. It seems to be an anomaly. Now that this matter has been brought to the notice of the hon. the Minister, I hope he will look into it and settle it all right.

"Coming to the question of hostel accommodation, I am afraid nothing has been done to see that students coming from the different parts of the province are given facilities for lodging, as the School of Indian Medicine is situated in an out-of-the-way place. Students are unable to get accommodation anywhere near that place which will be cheap enough for them to stay and therefore there is a greater need for hostel accommodation in the case of this school than in the case of colleges situated in the heart of the town.

"One of the most important questions in connexion with this School of Indian Medicine is that the Government have not yet thought fit to open a store for Indian medicines. There has been demand for this for a very long time, but Government have not given any heed to it. I hope the hon. the Minister will consider this question and see that a store is established for Indian medicines.

"I request the hon. the Minister to consider the points I have raised and see what he can do in respect of each of them."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU :—"Mr. President, Sir, my learned Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, speaking on this motion, said that the policy of any Government in regard to the administration of its Medical department should be to render effective and efficient medical relief as economically as possible. I entirely agree with the hon. Member in that statement. But when he proceeded to say that the policy of the Medical department of the Madras Government appears to be to pay greater attention to the urban areas to the neglect of the rural areas, I feel compelled to disagree with him. For, I shall presently point out to the hon. Members of this House that though the latter part of the statement is true, the former is not an absolute truth. That is to say, the Madras Government are not paying any attention to the expansion of medical relief either in the rural areas or in the urban areas. Both are neglected. From a close examination of the administration of the Medical department, I am inclined to think that with the Madras Government medical relief has come to mean rendering of relief to able-bodied—certainly not the distressed and the maimed—men, not by admitting them as patients of hospitals but, by recruiting them as paid officers of the hospital. (Laughter.) That is how I am inclined to think of the whole matter.

"Hon. Members would remember, Mr. President, that in the year 1925-26 the Madras Government spent only Rs. 56,97,734 on the Medical department. But in the year 1929-30, the Medical department spent as much as

24th March 1931]

[Mr. V. T. Arasu]

Rs. 88,42,129. That is to say, the department has spent in 1929-30 about 57 per cent more than what it spent in the year 1925-26. From this hon. Members are likely to come to the conclusion that medical relief has expanded to that extent. But I submit, Sir, that it is not so. Medical relief has not expanded to the same extent as expenditure has. In the year 1925-26, the total number of medical institutions of all kinds in this Presidency was 959. But in the year 1929-30 the number was 1,128. That is to say, Sir, there was an increase of about 20 per cent only. I now take up the total number of beds available in all the hospitals of the Presidency. There were in the year 1925-26, 7,748 beds in all. In the year 1929-30 the number was only 9,390. That is to say, there was an increase of about 22 per cent. But my hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, would say, 'I am not concerned with what had happened in the year 1929-30! The late Ministry'—which the hon. the Chief Minister used to characterise as a *benami* Ministry—is responsible for it, and therefore I cannot be taken to task for what has happened in that year'. I admit that.

"I will now examine, Sir, what the present Ministry, of which my hon. Friend, the Diwan Bahadur is the Chief, which has assumed office with the blow of trumpets that it is going to stand by the people and render great service to the people, is going to do in the future. In the Budget Estimates for the coming year the Minister has budgeted for an expenditure of Rs. 89,86,600. Out of this sum, on a careful analysis, I find that as much as Rs. 54,22,100 is proposed to be spent on pay of officers, establishments, allowances and other contingencies. That is to say, about 60 per cent of the whole allotment is proposed to be spent over establishments. But, Sir, the late *benami* Ministry did not spend so much as that under these identical heads. Of the total amount of Rs. 88,42,129 spent in the year 1929-30, only about Rs. 51,65,956 was spent over establishments. That is to say, whereas the *benami* Ministry spent only about 56 per cent of the total allotment for the Medical department over establishment, the Justice Ministry proposes to spend in the coming year over establishment about 60 per cent. Mr. President, if this increased expenditure on pay of officers and establishment is to mean expansion of medical relief, I submit the hon. the Chief Minister is entirely mistaken'.

"I will now take up the question of officers, and the expenditure that is incurred on them, and examine whether these officers are giving their best to the State, in return for all that the State gives them. The State is paying these officers salaries ranging from Rs. 1,000 to 2,000 a month. In addition to their pay they are given allowances of various kinds—city allowance, teaching allowance, honorarium for examining candidates seeking admission into the public services, etc. I ask the hon. the Chief Minister to state on the floor of this House whether these officers, from whom the State should legitimately expect unstinted service, are giving their best to the State. I submit, Sir, that they do not. I will explain myself.

"As soon as one passes out of the college, he is generally taken in as one of the house surgeons in one of the hospitals, and is paid about Rs. 50. After undergoing training for a period of about one year, he is drafted into service as an assistant surgeon and is paid about Rs. 300 inclusive of allowances. He remains as such for about five or six years. Mr. President, during these five or six years he is paid this fat salary for nothing. For

[Mr. V. T. Arasu]

[24th March 1931]

he does just the same work that he has been doing as a house surgeon. He is simply learning work by experimenting on the poor patients in the hospital. After this period of training he is sent to England—in some cases on State expense, at any rate in all cases on study leave—to acquire further training. On returning from England he is appointed as a civil surgeon, and is posted in charge of a hospital. Thus, Sir, you train him, create for him a status in the profession, and above all pay him a fat salary of about Rs. 1,000. Is it not therefore legitimate that we should expect him to give his best to the State? I ask the Chief Minister whether it is so. I am of opinion, and am in a position to support my assertion, that he does not give his best to the State. Being assured of the salary from the State he looks out for pastures new.

“Nominally, the period of the day when the officers in the hospitals in the city of Madras are expected to be present in the hospital is from 10 a.m. to about 12 or 12-30. For this two or two and a half hours' work you pay them salaries ranging from Rs. 1,000 to 2,000. I know, Sir, even this two hours' work, the officers in the city hospitals do not seem to relish. For I am in a position to state that many of the officers find it difficult to come to the hospital at 10 a.m. In fact the attendance of the officers in the Madras General Hospital was so irregular that the Superintendent of that hospital was constrained to send out a circular insisting on the officers coming to hospital punctually at 10. This is a circular issued by a brother Indian Medical Service officer. Is this not proof enough to show that irregular attendance is a common feature? At this stage, Mr. President, I should like to state that the observations I have made till now, and those that I may presently make, are all based on information derived not second-hand from some one else, but are informations gathered first-hand by constant visits to the hospitals in the city. Myself and six other colleagues of the 1929 Madras Youth League are officially recognized social service visitors of some of the hospitals in the city. In that capacity we visit the hospitals periodically. And it was in the course of such visits and constant intercourse with the poor and unhappy patients of the hospitals that I have come to know of the real state of affairs in the hospitals.

“Sir, I will now proceed to give you an idea of the state of affairs in the Madras hospitals. Can you imagine an Indian Medical Service officer observing days of silence? Sundays, penultimate Saturdays and other public holidays are off-days for the officers of these hospitals. Over and above these, a certain day of the week is observed as a day of silence by a certain officer in the General Hospital. I can understand a Mahatma Gandhi, or even some non-official Members of this House observing days of silence; but I cannot understand how a paid Medical officer can with impunity observe a certain day of the week as a day of silence and refuse to speak to the patients in the hospital.

“Another matter to which I should like to draw the attention of the Chief Minister is the pernicious practice of certain District Medical Officers living about forty miles away from their headquarters. Imagine, Sir, what medical relief a District Medical Officer living at such a distance away from his headquarters will be able to render. This is the kind of relief, Sir, that is being rendered. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: ‘He lives in the same place as the headquarters of the Madras Government’) (Laughter.)

[24th March 1931]

[Mr. V. T. Arasu.]

“Mr. President, hon. Members may ask, ‘why is it that, in spite of the fact that these officers are being paid high salaries, such grave irregularities exist and these officers neglect their legitimate work?’ The answer is simple, Sir. It is due to the pernicious concession that has been given to the officers of the Medical department to have private practice. Surely, we cannot expect them to serve two masters at one and the same time: they have to serve Mammon as well as the State; and that is what they are doing at present. They are attending to their private practice in order to make as much money as possible. This concession of private practice has been so abused as even to open regular nursing homes, which are miniature hospitals. The hon. the Chief Minister in answer to a question of mine the other day categorically stated on the floor of this House that Government orders do prohibit the running of regular nursing homes and dispensaries by members of the Medical Service. But surely, Sir, the hon. the Chief Minister cannot be ignorant of the fact that Medical officers in the city of Madras do run nursing homes on large scales, and that for running the same they utilize the whole hospital staff. I am certain that he does know of these; at any rate he must have noticed one just close by his residence.

“There are also instances of Medical officers running dispensaries. The hon. the Chief Minister in the course of a talk that I had with him the other day said that the Government has put an end to the practice of Medical officers putting up their sign boards in or near dispensaries and chemist shops. But, I ask, Sir, whether the Chief Minister is aware of instances where Medical officers are running dispensaries of their own under the glorified pseudonyms of Research Laboratories and the like. Those dispensaries may perhaps stand in the names of the daughters or brothers-in-law of the officers concerned. If only the Chief Minister would care to find out on whose names the bank accounts in respect of those dispensaries and laboratories stand, he will find out as to who is actually running the same.

“Sir, in conclusion, I should like to put as briefly as possible the reforms that will have to be effected in the administration of the hospitals in the city of Madras. The concession of having private practice should be withdrawn at once, so that these officers may devote their whole attention to hospital work. They should be compelled to attend the hospital for at least four hours, i.e., from 8 in the morning to 12 in the noon, and put in charge of more beds than at present. As regards the question of manning these hospitals with honorary men, my Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, has already dealt with the question and pointed out the benefits of that system. However, I should like to point out one thing. You may recruit more honorary men; in fact I would go further and say that hereafter there should be no recruitments to the service; but when once you recruit them as honorary men, they should continue to be honorary physicians or surgeons as long as they live; there is no use in recruiting them in that capacity, and after a period of about six months or one year drafting them into the service on fat salaries. Once honoraries they should always be honoraries. Otherwise the honorary system would degenerate into a regular scramble for office.

“Finally, Sir, lest I should have been misunderstood by hon. Members of this House, I should like to make one observation. And that is, that in making these remarks I have no doubt had in view some of the prominent officers in service. But I may at once state that I have no personal grudge

[Mr. V. T. Arasu]

[24th March 1931]

against any of them. I claim many of them as personal friends; and to some of them I am grateful for the treatment that I have, on several occasions, had at their hands. Nevertheless I was constrained to make these remarks and expose the vagaries of some of these officers because of higher considerations, viz., the efficiency of the department and the expansion of Medical relief. There is nothing personal in the remarks. It is the present administrative system that I am finding fault with. As I said, I have myself undergone treatment by some of these officers. But I may incidentally remark that I have never entered their private nursing homes. I always entered the hospital, and paid to the hospital not only stoppage charges, but also the extra charges for the relief given that are usually levied in hospitals; and in that way I have contributed my little mite to swell the funds of the State.

"Therefore, Sir, I would urge upon the Chief Minister that he should immediately take up the work of reorganizing the whole department, and purge it of its abuses, some of which I have hinted at in the course of my speech.

"Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am extremely obliged to my previous speakers because they have stated so much about the Medical department. My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, spoke about honorary surgeons and honorary physicians in various hospitals and I quite agree with what all he said. As a matter of fact, in western countries, it is only these honorary surgeons and physicians that carry on the work in various hospitals and they consider it an honour to be attached to hospitals. Some of them are renowned medical men. He said something about L.M.P.'s and M.B.B.S.'s. I may say that L.M.P. is not a degree but it is only a diploma. In Madras there were two degrees L.M.S. and M.B.B.S. One of them L.M.S. was rightly abolished. If this L.M.P. diploma is abolished, a number of young men less highly qualified in general education can have no opportunity of becoming medical men. All cannot be B.A.'s or Intermediates. There should be some opportunity for those with less educational qualifications to become medical men. The L.M.P. examination is held by the Government and is a diploma, and the M.B. examination is held by the University and is a degree and so there is so much difference between the two. I am against the abolition of the L.M.P., for it would take away a number of people who would otherwise be utilized for rendering medical aid to the masses. I have no objection for its being raised to five years' course. I know of an L.M.P. who was made a District Surgeon by Col. Giffard, because he considered, though he was an L.M.P. by service and experience he deserved that place. My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, said that sub-overseers cannot become engineers; what about draftsmen becoming assistant engineers? What about Mr. Subbiah Chetti, who is an assistant engineer to-day? There are some more cases where draftsmen became assistant engineers. (Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: 'That was in the old days'.) No, even in these days. So, it does not follow that an L.M.P. cannot become a District Surgeon, if he has got only the necessary experience.

1 p.m. "Coming now to the subject proper, I listened with interest to hon. Member, Mr. Arasu. It is one of the proudest moments in my life that the hon. Member, Mr. Arasu, once my own child (laughter) and now my Colleague, has dashed off a most eloquent speech but only painted the dark

[24th March 1931]

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

side of a picture. He spoke of house surgeons on Rs. 50 being suddenly raised to assistant surgeons on Rs. 200. The post of a house surgeon or physician is not the lower grade in any appointment. It is only a post-graduate course in which some are paid and others are not paid. The amount paid is only an honorarium. The real appointment begins when they are appointed as assistant surgeons on a salary of Rs. 200. Till then they merely acquire knowledge in hospitals. What we want at present is a large number of honorary surgeons and physicians. In case the surgeons and physicians are not to have private practice, as Mr. Arasu said, how can the public be benefited by the accumulated knowledge of these medical men? So, I do not agree with Mr. Arasu when he says that surgeons and physicians should not be allowed to have private practice. At least they should have consulting practice.

"Sir, assistant surgeons are to be recruited, I learn, only by the Madras Services Commission applying the communal Government Order out of candidates selected through a competitive examination held among the panel of house surgeons selected by a committee without applying the communal Government Order. I do not know how it would be possible for the Madras Services Commission to make appointments in accordance with the communal Government Order from a body which might not contain members of the various communities. So, what I suggest is that it is better to abolish the competitive examination and select house surgeons according to communal Government Order and from them select assistant surgeons according to merit and communities. Further, Sir, it should be remembered that the Medical students have to go through four examinations in their five years' course and hon. the Home Member will bear me out how difficult it is to pass those examinations. To subject them once more to further competitive examination is really a hardship. So I suggest to Government to let these people have some pleasant time at least after taking their degrees.

"Now, Sir, for recruiting sub-assistant surgeons, there is a committee at present. The other day a complaint was made that an Adi-Dravida L.M.P. was not appointed as house surgeon. Unless he was a house surgeon he cannot become a permanent sub-assistant surgeon. Thus, Government service will be denied to him for ever. So, I think it is better that a committee is appointed for the recruitment of sub-assistant surgeons.

"Then, as regards the recruitment of lady sub-assistant surgeons, I am extremely sorry to say that there is not even a single Muslim lady to be selected by the selection board, nor even an Adi-Dravida lady. I hope the hon. the Minister will make necessary arrangements for the recruitment of Adi-Dravida and Muslim ladies. I hope he will open zenana medical schools to train Muslim women on the lines of the Hobart School.

"Coming to the recruitment of lady sub-assistant surgeons from the Hindu community itself, Sir, in the year before last there were one or two Hindu ladies recruited as sub-assistant surgeons; but, last year there was only one. These are Nayudu ladies. Now it is a well-known fact that in Hindu society a girl after her twelfth year until the date when she gets married is not allowed to stir out of the house. But the parents of these ladies were bold enough to go against social customs and educated them. One of the Hindu lady sub-assistant surgeons recruited in the year before last is unmarried. I requested the authorities concerned to encourage medical education among

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [24th March 1931]

the members of these half-purdah communities, not to send her away to a far-off place and to keep her in one of the women hospitals. But she was sent away to a far-off place as Kadiri and there to serve under a male doctor. When I further requested the authorities and used all the influence which a representative of the people can have at his command and even with the intervention of the hon. the Minister, the lady was transferred from far-off Kadiri to the southernmost Rameswaram. Another lady from Guntur and daughter of a well-known Government official also met with the same fate and she is now sent away to Kadiri. I request the Government on behalf of these persons not to send them away to far-away places but to give them work under women medical superiors, in Madras itself, at least till they are married or till they throw off their nervousness, after some experience. There was another attempt made to send away one of the very few Hindu lady doctors out of Madras but through the strenuous efforts made by some of the Members of the Legislative Council she is retained. Here I do not forget the splendid services rendered in the city and the mufassal by our Indian Christian medical sisters. I only want that our Hindu sisters should be encouraged as their medical education is still in the infant stage.

"Then, Sir, with regard to admission of students into medical schools, where does the Hindu community stand? The other day we heard a complaint that a Nayudu girl and a Vellala girl from the city were refused admission. Now, when they have been found fit by the University for entering higher studies, I cannot understand their being refused admission into medical schools.

"Coming to the hospitals, I would suggest for more accommodation in the hospitals in the city. We have now the Rayapuram Hospital for North Madras, General Hospital for Central Madras and the Royapetta Hospital for Southern Madras and we want a hospital for Western Madras. We have at present the Indian School of Medicine on that side and I would suggest to Government to increase the accommodation. Again in the Gosha Hospital there are only 87 beds and there are 137 patients to-day. These 50 patients are accommodated either on the floor or in the veranda. There is no laundry for the hospital. The washed clothes have to be hung in the veranda for drying. Imagine, Sir, the risk of doing so in a hospital where maternity cases are treated. With regard to the nurses' quarters eight probationary nurses have to put up in one dormitory. In the Rayapuram Hospital there is accommodation for 90 beds and 30 beds were sanctioned for emergency. For want of accommodation the beds are placed in the veranda. Imagine, Sir, the condition of the veranda beds in times like the last storm.

"And finally with regard to Indian School of Medicine, I wish the hon. the Minister will take care to see that these people are registered and given places in Government service and Government issues an order to recognize their certificates. It is only then that they can be of some service to the people. Then, Sir, Government issued a Government Order wherein they say that certain medicines they should not handle. Some of the hon. Members may remember that on the floor of this House, I agitated for an Oriental Chair in the Medical College. As this was not agreeable to the authorities concerned, the late Raja of Panagal, instead of constituting that Chair, opened the present Indian School of Medicine. The pupils in this Institute are taught the same curriculum of subjects as those of L.M.P's. And besides

[24th March 1931] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

they learn the Indian medicine, i.e., the Unani, the Ayurveda and the Siddha systems. Why not these medical men be also allowed to handle allopathic drugs? What is after all the allopathic system of medicine? It is only an eclectic system. It is only the essence of all other systems of medicine. Now *adathodai*, an Indian drug, is one of the drugs taken into the materia-medica of that system. So too Bilva. When that is so, why should Government prohibit the doctors coming out of School of Indian Medicine from handling quinine and other allopathic drugs? So I request the Government to allow doctors of Indian Medicine to use allopathic medicines. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, the medical profession is said to be a noble profession; but I would like to know whether the medical subordinates in the rural parts are sympathetic towards the depressed classes. Sir, owing to the caste system there is oppression rampant in several districts, and we are denied justice both by the Police and the Magistracy, and when we go to the hospitals there too we are denied sympathy. I know of any number of instances in the mufassal where our people are not given even the ordinary medical certificates for the wounds inflicted by the caste people and there occurs a great deal of delay in giving relief to such sufferers.

"Sir, I may quote three instances here. The first comes from Singanallur, a place near Coimbatore. There the caste Hindus entered the houses of the depressed classes last year, wounded them very severely, and when these people were taken to the Coimbatore hospital in a most pitiable condition, with their heads broken and their hands broken, the medical people would not show them even the sympathy which is expected of them and they would not do the needful in time. They were asked to be in the open space near the hospital and allowed to lie there uncared for for hours.

"In Ramnad, about which there was such a lot of talk in this House, on the 14th November last at about 5 p.m. one Ponnu Thevan, son of Nagalinga Thevan, and another Neelamega Thevan, son of Madasami Thevan, entered the field of Masilamani and destroyed the Kuthiravalli crops there and cut the crop and troubled them and when Masilamani went and remonstrated and drove the cattle he was cut and beaten and so severely injured that he had to be taken to Mudukulathur in a cart and the police refused to register a case and the sub-assistant surgeon refused to grant a medical certificate for recording a dying declaration as he was in a precarious condition.

"Imagine, Sir, such are the amount of trouble we are subjected to in these days of civilization. Again, on the 26th February 1931 when in Kamudi in the Ramnad district an Adi-Dravida was inflicted serious cut wounds and when he applied for a medical certificate, the doctor refused to grant him the certificate for two reasons, namely, owing to non-payment of fee and secondly he was influenced by a larger fee from the assailants. He had to file a criminal complaint, and he filed the case without a medical certificate against his assailants. Sir, this is the state of affairs existing in the rural areas, and all these irregularities practised by the medical subordinates should be put an end to. And I appeal to the hon. the Minister to kindly see that proper justice is done to the depressed classes. The suffering of the depressed class man is the same as it is to the caste Hindu.

1-15
p.m.

[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

[24th March 1931]

"Sir, coming to the very definite token out of which I have given notice regarding the transfers of clerks in the offices of District Medical Officers, I want to say a few words. It was some two years ago that the head clerk of the District Medical Officer's office at Ootacamund was transferred to Mangalore. As far as I can understand and the people of Ootacamund can understand, the man has not been charged with any complaint. He has been in service for over 21 years; he has rendered very good service and is one of the favourites of most of the medical men that came to the Nilgiris. For no cause this man has been transferred to Mangalore. Subsequently that man was transferred to Coimbatore as a second clerk. Not content with that, the man has again been transferred to Ellore. Imagine, Sir, a man who has been in the hills for nearly 30 years being compelled to go to the driest part of the country like Ellore. I feel that a small matter of this kind should not be discussed on the floor of this House, but this man made many appeals to the authorities but to no avail. So I have placed this matter before the hon. the Minister so that in future at least the Government may adopt a more sympathetic policy so that the lower subordinates may not be inconvenienced in this fashion. To one of the interpellations this morning the hon. the Minister has replied that he is seriously considering this matter and will issue proper rules to see that some districts will be grouped and that the transfers of clerks should be restricted within each group. I appeal to the hon. the Minister to carefully go into this matter and do justice to these subordinates in the Medical service."

"Another thing, Sir, about which I have given a token out is to draw the attention of the Government to the unsatisfactory nature of the treatment in the out-patients' department in the dispensaries. Sir, according to the rules in force generally the hospitals should be open between 8 and 11 a.m., but medical officers and subordinates do not generally come to the out-patients' department by 8 a.m. They generally come there about 10 o'clock and leave at about half past ten. People going to offices are greatly inconvenienced by this, and I would like to inform the hon. the Minister that this is what is happening in my own town of Ootacamund. So, I hope the Government will kindly see that these irregularities are remedied."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA :—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Minister a few facts involved in the transfer of clerks from one district to far off districts, before discussing the principle involved therein. Mr. Muniswami Pillai has placed before this House the facts relating to the transfer of a clerk from Ootacamund to Mangalore, from Mangalore to Coimbatore and again from Coimbatore to Ellore. In this connexion I wish to bring to the notice of the Chief Minister that one clerk of the office of the District Medical Officer, Ellore, Mr. Kurmanadhan has been transferred to Chittoor. Although this transfer has been seemingly made on account of some reasons which are not disclosed, there is a fact behind it that has something to do with what is called the Malabarization or the Malayalization of the services in the Medical Department. The transfer from Coimbatore has been effected for this reason: I am told that there was a medical school which was closed in the district and the clerk of the Medical school had to be provided for. This clerk is related to the Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General, I understand; he has to be provided for, and in that connexion transfers had to be effected. I will give full information to the hon. the Chief Minister, and I hope he will examine

[24th March 1931]

[Mr. B. Venkataramayya]

that question. In this connexion I shall have something to say about the drafting of personal assistants to the Surgeon-General. Personal assistant after personal assistant has been drafted from a particular area, and this has a great deal to do with the injustice that is occurring with regard to recruitment and transfers in the Medical Department. The present personal assistant was put in there over the heads of 20 senior officers of the department. Well, Sir, I would like the hon. the Chief Minister to tell us, though probably he was not responsible for it, what was the reason for this gentleman being promoted over the heads of all other senior officers belonging to other areas, who had done meritorious services in the department? It is not merely a case of the present personal assistant. If the records are looked into, the previous personal assistants—at any rate most of them—were from that particular areas, from Malabar. One would like to know what special reason there was for drafting these personal assistants from that particular area."

"Now, Sir, with regard to this particular clerk of Ellore who was transferred to Chittoor, I may mention that he has been doing meritorious work in the West Godavari district, and his work has been spoken of very highly not merely by District Medical Officers in succession but also by the Surgeon-General, Col. Giffard. Then, Sir, the transfer was effected without consulting the District Medical Officer concerned. The District Medical Officer protested against the transfer, but to no effect. Then, after the clerk from Coimbatore took charge at Ellore, both clerks put in a mutual transfer application which was recommended by the District Medical Officer. The District Medical Officer in that connexion also, I hear, noted that the clerk who was transferred from Coimbatore does not know the Telugu language and that he has not been able to get on with the work, and that his office work had been suffering very much. Well, with regard to the other clerk, Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar yesterday told us that the work at Coimbatore was suffering too and the mutual transfer application was not considered favourably in spite of the fact that it was strongly supported by the District Medical Officer. Apart from the injustice and the hardship that is entailed in these transfers there is a question of principle. That principle is that these clerks were recruited to serve in particular stations and not to be transferred from district to district. That principle was recognized by the Surgeon-General himself in 1926. A reference was made by the District Medical Officer, Nilgiris, and in reply to the reference the Surgeon-General sent the following letter:—

"The clerical establishments of district medical and headquarter hospitals, etc., are recruited for service in particular stations and are not in the ordinary course liable to be transferred from one district to another, but a transfer will be made by the Surgeon-General, where there is a special reason for transferring a particular clerk from a station. District Medical Officers may make a recommendation to this effect when the necessity arises. The existing clerical establishments and future recruitments should be warned of their liability to be transferred in accordance with the above principle."

"So, Sir, it is clear from this that the principle of not transferring subordinate clerical establishment from one district to another is recognized by the Surgeon-General. Even if a transfer is effected, there must be exceptional reasons and even when there are exceptional reasons, it is the District Medical Officer that should move in the matter and make a recommendation. Far from there being any recommendation in this particular case, the transfers were effected without reference to the District Medical

[Mr. B. Venkataramayya]

[24th March 1931]

Officer; and in spite of his protest time after time, justice has not been done. What is the reason, Sir? To my interpellations which were answered this morning, a sort of evasive reply was given, and no satisfactory answers were forthcoming. I hope in the interests of these poor clerks who suffer very much from being transferred away from one district to another, the hon. the Chief Minister will be kind enough to see that justice is rendered. Of course, some discretion is vested in the Surgeon-General, but there should be special reasons. For transfer here in this case no special reasons exist and yet these transfers have been made. This order should be cancelled and I submit that official prestige should not stand in the way of justice being done.

"Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar was referring to the cases of women doctors, being transferred from place to place and he said that the then Minister had to approach the personal assistant to the Surgeon-General to get cancellation of orders. I am afraid that is not the proper way for a Minister to rectify things. I hope that the hon. the Chief Minister will deal strongly with such cases in future and render justice."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

* Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is generally agreed that there should be great extension of medical relief to people. It is also agreed that we cannot find enough funds for this purpose if we go on under this system. So the only way that could be suggested is that there should be a substitution of the paid agency by the honorary agency. We need not be sceptical about its success. It was pointed out that more than half of the medical budget is swallowed by salaries; and when we show that this amount could be usefully spent upon the actual medical aid there need not be any hesitation in adopting this method. It was pointed out that in England this system has been adopted; there great hospitals appear to be run by honorary people. Even in this country this system is not entirely new. In Bombay I understand there is a very well-equipped hospital and it works successfully by honorary people. If it has been successful in our Bombay there need not be any doubt whether it will prove successful in our Province. It may be that this paid system was doing good service at a time when people were not attracted to this profession. But I venture to submit to this House that to-day we have reached a stage when there are many well-trained people anxious to do service to the people. Medical profession is a liberal profession and a noble profession and it contains very many enlightened people who are anxious to do service to the people in hospitals. In a centre like Madras where there are many people of capacity anxious to do service, why should not the system be adopted? Sir, in response to public opinion no doubt an attempt was made but I submit it is a very small attempt. In substance the system of honorary physicians has not been adopted. What has been done is to attach in some hospitals some men in addition to the staff which is paid. What is required is substitution of paid men by honorary men so that the money saved can be utilized for medical aid. I would request the hon. the Chief Minister to give this honorary system a fair and honest trial. It was said there was an idea of introducing this in the Rayapuram Hospital at Madras. I submit that this may be selected as one of the centres and there are several other headquarters where this can be successfully tried. Three years ago there was a talk of provincialization of taluk

24th March 1931] [Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

headquarters hospitals. I find that this system has not been pushed through to the extent to which it is necessary. Government have, it appears, stopped it for the time being. No doubt taluk headquarter hospitals are not as well equipped as they might be. In the physician side they are weak; and when we take the surgical side it is much worse. It is absolutely necessary to develop these headquarter hospitals as surgical centres. Such development could be had only if the Government came forward to take them on. If we leave these hospitals to the local bodies you cannot expect very much out of them. The hon. the Chief Minister has been a distinguished President of a local body and he knows the handicaps and difficulties. It is not possible for these local bodies having slender finances to undertake the duty of developing these hospitals as surgical centres. No doubt considering the vast areas which these hospitals are expected to serve, it is up to the Government to come forward and develop these headquarter hospitals as surgical centres. Again, Sir, with regard to the rural medical system no doubt it is one of the schemes for which the Justice party was responsible. I want to know from the hon. the Chief Minister how far that system has been successful. I think this rural medical relief has intimate connexion with the Indian system of medicine and with the general topic of the decrease in expenditure to which I was referring in the beginning. If you want to extend medical aid there is no doubt that you should develop these dispensaries. But are you going to develop these merely on the allopathic system. It is generally agreed that the cost in the allopathic system is higher than what it would be in the indigenous system. If so, should you not give an impetus to the indigenous system? You can reach a wider mass of population and a wider area with the indigenous system. No doubt the local bodies are not prevented at present from starting indigenous dispensaries but I fear that sufficient impetus has not been given by Government. Government have not done all that they could and I request the hon. Minister to devote his attention to this. I have a small complaint to make. One of the members spoke about the difference of treatment between the urban population and the rural population. Whatever it be, I find that Madras has had a bigger share of the Budget than the mufassal towns. Trichinopoly is the worst sufferer in this respect. Ministers and Surgeon-Generals come and go but the hospital seems to go on for ever in its nakedness and crudeness, defying the power of Ministers to pull it down. Trichinopoly hospital is the most ill-equipped hospital; it has no accommodation; it is leaky and ill-ventilated. I cannot have sufficient words to describe all the inconvenience. The idea of the construction of a new hospital is going on for over a decade. It has been going on from the year 1913. So I would make an earnest request to see that one of the important towns in the mufassal, the third in the Presidency, does not suffer like this. It is up to the hon. the Minister to see that it is provided with a decent hospital and that it commands the amenities which we associate with modern civilization."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, various suggestions have been made during the course of the debate as to the improvements to be effected in various directions in regard to medical relief. I beg leave to refer to the prominent points and, if I do not refer to particular individuals who referred to it, it will merely be for the purpose of helping the points to be discussed on principle."

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [24th March 1931]

"The first thing that has been stated is that the system of honorary physicians and surgeons should be tried on a much larger scale than what has been hitherto and that it should not merely be extended but it should have a countervailing advantage of reducing to some extent the strength of the medical cadre tending to economy so far as cost is concerned. This system has been in force from 1923 and has been steadily extended. It was first confined to the city hospitals and it has been subsequently extended to the mufassal headquarters institutions and a number of honorary physicians and assistant surgeons have been appointed who are doing good work. The Surgeon-General has suggested to the Government recently the appointment of a committee to go into the question to see in what respects any modification can be made to expand and re-organize the system. Government are considering the proposal and as soon as the committee is appointed, the various suggestions which the hon. Members have made here on the floor of the House will be considered very carefully. I think I agree with many of the Members who have spoken on this matter that there is scope for increase in the number of honorary physicians and surgeons and also for possible economy in the matter of paid officers. I have only to say that I am in entire sympathy with them and shall do what I can to see that as much scope is given to this system as possible.

"The next point that was urged, Sir, was with regard to the taluk head-quarter institutions and district headquarter institutions taken over recently by virtue of the Government's policy to have good surgical centres at various headquarters. So far as the policy is concerned, there is everything to commend it but unfortunately the number of institutions taken has proceeded much beyond the possibility of provincial finance to put all these institutions in a proper order and if to-day there is anything standing in the way of including these institutions it is finance. All I can say is that steps will be taken to see what improvements will be necessary in the various institutions taken over by the Government and as funds become available these things are taken in such an order so that in the course of a few years they can be put on a satisfactory basis.

2-45
p.m.

"Then, something has been said about rural medical relief. The system of rural medical dispensaries has been under trial for the last seven years, and it has been found to be popular, and the demand for such rural medical dispensaries has been on the increase year after year. But, unfortunately, for one reason or another, the full number of institutions sanctioned by the Government has not been taken advantage of, and there are still a large number of dispensaries not yet opened by the taluk boards. The reason appears to be that in many cases it is not possible to induce medical practitioners to settle down in villages on the small subsidy given by the Government and the subvention from the taluk board funds, and the agitation on behalf of the rural medical practitioners has been for raising the subsidies. The Government have increased the subsidy in the case of an L.M.P. from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 and in the case of a midwife from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300. At the same time the practitioners have insisted on the various taluk boards to add something from their own funds to the subsidy given by the Government. And yet, many of those places in the rural parts do not afford scope for private practice. These practitioners have to depend on just the amount which they can get both in the shape of the Government subsidy and the taluk board subvention, in spite of their willingness to have private practice. Yet,

24th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

I hope that as time goes on more practitioners will take advantage of this system. As I said already, these institutions are popular, and the question as to how far any further steps can be taken to increase their number and the question as to what further modifications must be made in the system to make it more attractive to medical practitioners to go and settle down in villages are questions which I propose to have thoroughly enquired into, so that we may go on increasing the amount of medical relief available to the rural population and the whole system may be placed on a more satisfactory footing.

"Then, there has been a reference to the Indian School of Medicine. I saw from all sides of the House signs of sympathy towards the Indian School of Medicine that it should be encouraged and be made to serve the country more and more. I myself visited the School of Indian Medicine recently, and had a talk with the Principal of the School on the various improvements he has proposed. As was remarked by one hon. Member, the provision for a hostel is felt an absolute necessity. At present, private houses have been taken on rent by the Government, and the Government is meeting also a portion of the rent of the building taken up by students resident there. The present quarters are not all that can be desired, and the provision of a hostel for the students will be one of the questions that will engage the attention of the Government as soon as the proposals of the Principal are received. So far as the School of Indian Medicine is concerned, there is also a demand for more beds, and under the present system in which it is carried on in private rented buildings, about 60 beds are provided for, and they are all located in a house not suitable as a hospital. I understand that the Principal is considering a scheme to provide for about 100 beds, and the demand, I am glad to say, is every day increasing for the system of treatment there.

"Then, there was a proposal also to introduce a post-graduate course in Indian medicine for allopathic doctors, so that they might also come into touch with that system of medicine. That was sanctioned by the Government, and there is now a proposal before the Government to enable those who have undergone a course of instruction in Indian medicine elsewhere than in the Government Indian School of Medicine, to undergo a post-graduate course for six months to coach them up in allopathic methods also, so that they may be on a par with those who have passed out of the Government Indian School of Medicine and be eligible for public service. As I said already, this proposal is before the Government, and in connexion with this there is a handsome proposal by the Principal that those pupils will be charged a fee so that Government may not have to spend anything extra for maintaining this post-graduate course, as out of the fees collected payments to the various teachers will be made.

"Then there is the agitation for registration of practitioners of Indian medicine. I may inform the House that the Principal was sent to the United Provinces to study on what system the thing is working there, and as a result of his enquiry, the Government have accepted the proposal to constitute a Board of Indian Medicine, who will have the charge of the examinations, of preparing the syllabus and also of preparing a register of practitioners, in which all those who have taken a course of Indian medicine will be registered, as we have at present a medical register under the Medical Registration Act. The Board will also have disciplinary control just like the

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [24th March 1931]

Madras Medical Council. A provision for the constitution of such a Board is in the Budget, and if it is sanctioned a Board will be constituted and the question of a register being maintained by that Board will be decided.

"Then, there is the question of the Guntur Medical School and the Coimbatore Medical School. Sir, I do not go into the question as to how far it was a wise step to have abolished those schools. But it was a decision of the Conference held under the immediate presence of His Excellency the Governor, and by a majority that Conference decided to close the schools in pursuance of the recommendation of the Medical Education Committee. The buildings are there, and proposals to give them to one or two other departments are under consideration. One suggestion has been made with regard to the Guntur school, that it might be utilized for the extension of the system of Indian medicine to girl students. That is a suggestion which has been made now, and I shall consider to what extent it is feasible. With regard to the suggestion that a College might be started either at Guntur or Coimbatore, with a view to having a larger number of medical graduates to meet the requirements of this Presidency, I am afraid, Sir, that it may not be possible to adopt it, because already there is sufficient disappointment among the numbers of medical graduates who do not find employment, and the possibility of finding private practice is not at present as much hopeful as to give any encouragement to a larger number of graduates being turned out.

"One or two hon. Members referred to the necessity for having to purchase medicines from Medical Stores, with the result that the taluk boards have to pay a higher cost for these medicines than what they would have to pay by purchasing from recognized firms. Sir, both under the Local Boards Manual and the Municipal Account Code, there is an executive instruction that the local bodies should purchase their medicines and other medical requirements from the Medical Stores. The object of that is to see that the medicine purchased by the taluk boards is of the purest and best quality, there being no method by which the quality of the supplies made by the various firms can be said to be guaranteed. That is why the taluk boards have been given no scope for purchasing elsewhere than from the Medical Stores. Some difficulty seems to have been experienced by certain local boards when they have to indent for medicines from the Medical Stores, especially at a time when there is a sudden outbreak of cholera, when they could not get supplies in time. I understand that in an emergency they can apply to the Medical Stores by telegram and follow it up by sending their usual indent. If the local boards will adopt that procedure, there will be no difficulty, and, if there should be any further difficulty, I shall look into the matter to see to what extent the local bodies could be helped. They are now charged 10 per cent more for overhead charges, because it is a charge under the direction of the Government of India, and a representation of this Government to abolish it has not met with success. The question as to what extent medicines can be purchased by the local bodies apart from the medical stores will be further considered by the Government.

"Sir, a point was raised by Mr. Premayya that there is no hostel attached to the Medical College, Madras. There is at present one attached to the Medical School at Rayapuram and one attached to the Vizagapatam Medical College. I understand that in the reorganization proposals for improving the General Hospital there is provision for a hostel being built, and it will be

24th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

taken up as soon as funds are available. Already we are going on with the scheme of reorganization, and the construction of a hostel will be taken up as soon as possible.

"Some complaints were made that in the treatment of patients belonging to the depressed classes, they are subject to certain disabilities and difficulties which they resent. First of all, it is stated that they are made to stand at a distance and not to mix up with the caste people in the out-patients department. I can only say that it is the intention of the Government that no such distinction should be made among patients coming up for treatment. If hon. Members can point out to me individual cases in which such invidious treatment is meted out, the Government will undertake to investigate the matter and take disciplinary action so that such a thing may be prevented altogether. It was also pointed out that the depressed classes are under a difficulty with regard to obtaining medical certificates. In cases where there is already provision for granting medical certificates, I do not think they should find difficulty in obtaining them. Otherwise, if there is any individual grievance, that again may be brought to the notice of Government, and I shall consider to what extent any relief can be given to them. It is a point which does not admit of being answered straightaway.

"Sir, much has been made of the expenditure on establishment in the Medical Budget. I can only say this: that if one expects at once a radical change it will be really impossible. But as the system of honorary physicians increases year after year, we may expect some retrenchment, and the establishment that has been maintained now could not be retrenched all on a sudden. To what extent there may be retrenchment at present will have to be considered by the Finance Committee when they examine all other proposals for retrenchment.

"Then a point was raised that the course of instruction for the L.M.P. might be converted into a five years' course, and that the idea of an L.M.P. being inferior to the degree course should be avoided. As I said this morning in answer to an interpellation the Surgeon-General has already formulated proposals for raising the course from four to five years, and as soon as it will be possible to make the necessary adjustments and improvements to the Medical School at Rayapuram, this course will be instituted.

"Then, a point was made about the private practice by the paid medical officers of Government and about the maintenance, either by themselves or benami in the names of others, of private nursing homes. In answer to some of the questions on the subject, I said that if specific instances of such cases are brought to the notice of Government, I shall cause enquiries to be made. At the same time I may say that I have already asked the Surgeon-General to look into this matter and enquire to what extent this is prevalent and how far it has affected the interests of the Government in the discharge of their duties by the medical officers.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, pointed out the inadequacy of Muslims in the Medical Services. I can only say this, that Civil Assistant Surgeons will hereafter be appointed by the Public Services Commission, and the rule fixing the proportion of the various communities in the matter of direct recruitment to the Services will apply to them, and candidates will be appointed with reference to that rule and with reference to the qualifications

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [24th March 1931]

possessed by them. In one year there was only one Muhammadan applicant and he was taken in. In the subsequent year there were three applications of whom two have passed the age bar. The question as to what extent restriction of age-limit can be relaxed, as has been said by the hon. Revenue Member in another connexion, will be considered by the Government in the matter of recruitment to services in general.

"Sir, I have referred to as many points as I can, and if any particular point urged by any hon. Member has not been answered by me, I can only say this: that I shall consider what action can be taken on the various suggestions made. (A voice: 'What about clerks?') On that matter I may say that I have asked the Surgeon-General to look into the matter of the grievances of clerks and see to what extent they could be redressed. I have no doubt that he will do all that could be done. In the short time at my disposal I think I have sufficiently answered all the various points raised with regard to this department, and as soon as I find time I shall go into every point in more detail, as I said, and see to what extent I can introduce measures of reform which will serve the department and also satisfy this Council."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"On the assurance of the hon. the Chief Minister, I beg to withdraw the motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand XIX—Medical—Transferred for Rs. 81,33,900 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XX—PUBLIC HEALTH—TRANSFERRED

8 p.m. The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,74,800 under Demand XX—Public Health—Transferred.'

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 43,500 for Public Health Establishments—Pay of Officers, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Sir, the wording of the reason I have given for this cut motion does not, unhappily, convey my idea. What I intended to bring to the notice of this House is the question whether an Indian Medical Service Officer is necessary for the post of the Director of Public Health. Sir, the hon. the Chief Minister is an intimate and trustworthy follower of the late Raja of Panagal, who distinguished his Ministry by the unprecedented fight he put up for the provincialization of the Medical Services. It is a well-known fact that after a very strenuous fight he was able to limit the number of appointments reserved for Indian Medical Service Officers. Though that arrangement seemed to work satisfactorily for some time, every attempt is now being made to circumvent that limitation by methods which would not meet with popular approval. For instance, under the name of experts, many Indian Medical Service Officers are employed and no attempt is made by the Government to send Indians to England and other countries to specialize themselves in the subjects for which these experts are appointed. If this had been done, Indians could be found to take the place of these Indian Medical Service

24th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

Officers as soon as the contract period is over. I fear, Sir that no serious attempt in that direction has been made. The result of that negligence will be that these special officers or experts will have their terms of office renewed time after time and the limitation in the number of posts which these Indian Medical Service Officers could fill would be effectively made nugatory. I hope the hon. the Chief Minister will avoid any such thing taking place during his regime. One such example is instanced to-day in the case of the appointment of an Indian Medical Service Officer as Director of Public Health. There is a rule that one of the Assistant Directors of Public Health should be an Indian Medical Service Officer. Therefore, if another Indian Medical Service Officer is appointed for the post of the Director of Public Health, it will mean that there will be two Indian Medical Service Officers as officers of Public Health. The post of the Director of Public Health was provincialized with the deliberate purpose of excluding Indian Medical Service Officers from it and putting an Indian in charge of the administration of the department. If to-day that limitation is sought to be removed by appointing an Indian Medical Service Officer at the head of that department, it will really be doing an injustice to the Provincial Service men. I understand that this action is sought to be justified on the ground that there is no Provincial Service officer who could claim the experience or seniority necessary to be appointed as Director of Public Health. I am not quite sure that that reason is based on facts. For, I know as a matter of fact, that there are at least one or two Assistant Directors who have had experience in this department and who are quite competent to take charge of the department. But the unfortunate thing is that, however raw a man may be, if only he comes from across the seas, we are inclined to credit him with experience, skilfulness, ability and what not. It looks as if familiarity does breed contempt in this case. If only these Indian officers are in England and we applied to import them, they would be considered to be as competent if not more competent than some of these English officers whom we import on the ground of their ability or expert knowledge. Sir, by the Government now filling up the post of the Director of Public Health with an Indian Medical Service Officer, they not only deprive the existing Provincial Service men of the compensation that is justly due to them for the service they do in the department, but for ever shut out the Provincial Service men from occupying the post of the Director of Public Health. I am told that the gentleman whom the Government have in mind for this post is about 45 years of age. There are Assistant Directors who have put in eleven or twelve years' service. So much so, by the time the proposed Director of Public Health retires, these Assistant Directors also would retire. This would mean that the new Assistant Director would have to his credit only one or two years' experience at the time the proposed nominee for the post of the Director of Public Health retires. This would then supply the argument that the Assistant Directors have had no experience to hold the post of Director. All things considered, it looks as though this recommendation to put an Indian Medical Service Officer at the head of this department is a deliberate attempt to deprive the Indian Assistant Directors of Public Health from becoming Directors of Public Health. I request the hon. the Minister to guard himself from being dragooned to taking a step like that.

"Then, Sir, there is also the question of economy. Every one is anxious to save as much money as possible and we have been pleading with the hon.

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [24th March 1931]

the Finance Member to retrench expenditure. I want to ask the hon. the Chief Minister whether the step he proposes to take would assist either his own department or the Finance Member in the matter of economy. Each Indian Medical Officer costs at least Rs. 750 more than a Provincial Officer. Therefore, looked at from any point of view, either from the point of view of limiting the number of Indian Medical Service Officers, or from the point of view of giving promotions to the Assistant Directors justly theirs or from the point of view of economy, it seems desirable that the step which the Government seem to be contemplating to take should not be taken.

"Further, may I submit, Sir, that with the prospect of provincial autonomy and of the passing of the Government into the hands of a Ministry fully responsible to the House, the Ministry should not fill up such appointments permanently making impossible complete Indianization of the services which may perhaps be one of the most important things which the next Ministry, whoever forms it, will have to undertake? If, however, the Government cannot but overlook the claims of experienced Assistant Directors of Public Health now in office, let them not for ever deny them the opportunity of ever aspiring to that place, by filling the present appointment permanently. I would request that this at least might be done so that it may be possible to give this place to an Assistant Director by promotion."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, this out motion involves a very fundamental principle which should be followed by any Ministry. We have been endeavouring during the last ten years, ever since the Reforms were inaugurated, to Indianize the services as far as possible. There has been considerable difficulty in the matter of the Indianization of the Indian Civil Service and the Indian Medical Service on account of the reservations made by the various Commissions for these Services. For instance, the Lee Commission tied the hands of the Ministers by limiting the number of posts that could be thrown open to the Provincial Service men. With regard to this department, Sir, the hon. Mover rightly referred to the great and good work the late Raja Sahib of Panagal did in the matter of Indianization. We think, Sir, that the party in power and the hon. the Chief Minister must follow in his footsteps and see that nothing is done which will affect the good work that has already been done. With regard to this particular post, it is now occupied by an Indian Medical Service Officer. He is, I understand, not a European but an Anglo-Indian. Now the question arises whether an Anglo-Indian gentleman is an Indian or is he to be classed with the European.

3-15
p.m.

"Sir, it was only the other day that Colonel. Gidney, the leader of the Anglo-Indian community, in his interview to the press after his return from England where he had gone to attend the Round Table Conference, speaking about the position of Anglo-Indians in this country, said that if that community wished to remain in India it must regard itself as belonging to the Indian community and further if it ever aspired to any position of responsibility in the Indian society it was its duty to sacrifice and serve India and do all that lay in its power to raise the status of Indians. That was the advice that their leader Colonel. Gidney gave to the Anglo-Indian community. I hope that time has come for us to recognize that the Anglo-Indian community forms part and parcel of the Indian community in this country. The only difference is that the present incumbent belongs to the Indian Medical Service. But we will have to consider whether, by appointing a man belonging to the

24th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

Indian Medical Service, we are not doing injustice to the Madras Provincial Service men whose aspirations are throttled and thwarted by such appointments. Now my friend, Major Hesterlow, the present incumbent, is fairly a young gentleman about 45 or 46 years of age and he may continue in that post for about eight or ten years more. Till then it will not be possible for any Indian, however qualified and able he may be, belonging to the Provincial Service to aspire to that post. Therefore it would be proper without regard even to the present incumbent and even necessary that the hon. the Chief Minister should do his best to see that all these appointments which have been provincialized do not go to men belonging to the Indian Medical Service. That is a matter which involves a very fundamental principle and I hope the hon. the Chief Minister will bear that in mind in filling up such posts."

MR. J. A. DAVIS:—"Sir, this is a question which seriously affects my community and the trouble has come about by the Lee Commission laying down two-thirds of the higher appointments in the Medical Service should be reserved for Indian Medical Service men. The result has been that Major Hesterlow who has been the Assistant Director of Public Health is going as Director of Public Health. If I rightly understood Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, he objects to the Indian Medical Service Officers occupying the highest position in the Public Health Service. If we are to do this, we will be doing a great injustice to Major Hesterlow who is the most senior of the Assistant Directors of Public Health who are entitled to be promoted as Director of Public Health. It is now for us to consider whether the Assistant Director of Public Health should continue to be filled in by an Indian Medical Service man. If matters are to be remedied I think that it is here that a change should be brought about; for there is nothing to show that the Director of Public Health should not be an officer belonging to the Provincial Service. The real position is this: unfortunately or fortunately the predecessor of the hon. the Chief Minister who was our most popular man appeared to have advertised in England calling applications for this post and also applied to the Government of India for the service of a Director of Public Health. And now the argument that is advanced is that, because the Government of India were asked for a man, therefore the Government of India should recommend an officer for the post of Director of Public Health and that this Government is bound by that Government in this matter. But I would point out that this is not an appointment which belongs to the Government of India service and it is not therefore in their hands. I therefore earnestly appeal to the hon. the Chief Minister to see that the Assistant Directors of Public Health are promoted to the post of Director of Public Health. It is unfortunate perhaps that the seniormost of the Assistant Directors of Public Health is an Indian Medical Service Officer and that if he should be made the Director of Public Health, there is the consequence that he may remain in that post for about eight or ten years more and by the time he retires the man who occupies the post of Assistant Director of Public Health and who is an Indian Medical Service man may fill in the post of Director of Public Health, and in this way the prospects of people not belonging to Indian Medical Service will be marred. I quite appreciate the position taken up by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti that so long as we allow an Indian Medical Service man to take up the position of Assistant Director of Public Health so long this state of affairs will continue, that the whole thing should be revived and that in future the post of Assistant Director of Public Health need not be filled by a

[Mr. J. A. Davis]

[24th March 1931]

man belonging to the Indian Medical Service. If that is not done I do not think any benefit will be derived by men belonging to Provincial Medical Service. They should not be punished in this fashion. Most senior men belonging to Madras Provincial Medical Service should certainly be allowed to occupy the post of Director of Public Health. I earnestly appeal to the hon. the Chief Minister to stand by the Anglo-Indian community in this matter. Otherwise we will not have an opportunity of seeing in the next ten years even one Anglo-Indian promoted as Director of Public Health."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"I quite appreciate the feelings of those who spoke about the claims of Provincial Service men. Hon. Members said that their claims should not be overlooked and that in filling up the post of Director of Public Health the qualifications of Indian Medical Service men ought not to be the only consideration. I may say, Sir, it is an important post and that the department itself has been in existence only for the last seven or eight years, so that when vacancies arise Government will consider not only the claims of men belonging to Provincial Medical Service but also the claims of people like Major Hesterlow. I can only say this: that the claims of men already in service, both Indian and Anglo-Indian, will be considered very carefully and that whatever can be done to see that the best man is secured is done."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"What about the advertisement?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"There has been no advertisement."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Is the hon. Member pressing his motion?"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"Since the hon. Minister says that there has been no advertisement I do not propose to press the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I gave notice of a similar motion, viz., to reduce the allotment Rs. 43,500 for Public Health Establishments—Pay of officers, by Rs. 160.

"Sir, the Public Health Department has been in existence for many years. But I say no improvement in the village sanitation has been effected. As far as my knowledge goes, there is not a single village where water is conserved in pools or ponds or wells solely for drinking purposes. In the same pool or a pond a man performs his ablution most probably after defecating on its bank, cattle are being washed perhaps while in the act of dropping its filth into the water and side by side we see women taking water for drinking purposes not to be drunk after boiling but to be drunk raw. That is the state of things prevailing in villages.

"Now, Sir, coming to the river bank, I may say that the banks form a huge latrine. It is not only a latrine, but it is also a burning ghat and a burial ground."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"May I know if the hon. Member is speaking upon Public Health policy?"

24th March 1931]

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"I am speaking on my motion.

"Sir, that is the condition of our villages. Sir, the Government have not raised their little finger to appoint any staff who may advise the people not to do such things which I have enumerated above. If there is a staff, it may advise the people to take water at least from the upper portion of the stream. The money that is now spent upon the administration of the Health Department has not been properly spent. The existence of this state of affairs in villages is due to the fact that we are not having people as heads of this department who know the conditions of the locality well. We have been having as Directors of Public Health Europeans. Directors of Public Health ought to be Indians. Fortunately for us we have as Director of Public Health to-day an Indian in the person of Major Hesterlow. According to the Lee Commission the place of Director of Public Health is reserved either for an I.M.S. or for a provincial officer. Doctor Hesterlow belongs to one of the oldest of Anglo-Indian families of this Presidency, all the members of the family having served the public and the Government either as male doctors or female doctors. It is a well-known family. He is one of the seniormost officers in the department. He is not only one of the senior most Assistant Directors of Public Health but is also the Professor of Hygiene, i.e., an authority on Hygiene. It is quite fitting that this officer should be appointed as the Director of Public Health."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That question has already been disposed of. If the hon. Member has got anything to say about the superior officers, he may do so."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, the object of my token motion reads 'to elicit information, etc., etc., and to request the Government to fill up responsible places with persons acquainted with the conditions of the Presidency.' Sir, Major Hesterlow is one well acquainted with the conditions of the Presidency. He is to be given the place of Director of Public Health. If Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti thinks that this place should not be given to an Indian Medical Service officer, I think he is entirely in the wrong. Major Hesterlow is an Indian Medical Service officer and the place of Director of Public Health according to the recommendations of the Lee Commission has to be occupied either by a provincial officer or by an I.M.S. officer. If the Chief Minister confirms Major Hesterlow as the Director of Public Health he will be doing the right thing. Sir, even at a sacrifice he must do this. Sir, Anglo-Indians are trying to do much work for the country. One Anglo-Indian woman has gone as a delegate to Karachi Congress and Colonel Gidney advised his community the other day to identify themselves with the common interests of the people of this country. Sir, mutual trust and mutual love should be created. I congratulate Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti for his having withdrawn his motion."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—"Mr. President, Sir, may I submit that the cut motion upon which I have spoken has already been withdrawn by me and what Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar is speaking is not only irrelevant but he has also misunderstood me?"

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"It cannot be irrelevant.

"Sir, if there is anybody who is more acquainted with the conditions of the locality, it is Major Hesterlow.

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

[24th March 1931]

"Sir, now coming to the other portion of my cut motion, I request the hon. the Chief Minister to start and aid as many voluntary associations as possible. There is no use of spending so much money upon the establishments. Almost two-thirds of the money that is spent by the Public Health Department is spent upon the establishments. Major portion of that money must be spent on starting voluntary associations in every village. I request the hon. the Chief Minister to make these officers go into villages and start as many voluntary health associations as possible. There is no use of pouring sanitation into unwilling throats. The people should be made to feel for themselves their health necessity. Every village should have a voluntary health association. There was an attempt made by the Government to abolish the voluntary associations. That was a false step. So, I request the hon. Minister to see that every village has a voluntary health association to help the Government in improving sanitation in villages."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"I need hardly answer the remarks regarding the Director of Public Health. With regard to the remarks about the helping of voluntary health associations, I may say that Government have constituted a propaganda section at which the Director of Public Health and his staff are doing the work in the matter. With regard to village sanitation and the prevention of hookworm disease, I may say there is a proposal for the opening of latrines suitable for village purposes with a view to combat hookworm disease."

3-30 p.m. "The Government propose to give this year a contribution of Rs. 5,000 for one of the Health Associations in Madras, the National Health Association for Southern India. If they are not able to give more, it is due entirely to paucity of funds. If there are associations coming forward and doing good work, we shall be glad to assist them. The Government have also agreed to help Maternity Associations. If they want to have buildings erected for their purposes, the Government will be willing to give grants to them if the buildings are approved by the Central Association in Madras. In other directions also the Government are trying to improve public health. I can quite understand the feeling that more has not been done or could not be done. If only the propaganda work done by the official and non-official agencies is carried on more intensely, to the extent to which the people co-operate with the Government in improving the condition of the villages, the Government will come forward with liberal grants."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"Sir, I move—

'for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 43,500 for Public Health Establishments—Pay of officers, by Rs. 100.'

"My object is to discuss the public health policy of the Government. In all progressive countries they are spending increasing sums on public health, while they leave the work of medical relief largely to non-official agencies. The order of things is the other way here. Here, while we are spending a sum of Rs. 94.75 lakhs for medical relief work, we are spending only Rs. 31.12 lakhs for public health. The very first thing that is needed for public health activities is accurate vital statistics. Birth and death rates and register of diseases are quite necessary for the guidance of the Health Officer. It is by a study and analysis of these figures that the Health Officer is helped in his investigation of the conditions that foster disease. It

[24th March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

is from these figures that he draws the data for all sanitary measures. Without the help of carefully calculated figures on these matters, the Public Health movement would be a movement in the dark. In spite of the improvement effected in the registration and compilation of vital statistics, our records still fall far short of the standard required. Even in municipalities the work done is not up to the mark; in rural areas it is very much worse; we cannot expect the village officers to do this responsible work in the way it ought to be done. The department itself has suggested that we must have full-time birth and death registrars. The attention of the hon. Minister must be given to this suggestion.

"There are many things which the Public Health Department has to do, such as research work in preventive medicine, maternity and child welfare work, town-planning, better housing for workers, protected water-supply, hygienic milk supply and prevention of food adulteration. What has been done so far in these directions is very little. Take, for instance, the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act. It has been brought into force only in thirteen municipalities so far. Protected water-supply system has been introduced only in 32 municipalities out of 82 municipalities. Efficient drainage system we have only in four of our towns.

"If the Public Health Department is to carry out its constructive policy fully and properly, the Sanitary Engineering Department must be organized and developed on parallel lines with it. We have not got at present sufficient staff and establishment for the Sanitary Engineering Department. We have one Sanitary Engineer and three Deputy Sanitary Engineers under him, each of them being in charge of eight districts. This, I submit, is not at all sufficient for the work that has to be done. It is true that their business, at present, is confined to investigating schemes, and drawing up plans and estimates. The execution of sanitary works is left to the Public Works Department. Why should we not have District and Municipal Sanitary Engineers to investigate schemes, to design, to execute and maintain sanitary works? The work of the Sanitary Engineering Department should not be confined merely to drawing up of schemes. The Public Works Department has got many other works to do. It is not able to look after its own works; it allows sums to lapse to Government. The sanitary works are being delayed. The Sanitary Engineering Department is a specialized department; it is manned by specialists; it should do the sanitary works. Why should it be controlled by the Public Works Department which is a non-specialized technical department? The Public Works Department levies 15½ per cent centage charges on sanitary works, even on purchase of cast-iron pipes which form two-thirds of the cost of estimates in water-supply schemes. It is a great loss to local bodies; local bodies have asked for the separation of the Sanitary Engineering Department from the Public Works Department, and they have said that the former must be allowed to do sanitary works. In some of the other provinces, I understand, they have separated the Sanitary Engineering Department from the control of the Public Works Department and they have transferred sanitary works to it. The sanitary works there are executed by what is called the Public Health Engineering Department. If the Public Health Department is to go forward with its schemes of water-supply and drainage, it is necessary that the Sanitary Engineering Department must be developed along with it on parallel lines.

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[24th March 1931]

"I want to ask the Minister why the Public Health Bill which, I understand, has been drafted, is kept pending. Let that Bill be introduced without much delay into this Council so that Madras may go forward in this matter as it has done in many other matters and set an example to the other provinces in this country."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The House will discuss the Public Health policy of the Government except those matters that have already been disposed of."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, I have to say only a few words. This department is a new department which was created only a few years ago. The development of the department has been sudden. The estimate for the next year 1931-32 is Rs. 29,84,700. Now we have got 28 District Health Officers and 24 Municipal Health Officers receiving pay ranging from Rs. 250 to 600. I wish to know whether these Health Officers are doing much better work than that done compared to the money spent by the District Medical and Sanitary Officers before this department was created. As a matter of fact, I know that the existence of these District Health Officers is not at all felt—except in the headquarters of the town—in the outlying parts of the district. They do not visit the villages as they are expected to do. I should like to know from the hon. Minister whether they are sending their reports, either monthly, or quarterly or annually and whether these reports show that they are visiting villages and that they are doing or superintending sanitary works in the villages. If they say anything like that, I do not think that any reliance can be placed upon such reports. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, pointed out, statistics must be collected beforehand, if public health work is to be carried on properly. Is it not one of the duties of these officers to collect the necessary statistics? I do not know whether they are collecting statistics for diseases, deaths, etc. If they have not done so, I hope the hon. Minister would insist upon these officers on furnishing the necessary statistics. It is necessary to do so, if the object of the department has to be carried out. Otherwise, the money spent would be a waste. The Health Inspectors are only doing the work of Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination. They think they are not expected to do anything more than that. Formerly, we used to have Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination. Their work is being done now by these Health Inspectors. The District Health Officer is generally confined only to his office; he does some work in his office, and passes travelling allowance bills of himself and his subordinates."

"Another matter I wish to refer to is the anti-drink and anti-drug propaganda; we are spending a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs for this purpose in the coming year. It has been pointed out at the time of the General Discussion on the Budget and at other times that this is a mere waste. This money can be more usefully utilized for other purposes, such as improving the sanitation of the villages and so on. The Secretary to the Board is getting something like Rs. 200 to 400 and there are two clerks getting Rs. 70 each. I wish to know whether the hon. Minister really feels that this money spent on the anti-drink and anti-drug propaganda is usefully spent. If not, I would request him to divert this amount for some better purpose."

* Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI :—"Sir, I associate myself with what has fallen from the lips of my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty. It is certainly

[24th March 1931] [Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

regrettable that proportionately a larger amount is not spent on the Department of Public Health. Prevention is certainly better than cure. Adequate attempts are not being taken to prevent what can be prevented. If you read the report for the year 1929-30, what strikes us—as it has been in the past—is the huge death rate among us; we find that cholera takes away a great portion of these people. Of course the Government are doing something in the matter of the distribution of *Billi vaccine*, etc., to prevent the disease. But at the same time the hon. the Chief Minister will agree with me that it is not the best way of preventing it. The source of infection is there; and that is water; and the best way of prevention is by giving good sources of protected water-supply. But in this respect the budget is very deficient; both in the matter of rural water-supply and in the matter of supply to towns, there has not been adequate provision. That is my complaint. Trichinopoly and the other deltaic tracts are the worst sufferers with regard to this disease. I myself have had opportunities of watching the sad spectacle of hundreds of people being carried away by this disease in one day. This occurs within the precincts of Trichinopoly Municipality where there is no protected water-supply. The municipality approached the Government from as early as 1914; but for one reason or other, the municipality has not been given the grant with which they would have been enabled to put into execution a scheme which will give adequate water-supply and thus prevent deaths from cholera.

"Again, with regard to rural water-supply, I find a provision of only a sum of Rs. 4 lakhs. No doubt I am aware that this is a time of financial stringency; but when we feel about the imperative duty we have before us, viz., prevention of deaths from cholera, this sum is a very paltry one indeed and in the course of distribution, the district that needs most will not get it in any adequate manner."

"Again, Sir, when we refer to the statistics relating to deaths, we find 3-45 that there have been numerous deaths among women under the age of 15. No doubt there has been legislation which seeks to prevent early marriage; but I do not know whether the legislation has been put into actual practice, so as to prevent the calamity which we all want to avoid. That is one side of the question. So far as the Public Health Department is concerned, it must give more attention to this important question of mother mortality and infant mortality. The hon. the Chief Minister just a while ago said that the Government have given some Rs. 5,000 to the Central Health Association and are prepared to give some amount to any association in the mufassal which would devote attention to this maternity and child welfare work. We are thankful to the Government for this recognition; but I am afraid it is a very tardy recognition. If Rs. 5,000 has been given to the Central Health Association, it will not at all satisfy the many other major municipalities in which this work has been carried on successfully for a number of years. In Trichinopoly, an association was started, perhaps earlier than the one started here, and it has been doing its work successfully. Even three years ago, it had approached the Government for an adequate grant for putting up a building. I am also told that it prepared plans and estimates and submitted them to the Government. The Chief Minister's predecessor laid the foundation stone for that building; but I am surprised to find that no grant has been provided for such a premier association, an association which has

[Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai] [24th March 1931]

been doing excellent work all along. I do not know why my Friend, Sir Patro, should feel jealous."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Every time Trichinopoly."

* Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"But you are getting Rs. 10 lakhs for bridges in Ganjam. I am afraid, Sir, that this grant of Rs. 5,000 is but a tardy recognition of the duties of the Government towards this all-important work of maternity and child welfare. I wish the hon. the Chief Minister would reconsider this matter and try to help mufassal associations which, in his opinion, have been doing good work."

"Again, Sir, my friend referred to the importance of research work, and stated that research work should be followed up by proper propaganda. I am afraid, Sir, the budget does not make adequate provision for research work and propaganda work. No doubt, something is being done; but the Public Health department ought to pay greater attention to the research work. For instance, malaria carries off a huge proportion of our population. It has now been established that it may be controlled and combated. Such a result has been arrived at only by proper investigation and research. Similarly, with regard to various other diseases. Therefore, I would appeal to the hon. the Chief Minister to see that greater attention is paid to the research and propaganda side of the work. With these words, Sir, I support the motion of my Friend, Mr. Shetty."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, the main object with which I have given notice of my out motion is to discuss the policy of the Government in regard to town-planning. I desire, at the outset, to refer to the Government Order No. 2613, Public Health, dated 20th October 1930, which deals with the progress of work of the town-planning officer. The very first sentence, Sir, of that Government Order runs as follows:—

'The progress made by local bodies in the preparation and execution of town-planning schemes was far from satisfactory.'

"The Town-Planning Act was passed in the year 1920. I think it was Act VII of 1920. The Act has been in force now for more than ten years and, except for a very few schemes that have been executed, the Act has been, I should say, a failure. The one exception, perhaps an outstanding one, is the town-planning scheme with regard to Mambalam. That is an area which was developed by the Corporation of Madras under the Town-Planning Act. The success of that scheme was due to a large extent to the interest taken by the Government of Madras themselves who started the scheme, to the enthusiasm of the then Chief Minister and of the President and Councillors of the Corporation of Madras. But with regard to schemes of town-planning generally, I may state that the Act has really been a failure. In the report of the town-planning officer, Sir, I find that reference is made to a number of schemes drawn up by the town-planning officer. Going through the records, however, I fail to find any scheme that has been executed successfully. I only find references to schemes that have been planned, schemes that have been taken up, schemes that have been partially worked and schemes that have not been worked; I am unable to lay my finger on any paragraph of that report which can boast of schemes that have completely succeeded. I find that, far from helping town-planning, the Act has done great harm to the development of town-planning. Certainly, the Act was conceived with an idea to develop

24th March 1931] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

town-planning; but enough facilities have not been given. Very often we know that the pious hopes entertained by people do not come to fruition because those hopes are not followed up by action or by power being vested in the proper authorities to give practical effect to those hopes. What is the good of having town-planning schemes if the schemes are, in effect, going to hinder the progress of town-planning? I may here refer to one scheme of which I have had personal knowledge. I refer to the quadrilateral scheme in Mylapore. That was a scheme, Sir, intended to develop the southern portion of the City of Madras. We all know that Madras is very congested, and every attempt has been made to open out areas that have not been built upon. I think, Sir, the quadrilateral scheme was one which was thought of much earlier than the Mambalam scheme; but because the Mambalam scheme was taken up with more zest than the other, the former has been a success. But so far as the quadrilateral scheme is concerned, in spite of all the trouble that the Councillors of the Corporation of Madras took, it has not been possible to execute that scheme. A town-planning committee was formed, but it has not done any effective work. I may refer to the report of the town-planning officer, at page 4 of which it is said:

'The Madras City and Suburban Town-Planning Trust existed during the year only in name.'

"I wish to know what was the use of such a committee. If the Government were really serious about developing town-planning, they should have taken more initiative themselves and made it possible for the schemes to develop. Very often we find a committee is formed; the committee does not get sufficient facilities; it is not given money; and it is not given the power to develop and execute the scheme; but, all the same, it is called a Town-Planning Committee. Whenever we come across any notification stating that a certain area is to be considered as a town-planning area, we may take it that there will only be hindrance to the development of that area. If any person wants to build in that area, the plan is sent generally to the municipality or to the local body, which passes it on to the Town-Planning Committee or the town-planning officer. That committee or officer holds it back. The officer finds it difficult to sanction the plan because it infringes one or other of the regulations laid down by the Town-Planning Committee. If the aggrieved party asks for help from the town-planning officer, the officer answers back that he has not enough funds. If a road has to be laid in the area to facilitate the development of that area, the town-planning officer pleads want of funds. I wish to know how long such a state of affairs should be allowed to continue. I think this matter has not been taken seriously on hand by the Government."

"Even before the Town-Planning Act came into existence or perhaps was thought of, long long ago there was town-planning in India. When we visit big cities like Conjeevaram and Mannargudi and Madura, we find those cities have been well laid out with broad roads and with an idea to sanitation and future development. They were formed perhaps centuries ago, and are still examples of the forethought of those who laid out those cities. But now, what happens is this. We have town-planning schemes. We believe in schemes and we believe in new ideas; but we do not believe in giving effect to such ideas. I wish therefore to impress on the Government the need for having a clear policy, not a policy merely to be laid down on paper, but a policy to be followed up by action. I, therefore, Sir, desire to move the motion of which I have given notice."

[24th March 1931]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member need not move his motion, since he is speaking on the motion relating to the general policy."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I am sorry, Sir, I was under the impression that I should move the motion standing in my name."

"As regards the general policy of Government in regard to Public Health, I do not want to say much, as it has been adverted to by previous speakers. I would only wish to draw the attention of the Government to the inadequacy of facilities for medical help in rural areas. I have brought to the notice of Government on many occasions that public health in rural areas has been neglected by them. When we look at the budgets, what we generally find is that provision is made for some general scheme for great improvements. But such improvements are intended only for big cities. I do not say that money should not be spent on the General Hospital scheme. But I do want to state that it is not the only scheme that the Government should think of. In the rural areas, medical relief is most inadequate. When we go to the villages, we find there are no dispensaries, and even if there are some, they are either ill-equipped or ill-manned. A certain subsidy is given by the Government, but it is a mere pittance. It will not attract any person who has got real capacity and who has got some idea of bettering his prospects."

"Sir, unless it be that a person is prepared to make a big sacrifice, it is not possible for one to take up and run dispensaries in rural areas."

4 p.m. * The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Any mention about dispensaries will be out of place here."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—"I thought, Sir, it was a discussion about the Public Health policy of the Government. I was referring to dispensaries because they form part of the medical scheme, but if it is going to be only a discussion about the payment of medical officers I find that the remuneration is not enough and it does not induce medical practitioners to take up work in rural areas. We know when epidemics start in rural areas; it is very difficult for the headquarters even to realize that there is a great epidemic in a place. After some time when it is known, perhaps a portion of the population would have been decimated. The available medical help in rural areas is most inadequate. I therefore wish to urge on the Government the need for greater attention being paid to Public Health in rural areas."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to move the cut motion standing in my name."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member need not move his motion, but he can speak upon the Public Health policy of the Government."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—"Sir, in my speech on the Budget, I covered some ground which really belong to this Demand, but I have reserved some points for this Demand also. The sanitary condition of our Palems has been most deplorable especially in the deltaic taluks where water collects and stagnates for over six months in the year and it would be very pitiable to see people wishing to answer calls of nature not finding places at all for the purpose. Therefore, they have to go to tank bunds and use them for this purpose, but in times of flood, all this bad stuff will be washed down the tank and get mixed up with the water. As people have no other place for taking water for drinking purposes, they have naturally to use the water of these tanks for drinking purpose and get diseases, and you can easily imagine the health of these people."

24th March 1931]

[Mr. G. R. Premayya]

"Then coming to people who live all along the Kistna river in the districts of Kistna and Guntur, they have no other water except the water of this river and its channels for purposes of drinking. People living on the banks of this river throw their dead bodies into the river and they also let the drainage water into the river and so even the Kistna water is not suitable for drinking purposes. So people living on the banks of the Kistna river or the canal have to use this water for drinking and they get illness and die as a result of it. Moreover, during the rainy season, medical officers will not be able to go to the village parts to help them in time of need. Such is the condition of the people who live in the deltaic districts. It is therefore but right and proper that Government should go to the rescue of these people and provide them with good drinking water. Our Palems are the places where diseases start and they don't stop there, but they spread to other places where caste people live and then they spread to towns and cities and therefore it is the duty of the Government to stop the diseases by improving the condition of the Palems. I therefore appeal to the hon. the Minister to provide some means or other in order to supply good drinking water to the people. They should also give them good medicines to prevent diseases which take their start from the Palems. With these few remarks I resume my seat."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, after considering the question of the Medical department, the next subject that is very rightly taken up is the question of Public Health. Under the Medical department, we have provided for officers and dispensaries and all other requirements in order to see that the health of the province is improved. I am afraid that the policy of the Government has not been so formulated as to give their best attention to this most important side of the administration of the province. After all, without the health of the people it is impossible for us to find the utility of any other side of the administration. If the death-rate increases and if more people die, no useful purpose will be served by allotting money for departments under the Government. What is the use of maintaining schools and what is the use of education if there are no people who can get benefit out of education. Therefore we have to see that the Government give their best attention to this Health department. We know that the condition of the health of the province at present is not at all satisfactory. Cholera has been prevailing not only in an epidemic form, but in a very serious form in some of the districts of the province for a year or two and no sufficient endeavour has been made to the eradication of this disease."

"The other question to which I wish to draw the attention of the Government is with regard to the high rate of mortality among the Mussalmans in the city of Madras. Two or three years ago a committee was appointed in order to investigate the conditions of the health of the citizens of Madras. It reported upon the question and in that report we find that the highest mortality was among the Mussalmans and it is really a deplorable state of things that 58 per thousand of the population died among the Mussalmans in the city of Madras. The Corporation of Madras has not made any attempt in the direction of reducing the mortality rate to even a small extent, because they seem to think that it is not proper on their part to make special effort in order to see that the rate of mortality is reduced in respect of only a particular community. That is, of course, a wrong policy, and I hope Government do not approve of such a policy on the part of the Corporation. As a matter of fact, Government's attention was drawn to this question more than once

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

[24th March 1931]

by way of interpellation and the Government stated in their reply that hon. Members of the House should draw the attention of the Corporation to that matter. In my opinion, this is a question which should be dealt with by the Government themselves and it is the duty of the Government either to take up the question themselves or to draw the attention of the Corporation to it.

"Then, with regard to the representation of the Muslim community in this department, I can say that there is hardly any health officer of the Muslim community in the whole province. In the whole province, there are about 28 health officers and I do not find even a single Muslim holding that post. I hope the hon. the Chief Minister will look into the question and will draw the attention of the present Director of Public Health to see that as far as possible help is given to this community."

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—"Mr. President, Sir, in supporting the motion before the House, I should like to say a few words regarding the out motion notice of which I have given and that is regarding the necessity for abolishing temperance propaganda committees. As it is, the money spent on these committees appears to me to be a useless waste. In the first place, so long as the Government are bent upon letting these toddy shops and getting excise revenue from them, it is idle to say that the Government are really sincere in the sermons which they wish to show the public that they preach and wish the people to believe. Such being the case, I do not think it is advisable to spend any money on these propaganda committees.

"In the next place, it is an insult to this House and to the intelligent population. Let Government come out and say they are sincere. If they want excise revenue, let them say we are for excise revenue; but let them not at the same time try to show that they are not really what they are. Let them not go about saying to the people that they are really for temperance and that they themselves do not want people to go on drinking. No man would believe that in a Government which depends for the most part on excise revenue and does not want to give it. Then, so long as the Government is constituted as it at present is, it is not at all possible for any propaganda committee to do really any honest work, even if they wish to, because I know from personal experience how the work of these committees is set at naught by the police. In South Kanara, the district propaganda committee tried to do honest work by preaching against drink, but it came into collision with the police and when they were going about preaching against drink, the Superintendent of Police came and asked them to disperse and threatened that he would have to disperse them if they themselves did not disperse. When such is the state of affairs, when one part of Government wants to set at naught the work of another part of the Government, I say it is sheer waste of money to spend any amount on this temperance propaganda. Or at any rate so long as the present state of affairs continue, I mean, so long as it is not possible for the Transferred Half to have an independent line of action, however honestly and sincerely they may work, it is not profitable to spend money on this propaganda. For what is happening at present is, while and so long as the Reserved Half does not want temperance propaganda, even if the Transferred Half want to be sincere, or even if they are sincere, they are not allowed to be so by the Reserved Half. Then, what I have found so far as the Temperance Propaganda Committees are concerned is, in most cases, barring a few instances where they are doing sincere work, that they are doing

[24th March 1931] [Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt]

no work, and if it all they do any work it is only in the way of canvassing votes for some of the candidates in the municipal and other elections. (Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar: Question?) The candidates seeking elections in their turn find in these committees a ready-made organization and in most cases they are availed of by one party or another. Such being the case I would like to press upon the Government and upon the hon. Minister in charge of this to see that they scrap this scheme altogether."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, the question of temperance has been discussed several times in this House before, and therefore, I do not propose to go at any great length into this question here. But I want to point out some defects of the Temperance Committee as it is carried on in my district. In the first place, I have to say that no people require prohibition so much as my people, e.g., depressed classes; everybody recognizes the fact they have become so poor by their constant addiction to drink. So, I, for one, should advocate not only temperance but also complete prohibition. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Hear, hear.) I have been watching the work of the District Temperance Committee in my district since it was started, and I find the propagandists do not work in the way they ought to. Most of the propagandists are men who have no interest in the people who will be benefited by their work. These propagandists are men who have had no employment in the past. (Hear, hear and laughter.) Of course, Government have done one thing in this respect. They have relieved the problem of unemployment in certain direction. For the last one year and a half, Temperance Committees have been working and till now I have not seen any man coming forward and claiming that he has been converted into a teetotaler by a propagandist. We often notice the same man continuing to drink the same quantity, if not more. The income of the toddy-seller and of the arrack-seller continues to maintain the same old level. I may say that even the income of the Government from this source is on the same level as before. Therefore I should say prohibition should be introduced so far as my people are concerned. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: How did you vote last time?) (Laughter.)

"Sir, most people are prone to commit offences, not because they are really so bad but because their character has been completely changed owing to drink. If drink is abolished, most of the offences that come to court to-day will disappear; for most offences that are committed are perpetrated while in a mood of drunkenness, insobriety, etc. Moreover the mind of the people, given to drink, is completely spoiled and poisoned, since they do not think of any other thing except this. So, for these reasons I must support prohibition. But prohibition is rather a difficult thing to attain in these days. So, as an alternative to it temperance must be introduced so far as possible.

"But I find that the work of the Temperance Committee is not as effective as it should be. As soon as the formation of a Temperance Propaganda Committee was announced and hands were invited, many people applied for a post in it; but the claims of my people were ignored and I ask the Government why they did not appoint to those posts my people who are equally qualified for the task and who can cope with the work as other people? On several occasions my people objected to the system of propaganda work as it was carried on in my district; and it is not out of place for me to read some

[Mr. M. Devadasan]

[24th March 1931]

of the resolutions passed on 19th January 1930 at a conference of my people in my district by way of protest.

'This Conference strongly condemns the local Temperance Propaganda Committee for not having appointed a single man from among the depressed classes to work in connexion with the temperance in spite of the fact that a large number of qualified enthusiastic young men are available from this community.

'This Conference strongly protests against the local Temperance Committee in having chosen their own castemen as propagandists and following a selfish policy.

'This Conference requests the Government to bring pressure upon the local Temperance Committees to appoint half of the propagandists from among the depressed classes, as they alone are competent to work among the depressed classes.'

"So, in view of these resolutions I want to point out to the Minister in charge that only the people who have real sympathy with the distress of the people subjected to drink could preach to the people of the necessity for temperance or prohibition.

"There are, Sir, several attempts of putting an end to this evil. There have been Excise Advisory Committees and Excise Licensing Boards working in almost all the districts. What is the sort of work that they have been doing? Nobody knows. When the committees were being constituted, people rushed to find a place for themselves in them. But what did they achieve, and what is the tangible work they did, we do not know. I must say, on behalf of the people whom I represent, that the Temperance Committee has to be modified so that the people who are actually drinking and who are actually spoiled by that, may be attended to properly. So, the best thing to do is to recruit the agents, the propagandists or the pracharakas from among these ranks. For, unless people who have an actual interest in the work, and unless they are true and sincere in the cause of temperance, they can achieve nothing, and the money allotted for this purpose must be spent usefully. With these humble remarks I close my speech."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM addressed the House as follows in Tamil:—

"மது விலக்குப் பிரசார கமிட்டியால் பல ஊர்களில் பயனுண்டாகா விட்டாலும் சில ஊர்களிலேயும் பயனேற்பட்டுள்ளதென்றே சொல்ல வேண்டும். மது விலக்குக் கமிட்டிகள் பயன்படுவது அதன் தலைவரையும் அங்கத்தினரையும் பொறுத்துள்ளது. அவர்கள் உள்ளவாறே பிரசாரத்தில் எண்ணமுடையவர்களானால் கமிட்டி பெரிதும் பயன்படும். சிலவிடங்களில் கமிட்டி அங்கத்தினர்கள் உள்ளவாறே பிரசாரம் நடத்த வேண்டுமென்றும் எண்ணமுற்றவர்களாயிருத்தலோடும் அக்கமிட்டி தங்கள் குடும்பத்தின் மனிதருக்கோ, சேர்ந்தவர்களுக்கோ வேலை வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கும் இடமாகப் பாவிக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் பிரசாரம் செய்யத் தெரியாதவர்களையும் பிரசாரகராக நியமித்துவிடுகிறார்கள். பயனுண்டாகாமற் போய்விடுகிறது. அதனால் கமிட்டியால் பயனுண்டாகாதென நினைத்தேன். மற்றும் ஒரு வகையில் கமிட்டியைக் கொண்டுவரவும் பயன்தரத்தக்க வேலைகள் செய்யலாம். மதுவிலக்குப் பிரசாரம் செய்வதோடும், சுத்தம், சுகாதாரம், படிப்பு, வயது வந்தவர்களுக்கு புத்தி போதிப்பது பொருளாதார சிக்கலும், இராஜ விசுவாசம் முதலியவற்றையும் போதிக்கலாம். அடல்ட் எஜிகேஷன் வேண்டுமென கவுன்ஸிலில் பவர் எசுவதற்கும் இதனை ஒரு கருவியாக உபயோகிக்கலாம். அதற்காக பிரசாரகர்களை ஏராளமாக நியமிக்கவேண்டும். அதற்கு தற்போது வைத்துள்ள பணம் போதாது. ஏற்கனவே குடியால் வரும் பணத்திற்கு வரும் வட்டியை ஒதுக்கிறார்கள். தற்போது ஒதுக்கியுள்ள பணம் வட்டிக்கு வட்டியாகாது. ஆதலால் நல்ல பிரசாரம் செய்து நாட்டைப் பண்படுத்த அதிகமான பணம் ஒதுக்க வேண்டும்.

"பிரசாரகர்கள் சேரி முதலான விடங்களில் கூசாமற் சென்று பிரசாரம் செய்யக் கூடியவர்களாயிருத்தல் வேண்டும். பிராமணர், சைவர், ரெட்டியார், முதலி

[24th March 1931]

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam]

யார், போன்றவர்களை நியமித்தால் சேரிக்குப் போக நானாவார்கள். ஆதலால் எந்தெந்த வகுப்பினர் குடிக்கிறார்களோ அந்தந்த வகுப்பினரையே நியமிக்க வேண்டும். முக்கியமாக ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் குடிக்கிறார்களென்று சொல்லப்படுகிறபடியால் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களையே பிரசாரகர்களாக நியமிக்க வேண்டும். யாரும் வருத்தப்படக்கூடாது. படையாச்சி வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களும் குடித்து வருகிறார்கள்; அவர்களிலும் பிரசாரகர்களை நியமிக்க வேண்டும். மற்றும் குடியாத சைவர், முதலியார், ரெட்டியார் போன்றவர்களை நியமித்தால் அக்கரையோடுஞ் செய்ய மாட்டார்கள். அதனோடும் கமிட்டி அங்கத்தினர்களும் குடியை யறியாத வகுப்பில் நியமிப்பதால் பயனுண்டாகாது. அவர்களுக்கு அக்கரைவராது. ஆதலால் குடிக்கும் வகுப்பினரிலேயே மதுவிலக்குப் பிரசாரஞ் செய்ய விருப்பமுடையவர்களை அங்கத்தினர்களாக நியமிக்க வேண்டும். இவ்விஷயத்தில் கனம் மந்திரி கவனஞ் செலுத்த வேண்டுகிறேன்.

"தென்னாற்காட்டில் சில நாட்கள் பிரசாரம் மந்தமாயிருந்தது. அதனை ஒரு மதுவிலக்கு மகாநாட்டில் கண்டிக்க நேரிட்டது. அதனால் அம் மகா நாட்டை கூட்டுவித்த பிரசாரகரை தலைவர் எடுத்துவிட்டார்.

"மதுவிலக்கு பிரசாரகர்களும் அதற்காக ஏற்பட்ட மோட்டார் லாரியும், கடந்த எலக்ஷனில் பயன்படவில்லை யென்றே சொல்ல முடியாது. இனி எதிர் காலத்தில் ஜில்லா போர்டு, தாலுக்கா போர்டு, முனிசிபாலிடி முதலியவைகளின் எலக்ஷன்கள் வரப்போகிறது. அவற்றிற்குப் பிரசாரகர்களும் வானும் பயன்படக்கூடாதெனத் திட்டமாக உத்தரவு பிறப்பிக்க வேண்டும். யார் தலைவராயிருக்கிறாரோ, அவர் வகுப்பினரே செக்ரடெரியாக யிருக்கக்கூடாது. அதனால் பல அனர்த்தங்களுண்டாகின்றன.

"அரசாங்கத்தார் பணம் கொடுத்து பிரசாரம் செய்ய உத்தரவு பிறப்பித்து மற்றொரு பக்கத்தில் அதனை அனாதரவு செய்கிறார்கள். பிரசாரகர்கள் கிராமங்களுக்குப் போய் அங்குள்ள கிராம முனிசிப் முதலியவர்களின் உதவியை நாடினால் அவர்கள் அவர்களை அலட்சியம் செய்கிறார்கள். தாசில்தார்கள் மதுவிலக்குப் பிரசாரகர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்யக்கூடாதென உத்தரவு பிறப்பித்துள்ளதே அதன் காரணம். அதிகாரிகளும் பிரசாரகர்களோடு ஒத்துழைக்கும்படி மந்திரியார் பார்த்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும்.

"பிரசாரகர் 20 நாட்கள் வேலை செய்ய வேண்டுமென கமிட்டியார் உத்தரவு பிறப்பித்துள்ளனர். இருபது நாட்கள் வீடு வாசல்களை விட்டு எப்படி வெளியில் தங்க முடியும். ஒரு நாள் தங்கியிருந்த ஊரில் மறு நாள் தங்கக்கூடாது. இது முடியுமா காரியமா? ஒரு ஊருக்குச் சென்றால் அங்குள்ள பெரியவர்களைக் கண்டு அறிமுகஞ் செய்து கொள்ளவே ஒரு நாள் பிடிக்கும். சரியானபடி பிரசாரஞ் செய்ய இரண்டு நாட்களாகும். அப்படியின்றி வெறும் கணக்குக் காட்ட பிரசாரஞ் செய்யக்கூடாது. இவற்றையெல்லாம் பார்த்து எவ்விதத்தில் பிரசாரக் பயன்தருமோ, அவ்விதமான கொள்கைகளை ஏற்படுத்த கனம் அமைச்சர் பார்த்துக் கொள்ள வேண்டும்."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Members who have preceded me have spoken much about the general policy of the Public Health Department, and also about the temperance propaganda committees, and nothing remains for me to say on those subjects. So I should like to limit myself to matters about which I have given notice of the token out. Sir, the district of Salem which I have the honour to represent here is a very dry area without much facilities for drinking water. For the last about ten years, there was utter scarcity of rain and the miseries of the people cannot be adequately described owing to the dearth of drinking water. In such areas I would like the Government to spend their utmost to relieve the

[Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder] [24th March 1931]

sufferings of the people. It is a very sorry sight indeed that my district where we some times hardly get enough water for drinking facilities has not been getting grants which other districts usually got. For instance, other districts got considerably huge sums when this unfortunate district has been allotted only a small amount. But for the timely help of the district board, the drinking water problem of my district could not have been solved atleast to this little extent to which especially the depressed class people have been helped. At least in future I hope the Government will be generous in giving grants for water-supply to districts such as Salem on a liberal scale.

"Then, Sir, coming to the vital question of water-supply to Salem town, I would like to say a few words. Sir, this question has been in the air for the past two years and more I think, but nothing has been done up to now. From enquiries I find that the matter is pending with the Sanitary Engineer to Government and it will be considered after his report is received. Sir, the town of Salem can be said to be a city, and the recent Census has shown that Salem has become almost a city. The present water-supply to Salem is from a tank which is five or six miles away called Panamarathupatty Reservoir. This is a small tank, Sir, and the water in it is not sufficient even in the proper seasons for an adequate supply to the town as it existed ten years back. Now the town has considerably improved and that source will not at all be enough for supplying good drinking water for the whole town. It is not necessary for me to dwell at great length about the necessity for drinking water without which no human being can get on. It seems that the municipality of Salem has waited on deputation before His Excellency the Governor when Lord Goschen was here and requested him to give a grant of more than half, that is, $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ as loan. It seems that His Excellency promised that he would consider the matter favourably. Except that oral promise, nothing has been put in black and white in regard to that matter. I think the municipality is not rich enough to afford large sums of money and I submit that it is the duty of the Government to help the municipality with liberal grants and loans. I am afraid that this scheme is not pushed on with as much vigour as it ought to be; and it takes a long time to pass through department after department. So, I particularly request the hon. the Minister to bestow special attention on this subject. I would request him on behalf of the people of Salem to see that the scheme of getting drinking water from the Mettur dam to this district becomes a reality in the near future."

* Rao Sahib B. VENATARAMAYYA :—"Mr. President, Sir, I would like to offer one or two observations on this motion. My hon. Friend representing the Madras University has made certain observations with regard to town planning schemes. I entirely agree with his criticisms in so far as he said that the schemes have not been carried out. But in so far as he says that the Government have no policy, I am afraid I must differ from him. The policy to be followed with regard to town planning schemes has been clearly laid down in the Town Planning Act itself; the duty is laid on the local bodies to carry out the plans and complete the schemes, and if there is anybody responsible for not taking advantage of the provisions of the Act, it is the local bodies but not so much the Government itself.

"With regard to the separation of the Sanitary Engineering Department from the Public Works Department, my Friend Mr. Shetty has given excellent reasons why that step should be taken. As it is, as my Friend put

[24th March 1931] [Mr. B. Venkataramayya]

it, the Sanitary Engineering Department plans the schemes but the execution or the carrying out is left to the Public Works Department. A good deal of delay occurs in carrying out these schemes and no public benefit results thereby. Not merely delay occurs, but sometimes there will be conflicts between the Sanitary Engineering Department and the Public Works Department and they will often result in disadvantage and detriment of the local bodies in general. I may also refer to the fact that centage charges are being charged by the Public Works Department and thereby a lot of money is being lost to the municipalities. The Government sometimes gives grants, a portion of which is taken away by these centage charges. That is one result of it. As an instance of the delay I may refer to the case of the Ellore drainage scheme. The investigation of this scheme was started more than 21 years ago, and as a matter of fact, water and drainage tax was being collected from the year 1912 or 1914. The water works scheme itself was partially completed in the year 1918, but the full scheme is not completed even up to date. And the drainage scheme has not been started up to date. There may no doubt be some advantage to urban areas by the introduction of water works, as they would prevent certain diseases such as cholera which endanger the health of the people. But if the drainage scheme is not taken up hand in hand, there is a corresponding disadvantage, namely, malaria and kindred diseases will be brought into play. In the case of the municipality which I am referring to, people never heard of malaria before the introduction of the water works system, and to-day we find that spilled water stagnates in the various drains and malaria consequently is in full swing. What I have stated in regard to the Ellore Municipality is true in the case of other municipalities as well. We also hear that Srirangam Municipality has been complaining that though the water works scheme was completed a long time back, the drainage scheme has not yet been put into operation. There is no good of simply going on with water works schemes unless the Government is prepared to have a policy of its own in putting into operation drainage schemes alongside of the water works schemes. If taxes are collected from the people under the head of drainage and water-tax, and if the drainage and water facilities are not given to them, people have got a legitimate ground to complain, and a real grievance, apart from the fact that it is the duty of the local bodies and the Government to help the people if they care for the welfare of the citizens within their jurisdiction.

"Then, Sir, a great deal of criticism was levelled against temperance propaganda committees in general. Of course, it may be justifiable in some cases, but not altogether so in certain other cases. Any propaganda carried to eradicate an evil long prevalent like the drink evil will have serious obstacles in its way, and in some places really excellent work is being done by the propagandists, and there is no use merely levelling destructive criticism over their heads."

* Mr. A. V. BHANOJI RAO :—"Mr. President, Sir, I should like to move about the desirability . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member need not make the motion. He can speak on the general policy."

* Mr. A. V. BHANOJI RAO :—"Sir, it is an admitted fact that rural water supply is a very essential thing. It has been repeatedly pointed out to the hon. Members of this House since the introduction of the reforms that unless

[Mr. A. V. Bhanaji Rao]

[24th March 1931]

the Government provide an adequate sum for the rural water-supply, they would not be doing their duty properly. The hon. the Chief Minister when he was on this side when the party was in power and also when he was in opposition, strongly advocated the desirability of providing funds for this rural water-supply. I shall confine myself to one matter, Sir, and that is the Vizagapatam water-supply. It is my wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Chief Minister the desirability of providing funds for the extension of Kondaparti railway colony. This is at present very far off from the present water-supply and the people are finding it very difficult to get drinking water. And it is really surprising that in this twentieth century when everything is advancing by leaps and bounds, people could not get even drinking water. For that reason I would urge on the attention of the hon. the Chief Minister the necessity of providing an amount of money for the scheme of Kandaparti railway colony. In spite of the requests of the municipality year by year, the Government are putting off this matter and may I request the hon. the Minister to take note of that and see that something is done in that direction.

"Sir, I want just to refer to one other bigger scheme, that is the Meghadrigedda scheme. This scheme was instituted with the idea of enlarging the water-supply of Vizagapatam for the simple reason that the existing water-supply will not be sufficient in view of the harbour construction. As it is, by the construction of the harbour there is demand for water-supply and the municipality is supplying the harbour but when the scheme is completed and unless this scheme is pushed forth quickly, it is very difficult for us to supply water for the harbour. So, I should like to know at what stage this Meghadrigedda scheme is and what steps the hon. Minister is going to take in this direction.

4-46 P.M. "Then, Sir, I shall come to the third point, that is, about the appointment of an officer for malarial work. It has been pointed out by the Inspector of Municipalities and the Public Health Department that there should be a malaria officer on Rs. 700 or 800. But I wish to point out to the hon. Minister that it is very difficult for the municipality with slender resources to have an officer on Rs. 800. If the Government think that there should be a malaria officer, I would request the Government to sanction or at least provide with money out of Government funds.

"I wish to bring these three points for the consideration of the hon. the Chief Minister and I request him to look into the matter very sympathetically."

* Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPAN Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, this demand is for Public Health. Public health means water first and sanitation next. Water is a very essential thing. It is well known that Salem is a dry country and for the past so many years I have been pleading for Salem for drinking water. The municipality has constructed the Panamarathupatti Reservoir at a cost of nine lakhs, but it proved to be a failure, for we don't have regular rains in Salem district. I have drawn attention to the difficulties in this behalf in the previous budget discussions. The people of Salem have waited upon His Excellency the late Governor to give us water from the Mettur dam and to give a liberal grant. Government thought as regards expenses half should be given by the municipality. It is a very hard case. I think the Government must help and give their support to the people in

24th March 1931]

[Mr. S. A. Nanjappan]

this matter by at least giving a two-thirds grant which would be a reasonable thing. As regards my municipality it is very poor and the sanitary condition of Salem town is also worse. There was a resolution passed in this Council in August last to the effect that Salem should be supplied with drinking water from Mettur dam. It has had no effect till now. I hear that they are going to complete the Mettur dam in a year or so. Unless the Government take the proper steps now to put the pipes and other things in the proper place to draw water from the dam for Salem (before the dam is completed), it will be very difficult in the future to make the necessary arrangements. So I request the hon. the Chief Minister to look into the question himself and hurry up matters. I have tabled so many questions with regard to this matter but yet nothing has been done by the Government. I am told they have not allotted any amount for water-supply this year. As I told just now, public health means first drinking water and then sanitation. If water is not supplied, what can the people do? I have explained these things so many times. So Government ought to come to the rescue of the people and supply them with drinking water. It is a well-known fact that Cauvery is running on the border of Salem and yet it is a pity that Salem should not be benefited by this water. No doubt there were so many troubles with regard to the irrigation question. Government say that they had a committee about supplying Mettur water for irrigation to Salem and found it hard to do so—but surely they can supply drinking water. I hope they will hurry up matters. I may again state the drinking water question is one that cannot be put off any longer."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I shall within the short time at my disposal deal with some of the important points that have been raised in the course of the discussion. I have been listening to the various grievances from Member after Member and I wish I am in a position to agree with them and grant all the requests. But, Sir, unfortunately this is a year of financial difficulty and as we find there is not much money going about even to carry on works already begun. Provision has therefore been made to works already begun and to those which are urgently necessary. From that point of view whatever provision could be made has already been made in urban areas. As regards rural areas four lakhs have been given for water-supply. That is what can be done in the present financial position. The matter has been very carefully gone into by the Finance Committee. Even they could not help to give more.

"In regard to the other points raised, my hon. Friend Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar referred to the town-planning scheme. I think the local bodies who are primarily concerned in this have not done all they can. It is due to the fact that they are not sufficiently alive to its need. In the other case they could not work the scheme which they have taken up. The Government Order says that the work is not satisfactory and something has been done. I hope the non-official Members will take more interest in the matter and do a great deal more. There have been references made to water-works in Salem, Vizagapatam and other places. With regard to Salem plans and estimates have not been ready and unless they are ready the thing could not be considered. The same remarks apply to Vizagapatam.

"Then, various comments have been made in regard to the continuance of the temperance propaganda committee. So far as that is concerned, there was

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [24th March 1931]

the Central Propaganda Board called in sometime before October by my predecessor and that Board agreed to recommend the continuance. There was not sufficient time to discuss the various aspects but there seems to be a possibility of continuing it for public health activities connected with propaganda work of hookworm and other diseases. For these reasons it was thought not desirable to close it down but it was considered necessary to investigate the possibility of using the machinery for carrying on temperance work and also for public health purposes. The Central Propaganda Board again met recently in February and resolved to continue and they also said that the motor vans may be placed at the disposal of the Health Officer to carry on the work in the district. Further the District Committees were appointed for a period of three years and their time is yet to run. For these reasons the Finance Committee has allowed the allotment subject to a cut by one-half with instructions to carry on retrenchment.

"With regard to the complaints about the pracharakas, that is a complaint which exists with any committee of that sort. I can only say that, if there are any specific instances brought to my notice, I shall have the matter investigated. I will have the matter examined and see what changes could be made to make the committee's work more satisfactory than at present.

"Then with regard to the question of public health Mr. Shetty said that the Public Health Bill has been drafted and asked me when it will be introduced. To be frank I do not know what the Bill contains. I promise as soon as I find time I will look into it. The Public Health Bill affects a lot of provisions of the Local Boards Act which has been recently amended. To what extent it will be possible to take it up immediately is a question that has to be carefully considered. In a matter like this where the village sanitation and health is concerned it is not Government that can do much. Government can do to some extent by providing funds, but very much more requires to be done by the local bodies and the village panchayats and authorities that have to be constituted to create the necessary civic conscience and utilize the money to the utmost economic advantage.

"There was a suggestion made that the Sanitary Engineering department need not confine merely to preparing estimates but also must undertake the execution of works and the Public Works Department need not continue doing these things. There was again the question of centage charges. This is an old question. I do not know how far it will really help to ask the Sanitary Engineer to carry out the works and create another Public Works Department under him. After all the question is whether it will be more economical than at present. It may be that big sanitary engineering works are taken up by private contractors of sufficient repute and responsibility who may come forward to take them up and that may be a solution. As regards constituting a separate department for that, I do not know how far it will really be a remedy. That is a question which I shall have carefully examined.

"Then there was reference made to vital statistics being prepared. That is now done by village officers and also partly by the Registrars of Births appointed in the local board and municipal areas. I know, Sir, that the present system is not as efficient as it ought to be. It has been a matter for comment even in the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture and the Government are doing what they can to improve the accuracy of the statistics that are there. Then my friend Mr. Hameed Khan referred to the high rate

24th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

of mortality in the hospitals in Madras and the Corporation of Madras has not been able to do much. He wanted that Government must take some responsibility to do something in that direction. As he himself admitted it is a matter for the Corporation of Madras. I shall take steps to see what can be done with the Corporation, but in the meantime I am sure there are some hon. Members here who are members of the Corporation and I hope they will do their best. Sir, I have done so far as the time at my disposal permitted."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XX—Public Health—Transferred for Rs. 28,74,800 was put and carried and the grant made.

The House rose for the day to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

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

[24th March 1931]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 699 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1931, page 512 supra]

Statement showing the Police staff excluding vacancy reserve engaged in traffic control at present in each district in the Madras Presidency.

District.	Head constable.	Constable.
Ganjam ...	...	...
Vizagapatam ...	...	...
Joypore ...	...	4
East Godavari ...	...	...
West Godavari ...	...	25
Kistna ...	...	5
Guntur ...	...	...
Nellore ...	...	3
Kurnool ...	...	...
Bellary ...	...	...
Anantapur ...	...	1
Cuddapah ...	...	...
Chittoor ...	...	7
North Arcot ...	...	24
Chingleput ...	4	25
Salem ...	1	8
Madura, North ...	2	64
Madura, South ...	...	...
Ramnad ...	...	27
Tinnevely ...	...	26
Coimbatore ...	2	32
The Nilgiris ...	...	24
Malappuram ...	...	...
Malabar ...	...	30
South Kanara ...	1	10
South Arcot ...	...	...
Tanjore ...	5	44
Trichinopoly ...	3	68
Railway Police, Madras ...	...	...
Railway Police, Trichinopoly ...	...	...

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 709 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1931, page 522 supra.]

Report of the Medical Education Committee.

6. Considerable dissatisfaction has been expressed with regard to the existing L.M.P. qualification especially by holders of the diploma. At present there is no provision for higher education for L.M.P.'s in this country

[24th March 1931]

and those who aspire to a higher qualification are compelled to proceed to England and take up a continuous course for at least two years. So long as they remain in India it is impossible for them to obtain a qualification which is registrable in the United Kingdom unless they are prepared to go through the University course from the very beginning. L.M.P.'s also demand a higher standard of professional education. The committee agrees with them and advises that the minimum course of instruction should be of five years' duration. For the present there may be two standards of qualification one being the university degree and the other a diploma which will entitle the holders to registration in the Madras Medical Register. The lower standard of qualification should be raised as soon as possible with a view to attaining the ideal of a uniform high standard of training with a single high minimum standard of qualification. The University degree which is controlled by the University authorities has not come under the consideration of the committee but it is recommended that the diploma be granted by a licensing body which should control the examinations, curriculum and instruction for the diploma. The committee recommends that the prescribed minimum standard of preliminary education should be the University Entrance Examination with science as the optional group; this standard should not be lowered because of a paucity of candidates or any other consideration. The committee recommends that the selection of students should be purely on merit and should not be on any communal basis. Admission to all these schools as well as to the colleges at Madras and Vizagapatam should be by open selection no territorial restricts being applied, so that, for example, students resident in the Andhra country would have equal chances of admission to the Madras Medical College while students from the South would be permitted to seek admission to the Vizagapatam College. Students of the medical colleges should be allowed to appear for the examinations for the diploma so that those who fail in the University examinations may have an opportunity of obtaining a qualification. Those holders of the diploma who possess the minimum educational qualification which is prescribed for admission to the medical colleges should be eligible for recruitment to Government service on the same terms as the University graduates.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 712 asked by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1931, page 525 supra.]

Copy of letter from the Agent and Chief Engineer, The Madras Electric Tramways (1904), Limited, dated the 13th February 1931.

The following are the details of the standing procedure adopted by the company in connexion with the appointment of tramway car drivers.

An applicant for the post of a tramway motor driver is first sent to the Company's Medical Officer, who is a fully qualified Medical Practitioner and is a whole time servant of the Company. He is put through a most rigorous and searching medical examination for physical fitness and tested most carefully for eye sight.

[24th March 1931]

Having passed the medical examination the applicant is then placed under the charge of the Foremen in the Tramway Company's Workshop, where for a full calendar month he is instructed in the use of apparatus and the various portions of the tram car such as controllers, brakes, electrical equipment, motors, life-guards, etc. During this time also he is instructed in the actual driving of cars in the tramway running shed and is allowed to shunt spare cars in the shed as may be needed from time to time.

At the end of the month's training in the workshop and tram shed, he is sent out on a tram car in the company of one of our most experienced drivers, who instructs him in the actual driving of cars in traffic on the roads. For the first week of this training the applicant is not permitted to operate the car, but is instructed in traffic signals and the like and acquires a knowledge of the usual conditions of traffic. During the next two weeks he is permitted, under the supervision of the actual driver of the car, to drive the car for short distances in open stretches of road and as he becomes more and more apt to his work he is permitted to drive the car in other places and under other conditions.

At the end of the seventh week of training he is brought into the Company's school at Egmore and is put through a long and searching test under imaginary traffic conditions. The school is equipped with a complete driving platform and all gear of an actual tram car and the traffic conditions are called out to him from a distance. His response to these conditions is indicated by a series of coloured electrical lamps which are switched on by the controlling gear of the car.

If the applicant successfully passes this final and very searching test he is passed as being suitable to drive the cars on the open traffic and is placed in charge of one of the smaller cars as a driver. All the drivers of the cars come under the supervision of the motor driver Inspectors, who are on duty on the line during the whole of the hours when the cars are on the roads.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 713 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1931, page 525 supra.]

Letter from the Director of Fisheries, L. Dis. No. 221-F/31, dated the 27th January 1931.

[Legislative Council Question No. 410.]

The fishing season is very bad; in places it is poorer than last year and fishermen suffer from poverty. Until famine conditions prevail, State relief is unusual and inadvisable.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Wednesday, the 25th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, Kt., The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Krishnan Nayar, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur, B.	Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Nallathambi Sarkarai Manratiyar, Bai Bahadur.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur K. N.	Palat, Mr. B. M.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. B.
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.	Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Birley, Mr. Frank.	Premayya, Mr. G. E.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Raja of Bobbili.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Raja of Kallikota.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Raja of Paralakimedi.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur, S.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Indriah, Mr. C.	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.	Ramamurti, I.C.S., Mr. S. V.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Jayaraj Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Kondappa, Mr. A.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Krishnaswami Ayyar, Diwan Bahadur Alladi.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.	Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Laker, Mr. F. G.	Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. B.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Sreatha, Mr. M. S.
	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
	Subbarayan, Dr. P.

[25th March 1931]

PRESENT—cont.

Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
 Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
 Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
 Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
 Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
 Vedaohala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
 Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M.
 Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib B.

Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
 Waddington, Mr. H.
 Watson, I.C.S., Mr. H. A.
 Wright, Mr. W. O.
 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
 Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Alleged mismanagement of Oorpasikavu Elementary School, North Malabar.

* 715 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether Oorpasikavu Elementary School in Edakad Range, North Malabar, applied for recognition and aid;

(b) whether the District Educational Council, Malabar, admitted the school for aid;

(c) whether the District Educational Officer, North Malabar, recommended the removal of the school from the list of recognized schools, and if so, what are the grounds on which his recommendation was based;

(d) whether the school is located in a place not accessible to all communities;

(e) whether it is a fact that the teacher-manager assumed a defiant attitude and refused to produce registers, etc., at the time of inspection; and

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a detailed report from the Director of Public Instruction and place it on the table of the House?

A.—The Government have no information. A report has been called for.

Excise

Removal of a toddy shop in Calicut Municipality.

* 716 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to place on the table of the House the report called for by Government as stated in reply to question No. 226 on 29th January 1931?

A.—A copy of the report is appended.

Fisheries

Revision of rules relating to qualifications of petty yard officers.

* 717 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: With reference to answer to question No. 229-B of 29th January 1931, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether the Government have under consideration the question of amending the rules relating to qualifications prescribed for petty yard officers?

A.—No.

[25th March 1931]

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Government have gone into the question of amending the rules and found that there is no necessity for amending them?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The qualification required for a petty yard officer is that he must have worked in a fish-curing yard for a year, and the Government do not think it necessary to amend the rules."

Agriculture

Alleged inadequacy of stock in Government seed depots in West Godavari district.

* 718 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government seed depots in the West Godavari district are not maintaining sufficient stocks of wild indigo seeds for the purpose of green manure; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will consider the desirability of instructing the Director of Agriculture to maintain unfailing supply of the abovementioned seeds?

A.—(a) There has not been so far any large demand for wild indigo seed in West Godavari district. In 1928, fifteen bags of seed were stored in three depots in West Godavari district, but only six bags were sold in 1928 and two bags in 1929.

(b) If there is a demand, arrangements will be made to enable the prospective buyers to get supplies.

Veterinary

Research into rinderpest.

* 719 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether any research work is being done or is proposed to be done with a view to find out a cure for rinderpest?

A.—Experiments are being conducted at the Madras Veterinary College in regard both to serum and vaccine for rinderpest.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know for how long the experiments have been going on and with what result?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"For the last three months, I believe. So far, the experiment has been successful. But the question is whether it can be done on an extensive scale and in what locality."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, what the nature of the experiment is that is being done? Is it to find out a new serum or other cure for rinderpest?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"It is not to produce a new serum, but to find out whether we can produce the identical serum in this Presidency which we now get from outside, and secondly whether it can be produced in a hot climate or in a cool climate."

[25th March 1931]

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know whether the vaccine about which experiments are made is meant for curing rinderpest or for preventing it ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I want notice, Sir."

Municipalities

Drainage scheme for Coimbatore.

* 720 Q.—Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government ordered the preparation of plans and estimates for an underground drainage scheme for the Coimbatore Municipality so far back as May 1929 ;

(b) whether the Coimbatore Municipal Council requested on 4th March 1929 that it be permitted to employ a special staff so that they might be prepared with expedition, consenting to their preparation under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer ;

(c) whether the Government decided that no special staff was needed as the Sanitary Engineer would be able to take up the scheme in September 1929 and finish the preparation of the plans and estimates by March 1930 ;

(d) whether the plans and estimates were so prepared ;

(e) whether it is a fact that

(i) the Chairman, Municipal Council, Coimbatore, brought to the notice of the Government on 10th May 1930 the inordinate delay in the preparation of the plans and estimates ; and

(ii) in reply to such representation, the Chairman was assured that endeavours were being made to complete the scheme as early as practicable ; and

(f) whether they have been prepared since and, if not, when they are likely to be finished ?

A.—(a) to (c) Yes.

(d) No.

(e) Yes.

(f) The plans and estimates are expected to be ready by the end of this month.

Finance

Report of the Accountant-General on the Appropriation Accounts of the Government of Madras for 1928-29.

* 721 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to paragraph 63 of the report of the Accountant-General on Appropriation Accounts of the Government of Madras for 1928-29 ; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken or proposed to be taken to regularize the defect pointed out in regard to meeting the expenditure relating to commutation of pensions ?

[25th March 1931]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) In the Budget for 1928-29, it was proposed to debit to Capital the payments on account of Commuted Value of Pensions, as the Budget anticipated a revenue deficit. As the Revised Estimate showed that there would be a revenue surplus, the Government decided to meet the expenditure from current revenues. As both the Capital and Revenue charges relating to Pensions are included in the same grant, the transfer of funds was sanctioned by Government without reference to the Legislative Council.

The policy of meeting from current revenues the charges on account of commutation of pensions has been approved by the Auditor-General as sound finance—see paragraph 8 of the Auditor-General's comments on the Appropriation Accounts printed on page 51 of the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Accounts of 1928-29.

The whole question of the propriety of having a single demand for both the Capital and Revenue sections of the expenditure of a department, e.g., Forest, Irrigation, Pensions, etc., was discussed by the Public Accounts Committee. In paragraph 25 of its report, the Committee agreed to the continuance of the system of having a single demand for both the Capital and Revenue sections, and did not consider it necessary to adopt the suggestion of the Auditor-General to establish a convention regarding reappropriations between Revenue and Capital sections—see paragraph 17 (b) on page 53 of the report.

The Public Accounts Committee's Report was accepted by the Legislative Council without any comment on this portion of the report.

Irrigation

Contribution made by the ryots of Tinnevely district in the years 1929 and 1930 for the maintenance of irrigation works.

* 722 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how much contribution was made by the ryots of Tinnevely district in the years 1929 and 1930 for the maintenance of minor irrigation works ; and

(b) which other districts of the Presidency have made similar contributions to the Government ?

A.—The statements * appended show for the various districts the contributions made by the ryots in labour or in money during 1928-29 and 1929-30 on account of works which by local custom are usually executed by the joint labour of the village community.

[25th March 1931]

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know the difference between the two headings found in the Appendix, viz., the approximate value of work performed on irrigation works by customary labour and the amount of contribution in lieu of labour levied under section 6 of Act I of 1858? May I know what the works are in each case?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"The works vary in different districts but a general indication of their nature will be found in the Board's Standing Order on the subject. They include such works as the removal of prickly-pear, etc., from the bunds of tanks, the removal of under-growth from supply channels, the maintenance of minor distributaries, the filling up of gullies in tank bunds, and the uncovering of sluices or other masonry works when they are to be repaired. If works which should be done by customary labour have to be done by the Government, a contribution is levied from the villagers."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, if there is any scale of money payments or contribution of labour laid down in the Board's Standing Orders for works carried out by the Government staff in the matter of repairs? When a work is neglected for a long series of years and a channel is filled up for miles, do you, even in that case, call it kudimaramat and demand customary labour or money contribution in lieu thereof?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Strictly speaking, it is the duty of the ryots to carry out the repairs in cases of that kind. But there have been cases in which, as very heavy expenditure is involved, the Government have given assistance."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know the nature of the labour done under Act I of 1858?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"In some cases, the ryots ask the Government to carry out the work with money which they contribute."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In the matter of clearing silt from spring channels, do the Government give any assistance?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"There is an experiment in this connexion going on in the Cuddapah district at the present moment."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know whether money is collected from the villagers under those two heads by distraining their property or otherwise?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"The Collector has power under the Act to recover the dues by distraint as if they were arrears of land revenue. The last column of the appendix refers to voluntary contributions, in which case, no such procedure is adopted."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"What is done in cases of removal of prickly-pear which has been in existence for ten or eleven years?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I already stated in answer to a question from Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar that when the expenditure has been very high the Government have given assistance in some cases."

[25th March 1931]

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"In such cases, is there not an insect pest which if introduced in the locality destroys all prickly-pear?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Yes, Sir. The insect has been used to destroy prickly-pear on irrigation works."

Contribution by the ryots of Nanguneri taluk for the maintenance and repair of the Minor Irrigation tanks.

* 723 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many tanks are under the Minor Irrigation works in the taluk of Nanguneri;

(b) how much contribution per year the ryots of Nanguneri taluk have been asked to pay for the maintenance and repair of the Minor Irrigation tanks; and

(c) whether it is a fact that in the Radhapuram division there is a frequent failure of crops for want of water facilities?

A.—(a) About 500 tanks.

(b) & (c) The Government have not the information.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"With reference to clause (c), the answer is that Government have no information. In view of the fact that distress is prevailing among the ryots in several parts of the Nanguneri taluk, will the Government call for information and do the needful in the matter?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I am not sure that we shall be better off by calling for the information. The information regarding the voluntary contribution and the amount under Act I of 1858 for irrigation works is given in the appendix to the previous question. I do not think there is very much advantage in calling for further information."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"My question is with regard to question No. 723 (c). Clause (c) of the question is, whether it is not a fact that in the Radhapuram division there is a frequent failure of crops for want of water facilities. The answer is, Government have no information. In view of the fact that there is acute distress prevailing among the ryot population, will the Government call for information and do the needful so as to allay the distress?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"If people consider that more facilities for irrigation can be provided they can apply to the local officers of the Government."

Depressed Classes

Extending the application of the Land Acquisition Act to the City of Madras for provision of houses to depressed classes.

* 724 Q.—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have under consideration the desirability of extending the application of the Land Acquisition Act to the City of Madras, British Malabar, South Kanara and the Nilgiris for providing houses to the depressed classes; and

[25th March 1931]

(b) under what circumstances the lands Swaminaikenchery, Ganesapuram Lines and Paddison Lines in Madras were acquired for the depressed classes?

A.—(a) No.

(b) *Swaminaikenchery*.—In 1921, owing to the abnormal rise in the value of land, the land-owners threatened to evict a large number of Adi-Dravida tenants who had erected dwelling houses on their land in the expectation that so long as they paid a fair ground rent they would be left in undisturbed possession of their holdings. As eviction was imminent and as it was not found possible to purchase the land by private negotiation, and as action to protect the Adi-Dravida tenants could not be deferred till the passing of the Madras City Tenants Protection Act of 1922, the Government acquired the land under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act.

The *Paddisonpuram* lines are built on land vested in the Revenue Department which was transferred to the Labour Department. The *Ganeshapuram* lines are built on a plot of land purchased from the Corporation of Madras without recourse to the Land Acquisition Act.

Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI:—“With reference to the answer to clause (a), may I know what the reasons are for not applying the Land Acquisition Act to the City of Madras to provide houses for depressed classes?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“There is no necessity.”

Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI:—“With reference to answer to clause (b), cannot the Labour Department make purchases of land where land is available?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“There is no such question before the Government.”

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Land Revenue

Lery of ‘kasar’ for cultivation of shrotriyam lands.

725 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether kasar is being charged for the cultivation of shrotriyam lands in the village of Krishnapuram in Tirukkoyilur taluk in South Arcot district;

(b) whether the anicut of Krishnapuram was constructed by the Shrotriyamdars themselves;

(c) whether the Shrotriyamdars appealed against such taxation to the Board of Revenue;

(d) whether the Board of Revenue made an enquiry into such cases; and

(e) the result of the enquiry and the orders thereon?

A.—(a) to (e) The Government have not the information.

25th March 1931]

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

II—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

DEMAND XXI—AGRICULTURE—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The House will now resume discussion on the voting of Demands for Grants.

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

‘that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,55,500 under Demand XXI—Agriculture—Transferred’.”

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Mr. President, I move—

‘that the allotment of Rs. 18,29,900 for Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100.’

in order to urge for an expansion of the activities of the department and for giving effect to the recommendations of the Royal Agricultural Commission.

“Time and again, Sir, hon. Members on this side of the House and on the other side as well have urged that the annual Budget allotment for the Agricultural department was totally inadequate, considering the fact that agriculture is the main industry of the country and that it is from the agricultural population that about half the revenue of the province is collected. While the Government collects from the agriculturists a sum of about Rs. 8 crores per annum, it is certainly very unsatisfactory to find that our Budgets provide only something like Rs. 19 lakhs annually, a sum which I am sure all hon. Members will agree is totally inadequate for meeting the needs of such a very important and vital industry of the country as agriculture. The Royal Agricultural Commission was appointed to consider the whole question of the well-being of the agriculturists, and it made a number of recommendations. As far as I see, Sir, up to the present, the Government seem to have done practically nothing to give effect to many of the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission. The recommendations of the Commission refer not only to agriculture proper and to the operations of the Agricultural department but they refer also to numerous other activities of Government in various branches as in the Veterinary department, in the Co-operative department, in the Industries, Education, Public Health departments, etc. This is not the place for me to raise questions connected with the development of other activities in those other departments. So I shall confine my remarks for the present only to such of those recommendations as refer to the operations in the Agricultural department.

“The first point, Sir, is that the Agricultural Commission insisted upon us to create a Central Research Board. With that we are not

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [25th March 1931]

concerned. But they also recommended that there should be a Provincial Research Committee. I do not know what action the Local Government has so far taken in constituting this Provincial Research Committee. The Commission, Sir, referred to many items which concern the well-being of the agriculturists. One other main recommendation was that enquiries should be made concerning the question of the adequacy of the present manure supply and of the possibility of utilizing not only cattle manure but other kinds of manures as well for improving the production of lands.

11-15
a.m.

"The Commission recommended that the largest possible use should be made of the oil cakes produced in connexion with the oil industry. They also recommended that the Government should enquire into the possibility of expanding this oil industry so that a larger amount of cakes could be made available for use in this country. But what happens now is that the bulk of our oil seeds are being exported and the oil is pressed elsewhere with the result that our country loses the benefits to be derived by the use of these oil cakes for agricultural manure. With regard to the supply of bones and the preparation of bone meal also the Royal Commission on Agriculture recommended that the Agricultural department should enquire. Now the bulk of the bone supply is exported to other countries and we are deprived of a very important source of manure which would have been available to us had the entire bone supply in the country been converted into bone meal and used as manure for agriculture. The Commission also recommended that the department should enquire into the kind of crops on which bone meal could be used with profit. I should like to know if anything has been done so far in this respect.

"Then, Sir, the Commission pointed out the enormous waste of cattle manure that is going on in this Presidency. On account of the fact that the ryots are unable to get a sufficient supply of firewood for domestic purposes, they burn for domestic purposes what would have been available as a source of fertilization of agricultural lands. The question of the large utilization of cattle manure involves a large supply of firewood. In this connexion the Royal Commission recommended that the Agricultural department should work in co-operation with the Forest department so as to get the Forest department to supply firewood in as large quantities as possible so as to save the present loss of cattle manure which is taking the place of firewood.

"Then, Sir, they emphasized the importance of the production of proper seed and the distribution of the same in sufficient quantity to meet the needs of the agricultural population. The seed supply, we all recognize and I am sure the Agricultural department also recognizes, is a very vital matter. The production of proper kinds of seed that brings the largest outturn is a matter of vital importance. The Agricultural department no doubt have been raising a certain amount of seed and distributing it; but the supply is totally inadequate to meet the needs of the agriculturists. The Agricultural department is unable

25th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

to meet the demand adequately. With its present equipment I agree it cannot do more. This brings me back to the point with which I began, namely, that unless the operations of the Agricultural department are considerably extended, it would not be possible for it to meet this very vital need of the agriculturists. On the meeting of this need of the agriculturists depends very much the problem of increased agricultural production. I shall refer to this further again.

"On the question of cattle-breeding, the Agricultural department can play a very important part. I am aware that the department maintains a certain number of breeding bulls. But I think the number is totally inadequate. These bulls are kept at a few stations and they certainly do not meet the needs of the many districts in this Presidency. The improvement of the breed of cattle will enable the ryots to cut down their cattle maintenance bills. In order to enable the ryots to do this the Agricultural department should expand its activities and keep a number of breeding bulls at a larger number of stations than now.

"In the matter of the agricultural experimental stations or research stations the complaint again is one of inadequacy. If one looks into the map supplied by the Agricultural department showing the locations of these stations, one would find that practically half the districts in this Presidency are not provided with agricultural research stations at all. But in the case of some districts there are more stations than one. Take the case of Malabar for instance. There are, I think, four stations maintained in Malabar for various purposes. My point in mentioning this, Sir, is this: to enable the results of agricultural research to spread to the agricultural population it is necessary that the Government should make up their minds to maintain at least one research station in every district. It is a well-known fact that researches carried out in a particular locality might yield a certain result, but that that result cannot be anticipated in a different locality and the experiment straightaway introduced there with success. Climatic and local conditions vary from district to district; so that, as is admitted in the Administration Report of the Agricultural Department itself, the results of the research stations located in one district cannot be straightaway extended to other areas but that local experiments on an extended scale are necessary before the results could be made available to other districts. I think for this reason it is absolutely necessary that the Government should maintain at least one research station in every district.

"In the matter of demonstration and propaganda, Sir, the Government are doing a good deal I must admit. But I think the whole thing is very unsatisfactory. Not long ago when I had occasion to examine this matter as part of my work, in connexion with the Economic Enquiry Committee, I looked into many of the reports dealing with this subject and the only conclusion which I formed and which, I think, anyone who peruses them will form, was that these were absolutely worthless. There seems to be very little of reliable data to be found in these demonstrators reports. They simply take up ryots' farms and

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [25th March 1931]

produce figures to show what the ryots' outturn has been and what increase has been made in the outturn by the use of particular manures or particular methods. These figures or the results shown by these demonstrators are not checked by any superior officer for the simple reason that the Agricultural department superior staff is totally inadequate for this very important work. I do not go to the extent of saying that many of these results or figures shown are cooked up, but I should not be surprised if they are found on examination to have been cooked up; because as I said, when I looked at many of those statements, the figures entered there appeared to be absolutely worthless. Therefore I believe that unless their statements are vouched for by superior officers this sort of propaganda work must, in a large measure, be considered as mere waste. That again emphasizes the fact that the agricultural department is at present absolutely undermanned. But unless we are in a position to see that the work done is properly checked, a large part of the propaganda work must remain absolutely useless.

"In the matter of insect pests, Sir, in the course of our enquiries in connexion with the Economic Enquiry Committee in the Godavaries and Kistna, we found that in many cases the losses incurred by the ryots were something stupendous. But in spite of the fact that these are annually recurring losses to the ryots, the actual immediate work of the department in connexion with the rooting out of these insect pests in the districts may be said to be nil. There is no sort of research work done in the experimental stations to enable them to give advice to the ryots as to the best method of getting rid of these pests. This pest nuisance is not confined to one district. It is a universal one. In the deltas also it is found. In this state of affairs the Agricultural department is simply looking on. I should like to know in regard to this matter, what work the Agricultural department is doing. In this respect again the complaint will probably be that there is no adequate staff. It is no use saying that in the research stations they found such and such pests and such and such moths and that they have studied the habits of the moth and so on. What is it to the ryot? How is he helped by this information?

"In the matter of fruit-growing also the Agricultural department has got no experts. They are doing some work at Coonoor and Burliar. But what is the good of that? The work that is being done there is not any reference to fruits that are grown all over the Presidency. It is no use carrying on investigation concerning apples, pears and peaches and fruits like that. We want to know something about oranges and mangoes. There are extensive mango gardens all over the presidency. There are thousands of acres planted with mango trees and, from year to year, many of these gardens produce absolutely nothing. The Agricultural department is simply looking on. We hear of the mango hopper. It hops merrily and the Agricultural department is looking on. They have not got the men to find out how the hopper can be got rid of. Take

25th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

the case of the cultivation of oranges. In years gone by, in the Godavari district particularly, growing of oranges was a very thriving industry. But what do we see now? Go anywhere in the deltas. The old orange gardens have died and their places are being taken by limes. What is the Agricultural department doing in this matter? We had a report from the department saying that the orange gardens are dying because of water-logging and so on. We know what water-logging is. The deltas have remained in that condition all these years and yet orange growing industry was thriving in the old days. We would like to know something more about the doings of the Agricultural department in this connection. What is happening now is that the gardens are dry and limes are replacing oranges. It appears to me, Sir, that if we had at least one fruit expert, conditions would have been different. Fruit-growing is an important industry. It means many things. If we develop this industry, we can supply fruits not merely to the people of this Presidency, but to other countries also. The Agricultural department has not only not tried to develop this industry, but it has not taken care to save the existing fruit gardens from decay.

"In the matter of poultry breeding the Agricultural department 11-30
says that it cannot do anything because it has not got the men to take a.m.
up this work. Poultry breeding may become a very important kind of cottage industry, especially in the cherries of Adi-Dravidas and Adi-Andhras and if that industry is introduced in the cheris, it would make a very large difference in their state of living. The department says they have not got a man to do this.

"Then, Sir, the Agricultural department and the Industrial department overlap each other in some of their various activities. For instance, you have got an Industrial Engineer in the Industries department and an Agricultural Engineer in the Agricultural department. I do not know whether you require two men like that. So far as the improvement of the agricultural implements of the ryots is concerned, I recently came across a case and that is this: A new water lift called the Ramachandra Water Lift has been invented by a retired agricultural graduate and I have seen it in actual operation. It is one of the most efficient water lifts; but what is it that the Agricultural department has done in encouraging the use of this lift and placing it within the easy reach of the agricultural ryots? The department simply says 'The lift has been tried and it has not been found satisfactory and it does not compare favourably in point of efficiency with some of the other local lifts.' I would like the hon. the Minister in charge to enquire into this matter. I know that the report prepared by the Agricultural department is entirely wrong. The figures given there are entirely wrong. I have seen the actual working of this lift and I may say with confidence there is not one other single lift which compares favourably in point of efficiency with this lift. It is of very great importance to the agriculturists considering the part water-lifts play in the development of irrigation in this Presidency by sub-soil water supply. We

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [25th March 1931]

cannot have all the irrigation development in this Presidency provided by gravitation scheme. The development of irrigation in many districts depends upon the sub-soil water supply. The Industries Department is doing something in the matter of pumps. But that does not seem to be within the easy reach of the agricultural classes, because many cannot afford to go in for such costly machinery. It will not cost much to the poorer classes of people to own a pair of cattle, whereas if they have to go in for a pump it will cost them something like two to four thousand rupees. So, I ask why not the Government examine this Ramachandra Water Lift a little more carefully, because as I said above water-lifts play a very important part in the development of irrigation in this Presidency by means of sub-soil water supply. It is certainly a matter which requires the careful consideration of the Agricultural department, and I hope my hon. Friend the Minister in charge would enquire into this.

"All that I want to say is that the Agricultural department should pay their immediate attention to the needs of the agriculturists. Most of the revenues which the Government derive is got from the agricultural ryots. Out of 9 crores of revenue which the Government derives they spend two and a half crores over the Police and several crores over other departments. I would like to know what at the present rate the Government expect to do to improve the lot of the starving agriculturist population in this Presidency. I think it is scandalous that Government should spend $2\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees over the Police department and only 19 lakhs of rupees over the Agricultural department which vitally affects the ryot population of this Presidency.

"I shall mention one other point. There is at present not enough co-operation between the various departments of the Government. For instance, we have got one officer as head of the Co-operative department, another as head of the Agricultural department and a third as head of the Industries department. There is an Agricultural Engineer and an Industrial Engineer separately. There is a separate Public Health Department and although that department has got a direct concern so far as the health of the villagers is concerned—I mean the agriculturists—that departmental head does not co-operate with the head of the Agricultural department in anything concerning the improvement and welfare of the agriculturists. Again there is the Forest department. What is it that it does to improve the lot of the agriculturists? Unless the present policy of the Forest department is changed and the ryots are supplied with fire-wood from forests lying near their villages, their lot cannot be improved. What is it that has been done to help the ryots in the matter of allowing him grazing facilities in forests? So, unless there is co-operation between the Agricultural department and the various other departments of Government, the former cannot satisfy the needs of the people by itself. I would therefore urge the hon. Minister in charge to keep this point in view. This is an important point on which the Royal Commission on Agriculture has laid special

25th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

emphasis and so I would request the hon. Minister that the necessity of co-operation of all departments which are concerned with the well being of the agricultural population should be steadily kept in view."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, there are one or two matters which I wish to refer to. . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I may inform the hon. Member that it will be to the advantage of the House to discuss upon this particular cut motion only the recommendations of the Royal Commission. When we next pass on to item No. 714, the policy of the department may be discussed separately—the administrative policy of the Agricultural department."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I take it that we are now on the recommendations of the Royal Agricultural Commission. There is one matter to which the Royal Commission on Agriculture paid special attention and to which my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar also referred to in his speech. That was the necessity for co-operation among all those who are working in villages for the improvement of the agriculturists and agriculture as well. Well, Sir, it is well known that the Agricultural Officer is himself doing good work but his work is not the sort to command confidence of the ryots. In many cases the actual difficulties of the ryots in finding money and also in undertaking experiments are not thought of by him. Even for undertaking ordinary agricultural improvements, help by way of money and advice are necessary. Where there is only one crop some sort of cottage industry has to be fostered so that the leisure time may be utilized by the ryots to their best advantage. For all these purposes, the Royal Commission on Agriculture recommended that there should be co-operation among the various departments of Government such as Agriculture, Industries, Co-operative Credit and Veterinary and that the heads of these departments should meet at least once a quarter in the headquarters of the Province. They also recommended that for day to day work the representatives of these departments should meet in the district headquarters once a month or once in two months to arrange a sort of programme so that these people may work all together without any sort of opposition and thus help in the general improvement of agriculture and the villages. Well, Sir, that scheme is the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. A committee was recently appointed by this Government to enquire into the working of the Co-operative department and that committee also emphasised the necessity for a District Committee like the one I referred to above and that this Committee might as often as possible meet and draw up a sort of programme to be followed during the next two or three months. Nothing has been done so far by the Government and I now ask the hon. the Minister in charge whether he will not give effect to the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission and those of the Committee on Co-operation by providing for District and Provincial Committees so that something like an accepted

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [25th March 1931]

programme may be laid down and all the departments work together without opposition among themselves. Well, Sir, while on this point I may say there is not that amount of co-operation among the several departments as one would expect. For instance, the Agricultural department and the Co-operative department are both working in the villages and one complements or supplements the other. And what do we find in the actual working? There is very little understanding between the two departments and very little work is done by them in co-operation. While on this subject I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister my sad experience with regard to the experiment which I wanted to try in my own district. Two years ago, I requested the Government to allow me to make an experiment by working intensively in a small area of 10 or 12 villages. For that purpose I wanted the Government to place the services of an agricultural demonstrator at my disposal whose work was to be to study the conditions of those villages and advise the people with reference to new crops or with reference to the introduction of better seeds and help them by getting money from co-operative credit societies and also by arranging for a co-operative sale of their produce. That was the work that I wanted this demonstrator to do for helping the agriculturists. That is one of the most important works to which the Royal Commission on Agriculture has specifically referred and it is high time that this Government began that sort of work. Taking the cue from them, I requested the Government to help me and the then Minister accepted my view and lent me the services of a demonstrator. What followed is tragic—I use that word because I feel that, that is the only word that I could appropriately use. The Government spend a lot of money on establishments. They have got a Deputy Director of Agriculture in Coimbatore. He would not allow this demonstrator to do anything except what he already was doing. The department said that he was a man who would help in the working of seed societies in that particular area and the work of the Agricultural department was to see to the working of those societies only and none else, with the result that no chance was given to me to try the experiment that I wanted to try. Simply because the Agricultural department and the Co-operative department could not co-operate together, I was left in the lurch and I could do nothing.

11-45 a.m. “I know that the Government in the headquarters are sympathetic; they want to help me to try this experiment at least in one area in the Presidency. But what is the result? Unless the departments work together, unless there is a definite understanding between these departments, and unless the officers work in company with non-officials who are interested in such work, I do not think it will be possible to do anything at all in the districts in rural parts. I would ask the hon. Minister to examine the question; especially as the experiment has been already started, the Government may consider the question whether it is not necessary to make a better arrangement so that the experiment may not fail. Otherwise the money that is sanctioned would be a

25th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

waste; I do not think that either the Government or we have been benefited by this concession by which they gave us a sum of Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000 as a special case. I would ask the hon. the Minister to go through the correspondence with regard to this matter, to see the proposals I originally made, how they have been given effect to and what arrangements he can make for the trial of this experiment. I would ask him to try the same experiment in two or three places so that we might know in what way we can improve matters and how we can go on with the work later on.”

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“Mr. President, Sir, as pointed out by the hon. Mover, the amount of Rs. 20 lakhs allotted for agriculture out of a total expenditure of Rs. 1,772 lakhs provided for in the budget is too little, considering the fact that this province is mainly agricultural and the large majority of people depend on agriculture for their livelihood. We want more funds and more men. I believe, Sir, that 40 per cent of the taluks have not yet been provided with agricultural demonstrators. Even one taluk for an agricultural demonstrator is too large an area. . . .”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Am I to take it that the hon. Member is speaking on the recommendations of the Royal Agricultural Commission?”

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“I am speaking on the expansion of the activities of the department and the recommendations of the Royal Agricultural Commission; it practically covers everything.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The next motion is a more comprehensive one; if this motion is disposed of, we can take up the next one.”

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, I quite agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, when he says that the amount spent on the Agricultural department is inadequate. On the floor of this House, many times it has been pointed out to the Government that they should spend more money on this department. As far as this department is concerned, the improvements that have to be effected are of a technical nature and it naturally takes time. Secondly, people are not willing to depart from the old method of doing things. It takes some time for them to take to improved methods suggested by the department. All the same, as far as I can speak after seeing the exhibitions that were held in two or three districts, I can say that both the department and the people are co-operating together and when the people ask for the help of the department, the latter is freely helping them. As I said, Sir, the progress in this department is naturally and necessarily slow. I can inform my hon. Friends in the House that the officers of the Agricultural department are earnestly endeavouring to co-operate with the people. To whichever district I go, I am asking the officers of the department to be in touch with the people. I am quite aware of the fact that we have not got enough money and that the department is undermanned. Within the limited means I am trying to do the best of the job. To whichever

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

[25th March 1931]

district I go, I have asked the officers of the department to inform the people of the improved methods and to ask the latter to apply these methods in their own lands.

“ My hon. Friend referred to the question of agricultural research work. This Local Government has nothing to do with the Central Agricultural Research Council. It is a matter for the Government of India to take steps in this direction. If Local Governments are asked to co-operate, certainly they will do so. As far as this Government is concerned, we have got a Research Station at Coimbatore and we have got various Research Officers doing work in various lines, paddy, cotton, millets and so on.

“ Then my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, was complaining that there is not proper and enough supply of seed. The research stations are doing their best to meet the demands of the people; people have come to realize the usefulness of the seed produced by the Government and the people are benefited by it. Naturally, there is demand to such a large extent as these stations are not in a position to supply. All the same the department are trying to do their best in this direction.

“ My hon. Friend said that the number of cattle-breeding stations is inadequate. Here again, I agree with him that the number of stations is not adequate. We have got two or three stations where particular breeds are attended to. Later on, it will be possible for the Government to have breeding stations throughout the Presidency. Then my hon. Friend was saying that the work of the Research stations and demonstrators is not properly checked. I am afraid that my hon. Friend is wrong there. As a matter of fact, Research stations are under the control of the Assistant Director and Deputy Director of Agriculture. The work of the demonstrators also is being checked by these officers. Of course at present this Government have no officer to look after fruit-growing. There is a new scheme for looking after fruit-growing in the hills and plains. That scheme is pending the sanction of the Imperial Agricultural Research Council. As soon as we get the necessary sanction, it will be possible for this Government to appoint an officer for this purpose.

“ With regard to poultry-breeding, recently this Government have deputed an upper subordinate of the department to go to Lucknow and study the question there. As soon as he comes back, it will be possible to have stations in some districts so that people may follow improved methods of poultry-breeding. My hon. Friend was complaining that the department is not helping the ryots in introducing improved appliances. We have got an Agricultural Research Engineer; it is his business to examine the various appliances that are in the market and recommend to the people to use the best and the cheapest. Lastly, he was saying that the Agricultural department is not having the co-operation of other departments. I am afraid that he is not aware of the fact that there is an Agricultural Advisory Committee

25th March 1931]

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

which consists of various heads of departments; all matters which affect the ryots are discussed and decided by that Committee. In that way we are having the co-operation and advice of the other departments.

“ Then my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, said that there should be District Committees to consider various matters connected with agriculture and co-operation. My hon. Friend's suggestion would be considered. Then, my hon. Friend was complaining that the services of a demonstrator were given; but the local officers would not allow him to work in the lands of the people. He wanted me to look into the matter. This is the first time I hear of it on the floor of this House. If he would write to me and give all the facts, certainly I shall go into the matter and see whether we could not depute an officer and ask him to help the ryots in the direction in which it is wanted.

“ I have no hesitation in saying that the money at the disposal of the department is inadequate and that it is undermanned. It shall be my endeavour to get more money, to man the department better and to make the department very useful.”

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Sir, I think the hon. Minister was very frank when he said that he was ‘ making the best of a bad job.’ He said that he would get more money for his department. I wonder why he has allowed other departments to walk away with Government finances and he has not insisted on his getting the proper share. I sympathize with him and in view of the assurance that he gave, I hope he will improve next time; I withdraw my motion.”

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ Sir, I beg to move—

‘ that the allotment of Rs. 18,29,900 for Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100 ’

12
noon.

with a view to condemning the policy and administration of the Agricultural department.

“ At the outset, Sir, I may say that all that can be said under this motion has already been covered by the hon. Mover and Seconder of the previous motion, who brought to the notice of this Council and of the hon. Minister, the various grievances which the agricultural population of this province is suffering from, and the way in which the Agricultural department is being worked—not very much in the interests of the agriculturists. I believe, Sir, the distribution of portfolios itself has not been done on a scientific basis. I think the hon. the Minister who is in charge of Agriculture should also be in charge of Irrigation, Finances, Co-operation and other subjects which go more scientifically along with this Agriculture. When we deal with agriculture, we must also be able to deal with irrigation canals which are necessary for improving the agricultural conditions of the province. I however hope that at the time of the rearrangement of portfolios

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [25th March 1931]

under Provincial Autonomy, this point will be borne in mind and portfolios will be so allotted as to prevent the various departments being dealt with in this piecemeal fashion.

"As has been stated by the speakers who preceded me, the amount of money allotted to agriculture is really inadequate; and having regard to the fact that in our province more than half the income is derived from agriculture, the Government should pay more attention to it and spend more money on this item. The Government have not spread out their agricultural work throughout the province. They began with a few districts; but they have not yet covered the whole province with a net-work of their demonstration farms and research stations, which is an absolute necessity if we want to improve agriculture in our province. Sir, it is true that our agriculturists are following the old-fashioned methods of cultivation; but it is the duty of the Government, as time goes on, to carry demonstration and research work to the very doors of the villagers, to enable them to improve their present methods. When I say this, I do not for a moment suggest that the Government should introduce implements by which all labour will be eliminated. The general tendency in modern times is to introduce machinery and implements in every direction, which will reduce labour; but that cannot be done in a country like ours where there are not many industries which could absorb all the labour available here. Our primary aim, therefore, should be to see that labour is not eliminated.

"It is stated, Sir, that agricultural exhibitions are held on the occasions of festivals and fairs. I think that is useless; because when people assemble in large numbers at festivals, they are not mindful as to what they should do when they are on the fields. Generally they devote their whole time to attending to the festivals more than attending any lectures or exhibitions held by the Agricultural department. The Government should maintain demonstration farms in all the districts and reach the ryot in his own place. It is only then that it will be possible for the agriculturist, when he sees the fruit of research shown to him in a tangible way in the demonstration farms, to know that he can also emulate, with such better methods.

"As regards the Agricultural College itself, I do not know why the Government are spending such a lot of money on coaching up a small number of students. I would suggest that the Government should spread out the work of this college throughout the province by having more schools, instead of having only one college at a high cost. A College may be necessary; but then the Government should not spend as much as they are spending now on it, and they should try to open out more schools in the province where demonstrations also can be made.

"Again, the oil industry is one of the main industries to which the Agricultural department should pay greater attention. We all know that a lot of agricultural produce is now being exported out of

25th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

the country, out of which oil is manufactured, which is again imported into this country. When we have all the necessary products available here, I do not know why he should not make use of them in our own country.

"Sugarcane cultivation is another subject which requires the attention of Government. The Government have not done anything so far to improve the cultivation of sugarcane in our province. We know that a large quantity of sugar is being imported into the country at present. This sugar cultivation is now being attended to only in some parts of the country; and if serious attempts are made to bring about more widespread cultivation, I think we will be in a position to reduce the amount of sugar now imported.

"Another important subject which Government should take up seriously is the cultivation of cotton. If we want the people of our country to get their cloth from our own country, the first thing that we should do is to see that cotton is produced in larger quantities, and that of the improved kind. The cotton that is now produced in our province is short staple cotton; but we should try to produce an improved kind, a long staple kind, in large quantities.

"In this connexion, I may also refer to the fact that the Millet Specialist has not been able to come to any fruitful conclusion as a result of his experiments. He has been going on with his experiments for a long time, and I do not know when these experiments will be over. I request the Minister to give his attention to this question. After all, the Millet Specialist is a highly paid officer who has been on his experiments for a very long time and I do not think any useful results have so far come out of his experiments.

"I shall conclude, Sir, with a reference to one particular question, and that is with regard to the Assistant Curator of Botanical Gardens at Ootacamund. He has been in service for about 31 years, and I understand he has also acted on two or three occasions in the place of the Curator when he went on leave. The Government seem to have overlooked his claims now and have appointed or are likely to appoint somebody else. The Curator has gone on long leave, or is going on long leave, and it will be just and proper that the man who has acted on two previous occasions in that post should again be made to act.

"These are some of the points, Sir, which I wished to place before the hon. the Minister, so that he can go into them and see how far he can help in improving the economic condition of the agricultural masses of this province."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I shall just make a few remarks on this motion. One thing I was surprised at, Sir, was that the hon. the Minister gave expression to his opinions that the old customs of the people have not changed and so it is difficult to expect them to improve. I am sorry that the hon. the Minister has not gone into the matter properly. If he only knows what improvements have taken place during the last 50 or 60 years, the number of

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [25th March 1931]

new crops that have been introduced, the better varieties that are produced, the new kinds of manures, implements, etc., I am sure he will not again give expression to such feelings. The agriculturist to-day is not prepared, or is not in a position to make any experiments—he will not do anything which is of a doubtful nature; but once it is proved to him that there is no possibility of his losing by adopting a particular method, he is quite prepared to take it up at once. For that purpose, what is necessary is this: the Government should arrange demonstrations on a commercial scale—not for mere show—near the villages and exhibit to the villagers the results of their research. Then, the agriculturist will be prepared to accept the results and follow the footsteps of the demonstrator that exhibits them. It is a well-known fact that these research stations and demonstration stations have been in a large measure responsible for the introduction of new methods, new crops, distribution of improved seeds, etc. I would ask the Government to have more of demonstrators distributed among the villages—instead of having demonstration farms—so that they can go from village to village, take lands on lease for two or three years, show the results of the experiments they have made to the people, and then, when they find they have been successful in their work, they can move on to another locality. In that way, the results of experiments made in research stations and farms can be taken to the very doors of the villagers.

“Again, Sir, the Government have been paying greater attention to wet crops. The price of paddy has now gone down considerably, and it stands to reason that the agriculturist will be more inclined to take to dry cultivation like sugarcane, groundnut, tobacco and things like that. These are certainly more paying; but for growing them, the agriculturist wants water. Whenever the Government take up an irrigation scheme, they should consider the possibility of giving water for dry crops. There is also another advantage in that. For every acre of paddy land for which they are giving water to-day, they can supply water for three or four acres of dry land. In that way, the area under irrigation can also be trebled or quadrupled. That is one way of dealing with scarcity of water prevailing in several portions of the province. By widening the area to which water is given, we will be diminishing the area likely to be affected by scarcity of water. Therefore, I would ask the Government, whenever an irrigation scheme is prepared, to consider whether it is not possible to supply water from that scheme, at least to a certain extent, for dry cultivation.

12-15 p.m. “Then, Sir, coming to the Research Institute and the work that is being done by the officers there, I have nothing but praise for those who are working in the several research stations as well as in the Research Institute itself. I am sorry that the hon. the Mover of this motion said that the results of the research made by some of the officers in the research stations were not forthcoming. I fear he does not understand the difficulties of the situation. It is not a matter of working out a mere mathematical proposition and finding out the result at once. In this case it is a matter of experiment and trying

25th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

various methods and even probably after laborious work for several years, they may come to conclusions which may not be found suitable to the conditions of the country, or they may even fail when they are carried on on a commercial scale, in which case the whole thing has to be considered anew and new experiments may have to be carried out and so on. No doubt if we get good results it will be better for all concerned, but it is not a thing which is under the control of the person who conducts the research. So, we have to wait for some time. In many cases even to obtain smaller results one has to wait for even ten years. For instance, in regard to the question of manurial research in respect of certain crops, we are not in a better position than the officers who were conducting research in the beginning. That is the sort of difficulty which we come across. So, in these matters experiments have to be carried on under various conditions for a large number of years and then only one can be sure of the results. It may even be that sometimes harm may be done by coming to speedy conclusions, with the result that the poor ryots who may be advised to undertake them may lose. That will have a bad effect on the faith of the agriculturists in the department.

“So far as the Research Institute itself is concerned, we had a long series of officers who have done very good work, whether it is in regard to sugarcane, or paddy or cotton, and the officers were all Europeans in the beginning. Their good work has been continued with equal credit by their successors who were mostly Indians. I for one would not say, with reference to research or any special work, that the work should be done only by Indians. If for any work a European is necessary, I should not mind engaging the services of a European, even though on a higher pay for a limited period of time, but when once the question of research is dealt with, so far as popularising the results of research is concerned, it seems to me that an Indian has got an advantage over the European, apart from the fact that the European will be a costly affair. The Indian will be in touch with the people and he knows the conditions of the people in the villages and he also knows whether the villager can afford certain experiments or not, or whether he can find the necessary money for such experiments.

“So far as the question of the Director, Assistant Directors and others are concerned, it seems to me that an Indian has got a decided advantage over the European and where district work is concerned, Indians should certainly be preferred. As a matter of fact, the European is handicapped for he does not know the economic and other conditions of the villagers. In matters like this, the feeling of the villagers and their economic condition will have to be considered and a European cannot certainly enter into the feelings of the villagers. For all these reasons, it seems to me, apart from the Research Institute itself where an European may be necessary and I have no objection to employ him, but so far as district work is concerned only Indians ought to be recruited. This argument will apply with greater force to the head of the department, I mean the Director

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [25th March 1931]

himself. He has to deal with the conditions of the people in this country. Does he know whether the villager is able to undertake research or utilize the results of that research or not? He has to bring together the work of several specialists. For these reasons, it seems to me that the Director of Agriculture should be an Indian and should be a native of the Presidency. I may at once say that I have absolutely nothing to say about the present incumbent in the office, Mr. Hilson. I have known him for a long time, and his work, especially in connexion with cotton, has been very good indeed. If only he continues as a specialist in cotton and if he continues research work in that line, I am sure he will be able to give to the people of the presidency much more benefit than he would give as Director of Agriculture. Therefore, it seems to me, on principle it will be better that if and when a vacancy arises the hon. the Minister and the Government will consider this aspect of the matter and pay special attention to this point. I am not now asking to change the Director, but my appeal is only with reference to any possible vacancies that may arise in future. I am only enunciating a policy and I hope Government will accept that.

"Then, with reference to the College and schools, my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, said that there was no necessity for the College but that he wants more schools. I may say in reply that the College is the only place where special work is done and where persons are trained both for the purpose of carrying on research and for district work, and I do not know how we can dispense with the College. If, on the other hand, you have only schools, the students that pass out of them will not be able to take up research work. Even if they are able to do district work, should it not be necessary that they should be able to do research work and that we require a better class of people than the schools can give. As regards the schools themselves, I am afraid my hon. Friend has not followed the experience of the schools in this province. I know two schools were started, one at Anakapalle and the other at Taliparamba. At Anakapalle, when I went there last time, there were only 3 boys in that school, but now I find that the school is closed. As regards the school at Taliparamba, I do not think even that is popular, because people who are likely to do district work do not go there, but I believe it is only those who are likely to go out as maistris go to that school. I do not know what exactly it is doing now. I do not think even that school is very popular. Under these circumstances, I do not suppose there is any future for special agricultural schools in the province. That is why, while I was speaking on the Education Demand, I pressed on the attention of the hon. the Minister that he might introduce agriculture as one of the optional subjects for the School Final course and in that way the knowledge that is obtained in the Agricultural College now can be taught to the ordinary students who are passing through the School Final course, so that these students may utilize the knowledge thus obtained in their life later on.

"There is another matter about which I should like to make a very strong appeal, viz., in regard to the question of the rate of interest on

25th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

loans that are given to agriculturists, as it is a very important matter—I mean loans granted to agriculturists under the Agriculturists Loans Act and the Land Improvement Loans Act. Hitherto, the rate of interest was only $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. Those Acts were passed only to relieve the difficulty of the ryots which was recognized at that time, and the difficulty of the ryot is no doubt a well-known fact. But, what do we find now? Government propose that the rate of interest should be raised from $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent from the 1st of April. I do not think the Government are justified in doing that, when they are themselves borrowing money at only a little over 6 per cent and that too is because of the thoughtless way in which the Government of India rushed to the market with the offer of 6 per cent rate of interest. Even so the Government ought to be able to get money at $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent from the Government of India and they can also at the same time lend that money to the poor agriculturists. There is, therefore, absolutely no reason why they should raise the existing rate of interest. Again, Sir, the 6 per cent rate is not a permanent feature in our loan policy. Already the rate of interest has been reduced by $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and I believe the latest announcement was that the new loans will carry interest at $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. It should be possible for the Government to get money below 6 per cent from the Government of India and I do not see any reason why Government should make a profit out of lending money to the agriculturists, and especially when they are boasting that they are helping the agriculturists, I do not see any reason why they should try to increase the rate of interest now. I hope the hon. the Minister who knows the conditions of the agriculturists will put up a strong fight and see that the rate of interest is not raised. In all cases, these loans are granted for the improvement of the land itself. May I know, Sir, whether the return from the land on which the money is invested will be anything like $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, for which they require the agriculturists to give them $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent? Sir, it is very well known that if people are able to get about 5 or 6 per cent from the land, it is considered to be a decent income. When such is the case, for the Government to say that they are going to charge $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on loans that will be given hereafter, it seems to me to be very unfair indeed. It is a well-known fact that a large part of the revenues of the Government is derived from the agriculturists and it is therefore the duty of the Government to come to the help of these agriculturists when they are in need of it. Further, these loans are not given to them for their own private expenditure, but for the improvements of the land itself from which they are deriving revenue and from the improvement of which they will get more revenue. Sir, to ask the people to pay $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, even though they themselves get it at $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent or so, I beg to submit, is really unfair on the part of the Government. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to put up a strong fight on behalf of the agriculturists and to see that the proposed change is not given effect to from the 1st April. I think it is a very serious matter and I hope the hon. Minister will realize the position and will not rest satisfied with any evasive replies or arguments of the Finance Department, but will stand by the agriculturists and see that the rate of interest is not raised."

[25th March 1931]

12-30
p.m.

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAILIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, I agree and the hon. Minister also agrees, that the money allotted for this department is not at all sufficient. It is not enough if the Minister says that he will try to make the best use of the money that he has with him. I hope he will try to get more money for the departments under him hereafter. I think some money can be saved by re-organizing the department. The hon. Minister has also admitted that more co-operation between the departments themselves is necessary. He said with reference to the districts as pointed out by Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar that the officers of the departments in the district will be able to visit at least once every month and discuss the methods of procedure to be adopted, how to supplement one another's work, how to help one another and how to co-operate with one another. But will it be practicable unless all the Ministers co-operate? All the heads of the department in a district are not under one and the same Minister. Some departments are not even Transferred departments. I hope the hon. Minister will see and try to persuade the other Minister and Members of Government that all the allied departments are placed under the control of one Minister. One such is the Irrigation department, which is a Reserved subject, and I think the hon. Minister will try and see that it is made a Transferred subject and put under the charge of the same Minister as agriculture, etc. As matters stand at present, all these subjects are now distributed among the four departments. These departments are: Industries, Agriculture, Irrigation, and Co-operation. So if he can bring about this arrangement it will help a great deal in the development of the departments concerned. I agree with the hon. Minister, and I think he is quite correct when he said that the villagers are sceptic and are not willing to take to new methods of agriculture. I know by experience that the villagers have no faith in these things. I know an educated gentleman in Mangalore, a barrister, who is himself an agriculturist owning large plantations, who does not believe in new methods. I think the hon. Minister must have seen some of his gardens, while at Mangalore. He told me that the Agricultural department is all a farce. However, it is admitted that the agricultural demonstrators are the agency employed to bring the results of the research work to the notice of the cultivators either directly or indirectly. When such is the case it is the duty of the department to have sufficient number of demonstrators distributed all over the Presidency. Now there is not even one demonstrator for each taluk. Even one demonstrator for each taluk will not be sufficient to cope with the work of each taluk. They are going to have only one more demonstrator next year. The number this year is 171, and in the coming year it is proposed to have 172 demonstrators. (Laughter.) Three years ago they had 174 hands. Thus it will be seen that we are not going to have the number of demonstrators raised to the old strength.

"With regard to farm managers, they are going to add three more this year, i.e., instead of 35 managers they are going to have 38. But these managers and demonstrators have to attend to correspondence and other clerical work, which takes up most of their time. Unless you give them a clerk they cannot efficiently carry out their duties.

25th March 1931] [Mr. Mahmud Schamnad]

"Now the only way in which the researches of the department can be brought home to the agriculturists is by having a demonstration plot in each village. But if that is not practicable I shall suggest a method, which will prove very useful. These agricultural demonstrators must get one or two acres of land on lease from the ryots in each village, and they should, at Government expense, carry out the improved methods of agriculture and show to the villagers how profitable it is. If this is done, the villagers will readily copy them. The amount spent by the Government for carrying on the operations of agriculture in those plots will not be a loss. Because it is sufficient if the ryot is given his rent, and the extra amount, by way of profit, will go to meet the expenditure which the Government have incurred in cultivating the plots.

"Some years ago Ongole bulls were being exported from here. And after some agitation it was stopped. I don't know why they were stopped. For it will only encourage the breeding of more bulls, if the people know that they have a good market for their bulls. But by stopping export, Government have only discouraged the breeding of better kind of bulls. (The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan: To which place were they exported?) To the Straits Settlements, Singapore and other such places.

"For agricultural purposes buffaloes are more useful as they are hardy animals, and I know in the West Coast districts buffaloes are very largely used for this purpose. In Guntur there is a farm for the breeding of buffaloes, but there is only one station in the whole Presidency for the breeding of buffaloes. Besides, Guntur is not a place fit to serve as a breeding station for buffaloes. First of all there is not sufficient water there for the buffaloes to drink. If you are to examine this problem of the choice of a suitable place for buffalo-breeding, I would suggest some other place. I suppose the West Coast, the districts of South Kanara and Malabar will be more suitable for buffalo breeding.

"Sir, the agricultural schools are intended for the children of the agriculturists or the ryots and not for the purpose of employing the students in the Agricultural department. But as a matter of fact these schools are not being taken advantage of by the children of the agriculturists. Although the Taliparamba school is still being continued the number of pupils there has not appreciably increased. The Mappillas, being an agricultural population, Government will do well to offer them some scholarships to study in those schools.

"Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar said that in several experimental stations, paddy and sugarcane cultivation has proved a success. But I ask, how are you going to bring them to the notice of the villagers effectively? That can be done only by the demonstrators in the manner suggested by me above. And for that you must have a larger number of demonstrators than you have at present. With these remarks I resume my seat."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. President, Sir, several of the hon. Members who have already spoken on this subject have pointed out how the amount budgeted for agriculture is too small for the expansion of

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[25th March 1931]

the department, and why we want more funds and more men to run the department effectively. A considerable number of the taluks of this Presidency have not yet been provided with agricultural demonstrators, and even one taluk is too large an area for a demonstrator to do effective work. Agricultural demonstrators, particularly those at district headquarters, are not able to do much touching work on account of the office work they have to do. If they are given the assistance of qualified people, such as those who come out of the Taliparamba school, these assistant officers can attend to the daily office routine work, the sale of seeds, manure, and implements, and they can also occasionally go out for inspection and propaganda work and co-operate with the demonstrators in the work they have to do.

“Our Agricultural Middle Schools have proved a failure. The Anakapalle school has been closed down and the Taliparamba school is not able to attract students. Even among those who come there it is said that only two-thirds of the students remain to complete the course, and of these only one-third take to actual farming. In the latest administration report the Director admits that this type of education does not appeal to the cultivator, and therefore, the Government have asked the Director to suggest how this medium of education in agriculture could be popularized. In answer to a question asked by me the other day it was said that the Government have not under consideration any suggestions for the popularizing of these schools.

“The Government have spent a large amount of money on the Agricultural College building and its equipment and the students there are educated at enormous cost. We shall require, in years to come, a large number of agricultural graduates to serve in the department when its activities are expanded. The Royal Commission has recommended that agricultural degree should be placed on a level with the degree in arts and sciences and that it should be recognized as a qualification for appointments in Government departments like those of Revenue, Irrigation and Co-operation. If this is done, further avenues will be opened up for agricultural graduates. Agricultural graduates will be able to find employment in tea and coffee plantations and in the estates of zamindars and big landholders. Provision should, therefore, be made for training a much larger number of students than they do at present at the Agricultural College. The object of the college is not merely to train young men for service in the Agricultural department but also to equip the sons of cultivators for the scientific cultivation of their own lands or that of others.

12-45 P.M. “It is very regrettable to note that very few of the students who have come out of this college have so far taken to practical farming. In answer to a question I asked about a year or so ago it was said that only two out of 454 students that have passed out of this college have taken to independent farming, and Government have not yet found out why agricultural graduates do not take to the business of farming on their own account. Is the mentality of our young men responsible for making them run after Government service? Is it for want of

25th March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

suitable land or sufficient capital or is there any defect in the training that is given in the college? Why are graduates turned out of this college so diffident about setting themselves up as independent farmers? They must be able to demonstrate the value of scientific training on their own lands. It is said that at the Nagpur college the second year students are made to work a farm of their own; land, implements and bullocks are given to them, and they are also given a share of the produce for themselves. This system has been commended by the Royal Agricultural Commission as worthy of adoption. I wish to know, Sir, whether any portion of the college farm at Coimbatore is set apart for management by the students themselves. The college course can very well be supplemented by practical experience of farm management by attaching passed students to some departmental farm for a year.

“About the importance of cattle for cultivation and the necessity for improvement of the breed of cattle some of the members have already spoken. The work that is done in this direction is not at all sufficient. The growth of fodder crops and the improvement of the indigenous stock of cattle by selection rather than by cross-breeding must be given more attention.

“The cultivation of fruits and vegetables has not received from the department the attention it deserves. We can improve the qualities of indigenous varieties of fruits by selection, crossing and cultivation; we can introduce profitable exotics; we have to find out which fruits and vegetables are best suited to the varying conditions of climate and soil in this country; and we must be taught how preservation and packing can be done properly. All these matters require attention from the departmental officers. The intensive cultivation of fruits and vegetables will surely form a very profitable additional occupation for our small cultivators.”

* Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—“Mr. President, Sir, I plead with my Friend Mr. Shetty for greater number of demonstrators and demonstration farms. We are glad to find that the hon. Minister realizes that his department stands in need of greater expansion. With regard to these demonstrators, Sir, there are not enough of them to survey the whole taluk; they seem to suffer under disabilities according to executive instructions. I am informed that the demonstrators cannot, for instance, go beyond a radius of five miles. Though certainly it may help them to carry on intensive work within that limited area, still in respect of the other area into which they are not allowed to go, that portion of the taluk is placed at a disadvantage. I would request the hon. the Minister to see that this executive instruction is not followed and in cases where the ryots of the whole of the area want their help, the demonstrators must be at liberty to tour to these places and give the benefit of their help and guidance.

“Again, Sir, with regard to seed, it is recognized that it is one of the important branches of work to be done by the department. There are also private persons who do attend to this work and who devote a

[Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai] [25th March 1931]

lot of time to it, and in the initial stages no doubt they have to incur some loss. I would request the Government to see to it that such people as have devoted time and money upon the selection of the seed are properly subsidized and helped. With regard to agriculture, reference was made by my hon. Friend Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, and I think the hon. the Minister will see to it that a subsoil survey is undertaken. This is one of the important things to be done, and practically nothing has been done up to now in this direction.

“Reference was made to the sugarcane crop also. Sir, it is no doubt one of the most important crops, and next to cloth perhaps, this furnishes the source of the greatest amount of drain. Recently the Tariff Board, as you know, Sir, recommended some duty, but still there has not been an appreciable improvement even after the levy of that duty. The fault seems to lie somewhere and it is said that for this the cost of production must be lessened. I know of some people who devote their private time and attention to this, and I wish that Government should come forward to subsidize these private persons who are engaged in the cultivation of this crop at a lesser cost.

“Again, Sir, with regard to groundnut also there has been a progressive decline and the fall in the prices has given, so to say, a death blow to this crop. At the same time it is said that one of the chief factors in respect of this commodity is the combination among European firms. I want to know what the Government have done in order to remove the effects of this combination among European firms and to see that the agriculturist gets his price for his crop. With these words, Sir, I would plead for greater extension of the activities of the department.”

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“Sir, even at the risk of repetition, I must say that the sum allotted, namely, about 20 lakhs, for agriculture is too low, especially when we consider the amount derived under Land Revenue, which is about seven and a half crores. Considering that amount, I should state, as hon. Members have already stated, the money allotted for agriculture is niggardly. No doubt the hon. the Minister will plead stringency of finance but money has been found for other departments. I hope at least in the future he will try to get more money for his department.

“With regard to the demonstrators, we have now about 171 of them for the whole Presidency which has 26 districts and a number of taluks in them. Sir, the number is not adequate if the knowledge that is sought to be brought home to the ryots is to be of any use at all. Because, as has already been stated, apart from the routine work that the demonstrators are expected to carry on, we cannot expect them to tour expensively in the taluks under their charge and do any useful work. Therefore, Sir, it will be absolutely necessary to increase the number of demonstrators to relieve them of their routine work as well as to devise a system by which the demonstrators will be in closer touch

25th March 1931] [Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar]

with the ryots, and bring the useful knowledge that is obtained by research and other new methods to the door of the ryot. Sir, we find that research is being carried on in regard to a number of useful products. For instance, research is going on in cholam, sugarcane and also fruit. I would like to know, Sir, whether the knowledge derived by way of these researches is brought to the notice of the ryots. No doubt, Sir, in the agricultural magazine that is published some hint is given about these things. That will not be sufficient. It will be necessary to broadcast this knowledge among the ryots, and I do not think it will be very expensive. They could print small leaflets in the various vernaculars of the Presidency and make them available to the ryots.

“One other important point has already been touched upon, and I also want just to refer to it. That is that the Director of Agriculture should be an Indian. However well qualified the Director of Agriculture may be, he will not be so useful if he is not to be an Indian. Sir, if the Director of Agriculture is one other than an Indian, he comes with his idea of Western agriculture and tries to work it on our land. Our country, Sir, is very poor and our ryots cannot easily take to the new methods which are undoubtedly costly. And therefore much of his knowledge is lost. His knowledge will be far more valuable in some other country. Why do you waste all this knowledge in this country? Sir, therefore, in future at least I hope the hon. Minister will try his best to have an Indian at the head of this department. There may be difficulty in immediately dispensing with the services of the present Director. But I may submit that he being an expert in cotton and millet, the hon. Minister can make him a cotton expert and direct him to do research work; and in the meanwhile he can try to get a suitable Indian as the head of this department. Sir, in the recent administration report it has been hinted that legislation will soon be brought forward to control the manufacture and sale of fertilizers. I should like to know whether the Government have moved in that matter and when that legislation will be brought in.

“Sir, an agricultural middle school is to be opened at Kalahasti, but the Government on the score of financial stringency have postponed that idea. I would like to know when they will try to open that school, and may I suggest that some place in the North Arcot district will be more useful than Kalahasti for the opening of this school?

“Sir, in regard to agricultural vans being taken to shandies and demonstrations being held there, there is a big shandy held in Ranipet every week, but as far as I know, I do not think there is any demonstration held in that fair, or at any rate for a good number of times. Therefore, Sir, I would request the hon. the Minister to bring it to the notice of his officers under his charge to make it a point that at every shandy held in Ranipet they bring their van and hold demonstrations in that fair. It is the biggest cattle market in one part of Southern India at any rate. Finally, I will earnestly appeal to him to see that this matter of Indianizing the head of the department is taken in hand soon and achieved as early as possible.”

[25th March 1931]

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, Mr. Hameed Khan referred to the distribution of portfolios and said that these portfolios should be so adjusted that there should be better co-ordination of work between them. I quite agree with him that Irrigation and Agriculture and Co-operation and Civil Veterinary should go hand in hand, and I daresay that very soon when the portfolios will be redistributed, my hon. Friend's suggestion will be considered by the Government. I see particularly that his suggestion is shared by so many people, and certainly the matter will receive that consideration which this House is entitled to.

1 p.m.

"My Friend Mr. Hameed Khan said that the labours of the department should reach the people in the district, in the towns and villages. It is exactly the aim of the department. All the improvements that have been effected by the department should be brought home to the people even in the extreme corners of the district. That is exactly what we are trying to do. Speaking about the introduction of improved implements, my hon. Friend said that the department should see that it did not interfere with the labour as it will throw people out of employment. I am glad to say that it will not be the case and that enough work will be given to the people. My hon. Friend suggested that the exhibition should not take place during the time of fairs and festivals. That is the only occasion when people collect in large numbers and that is the only time when they are free and when they can visit exhibitions and learn new ideas. At least speaking about one particular district, Nellore, the exhibition was held at the time of the festival when all the people flocked to the exhibition. After all the exhibitions are held by the people in the district and the department is only helping the people. If in any particular district the people feel that the time should be changed it is certainly open to them to do so. Then my friend Mr. Hameed Khan said that the department is spending too much money on the Agricultural College. No doubt in a college of this kind which teaches technical subject money has got to be spent. On that score my friend should not complain. He asked instead of spending that money why not spend it on schools. I am afraid there is no demand for agricultural schools. There have been two schools and as has been pointed out one school has to be closed for want of students, and the other school is lingering and probably will be out soon. Possibly as some speaker suggested my hon. Colleague the Minister for Education should introduce agriculture as one of the subjects in the middle schools. I daresay my department also would consult him and if agriculture can be introduced in middle schools with profit to students I hope we will do so. My friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, further said that there should be a new type of cotton introduced in larger quantities than what the Government are doing, and that in outside competition India cotton should not lag behind. The department is taking all necessary steps in that direction to see that India produces the best cotton in the market. He also said that millet specialist is not doing any useful work. I am afraid he has no up-to-date information. The millet specialist has succeeded in breeding some

[25th March 1931]

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

new varieties and as the station was started only three years ago it is too early to expect conclusive result so soon. As time goes on I think the millet specialist will do as useful work as any other specialist. Then my friend referred to the Curator of parks at Ootacamund. The appeal of the officer concerned is under the consideration of the Government and in disposing of the appeal Government will consider the points suggested by various hon. Members of this House.

"Then coming to Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, he has found fault with me when I said that people are not so willing to adopt improved methods of the department. That was answered by my friend Mr. Schamnad himself. Until you prove to them that by that they stand to gain they do not certainly go in for the improved methods. To that extent I am right in saying that our ryots are not eager to follow new methods. My friend suggested that in order to bring home these improved methods there should be demonstration and that the demonstrators should go round. The department has demonstrators in each district and when they go round the people can meet them and ask for their help. (A voice: very few people come to know. Even the present demonstrators don't move about.) There is only one demonstrator in each taluk and you cannot find him everywhere. (A voice: So they are now here.)

"Then one other point mentioned by Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar was that the district work should be done by Indian officers. My friend is in no way against European Officers nor does he cast any reflection on the present officers. I quite agree with him when he says that the Indian Officers might be in a better position to learn the needs of the people. To that extent I quite agree with him. Then it is said incidentally that it would be good if the District Officers and the Director of Agriculture should also be Indians. Consistent with the interests of the present incumbents of offices Indianization is going apace and when the time comes for filling up the vacancy of the office of Director of Agriculture, the suggestions of my hon. Friends will certainly be considered and if Indians are found fit they will be appointed.

"Then my friend referred to the rate of interest on loans given by Government to the agriculturists being very high. It was pointed out that in giving loans Government should not be in the place of usurers. Government are making provision for bad debts by increasing the rate of interest. That is one of the reasons why they make the interest high. All the same my hon. Friend's suggestion that higher rate of interest should not be charged will be considered. My hon. Friend will notice that it is common 12 per cent is charged outside and the Government are charging a much lower rate of interest. Various members of the House suggested that one demonstrator for each taluk is not sufficient. I quite agree with them and as Mr. Shetty pointed out sometimes the taluk is too big for a demonstrator. Government have got a programme so that at least to begin with each taluk should have a demonstrator and later on if the taluk is bigger they will have two men. Owing to financial stringency, it is not possible to quicken the programme which the Government have in mind.

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

[25th March 1931]

"Mr. Schamnad wanted that the export of Ongole bulls should be prohibited. Time was when these bulls were exported to foreign countries very freely. Now they can be exported only after obtaining a licence.

"My friend Mr. Shetty said that students who came out of the Agricultural College do not go back to the farm and set up farming. I am afraid the tendency amongst the students is to go to a school or college so that they can get a Government job or some other job. If any student will come forward to start a private farm and if he wants any facilities Government would be only too glad to give him all facilities.

"Once more let me express my thanks to the various Members of the House for their helpful and constructive criticisms and I will certainly bear in mind all their suggestion."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I sympathize with the Minister on the whole and I therefore withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXI—Agriculture—Transferred—for Rs. 18,55,500 was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXII—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding 11,50,900 under demand XXI—Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred'."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 11,50,900 for Civil Veterinary Services Transferred, be reduced by Rs. 100'."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If the Member so intends, he can deal with the whole policy."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"It is rather hard, Sir, to criticize such an amicable and estimable gentleman as my hon. Friend, the Second Minister. But all the same one cannot keep quiet at what we consider to be an unsatisfactory situation.

1-15
p.m. "I think, Sir, it is certainly very discreditable that Government could not find a sum of more than Rs. 11½ lakhs for expenditure on such a very department like the Veterinary department with which the prosperity of the ryot is so intimately connected. The Royal Agricultural Commission, among its many recommendations, brought out prominently the fact that the staff of veterinary surgeons is woefully undermanned. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what action he has taken on this very important recommendation? What is

[25th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

it that the Government are doing? On account of the enormous cattle mortality the ryots have been ruined. Taking the case of rinderpest alone, the Royal Commission remarked that, while the average mortality was about 30 per cent, the disease enfeebled the remaining 70 per cent. During the course of the investigations that the Economic Enquiry Committee made in connexion with the re-settlement of Kistna and the Godavaris, the Committee carried out an intensive survey of the cattle-mortality in two taluks. The Committee took up 53 villages in the Ellore taluk and 20 villages in the Tadepalligudem taluk. In the year 1928-29, the number of cattle lost in 53 villages in Ellore taluk was 5,006 valued at Rs. 1.80 lakhs. The loss per village was about Rs. 3,400. In the 20 villages of the Tadepalligudem taluk, the number of cattle lost was 1,572 valued at Rs. 48,000, and the loss per village came to Rs. 2,500. During the course of these tours, the Committee came across villages where people were finding themselves absolutely helpless to deal with cattle epidemics. We passed through villages where 90 per cent of the cattle were dead. The amount of losses of course varied from village to village. There were many villages which were surrounded by the carcasses of dead cattle. The local Madigas were not in a position to deal with the carcasses even in taking off their skins. Dead cattle were lying about with the skins. In the course of our enquiries we were told everywhere that either the veterinary man never came or if he came he had no serum, or in other cases where he came the serum available with him was very little, and he told the people, 'I have applied for more serum; as soon as I get the supply I will do more inoculations.' That was the position. We never came across any case of serum simultaneous inoculation. Now, Sir, what is the fun of keeping a veterinary department that is of no real help to the people. We have been told by the Royal Agricultural Commission that the staff is totally inadequate, and year after year we have the spectacle of ryots losing sometimes their entire stock of cattle, or in other cases a very large portion of it. How is the ryot to make up for this loss? There are other incidental disadvantages under which he suffers. How is he going to find the capital for re-placing the loss of cattle? Your Veterinary department is not able to help the ryot, to prevent the loss of his cattle or to treat cattle and inoculate them when there is an epidemic. Thus you have an inadequate staff to deal with epidemic by antiquated methods. The serum alone method only is still obtaining. As I said, the serum simultaneous method is not adopted largely. I do not know whether it is adopted at all. I never came across cases of inoculation by the serum simultaneous method. We have been told that the Government was making arrangements for the manufacture of serum locally. We were told by the hon. Minister in connexion with certain interpellations that they were making some experiments in the Veterinary College. Well, how long will the experiment go on? What is the use of telling us that they are carrying on experiments with serum? We should have serum enough to deal with the cattle diseases. The Royal Agricultural Commission, in reviewing the present inadequacy of the staff, said that there is at present one veterinary man for 100,000 head of cattle excluding other animals with which also the Veterinary

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [25th March 1931]

department is dealing. Of the total number of officers only one-fifteenth of the number were actually veterinary surgeons. Now, I believe for inoculation by the serum simultaneous method you want trained men, and with the present staff of which only one-fifteenth is trained and capable of dealing with such inoculation work, one can imagine the seriousness of the situation. The Royal Commission, Sir, recommended that as against the present staff which comes to one-fifteenth of a trained man for 100,000 heads of cattle, there should be a staff calculated at the rate of one veterinary surgeon for every 25,000 heads of cattle. Now, I should like to ask my hon. Friend the Minister what notice he has taken of this recommendation. The same grant is found in the Budget year after year. We raise the same question over and over again. Even last year and the year previous to it, we raised the same complaint. I suppose my hon. Friend will plead financial stringency. Where do you get money for increasing the traffic regulation, Police and the Armed Reserve. You find money for all that in spite of financial stringency, while there are more urgent questions to be attended to, like the serious cattle mortality which is a source of great loss to the rural population. Therefore what I wish to say is this: that there ought to be a more reasonable proportion of Government finances allotted to the various departments according to the importance of these departments from the national economic point of view, and from the point of view of serving the agricultural population, from whom you are deriving the bulk of your revenue. It is no use telling us about financial stringency. Financial stringency has not stood in the way of so many other items of your expenditure. I want the hon. Minister to stand up and say firmly to the cabinet, 'I want more money. I must have it.' I hope, Sir, even now it is not too late and that he will still try his best to carry out to the largest extent possible the recommendations of the Royal Agricultural Commission in regard to keeping the Veterinary department in a state of efficiency to meet the needs of the agricultural population."

Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI then spoke in Tamil:—

"இந்த வைத்தியசாலைகள் நாட்டில் குறைவு. எங்கள் தாலுகாவில் கால் நடைகளுக்கு நோய் உண்டான காலத்தில் எங்களுக்கு உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று ஷெட்பார்ட்மென்ட் சூபரின்டென்டெண்டை கேட்டதில் ஷெட்பார்ட்மென்ட் அதிகாரிகள் மருந்துகள் தயார் செய்யுமிடத்திலேயே மருந்தில்லையென்று எனக்குத் தெரிவித்தார்கள். இந்த மாதிரி சிசிசை ஏற்பாடு எதற்கு பிரயோசனமென்று தெரியவில்லை. இந்த விஷயத்தில் சர்க்கார் அதிக கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டுமென்று கோருகிறேன். போன கவுன்ஸிலில் சில மெம்பர்கள் மருந்து இங்கு உற்பத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னதில் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் இதைப் பற்றி கடிதப் போக்குவரத்து இருப்பதாகவும் கவனிப்பதாகவும் சொன்னார். ஆனால் அதற்கு நடவடிக்கை ஒன்றும் யெடுத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. இந்தியா முழுமைக்கும் முக்தேஸ்வரம் மருந்து செய்யும் சாலையாய் இருக்கிறதை, முக்தேஸ்வரம் போன்ற நீலகிரி முதலிய குளிர்ந்த இடங்களில் இன்ஸ்டிடியூட் ஏற்படுத்தக் கோருகிறேன். ஒவ்வொரு தாலுகாவிற்கும் ஒவ்வொரு கால்நடை ஆஸ்பத்திரி இருக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் அதில் ஓர் பொலிகளையும் இருக்க வேண்டுமென்றும் அநேக ஆய்வுகள் மருந்துகளும் தயார் செய்து வைக்க முயற்சி யெடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் வேண்டுகிறேன்."

25th March 1931] [Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi]

"கோவாபரேடிவ், இன்டஸ்ட்ரியல், அக்ரிகல்சர், வெடர்னரி முதலிய டிபார்ட்மெண்டுகளை கூட்டுரவு முறையில் பயிற்சி கொடுத்து ஒரு உத்தியோகஸ்தரே எல்லா வேலைகளும் செய்ய அருகமுள்ளவர்களாக செய்ய கோருகிறேன்."

At this stage the House adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—Mr. President, I find from the Budget for the year 1931-32 that a sum of Rs. 11.96 lakhs has been provided for the Veterinary Department whereas last year the Government had provided a sum of Rs. 12.21 lakhs. I do not understand why even the little amount provided for this department should have been reduced this year. There is provision this year for adding only three new dispensaries and six touring officers. According to the standard laid down by the Agricultural Commission referred to by my hon. Friend the Mover, we should have one veterinary officer for every 25,000 heads of cattle. It is said that in this presidency we have only one veterinary assistant surgeon for two lakhs of cattle whereas in Bombay they have one for every one hundred thousand heads of cattle and in Mysore they have one for every 75,000 heads of cattle. Sir, at the rate at which we are increasing the number of our veterinary officers, I do not know how many years it will take for us to come up to the standard laid down by the Agricultural Commission. We have only about 260 veterinary assistant surgeons now and if we go on adding 12 officers every year, it would take a century or more to reach the number sufficient to meet the veterinary requirements of this presidency.

"The primary function of the Veterinary department is the control, prevention and eradication of epidemic diseases. Rinderpest is admittedly the most formidable of these diseases. It is continuing as usual to levy its heavy toll. The economic loss sustained by the cultivating classes on this account is enormous and heart-rending. The ravages of rinderpest have been particularly serious of late in Malabar and South Kanara and the department has not been able to control it. Inoculation work is very much handicapped on account of the want of serum. Last year, during the Budget debate on this matter, the hon. the Minister then in charge of this department stated that the scheme for the establishment of a serum institute in this presidency is complete, that they were corresponding with the Government of India and that they want to give that Government some time to adjust matters and that the scheme will be very soon taken in hand. This time the hon. Minister has been telling us that experiments in the manufacture of serum are being carried on and the results are being watched and that the serum institute will be started very soon. I understand, Sir, that the results of the experiments made at the Veterinary College laboratory have been successful. Very good reports have been received from the mufassal about the efficacy of the serum sent from here. That being the case, I do not understand why the establishment of the serum institute is being delayed. I do not think any provision has been made in the present Budget for starting the serum institute. Look at Mysore where

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[25th March 1931]

they have established their own serum institute and are producing serum in a large quantity so as to make a large scale campaign of inoculation possible in the State. In addition to this they are satisfying to some extent the demands from Madras and the Native States of Hyderabad, Pudukkottai and Cochin. They are proposing to expand the scope of this institute further in order to produce other sera and vaccines which they are now importing from outside. They are producing one-third of the quantity which Mukteswar is now producing for the needs of the whole of this country. This Government ought not to lose any time in establishing this institute if they want to provide sufficient quantity of serum for the purpose of inoculation.

"Sir, we want also a large number of men for doing this work of inoculation. We have not got sufficient number of touring officers now. The Agricultural Commission has suggested that we may have a veterinary reserve corps which may be sent to any place where this epidemic breaks out. I do not know whether this suggestion has been considered. The Government may consider whether they cannot meet the needs of the situation by providing short courses in the college for training people in the method of inoculation. If people can be trained for vaccination work in a short time why can they not be similarly trained to do inoculation work. At one time it was thought that this serum simultaneous method of inoculation was a very delicate and difficult operation and that even assistant veterinary surgeons could not be entrusted with this work. But now they have found out that this work can be done by the veterinary assistants with a little training. So I would request the hon. Minister to find out whether by providing a short course of training in this inoculation work a large number of men cannot be at once got to do this work effectively combating rinderpest. The Agricultural Commission have suggested and discussed several other measures for controlling rinderpest such as the regulation of the movement of cattle, enforcing isolation and compulsory inoculation in affected areas. They have also proposed that a Contagious Diseases of Animals Act may be introduced by the Government of India so as to bring about a uniform procedure in this matter all over the country. They have suggested further that there should be two distinct courses of veterinary education, one for a period of two or three years for veterinary assistant surgeons and the other a five years' course for veterinary district surgeons. If the veterinary college is affiliated to the University and degrees conferred in veterinary science, it will raise the standard of veterinary education and give a better status to the men in the veterinary service. No facilities now exist for giving veterinary men post-graduate training. It seems this year three men in the service were asked to be ready to go to England, but later on they were told that no money could be provided. Of these, however, one has gone at his own expense to England for the purpose while the other two are still waiting. Why the veterinary officers should be treated with such scant courtesy I do not understand? While in the Medical department men are sent on study leave and given study allowance, why in the Veterinary Department alone should we not give the same facilities to men to get post-graduate training in veterinary

25th March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

science by going to foreign countries? The Veterinary Department is really the Cinderella of the services. I do not think it will be of any use to repeat what has been stated in previous years about raising the pay and prospects of the subordinates in the Veterinary Department. Government are keeping the men in the service discontented. If they raise the pay and prospects of these people they will surely make the veterinary services more attractive and get more men to come to this department."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANADAM then addressed the House as follows in Tamil:—

"பயிரிடுபவர்களுக்கு உழவு மாடுதான் மிகவும் முக்கியமானது. தொத்து வியாதி கள் வந்தால் ஏராளமாக நஷ்டமுண்டாகிறது. சரிபத்தில் வைத்தியசாலைகளில்லை. நோய் கொண்ட மாடுகளை கொண்டுபோக முடியாது நஷ்ட முண்டாகிறது. எங்கெங்கு மனிதர்களுக்கு வைத்தியசாலை வைத்திருக்கிறார்களோ அங்கங்கும் கூடவே மிருக வைத்திய சாலைகளும் வைக்க வேண்டும். மருந்துகள் இலவசமாகக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். தீவனம் இனாமாகப் போட வேண்டும்."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion to elicit information as to what arrangements are made to start serum manufacturing depots in this Presidency. Sir, this subject has been discussed on the floor of this House many a time and time and again the need for starting a depot in this Presidency for manufacturing the serum and vaccine required for serum-simultaneous method of inoculation has been stressed.

"Going through the Administration Report given to us for the year 1929-30, I find that the cattle mortality from rinderpest alone comes to 1,26,046. Looking at the Budget figures, we find that a sum of 11.96 lakhs have been provided for the coming year as against a sum of Rs. 12.22 lakhs provided for during the preceding year. It is a great disappointment to know that Government have been so slow in giving effect to the policy of manufacturing serum for inoculation in this Presidency. 2-45 P. M.

"Referring to my speech during the last year's Budget debates, I would like to read what I said:

'In the course of the general debate on the Budget the hon. the Minister told us that very soon attempts would be made to establish a depot for the opening of an institute for the manufacture and preservation of serum in Coonoor. I would seriously request Government not to delay this matter any longer.'

"Sir, taking the Administration Report of the Veterinary Department, I find that nothing substantial has been done and the Report says:—

'Proposals have been submitted to the Government for the establishment of a serum institute at Coonoor and the orders of the Government on these proposals are awaited.'

"Cattle-mortality in this Presidency means impoverishing the poor ryots. I do not think the Government would be well advised to delay any further the starting of a depot for the manufacture of serum. My hon. Friend, Mr. A. B. Shetty, has dealt with the subject elaborately

[Mr. V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI] [25th March 1931]

and the necessity for establishing and bringing into operation a Serum Factory in this Presidency is great. I do not want to take much of the time of the House but I only appeal to the hon. Minister in charge to see that early steps are taken to start a depot for the manufacture of serum in this Presidency."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, if I intervene in this debate it is only to stress on the urgent necessity for making serum in our own province for inoculation of cattle for protection against the severe epidemics that cause havoc among cattle. I cannot help feeling that the Development Department has been treated with less kindness than other departments, whatever may be the conditions which the Government as a whole have imposed on themselves for introduction of schemes during the present year. They are all present I believe in this particular case namely the arranging for the manufacture of serum vaccine in our own province. Sir, you know how epidemics have been raging in this province and causing incalculable havoc to the cattle of this Presidency. The need is there, the urgency is there, and if we do not act with promptness to eradicate or even to prevent the epidemics from spreading there will be still greater and incalculable loss of the cattle in this presidency. Sir, in a neighbouring province like Mysore the Government there are making their own arrangements for the manufacture of serum. Strange to say that this fact was not known to the Madras Government for a long time and after it was brought to the notice of the head of the department in 1927, it was expected that he would examine the matter and make necessary recommendations to the Government. Four years have gone by since this Government have known that Mysore was making its own serum, and I want to ask what progress in a similar direction have been made here. The Mysore Government are manufacturing the serum at one-fourth of what it costs us to get it from Mukteswar. So on grounds of economy, and also on grounds of urgency I urge that this Government should take immediate steps to manufacture serum in our own province."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. President, Sir, if I rise to speak on this debate, it is only to lay stress on and to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the several points raised by my hon. Friend from South Kanara. I do not want that things should be left as they are so far as the Veterinary Department is concerned. There must be some policy which must have been in existence even before the present Minister took up office. If there has been any such policy we should like to know what progress has been made in the period, during which he has held office. Although the term is short, since the present hon. Minister came into office, no attempts seem to have been made to increase the supply of serum or the manufacture of it in our own province. It is admitted that serum could be manufactured in cold weather in this country. But it has to be found out whether serum could be manufactured during the hot weather and so it was thought necessary to experiment and they started experimentations. But I would like to know what time it will take for experimentations to be over and results thereof being

[25th March 1931] [[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

known; when exactly is production on a big scale to be commenced and what it is that stands in the way of the work being taken up at an early date.

"Sir, coming to the Central districts which I have the honour to represent in this Council, there is hardly any aid given to the poor ryots in this direction. In the district of South Arcot there are one or two dispensaries which are quite inadequate and insufficient for their needs. I know that the toll that has been paid this year by this district has been enormous and incalculable. The ryots of the district who are already poor and who are in the clutches of the money-lenders have further suffered on account of rinderpest that has raged in that district. I want that these districts should receive particular attention from the Veterinary Department. The appointment of an officer for the prevention of rinderpest disease is long overdue. It should have come much earlier. For some years the serum simultaneous method has been going on and no one has been able to say what exactly is the progress that has been made. There must be appointed, at an early date, an officer who would be able to find out the causes of this rinderpest disease and suggest remedies. Apparently there seems to be no remedy for this disease, we have been told so, but commonsense always dictates to us that there is no disease without a remedy. If no remedy has been discovered to put an end to the disease and cure the affected cattle, at least there must be some remedy discovered now by means of research.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the establishment of an institute for production of serum I hope the hon. Minister will hasten its progress and not delay. The number of dispensaries in this Presidency are small and it is a pity that the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee should have been given effect to only in this department. I think retrenchment ought to have found its place in the Police department. On the other hand the Government have increased the allotment to the Police Department. In the Veterinary Department alone retrenchment has been applied and I do not know what particular reason there was to effect retrenchment in that department alone. I would therefore suggest that in the near future the hon. Minister should come forward by way of supplementary demands to increase the allotment that has been made to this department in order to provide extra facilities for the ryots."

* S. M. K. BAYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I just rise to emphasize the few points that have already been touched upon by my previous speakers. You know, Sir, that in our part the ryots are suffering a lot owing to epidemic diseases like rinderpest especially in my part where there is a large forest area. A lot of cattle have died owing to this epidemic. It is a painful sight to see the ryots whenever this sort of epidemic breaks out in our part of the district. I should like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister in charge to render immediate help to the poor ryots in all possible ways that he can."

[25th March 1931]

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"If I rise to speak on this motion, it is merely to impress upon the Government what havoc this rinderpest disease causes in the districts of South Kanara and Malabar and how the Veterinary Department comes to their assistance rather too late when the havoc is nearly complete and when nothing more remains to be done. The rinderpest disease is quite a common disease in the districts of South Kanara and Malabar and the havoc which it causes to the poor ryots is incalculable. Practically all the property which is treasured by the ryot and which is of great assistance to him is his cattle. When once the disease comes, it rages with all the virulence and quickness, so much so within the very short time that it exists all his cattle die and his cow pen becomes practically empty. One of the reasons why the Veterinary Department cannot take immediate action is that there is not a sufficient quantity of serum. As the quantity of serum that is got from Muktesar is not sufficient and as it is also not possible to get the serum in time, if the same is manufactured in this Presidency we can get a better quantity of serum to meet the requirements of the disease and much cheaper too. Such being the case, I would impress on the hon. Minister to see that he takes immediate steps to manufacture serum in this Presidency itself."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, I desire to know when the Madras Government is going to stop experimenting and begin to do some real work. We have been too long experimenting. First we wanted to find out which method was good, the serum alone method or the serum simultaneous method. After a long time, we came to the conclusion that the serum simultaneous method was the method that had to be adopted if effective protection against rinderpest was to be given to the cattle. But where were we to get the quantity of serum that was required. We were getting this supply from Muktesar. It was a good thing that Muktesar failed to give us the supply that we required, otherwise we would still be indenting on Muktesar for years and years. It was also pointed out that getting serum from Muktesar was very costly but still we continued to get our supplies from there. When it was pointed out that the cost of manufacturing serum in Madras would cost only half of what it would cost if we got our supplies from Muktesar, it was decided to manufacture the serum in Madras. But again the Madras Government was doubtful as to whether the climate of Madras would be favourable for the production of serum or it could be produced only in a cool climate. I understand in Bareilly it was tried and it was found that the temperature of that place was not adverse to the production of potent serum."

3 p.m. "I also understand that experiments were made in the Veterinary College in Madras and that the serum that was thus prepared was found to be effective and perhaps it was even more potent than the serum that we got from Muktesar. When we can prepare the serum that is required and more in Madras at half the cost of the serum got from Muktesar, I do not know why the Madras Government should still hesitate and await the results of mere experiments. While the

[25th March 1931] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

Madras Government is trying to find out the results of the various experiments, cattle mortality is raising. I wonder when the Government is going to come to a decision and when it is really going to give effect to the results of the experiments that it has been conducting for years and years. I wish, Sir, that the Government should have more men, that it should come to some conclusion and not go on merely making experiments. If it comes to the conclusion that serum can be prepared in Madras, then the question of appointing the required staff and hiring the necessary building will come up; it will take another year. Then the Government will go about selecting sites in and around Madras. If we do so, we will be only wasting time. If the Government is really serious of giving effect to the results of the experiments, let it start the serum institute in Madras itself in a rented building and go on with the preparation of serum. There is an efficient staff now available in the Veterinary College. Why not sue them? Why should not the Government employ more men if necessary?

"I wish to refer to one other point touched upon by my hon. friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. The department is being starved; I do not know why? Is it because the cattle are dumb, that they are voiceless and nobody cares to give relief to cattle that die of easily preventible disease? While all other departments of Government are getting more and more money, we find that this department is starved. What about the staff? While all other people were getting increased pay, we find that the Knapp Committee axe fell heavily on this department. In the guise of giving increase of pay, and improving the status of officers by having a selection grade, the maximum pay which the assistants were getting was reduced from Rs. 200 to Rs. 175. While all other departments are getting more pay, this department, in which only capable and trained men, can function, is badly treated. When live virus has to be injected into cattle, only trained men can do it. We want more and more trained men. We find that all the graduates that come out of the Veterinary College do not find employment in our own province; they go to other places where there is better attraction for them, such as Mysore and Federated Malay States. Why should this happen, when we really need more men. Why not indent on the services of the people who graduate from the Veterinary College? I wish the Government would try to have a little more imagination and give effect to the results of the experiment already carried on instead of going on merely experimenting as they have been doing in the past."

Mr. K. RAMACHANDRA PADAYACHI then addressed the House in Tamil:—

"ம-ந-ந-ஸ்ரீ பிரசிடென்ட் அவர்களே, வெட்டரினரி ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் வாரம் ஒன்றுக்கு 1½ ரூபாய் கட்டணம் வாங்குகிறார்கள். அதைத்தள்ளுபடி செய்ய கவர்ன்மென்டார் கவனிக்கவும். மேற்படி பயிரிடும் குடிகட்கு முக்கிய ஆதாரமாயுள்ளது மாட்டு ஆஸ்பத்திரிய்தான். மேற்படி ஆஸ்பத்திரியில் வரும் மாடுகளுக்கு தீனி கவர்ன்மென்டிலேயே உதவி செய்ய வேண்டும். மேற்படி மாடுகள் ஆஸ்பத்திரியில்

[Mr. K. Ramachandra Padayachi] [25th March 1931]

நிற்கவும் தக்க வசதிகள் ஏற்படுத்த வேண்டும். ஒவ்வொரு தாலூக்காவும் ஒரு ஆஸ்பத்திரி இருக்க வேண்டுமென கவர்ன்மென்டைக் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am glad to hear the remarks made by various hon. Members on this subject because these remarks only confirm what I saw in the districts, viz., the diseases of cattle are increasing and the remedy is not proportionate to the diseases. The Government are trying to cope with the situation as far as possible. My hon. friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, gave us a vivid picture of the mortality of cattle in one district in the year 1928-29. In that year rinderpest was unusually severe. He took the very worst year. Even last year it was bad, though not very bad. The ordinary resources of the department were strained to a large extent; even then it was not possible to cope with the situation.

"It is not possible to entrust inoculation to ordinary subordinates, because it requires special training for the simple reason that the particular doses that should be given have not been fixed. It is left to the individual officer to fix the dose in each case. That is why those men, who are deputed to do inoculation work, have to be trained for some time. Only those men, who have been specially trained, are sent to the districts.

"Many hon. Members have referred to the manufacture of serum in this province. Till recently, this Government have been depending upon the Government of India for their serum. Some time ago this Government asked the Government of India whether they could not reduce the price. That question is still under the consideration of the Government of India. In the meantime, other provinces also have been indenting on Muktesar for their supply to such an extent that it is not possible for Muktesar to supply the quantity they required for their use. Eventually this Government came to the conclusion that they must manufacture serum themselves. As I informed the House sometime back, that experiment is being conducted in this province and in the city of Madras itself. The experiment consists of two portions. The first portion is to manufacture the same quality of serum that is produced in Muktesar. Secondly, we want to know whether serum can be manufactured in hot climate. I was told only half an hour back by the Director of Veterinary Services that he has supplied 600 doses of this serum to various mufassal hospitals and that he is satisfied with the results. Very soon he hopes to send another 600 doses. Last year, it was proposed that serum should be manufactured in Coonoor. But it was pointed out that, Coonoor being away, the expenses would be heavy and that serum can be produced in the plains. If it was prepared in the plains, the cost of the preparation would be less. That is why the experiment is being conducted in the plains. By the end of this summer, the department will be in a position to inform the Government whether serum can be produced in a hot climate. If the experiment succeeds, we will not wait till we have our own buildings as my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami

25th March 1931]

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

Ayyar suggested, we will hire a building and go on with the manufacture of serum. We can select Guindy or any place near by where we can go on with work. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, said that we are allowing our men to go to other provinces. Practically every person who gets out of the Veterinary College is employed by this Government; so much so, when the Government of Pondicherry asked for the loan of the services of an officer, it was not possible to spare either an officer or a student from this College. The House will thus see that every available student is drafted into the Government service of this province. No doubt the present number of men is not enough; the Government are trying to increase the number of students so that we may be able to meet our requirements.

"There is one other point referred to by my hon. Friend Mr. Ranga-swami Reddi. He said that the Government should, wherever possible, use indigenous medicines. I believe that the Director of Veterinary Services has given instructions to all his subordinates that they should utilize these medicines, wherever they are available. This question of using indigenous systems of medicines is engaging the attention of not only this department but that of the Medical department also and they have not come to any decision. It is not possible to use these medicines unless some people go into this question and these medicines are tested. But the officers of this department have been asked to utilize these medicines, wherever possible.

"Sir, by the time of the budget next year, I hope to be in a position to ask for more money and be also in a position to say that some of the wishes at least of hon. Members here have been met. I hope, Sir, in these circumstances, the House will be satisfied with my answer."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"My Friend the hon. Minister, has been equally amiable with reference to this question that has been raised. Although we cannot say that we are satisfied with his answers, for the present, we should prefer to wait and see what he is going to do. I accordingly withdraw my motion, Sir."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand XXII—Civil Veterinary—Transferred—for Rs. 11,50,900 put and carried the grant made.

DEMAND XXXII—CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,92,400 under Demand No. XXIII—Co-operative Societies—Transferred'."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 11,92,400 for Co-operative Credit be reduced by Rs. 100'.

3.15
P.M.

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [25th March 1931]

" Sir, the co-operative movement was started in this province under the auspices of the Government unlike in other countries where it was a growth among the people themselves. Now, after a period of 25 years, we are passing through a crisis. If at any time the co-operative movement required careful handling, it is at this time. The price of agricultural produce has gone down, there is no market for the sale of even the agricultural produce that has just been harvested. The result is that the debt of the agriculturist or ryot has really increased, even though nominally the figure is the same. For instance, in the case of paddy, the ryot is getting about 60 per cent of the price which he was getting at the time he contracted his debts. So, the debt has really increased in value, and at the present moment, he is not in a position to meet the demand. At the same time, Sir, those who have lent money to the movement are not likely to take a very sympathetic view of the situation, because they have to care more for the security of their money. In short, there is some sort of disorganization of the movement, if I may say so, at the present time, especially with regard to the advanced credit societies. So far as our province is concerned, we have been so far mainly concentrating on credit societies, and so the position is rather keenly felt now. It is good of the Government to have come to the help of the district banks, so that there may not be a breakdown in the movement when keen difficulty is felt. I think that in the next three or four months it may be possible to retrieve the position and set it right; but one cannot be too sure in these matters, and I hope the Government will bear in mind the fact that the present position is an extraordinary position in which their help and their guidance are absolutely necessary and that they ought to be prepared to extend both, whenever required. Once we pass over this temporary difficulty, I am sure the movement will be quite secure. I would therefore request the hon. the Minister and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies to be carefully watching the difficulties, wherever they may be felt, and help in time. In this connexion, I ought to give my meed of praise, that he deserves, to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. The moment he felt that the district banks were in need and that they were not able to function properly, he came to the Government and to the Imperial Bank with his request for help, and he secured the same for the societies. But for the help that has been given, I fear that the position of many of the district banks would have been rather difficult.

" Having said that, I ought also to say that the Government are trying to get out of the movement rather speedily. The movement, as I said, ought to have been originally based on the co-operation and initiative of the people themselves; but we started from the top in this matter as in so many others, with the result that the position in the villages is not as secure as it should be. It is an open secret that many of the societies were started without proper education, without a proper understanding of the responsibilities and liabilities of the members who joined the societies. Also, we started the societies in some villages a little too speedily, when a little more time would have given the people

25th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

a better grounding. Probably at the instance of a few people who were of course well-intentioned, a society was started; but if they had waited a little longer, they would have brought into the movement some more people who did not join them. It is the complaint in many villages that the really substantial people have not joined the movement; that societies are run by a few people who are not really the people whom one would have chosen if one had the option to choose the members of the panchayats. That is the present state of affairs; but we cannot help it. We have been a little hasty in forming these societies, and so we have to make the best of the societies as they are.

" Such being the case, I for one would have expected the Government to be a little more chary of withdrawing their guidance and not be so post-haste as they seem to have been in withdrawing the supervision and inspection work which they were doing before. In the ordinary course, I should have myself suggested that the Government should allow these non-official bodies to manage themselves; but having regard to the way in which the movement was started and has been worked so far, I would ask the Government to withdraw more slowly, after seeing that substantial provision has been made for the work of supervision and inspection. During the last three or four years, Sir, practically all the supervision and inspection work done by the department, has been given up. In some places, such work has been provided for by other agencies; but there are still many places where no provision has been made for the supervision and inspection work which was hitherto done by the department. In fact, about this matter, some of us who are in the movement, are a bit anxious. But there is one statutory duty of the Government, which at least we expect the Government will not give up, whatever the reasons urged for such a proposal may be—I refer to the question of audit. The audit work has all along been done by the Government; and that is the only connexion between the Government and the primary societies at the present moment. That is the basis on which any outsider can find at any time whether the state of a society is sound or not; and it is on the result of the audit that the confidence of the people will be based. I understand proposals are now being made to allow the societies to have their own auditors. No doubt, auditors are certified and approved of by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies; but I may say that whenever any person is appointed by a society whose accounts are to be audited, the position is not always satisfactory. Since the initiative to appoint an auditor rests with the society, if the society is allowed to appoint its own auditor, I think we won't have a satisfactory state of things. I should think that at least with reference to audit, the Government should not try to get out of their statutory duty. Of course it may be that by doing so you can save a few rupees here and a few rupees there; but to allow the societies to appoint their own auditors is not proper. The people consider that the department is mainly responsible for running these societies, responsible for the credit of these societies and for their proper management. Such being the case, if Government are going to withdraw from even this audit work

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [25th March 1931]

and leave it to the societies to have their own private auditors, I beg to state that the position will not be quite satisfactory. I appeal to the hon. the Minister and to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies that they should do nothing which would disturb the confidence of the people in this movement, and that they should, even at the cost of having some unpleasantness, insist on maintaining in their hands this work of audit.

"I need not say, Sir, how the system of the societies themselves appointing their own private auditors will work. We have the experience of the joint-stock companies where the auditors appointed by the joint-stock companies are certified men, and nobody can take any objection to their appointment, as they are qualified men and there is nothing against their character which will make them unfit for the work for which they are appointed. But all the same, we know what the experience of these joint-stock companies has been. No doubt balance sheets are issued under the signature of these auditors; but we know by experience, as well as by what takes place in Courts sometimes, what the people think of it. I do not want to say anything further in the matter; I will only say that it will be a dangerous policy to leave societies to select their own auditors and pay for them.

"We have got a large number of societies; but yet we have not been able to reach even a small portion of the population. There is still a large portion of the population to be reached; and even though I am against hastily forming societies, as was done in the past, I would still ask the Government not to stop the formation of societies altogether at once, but to carefully prepare the country, prepare the ground in the various localities by giving proper education, and then start societies wherever they are needed by the people.

3-20
P.M.

"They ought to embark on a policy of a careful preparation and careful education and then form societies wherever they are required and not altogether stop expansion in this department. There are so many villages which require to be helped in this direction and I do not think that any of us would be justified in saying that we would be satisfied with the societies that have been already formed and that we would not help those people who have not come into the movement already. So far for the credit side of the movement.

"If we take the non-credit side of the movement, as I have already submitted, we have done very little work in this province. The little that has been done already cannot always be said to have been successful. For instance, we have had a respectable number of stores which have not all been successful, excepting the one in the metropolis, I mean the Triplicane Urban Co-operative Store. Most of the other societies are doing very little work. That is a position that we ought to consider. In other countries, especially in Great Britain, the stores have been a great success, but what is it that stands in the way of our stores being successfully worked here. It seems to me it is want of knowledge on the part of those who run these stores. The condition of the market,

[25th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

where they can get good things, at what price and at what time, these are matters about which those who run the stores have not got much knowledge. It is found that the prices in the stores are not always the same as that in the market. It may be that the quality of some of the articles in the stores is good, but still we find there is room for improvement because the ordinary buyer chooses to go to the bazaar rather than to the store. I think that if the stores are to work successfully, we ought to have a central agency in Madras from which things can be got by the other stores in large quantities and to which they can send their manufactured goods for sale. For instance, if we enquire into the position of the weaver societies, we find that the goods they manufactured were good and there was demand for them in some places. In the case of the sarees that are manufactured in Madura there is demand in the Andhra country, but there is nobody to purchase these sarees from Madura and take them to the Andhra country. For this reason, the establishment of a central store in Madras would have the effect of finding a sale for those sarees as well as other goods. This central agency will be a sort of clearing house or an exchange place—where the Madura weaver can send his goods to Madras and the Andhra seller can take them from Madras to the Andhra country. At present, it is not possible for the Andhra seller to go to Madura and find out what is produced there and get those things. It seems to me, therefore, it is high time that we had some sort of a central store in Madras for the purpose of helping both the producers and the consumers. It will in a way help the producers, because the producing societies can send their goods to Madras and will also help the consumers because this store can send the goods to other stores in the province. In that way it will help both ways. In that case, it should also be possible for a big store to have an agent who will be in a position to understand the market conditions, to ascertain what goods are necessary, where to get them, at what price and at what time. Such a thing will not be possible if we have got small stores distributed all over the Presidency, because they cannot undertake all this work. It seems to me, therefore, if these stores as well as the producing societies, like the weaver societies, should prosper in the province, it can only be done by starting a central organisation as the one I have indicated. In the absence of that, I do not think there is any future either for these stores or the producing societies. In this connexion, I may also state one more thing. Costly products like laced cloths and things like that are produced in places like Salem, Coimbatore and Madura and they had a market in Northern India, especially in the Maharashtra. But now for the last two years that market has been lost to them. Those people who manufacture these lace cloths are weavers who have been doing very good work and have been earning good profit out of their work. Now that this market is closed they find it difficult not only on account of the difference in the nature of the work they have to do to prepare cloths to suit local taste, but also on account of the fact that the return they get from the sale of their produce will be very much less than what they used to get before. Now, their position has got to be secured at the

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [25th March 1931]

same level as before and it will be necessary to find a market for their goods in some part of northern India and if necessary even outside India. It is quite possible for these manufacturers to change the pattern of the cloths they were manufacturing before in order to suit the taste of the consumers. In that way it may be possible to find employment for these highly trained men. For that purpose, somebody will have to undertake the work of finding a market for the goods these people manufacture, and to study the requirements of the people who are likely to consume them. I therefore urge on the Government to appoint a Marketing Officer who may be paid out of the provincial revenues at least for the first two or three years in the first instance so that this trade can work on a satisfactory basis. I think this is an urgent matter so far as Salem, Coimbatore and Madura are concerned. In those places, there are at least 20,000 looms without any work at the present moment and it is therefore necessary to see that these people are employed.

"Then, Sir, coming to the other non-credit institutions, I was telling this morning of an experiment that we wanted to try in Coimbatore in order to do intensive work in certain villages. That is a work which is sometimes done by the Rural Reconstruction Societies, otherwise done by certain agencies which are not solely intended for the purpose. But the main work of such societies is to improve the economic condition of the people, so that they may be in a position to improve agriculture, in other words better their own condition. That was the idea with which it was started, but so far nothing of a substantial character has been done. Though several experiments are being tried in several places, the results cannot be said to have come up to expectation."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, I rise to a point of order. I find two hon. Members, the Member from Malabar and also the Member from the Central Christian Constituency, are reading books which do not relate to the debate that is now going on. One, I find, is reading a book on Socialism and Bolshevism and the other gentleman is reading some other book. Are they permitted to read them, Sir? I do not think they are in order."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Hon. Members will be well advised not to read books."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"They ought to be advised, Sir, Otherwise, it is an insult to the House."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, in a country like ours which is an immensely agricultural country, it is necessary that there should be an agricultural officer in charge of these experiments wherever they are tried. It is with that object I applied to the Government to give me the assistance of an Agricultural Demonstrator, but though they have sanctioned the loan of the services of an officer, they have not really complied with my request, just like the old saying: 'Though God grants, the pootari does not allow'. It is so in this case.

25th March 1931] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

I only hope that the hon. Minister will now see to it that the benefit of the loan of the officer that was sanctioned by the Government is obtained for trying these experiments and working intensively in the local areas for the next two years.

"Sir, with reference to non-credit work, there was one unhappy incident in Madras, to which also I should here make a reference. A number of milk supply societies were started in Madras and it was thought they were going to initiate a way of co-operation which had great potentialities in it. As a matter of fact, if I am sure about the facts, Government reaped the benefit of it by a reduction in the rate at which milk was supplied to the several hospitals in Madras. It was found that there was some difficulty with the societies and they applied to Government for some help, but the Government instead of generously coming to the help of the societies by writing off the loss, insisted that the money should be made good by these societies which they cannot easily do. After all, Government saved several times the amount of the loss, but still they are not acting generously in the matter at all, with the result that the future working of these societies may be handicapped. I also hear that in the present year, they are not in as good a position as they were before and I also understand that they are not given contracts in the same way as last year. I hope Government will not be niggardly in such matters, but will really look into the matter in all its aspects and help societies like this which are bound to have a good future, provided they are helped in the beginning. Societies like this have to compete with vested interests of a very substantial character and it is only such societies that Government ought to encourage. It is only then that such societies can come into existence and work at all. So, I urge upon Government that whenever experiments like this are started, they should look at the thing not only from the aspect of the advance they give and the recovery of it, but from all aspects of the question and see that help is rendered, so that in future there may be improvement in the non-credit side of the department. I do not want to take up the time of the House any more, but I wish only to repeat what I have said in the beginning and that is, in a critical stage like this, Government should consider the needs of the department very carefully and come to its help wherever needed.

"Another matter I wish to state is with regard to land mortgage banks. It was said in the beginning itself that in respect of these banks we shall not be able to get money unless the debentures are made trustee securities. That was one of the recommendations of the Committee on Co-operation also. Now, all sorts of attempts are made in other directions, but the recommendation that was made by the Committee on Co-operation does not seem to have been impressed on the Government at all. Either the Government should make the debentures trustee securities by an amendment of the Trusts Act or the High Court could make them trustee securities under the power vested in them. So it is up to the Government to move both the High Court and the

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [25th March 1931]

Government of India to make necessary changes if they think that the land mortgage banks should be able to raise money in the market. Otherwise, I take it there is very little chance of the Land Mortgage Banks finding money in the open market. I hope the hon. the Minister will now at least move in that direction."

3-45
p.m

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, it is admitted on all hands that the introduction of co-operation has done a great deal of service to agriculturists and to a certain extent to non-agriculturists also. But the question whether the Government have succeeded in starting societies where they are needed is a matter that has yet to be settled. With regard to the principles that are involved in this system I hope, Sir, Government have not been trying to eliminate honest merchants from this province. On the other hand I understand Government have been trying to help the poor agriculturists; and by doing so they have endeavoured to save them from the clutches of the *Marwaris* and from all the other effects of usurious transactions. In other provinces attempts have been made by legislation to save the agriculturists and non-agriculturists also from the clutches of the *Marwaris*, who charge very high rates of interest. If, Sir, our societies that are working in the villages and other small towns have not been satisfactorily working, it is due to the fact that the control, the check and the supervision that exist at present are not satisfactory. I know of certain societies, Sir, where there have been a lot of embezzlements, which have not been detected for a very long time. That shows that the inspection that ought to be carried on from time to time to prevent such embezzlements has not been carried on properly. That is the state of affairs, which although they may not be prevalent in every case, yet I must state in this connexion, that Government should try to improve their supervision to such an extent to see that such embezzlements are reduced to their barest minimum.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the question how far Government have succeeded in helping the agriculturists, I must say, Sir, that I have found from my experience that the poorer people who really deserve help from these societies have not been receiving that amount of help which they ought to receive. On the other hand it is the rich people of the village who have been more or less controlling these societies, and the societies have been more advantageous to them rather than to the poor.

"So far as the establishment is concerned we have got a very large body of officers. I find cadre after cadre is being instituted and I believe there are now a set of officers called deputy sub-registrars. (Laughter.) Till now we were having deputy registrars, assistant registrars and now we are having deputy sub-registrars. (Laughter.) I fail to know the functions of these various officers. What is the division of labour that is allotted between these numerous officers who are practically named without any difference or distinction. (Laughter.) Some two years ago, Government wanted, even the scheme was ready, to appoint out of twenty vacancies that were created,— I repeat the scheme was ready and it was about to be given effect to—six Muslims to

25th March 1931]

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

sia of these posts, so that the representation which was till then inadequate might be set right. But I don't know why that scheme was put into the waste paper basket, and out of the 20 vacancies, twelve places were filled by promoting inspectors and assistant registers from the existing staff and from among various communities; and out of the eight remaining vacancies just two of them were given to Muslims, one to an *Adi-Dravida* and the other four or five to members of some other communities.

"Sir, we known in the past injustice was done to some communities. And when a certain officer came forward to set it right and do justice to particular communities, that good work was undone by his successor. I don't know what motive it was that was responsible for undoing that good work. I hope, Sir, that at least in future Government will see that justice is done to all communities, and see that no particular community monopolises all offices in this department."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHMAD SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. President, Sir, every time when a question, no matter on what topic it may be, is raised, the hon. Minister gets up in his place and says that he has been trying to make the best of a bad job, that he has no funds and that he hopes to do better next time. (Laughter.) Does he think that he can go on saying so for ever? I think we cannot allow this sort of coquetting any more. (Laughter.) If he continues like this as long as we are here, it is our duty to see that justice is done to the departments and no money is wasted. Unless we do that we will be failing in our duty. Sir, has the hon. Minister spent a moment's consideration to see how the departments under him are working. Now, Sir, as was pointed out by Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, the development of the department has been quite sudden and therefore it is not real at all. There are so many societies that are defunct; they are almost dead. There are so many prosecutions going on against secretaries and presidents of societies and so many secretaries and presidents have been sent to jail. Sir, there are so many benami loans taken in the name of members without their knowledge by the secretaries and presidents. All these things it is the duty of the hon. Minister to make himself acquainted with. Does he know them? It was also pointed out by Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar that even the supervision and auditing that were being made by the Government is being gradually withdrawn. I think he is right. That ought not to be done; not only that, I will go further and say that these societies should have paid secretaries. If it will be too costly to have a paid secretary for each society then by all means have one paid secretary for three or four societies. This money can be recovered from the societies themselves in proportion to the dealings they have. This is how societies should be worked. Unless you have paid secretaries you cannot work the societies properly. In European countries like Switzerland, Denmark, Ireland and so on, the movement sprang from the people. It was not inflicted upon the people (laughter) by the Government. Here it is almost an infliction. (Laughter.) Whether it is

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad] [25th March 1931]

so or not, anyway the movement is there, in this deplorable condition because the people do not know how to work it. So, unless Government train them, the movement will fail.

"Another thing I want to say is that there is multiplication of officers at the top as in several other departments. I shall point out only one instance here, and that will suffice for the purpose. There is the Personal Assistant to the Registrar. What is that creature doing there? (Laughter.) His work can very well be done by the Head Clerk, who is paid a much less amount than the Personal Assistant. So where is the necessity to pay him such a big sum as five or six hundred rupees? If the hon. Minister cares to see that these things are properly carried on, then only the department will work well. Finally I wish to give him a warning that if again he comes before this Council with the same plea that he has been trying to make the best of a bad job and that he hopes to do better next time he will surely be taken to task." (Laughter.)

4 p.m. * Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, we are thankful to Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar for having drawn our attention to the fact, namely, the danger through which the co-operative movement is now passing on account of the economic depression in the country. And nobody can say now what its position will be if the present depression continues. The present position fills one with gloom. But the position of the debtors in co-operative societies is better than that of those who owe money to private money-lenders. The debtors owing money to private money-lenders are entirely at their mercy. If the movement is to serve its real purpose, then it will be in such a time like this when all the members should realize their joint responsibility and must try to tide over a crisis of this kind.

"Co-operative society, it is recognized, is a concern of great benefit to the people. (Hear hear.) From 1913 to 1927 statistics have been compiled by the Townsend Committee, and that shows much progress was made during those 12 or 13 years. But after that there has been some lull, and especially last year as many societies as possible were not registered. Then, one wants to know how this came about. Is it due to the lack of enthusiasm? Is it due to the fact that the co-operative movement has failed to yield the benefit that was expected of it? I hope it is not so. What seems to stand in the way is the technical order of the Government prohibiting registrars from registering the societies. This order should be withdrawn. Now, Sir, I am not unaware of the fact that there are many defects in the working of the societies. Certainly they have to be rectified, and bad societies have to be liquidated. But that ought not to be a reason for stopping further registration of societies.

"If the co-operative movement is good, if it has done good in the past, and if you expect it to do good in the future, you must not stop the registration of societies. Perhaps that is all the greater reason to move forward, to go on, and register more societies, while at the same

[25th March 1931] [Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

time you ought to take proper care to see that societies already started are working well and that bad societies are uprooted. Therefore I would request the hon. Minister to withdraw the order if there is any, and to move forward and to see that the enthusiasm of the general public is harnessed and utilized. I urge that that order should be withdrawn. Sir, this question came prominently to my attention in connexion with the question of the reclamation of some hill tribes in the Trichinopoly district. Everybody is aware that there are what are known as the Kollimalais in the northern portion of the Trichinopoly district dividing Salem and Trichinopoly. That portion is occupied by a semi-civilized tribe. They are known as Malayalees, that is, hill tribes. (Laughter.) I do not mean the people of Malabar but only the tribe of the hills in my place. I may say, Sir, that almost all of them are struggling in the clutches of the money-lenders on the plains. A man's ancestors might have contracted debts, but his grandsons, and his great-grandsons still seem to continue to be debtors for the same debt. Interest seems to have been paid any number of times, but still the capital remains unpaid. All their belongings are pledged. There is also a kind of slavery under which people can be pledged, their wives, daughters and so on. Really, Sir, the situation is very bad. Many times the question as to how to develop them has been taken up for consideration, and I believe that there can be no better method of improving them than by organizing a co-operative society among themselves. No doubt, they themselves are not quite prepared. There may not be the required co-operative spirit among them, but they must be taught by an able officer, an officer who will have some amount of missionary spirit in him, an officer who will not look merely to his pay. Therefore, if you now have an order of this kind barring you from undertaking the registration of the society and reclamation of a tribe like this, it certainly works great hardship. I admit this is certainly an extreme case, but there are many other cases where people are ready for it, who are educated and who will certainly get more benefits from it provided you help them with the registration of societies. That is why I am anxious that this order should be withdrawn.

"About land mortgage bank I wish to say a few words. The land mortgage bank was expected to confer on us a great deal of benefit. Here, Sir, there seems to be an executive order defining the area of operation to certain deltaic areas. But I believe the dry areas are much more in need of the benefits of this land mortgage bank than even the deltaic areas. For instance, I am told that the southern portion of Kulitalai taluk of my district and Karur, which are dry areas, do not get the benefit of this institution, the land mortgage bank. It is there that there is greater need for the establishment of an institution of this kind and I request the hon. Minister to see that facilities are given to the people of those dry areas to get the benefit of this land mortgage bank. Of course, many difficulties were pointed out and suggestions were made as to the lines on which the Minister should move in order to make it more beneficial and effective. I also appeal to him to see that steps are taken to make this land mortgage bank really more beneficial and attractive to the people.

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [25th March 1931]

“இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களில் சிலர் உள்ளவாறே வேலை செய்கிறார்கள். சிலரால் எழுதப் படிக்கத் தெரியாத ஆதிதிராவிடர்களை ஏமாற்றும் எவ்வளவோ கேட்கக் கூடியவருகின்றனர். இது இலாகா அதிகாரிகளுக்கே நன்றாகத் தெரியும். இவ்விஷயத்தில் ஏழை ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்குச் சரியான பாதுகாப்பளிக்கவேண்டும்.”

“அரசாங்கத்தார் ஏழை ஆதிதிராவிட சங்கங்கள் மீதுள்ள கடன்களை தள்ளி கொடுக்கவேண்டும். அப் பணத்தை அரசாங்கத்தாரே கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இந்தியா மண்ணில் பிறந்து இந்தியர்க்கே உழைத்த, இந்தியாவிலேயே இறக்கும் மக்களுக்கு ரூபியருக்க மனைக்கட்டுகள் அரசாங்கத்தாரே தாங்களாகவேணும். விலக்கு வாங்கியேனும் கொடுக்கவேண்டியது கடமையல்லவா? அப்படித் தள்ளிக்கொடுக்க மனமில்லாவிட்டால் வட்டியில்லாமல் வருஷந்தோறும் ஒரு தீர்வையாக வாங்கி முதலை மாத்திரம் தீர்த்துக்கொள்ள ஒழுங்கு செய்ய கனம் மத்திரியைக் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். கடன்களை அடியோடு தள்ளிவிட்டால் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் சங்கங்களால் அபிவிருத்தியடைவார்கள். முடியாவிட்டால் வட்டியைத் தள்ளினால் கடன்களில் முதலடையும், இல்லையேல் ஒருவழியில்லை.”

“ஐக்கிய நாணயச் சங்க இலாகா இன்ஸ்பெக்டர், ரூப்ரவைசர், கிளர்க்குகள் முதல் எல்லா உத்தியோகங்களும் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்க அரசாங்கத்தார் முன் வரவேண்டும்.”

“தொழிற் கம்பிஷனர் இலாகா தற்போது கனம் ஹோம் மெம்பர் ஸர். மகமத் உஸ்மான் சாஹிப் பகதூர் அவர்களிடமிருக்கிறது. அவர் அரசாங்க நிருவாகத்தை ஏற்றுக்கொண்ட முதல், ஷே இலாகா அவரிடமே இருந்து வருகிறது. 8-வது டிமாண்டில் நிருவாக சபை அங்கத்தினர்கள் விஷயமாகப் பேசும்போது கனம் சர் மகமது உஸ்மான் சாஹிப் பகதூர் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு மிகவும் தைரியத்தோடு உதவிபுரிந்து வந்தாரென்று சொன்னேன். இப்பொழுதும் அதனையே நினைப்பாடுகிறேன். கனம் ஹோம் மெம்பர் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பினரது இரட்சகமாகிய தொழிற் கம்பிஷனர் இலாகாவிற்கு மிகவும் ஆதரவளித்துள்ளார். அவரையே மறுபடியும் இருக்கும்படி செய்ததற்கு அரசாங்கத்தாருக்கு யானும் எனது சமூகப் பிரதிநிதிகளும் நன்றிபாராட்டுகிறோம். மகிழ்கிறோம். இனி எதிர்காலத்தில் கனம் மெம்பர் அவர்களது காலத்தில் அது தளராதபடி வேண்டிய பணம் உதவி செய்து தாங்குமபடி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

4-15
P.m.

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“I am not one of those who believe in the criticism levelled against the co-operative societies in India that the co-operative movement is a movement not suited to the country, that it is a foreign movement and that it is difficult for it to find a place in this country. I am one of those who believe that if there is any country where the co-operative movement can thrive it is India. I refer, Sir, to this fact because most of the life in India is in the villages, and villages we know have been for centuries based on co-operation. I also notice one fact in the administration report for 1929-30, viz., that the number of villages including towns affected by the co-operative movement is 34,087 out of 53,024, so that it is clear that the people are really taking to the movement. At the same time, we notice that the movement is passing through a crisis. There are many causes that have contributed to this state of affairs. I think, Sir, just now it is the depression in trade and other conditions which are temporary. But I may also refer to one fact that has been prominently responsible for making the co-operative movement a little unpopular. When the movement was started in this Presidency in the enthusiasm for starting many societies the inspectors or officers connected with the department encouraged people to start co-operative societies for purposes which were not really necessary. People thought if they formed co-operative societies they could get loans. It did not matter whether they would be able

25th March 1931] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

to repay the loans. That is the way in which the starting of the co-operative societies was rushed through. In the case of those societies the trouble was that they were formed on an unlimited liability basis. That was fatal to those societies. In the case of many of these poor societies the fact that it was an unlimited liability society made people come together, a few people contributed the share capital and afterwards the directorate was able to get money from the central bank and distribute it among some of the members many of whom happened to be either relations or other people who were known to the members of the directorate. Of course, I do not mean to say that unlimited societies are bad. But I refer to this fact, Sir, that at one stage in the history of the movement in this Presidency the rush for forming societies was so great that without reference to this fact that the people must be made to understand when they took loans they ought to pay back and that every member of the society would be jointly responsible for the payment of loans whether he took loan for himself or not, many societies were formed without members knowing their responsibility. That is why unlimited liability has failed. Now the time for reckoning has come and what do we find? In paragraph 114 of the Administration Report I find this passage: ‘There has been considerable activity in the matter of bad and dormant societies and 323 societies were dissolved of which 296 were agricultural societies. At the end of the year there were 612 societies undergoing liquidation.’ I think, Sir, this is a sorry state of things. Of course it is only the expected that is happening. One day or other they have to face their troubles and things have to be adjusted. I therefore, Sir, desire that it should be the duty of the officers entrusted with the formation of co-operative societies to point out to the people who organize co-operative societies the liabilities they will have to incur in case unlimited societies are formed. I also think, Sir, that there should be a central organization in Madras which would be able to keep itself in touch with the various societies, especially societies which buy and sell like the weavers’ societies. The central organization in Madras should have officers who will be able to help these societies with regard to the purchase of raw material and with regard to the sale of the finished products. It is only the other day the Council sanctioned a marketing officer for the Salem Weavers’ Co-operative Society. It would have been a good thing if there had been a central society which could buy things at wholesale prices the requirements of the various societies both in the city and the mufassal and after getting back the finished products of the various societies sell them in the best market. A few years ago an association in Madras was started on these lines called the Madras Cottage Industries Association. It functioned for some time and Government lent to the association the services of an inspector of co-operative societies who went about the country, purchased the finished products of co-operative societies and sold them in the best market. One advantage that the inspector as well as the central association had, was that they were able to know what the requirements of the market were. As an example I may cite the instance of a society in Natrampalli. It is a society famed for the manufacture of coarse rugs. The society did not find a sale for the

[Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar] [25th March 1931]

rugs it manufactured but after the size was changed there was a great demand. The society at first did not understand the requirements of the market. After the inspector reported to them the need for a change in the size the society adopted the change and it was able to get good prices for its products. I desire also to refer to the need for the Government helping the co-operative movement at this critical juncture. The other day we passed a demand of ten lakhs of rupees to be given as short-term loans to co-operative societies. There was some discussion about the rate of interest and finally I think we adopted 7 per cent. I wish that loan had not been a short-term loan for the societies are likely to come again and ask for extension for it will not be possible to repay the amount within the time. I wish that larger amounts had also been allotted for this purpose. I wish also, Sir, to state that in the case of the village co-operative societies greater attempt should be made to make those societies function in directions which they have not been functioning till now. For example we know in many of the villages horns and bones of animals are being wasted. If a co-operative society is formed and the horns and bones are collected a button factory could be easily started. If a co-operative society for the manufacture of buttons is started in a village the people of the village many of whom would I expect come from the depressed classes would be able to join the society and button could be manufactured and the finished products sent to a central organization where it can be sold. Similar ideas could also be thought of with regard to the manufacture of other products. I take it, Sir, this is one of those ideas which should have been suggested by the committee which sat for the improvement of cottage industries in Madras. If the Government desire to give effect to the recommendations of the committee I think it will be possible for the cottage industries to develop and the co-operative societies may be made to function for the improvement of cottage industries."

*Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I have given notice of a token cut to impress the necessity of drawing fresh rules to facilitate Adi-Dravidas getting loans from House Building Societies. Sir, this matter has been one that has been brought to the notice of the Government for more than one year. Even during last year's Budget debate I urged on the hon. Minister that proper rules must be formulated for the depressed classes to get advantages from the co-operative societies, especially the House Building Societies. I think the rules have become stricter than what they were hitherto and I do not know the reason for it. Sir, I happened to be one of the Directors of the Ootacamund Co-operative Building Society and I know fully well the amount of anxiety not by my own community members but by members of other communities. The rules are not elastic enough to give advantage to the members of the poorer communities. The present rule, Sir, demands a proper security for a loan. Secondly they insist on the applicant to show before the grant of loan his repaying capacity. I find difference is also made between members. Some months ago the Registrar of Co-operative Societies sanctioned loans to four members among whom there were a petty contractor, a clerk and an electrician. But later on another contractor applied for a loan. This petty contractor happened

[25th March 1931] [V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

to be an Adi-Dravida. For the mere fact that the security he afforded was not enough the loan was turned down. The loan was recommended by the Board of Directors a body influential in Ootacamund consisting of two Members of the Legislative Council, the Revenue officer of the Municipal Council and the Engineer of that place and a few other respectable people. The Engineer who valued the property informed the Board of Directors that the security offered is twice the amount asked for. Unfortunately due to certain circumstances the loan has been turned down. An appeal was sent to the authorities concerned, who considered the application and sanctioned the loan subject to a condition. The condition was that the particular member (Adi-Dravida) is to ask his father to become a member of the society and to offer his property also as collateral security. Mind, Sir, the Ootacamund Co-operative Building Society has its jurisdiction only over that town, but his father having property some six miles away has been asked to furnish security. I do not think, Sir, for a moment that the rules framed in such a manner are affording any facility at all to a depressed class man. The important point I wish to impress upon the Government is that when a contractor placed in a similar situation in life was given a certain privilege, that particular privilege was not extended to an Adi-Dravida contractor. This matter has been agitating the minds of the members of my community there, and representations were made to me and also to the authorities concerned. Moreover, Sir, when the Board of Directors can deal with cases of such loans and if their recommendations are not to be considered by the authorities concerned, I think it is flouting the very recommendations of the Board of Directors. After all, these associations are formed and conducted by non-officials who give their time and service honorarily, and if their opinions were not to be taken into account, I think the progress of such institutions will be retarded. Also, Sir, in a place like Ootacamund, where we have only a few months of building season, if the matter of granting a loan were to take nine or ten months, you can very well imagine what will be the fate of those members who have joined the society. I also understand that the man whose case I have brought to the notice of this House is a very respectable man having some eight children and living in a rented house. The object of starting co-operative building societies was to help such people who are living for years together in rented houses and who are not in a position to build houses of their own. But, if the Co-operative department were to treat depressed class members in this unsympathetic fashion, I think it is better that the hon. Minister-in-charge looks very carefully into the matter and sets right matters to facilitate smooth working. Moreover, Sir, one of the rules of the building society is that the man who takes a loan should not rent his house. Of course, the member in question at the time of applying for the loan gave a declaration in writing that on no account he will let the house on rent, but that he will occupy it himself and use it for his own purpose. This rule may perhaps be relaxed in some exceptional cases. Moreover, the recent order of the Government raising the rate of interest from $6\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on long-term loans to building societies is not a welcome thing. Sir, the society was started some ten years ago, and some 25 members having taken loans from the

[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai] [25th March 1931]

building society are paying interest at $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, and if the new members are now asked to pay the enhanced rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, it is rather a hardship. This matter of the hardship felt by members of co-operative societies by the rise in the interest rate has already been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister, and I am hoping that the hon. Minister will kindly see that the old rate is restored at least in the case of the house building societies.

"One other point I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is this. In the Nilgiris after a good deal of agitation they started a land mortgage bank. While the proposal was originally mooted, the object of the several non-officials who took part in it was to start the land mortgage bank on a territorial basis and not on a communal basis. When a committee was constituted—my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar also happened to be on that committee and I also was on it—one of the findings of the committee was that they were to give facilities to all communities and place the bank on a territorial basis. Now, the Government want that the granting of loans should be confined to a particular community. Even in the beginning the committee emphasized the point that if the loans were not to be granted to all the communities there will not be much scope for expansion. This is what the committee said:—

'The committee is strongly of opinion that once the Badaga is relieved of the very high rate of interest which he is now paying, his Hali lands, while still providing him with the means of subsistence, will also furnish the security for financial assistance to be furnished by Co-operative Societies or Takkavi loans to enable him to grow tea or improve his economic condition in other directions.'

"Sir, in the Administration Report of the Madras Presidency for the year 1929-30, I find the following:—

'The Badaga Land Mortgage Bank, however, began to function in January 1930. Forty-three members were admitted but only one loan to the value of Rs. 400 was disbursed. A very large number of applications had to be rejected owing to the fact that Badagas as a rule have no proper title to the land they cultivate jointly without subdivision.'

"For conducting this land mortgage bank, the Government have gone to the extent of getting a Tahsildar who came from Coimbatore and spending a lot of money in maintaining him and his staff. But from the Administration Report, from which I have quoted, you will see that only one loan has been given in that year, because the Government have made up their minds to confine their operations, as far as its operations are concerned, on communal lines. So, the hon. Minister will see that the activities of such banks, especially in a place like the Nilgiris where there is not much of communal feeling, are extended to other communities as well.

"Now, coming to the policy adopted by the Co-operative department, my hon. Friend Mr. Sahajanandam has fully dealt with the matters concerning the depressed classes. But, what I find from the Administration Report is that there are only 3,054 societies of depressed classes at the end of the year as against 3,090 societies at the beginning. The reason given is that some societies have gone into

25th March 1931] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

liquidation. I am particularly glad that the Co-operative department has lent the services of Mr. Giriappa, a very capable man who had charge of Coimbatore, Malabar and the Nilgiris for several years and who is very popular among the depressed classes. Sir, while on this matter, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that during the audit of societies conducted in the mufassal the officers give a lot of worry to members of the depressed classes for collecting the overdue arrears. I think, as Mr. Sahajanandam pointed out, that there must be a certain amount of relaxation of the rules so as to write off the interest due by very poor depressed class members on the loans they have taken. Moreover, the depressed classes in the rural parts have not yet understood the real value of co-operation. So, I appeal to the hon. Minister that there must be some sort of propaganda work to be done in this direction. If the hon. Minister finds it difficult to do that through the agency of his departmental officials, I think a certain non-official body like the Madras Provincial Co-operative Union, may be asked to undertake such propaganda work with a view to spreading the co-operative movement among the depressed classes in a more effective manner, thus bringing to them all the benefits of co-operation."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not want to traverse the same ground that has been already covered by my predecessors. I only wish to say, Sir, that the co-operative department has failed to a very large extent in taking the co-operative movement to the community of weavers. The weaving community, next to agriculturists, still hold the field in our Presidency, and the weavers do require great encouragement and great relief. They are in the grip of money-lenders who still have complete sway over them. There was a time when the weaving industry was the most flourishing one in this Presidency. But now it is on the decline, and it should have been the duty of the Co-operative department to go to their rescue, and afford them the necessary relief that they required. They must be provided with facilities to produce all kinds of cloth. But they find it very difficult to market their productions. They do not have necessary capital to purchase the right kind and the right type of thread in large quantities. They are not able to produce on a mass scale any one variety of cloth. They require information and advice as to where exactly they can get the required material in the shape of yarn and other things, how exactly they could utilize it and how they could be made to manufacture the necessary type of cloth that will be saleable in the market. The Co-operative department in other countries, I understand, Sir, have done a good deal for the weaving societies. But in India and particularly in our Presidency, the weaving community as a whole has been neglected by the Co-operative department. I wish, Sir, that the hon. Minister takes note of this and does something to relieve these weaving societies and weaving communities from the disabilities under which they are now suffering.

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayed] [25th March 1931]

"Then, Sir, there is one other backward community. I am loathe to refer to that community, but still as my hon. Friends who belong to the other communities do not refer to this backward community, I am compelled to do so. I regret very much that one who belongs to that community has himself to advocate for that community. I wish, Sir, that other members who do not belong to that community said something on behalf of that community and relieved us from the frequent reference to that community which seems odious to our other friends. I say, Sir, that the Co-operative department has made the least inroad into the Muslim community. They have not taken to the movement with any aptitude, nor does the community know in many cases even the existence of the co-operative movement, although co-operative societies are found to exist in their midst. I do not know the reason why such a state of affairs exists. (A voice: Blindness?) It may be as my hon. Friend suggests due to blindness, due to want of education or want of attention, that is probably what he means. I think attention on them is lacking; knowledge too is lacking in them. In order to remove that darkness, if they are so suffering from such darkness, I appeal to the hon. Minister to see what can be done to remedy it and how societies for Mussalmans can be started and encouraged. I do not know what proportion of the existing societies is composed of Mussalmans. Sir, it will be microscopically small. I do not stand for communal representation in this matter. But here is a community which is admittedly an integral part of the people of this Presidency. Are you going to say that this community must stand static? Will you not carry the benefits of co-operation into their midst, so that we may have progress all round? That is my point. I want, Sir, that the hon. Minister should devise some methods by which he could make the co-operative movement popular among that community. I am sorry that this community unlike other communities, has not yet taken to this movement nor derived any advantage whatsoever from this movement.

4-45
p.m.

"There are, Sir, large funds spent on this department. It may be that some more money is required to bring the other communities into the fold of this movement. It can't be denied that a great section of the agriculturists, a great section of the merchants and a great section of the industrialists do belong to the Muslim community and they ought also to be carried along with the other communities. I therefore press upon the hon. Minister the need for bearing these two matters in mind, first the weaving communities and second the Muslim communities.

"Then, Sir, in the matter of the promotion of khaddar the Government have not announced any change of policy. I hope that they will take time by the forelock and see that swadeshi and khaddar are promoted at a rapid pace than what is being done now. I want, Sir, that they should remove the Democles' sword that their predecessors, or whoever it may be, have hung on the co-operative societies. They ought to encourage openly and deliberately the production, the sale

25th March 1931] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

of khaddar and the marketing of khaddar with the approval and concurrence of the Government. In this connexion I want also to refer to another thing. In the encouragement of khaddar there is a deep fear existing in the minds of Government servants, quasi-Government servants and even non-officials that the moment they wear khaddar or promote the use of khaddar or speak about khaddar the Government will come down upon them. The Government should remove this fear by necessary orders published. The Co-operative department must take upon itself the responsibility of promoting khaddar handwoven and hand-spun. Not merely cotton and wool, but also silk ought to be manufactured. I therefore urge upon the hon. the Minister to do something in this direction."

* MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, it is not advisable to speak disparagingly of the work of the co-operative societies seeing that almost all hon. Members seemed to compliment the working of the same. But, Sir, for my humble self, I am not quite impressed with the benefit which these co-operative societies have conferred upon those who have had anything to do with them. From the report of the working of the agricultural co-operative societies I find that there are large outstandings and that for these the panchayatdars are themselves mostly responsible. Apart from that, Sir, the real object with which these credit societies were organized and started was to reduce the rate of interest prevalent in those places where they were formed, but, Sir, in many cases that object has been thwarted by the number of petty contributions which a borrower has to make before he can get the loan into his hands. In places where the people are really keen about the working of these co-operative societies it seems very desirable that the Government must give them what help it can. I find from a complaint from Tindivanam in South Arcot district that one society which was doing the business of purchase and sale of manure has been asked to wind up. I am told that there has been some laxity in the working of that society during the last year. On account of this the department seems to have warned the society that they will be compelled to ask them to liquidate in case some activity is not shown hereafter. Sir, I am definitely informed by the people responsible to that society that they would proceed with the work of the society vigorously and that they would on that ground request the Government to allow them to run the society without enforcing the liquidation order.

"My Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, has been complaining probably against the Hindu and Christian members of this House in that they have not taken up the cause of the Muslim community with regard to the co-operative societies. Sir, all my Muhammadan friends here have been speaking so profusely of Muhammadan representation in all branches of the administration that some of us thought that we will be taking the only matter left to them if we also speak on the same subject. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Question.) Apart from that I daresay that there is nothing prohibiting any Muhammadan from

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [25th March 1931]

becoming a member of a co-operative society. I do not think the co-operative societies have become so officialized as to make it possible for communal representation being enforced even there. But if weavers should consist only of Muhammadans and if they require help of the sort mentioned by my hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed I should suppose that it would be possible for that community to avail themselves of the help of the Co-operative department and get societies started. Sir, my complaint against the co-operative societies is this: that even in matters of business doings, the Government do not encourage businessmen to take active part, but merely employ their officials fresh from the colleges or schools. For instance, in the Salem Weavers' Union, this House had to pass a supplementary grant for the employment of a marketing officer. In that connexion though a suggestion was made on the floor of this House that a man experienced in this line, preferably a businessman might be employed to find out a market for the large stock of cloth in their possession, I find, Sir, to my surprise that one Deputy Registrar, I believe, has been employed on this work. It would certainly take a lot of time for this young man to take up the thread of business in this direction to be of any use to the society or for the purpose for which he was employed. If instead of appointing a raw recruit like him for this work the Government had put a weaver in that place and given some allowance he would have done very much better even in this case where his duty is to find market for a commodity which has ceased to find a demand. The attempt which this young man has been asked to make is a curious one. Sir, it would be impossible for any Government to find markets for a commodity which has ceased to be the fashion. I am told that so far as the cloth manufactured by the Salem weavers is concerned there is no demand at all even among the people of the Northern Circars who were once taking to it. Most of them have now taken to khaddar and they do not want this at all. Under such circumstances I wonder what this officer is going to do. Is he going to create a demand for this instead of khaddar. I am sure he cannot succeed and therefore it is sheer waste of money for the Government to appoint an officer for this purpose.

"Sir, I am surprised, that the Government should introduce politics into co-operative societies while they want the members themselves not to indulge in politics. They are setting a very bad example. If the members of a particular co-operative society are of opinion that the commodity called khaddar would find better sales and that the manufacture of that commodity would give them better profits, I wonder why the Government should stand in their way. I think it is needless interference by the department which has absolutely no experience of markets and no experience of business and much less of finding markets for the commodities which these societies manufacture. I want the Government not to indulge in this kind of interference with regard to co-operative societies. The duties of the department must be confined to giving the societies technical advice and nothing more. They should not go beyond that. They should not tell a society that

25th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

it should only deal in a particular commodity and not deal in another commodity. That would be needless interference. I do not want to use any strong word with regard to that. I hope that the present Ministry will see its way to withdraw the Government Orders allowing this interference. I daresay that the Government must be now aware that the demand for khaddar has come to stay. There is no going behind that. As a matter of fact several merchants in Godown street have stopped the sale of foreign goods. I am speaking only of retail and small merchants. They have stopped buying foreign goods such as piece goods and so on and have opened stalls for khaddar and are having big sales now. Even such big merchants like Messrs. Chellaram and Krishna and Company have put up boards saying that they have no more imported foreign goods, but have only Indian mill goods and khaddar. This means that the current is going in that direction. So I ask the Government to take advantage of this feeling and do all they can in order to help such co-operative societies as want to take up this business. In conclusion I would repeat my request to the hon. Minister to suspend the liquidation order on the Tindivanam Industrial and Agricultural Society and allow them to work and show better results next time."

* MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"A word of personal explanation, Sir. Sir, I did not say that Muslims should have representation on co-operative societies or any such thing. My friend misrepresented me. What I said was that the co-operative movement should be carried to those communities, whichever those communities may be, which have not hitherto taken to it. In fact, in Udumalpet of the Co-operative department refuses to give sanction for the opening of a society called Muslim Co-operative Society. I do not know whether this is encouraging the co-operative movement among those communities which have not taken to it. I would like the Minister to inquire into it."

* RAI SAHIB C. KOLANDA REDDI:—"Mr. President, the object of my token cut though it is not specified in the motion itself, is this: I want to draw the particular attention of the hon. Minister to six important points in connexion with the administration of the co-operative societies. These are: (1) appointment of a separate Registrar for language areas such as the Andhradesa; (2) registration of co-operative insurance schemes, to wit, the Andhra Co-operative Insurance Society, Limited; (3) co-operative education and training, continuing permanently all the six co-operative institutes and grant-in-aid by the Government of the production of co-operative literature in Telugu and other vernaculars; (4) obtaining non-official opinion on the New Co-operative Amendment Bill and co-option into the Council and other committees dealing with it of the representatives of the three apex propagandist institutions, viz., Madras Provincial Co-operative Union, Andhra Sahakara Sammelanam (Andhra Provincial Co-operative Union) and Tamil Nadu Federation; (5) continuance of federations with their present functions as distinct from financing banks; (6) deprecia-

[Mr. C. Kolanda Reddi] [25th March 1931]

tion of separate supervising unions for labour and suppressed classes' societies; encouragement of them to affiliate themselves to ordinary unions.

"With regard to the first point, Sir, I may submit that co-operation is a movement concerned primarily with the poor and rural population. Most of them are altogether unlettered. The small percentage of them that can claim any literacy whatever may be up to the three R's and that only in the vernacular. Whatever ideas may have to be imparted to them or whichever movement purposes to work for their betterment must have a vernacular bias as the chief medium of education. Propaganda or education in that behalf must be conducted through the medium of the mother tongue of the place. From this it follows that people connected with and labouring for the movement must have a grasp of that vernacular so that they get first-hand knowledge of the genius, feelings, wants and even predilections of those people. Nothing can achieve this end better, so far as the administrative side of it is concerned, than the appointment at the head of the department, of one 5 p.m. who is of the people and of the particular linguistic extraction and can converse with them freely and can get into and even behind their ideas and ideals.

"This is the principle and the basis of the insistent demand from the Andhra co-operative public for the appointment as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, preferably an Andhra gentleman or failing it, at least one having intimate knowledge of the Andhra tongue as well as of men and things Andhra separately for the Andhra area. Several resolutions embodying the principle were passed at successive conferences, provincial, district and taluk since 1919 when the first Andhra Provincial Co-operative Conference was held with the agreement and the encouragement of the then Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Mr. Hemingway, and all these resolutions were duly communicated from time to time to Government to be pigeon-holed as usual.

"With regard to the second point, Sir, namely, the question of co-operative insurance, it is long overdue in this part of the country. Bengal and Bombay had their own schemes and are successfully working since some time. The feeling in Andhra country is very keen and a resolution urging and supporting a scheme of co-operative insurance to Andhradesa was adopted by several Andhra provincial and district conferences and also in the Madras Provincial Co-operative Conference."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The hon. Member may continue his speech, if time permits, 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.

25th March 1931]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 716 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th March 1931, page 586 supra.]

Proceedings of the Commissioner of Excise, Madras, D. No. 318/Abk.-31, dated the 6th February 1931.

A copy of the Collector's report about the site of T.S. No. 8 in the Calicut municipality is submitted to Government.

2. The limits notified for the location of the shop were approved by the Excise Licensing Board at their first meeting held on 1st May 1930 under rule 13 (i) (a) of the Excise Licensing Board Rules and as no objection was received, a second meeting under rule 13 (i) (b) was not held and the limits already approved were made final for the lease commencing from 1st October 1930. The shop was sold subject to the limits notified.

3. The Commissioner desires to point out that according to the rules, the Excise Licensing Board should deal with the location of toddy shops at a meeting held not later than 15th May and in case of objection, at a further meeting held not later than the 15th June. After this meeting the list is final and the Board has no power to alter the details of the notified limits after the auctions. The decision taken by the Calicut Excise Licensing Board at their meeting held on 27th September 1930 was ultra vires and the successful bidder for the shop could not be compelled to locate his shop outside the limits notified. In the circumstances, the Commissioner agreeing with the Collector permitted the location of the shop in the site selected by the renter within the notified limits but on the condition that he (the renter) should block up the door opening into the main trunk road and open one at the back of the building. The shop continues in the site so approved.

Enclosure.

Letter from the Collector of Malabar, Calicut, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Excise, Madras, dated the 30th October 1930, Ref. No. A-2-9205-30.

[Abkari—Country liquor—Calicut taluk—Toddy shop No. 8—Location—
[Reference.—C.R. No. 10111/Abk.-30, dated 20th October 1930.]

The notified limits of the shop are "north, Kallai river; east, Parambas lying 20 yards to the east of the Coast road; south, hospital; west, railway line." The Excise Licensing Board when it met on 19th August 1930 to approve the specific sites selected by the renters, passed the following order in respect of the shop:—"Mr. Suryanarayana Rao's objection is considered,

[25th March 1931]

To move the shop site north is objectionable with regard to the mills and to move it south brings the shop nearer the school. The Board considers that the shop should be moved off the trunk road, in view of the disturbance of traffic which has resulted from the picketing recently. The shop must therefore move down the Panniankara or other side road. If the renter says he is unable to get a site, Dr. Balaram and the Tahsildar will endeavour to get a site although it is beyond the notified limits."

2. The Tahsildar accordingly selected a site on the Panniankara road which runs from west to east from the main trunk road and the Board which met again on 27th September 1930 approved the site and passed the following order:—

"T.S. No. 8.—The Board's resolution of 19th August 1930 will stand. The renter's petition, dated 9th September 1930, to retain the shop in the present site for the next lease is rejected. The objection petition of the residents is lodged. The eastern boundary limit is extended to 200 yards from the Coast road."

3. The new site selected by the Tahsildar and approved by the Board is quite suitable and altogether unobjectionable. It is not likely that it will be water-logged at any time. But it is outside the notified limits. The Board had no power to alter these limits after it had approved and passed the final schedule and therefore, its decision that the shop should be located in the land selected by the Tahsildar, appears to be ultra vires. I do not think that the renter can be compelled to shift the shop outside the notified limits. Within the notified limits, there is no suitable and unobjectionable site. I therefore recommend that the Board's decision may be set aside and the renter allowed to retain the shop on its present site if he would block up the door opening into the main trunk road, and open one at the back of the building. The renter has agreed before me that he would do this.

25th March 1931]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 722 asked by Mr. M. Devadasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th March 1931, page 589 supra.]

Districts.	Approximate value of work performed on irrigation works by customary labour.	Amount of contribution in lieu of labour levied under section 6 of Act I of 1858.	Voluntary contributions towards repairs to irrigation works executed by the Revenue or Public Works Department.	
			In labour.	In money.

I—1928-29.

	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Ganjam	1,394	..	..	..
Vizagapatam	380	..	..	..
Godavari, East	895	1,971	..	470
Do. West	..	..	..	..
Kistna	105	2,199	..	450
Guntur	415	1,255	..	..
Nellore	22,410	2,029	..	328
Cuddapah	838	5,537	..	686
Anantapur	..	..	..	..
Bellary	..	3,259	..	..
Kurnool	14,287	4,587	..	..
Chingleput	33,506	7,040	675	..
North Arcot	27,310	4,013	..	8,017
Chittoor	26,742	7,849	..	220
South Arcot	44,337	887	..	..
Tanjore	8,167	5,088	..	..
Trichinopoly	..	..	..	..
Madura	212	..	..	..
Ramnad	924	2,909	..	..
Tinnevely	..	5,614	..	..
Coimbatore	6,201	5,813	2,215	..
Salem	..	..	..	..

II—1929-30.

	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Ganjam	2,150	..	..	..
Vizagapatam	171	..	..	..
Godavari, East	..	780	..	452
Do. West	..	..	..	..
Kistna	..	1,660	..	..
Guntur	30	5,198	..	..
Nellore	8,770	5,443	..	..
Cuddapah	880	3,395	1,300	1,685
Anantapur	..	671	..	..
Bellary	..	2,933	..	..
Kurnool	22,684	4,305	..	..
Chingleput	31,343	1,803	..	6,484
Chittoor	30,252	6,226	150	..
North Arcot	27,933	3,797	..	1,896
South Arcot	49,330	984	..	..
Tanjore	10,841	4,461	..	..
Trichinopoly	..	5,298	..	..
Madura	887	..	..	..
Ramnad	764	1,900	..	299
Tinnevely	..	5,059	..	..
Coimbatore	10,633	8,188	255	..
Salem	..	..	..	..

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Thursday, the 26th March 1931..

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Uman Sahib Bahadur, Kt., The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A. Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Krishnan Nayar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.O.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.O.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. Palat, Mr. B. M.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Patro, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	Premayya, Mr. G. B.
Araon, Mr. V. T.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Raja of Bobbili.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Raja of Kallikota.
Bashier Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Raja of Parlakimedi.
Rasu Dev, Mr. C.	Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.	Ramamurti, I.O.S., Mr. S. V.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Birley Mr. F.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Ramaswami Ayyer, Mr. T. S.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Gopelaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Hilton Brown, I.O.S., Mr.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Indriah, Mr. C.	Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur G. S.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.	Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Jagannatham Mr. H. M.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Satyansarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Kesava Ramanurthi Nayudu, Mr. K.	Sasha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Kondappa, Mr. A.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. B.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Mahmud Sobamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K.P. V. S.	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.	Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Nallatambi Sarkarai Manradyar, Rai Bahadur.	Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib B.
	Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
	Waddington, Mr. H.
	Wright, Mr. W. O.
	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
	Zamindar of Kirlampadi.
	Zamindar of Mirsapuram.

[26th March 1981]

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

District Gazetteers

Issue of the Gazetteer of Chingleput district.

* 726 Q.—Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is proposed to issue the Gazetteer of Chingleput district and if so, when?

A.—The preparation of Gazetteer of the Chingleput district is not under contemplation at present.

Irrigation

Scrutiny of the budget on account of the Cauvery-Mettur Project.

* 727 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the budget estimates proposed by the Engineer-in-Chief in charge of the Cauvery-Mettur Project are scrutinized by any other officer;

(b) whether it is proposed to institute a committee of experts to prevent over-budgeting and the consequent loss to Government; and

(c) whether the Engineer-in-Chief responsible for preparing the budget informs the Government about the progress of works from time to time?

A.—(a) Yes, by the Government.

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—“May I know, with reference to the answer given in clause (a), who is the particular officer concerned that scrutinizes the estimate prepared by the Engineer-in-Chief in charge of the Cauvery-Mettur Project? Is he an individual or the Government as a whole?”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“The Government as a whole, i.e., the estimates are scrutinized in the Public Works and Finance Departments of the Secretariat and by the Members of the Government concerned.”

Local Boards and Municipalities

Reservation of seats for Minority Communities in local bodies.

* 728 Q.—Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government sent any instructions to the local bodies or have drawn their attention to the respective provisions of the Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Act of 1980 and the Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Act in the matter of reservation of seats for minority communities and women in the local bodies and called for their recommendations as to the number of seats to be allotted to different communities and women;

[26th March 1981]

(b) if so, whether the Government would lay on the table a copy of the communication to the local bodies;

(c) whether the Government have verified that the local bodies paid due regard to the number and importance of the communities in forwarding their recommendations as to the number of seats to be allotted to each community;

(d) whether it is a fact that the municipalities of Bezwada, Masulipatam, Rajahmundry, Cocanada, Vizagapatam, Visianagram, and Berhampur have recommended allotment of seats in utter disregard of the number and importance of the different communities and especially Muslims;

(e) how many seats have been allotted for Muslims in the recommendations sent by the local boards in Kistna, West Godavari, East Godavari, Vizagapatam, and Ganjam districts; and

(f) whether the Government propose to allot seats to Muslims in the local boards and municipalities proportionate to their population and having due regard to their importance and number, as provided by the proviso to sub-section (8) of section 7 of the District Municipalities (Amendment) Act of 1980 and clause 6 of section 9 of the Local Boards (Amendment) Act?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) G.O. No. 187, L. & M., dated the 21st January 1981, and G.O. No. 188, L. & M., dated the 21st January 1981, are placed on the table.

(c), (d) & (e) The proposals will be submitted in the first instance to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards who will get them scrutinized by his mufassal staff and submit his own recommendations in the matter to Government. No such recommendations have yet been received by Government in respect of the local bodies referred to.

(f) The Government must necessarily be guided by the proviso to sub-section (8) of section 7 of the District Municipalities Act and the corresponding sections of the Local Boards Act.

Mr. BASHIR AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know whether the recommendations received from the Inspector of Local Bodies will be made available to the Members of this Council representing minorities?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“The recommendations are confidential.”

Mr. BASHIR AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know whether opportunities will be given to the members representing minority communities to bring to the notice of the Government the defects that exist in the resolutions of the local bodies so that the Government may remedy those defects before the next election?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“I am afraid it will not be possible to do all that, because there will be no sufficient time for it before the next elections are held.”

[26th March 1931]

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the recommendations made by local bodies are not public property and why before Government pass their final orders those who are affected by those recommendations should not be given an opportunity to redress their grievances?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I shall be glad to instruct the Inspector of Local Bodies to receive any deputation that might like to represent their grievances to him before he finally passes orders."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether he will issue instructions to see that copies of resolutions passed in this respect are furnished to the Members of this House?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am sure that resolutions of local bodies are always published in district gazettes."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether Government will be pleased to inform the local bodies what the recommendations of the Inspector of Local Bodies are and whether the Government are going to accept those recommendations?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The idea is that as far as possible Government will consult Local Bodies before final orders are passed by the Government."

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—"May I know whether the Government have asked these local bodies to submit their recommendations within a stated time?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That we have done already."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know on what basis the Government will decide that the recommendations of the Inspector of Local Bodies are in accordance with the principles laid down in the provisions of the two Acts?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The principles are there in the Act."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I want to know by what means the Government will decide that the recommendations of the local bodies and those of the Inspector of Local Bodies are in accordance with the principles laid down in the Act?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am afraid I cannot answer that question in the form in which it is put."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether he will be pleased to instruct the Inspector of Local Bodies to make his recommendations available to the local bodies concerned so that the latter may make their recommendations to the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I understand that the Inspector of Local Bodies is already consulting the various local bodies concerned."

[26th March 1931]

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that the resolutions of the local bodies are published long after they have been passed, in some cases even after two or three months?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not know if such a long time is taken for the publication of these resolutions."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what the instructions are that have been issued to the staff before Government accept the recommendations of the Inspector of Local Bodies and pass final orders?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The instructions are that the mufassal staff and also the Inspector of Local Bodies should receive all the complaints that may be preferred by the public and consider them."

Medical

Private practice by medical men in Government service.

* 729 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether some time ago a circular was issued warning medical men in Government service against misusing the right of private practice;

(b) whether any disciplinary action has so far been taken against any medical officers who are directly or indirectly connected with nursing homes, dispensaries or drug stores or those who are hanging their sign-boards on chemists' shops; and

(c) whether such practices are continuing to-day in Madras City?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Neither the Government nor the Surgeon-General has any information in the matter.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"If Government have no information in this matter, may I know why a circular warning women doctors was issued?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That circular was issued two or three years ago on the information then furnished to us."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state why it is that while officers in other services like Engineering are not allowed to have private practice, the officers in the medical service alone are allowed to have private practice?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I cannot discuss that question now. If notice is given, I shall be able to answer it."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether Government made any enquiry regarding the misuse of the right of private practice by medical practitioners in Government service after the circular was issued?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Surgeon-General was consulted in the matter and he has replied that there was no harm in allowing the Government medical practitioners to have private practice."

[26th March 1931]

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to call for a report as to whether any Government medical practitioners have got any nursing homes, and if so, how many ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I do not think there is any necessity for it."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. Minister as to what he means by saying ' misusing ' ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, they are entitled to private practice within certain limits. When they exceed that limit we have to say they have ' misused ' the privilege given to them."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Is there any financial limit imposed upon them ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I cannot answer that question now."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" If Government medical practitioners have started private nursing homes, does this not go beyond the limits allowed for private practice ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I may say that I was discussing this question with the Surgeon-General and he was of opinion that the establishment of nursing homes by Government medical practitioners need not necessarily be an infringement on the rights of private practice."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether there are any stated hours of work for these Civil Surgeons ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" The other day the hon. Minister said that officers in Government medical service are not allowed to have nursing homes, and to-day he replies that they are allowed to have private nursing homes if it does not interfere with their regular work. May I know which is it that is correct, the previous answer or the present one ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" As I said, the whole question is under consideration."

Rural Reconstruction

Proposals regarding rural reconstruction.

* 730 Q.—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether he proposes to introduce any new measures for rural reconstruction or work those already in existence ?

A.—No. The existing measures will be continued.

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" This Council sanctioned the amendment of the local bodies Acts and also the Panchayat Act. May I know how the hon. Minister is going to give effect to the rural reconstruction scheme ? "

[26th March 1931]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I cannot answer that."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Apart from the funds that are made available for rural reconstruction scheme, is it the intention of the Government to allot any further sums towards the same this year ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" No, Sir."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know what the hon. Minister means by ' rural reconstruction ' ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The member who put the interpellation may be asked about it."

Agriculture

Qualifications of candidates for admission into the Agricultural College.

* 731 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what the qualifications prescribed for admission into the Agricultural College are ;

(b) whether students who have taken agriculture as an optional subject for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination are eligible for admission ; and

(c) whether it is proposed to institute a short-term course in the Agricultural College for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate candidates who have taken agriculture as an optional subject to enable them to become teachers in agriculture and Assistant Agricultural Demonstrators ?

A.—(a) Candidates shall have passed completely the Intermediate examination in Arts and Science of the University of Madras and have qualified in Group I or II of Part II thereof under the old regulations or in Group A of Part III under the new regulations with Chemistry and another subject except Geography or shall have passed an examination of some other University accepted by the syndicate of the Madras University as equivalent thereto.

(b) No ; they are not.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Public Works Department

Recruitment of Assistant Engineers in the Public Works Department.

* 732 Q.—Mr. M. VENACHALA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any recommendation of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation regarding the introduction of direct recruitment for the post of Assistant Engineers in the Public Works Department ;

(b) in what stage that proposal is at present ; and

(c) whether there is any likelihood of its coming into force in the near future ; and if so, when ?

[26th March 1931]

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Proposals for the alteration of the rules for admission to the Madras Engineering Service, which include the question of direct recruitment, are under the consideration of Government.

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Public Health

Quinine distribution in the Presidency.

733 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government propose to enlarge the areas for the free distribution of quinine with reference to the remarks in paragraph 91 of the Public Health Report for 1929, viz., that the reason for the rather large unspent balance (of 40 per cent of 2,500 lb. of quinine stocked for free distribution) is the restriction of the areas of free distribution?

A.—The Director of Public Health has submitted proposals for revising the scheme of free distribution of quinine, on the basis of malaria surveys already made and his proposals are under the consideration of the Government.

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

II.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32—cont.

DEMAND XXIII—CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—TRANSFERRED—cont.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I may inform the hon. Member, Mr. C. K. Reddi, that there are only 15 minutes before the Demand can be put to the vote of the House. If he chooses, he can speak for five minutes and leave the rest to the hon. the Minister for reply."

* Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI:—"Yesterday I was dealing with the second point, namely, the question of co-operative insurance. It is long overdue in this part of the country. Bengal and Bombay have their schemes and are successfully working them since some time. Feeling in Andhra is very keen on it. Resolutions urging the starting of a scheme of co-operative insurance for Andhra were adopted at several Andhra Provincial and District Conference and also at Madras Provincial Conference in a general way last year. A scheme in pursuance thereof was prepared by the Andhra Sahakara Sammelanam, the provincial propagandist body for Andhra, signed by about sixty prominent co-operators and sent up last May to the Registrar for registration. A scheme of co-operative insurance for postal employees seems likewise to await registration. Latterly two other schemes one for districts and the other for Madras Presidency exclusive (I believe) of Andhra area, seem to have been sent up also for consideration. The usefulness of developing this aspect needs no dilation; for it is well known that it will be helpful not only to secure funds for long-term finance very much wanted if the ever-mounting overdues are to be brought down, but to indirectly

[26th March 1931] [Mr. C. Kolanda Reddi]

secure the margin needed for the employment of paid staff which, it is the opinion of all experienced co-operators, is essential, should the movement run efficiently, at least more flawlessly. It is understood that there was some ban by the local Government on co-operative insurance. The promoters of the Andhra and other schemes made strong earnest representations to the Registrar explaining their need and usefulness. Will the Government lift up the ban if any, on co-operative insurance and the Registrar register the Andhra and other schemes early?

"The third point is the question of co-operative education comprising training as imparted in the co-operative institutes and the production of co-operative literature in Telugu and other vernaculars. Out of the six institutes, three in Andhra and three in Tamil Nadu, two were almost scrapped some time ago, the one at Vellore in Tamil Nadu and the other at Bezwada in Andhra, mainly on the ground of over-production of trained men. But when statistics were gathered, it was easily shown, so far as Bezwada was concerned, that a hundred and fifty-six out of one hundred and eighty-two passed men and about half of those that were plucked were absorbed in the official and non-official branches of the movement and in other departments. Too much stress cannot be laid on the importance of co-operative education and training.

"Government is going to introduce a Bill to amend the present Co-operative Act. Strangely, though perhaps in keeping with the bureaucratic traditions, they have not chosen to take non-officials even of consequence into their confidence. Not even the more responsible bodies such as the Madras Provincial Co-operative Union, the Andhra Sahakara Sammelanam and the Tamil Nadu Federation have been consulted up till now or afforded an opportunity to give their views on the amended legislative proposal. In relation to an essentially peoples' movement at least like Co-operation, the Government may afford to shed some of its monopoly of wisdom and hear what the non-officials have to say by appointing a committee with representatives of those premier bodies and co-opting at the time of discussions on it in the Legislative Council and the special committee to be appointed thereafter, the representatives of those apex institutions as elected by themselves.

"The fifth is the vexed question of federations. Experienced opinion was very pronounced on this. At least the Andhra co-operators so long ago as 1920 adopted a resolution urging the creation of some district organization that would not only be in charge of education and propaganda but ultimately take over all the duties of and possibly displace the district co-operative officer.

"The sixth and the last and I have done. It is the policy of grouping the societies for the suppressed classes and the labourers into separate unions. This sort of separation, needless to say, emphasizes and increases the lack of touch between the higher castes and the suppressed classes even in the matter of a common movement for rural uplift and may effectively contribute to the further estrangement between them—

[Mr. C. Kolanda Reddi] [26th March 1931]

probably perpetuate it also. This is strongly deprecated by all experienced co-operators and well-wishers of our motherland. In the interests of common rural welfare, co-operative brotherhood, larger national unity, and humanity, I earnestly entreat the Government to desist from such separatist policies which will have but one effect, a very undesirable one, and allow and encourage those societies to join the unions nearest to them."

11-15 a.m. * The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, various points were raised by hon. Members. As there are only ten minutes for reply, I shall reply to some of the important points. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, was saying that the department was not supervising the work of the societies. I do not know what he meant by it. As far as I am aware, the Government are supervising and inspecting the work of societies. My hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, also referred to this point. Before the Townsend Committee made their recommendations, the Government were appointing one inspector for every 100 societies. Subsequent to that, we have got one inspector for every 60 societies. In the case of depressed classes, we have got one inspector for every 25 societies. This will show that the Government are, in no way, withdrawing their powers of inspection and supervision with regard to co-operative societies. No doubt, wherever the Registrar found that non-official bodies, such as Supervising Unions, were doing this work of inspection and supervision, he has allowed them to do so, so that non-official bodies might gain experience in this matter. All the same, the Registrar has got the power of checking the work of these societies.

"Secondly, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar was saying that the Government are slack in attending to the audit of these societies. On the other hand many societies have been saying that the Government are unnecessarily making these societies pay for audit of their accounts and that they should be allowed to have the accounts audited by certified auditors. The Government have, in some cases, given permission to these co-operative societies to have their accounts audited by certified auditors. If any of these certified auditors are found to be not discharging their duties properly, then the Registrar will intervene in the matter. As I said, the Registrar himself has got power to check and audit the accounts of these societies. Both in the matter of supervising and inspecting work, the Government have been allowing non-official bodies to do this work, so that ultimately this movement can be conducted by non-official bodies.

"Then, Sir, there was some complaint that no new co-operative societies have been registered. The policy of the Government for the last two years has been not to register new societies. The work that is being done by the department is to rectify dormant societies and to weed out such of the societies as are not doing any useful work. The success of the movement should not be judged by the number of societies and by the number of their members; it has to be judged more

26th March 1931] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

by the quality of work that is done by them. In the process of rectification we are removing bad societies and we hope the remaining societies will be a very useful factor in our public life.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, said that the co-operative stores, which were established, have not been successful and that their failure was due to the non-existence of a central co-operative store. My hon. Friend's suggestion will be considered and a central co-operative store will be brought into existence so that it may co-ordinate in course of time the work of the various stores which are scattered all over the Presidency.

My hon. Friend said that the department is not devoting any attention to weavers' societies. Hon. Members will remember that only recently this House passed a grant for the appointment of a marketing officer for the Salem Weavers' Societies. If we find that that officer is able to do useful work, then such kind of help can be extended to other societies also.

"Another complaint was that the Government were not adequately helping Co-operative Milk Societies. I am afraid, Sir, that the hon. Member is not in possession of all the information with regard to this matter, as to how the Government have been helping these societies. As the time at my disposal is very short, I shall not be able to place all the information before the House. As a matter of fact, the Government advanced some money for the purchase of lorries, cows, etc. For the last two or three years the department has been going out of its way to help these societies. Owing to other circumstances, such as disruptive influences amongst the members, the Milk Supply Societies could not function properly. These societies were supplying milk to the hospitals and the patients had to suffer because of the irregular supply. We are still trying to help these societies without, in any way, affecting the interests of the patients in the hospitals.

"My friend then referred to the question of creating more Land Mortgage Banks in the Presidency. If more Land Mortgage Banks should be opened in various parts of the Presidency, the Central Land Mortgage Bank must be in a position to lend money to primary banks. We found very recently how difficult it was for the Central Land Mortgage Bank to get enough money because of the competition due to the issue of loans both by the Governments of India and Mysore. As soon as the Central Land Mortgage Bank is in a position to collect debentures from the public and to lend money to primary banks, the Government will think of having more Land Mortgage Banks in various parts of the Presidency. Then, my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar said that the debentures of the Central Land Mortgage Bank should be included in the list of trustee securities. The Local Government consulted both the Government of India and the High Court. The Government of India asked us to guarantee interest on these debentures and we have complied with their request. The Government of India are considering the question of including these debentures in the list of securities. I think they are in consultation with other Provincial Governments. I hope the Central Government will take the initiative in the matter soon.

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

[26th March 1931]

"Then, my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, said that the department has got a number of officers designated Deputy Registrars, Sub-Deputy Registrars, Inspectors and so on. He said he did not know what their functions were. For his information I may say that the Deputy Registrars are in charge of non-credit societies and they supervise the work of the Sub-Deputy Registrars; the Sub-Deputy Registrars are in charge of credit societies. From this, the hon. Member will find that the officers are not numerous and they have enough work to do.

"With regard to the insufficient number of Muslims in the department, hon. Members are aware that the communal Government Order applies in the case of initial recruitment. But in cases of promotion, that Government Order is not applicable and if deserving candidates are available, I am quite sure that the head of the department will consider their claims.

"Swami Sahajanandam wanted the Government to excuse depressed class members from the payment of money for house-sites. I am afraid that that cannot be done; after all, this movement is based on self-help and not State-help. The only concession which Government can give to the members of the depressed classes is to permit repayment of the sums borrowed, in instalments. I hope, Sir, that the cut-motion will be withdrawn."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I am not satisfied with the reply given by the hon. Minister. As in many cases, in this case also he said that he would further consider the various points. I only hope that he would further consider them and in that hope, I beg leave to withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand XXIII—Co-operative Societies—Transferred—for Rupees 11,92,400 was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXIV—CINCHONA—RESERVED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,96,500 under Demand XXIV—Cinchona—Reserved'."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move the cut motion standing in my name, viz., 'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,96,500 for Cinchona by Rs. 100.' I wish to elicit information as to the success or otherwise of the cinchona plantations in the Anamalais. The Royal Commission on Agriculture in referring to the appalling mortality from malarial fever in India, emphasised the necessity of having large areas of cinchona plantation. Now, a large percentage of quinine required for India is got from Java which commands the world's quinine market.

11.30 a.m. "Unless India can produce the required amount of quinine at a cheaper rate, the great object of eradicating the malaria fever from our land is not possible. The Government of Madras, like the Government

[26th March 1931] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

of Burma, is doing its best for producing a large quantity of quinine, but one has to see whether the experiments carried on so far are effective and have been in proportion to the large amounts spent thereon year after year.

"Now, Sir, let us take the cinchona plantations started a few years back on the Anamalais. It was originally thought of bringing a large acreage under cinchona and an annual programme of opening up 230 acres of cinchona was arranged. As one goes into the administration reports year after year, one finds that the scheme has proved a success. Taking the Administration Report for the year 1927-28, the report admitted first of all shortage of labour, and consequently;

'that the planting had to be carried on for four months necessitating that some portions had to be planted in dry weather which greatly accounted for failure of plants.'

Secondly,

'a disease known as "dieback" set in the planted area and also in the nursery which carried away most of the young plants. The Director of Agriculture placed the services of both the Mycologist and the Entomologist to investigate the disease which made success so problematical. This disease not only affected the planted area, but touched the nursery, but not in a large proportion.'

"The 1927-28 report admitted that the prevalence of disease made the future not very assuring, for large areas were lacking in an adequate supply of plants.

"Then again, Sir, in the 1928-29 Administration Report, it is observed:

'So general was the disease and so great the damage done that it was considered advisable not to open a fresh acreage in the monsoon of 1929, but to concentrate effort on the removal of affected trees and to replant with vigorous seedlings after a heavy liming. Nothing can be more disheartening than to see large stretches of well-planted cinchona succumb after giving every promise of success.'

"Moreover, the report admits that the experience of the past few years shows that successful cultivation is more likely to follow by the staking of trees against wind. In the course of the report, a new theory has been arrived at that the soil in the Anamalais is very sandy and after a continuous rain or spell of wet weather which is to be expected in July and August, even the slightest wind affects the anchorage of the plant, resulting in a wind-rung condition. Apart from the amount already provided in the Budget, we have to make further provision for getting stakes at increased cost. Again, in that particular year's Administration report, it is observed that there was a shortage of labour force on the estates. Perhaps it was due to want of proper wages or to better amenities obtainable in other estates on the Anamalais.

"Now, taking the year 1929-30, the report says:—

'As was anticipated last year, it was found impracticable to proceed with a new clearing in the year, for the casualties in the young plantations were so considerable. Work was therefore concentrated in filling in the extensive vacancies which were caused by diseases, not to mention losses in plants through the recurring visits of elephants and bison.'

"From the last year's Budget, I find that about Rs. 2,10,100 was spent on the scheme, but we find that only 6 acres were planted, although the original idea was to plant 230 acres. And yet I find that the same

[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai] [26th March 1931]

staff on the Anamalais was employed with a view to carry on the annual programme. I should like to know from the Government why it is that such a large staff was required for planting 6 acres only of cinchona and for filling vacancies in the plantation area. Though the Government were originally of opinion that a large acreage should be brought under cinchona in the Anamalais, the report now says that they are going to restrict the planted area to 1,000 acres.

“ Another thing is that according to the report, there is not enough bark brought in from foreign countries, and most of the available bark in the plantation has to be utilized; and therefore the Cinchona department are contemplating to uproot all immature trees for getting bark. I do not think this is a wise move on the part of the department. I understand, Sir, that there was a proposal to hand over this cinchona undertaking to the Central Government on a valuation, but that owing to the difficulties arising from the Reforms Act, this could not be done.

“ I also find from the administration reports, that, on a consideration of the cost of production during the past four or five years, the Cinchona department cannot go on as they have been doing hitherto. It is found that in the year 1926-27, the department was able to produce a pound of quinine at Rs. 13-15-4; in 1927-28, it was possible for the department to produce at a cost of Rs. 12-10-1; in the year 1928-29, the cost went up to Rs. 14-8-1; while in 1929-30, it again came down to Rs. 13-8-11. From the administration report of the Government Cinchona Plantations and Factory, Bengal, it is found that the cost comes to only Rs. 7-55. Taking this figure as it appears in the Bengal Report, we are getting quinine manufactured in the factory here at nearly double the cost. This is a matter which I think the Government should very carefully investigate. In view of the circumstances already explained, I do not think the Government will be well advised to keep a big staff on the Anamalais for planting. I may also say, Sir, for the information of the Government that on the Nilgiris, especially on the Kundaho side, there are large tracts of cinchona plantations and the bark from these plantations are taken to the factory at Naduvattam. Why not the Government try to take a large acreage in that area and concentrate on planting in one district? Moreover, when the Government took up the plantations on the Anamalais, there was a great clamour from the planters of that place as to why private enterprise should not be encouraged. Unfortunately, the Government were not in a position to give a guarantee as to the rate to be paid to the planters, and so the proposal fell through. After they have tried for four or five years, we now find that the result is not quite encouraging. If the Government had only consulted expert planters who have done large acreages of planting on the Anamalais, just like Sir Fairless Barber, Mr. C. R. T. Congreve who happened to be a Member of the previous Council, and also my hon. Friend here, Mr. Waddington, who happens to be the Secretary of the United Planters' Association of South India, they would have been given the best advice so far as matters pertaining to plantations on the Anamalais are concerned. Therefore, Sir, unless we remedy

26th March 1931] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

matters, I think large sums of money which can be usefully spent on other purposes will be wasted. I would suggest that the Government should concentrate on cinchona plantation in the Nilgiris, the reason being that at present the Nilgiris has got about 1,090 acres of cinchona plantation near Naduvattam, while in Anamalais you have only 759 acres cultivated. I find from the reports that assistants are recruited from other countries. It is no good recruiting assistants who have no knowledge of plantations. I know as a matter of fact—there are many maistries well experienced in planting matters on the Nilgiris, whose services may be utilized on the Anamalais.

“ Moreover, the one point I would like to impress on the Government is that at present there are about 800 acres of plantations near Naduvattam, while the headquarters are at Ootacamund. I do not know what useful purpose is served by having the headquarters at Ootacamund, at a distance of about 20 miles away from the plantations. Having the headquarters at Ootacamund means, giving more house-rent, etc. If the office is located at Naduvattam, both the purposes of supervision and management, will be served. In the administration reports, it is admitted that there is shortage of labour. The other day my hon. Friend Mr. Sahajanandam, put in an interpellation asking for the number of coolies coming away from the Federated Malay States due to restriction of rubber in those places. The reply, however, was not definite, but I know, as a matter of fact, large numbers of coolies are now returning from the Federated Malay States, and they can be usefully employed on these cinchona plantations. I would also urge upon the Government to see whether private companies or private individuals can be encouraged to take to cinchona plantation.

“ Now, there has been a fall in the price of both coffee and tea and Anamalais is one of the places where plantations flourish well and where anything will grow well and I do not therefore see any reason why planters who have been able to make very good progress in respect of tea, coffee, cardamom and things of that sort, could not be asked to take up the cinchona plantation as well. 11-45 a.m.

“ Finally, Sir, if the Government are not convinced of the various arguments I have just now advanced to make the Anamalais plantations a success, I would appeal to the hon. the Law Member at least to appoint a small committee consisting of expert planters of the Anamalais and also a few hon. Members of this House to thoroughly investigate the matter and to come to some decision before spending large amounts of money on cinchona plantations in the Anamalais.”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ My hon. Friend in his cut motion wanted to elicit information as to the success or otherwise of the cinchona plantations in the Anamalais. At present, the state of cinchona plantations in the Anamalais is this. About five years ago, a scheme was sanctioned by the Government according to which 230 acres every year were to have been planted. It was a ten-year scheme, as my hon. Friend is aware, and the planting began at the

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [26th March 1931]

rate of 230 acres a year. The plants thrived very well at the commencement, but after some time, a disease which the experts call 'die back' began to attack the plants—with the result that their original growth was considerably retarded and the officers in charge of the department began to investigate remedies for this disease. They found out a remedy and began to apply it with the result that the progress of the disease has been considerably retarded and the plants are again thriving well, but the area of plantation was considerably reduced. Till now, as my hon. Friend knows only about 759 acres have been planted and during the last few years, the energies of the department were directed towards combating the disease and also towards planting those portions which were rendered vacant by the death of the plants which were attacked by the disease. The Deputy Director of Agriculture who is in charge of these operations is now of opinion that it would be advisable for the Government to confine their attention to planting not at the rate of 230 acres a year, but a total area of 1,000 acres. That is the state of affairs with reference to the Anamalais plantations.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend made very valuable suggestions in connection with the cut motion and those suggestions will be remembered by the Government."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—
'that the allotment of Rs. 1,96,500 for cinchona be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"This is to discuss about the free supply of quinine to the North Arcot district.

"Sir, my main idea is chiefly to bring to notice, the facts elicited in paragraph 91 of the Public Health report as regards free supply of quinine. Out of the free supply of 2,500 lb. only 60 per cent of the supply was spent. The reason for this fall in utilizing the medicines is due to the fact that free supply was limited to certain areas only. It is a question as to why free supply should not be extended to certain other necessary localities. In the North Arcot district, for every population of 1,000, the mortality due to the attack of fever is five. The North Arcot district lies continuous to the Javvadi Hills and it is a malarial tract. I request that the Government will be pleased to include North Arcot district as one of the places where quinine is to be supplied freely and to issue necessary instructions in regard to it."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"With reference to the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, what I have to say is this. The matter is really for the department which is under the control of my hon. Colleague, the Chief Minister, that is, the Health Department, but I am glad that I am able to supply the information. The Public Health Department has selected ten taluks for experimenting by the free supply of quinine, those ten taluks being places where malaria

[26th March 1931] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

is more prevalent than in other places. I believe that department is watching the results of that experiment, but no locality in the North Arcot district is included in those ten taluks. I dare say that my hon. Colleague, the Chief Minister, who has listened to the representations of my hon. Friend from North Arcot will consider the desirability of including one or more taluks or part of a taluk in the North Arcot district in the areas to be experimented upon. I am sure that district will not be neglected."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXIV—Cinchona—Reserved—for Rs. 1,96,500 was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXV—INDUSTRIES—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,38,900 under Demand XXV—Industries—Transferred'."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, on this motion, I do not propose to take much of the time of the House, but I will only state that at the present moment when the new Reforms are on the anvil many of the difficulties that are felt may be rectified. For instance, the Department of Industries is managed by the hon. the Minister for Industries, but he does not seem to me to be in a position to do very much in the direction of improving them. For one thing, several departments which have to work in co-operation are either not under him or are not under the Provincial Government at all. This is a matter which requires to be carefully gone into when the question of the division of Imperial and Provincial subjects is taken up and special efforts should be made to give as much power to the Provincial Government to deal with the question of industries as possible. For instance, the question of labour, the question of electricity, the question of loans to be given and such other things are all matters which will have to be provincialised and placed under one Minister so that better results may be obtained.

"Secondly, Sir, it seems to me that the Local Government will have to pay more attention to cottage industries, as it is not possible for them to deal with big industries, which for lack of funds will have to be left to be dealt with by private enterprise. A committee on Cottage Industries sat and special officers also were appointed to report on the matter, but all the reports are with the Government and I do not believe the reports have been considered with reference to the importance of these industries. Very little initiative has been taken by Government to set things right.

"Thirdly, there is the question of giving facilities by way of education and by way of scholarships to boys who wish to go to other

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [26th March 1931]

countries. At the outset, I ought to say there is not much scope at present for the employment of persons who have been trained outside or even those who pass out of the schools here and it is really a great handicap. But all the same, if you wish to improve industries, it is necessary that the requisite knowledge should be available for the purpose both of starting new industries and improving those already in existence. Whether it will be really good to have a large number of trained boys at present when there is no demand for them is a question which is rather difficult to solve, but it seems to me that some sort of help should be given to those who are prepared to go to other countries and get themselves trained. Steps will have to be taken to supply the requisite number of people who may be required in the near future.

“Then with regard to schools in India itself, we have not got anything like the sort of schools which will be necessary to train boys who will be able to manage the machinery and be in charge of work like spinning and weaving. We have got a sort of elementary schools, if I may so call them, where only the barest minimum of instruction in handicrafts is imparted. That is not enough, we want a higher class of people who can take charge of weaving and spinning and machinery. They need not be very big engineers or big industrialists; but ordinary middle class people who will be able to do such work will be quite sufficient. I do not think we have any institution to prepare such people in our province. Therefore an effort will have to be made to bring into existence at least one institution, if not two, one for the Tamil and the other for the Telugu districts; otherwise the question of language will come in in this also. Anyhow, there will have to be one or two institutions like that.

“Now, Sir, as regards the help to be given to existing industries, that is a very delicate matter, especially after the experience we have had in respect of the paper factory and the match factory. So, it is rather difficult for an outsider like me to give advice in respect of a technical matter, but I only ask the hon. Minister to try to help industries which require help after getting the opinion of experts. Without offering doctrinaire advice in such matters, I would only request the hon. Minister, especially in the case of industries that suffer, that he should go and help them as much as possible. With these few words, I move the following motion that stands in my name:—

‘To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,52,400 for Industries by Rs. 100’.”

12 noon. * Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the motion which was moved by my Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar. In doing so, Sir, I want only to say that it is not fair on our part to hold the present Minister responsible for the present condition of the Industries department. He has been there only for a few short time. But still it behoves him even in this short period to find out what exactly

26th March 1931] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

the position of the Industries department is to-day; what its objects were; and how far those objects have been realized. In the first place let me state that the first object of the Industries department is to encourage cottage industries. That was the main object with which the Industries department was organized and in the beginning it was left in the hands of a very capable and efficient man who accomplished some very useful things. But soon things changed and with those changes, things in the department also changed from year to year. Now the second object with which the department was started was to assist capitalists in the country in starting large scale industries. Now my purpose is to ask Government to say how far this department has encouraged cottage industries, what assistance they have rendered in the retention of the cottage industries as a useful employment to the rural population and also how far they have assisted capitalists in starting industries on a large scale. On the face of it, any casual observer or any man who looks at the reports of the Industries department, any casual reader, will notice that the department has been doing no real work, that it has been making no progress and that no encouragement has been afforded to any industry. In the course of 11 years, for which period the department has been in existence more or less, there have been eight Directors. Now how can these eight people be expected to devise any efficient control or useful policy for the department? In fact, Sir, there was no policy at all. And even if it is claimed that there was a policy, there was no continuity of policy at all. Each man was there more or less as a stop gap and each was more or less engaged in the work of how best to make his position secure. It was time and again urged upon the Government that they should have at the head of this department not an officer from the Civil Service, nor one from the Provincial Service nor one from among the existing officers of the department, but an Indian fully qualified and experienced in the industrial line and technically equipped. What I now want to urge upon the hon. Minister, and what has been admitted and agreed and conceded by his predecessors in office, is this; namely, that the Industries department should have as its head an Indian in the first instance, and that Indian should be a technically qualified man who has had some experience with industries and other technical sciences, instead of having people who have no ideas of their own, who have no wide outlook, no fresh vision and who can devise no policy at all. It is true that the Director must have some administrative experience and must be able to co-ordinate the various sections under him. But how could a man who does not know anything of industries or the science thereof co-ordinate highly technical departments? As it is, there is none in the department at present who is qualified for this post. Then the only alternative is to advertise for the post and appoint the best man from outside. If we are to run the department on the lines on which it has been running hitherto, it is better we close that department altogether and save the public revenues to a large extent. If the hon. Minister is not able to appoint a competent Indian, fully qualified and fully equipped for this office, then he would not be

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [26th March 1931]

able to reorganize the Industries department to any useful purpose. In short, what I wish to say on this occasion is that the future of the Industries department should not again be as gloomy as it has been in the past.

"I next come to the workshop of the Industries department. I have urged on more than one occasion that the Industrial Engineering Workshop serves no useful purpose to the department or to the public. There are two things which have been mixed together in the Engineering section and this mixing up together has given rise to a lot of irregularities, loss of public revenue and wastage of public funds. The Industrial Engineering Workshop has been a curse and has been a drag on the finance of this Government. Recently we have received the Auditor's report on the Industrial Engineering Workshop, and what does it reveal? A very miserable and indeed a very sad state of affairs. Large sums of money have been misused, misapplied or misspent. What exactly has been done with the money I cannot now say. The Auditor's report reveals very serious defects which ought to have sent any person responsible thereto to the old Bailey. Sir, Government have lost thirty to forty thousand rupees out of the transactions in the workshop. Have Government charge-sheeted the men responsible for that? If such a thing happened in the case of a private firm and if a man had been found responsible for such things, he would have been handed over to the Intelligence department long ago and criminal proceedings would have been launched against him. I want to know what Government are going to do in this matter which is a deliberate fraud on public revenues. It is robbery in broad daylight."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"On a point of order, Sir, I wish to know whether the hon. Member, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, is speaking about this matter from the edited Auditor's report or from the unedited Auditor's report?"

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I have got two copies in my possession. I wrote to the Government some time ago for a copy and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyangar, was pleased to send me one. I am referring only to that copy. It is remarked in it as though it is circulated to the members of the Legislative Council and to the Librarian, Legislative Council office. I also got another copy placed on the table of the House."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I find in my copy the general remark 'Edited.' But really it does not seem to have been edited, as it contains more information than the copy in Mr. Basheer Ahmed's hands. I don't know why Government have edited the report and circulated it to the Members of the Legislative Council."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Perhaps the hon. Minister will be able to explain."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"In editing, only certain names of persons and certain remarks, in accordance

26th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

with the instructions of the Government of India have been omitted. No information has been kept back from the House. All the information that is necessary is there."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"It is not the names only that have been omitted. More information has also been omitted."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, will continue his speech."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I was referring, Sir, to the irregularities pointed out in the Auditor's report. The net result of the report is that there are grave irregularities in the Industrial Engineering Workshop and that the Industrial Engineer is responsible for the Industrial Engineering Workshop. Now, Sir, the irregularities referred to are these: 'It was also noticed that even after the erection in July 1929 of new lathes, etc., for cutting and screwing, payments for cutting and screwing 6-inch and 4-inch pipes and couplings were made to outside contractors in some cases.' Then, Sir, with reference to another heading, increase in the cost of materials, the report says this: 'The increase under the cost of materials consumed is due partly to the larger supply of raw materials to the Pumping and Boring section which are also passed through the shops manufacturing account and partly to the comparatively high rates paid during the year for pipes and couplings.'

"Now, Sir, there is a significant paragraph in the report, paragraph 18. 'Sealed tenders were invited by the Director of Industries in March 1930 and quotations received in April and finally settled in June 1930. A comparison of these rates with those at which certain articles were purchased between September 1929 and April 1930 in the shops reveals the fact that the rates paid by the Industrial Engineer were more than double the rates quoted in the accepted tenders, in several important cases.' Sir, if the Industrial Engineer had been a business man of ordinary common sense, would he purchase articles at double the rate of the tender? Let me quote certain instances:—In the case of steam couplings, while the rate of tender is Rs. 13-7-0, the rate at which they are purchased is Rs. 27. Again, in the case of the steam pipes, while the rate of tender is Rs. 3-7-6, the rate at which they are purchased is Rs. 8. If this state of things is to be in existence in a department which is controlled by a Director of Industries and also by Government with a Secretary and all that, I do not know what to say of that department. I wish the hon. Minister who is now in office will go into this matter, and I hope, he will in the first instance place the man responsible for this in suspension and then send him up for trial, which he is legitimately bound to take. If the recurrence of such irregularities is to be prevented in future then, I would say that this Industrial Engineering Workshop must at once be placed in charge of the Research Engineer, or some other officer and not left in charge of the Industrial Engineer. There has been some attempt on the part of the Director to show that the Industrial Engineer is not in charge of the workshop. I question that statement. At the time of the revision of

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [26th March 1931]

the scale of pay of the Industrial Engineer the Director of Industries made out, as a point in favour of the revision of pay, that the Industrial Engineer was in charge of the Industrial Engineering Workshop, and so his additional duties justified an extra remuneration and that his pay must be increased. Now the present Director seems to say that he is not in charge of it, but the Assistant Engineer. I ask what is the qualification of the Assistant Engineer? He is a draughtsman, and he has the qualifications of a draughtsman; he has no technical qualifications and he has no mechanical engineering qualifications. And the Director wants us to understand that this man was placed in charge of the Industrial Engineering Workshop. How could he be placed in charge of such a workshop? If he is in charge of the workshop, and if the Research Engineer is to do research, then what is the function of the Industrial Engineer? It was once stated that the Industrial Engineer was to do research as well and so deserved enhanced salary. If none of these functions are discharged by him, then why is his pay not reduced correspondingly? Now, what I suggest is that the Industrial Engineering Workshop must be separated from the Pumping and Boring Department and they must both be placed under two independent officers. Since they have been put together, they have become a fruitful and fertile source of all irregularities, mishandling, misappropriation and misapplication and fraud, etc.

"Now, I do not want to refer to the further details contained in the Auditor's report, as it will take up the whole time of the House. But I wish to ask one question and that is, whether the recommendations of the Director of Industries, namely, to separate the Pumping and Boring Department from the Industrial Engineering Workshop has been carried out. I understand that orders have been issued in connection with the matter. But I doubt whether orders have been issued to separate these two altogether. I understand the orders that have been issued are only to separate the two accounts. That, I submit, Sir, would serve no useful purpose. The recommendation of the Auditor is the same as that of the Director of Industries, namely, that both these departments should be kept miles apart and put in charge of two independent officers competent for the job. I wish to suggest that the better thing still would be to transfer the Pumping and Boring department to the Agricultural department, and work at a profit.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the question of profits, I have several times on the floor of this House asked the Government to state whether the profit in the workshop, small or big, was substantial and real one. It has been assured, though not by the present Minister, but by his predecessors-in-office, that the profit was real. I want to know how far this profit can be called real when the figures are contrary to that, as shown by the Auditor's report.

"The last item in the report is about centage. I find the report is probably not a full report. Apparently this is an edited report."
(Laughter.)

26th March 1931]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Before the hon. Member refers to the report I wish to inform the House that it was not a document which was intended to be placed in the hands of the Members of this House. It was a document intended to be circulated in certain departments of the Government. I should like to know how Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti came into possession of it."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"In the first place, Sir, I wish to protest against the remark that this is a report not intended for the consumption of the Legislative Council Members, but one intended for the Government.

"I object, Sir, to such a procedure being adopted by the Government. If an auditor makes a report upon a department, it is our privilege to know what the Auditor says in full, and it is not for the Government to censor the report and then place it before us. 12-15 p.m.

"With regard to the second question, which is intended merely to ward off the criticism that may be levelled against the Minister, as to how I got this report, I may say, Sir, that again, it is due to the negligence of the Government itself. Somebody placed it here a few days ago, and to see whether there is any difference between this and the copy sent to us we compared both these and found one to contain 33 pages whereas the other contained only 29 pages. We were curious to know how there is this increase of pages on the one hand and decrease of pages on the other, and we found that all these extracts were omitted from the copy supplied to us."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"The Auditor's report says, Sir, that the only source through which the profits were made was the pumping and boring section under the Industrial Engineer. He suggests that the profits of the industrial engineering workshop, on the ground of the centage charges, can hardly be said to have been earned in full. The centage charges, the auditor says, are inequitable, and very excessive and that they should not be levied at such rates in this department. Now, Sir, if this workshop is claimed to be working at a profit, then, it is not a real profit, but only a jugglery of figures to deceive laymen. I was always pointing out that there was no justification for retaining this workshop in the Industries department. What is the function and what is the nature of this workshop? Why should it be continued? I would say, Sir, that most of the work is routine work. Let this work be transferred to the P.W.D. Workshop where it can be done perhaps cheaper. Why have duplication? The Retrenchment Committee once recommended that it should be amalgamated with P.W.D. Workshop, and if there is any special work to be done in the way of research, there is the research engineer appointed for this work. Let him take up that work in the Industrial Engineering Workshop. Again there are several other serious irregularities mentioned in the Audit report and the person who is responsible has not yet

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [26th March 1931]

been subjected to criminal proceedings or any serious enquiry. That gentleman again, I understand, is placed in charge of other industries which are just springing up. I understand it is the biscuit and button industries. I want to know what is the qualification of this officer to be placed in charge of these new industries, and particularly after all these irregularities in his own department have been found out. I would urge the hon. Minister to take serious interest in this matter and to see that some honest effort is made to make the Industries department serve some useful purpose to the province and also to see that the public revenues are safeguarded by proper care and attention, and not squandered by lax financial control.

“Coming to the Textile section and handloom weaving, I want to confine myself only to the recommendations of the Textile Conference. I think Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar, who was a member of the Textile Conference, will speak more about it. But I only want to point out that the recommendations of the Textile Conference have not yet been given effect to and the constitution of a separate Textile department has not been brought about. I would only urge that just like any other department—there are other departments which are designed for the benefit of the people—this Textile department also may be made a separate department whereby it may function for the real advantage of the poor weaving community and the handloom industry.

“Now, Sir, there is one other point which I want to refer to, that is, the control of the aided weaving schools. These again were recommended by the Textile Conference to be handed over to the Textile section. I want to know whether the hon. Minister has done it since he assumed charge of office, and if not when he proposes to do it. There is no use maintaining dual control with regard to the aided weaving schools. They pertain to the Textile section and must be in charge of the Textile department or the Textile officers. I do not see why there should be two officers or three officers dealing with one particular type of activity in the same department. I hope, Sir, that the hon. the Minister will devote serious attention to this affair and not while away his time like his predecessors, doing nothing and bringing the department almost to a farce.”

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, it is really a very serious matter that has been brought to the notice of this House as well as the Government by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. I hope that the Government will go into this question—this scandalous state of affairs. I would rather suggest to the Government that instead of the Government themselves going into this question, they should take the House into their confidence and appoint a small non-official committee to go into this very scandalous state of affairs. Sir, there is no use of questioning the fact as to who got this copy or how this copy of the report was available to some members. I do not think it is a very big matter for the Government to look into. The

26th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

object and the purpose of the Government should be to go into the question seriously and, as I said before, they should take the House into their confidence and appoint a small committee of hon. Members of this House to go into the whole question and see if it is really a great scandal.

“Now, Sir, with regard to the question of the administration of the Industries Department I hope the Government will look into the question, the fundamental principle of appointing a really qualified, technically qualified, gentleman to be the Director of Industries. This question, Sir, has been brought to the notice of the Government year after year and I do not know if the hon. the Minister when he was a member on this side of the House also did not impress upon the Government the necessity of appointing a really qualified, technically qualified, gentleman as the head of the department. Sir, the argument may be advanced by the Government that in order to co-ordinate the various sections of the Industries Department it is necessary that a gentleman who has got experience of administration should be there. It may be said that a gentleman who has had experience of the Revenue Department and at least of administration should be there to co-ordinate the work of the various sections of the department. That argument might have had its force in times past, but now if the Government really wishes to improve the industries of the province, it is necessary that the gentleman who is at the head of affairs should himself possess knowledge of the industries that are to be revived or newly started in this province.

“Sir, I would next suggest to the Government that instead of having a very nominal sort of exhibition in the office of the Industries Department at Chempauk, they should enlarge the scope of that exhibition and have a permanent exhibition exhibiting all the Swadeshi articles manufactured not only in our province but throughout the country, so that it may give an impetus to such persons as wish to start industries in our province and thus benefit them.

“Sir, the next question to which I would draw the attention of the Government is the fact that there used to be various industries in our country or in our province which have become dormant and which have gone out of existence on account of foreign competition. Now that we are likely to have tariff rates for the improvement of our own industries, I think the Government should now begin the work of reviving those industries, however small they may be, which will certainly stand against the competition of foreign countries. Sir, there are two instances which I can give of the industries which ought to be attended to, and they are what are called the Madras handkerchiefs and lungis. You may know, Sir, that this manufacture has been going on for a long time because the manufacturers used to export large quantities of these articles to foreign countries. The well-known Madras handkerchiefs were exported from this country to Europe and other countries, and the lungis were exported to Malaya and other countries which were interested in this kind of cloth. But now, we know the conditions

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [26th March 1931]

in Europe, and we also know the conditions in Malaya. In Ceylon and Malaya the demand for lungis has considerably fallen and the weavers of these lungis are suffering very much on account of the fall in the demand. Sir, it is the duty of the Industries Department to see that these weavers do not starve and that their attention is drawn to other kinds of manufactures which will certainly take the place of these lungis wherever they are going out of use.

"Sir, with regard to the question of textiles, my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, has referred to some of the matters connected therewith, that is, how we must pay more attention to this department than what the Government have now been paying. Unless it is made an independent department which should have an independent officer to control it, it will not be possible to improve it under the present conditions. At present it is worked as a subsidiary section of the Industries Department. It is because it has to work under these limitations that proper and adequate use that ought to be made of the section and officers of this department is not being made. I would suggest that the Government do take this matter into their hands and see that this department is made to work more usefully than it has been doing now. Sir, in this connexion I would suggest to the Government that they should, as far as possible, try to see that these weavers in our province at least who are under the control of the Textile department do not use foreign yarn. Sir, it is possible for us to get Indian-made yarn, made in Indian mills, from Sholapur, Ahmedabad or Bombay or even in our own city and province. It is just possible if the Government encourages the use by the weavers of more and more Indian mill yarn that it will be to the advantage of the people of this province. Sir, Government have been giving encouragement by way of aid to some of these industries, from the department. I am afraid that the Government, although there has been an amendment of the Act, have not helped the really deserving industries. I hope the Government will come to the rescue of such industries as are in need of financial help from the Government where they might thereby develop or advance.

"Sir, the Government ought now to begin to expand their activities in this department. The amount of money that has been provided by the Government for this department is very inadequate. Out of a revenue of about 17½ crores and a total expenditure of about the same amount, if we are to spend only 12 lakhs of rupees for our Industries Department, that itself shows that the policy of the Government is unreal and that the Government has not yet changed its policy with regard to the development of industries in this province. Unless the Government revise their policy and extend the activities of the department, they will not be able to do even one-tenth of what it has to do in order to improve the industrial condition of this province. I hope that the Government will come forward, at least next year, with a larger provision under this head. Sir, not only should the Government expand the activities of this department, but they should

26th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

also see that they improve the methods of their activities. They have been trying their hand in some of these industries and invariably, almost in every case they have failed because they have not carried on these undertakings in a businesslike way. I hope the hon. the Minister who has taken charge of this department quite recently will see that necessary reforms are effected in this department."

* Mr. A. B. SHERRY:—"The department of Industries has come in for much criticism. It cannot be denied that nothing substantial 12-30 p.m. has been done by the department for the development of industries in this province. One of the hon. Members who have just spoken said that the present Minister could not be held responsible for the failure of the department in doing its work. Who can be held responsible, Sir? In 10 years we had 8 Directors and an equal number of Development Secretaries. By the time they begin to know something about the department it is time for them to get out. Sir Alfred Chatterton started the aluminium manufacture and chrome leather tanning. He showed that they could be worked successfully and then handed them over to private individuals. After Sir Alfred Chatterton I do not know if any large-scale industry has been shown to be a commercial success by the pioneering concerns started by this department. The jam factory and the glue factory were failures. The pencil factory I do not know how far it was a success. It is a struggling industry to-day as it has to face keen foreign competition. It has to depend upon wood imported from outside. The soap institute and the ink-factory have been working at a loss. Failure is writ large on the efforts made for pioneering these industries. Then as regards cottage industries, the special officer who was appointed to make a survey of these industries says that not a single one is thriving and this after thirty years of the working of the department. The Cottage Industries Committee was appointed to go into this question and make recommendations. I wish to know if the recommendations of the Committee have been given effect to by the Government. Look at the textile industry which is admittedly the most important and the largest of the cottage industries on which two millions of hereditary weavers depend for their subsistence. The officer who made the survey says that this industry is in a languishing condition. In the latest report of the department itself they say that all efforts so far made by the department have fallen far short of giving the handloom weavers a chance against mill competition. Government had a Textile Conference and the members of this conference have suggested ways and means of developing this industry. Now they have a Textile Advisory Committee and this Committee has also made proposals for the same purpose. I want to know what the Government have done with regard to these proposals. I do not think they have done anything beyond calling from the heads of departments their opinion regarding these proposals and their financial effect.

"In other countries, Sir, in Germany, Canada and Japan it is the active help and encouragement of the Government that has brought

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[26th March 1931]

about industrial advancement. In India we have plenty of raw materials. We have cheap labour; capital too is not lacking. But we have several impediments to face. The most formidable of these is foreign competition. Without Government help and encouragement we cannot have industrial advancement in this country. Government must impose tariff on imported goods in order to develop our old industries and protect our new industries until they are able to establish themselves on a firm footing. Government can build up our industries if they really want to do it. They can afford railway facilities for transport; they can give financial assistance by means of industrial banks; they can get expert advice from outside; they can provide proper technical education to our youths and help us in so many other ways. Let the Government make a survey of the industrial possibilities of this province with the help of an expert and then undertake a definite programme of work. There must be a real change of policy, a change of heart. They must apply themselves with earnestness and sincerity to the task of industrial development. If bureaucracy prevails in the Department of Industries, industries cannot prosper. As a great man has said, we may have either flourishing industries or flourishing bureaucracy, but never both. Government should not grudge to spend money in inaugurating a policy of industrial development, because it will add to the prosperity of the people and come back multiplied many times to the State."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"The question of policy the Government should adopt in regard to industrial matters has been discussed to-day and I wish to say a few words on the subject. In my opinion what we want is a thorough orientation of the policy in regard to industries. I say if we want to lay the axe at the root of the economic and political discontent in this country we should have a thorough industrial policy, a bold industrial policy and not the lackadaisical policy which has been adopted so far. I find that last year the question was discussed in this Council. Mr. Wood said: 'It may be said that if Government run a factory on a commercial scale, then industrialists will come in and do likewise. But we have the instance of the soap factory—no industrialist has come forward.' This is not a correct statement. As a result of the enterprise of Sir Frederick Nicholson in starting the soap factory, the Mysore Soap Factory is doing very large business and various other private enterprises in South Kanara, Malabar and other districts have been started. Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar in replying to the speakers who had discussed the policy of Government in regard to industries said:—

'As regards the policy of the Industries Department, I can only say that the Government are trying their best to see that the industrial development of the country is kept on as high a level as possible.

'With regard to the general policy about which Mr. Wood wanted some information, I would refer to the administration report of the department for 1924-25, wherein the following occurs:—

'In starting pioneer factories the object in view is not to inaugurate a system of State trading but to test the possibility of manufacturing on commercial lines certain articles in common use which have hitherto been

26th March 1931]

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

imported from abroad or from other parts of India. The policy of the Government is to retire from manufacture in favour of private enterprise if commercial success is obtained or to discontinue the experiment if the prospects of success appear to be too doubtful or remote to justify further expenditure. On the whole, balancing success against failures and setting profits against losses the Government have no reason to be dissatisfied with the results so far attained. But in view of the facilities now offered by State Aid to Industries Act they consider the experimental work of the department should not, as a rule, proceed beyond the stage of laboratory test and that pioneer manufacture on a commercial scale may in future be left mainly, if not entirely, to private enterprise."

"In my humble opinion this policy is not sufficient. It is not for the Government to say: 'We shall have only some experimental factories. We shall do what can be done profitably and then leave it to private enterprise to carry on the industries.' In my opinion Government should boldly step into the breach and start industrialization in this country. It strikes me that we have been too much weighed down by the British tradition. The British tradition is in favour of a *laissez faire* policy in regard to industries. What we want is not that *laissez-faire* policy but the modern industrialism of Japan and Germany. The conditions which made it possible for England to become a great industrial country in spite of the *laissez-faire* policy do not exist in India at present. It has been said that political evolution in England followed industrial evolution. Here it is otherwise. Government is not in the hands of the people who go in for industries. Moreover our industries are somewhat like cottage industries. Therefore it is necessary that we should adopt an entirely different policy and we need not experiment. We have got the results of experiments. We have seen what is done in Germany, an European country, and in Japan. In this connection I may remind you of Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell's statement, made a few years ago, when he was appointed to consider the question of State aid to industries and make a report. He makes the following remarks:—

'The principal methods adopted by the State in Japan for the encouragement of industries are the opening of model factories, the establishment of national laboratories for research and of institutions to give technical education and training; the employment of foreign experts and the despatch of several scholars to foreign countries for purposes of study; the introduction of up-to-date machinery from Europe for State factories. Such machinery was also placed at the disposal of private individuals on advantageous terms. Financial assistance was given in the form of subsidies including subsidies for ship-building, and to shipping companies advances were given; remission of taxation for a term of years and granting of land free or at a nominal rent; the taking of shares by the Government in industrial undertakings. It established exchanges and Chambers of Commerce; Consuls were appointed in foreign countries and Government subsidised the establishment of undertakings in other parts of the world for the benefit of Home Industries.'

"What has been done by the Government here? It seems to me for years we have been wasting time. It is necessary that at least now we should do something of a very drastic nature. As regards what is done in Japan Mr. Allen says:—

'The principle of *laissez-faire* became the religion of the new industrial ruling class and any interference by the State in industry and commerce was looked upon with the gravest suspicion. Thus the industrial and commercial supremacy of Great Britain during the last century was

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

[26th March 1931]

created neither by the Co-operative action of the community nor by the efforts of a paternal Government but by individuals working with their own capital for their private ends. England in this way became the typical country of industrial individualism and of modern competitive civilisation. Thus when Japan began to re-organise her civilisation she found that her merchant and industrial classes were incapable of the great tasks before them. They could not provide the capital necessary for the new forms of production and for the material equipment that the country required; they were without experience in large scale enterprise, in western commercial methods and in foreign trade; they were accustomed to a form of subservience and could not be expected to assume the initiative. *From the first then, the State was obliged to take the lead.*

“That is what should be done in India. I can quote many other instances to show that the policy adopted so far in India has been entirely wrong and requires a thorough change. I would say that this is a great opportunity for the Minister for Industries to start a new regime and to start a new policy. Although financially he may not be able to start everything at once he may at least make arrangements for the constitution of a committee to go into the whole question thoroughly and make a report. It may interest you to know what is being done in Germany. In Germany, the State affords considerable help to all private enterprises; it goes out of the way to help them and it subsidises them, and the result of it has been a great revival of trade and commerce in Germany. If such a policy had not been adopted in Germany, what would have been its condition after the Great War? I believe I have said enough to show that we must have a thoroughly new orientation of policy with regard to industrial matters.

“Something has been said about the personnel of the Industries department. When we find no progress is made, we want to blame somebody. Therefore, the blame has been attached to the personnel of the Industries department. I agree that as a general rule the head of the Industries department should be a technical man, though as regards the present Director of Industries I may say that there cannot be found a more sympathetic officer. When he came to South Kanara, I was able to bring to his notice a great many grievances, and the result was that expert after expert has been sent to South Kanara to study the questions there. But, what I say is that it is not entirely a matter of personnel. The question is not who is the head of the department, or how the department is organized, or what errors are found in the factory or workshop run by the Government. But the point is that the whole policy must be changed. Then, you will find great progress resulting from the working of the Industries department.

“As regards a few details, I would say that in the Industries department there should be a little more travelling done by the experts and a little less of desk work. What I find is that there are a large number of experts who do not travel in the various districts. The Ceramic Expert was, I think, appointed a year ago. But so far as I can see, he did not pay more than one visit to South Kanara. But he is a very capable gentleman, and when he came to South Kanara the other day he found straightaway that there was available very good clay suitable for the ceramic industry. I trust in this connexion something will be done to promote the ceramic industry, and that the survey which

[26th March 1931]

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

was referred to by Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar to be in progress would be stopped and that some work would be taken in hand immediately. There is no good making a big survey and wasting time. When you find that good clay suitable for the ceramic industry is available, I think that work must be taken in hand immediately.

“Then, as regards the Trade School which was started sometime ago in Mangalore, I find that the work of the school is very much hampered because it has to be carried on in a rented building. I believe that they cannot do any good work unless the building is improved. The question can be easily solved by buying up a building. It would not cost very much, nor would it be a great drain on the purse. If a Government building is available, the work could be speeded up. It is because we do not adopt these methods and we are slow in carrying on work, that the industrial progress of the country is impeded.

“As you all know, the manufacture of tiles forms a very big industry in South Kanara and Malabar. It is possible further to develop that industry. We should be able to manufacture glazed tiles, which we are now importing in large quantities from outside. If the Ceramic Expert gives his advice to the manufacturers of tiles in South Kanara and Malabar and puts them in the way of making glazed tiles, it will be a good achievement. If they are not willing to make them, the Government may take up the work on a small scale and show how it can be done on profitable lines. As regards tile factories, I should like also to make one remark. It has been said by Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar that we should not embark on model factories but should have only experimental factories. Taking the case of the tile industry in South Kanara and Malabar, that industry would not have come into existence and would not have given so much employment to the people and would not have absorbed so much capital but for the fact that the Basel Mission started a tile factory. When that factory was started and worked successfully, a large number of other tile factories came into existence all over the West Coast. That is exactly what the Government may also do. If Government factories prove a failure, I think it is not because of the fact that the industry cannot be profitably run but because of the heavy overhead expenditure and other reasons. It is necessary to go into the real causes of failure in such cases, and there is no use saying that they are costly and cannot be run. Take for instance the case of the match factory and the pencil factory. I read from the Administration Report of last year that these industries have not been a success. They have not been a success because the wood necessary for matches and the wood for pencils have had to be imported from outside. But is there a necessity to import wood from outside? Is it not possible to get all the wood from our own province? How does this Government tackle this matter? I believe that if they found it necessary to have a certain kind of wood they should have immediately started growing that wood in all the forests. I say that it should be possible to grow in our province the wood necessary for making pencils and matches. Has any attempt been made? I would suggest that such an attempt should be made

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

[26th March 1931]

immediately and that on a large scale, and in a few years we will see that it is quite possible to manufacture matches and pencils in India itself.

“Sir, I can speak much more on the matter. But I must have some regard for the Council and so I shall not detain the House any longer. But I feel very strongly that some effort should be made at once, and if necessary a committee should be appointed. In this connexion, I would also refer to the Industrial Advisory Board. How many times did it meet during the last three years? In the Administration Report I find that the Advisory Board met frequently and that much good work was done by them. That is about five or six years ago. After that, the Advisory Board has been sleeping. I would suggest that at every quarter a meeting might be held of this Advisory Board and that questions relating to industries might be placed before the Board, so that lay opinion on the matter might be considered by the experts of the Industries department.”

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, I am constrained to remark that the Government is often painfully slow in adopting suggestions in matters industrial. Some suggestions are so self-evident that they have simply to be stated to convince the Government of their usefulness. But, Sir, the Government for some reason or other put them off and do not give any consideration to them. One such suggestion I made fourteen years ago on the floor of this House, and now after fourteen years I have to give a cut motion to repeat the same suggestion. On the 4th of April 1917, a resolution was moved in this Council for the appointment of Advisory Boards in connexion with Industries and Co-operation. After the resolution was moved and seconded, Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar made a speech in reply, and the speech was very very unsympathetic. He did not want to accept that resolution. After that, I spoke very very earnestly on the subject with the result that Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar was persuaded to accept that resolution with a little amendment. In the course of my speech then, Sir, I observed that the Director should not be chosen from the Civil Service men. I said that ‘the Director is generally an I.C.S. man. . . I.C.S. men no doubt are highly efficient beings. . . But when you place them in a position where a different kind of knowledge, experience and capacity is required it is too much to expect that they would give as good an account of themselves as they do when they are in their own element.’ After paying compliments to the gentleman who was then in charge of the department, I said, Sir, ‘but I cannot help thinking that a person who has had a practical training in a business concern and has had first-hand knowledge of all those things that help the building up of industries would be more suitable to be at the head of that department. The uncertainty of the tenure of office and the probability of early transfer do not encourage a minute study of the problems that face the department.’ Sir Gordon Fraser who followed me also supported me in this observation and he said referring to the poor record and lack of success of the department that ‘one of the principal causes for this is the lack of continuity in policy owing to

[26th March 1931]

[Mr. Yakub Hasan]

different officers having been appointed one after another. There has been frequent change in the personnel.’ That is the observation made in the course of his speech by Sir Gordon Fraser. Sir, as long as fourteen years ago this suggestion was made, but the Government have not yet given effect to it. I see that in the last eleven years from 1919 up to date, as many as nine persons have occupied the office of the Director. Sir, what can you expect from a person who is only put in that office simply because no other place is available for him for the time being? I have often seen, Sir, that a gentleman returns from holding a high position and no other place being vacant for him he is immediately made the Director of Industries and after six months he is shifted. Like that, two or three persons occupied that office only for six months; there was one who was there for 15 months, another for 18 months; only one person occupied that office for the longest period, and that is Mr. Bazl-ul-lah who held the office for 2½ years. So, that was how the department was working. The present Director Mr. Appadurai Pillai has been in this post for the last one year and a half, and I understand that on the 30th of June next he would be retiring.

“Therefore this cut motion has come quite in time. It is not ^{1 p.m.} necessary that the person who is put at the head of this office should have technical knowledge of the industries of which he is in charge. All that is wanted is general knowledge of industries. But, as that can be expected only from persons who have been in close touch with industries and business generally, it is necessary that only such persons are placed at the head of this department so that they may be able to deal with the problems facing the various industries and do justice to them. Sir, I would suggest that advertisements should be made and applications invited from persons all over India possessing the abovesaid qualifications. From Bombay or Calcutta or other parts of India which are more advanced industrially than our province, it will not be difficult to get a person capable of directing this department's activities. Sir, the Industrial Commission over which Sir Holland presided has laid down in its report what qualifications the Director of Industries should possess. Will it be too much to ask the hon. Minister in charge of Industries to see what these are and see his way to adopt the suggestion that I have placed before him?”

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—“Sir, the Industries department is the most important department whose successful functioning is a matter of considerable interest to the people of this Presidency. Broadly speaking, the activities of this department may be divided under two heads. One of them comprises those activities which seek to conserve, preserve and improve and also to introduce an element of safety from competition, that is, protection of the existing industries; and the other comprises those activities for introducing new industries into the country so that after a successful working of those industries by the Government the people may copy and pursue them.

“Sir, I have to say a few words with reference to the oldest and the most important industry in the land, viz., the handloom industry. Next to agriculture, this is the biggest industry affording occupation

[Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar] [26th March 1931]

for a very large section of the population. Nearly two million people in this Presidency are handloom weavers. Their interest must be a matter of supreme concern to the State. This has been recognized long ago. In 1928 in this House the then Minister for Development gave an undertaking to call a conference for the purpose of considering the allied activities connected with handloom. A conference was accordingly called and, after several sittings, that body made a set of recommendations. And you, Sir, being one of the distinguished members of that conference, know the great help it received from the various heads of departments and the number of recommendations it made. The Government were kind enough to issue an order in March 1929 substantially accepting the findings of that conference. Then, in pursuance of the recommendations, an advisory committee specially to deal with the textile section was appointed. That committee met on several occasions and considered the various proposals and, as a result fifteen distinct recommendations were made. Those recommendations sought to improve the technique of the handloom industry and the technical training for inspectors, supervisors, demonstrators and so on and laid down the curriculum for weaving schools in the Presidency. The committee also recommended that the supervision over this item must be given to the Textile Expert. The committee suggested in addition that the Government should move the Government of India in the matter of reducing the import duties on certain counts of yarn which were largely used by the handloom weavers. They made other similar suggestions also. One of the most important sets of their recommendations was that there must be brought into existence a system of linked organizations in which the various departments of Government must co-operate in order that substantial help might be given to this industry. One was the establishment of a weavers' bank giving impetus to the formation of primary societies so that in the central bank the primary banks may also be shareholders. The committee recommended that financial help should be given by the Government. The Government accepted it and communicated to the advisory committee in July 1930, that the Director of Industries as well as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies had been requested to devise and submit a scheme. We do not know what has become of that. Sir, this is an ancient industry and it is being killed gradually by foreign competition and is languishing for various other causes. The indifference of the Government can also be said to have contributed to its decline. We ought to open our eyes and see that this indifference to an important and ancient industry of the land is not allowed to be there. We do not know what has been done. A perusal of the budget does not disclose any very serious steps proposed to be taken to effectuate the recommendations of the conference as well as of the committee which were mostly accepted by the Government. The House is very anxious to know what steps the present Ministry is intending to take. It is not in any spirit of fault-finding that I urge this. It is the duty of every member of this House—and on this point I do not believe that there is any difference of opinion among the parties in the House—to see that

26th March 1931] [Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar]

the present Ministry gives some idea of the steps it is going to take. We cannot afford to delay this matter. So far as this industry is concerned even now we have something substantial still left to us. It ought to be safeguarded and further developed and not allowed to languish. It is a lucky circumstance that from the handloom in this presidency enough is produced even for export to foreign countries. The handloom product in this presidency is five times the output of mills and over a crore of rupees worth of raw silk is consumed for the purpose of handloom weaving here. There are very many allied industries which are connected with handloom and the people who are dependent upon it are economically in a very difficult situation. The Co-operative Societies must be so devised as to render help in two ways. Of course financial assistance is one of these. The next is that these societies will have to be so worked that they must be able to supply machine-sized readymade warps for the purpose of being easily used in the handlooms. At the same time, these societies must be able to provide for marketing the finished products. The societies themselves or an allied agency must collect information regarding the markets, etc., so that it may be made available to the handloom weavers in this presidency. Sir, when we require assistance and progress in so many directions in regard to this industry, neither from the Budget Memorandum nor from the speech of the hon. the Finance Member, are we in a position to understand what steps are proposed to be taken in the matter. Already over 10 months have elapsed since the Advisory Board was told about the action which was proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter. We do not yet know what has been done. This is a matter of considerable urgency. Already in the non-official movements in the country a great deal of stress is laid on the question of weaving and spinning. At this time, therefore I trust the Government will take care to see that allegations of indifference in regard to this matter are not made against it."

*B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, as the time allotted for the discussion of this demand is about to expire, I do not want to speak for more than a couple of minutes. Sir, the running of the Industries department is a standing illustration of the manner in which the British Government has been governing this country. I thought that by the introduction of diarchy and the transfer of some of these subjects to popular representatives, the character of the British administration in regard to these transferred subjects will change. Sir, even though this department has been in the hands of the transferred half of the Government for the last one decade, absolutely no change is noticeable. Almost all the sections of this department have been working at a loss and absolutely no benefit has been derived by the people from the maintenance of this department at a very high cost. The only people who are benefited by the activities of this department are the men in the Provincial Services and the Civilians. Sir, it is really atrocious to put some Civilian or Provincial Service gentleman at the head of this department and expect him to discharge duties in respect of matters of which he is absolutely ignorant. Such conduct on

[B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur] [26th March 1931]

the part of the Government cannot be forgiven. This question has been pressed time and again in this House, but the Government have paid absolutely no heed either to the suggestions made in this House or to public opinion.

“Sir, I only wish to refer to another aspect of the conditions in the Industries Department which has been referred to by one of the hon. Members of this House, namely, the fraud that has been going on in some section of the department for some time. Sir, the auditor detected it and brought it to the notice of the Government. However, no steps seem to have been taken by the Government so far in regard to it, although some time has elapsed, either to pursue the matter further or to remedy the state of affairs. Sir, I am anxious to hear the Minister on this point.”

* Mr. A. KONDAPPA:—“Sir, if one looks into the administration report of this department one will be struck by the truth of the complaint of want of funds for further progress. In the report for 1929-30 we find a remarkable improvement in match industry and side by side with that we find also considerable reduction in the import of this article. The outlook in this direction is, to my mind, bright. So, Sir, I am suggesting that more money ought to be placed at the disposal of the department to encourage indigenous industries. Considering that we now have only an allotment of 11 or 12 lakhs of rupees for this department, to expect a great advance forward will be like fishing in shallow water. I am suggesting again therefore that more money ought to be placed at the disposal of the department so that the industries may be encouraged on a very large scale.

1-15 p.m. “The textile industry of our province needs even greater encouragement. Some of our districts are cotton growing districts and it is high time that the Government should start State Mills or encourage private persons to come forward to start such an enterprise, without being satisfied with handlooms alone. Such enterprises are likely to give employment to many unemployed persons and also bring a great deal of profit both to the agriculturist and also to the persons who are engaged in that industry. Sir, although our Ministers may have been in charge of this department for some years, yet financial considerations have always made the Ministers in charge of this department to subserve the interests of this department to the interests of other departments. Under the restrictions thus imposed either the Minister or the head of the department has not been able to show any rapid expansion of industries or any sound protection for the existing industries. Whether there is an expert in charge of this department or a well-trained administrator is not a matter of very great concern. It is not one department that has to be managed. There are several departments. An expert in textile may not be an expert in another industry. It is rather difficult to expect one individual to be an expert in all branches of industries. For all practical purposes I do

26th March 1931] [Mr. A. Kondappa]

not believe any hardship has been caused to the department by putting in persons with administrative experience as its head. Perhaps great experts in some of the industrial concerns may not be available for the remuneration that this Government is prepared to pay. When the time comes and when four or five crores instead of 10 or 11 lakhs of rupees can be placed at the disposal of this department, when the department is in full swing and when the industries and agriculture of this province are promoted on a very large scale, then it will be time enough that our Minister thinks of appointing a full fledged expert to be in charge of the Industries Department.

“As I said at the very commencement, on account of the very small sums placed at the disposal of this department the department might not have been able to show much progress. Probably there may be a saving here or a saving there and a change in outlook in this or that line. Barring that I do not think there is much room for complaint or criticism against the Government so far as this department is concerned.

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“At the fag end of the day when every one seems to be tired, it has fallen to my lot to address the House on this very important subject. The very fact that Industries department has received scanty attention at the hands of the House would be sufficient to show how much we are yet to learn to appreciate important subjects of national value, subjects which really affect the daily life of the industrialists, the agriculturists and the labourers. Sir, it is difficult for me to speak with patience or restraint on the administration of the Industries department and much more so when I find that the department has been divorced from another sister department—the department of Co-operation. Both the departments have been now separated and are placed in the hands of different Ministers. Co-operation, Industries and Agriculture are so connected together that only by a joint and co-ordinate action we will be able to effect some improvement by working out a scheme or policy of advancement.

“Sir, it is impossible for me to speak with restraint or patience. When we got the department transferred in 1920-21 and when the Montford Reforms were introduced for the benefit and advantage of the people of this country, it was thought that the people's representatives who would be in charge of the transferred departments as responsible Ministers would be able to work out a bold policy for the material benefit and advancement of the people of this country. Unfortunately during the last ten or eleven years of the existence of this department, it has been in charge of about eight officers, and there has not been a single officer who can said to be an expert. Sir, if this department should be a department that is to have any consistent or continuous policy it would require that the head of the department should possess expert knowledge, training and aptitude for industrial learning and that he should be able to initiate and guide the industrial policy of this Government. In this connection, may I ask what has been the result

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[26th March 1931]

of the working of this department after a bright period of three years when it was under the guidance of Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu? The State Aid to Industries Act was passed for the benefit of the struggling industries of this province. Since then no attempt has been made for introducing any legislation with a view to bring Chambers of Commerce or Trade Unions under the purview of the State Aid to Industries Act so that the people of this Province may be benefited and the cause of the struggling industries and farmers may be advanced. The State has not been able to help the struggling farmer and the struggling producer in this Province. Of course the present Minister in charge has been in charge of the department only for the last five or six months. It is also possible that he might not have had time or the aptitude to go into this matter. But at the same time I would emphasize the imperative necessity to find out the means by which he will be able to advance the cause of the small industrialist and the small farmer. We all know how in other countries they have worked for the industrial emancipation of those countries. We know what Japan was 40 years ago, a country which has been subjected to the same social customs as ours and a country two-thirds of the population of which are depending on land for their maintenance. What do we find to-day? Japan has risen from a struggling agricultural country to one of the most industrially advanced countries in the world. What is this due to? Surely this is due to the aid of the Government. The State took up the whole work, from the formation of a small company to that of starting and managing big banking concerns. Sir, it is the State that paid attention to everything, viz., the starting of commercial bureaus, the marketing of products and so forth. Step by step the people of Japan were able to build their national industry with the aid of the State. I ask why such a thing has not been done during the last ten or eleven years? No great attempt has been made by the Government to improve the industries of this province. The re-organization of the Industries department was pressed on the Government but it has fallen on deaf ears. But I do hope that the Ministry with such a majority behind will be able to work up a scheme which will benefit the country. They must show courage and initiation. It is no use saying that nothing was done in the past. My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, will be the first to admit that when his party was in office, he or his party was not able to do anything in the matter. Now our party is in office and in power as well. It is incumbent upon them to work up a bold policy which will be beneficial to the people of this province. We will have to satisfy ourselves as to how far we have provided for the economic welfare of the masses of this province who are looking forward to us for their amelioration. We must consider how far we have justified our election. We must show to the people of this province that the Justice party means sincere service and it is not carried away by the intrigues and manœuvres of this or that group but that we have been able to work up independently and wisely and with courage for the material advancement of the people of this Province, and that we have been able to take to the door of

26th March 1931]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

the poor industrialists and to the struggling farmers some relief which they now want more than anything else, to redeem them from poverty and suffering. What is our programme in this matter? Let us be ready for service.

“Sir, we have had the reports of cottage industries and some of my hon. Friends here have laid great stress on the importance of cottage industries. It seems to me that the reports are a matter of farce. You appointed a Deputy Collector, a revenue collecting officer with no experience of industries to undertake the survey. What are the conditions which prevail in other countries with regard to cottage industries?”

(A voice ‘what about the Director of Industries’.)

“Please allow me to go on. Do not interrupt me. You must learn self-discipline.

“Sir, the work of cottage industries has been done. The work was done by deputy tahsildars who collected materials with regard to each taluk and the reports were collaborated into a report and thus the report was prepared. These reports are misleading. What is really wanted is that these officers should go into the villages having a well-defined industrial programme and sit there for ten or fifteen days and then ascertain the spirit and the need of the people and then prepare their report on a careful analysis of the facts. If they had done that, the report would be worth something. We have tried to find out something useful in the reports. The committee very wisely recommended about 15 major industries which have to be built up immediately and which are capable of rapid expansion. I find from the Administration report of the Madras Presidency a great deal of interest has been shown by the department towards the development of industries in the villages. For instance, they discovered toy industry in a village and picked up a boy and sent him to School of Arts for the purpose of learning clay modelling. That is the immediate result which has come out from the recommendations of the Cottage Industries Committee.

“Another most attractive feature of the work of this department is its commercial enterprise. Leave alone the State Aid; what is it that we find with regard to this Jam factory to which several hon. Friends have referred? The same remark applies with regard to Calicut Soap Factory. The Calicut Soap Factory is one upon which there has been a loss of Rs. 21,300 net and the factory is to go on for the next two years. In spite of our demand that the factory may be closed, the Government have made a further provision in the budget this year with the result that in the next year they will come forward with further loss of a lakh of rupees!

“Such has been the working of the Industries department which is supposed to exist for the benefit of the people of this country.

“I shall read from the report, the portion relating to the Calicut Soap Factory, so that hon. Members may understand how efficiently

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[26th March 1931]

the department is managed and how the experts of the department have been able to work that industry on a commercial basis, but no useful purpose will be served in reading extracts.

"I do not want to tire the House by referring to many cottage industries. I shall refer to only one industry, viz., the coir industry. This industry is referred to in the report. The report says 'very great interest has been taken by the villagers; we must have facilities so that we may be able to get a better quality of fibre'. The report is alright; but what steps have been taken by the Government in this matter? Referring to the East Coast, the report deals with a step taken in a particular village in Tanjore. Tanjore must be considered to be in the East Coast for the purpose of this coir experiment. The report is very attractive reading; in paragraph 186 the report says: The coir industry on the East Coast, was experimented upon and investigated. The coir industry was started at Topputorai in Tanjore district. That village is on the East Coast. I have no patience with the policy of the Industries Department; it has been such as it will never be able to do anything that will be for the benefit of the country. The hon. Minister must lay down a policy. The hon. Minister must inform the head of the department what his views are. Unless the head of the department is one who knows his job, who knows how to work an industry economically, how a particular industry could be worked in any locality and who is specially qualified to take the initiative, it is no use having a department at all.

"I shall refer to one more point and I shall have done. It is a very important one and this is the Swadeshi movement. In all earnestness I say that the encouragement of Swadeshi articles is one of the cardinal principles of the creed of the Justice party. Some of the members of the party and some of our hon. Ministers have been very enthusiastic about Swadeshi and Khaddar and have been very sincere in the matter of the encouragement of the Swadeshi articles; not only did they wear themselves and exhibit themselves in Swadeshi cloth, there were Swadeshi Exhibitions supported by them. This is an opportunity to develop Indian nationalism. The Congress has laid emphasis on the encouragement of this movement and asserted it. The poor ryot, the poor labourer and the poor agriculturist will be able to supplement his income by taking to spinning during his leisure hours, during the period he is out of work. The ryot after his work in the field and labourer after his work in the factory, will be able to supplement his income by means of spinning and weaving which have been advocated by the Indian National Congress. Local bodies must know whether the Government are prepared to support such a policy. If the Government are prepared to support this policy and to encourage the Swadeshi movement, let them make an open declaration, so that local boards and others may not feel any doubt with regard to the policy of the Government in this matter. If they do not want to adopt this policy, I ask them to lay down an alternative policy. Let them lay down a policy which will be to the advantage of the people and which will help the

[26th March 1931]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

people; all I want is that the policy of the Ministry should be enunciated, so that it may be possible to work for the poor labourer and the poor agriculturist to supplement his income by some other occupation. What is the policy that is going to be laid down by the Government? It is time we know the definite policy which the Government are going to work out which will supplement the income of the people of the rural areas.

"One word more; it is high time that rural life, rural economics should be developed not on the basis of any political theory, not with a view to carry on any political propaganda, not as a symbol of a political creed, but in true economic way. The living of the Indian ryot and the villager is an economic factor; therefore rural life must be developed in a sound manner. Having regard to the unemployment of the villager during a portion of the year, having regard to the leisure he has, the Government may devise a plan of work which will engage him so that he may be more efficient and more contented and add to the prosperity and material advancement of the country as a whole. I assured elsewhere, I assure here also, that we will have Reforms very soon. It shall not be for the benefit of a few people only. But, if this House is in earnest that the scheme should benefit the rural population, the standard of life in rural areas ought to be improved; the only way in which we can help the material condition of the ryot and the small landholder, who form the backbone of the country, is by building up our industrial life. Even in Japan agriculturists form two-thirds of its population; they are the people who need most to be helped.

"Let me now deal with the question of factories; some of my hon. Friends here have referred to the improved condition of industrial labour and agricultural labour. But we have to deal with the larger question of the labour problem. I make a passing reference to this point now, so that I may deal with the question at the proper moment."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, speaking upon this cut motion, I feel obliged to acknowledge my indebtedness to my esteemed Friend Sir A. P. Patro for the most effective speech made on this side of the House. Sir, his speech reminds me of that notable speech he himself delivered in the year 1921, and another delivered later as the President of the Madura Confederation of the Justice party. Now again, the same feelings, the same views and the same opinions are expressed by him; but if I look at the time at which these speeches were made, I cannot help believing that at the time the speech is delivered, one is out of office or one is defeated. My hon. Friend Sir Patro was not a Minister in 1921 when he made that beautiful speech, and again when he made his second speech at the Madura Confederation, the Justice party had been defeated at the polls. The speech now deli-

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [26th March 1931]

vered serves as a corrective on the possible lapses of his party. Excepting for a brief spell of about three years, the Justice party had been in office continuously from 1921 down to the present day; and all these years they have not only been in office—as has been very characteristically remarked—but have been wielding considerable power. And so, it comes to me as a very great surprise that, with such national feelings surging in the minds of one of the most important members of that party, all these years that party should have been sleeping as it were, neglecting the departments with which they were entrusted. Sir, they are accountable to the electorate, that electorate which has been so graphically described as the master. The master is now in the minds of the members of the party sitting on the Treasury Benches, and it is but proper that a member of that party like Sir Patro should have reminded them of their answerability to that master, the electorate, to which they will have to go very soon. I will again join issue with my hon. Friend Sir Patro in respect of the remarks to be made as regards the utility of the State Aid to Industries Act. While one may feel satisfied with the passing of that Act, I challenge even my friend to let me know in what way it has benefited the country for which he has so emphatically been pleading.

“My friend also reminded the House, Sir, of the necessity of making khaddar a supplemental avocation of the people. Coming as it did from an hon. Member who has not been known to be very friendly at any rate outside, to that kind of industry, it seems to me that the party ought to take note of it. It is true that some Members, both of that party and of the other parties, while in public meetings eulogize the importance of khaddar, do not actually put it into practice. I am sure Sir Patro is not going to be one of them, and I have no doubt that with a gentleman with such sentiments as his in the party, it will be possible for that party to introduce the khaddar industry as a supplementary avocation, so that the agriculturists and small handicraftsmen may be considerably benefited. Sir, as I said, I feel very thankful for the speech of Sir Patro. I hope that with the advice he has so strongly administered to his party, it would be possible by the time we consider the progress of this department next year, to see that actual progress has been made in it by leaps and bounds. I was however wondering, Sir, whether this change over him has not come about owing to that excellent atmosphere which he had enjoyed in England as a Member of the Round Table Conference. He may have seen the nationalist feelings in the minds of delegates who went to England from the other provinces; and he must have necessarily known that the Madras Presidency, thanks to his own party, was lagging behind, and that he ought to *buck* up the party in order to justify the existence of that party. I can only repeat, though poorly, the same sentiments to the hon. Minister who is now in charge of this department. It is a pity, Sir, that Excise which has been disinherited should have been inherited by this Minister. It would have been better if, instead of Excise, he has had Agriculture,

26th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

as has been suggested by Sir Patro. Even now, perhaps, it is not too late to change the subject, if the floor Leader's opinion is taken into consideration and an attempt is made to reshuffle all the subjects.”

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—“Mr. President, Sir, I am surprised at the construction which the hon. Member for the City has chosen to place on the speech of Sir A. P. Patro. As I have understood the speech, Sir, I feel that as an ordinary camp follower of the party of which Sir Patro is such a distinguished ornament, I ought to offer him our thanks for the very frank and constructive and instructive speech which he has made, and also for expressing his wish, nay his belief, that this Ministry would achieve in the department of Industries very much more than what the Ministry of the past four years had achieved. The present Ministry is sure to achieve very much more than even what the previous Ministries, of which he was a distinguished member, had been able to achieve. This statement coming as it does from a past Minister of this party, a member to whom the whole party naturally looks up to for advice and guidance, we take it to be a blessing and a wish, rather than a criticism; because we should remember that Sir Patro took care to preface his statement by saying that the present Ministry has not been in power sufficiently long to enable them to give effect to any policy; and when, in addition he gives expression to the belief that much more will be achieved by the present Ministry, I feel justified in taking it as an advice, an advice which coming from one occupying the position that he does in the party, is decidedly welcome. While thanking him for the suggestions and for the blessings, if I may say so, which he has thought fit to give us, I, an ordinary camp follower though I be, claim the privilege to differ wherever I am not able to see eye to eye with him, from his views or demur to his suggestions.”

* MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“Camp follower and difference in views are not consistent.”

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—“Where does the inconsistency come in, Sir? A camp follower does not sell away his right to think for himself and express his differences of opinion to the leader, if and when he differs from him.

“One contention of his is that it was a wrong policy that Industry should be held by one Minister while Agriculture and Co-operation were held by another. May I state in reply that for the past nine years and more, Industries, Co-operation and Agriculture have been held by one and the same Minister, and according to the verdict of Sir Patro himself, nothing much has been achieved, or that it has not been possible to achieve anything by any of the Ministries all these years; and therefore I ask: Is it not worth while splitting them up and putting them in the hands of two Ministers, at least for some time, instead of leaving all the three subjects to one and the same Minister? I am very sorry that the hon. Member for the City is not able to follow me,

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam] [26th March 1931]

as sometimes it is the lot of those on this side not to be able to follow him at all. But anyway, if the three Ministers are prepared to act in unison and as a team—as I am sure they have been doing during the few months they have been in office—I am not able to see any difficulty or disadvantage in leaving Industry with one Minister and Co-operation and Agriculture with another.

“The other criticism or suggestion which was put forward by Sir Patro was as regards the swadeshi policy of the Ministry. It is not merely a question for the present Ministry, Sir. I believe there is hardly one Member in this House—including the European section—who does not feel the force of the swadeshi policy. There is not one Member here, I think, who will not believe in encouraging native industries. But that does not mean that any sort of industry which is put forward by any group of politicians should be taken as the *panacea* for solving all economic and industrial problems. I am only surprised that Sir Patro should have found it necessary to go to the Congress for adopting this one particular item of their programme, an item which has in the past been used merely as a political weapon and not so much as an economic measure, that that item should have been adopted by him and that he should have suggested it to the present Ministry in power. Personally Sir, and speaking for myself, I think that however laudable, however patriotic it might be for one to adopt khaddar, economically it is an unsupportable policy. If I refer to this matter at all, it is because I want to point out that it would not do to attempt to illustrate the policy of a Ministry and say whether it is swadeshi or non-swadeshi according as that Ministry is or is not able to adopt the policy of khaddar. Further, khaddar is not the only industry that counts. When a party declares itself to be for the development and encouragement of Indian industries, if it confines itself merely to khaddar, I would say that it would be a wrong policy. We must encourage every industry. In encouraging the khaddar industry, you will have to bear in mind that you are impliedly working against the native mill industry, which will certainly be not desirable from the point of view of swadeshi.

“One other point was referred to by Sir Patro, but what point it was that he wanted to make out I am not able to see. He kept on repeating, ‘Thopputhorai on the East Coast,’ ‘Thopputhorai on the East Coast,’ ‘Thopputhorai on the East Coast’ when he referred to the report of the Cottage Industries enquiry report. If he felt any doubts as to whether the report was geographically correct when it stated that ‘Thopputhorai was on the east coast’, I, coming from the Tanjore district, may assure him that the report is perfectly correct, and that it is on the East Coast near Vedaranniyam, a name which will be familiar to all people who have been engaged in or watching the progress of the salt satyagraha movement.

“There is one other point which was made mention of, not merely by Sir Patro, but by other Members of the Opposition as well, and that is that the Director of Industries should be an industrialist himself.

26th March 1931] [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

“As far as that is concerned, I am afraid there seems to be a confusion of ideas. One gentleman suggested that he should be an expert in industries, another that he should come from some mercantile firm with knowledge of organization and experience of business in the mercantile field. If the Government were to take to industry purely as a business proposition for the purpose of making money out of it, I can understand Government importing a gentleman from the mercantile field; or if the Industries department is to confine its activities to one particular industry and try to develop that industry without preference to any other branch of industry, I can understand an expert being brought in, but the Department of Industries does not exist merely for the purpose of encouraging any particular kind of industry. The object of the department is not so much to make money out of its engagements, nor to make profit out of its enterprises, but primarily to cultivate an industrial spirit in the people and to create facilities and place them at the disposal of the people. Such being the case, my own impression is that there is need for experts and experts will have to be engaged to examine important questions relating to the various industries; but to organize the work of those experts, to co-ordinate their activities, and make the results of their labours available to the public at large, so that the general public might be benefited, is the work purely of an able and efficient administrator and the best man for the purpose is not a mere industrialist or a specialized expert. Much as we would all like to have a fling at a civilian, whether he belongs to the Indian Civil Service or the Provincial Service we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that he has had considerable experience in matters of administration, and organization and in regulating and co-ordinating the work of the various departments and is therefore best fitted for a job like that of the Director of Industries. When therefore people say that the Director should himself be an industrialist or an expert of some sort or other, I am constrained to say that they do not know what they are talking of. Therefore, I submit that the present policy of appointing men of administrative experience . . . (Sir A. P. Patro: Then appoint Deputy Collectors)—Yes, why not Deputy Collectors? They are men of considerable administrative experience; they may be tax collectors but tax collecting itself develops considerable administrative and organizing capacity. Therefore, it is, Sir, that while I venture to differ from my revered leader Sir Patro in these small matters of detail, I venture also on behalf of my party to offer my sincere thanks for his best wishes for the success of the Ministry in the Industries department in the years to come.”

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, I do not want to follow my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti in the speech he made, but I think it is due from me to congratulate my hon. Friend Sir Patro for the magnificent speech he made. As a matter of fact as the hon. Gentleman who spoke last pointed out, I think Sir Patro did not mean in any way to criticize the present Ministry because he pointed out that they have only been in office for the last four months and had no time to initiate any policy at present. But what

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [26th March 1931]

he mentioned was that they should follow a policy which will be acceptable to the country at large. I want to emphasize only one particular point and I would not have done it but for the the speech of the hon. Gentleman who has just sat down. He said that khaddar is not an economic proposition. I think it is an economic proposition. I agree with Sir. Patro that it is an economic proposition and that it ought to be supported by the Industries department. Khaddar is a thing which deserves to be supported, because it is a by-industry. I can assure my hon. Friend Mr. Pannirselvam that it may not be economic in the sense it is going to replace mill industry and will bring much profit like mill industry. He is afraid that khaddar may result in killing the mill industry, but I should think he is wrong in taking that view. The idea of the votaries of khaddar is that a man who is following agricultural operations has got plenty of spare time and that in the off-season he should have some work to do and thereby be in a position to add to his earnings. This idea is perfectly justified, as I can testify from my experience of the result of the working of the Khaddar Factory near my own place. During the last four or five years when there has been no rain and when famine has been raging, the khaddar industry has really helped the people of those villages to eke out their livelihood. Great respect is really due to the people who organized this movement because during the last five years, the tenants in my own estate have benefited a great deal by this industry being carried on very near my locality. For this reason, I hope the hon. Minister will see that help is given to the khaddar industry. I believe there was a proposal at one time by which the marketing of khaddar was to be undertaken by Government. I believe my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, whom I am sorry not to see here just at present, proposed this, but it had to be dropped for various reasons. I would like to ask the hon. Minister to work out the proposal and to see whether he cannot carry out the policy of helping the producers of khaddar by finding a market for their produce, by lending money at a cheap rate of interest to those people and at the same time finding out possibilities by which the Government will not be put to loss but will be able to recover the amount lent to the producers of khaddar. I want to say this, to my hon. Friend the Minister for Public Works also who has under him the charge of the allied subject of Co-operation. As the hon. Gentleman who sat down last pointed out, there is certainly unanimity among the Ministers and I am sure the hon. Minister for Public Works and the hon. Minister for Industries would put their heads together and see how this can be brought about. I think it was this that Sir Patro mentioned when he talked of swadeshi and encouragement of swadeshi."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, the debate, which started with a promise of being very useful and helpful, unfortunately took an unexpected turn and much of its usefulness has been lost by discussions on rather irrelevant topics and the result of it is that I have got very little time left for myself to reply to the criticisms that have been offered.

26th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

"Now, in the Department of Industries, in really estimating the value of the work done and the progress made, it may perhaps be useful to remember the early history of this department itself. For many years, the Government of Madras were putting forward a proposal for constituting a separate Department of Industries, but that proposal met with no favour from the higher authorities. Even such a liberal-minded Secretary of State as Lord Morley did not view such a proposal with favour and the existing commercial and business concerns always suspected that the Government were embarking on ventures which might get into conflict with their own vested interests. In spite of all these odds against which the Madras Government had to fight, they succeeded in having a separate Department of Industries established in or about the year 1914. Even now the suspicion that any activities of the Government in the field of starting new industries would possibly prejudice existing concerns has not altogether disappeared. Even in the course of the debate last year, such a suspicion found expression in the form of a cut motion which however ultimately was lost. Handicapped as this department is by such prejudices working against them, the progress of its work must necessarily be slow. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar, pointed out, the department is further handicapped by the fact that it cannot undertake any schemes which it decides to undertake without the co-operation of other departments or even of other Governments over which the Department of Industries has no control. There are several matters in which the concurrence of the Government of India is required and proposals made by this Government with a view to protect certain indigenous industries of this province have been turned down by the Government of India. All these difficulties have to be overcome before this department can show any substantial progress in its work. I must, however, mention to hon. Members of this House, though the progress made by the department has not been such as to produce a spectacular effect, yet the department has made really good progress of which it can be proud.

"Sir, the main object with which the Department of Industries was started, as my hon. Friends may be aware, was with regard to the starting of pioneer factories to test the possibilities of manufacture on commercial lines of certain articles in common use and which have hitherto been imported from abroad or from other parts of India. For this purpose I must say—and I am sure hon. Members will certainly agree with me—that a well-equipped research staff is necessary in the first instance. Till recently we had no research staff at all: but now we are having three officers engaged in research work. There is the Research Engineer, there is the Research Chemist and there is also a Ceramic Expert who has just started his operations. If time permitted I would probably have mentioned to this House certain of the outstanding features of the work of these special expert officers, but I regret to have to say that I have not the time left to mention anything in regard to these matters.

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [26th March 1931]

"I may perhaps mention just one point. The Research Engineer by his investigation has devised a simple and very efficient appliance for the manufacture of lamp-black which forms one of the main ingredients in the manufacture of printers' inks. The imported lamp-black is subject to a duty of 16 per cent, whereas the imported inks come free of duty. The purchase of imported stuff raises the cost price of ink and renders it difficult to compete in the market with imported inks. The manufacture of lamp-black locally became therefore absolutely necessary and the Research Engineer has devised a simple appliance from which, with the use of waste oil which would otherwise be thrown out, lamp-black is being manufactured and used in the making of printers' inks. Inks can now be put on the market at a considerably lower price than the imported ink but at the same time equally satisfactorily.

"The Industrial Chemist has also succeeded in making printers' inks out of the lamp-black, a produce which as I have already mentioned, was the result of the experiments made by the Research Engineer.

"With regard to the hand-loom industry, that is one of the branches of industry which can be largely developed and made to flourish even in competition with mechanical power and the utmost effort has to be made by the Government with a view to promote this industry. My hon. Friend, Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar, who was a member of the committee which sat and deliberated on this subject has spoken about it and the Government are certainly endeavouring their best to put the recommendations of that committee into operation and if they have not succeeded to any great extent, it is due to the fact that financial stringency is standing in the way and on some of the recommendations action is possible only with the concurrence, as I have already stated, of the Government of India.

8 p.m. "Then, with regard to the appointment of the Director of Industries, views have been expressed on both sides as to whether an administrative officer is a suitable person to be appointed for this office or not. I do realize the force of the arguments that have been advanced, but I shall only quote to hon. Members of this House the view of the Royal Commission on Agriculture which has expressed its opinion on this matter. That is the latest authoritative pronouncement that we have got on the subject. After discussing the pros and cons of both the proposals, finally they say, 'It must however be recognized that the salary which the Local Government is in a position to offer is not such as to attract a man who has been successful in business. We are, therefore, strongly of opinion that the Director of Industries should be an experienced administrator.'

"Well, Sir, I shall in making the next appointment bear in mind the different views which have been put forward so eloquently by hon. Members of this House and the authoritative pronouncement referred to above.

26th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

"Sir, just a word or two more. So much has been said about Sir Patro's speech on this subject. Well, I am not going to say anything on that. Whether he conveyed any blessing, or only a blessing in disguise, I am not going to say. But he apparently does not look back with any feelings of satisfaction, much less of pride, on the years during which he and his Colleagues held office as Ministers, except during the first three years. (Laughter.) But I hope, Sir, that when myself and my Colleagues have laid down our office, we shall be able to say, to our credit, that we have done nothing of which we need feel ashamed. I trust that it will not fall to our lot merely to proclaim from house-tops principles and policies when we are not in a position to put them into operation: but we shall honestly endeavour during the period of our office to carry out the principles that we proclaim with reference to swadeshi articles—the movement has got my fullest sympathy—and so far as it lies in my power I shall certainly try to promote them. (Applause.)

"Then with regard to the remarks of the hon. Representative of the City I can assure him, as also other Members who may share with him his feeling, that in the editing that was done there was no attempt to conceal any fact or screen any person at all. It was only done in pursuance of the advice given, as a matter of law, by the higher authorities. I hope he will agree with me in thinking that there was nothing wrong about it."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, after the speech, shall I say the confession, of the Floor Leader of the Party in power (referring to Sir Patro) about the results achieved by his party during the two terms during which they were in office and the warning given by him to his own party (laughter) and also on the assurance given by the hon. Minister that he will not follow Sir Patro in putting forward schemes which he will not be able to carry out, but that he is going to carry out what was promised by his party (laughter), I beg to withdraw my motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand XXV—Industries—Transferred—for Rs. 12,38,900 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXVI—FISHERIES—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,91,200 under Demand XXVI—Fisheries—Transferred.'

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'to reduce the allotment of Rs. 7,91,200 for Fisheries by Rs. 100.'

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad] [26th March 1931]

"Sir, my object in moving this cut motion is simply to get some information regarding the working of the Fisheries department. The report of the Committee on Fisheries has emphasized the fact that the purpose of the Fisheries department is the material amelioration of the lot of the sea-going fishermen. I want to know, Sir, whether after that report was published, the department has done anything to ameliorate the condition of the fisher-folk. In the West Coast on account of the disappearance of sardines for the last four or five years fishermen are suffering great hardship. I want to know what the department has done to alleviate their distress, whether they have made any investigation to find out why sardines have disappeared from the West Coast and whether there is any means of making them come back to the West Coast. It is said that at present they are somewhere near the African coast, on the other side of the Arabian Sea. I am told that on account of fishing at night attended with the beating of the fishing boat prevalent in the West Coast to catch big fish, sardines have been scared away from the Malabar coast. On account of the disappearance of sardines, many factories that have been established to extract fish oil and guano spending large sums of money are now lying idle. During the last five or six years, no remedy has been found for this; and I want to know what is the remedy that the Government have proposed.

"Then, Sir, salt that is required for curing fish is sold to fishermen at a very high rate. Year after year Members in this Council stand up and request Government to reduce the issue price of salt. It is said that whereas in Bombay the issue price of salt per maund is only 10 annas, here it is Rs. 1-4-0. Before the Fisheries department began to supply salt to the fisher-folk for curing fish, they took some earth from the salt fields near by, mixed the fish with the earth and after it had sufficiently dried in the sun they shook away the earth; the fish thus became sufficiently clean for exporting. Now when famine conditions are prevailing in the province, if Government should sell salt at a high rate it will cause great hardship to the fishermen.

"I want to know why this department should not continue the Chaliyam Cannery. The Chaliyam Cannery, in spite of the recommendations of the Fisheries Committee, has been closed, and we are told that it has been leased out for five years, as it was found to work at a loss. Even if it works at a loss, it will be of some educative value and the fisher-folk would be benefited. The department is committing a sin in giving up the Chaliyam Cannery.

"Sir, we have now some three or four Assistant Directors. One is for Marine, another for coast, another for inland and the fourth for chank or pearl fishery. I want to know whether there is sufficient work for all of them; whether the amount spent on behalf of these persons is justified by the amount of work that is turned out by them. In my opinion the work of the Inland and that of the Coast Assistant Directors can very well be done by one person most efficiently. It is said in the 1929-30 administration report that at Pulicat and

26th March 1931] [Mr. Mahmud Schamnad]

Ennore oyster-beds had become exhausted and that it was decided to supply oysters from Gokulapalli beds. These beds were 17 miles away from the nearest railway station, with no direct road communication, so that the daily supply of oysters was found very difficult. When that is the case, I want to know why this supply of oyster should be undertaken by the department. Is it for catering to the delicacy of the table for luxurious people, or is it to improve the condition of the fishermen, or to make some profit out of this? I hope the hon. Minister will enlighten me on these points. With these words I resume my seat."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—Mr. President, Sir, it is rather unfortunate that very few people take interest in this department as it is evident from the small number of cut motions of which notice has been given. I am glad the Chairman of the Fisheries Committee is now the Minister in charge of this portfolio. (Hear, hear.) (The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar: It is mere platitude.) And I wish to ask him, Sir, which of the recommendations of his Fisheries Committee have been carried out by the Government of which he is now a responsible Member.

"First, let me take the question of reduction in the issue price of salt. The Committee of which he was the Chairman made out a very strong case for reduction in the issue price of salt. The Committee submitted it as their unanimous opinion to the Government that the price of salt should be reduced from Rs. 1-4-0 to 12 annas a maund. Last year during the Budget debate the hon. Minister then in charge of this department said that they were examining this question. But now the present Minister says in reply to a question put by me on this matter that the consideration of this question has been put off owing to financial stringency. Well, financial stringency is a plea which covers a multitude of sins of omission and commission. On the West Coast the catches of fish have been very poor during the last half-a-dozen years. And during the year under report the fishing season has been one of the worst within living memory of the people. Fishermen are suffering great distress. And yet nothing has been done to relieve their miserable condition. The poor fishing season has affected adversely the transactions in the fish-curing yards. The hon. Minister will be giving considerable relief to these fishermen, a class of people to whom, as the Committee has observed, Government does very little, if he presses upon the attention of Government the immediate necessity for bringing down the issue price of salt supplied to fish-curing yards.

"Fish-curing yards, I am afraid, are not properly staffed. Some of them are in charge of peons. The staff that is in charge of these fish-curing yards should not be entrusted with socio-economic work. These have got their own work to do and they are not trained to look after the work of co-operative societies and education in regard to these fisher-folk. They are not properly qualified to do such responsible work.

"Let me next take up the question of deep-sea fishing and research. After getting the trawler *Lady Goschen* and entertaining the services of a master fisherman, Captain Crib, this work has become one of

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[26th March 1931]

the major activities of the department. They have now placed an assistant biologist also on board the trawler. The main purpose of the trawler is said to be to explore the possibilities of deep-sea fishing and to find out what kinds and quantities of marketable fish can be found at various depths and in different seasons and then to compile a fisherman's chart on the model of the chart of the North Sea for the guidance of local fishermen. I quite agree with the proposition that the future of the trade is with the catching and any attempt made to augment the catches must be welcomed. Whether the trawler will help our fishermen by the work it is now doing should be considered by the Government. For one trawler to survey the possibilities of deep-sea fishing from Ganjam to Kanara, a coast-line of about 1,700 miles, it will take 21 years and the committee has, therefore, suggested that the Government must purchase another trawler for this purpose. I wish to know, Sir, what has been achieved by this trawler so far. We have heard that she often goes out of repair; we want to know whether a fishing chart prepared as the result of the work done by this trawler will really help our illiterate fishermen. By now certain areas must have been surveyed by this trawler. Let us try and find out before we proceed further whether our local fishermen can with the aid of the map prepared for this area go out far into the region surveyed and capture any large quantity of fish and what sort of boat, net, and gear they will require for this purpose. Let us see how far a map of our waters will really benefit our fishermen, illiterate and poor as they are. Last year, the Minister while speaking on this matter during Budget time said, 'We have heard stories about the working of *Lady Goschen* in this House. We are waiting to see whether better results could be achieved by this trawler'. I wish to know whether any better results have been achieved since that time. I have got my own doubts about the utility of the results to be achieved by this trawler *Lady Goschen*, however much I may sympathise with the purpose for which she has been purchased and has been working.

"The problem on the West Coast is not merely bigger catches but preservation and curing of the fish that is caught. Our fishermen are continuing to cure fish as they used to do in the olden days; they are curing by salting. No material improvement has been effected in their method of curing fish. Nothing really very different is taught in this direction. In the fishery schools, they are teaching only the three R's and net making. Why can they not teach better methods of curing to the children of the fisher-folk? The teachers in these fishery schools have to go to the Fisheries Training Institute at Calicut for training. I do not know whether there are any experts in this Fisheries Training Institute who know fisheries technique. The proposals for the reorganization of this Fisheries Training Institute have been put off by the Government.

"At the Tanur experimental station no research work worth the name is being done for the last two years or more. They have no expert in charge of the station. They have put an unqualified man there and, in spite of repeated questions and speeches in this Council, the Government say they have not yet found a qualified man to be placed in charge

26th March 1931]

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

of this experimental station. The Director of Fisheries is probably the only expert we have in this department. The Director and the committee have said: 'We want a fisheries bio-chemist, a fisheries industrial engineer, a pisciculturist, and a fisheries biologist.' But no trained men, no experts are available, and research work is suffering. There is not in this country a single institution which gives any course of instruction in the higher branches of fishery science. Why can we not send some of our young men to foreign countries like Japan to learn higher fishery science?

"Certain recommendations were made by the Fisheries Committee with regard to the powers of the Director and providing a personal assistant for him. They said that the Director should be given the same powers as the heads of other department like Agriculture and Industries. For every little expenditure and for initiating any new scheme he has now to go to the Government for sanction. Why the Government have not given effect to this recommendation I wish to know. Then again, it was proposed that the Director should be given the help of a non-expert personal assistant to relieve him of routine duties so that he, the only expert of the department, could attend to work which required expert knowledge. This too has not been done.

"Sir, I drew attention last year to the experiment that has been made in my district at Malpe in refrigeration. An ice-making plant was put up by Mr. Soma, an enterprising fisherman of the place, on the advice of the Director, and the experiment has been declared to be a success. Now, to transport this fish it requires fairly heavy expenditure because heavy package is necessary. The concession given by the Railway companies in the matter of freight is not sufficient. He has represented to Government that further concession is necessary. Nothing has been done in this direction also. The hon. the Minister had opportunities of knowing first hand what the needs of this department are when he was Chairman of the Fisheries Committee. It is up to him now to see that the recommendations made by the committee are carried out properly and fully and that everything possible is done for the organization of the department on proper lines, for manning it with the technical men that are required for its development and for bettering the economic condition of the fishermen."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, in dealing with the department of Agriculture, the Veterinary department and the Industries department, the complaint of the House has been that Government has not provided adequate funds, sums proportionate to the importance of these departments on the development and activities of which so much of the prosperity of the masses of the population from whom we take our taxes depends. Now, Sir, the Fisheries department is again an instance in point. For, what, after all, is the main problem in India to-day? It is not so much politics or the development of political institutions, if it might be put that way, but it is the solution of the economic problem, the problem of lifting up the masses. And here, Sir, again, in the Fisheries department we have the same spectacle repeated of what I call a totally inadequate grant. The

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [26th March 1931]

Fisheries department is one of such very great importance with reference to the creation of further wealth that I am surprised that the hon. the Minister has not been able to press for and obtain a much larger grant for it than what has actually been budgeted. Take, Sir, the question of marine fisheries. Unlike other presidencies in India, the Madras Presidency possesses a coast-line of nearly 1,500 miles. And what is it that we have done to develop what I may call the almost untold wealth that we can get out of the sea, in the way of fishes, in the way of pearls, in the way of chanks and so many other things which have not yet been developed? What is it that we are doing? We have purchased the *Lady Goschen*. I did not want to refer to its defects in the hope that they have been since rectified, and that the trawler has been fully equipped for marine work. The hon. Minister now says, however, that it has again gone wrong. I am very sorry to hear that, because I was expecting that the present Minister who was the Chairman of the Fisheries Committee would proceed to give effect to the recommendations of that committee. One of the recommendations of that committee was that, as one trawler was insufficient, they should provide a second trawler. The object of the trawler was defined to be to examine the sea as far out from the coast-line as possible, say for a distance of about 20 miles or so, to find out where particular fishes are available, to examine the places where pearls, chanks and other things may be got, to examine the availability of fish food, and the places where edible fishes are to be found, and in what particular seasons of the year and so forth, and to prepare charts for the whole of the coast-line which is, as I said, about 1,500 miles long. And the Fisheries Committee, Sir, after getting an estimate of the work that has been done by the trawler in one year found that at the most reasonable rate, it would require 20 years for completing the work. The committee considered 20 years too long a period and so they recommended that the Fisheries department should have two trawlers for this work. Now, Sir, where is it all gone? The recommendations of the Fisheries Committee were examined by Government, and the whole thing has gone into the waste-paper basket. What is it that the Government is now proposing to do with reference to marine fisheries? Let us take the case of the west-coast fishermen. Several methods have been tried on the west-coast with a view to get reasonable catches of fish. They say that sardines are found this year in one place but that they are not found there the next year, mackerel is found in one place in this year but the next year it disappears, and so forth. When fishermen are struggling for their livelihood with these uncertain catches of fish, when it is expected that the trawler will be able to solve the question of the availability of fish, where it is found, its breeding places, their habitat and so forth, are you going to disappoint them? How are you going to help the fishermen? Unless you solve the present uncertainty, the fishermen must continue in the present apparently famished condition, as we see from the reports we have recently received. So, Sir, instead of two trawlers recommended by the Fisheries Committee, we seem to have at present one trawler that has gone out of order, as my hon. Friend the Minister whispers to me.

26th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

“Sir, it was expected that with the help of this trawler discoveries would be made by which we could be in a position to say what kinds of fish there are at a particular place. There are several other similar problems to be solved. If large catches of sea-fish are available, then the question which has to be solved is one of marketing. The Director of Fisheries was studying the question of refrigeration and transport. How is my hon. Friend going to help him in the matter? There is no Budget provision for that and the same thing is going on from year to year. What again has become of the recommendation of the Committee that the refrigeration and transportation problems must be solved? Then, Sir, with reference to the fish-curing yards there have been loud complaints that the rates fixed by the Madras Government for the issue price of salt were unreasonably high. The Fisheries Committee also recommended, I think, that the rates should be reduced by 50 per cent. That would have been reasonable. Things have advanced further since then. I think in accordance with the recent pact arrived at between Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Irwin these poor people ought to be at liberty to collect salt earth and natural salt wherever it is found. I would like to know whether it is so and whether the problem of the issue price of salt has solved itself in spite of the Government and the hon. Minister. I think they have done nothing; but Providence has come to the help of these fishermen. If not, the matter would come again for consideration. The matter has been under consideration ever since the Reformed Government came into existence and when I was there (Treasury Bench) it was still under discussion. Last year the predecessor of the present Minister said that it is still under consideration. Apparently nothing has been done because there is no Budget allotment. I should be happy to hear from my friend that these people will be at liberty to collect salt and use salt wherever it is found for fish curing purposes.

“Nextly, fish-canning at Chaliyam is an old question. I would make this a test of the sincerity of Government to have new industries opened. It would have been a very promising industry in spite of several adverse reports made. With reference to the problem of the softening of bones the Director of Fisheries went to Europe and America at his own expense and discovered the solution of all difficulties in connexion with canning. We can now can fish as good as the imported ones. That was the stage when I left the department. I believe since then the canning has been leased. As I said I would make this as a test of the sincerity of Government to develop our industries. The industry was started; you have spent funds upon the industry and when it promises to be a complete success why is it you have closed it down at Chaliyam.

“In the matter of inland fisheries I have no complaint to make. I think progress has been made. The money that has been spent was not given in a generous way but in a niggardly way. Surely you could have placed more funds at the disposal of the Director and much more useful work could have been done. Then, Sir, with reference to the pearl fisheries, every one knows that it has been spasmodic. There

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [26th March 1931]

were excellent catches for two or three years and then the oysters suddenly disappeared. The Director of Fisheries had held the common sense view that they should be somewhere in the neighbourhood. But the department has not the apparatus to find out where they are. At present the operation is done by the local fishermen who dive without any kind of appliances except cotton-wool in their ears. You don't expect these problems to be solved with cotton and wool in the ears of fishermen. You want something more. I find that the department wants to try with the divers equipped with Japanese masks and Oxygen cylinders. I think they will be useful only in shallow waters. To solve this you will have to go deeper. Beyond 20 fathoms line the Japanese apparatus will be of no use. Recently I asked a question whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the apparatus that is described in the Scientific American of October 1930 and the Minister promised to make enquiries. I suppose it was a courteous answer. I do not know if he has done anything since. Unless the Fisheries department is provided with some kind of special apparatus that will enable them to explore this problem in deep water it is not going to be solved. So that we have the spectacle of having no pearl fisheries. As I said, even to the commonsense man it must be obvious that the oysters should be somewhere near the shore; only they are not on the 'pars' or pearl tanks; they are somewhere close by and you do not know how to find out where they are. The Budget provides nothing to find out where these pearl oysters are.

"Then with reference to research urged by the Fisheries department, I think in this House Members who have studied the question have also urged for the appointment of experts to carry on research work. The Fisheries Committee recommended the appointment of a bio-chemist, a biologist and an industrial engineer. Never mind the industrial engineer. What about the bio-chemist and the biologist? Have the Government come to any decision about them? There is no Budget provision for them either. Here again the recommendations of the Committee have been thrown into the waste-paper basket. Or is there still any hope of appointment of experts in the immediate future on which alone the real scientific work of the department depends? I hope the hon. Minister will be able to give a satisfactory answer to this question. Lastly, Sir, the Fisheries department is the custodian of the welfare of the fisher-folk both in the West and East Coasts. I am aware that it is doing a good deal of useful work. Education and co-operation are helping them; but till you solve the many problems connected with marine fisheries you won't be in a position to place at the disposal of these fisher-folk those lessons that will help to better their economic condition. To-day they are reported to starving as the catches of fish in the West Coast are said to have failed. The other day in answer to questions on the floor of the House it was said that they are not in a 'famine-stricken' condition. I do not know what Government means by saying that famine conditions do not exist. I asked for a definition of 'famine conditions' and the hon. Minister was not good enough to say what they meant. Apart from these arguments the fact is that these people do

26th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

not get the usual catches of fish and when you are not in a position to say when they will be able to do so the situation is very pathetic. When they are admittedly starving what is the good of talking about famine conditions? Something should be done. They are not people who can attend to other avocations. They are living miles away from the other people on the coasts. They are even considered to be untouchable. They cannot usually get other work and are not accustomed to do other work. It is the duty of the Fisheries department to come to their relief. There is no good saying it is not their business. The hon. Minister knows their suffering. It is his duty to give relief. I know from experience that in many of these villages they have not got even drinking water. I have gone to many of the villages of these people. I have had complaints from fishing people of some of these villages in my Friend the Minister's district of Tinnevely that they have not got good drinking water and that they have to go miles away for it. The same is the case in Tanjore. It seems in many other places also people are not getting good drinking water. If the local boards do not do this work it is the duty of the Fisheries department to attend to this. In the matter of communications it is notorious that to get to these villages, you have to walk often-times, over miles of sand. In this respect again, these fishing-folk are very badly served. If they have good catches they have to carry them on their heads, walk across the sand, cross backwaters and get to the market. Even if the road is a mile off they cannot have a jutka to take their catches up to the nearest market. It is for the Minister to afford the necessary help. I hope, Sir, that we might place some hope in the fact that my friend who was the President of the Fisheries Committee is now the Minister in charge. If he has strong convictions, as I hope he has, he would not consent to see his opinions brushed aside and chucked into the waste paper basket.

"I think one might congratulate himself that he is in charge of fisheries. I hope that he will assert his convictions and try his best to help this department in which I for one have very great faith and feel that in this he has now a splendid opportunity for improving the economic condition of the people of this Presidency."

3.45
p.m.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, reference has been made by almost every one of the speakers who have taken part in this debate to the fact that I had the honour of being the President of the Fisheries Committee. It is of course a fact, and on that account I do feel even more painfully than the hon. Members opposite that it is a pity that something better could not be done towards the development of this very important industry in the province. I have realized, Sir, in the course of my investigations in that Committee, and I do realize even now, that if this department is really to do good and useful work it must be provided with a great deal more money than it has been found possible to do in the years past and in the current year. Well, as my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar has pointed out, there is a wide field for profitable

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [26th March 1931]

investigation, especially on the West Coast. Something has been done, but a great deal more yet remains to be done. Of course, the Fisheries Committee went very thoroughly into this question and made its recommendations as to how improvements could be made and how the industry could be developed on new lines. My hon. Friend appealed to me to see that the report containing my own recommendations is not thrown into the waste paper basket. Well, I might say for his information that the report, at any rate a good portion of it, had got buried even before I assumed this office. If it is possible for me to resurrect any portion of it and put fresh life into it, I may assure my hon. Friend that nobody will feel happier than myself. The one point on which we found a large body of strong public opinion with which we members of the Committee fully shared was that the issue price of salt was so very high and should be reduced. Fishermen really have a legitimate cause for complaint in this matter. One of the strongest recommendations that the Committee made, was that the issue price of salt should be reduced as quickly as possible. My predecessor, Mr. Seturatnam Ayyar, when he had to reply to the criticisms made in the budget discussion last year, said that the matter of reducing the issue price of salt was then under consideration. It was under consideration then. My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, was right in saying that nothing further has yet been done. But I can say this much that no adverse orders have so far been passed (laughter). The consideration of the question has been delayed because the amount of additional cost that will be involved is so large that it has not been found possible to make any provision for it in the next year. I may however assure him that whatever may happen to the other recommendations of the Committee, I shall try my best to see that this legitimate grievance of the fisherfolk is removed at least next year. I have been asked, Sir, whether the fishermen can remove salt from the seashore by virtue of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. The interpretation of that Pact is not a matter which I am competent to undertake. It is for the authors of that Pact or for others who are charged with that duty to interpret it. If under that Pact it is open to fishermen to collect salt with impunity without laying themselves open to the charge of violating any of the laws of the land, I cannot say, Sir.

“ Well, with regard to the recommendation made by the Committee for additional establishment for research and for additional equipment which will be necessary for the research work, I may say that the Government considered it but were not able to sanction all the staff that was required. They have sanctioned the appointment of an Assistant Biologist alone, and he has been given the necessary equipment, and a start has been made. If we find the results encouraging, I hope we shall be able to make some further improvement in this line also.

“ As regards the pearl fisheries, my hon. Friend said that there was no further investigation in that matter also. Well, investigation has been started already. The Krusadai station was established in 1928,

26th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

(probably after my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, residing his office), with the object of investigating the cause of irregular periodicity of pearl fisheries and the adoption of remedies to counteract the influences relating to such irregular occurrences. So far, our experiments have not led to any definite results, but it is hoped that in course of time these experiments will enable us to solve this great problem as to why such irregular periodicity occurs. That is so far as the Krusadai station is concerned.

“ Reference was made to ‘ Lady Goschen ’. That is another of the tragedies of this department. It was probably a mistake to have purchased that vessel at all. The vessel was only recently equipped not in my days, but in Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar’s days, at a very heavy cost, and this vessel had to undertake a voyage to carry the Revenue officers of the Malabar district, I think, to the Laccadive Islands. It undertook that voyage this year, and before it could return to British India, the vessel got disabled, and the question as to what should be done with that vessel is being examined. The boiler has to be refitted, if the vessel is to be of any service hereafter. We are awaiting a report with regard to that matter.

“ There are several other recommendations for which I as President of the Fisheries Committee am responsible. I do not know if it is of any advantage to me that I am now in charge of this particular portfolio having been once the President of the Fisheries Committee. I would certainly have a partiality for the recommendations for which I was responsible. Probably they may not receive the same amount of consideration as they would otherwise get from a person who is absolutely unconnected with those recommendations. Sir, on that account, I am not going to be disheartened. I may assure my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and other friends who have taken part in this debate, that I shall do whatever is possible with regard to the improvement of this industry.

“ As regards the Chaliyam Cannery, the recommendation of the Fisheries Committee, as my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar said, was that it should be continued or if it was not to be continued it should be leased out on certain conditions, on the condition, amongst others, that the lessee should give to research students all the necessary facilities for conducting research work in the factory. The Government did not accept the proposal of the Fisheries Committee. They ordered the Cannery to be sold. But it was found that when attempts were made to sell it, purchasers were not forthcoming, who would give anything like a reasonable price for it. So, the Government have ultimately decided to accept in a way the alternative recommendation of the Fisheries Committee that it should be leased out under the conditions which were set forth by the Fisheries Committee itself. So, some kind of research work is going to be continued. But of course it will not be the same as the continuance of the Cannery by the Government itself. It is certainly better than closing it down altogether or selling it away to some people who will not be amenable to any control by the Government.

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [26th March 1931]

“As regards relief to be given to the fisher-folk on the West Coast, my hon. Friend put a supplementary question the other day, and I said I would make further enquiries into the matter. If it is found possible to give any relief to these people who are distressed, I shall certainly be glad to do so. I hope, Sir, my hon. Friends do not expect from me anything more than what I have said on this occasion.”

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“I do not press the motion, Sir.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXVI—Fisheries—Transferred—for Rs. 7,91,200 was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXVII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—RESERVED.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,97,300 under Demand XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved’.”

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM then moved—

‘To reduce the allotment of Rs. 5,000 for Labour—Direction—Pay of officers by Rs. 100,

to urge the Government to appoint Deputy Commissioners for the efficient working of the department.’

“In doing so, he spoke as follows in Tamil:—

“தொழிற் கம்மிஷனர் இலாக்காவானது தற்போது கனம் ஹோம் மெம்பர் ஸர் மகமத் உஸ்மான் சாஹேப் பகதூர் அவர்களிடமிருக்கிறது. அவர்கள் அரசாங்க நிருவாகத்தை யேற்றுக் கொண்டது முதல் ஷே இலாகா அவரிடமே இருந்து வருகிறது. 8-வது டிமாண்டில் அரசாங்க நிருவாக சபை அங்கத்தினர்கள் விஷயமாகப் பேசும்போது கனம் மகமத் உஸ்மான் சாஹேப் பகதூர் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு மிகவும் தைரியத்தோடும் உதவி பிரிந்து வந்தார்களென்றும் சொன்னேன். இப்பொழுதும் அதனையே நினைப்பூட்டுகிறேன். கனம் ஹோம் மெம்பர் அவர்கள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவருப்பினரது இரட்சகமாகிய தொழிற் கம்மிஷனர் இலாகா அவர்கள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவருப்பினரது இரட்சகமாகிய மறுபடியும் இருக்கும்படி விற்கு மிகவும் ஆதரவளித்துள்ளார்கள். அவர்களையே மறுபடியும் இருக்கும்படி செய்ததற்கு அரசாங்கத்தாருக்கு யானும் எனது சமூகப் பிரதிநிதிகளும் நன்றி பாராட்டுகிறோம், மகிழ்கின்றோம். இனி எதிர் காலத்தில் கனம் மெம்பர் அவர்கள் காலத்தில் அது தளராதபடி வேண்டிய பணம் உதவித்தாங்கும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“தொழிற் கம்மிஷனர் இலாக்கா தோன்றி பத்தாண்டுகளுக்கு மேலாகின்றன. தற்போது அது நானொரு வண்ணமாக வளர்ந்து வந்திருக்கிறது. தற்போது இருபத்தொன்று ஜில்லாக்களில் வேலைகள் நடைபெற்று வருகின்றன. ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் இருநூறு பாடசாலைகள் நடைபெற்று வருகின்றன. புதிதாகவும் ஆரம்பித்து வருகிறார்கள். அவ்வாறே மனைக்கட்டு இடங்கள் வாங்குவது, கிணறுகள் வெட்டுவது, முதலான பயனுள்ள வேலைகள் நடைபெறுகின்றன.

26th March 1931] [Swami A. S. Sahajanandam]

ஆனால் ஷே இலாகாவில் ஒரு ரூபாய் வேண்டியதானாலும் கம்மிஷனர் சாங்ஷன் வேண்டும். ஏராளமாகப் பணம் செலவழிக்கும் இலாகாவில் மேலதிகாரி பார்க்காமல் பேப்பர் மாத்திரம் பார்த்து சாங்ஷன் செய்வதால் பலவித நஷ்டங்களைப்பற்றி கின்றன. சாங்ஷன் செய்வதற்கும் கெஜட்டட் ஆபீஸர் வேண்டும். தாசில்தார் களே ஜில்லாக்களில் ஆபீஸர்களாக விருப்பதால் அவர்கள் கெஜெட்டட் ஆபீஸர் அனுமதியைக் கோருகிறார்கள். கம்மிஷனர் 21 ஜில்லாவிலும் நடக்க வேண்டிய வேலைகளைப் பார்க்க முடியாது. சமையத்தில் எந்த ஜில்லாவிற்கேனும் போனால் அது சமயம் இரயில்வே தொழிலாளர், அல்லது டிராம்வே தொழிலாளர் அல்லது மில் தொழிலாளர்கள் போன்றவர்கள் வேலை நிறுத்தம் செய்துவிடுகிறார்கள். உடனே கம்மிஷனர் பேப்பர்களைக்கட்டிப் போட்டுவிட்டு அங்கு ஓடுகிறார். இதே சமயத்தில் வெள்ளம் வந்துவிடுகிறது, அல்லது காற்றால் நஷ்டமுண்டாகிறது. அங்கு போக வேண்டியவராகிறார். இந்த நிலைமையில் கம்மிஷனர் ஒருவரால் ஷே இலாகாவின் வேலையை நன்றாக நடத்த முடியாது. ஆதலால் டிப். கம்மிஷனர்கள் போட வேண்டும். டிப். கம்மிஷனர்கள் இருந்தால் வேலைகள் நன்றாக நடைபெறும். இல்லையேல் பணம் வீணாகச் செலவழியும். இது விஷயமாக சென்ற இரண்டாண்டு களுக்கு முன்னர் யானும் எனது சகோதர மெம்பர்களும் இக்கனந்தங்கிய சபையில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறோம். இது விஷயமாக கனம் ஹோம் மெம்பர் அவர்கள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு அட்வைஸரி கமிட்டியைக் கூட்டி அதன் யோசனையைக் கேட்டார்கள். நாங்களெல்லோரும் அவசியம் டிப். கம்மிஷனர் போடவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னோம். இது வரை அது முடிவுபெறவில்லை. முன்னிருந்த கம்மிஷனர் கனம் சிலேட்டர் துரையவர்களும் இரண்டு டிப். கம்மிஷனர்கள் வேண்டுமெனக்கேட்டும் கொடுக்காது அரசாங்கத்தார் உபேட்சையாயிருந்தபடியால் கனம் சிலேட்டர் துரையவர்களும் தாம் கம்மிஷனராக விருக்க முடியாதென்று போய் விட்டார். கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! லோக்கல் போர்டு இன்ஸ்பெக்டரை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளுங்கள் அல்லது இன்ஜினியர் இலாகாவை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளுங்கள் வேறு எந்த இலாக்காவையேனும் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளுங்கள். அவையெல்லாவற்றிற்கும் சர்க்கிள் பிறித்து ஆங்காங்கும் உதவி ஆபீஸர்கள் வைத்துள்ளார்கள். ஆனால் அனைவராலும் கைவிடப்பட்ட தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கெனத் தோன்றியுள்ள தொழிற் கம்மிஷனர் இலாகாவானது கவனிப்பாரின்றி ஒதுக்கப்பட்டே இருக்கின்றது. சாதாரணமாக, ஒரு வேலையைச் செய்தால் மேலதிகாரிகள் அவ்வேலை யை ஒத்துப்பார்ப்பார்கள். ஆனால் லேபர் ஆபீஸர்கள் செய்யும் வேலைகளைப் பார்ப்பதற்கு மேல் அதிகாரிகளில்லை. இரயில்வே டிக்கட் சோதிப்பவர்கள் எப்படி திடீரெனச் சோதிக்கிறார்களோ அப்படியே ஆபீஸர்கள் வெட்டும் கிணறுகளையும் கட்டும் பாடசாலைகளையும் பிறவற்றையுஞ் சோதிக்க கம்மிஷனரின் கீழ் உதவிக் கம்மிஷனர்கள் வேண்டும். அவ்வாறு பாராமையால் முதல் வருஷம் வெட்டும் கிணற்றில் மறு வருஷம் தண்ணீருப்பதில்லை. வருஷ முதலில் செலவு செய்து கட்டும் பாடசாலைகள் ஆறுவது மாத்திரத்தில் காற்றிலடித்துக் கொண்டு போகிறது. சப்ளை செய்யும் சாமான்கள் மிகவும் கேவலமாயிருக்கிறது. இரண்டு ரூபாய்கள் பொறுமான கடிகாரத்தை 10 ரூபாய் விலைப் போட்டுக் கொடுத்துள்ளார்கள். ஆதலால் அரசாங்கத்தார் கொடுக்கும் பணம் சரியான வழியில் செலவழிக்கிறதாவென்பார்க்கவும் வேலை திருப்திகரமாக நடக்கவும் வேண்டுமானால் டிப். கம்மிஷனர்கள் போடவேண்டும். ஒன்று தமிழ் நாட்டில் தென்னாற்காடு, தஞ்சாவூர் பக்கமும், ஒன்று ஆந்திர தேசத்திலும் இருக்க வேண்டும்.

“பணம் இல்லையென்று சொல்லக்கூடாது. அரசாங்கத்தார் எங்கு சிக்கனம் செய்தாலும் இந்த இலாகாவில் சிக்கனம் செய்யக்கூடாது. சென்ற வருஷம் 4 p.m. அதிகப்படி செலவு செய்ய 4½ லட்சம் கொடுத்திருந்தார்கள். இந்த வருஷம் ஒன்றரை லட்சமாக்கிவிட்டார்கள். இது மிகவும் விசனிக்கத்தக்கது. ஐயா! மிதக்குடி பிரசாரத்திற்கு வைத்துள்ள அவ்வளவே தொழிற் கம்மிஷனர் இலாகா விற்கு தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களின் அபிவிருத்திக்குக் கொடுத்தால் இவ்விஷயத்தை எத்தனை ஒப்பிட்டுக் கூறுவது. கனம் மெம்பர் அவர்கள் சப்ளிமெண்டரி கிராண்டாகக் கொண்டு வந்து தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களைக் காப்பாற்ற வேண்டும். சென்ற வருஷம் 4½ லட்சம் செலவு செய்வதற்கு எவ்வளவு சிப்பந்திகளிருந்தார்களோ அவ்வளவு சிப்பந்திகளும் பணம் குறைந்துவிடப்படியால் அதற்கேற்றவாறு குறைந்துவிடவில்லை. வைத்துள்ள 1½ லட்சமும் சிப்பந்தி செலவிற்குத் தான் காணும்.

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [26th March 1931]

இவ்விஷயத்தில் கனம் ஹோம் மெம்பர் என்ன செய்யப்போகிறாரென்று கேட்கிறேன். சிப்பந்திகளைக் குறைத்து அந்தப் பணத்தையும் இலாகாவிற்குக் கொடுக்கப்போகிறார்களா? தொழிற் கமிஷனர் இலாக்காவின் பணத்தைக் குறைத்து எவ்விதத்தும் சரியன்று. எப்படியேனும் பணம் அதிகமாகக் கொடுத்து இலாக்காவைப் பயன்படும் வண்ணம் ஹோம் மெம்பர் செய்ய வேண்டும். பணக்குறைவால் அதிகப்படியாகத் தற்போதுள்ள சிப்பந்திகளை எடுத்துவிட்டால் இந்த இலாகாவில் யாரும் வேலை செய்யவரமாட்டார்கள். ஏற்கனவே ஜில்லாக்களிலுள்ள கலெக்டர்கள் லேபர் ஆபீஸ் கிளார்க்குக் கிளர்ஜித்தப்படுத்தாமலிருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் அவர்களும் வேறு வேலைகளுக்குப் போய்விட்ட நிலைக்கிறார்கள். தாசில் தார்களுங்கூட டிப்டி கலெக்டர் முதலிய பிரமோஷன்கள் கிடைக்காததால் நல்ல ஆபீஸர்களாயுள்ளவர்கள் மாற்றிக் கொண்டு ரெகுலர் டிபார்ட்மெண்டுக்குப் போய்விடுகிறார்கள். ஆதலால் சிப்பந்திகளைக் குறைக்காமல் பணத்தை அதிகப்படுத்தி டிப்டி கமிஷனர்கள் வைக்க வேண்டும்.

“ஏற்கனவே தொழிற் கமிஷனர் இலாக்கா தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களின் இரட்சக இலாகாவாகத் தோன்றியது. பிறகு தொழிலாளர் குறைகளைக் கவனிக்கவும் தொழிற் கமிஷனர் இலாக்காவென்பேர் பெற்றது. ஏற்கனவே இரண்டு பகுதிகளாகப் பிறிக்கச் சொன்னோம், அது அங்கீகரிக்கப்படவில்லை. தொழிற் கமிஷனர் பாக்கரி தொழிலாளர் குறைகளைக் கவனிக்கிறாரென்று யொழிய விவசாயத் தொழிலாளர்கள் குறைகளைக் கவனிப்பதில்லை. பயிர்த் தொழிலாளர்கள் விஷயமாகப் பல் விடங்களிலும் கொடுமைகள் நடைபெறுகின்றன. இவற்றில் கமிஷனர் தலையிடுவதில்லை. திருநெல்வேலி, இராமநாதபுரம், தஞ்சாவூர், தென்னாற்காடு, கோயம்புத்தூர் முதலான விடங்களில் வயற்றொழிலாளர்களுக்கு ஏற்பட்ட கொடுமைகளை நிவர்த்திக்க கமிஷனர் இன்னும் முயற்சி யெடுக்கவில்லை. டிப்டி கமிஷனர்களிருந்தால் இவற்றைக் கவனிக்க அவகாசம் வாய்க்கும். வயற்றொழிலாளர் குறைகளை நிவர்த்திக்காத குறையொன்று அரசாங்கத்தாரிடமிருந்து வருகிறது. பொறுபாட்சிக் கொடுக்கும் இக்காலத்திலேனும் வயற்றொழிலாளர்களுக்கு விமோசனம் வேண்டும். ஆதலால் டிப்டி கமிஷனர்கள் அவசியம் போட வேண்டும்.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I think the hon. Member has spoken about the labour policy as a whole. It is therefore better that the other hon. Members also continue the discussion on the whole labour policy of the Government.”

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—“Mr. President, I rise to urge on the kind attention of the hon. the Home Member the sad fact that the Labour department which has been doing very excellent work in the direction of relieving the distress of the depressed classes has not been able, for want of funds, to expand its beneficent activities north of East Godavari. Sir, it has been my very painful experience to come across some thousands of able bodied men belonging to the Rellie, Mala and Madiga classes in the Vizagapatam district suffering under the double tyranny of social ostracism and economic depression. Their condition is absolutely intolerable. The classes have exhibited towards them a woeful lack of sympathy and interest in their welfare, and the public bodies in their turn rival the classes in neglecting to do their duty by these people. Sir, some 20 years ago I watched in pain and sadness the sufferings of the Rellies in Chengalvaraopet at Vizagapatam and when I visited the same place recently, I found them still suffering in the same miserable conditions. Only their increasing population has considerably multiplied their sufferings. Sir, I found in the town of Vizianagram, men who had been occupying pakka buildings, now spending their days in wretched huts on the outskirts of the town, the sites

26th March 1931]

[Mr. C. Basu Dev]

they once occupied having now been taken up by Brahmans and other class non-Brahmans and it is now called the kotha agharam. I am sure that if funds can be found to expand the activities of the Labour department in districts where they are not now active, the depressed classes will be greatly benefited and the House will be grateful to the Government.

“Another matter which I would like to bring to the notice of the Government is the question of constructing suitable houses for the wage-earners. The way in which the municipalities and corporations are tackling this question is very unsatisfactory. The Corporation of Madras has launched a scheme of single tenement houses in Bhogipalayam which is absolutely an insult to any human being. A man with his wife and children and perhaps son and daughter-in-law has got to live in a single room. This is a matter which I wish to bring to the particular and immediate attention of the Government. We want small garden houses and the sooner a scheme of garden houses for the wage-earner is taken up, the better for the sanitation and health of the city and the poor classes.

“Sir, I believe my hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasan is very anxious to speak on the question of Kallars in Ramnad district. I do not therefore want to take up any further time of the House. I earnestly hope that the hon. the Home Member will try his best to persuade the hon. the Finance Member to grant some more money to extend the activities of the Labour department at least to the Vizagapatam district.”

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN:—“Mr. President, there is a method of getting labour from the depressed classes by the landlords. That method is by getting the Criminal Tribes Act applied to these poor helpless people. Suppose a Korava, for instance, or a shepherd or a low caste petty tradesman of a locality refuses to comply with any desire of a high caste man of a village, a false charge is put up against him and with the connivance of the Police, the unfortunate man is convicted for a month or so and thereon he is brought under the Criminal Tribes Act. This affects him in two ways. One is that he finds his business ruined and the other is he himself is bound not to go about freely out of the village to find a living. It is much more the same in the case of labourers. If a landlord wants the services of agricultural labourers all that he has to do is to create some sort of disturbance and bring trouble on the depressed class members. The landlord being a wealthy and influential person he spreads his net wide and manages to bring these people under the Criminal Tribes Act. It seems that sons were asked to account for their fathers' sins by being brought under the Criminal Tribes Act if their fathers had been subject to its provisions. Sir, the fate of the people under this Act is very deplorable. They cannot do a few hours extra work and earn a few more annas, because between eight and nine in the evening they have to be free to attend at the Police station. Every day they have to be at the Police station at 8 a.m. and they may even be required to attend at any time. They are liable to be called up to go to the Police station even at midnight. Sometimes they

[Mr. R. Srinivasan]

[26th March 1931]

have to walk in the night miles together to appear at the Police station and sleep there or wait there till daybreak. If a man is put to so much inconvenience and harassment, how is he to earn his livelihood? Sir, some time back I put a question about some 30 or 60 Boyas under this Act in a northern district. I found that all of them had not been convicted and yet all had been treated as ex-convicts. A great injustice is being done to the innocent ones. I request that appropriate enquiries should be made in such cases and people who have no previous convictions should not be brought under the Criminal Tribes Act. They must be treated like other class persons some of whom even though they have half a dozen convictions to their credit are allowed to go about merrily. Sir, when a report against a person under the Criminal Tribes Act reaches the Magistrate, he summons him and without giving him a chance to explain his position, condemns him for ever. It is a very miserable state of affairs. I hope the hon. Member in charge of this portfolio will look into this.

"In conclusion, Sir, I would request the Member in charge of Labour to view the case of the depressed classes men in Ramnad district sympathetically. As I am not in possession of the facts relating to the condition of the depressed classes in Ramnad fully, I trust that other Members with more knowledge of the question will speak about it."

* MR. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I gave notice of an adjournment motion yesterday regarding the lock-out in the Madura Mills. I shall take advantage of this occasion to raise that question. Sir, we have brought to the notice of the Government the necessity for their intervention in this matter. At the time when I handed over the notice of the adjournment motion yesterday I was asked to state how the Government were responsible and how they were bound to interfere in a matter of this kind. *A priori*, even without any statutory liability, I would submit, that in the case of a strike or lock-out the Government ought to interfere and see that the dispute is settled between the employer and the workmen. The case in point is one which relates to a lock-out of about 8,000 workers. The Madura Mills in which this has happened, has subordinate branches in the southern parts of the Presidency and, I am told, that in all about 15,000 workers would be affected. If this lock-out is not speedily settled, I am told, it will soon spread to the other parts of the Presidency.

4-15 P.M. "As you are all well aware, industrial disputes always lead to breach of the peace and things of that kind. The Government being responsible for the peace and good Government ought to interfere. Hence I wanted to give the Government a timely warning so that they may exercise their powers for the benefit of the public at large. After the legislation of 1929 there is a statutory obligation cast upon the Government. Under the Trade Dispute Act they are charged with the duty of settling the disputes between the employers and workmen by the establishment of conciliation boards, courts of enquiry

[26th March 1931] [Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

and so on. Therefore I think the Government should not take this to be a case in which they can sit idle and in which they can console themselves with the belief that they need not interfere. As I said before, the lock-out in Madura Mills should not be considered to be a dispute merely between the employer and workmen. It concerns the whole community, and the magnitude of it is one which calls for immediate action. I am not here concerned with the merits of the dispute between the employer and his workmen. I am not fully acquainted with the facts, but at the same time the little that I have heard makes me believe that the Government ought to interfere immediately. Last Friday or Saturday some workmen of the Madura Mills went to the manager or the proprietor of the mills during the working hours and wanted that a person who was dismissed should be reinstated but the proprietor thought that this was a breach of discipline and the next morning when the labourers went to attend to their work in the mills, they found that the doors were locked against them. As I said above, I am not concerned with the merits of the dispute. It may be that the employees were wrong in approaching the employer during working hours for making their representations for the reinstatement of a dismissed labourer. But is it fair that, on this account, the employer should lock out 8,000 employees thus giving room for further development which may lead to a conflagration? Sir, I cannot conceive of it in any other light. Therefore I urge that Government ought to be alive to the seriousness of the situation and come forward with a definite proposal with regard to the settlement of this dispute. The Labour Commissioner is there and I cannot say why he ought not to be deputed to go and enquire and report to the Government immediately as to the origin of this dispute and as to how it may be settled. I should think that the policy of the Government in the past with regard to disputes of this kind has been one for which we ought to feel sorry. The South Indian Railway strike of 1928 and even the Ambalamudram strike which occurred some two or three months back could have been averted if Government had interfered at the proper time. In these strikes the Government ought not to think that they have no duty to perform. I for one believe that if the Government had intervened in the earlier stages of the South Indian Railway strike it could have been averted. As they did not intervene great calamity happened. I am only anxious that the same policy ought not to be followed by the Government. Whatever might be the position in 1928, there is now the Act of 1929.

"Sir, as I said above, the Government should not consider this dispute as one concerning merely the employer and the employee. It is a dispute which concerns the whole community and at least for preventing a breach of the peace and for preventing economic waste and other calamities which would otherwise follow, I earnestly request the hon. the Home Member to enquire into this matter as speedily as possible and settle it."

[26th March 1931]

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—" Mr. President, on the general motion, namely, to discuss the policy of the Government with regard to labour, I desire only to draw the attention of the Government to one or two things. I referred in the course of an earlier debate that there is an urgent need for the improvement of slums, if the labouring classes are to be made happy and their life is to be made worth living. It is the duty of the Government to see that the housing conditions of the labouring population are improved. It was only last year that the Government embarked on a policy of building houses for the poor. There was what was called the Bogipalaiyam scheme in Perambur for which provision was made in last year's budget. But I see in the present budget just enough provision made for completing that scheme and no more, and that, Sir, in a congested city like Madras where the housing problem is very acute and the conditions of slums are as bad as they could be. I wonder what our sympathy for the labouring classes is worth if we cannot translate it into action.

" Then, Sir, with regard to education of the people who form the agricultural labouring population, what happens? I referred to this when I spoke during the general discussion of the Budget and said that on account of want of a clear policy with regard to the elementary education of the labouring classes, they are not really getting any benefit out of our elementary education programme. Formerly, we had what are called single teacher schools. Now the Government wanted to revise that scheme and start what are called central schools. The result is, in many of the villages, the depressed classes are not able to get educational facilities. It often happens that in many of the villages the schools are located in places which are occupied by caste people and the depressed class people find it difficult to have their children educated in those schools. Then, Sir, the Labour department which had funds for helping the education of the depressed classes wanted to start new schools. The Education department, however, turned down the proposals of the Labour department because the former thought that proposals for establishing new schools in villages where schools already existed infringed the regulations laid down under the new education scheme. So that owing to this confusion of ideas with regard to the educational policy of the Government it is the depressed class that suffers most. In spite of the fact that almost every one in this House feels that the need for education of the depressed classes is one of the great needs of the country, we actually find that great handicaps are placed in the matter of education. Time was when we wanted to induce the agricultural classes to send their children to schools to get elementary education, Government wanted to give them not only free education but also midday meal; for, the children of the agricultural classes also happen to be wage-earners and if they are sent to schools, the parents will lose their earnings. That idea is now dropped. The reason is 'want of funds'. Sir, if you are going to plead want of funds with regard to education, I am afraid we cannot make any forward move. This plea of lack of funds is also said to be the cause of our

[26th March 1931] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

slackness with regard to other schemes in many other departments which the Government initiated with great hopes. I am referring to Kallar reclamation. It was started under very good auspices and for a long time the Government in their attempt to wean the Kallars from their criminal tendencies started schools in many places, started industries to help them and also formed co-operative societies. But I am afraid that enough funds are not forthcoming for Kallar reclamation now. I have always felt that many of our schemes, after a certain time, languish even when we feel that they are successful and we are not able to carry them to complete success. The reason that is very often advanced is want of funds. If we find that the working of a scheme is for the benefit of the country, I do not see why there should be slackening of efforts on the part of Government.

" The special matter which I wanted to bring to the notice of the Government and for which I gave notice of a cut motion is the policy of the Government with regard to the relief of unemployment. We all know that unemployment is staring the country in the face. Very often when many important problems are put forward in this House our Friends on the Treasury Bench say that they have appointed a committee to enquire into the whole question and make their recommendations. Sir, we have had numberless committees with very little results. There were no committees constituted with greater powers and spent more moneys on than the Royal Commission on Agriculture. Their recommendations fill volumes but what do we find? What effect have the Government given to them? We all know that Madras is essentially an agricultural province and that most of its people have to depend for their livelihood on agriculture. In spite of that we have been noticing that during the last few decades there has been a move on the part of the people of the villages to go to towns. The cause for this is the several amenities provided in towns and the want of the same in villages. Another reason why people have been wanting to go to towns is that they have the prospect of getting employments, especially in Government service. That was the attraction that held many of our young men for years. But we now find that Government service cannot go on absorbing all our young men, especially in view of the fact that all the communities like to have their due share of representation in the public service. Many of our young men after their education find that they are not able to get employment and have to merely drift.

" What is the help that the Government have given to them? As I said, Sir, when the Government were confronted with this problem, they constituted a Committee with Sir George Paddison as Chairman. After a long deliberation the Committee sent up certain recommendations. Have the Government given effect to the recommendations of that Committee? The Paddison Committee laid stress on the fact that the unemployment problem was really very keen among the middle classes; the problem was not acute among the labouring classes; there was really no trouble among the richer people, it was only the middle classes that were affected by the unemployment problem. The legal profession is over-crowded; so is the medical profession; the

1-30
p.m.

[Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar] [26th March 1931]

other avenues of life are not open to us in India. In other countries educated young men are able to get into many walks of life; there is Marine Engineering; there is the Navy; and there are various other departments, like electricity. But in India those avenues are not open to our young men. It was only the other day that we were grieved to hear that the Madras Government, which could have solved the question of unemployment to some extent if they had themselves taken up the distribution of electricity in the Province, had given the contract for the purpose to an outside company. The unemployment of our young men is not attempted to be relieved, and we see a sorry spectacle of a scumble among our young men for a few places now left in Government service and in a few other walks of life. Why should that be so? Are not our young men capable, if only we can open to them new walks of life, of filling the places with credit? We are also confronted with the fact that many of our people who had gone out to foreign countries, where they were making money either as labourers or as merchants or otherwise have been obliged to come home. Owing to Emigration Laws and to the policy adopted by various other Governments, many of our people are returning home and the problem of unemployment is getting very acute. I wish to know what the Government have done to solve this problem. As I said, what effect have they given to the recommendations of the Paddison Committee? That Committee recommended that agriculture should be made to absorb many of our young men. What is the inducement given by the Government to make our young men take to agriculture? If our people have to take to agriculture, we have to make it possible for them to go and live in the villages. What is the nature of life in the villages to-day? We find, Sir, that many of our men desert the villages and come to towns, because of the want of amenities in the villages. It is really very hard for them to live in villages. There is no medical help; village communications are very bad; there are no schools. Village life as a whole is not conducive to happiness. What is the inducement given by the Government to make people leave the town and go back to the village and to take to agriculture? Cannot the Government start agricultural colonies for our educated young men? I am sorry to say that the present Government have been only marking time; they want to carry on by utilizing the funds that are available for paying their officers, and merely carrying on the administration. There is no imagination; there is no attempt to better things. Unless the Government have a wider outlook, there will not be any benefit to the poor people and the problem of unemployment will certainly get worse. Before things go worse, I wish the Government would take measures to relieve the problem of unemployment."

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, at the outset I must express my thanks to the Chair for having allowed me to speak after a four days' patient wait. I certainly say that it is necessary to bring to your kind notice and to the notice of this House that Members on every side of the House should be given opportunities of expressing their views, even though they may not have given notice of cut motions. I

26th March 1931] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

further wish to suggest that it works great hardship even in the case of those who have given notices of cut motions, because previous speakers take up such a long time so that cut motions of which notices had been given, are not reached at all. I throw out a suggestion to the hon. President and the leaders of various parties in the Council that opportunity should be given to all sides of this House to speak on questions of policy at least with regard to major demands, like Irrigation, Agriculture, Co-operative Societies, etc.

"Sir, I think I am at home while speaking on a subject like the labour question. With the short experience I have gained in the working of Trade Unions in this province, I am, with some amount of authority, entitled to say that the Labour department, so far as the industrial workers are concerned, has not come to their help at all. Even though the Trade Union Movement has not developed to the extent and with the rapidity which we all desire—because from the report I see there are only 13 registered Unions—still there are a large number of unregistered Trade Unions; and thanks to the work of the International Labour Conference, labour legislation even in this country is coming on a par and with the same stride as labour legislation in more advanced countries. We have what is known as the Trade Unions Act; we have the Factories Act; we have the Workmen's Compensation Act and we also have a Trades Disputes Act. We are trying, so far as this country is concerned, to place the labourer and the workman on the same footing that he enjoys in more civilized and advanced countries like England, America and other places. I make a charge of this kind that the Labour department, so far as the industrial worker is concerned, has not come into direct touch with him; beyond the fact that the Labour Commissioner acts as the Registrar of Trade Unions I do not think that he has, in any manner, placed himself in intimate contact with the people, with the workmen, the workmen's organizations or affairs and the conditions of the workmen. I am making this charge for the very good reason that the International Labour Conference that is held year after year in Geneva makes the following observation:—In the despatch of the Government of India, Industries and Labour department, dated 21st November 1930, it says—I will read a sentence:—'In India the lack of organization among the industrial workers and labourers and among a large number of the population depending entirely on working in factories, leads to serious difficulties in undertaking any useful legislation.' My I ask what is being done by the Labour Commissioner and the Labour department to place the workers in the position of an organized body of industrial workers? To further substantiate what I have been saying, I will just point out a few instances where the Labour department has been notoriously inactive. Let me refer to one or two cases even in the Administration Report of the Madras Presidency for the year 1929-30. While speaking about the labour and depressed classes, the Commissioner of Labour in his report says that there has been a strike in the Tiruvottiyur tannery. I would like to know what he did in connexion with that strike and what steps he took to bring that strike to an end. There was a strike of the workers in the Tobacco factory of Spencer & Co. at Dindigul. I ask the same question in regard to that. There was a strike

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [26th March 1931]

in the Public Works Workshops, Madras, and so far as I know, the Labour department did not move in the matter, though the workers asked for a settlement in that regard. Again, Sir, there were strikes in the Cochin harbour, in the Nellore Municipality by scavengers, and in the Harvey Cotton Mills at Papanasam. I learn that, even last year, there was a recrudescence of that lock-out, and even to-day though a large number of workmen are involved in the Madura lock-out, up till now the Government have not interfered. Even though some representations were made to the various responsible officials connected with the department—I am not now referring to the hon. the Home Member—they said they were utterly powerless and do not know how to interfere and what steps to take. In this connexion I would like to remind this House that in spite of the fact that the Madras Government does not take a sympathetic and an alert attitude towards the satisfactory solution of strikes and lock-outs in this Presidency, thanks to the laws of the Imperial Government such as the Trade Disputes Act, a duty is cast upon the Madras Government—of course it is discretionary—and I do press upon the Government that, in future, that discretion should be used in a larger number of cases than in the past. I want to refer to only one instance, where this discretion—even though the parties asked for this discretion to be used—was not used and, what is curious, even various obstacles were thrown in the way of the workmen and the employers reaching a solution. I am referring to the strike in the Madura mills, not the present strike, but the strike that took place sometime before, in January 1930. I may mention for the edification of this House that section 3 of the Trade Disputes Act empowers the Local Government to interfere not only when there is a case of actual strike but even when there is an apprehension of a dispute between the employer and the workmen, which may lead to a strike. Even when a strike had actually materialized and when thousands of workmen were involved, the Government did not interfere. The Government of Madras refused to interfere even on application of the workers for interference and to set up a Board of Conciliation. I may inform the House that there was a strike in the Madura mills in January last. The workmen of the Madura Trade Union put in an application for the constitution of a Board of Enquiry. The application was pending for the last two or three months, and finally it was rejected on the excuse that it did not comply with some of the rules. That is a matter in which the Government should have interfered; it is not even discretion; when a matter of that importance is brought to the notice of the Government, I would again affirm, it is the duty of the Government to use its discretion. Discretion is vested under law; discretion is given to this Government by an enactment of the Imperial legislature and that discretion should be used in such cases. I am glad that the hon. the Home Member has promised to use his discretion and interfere in the matter in the present Madura mills lock-out.

“There is one other matter to complain of, and that is about the manner in which the Labour department and the Labour Commissioner have been acting in matters industrial. Sir, I am only referring

[26th March 1931] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

to the rules that have been framed under the Trade Disputes Act which was passed as early as May 1929. No rules were framed by the Local Government till January 1930 and so for 8½ months after the law had been placed on the statute book, we had no guidance for want of rules under which any application could be made under the provisions of the Act.

“Sir, there are a few other matters in which I would ask the urgent intervention of the Labour Commissioner. The Labour Commissioner is well paid, about Rs. 2,500, with a special allowance of Rs. 250 per mensem. He has got an assistant in the grade of Rs. 300 to Rs. 850; his establishment costs about Rs. 29,000; the other charges come to Rs. 19,000, and the total comes to nearly Rs. 83,000—that is the amount we now spend on the Labour Commissioner and his office. I would urge upon him and the Government the necessity that he should come into living touch with the trade unions and with the other labour organizations, registered under the Trade Unions Act or unregistered. I would only mention a few instances where immediate intervention is necessary. I give the instance of the several castor oil factories under the very nose of the Commissioner in the City of Madras. A visit to those factories would show the sorry spectacle that men are being treated there worse than brutes, that they are being sweated from morning to evening and even till late at night. The same conditions prevail, perhaps in a milder way, in the various tanneries where workmen, who are unfortunately dumb people, who do not realise that they are human beings, that they have certain rights vested in them, those people are being worked in a suffocating and loathsome atmosphere, from early morning to evening. These are things, Sir, which the Labour Commissioner must certainly study. These are problems which the Labour Commissioner must find a solution for.”

“Even with regard to the question of unemployment, I would say that if the Labour Commissioner does not do anything in the direction of gathering statistics of the unemployed, his post would become unnecessary. For every measure of reform, you must first know what the extent of the disease is. What is the information, what are the statistics collected by the Labour Commissioner or the Labour department in regard to the question of unemployment? It may be urged, Sir, that it is difficult in an agricultural country like this to get at the actual figures of unemployment. Hon. Members will remember that every day we have reports in newspapers saying that the number of unemployed, stands at 2½ millions in England, that it stands in Germany at 4 millions; and yet we here in India do not get any figures regarding unemployment. That is a very sorry state of things, and so far as industrial workers are concerned—whatever may be the difficulty in regard to the agricultural workers—there can be no difficulty whatsoever in getting at the figures of unemployment. Sir, this is all the more necessary at a stage like this when the question of retrenchment is in the air, retrenchment beginning only from the bottom, not from the top. Just as a few peons are removed for effecting retrenchment in Government departments, so also in the various factories, railways, etc., there is the same

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [26th March 1931]

talk, viz., that 1,000 workmen are going to be retrenched, especially in the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, some more in the South Indian Railway and so on. What is the Labour Commissioner doing, in order to study those problems?

"One other thing that was alluded to by a previous speaker is that so far as the City of Madras is concerned, and so far as other industrial cities are concerned, like Madura, Coimbatore, etc., where a large number of industrial workers are congregated within a limited area, the Government must take upon themselves the responsibility of providing houses. In the Madras City we have made a start and that start, as I observed on another occasion in this House, is a very niggardly start. We have at least a lakh of industrial and other workers in the City, and for that a scheme costing only Rs. 2½ lakhs will not touch even the fringe of the problem.

"There is another question in which the workers are interested, in regard to which I will again charge the Labour Commissioner with not having done anything so far. That is the question of the living wage. That question has been agitating the minds of workers all over the world, and to-day, I would respectfully ask the hon. the Home Member whether any standard has been fixed by a department working at such heavy cost, whether any conclusions have been come to as regards that question of the minimum living wage, and whether the Labour Commissioner has obtained any statistics or has made a study of the question. What is the essential minimum that an industrial worker or an agricultural worker should get? No doubt, so far as the question of the manner in which labour legislation is at present being administered, that is in the hands of the Imperial Government; but we should certainly take our stand under the new constitution that labour legislation should be in the hands not only of the Federal Government or the Central Government—whichever it might be—but it must also be in the hands of the local or provincial legislatures. Till that happy day comes, we must ventilate our grievances and the real difficulties we are suffering under, only through the trade unions of this Presidency.

"I would now say one word, Sir, about agricultural labour. Hon. Members who have preceded me, especially my Friend Mr. Sahajanandam and the other members of his community to which a large number of these agricultural labourers belong, have pointedly brought to the notice of this House the various difficulties of the poor labourers. I would only add that so far as my district (North Arcot) is concerned, the agricultural labourer has borne the brunt of the great cyclone havoc that passed over the province recently, and I am aware that sufficient relief has not been given to the agricultural labourer in that respect.

"These are only certain instances which it is the duty of every civilised Government to study—the question of a minimum living wage, the housing problem, the question of sick insurance, maternity benefits, unemployment doles, etc.,—and I do not want to go on with a catalogue of their grievances. I would only urge that a little more human touch should be established between this costly Labour department and the actual helpless worker."

26th March 1931]

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak on this occasion.

"Sir, the great movement that is now going on in India is directed towards the ideal that it is but legitimate for every community to assert its right to get its share in the future reforms. But unfortunately to the lot of the depressed classes, it is not so. For, wherever we turn, we see that the depressed classes are treated worse than beasts. Sir, the situation is so very bad that unless some serious and urgent steps are taken, I am afraid serious consequences will result Sir, at the present juncture, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and also of the hon. Members of this House to the most atrocious crimes that are being perpetrated in the fair name of justice in the Ramnad district. I do not wish to go into the details of the way the depressed classes are being treated in the Ramnad district, but I would put forward only one instance from which you can understand the disabilities under which my community people are labouring under to-day. The Kallars of Elluppakudi entered a depressed class chery on the 6th March 1931, plundered and even murdered a depressed class man who was sleeping in an adjacent field cottage. Atrocities have been brought to the notice of the Government during the last eight months, and I do not think that any substantial steps have been taken to remedy matters. Unless the Government forthwith investigate the situation and adopt proper measures to check the evil, the locality will be the scene of very serious dangers to life and property not only of the members of the depressed classes but even of those of the rich landlords and the other peace-loving and law-abiding citizens. The local Police have not only been distinctly callous and failed to control the situation, but it appears that they have also made matters worse. Hence, it will not be wise to expect the present Police force of the locality to control the situation. Reserve Police Forces should be stationed immediately in the three disturbed areas and such further measures that are deemed appropriate and necessary in the circumstances should be taken without delay.

"Sir, after so many years of agitation, the Government were so good as to bring into existence the Labour department. The Labour department is considered as the protector of the depressed classes. At a time like this when our community is trying to assert its rights, and when the caste people are trying to oppress us, if the Government are silent over the matter, I do not know what will become of us all. So, without going into further details, I would request the hon. the Home Member to kindly give some relief to the poor sufferers in the Ramnad district and do them justice."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Sahajanandam has pleaded very strongly for the appointment of a Deputy Commissioner. This question of the appointment of a Deputy Commissioner was considered times without number and we find that the Labour Commissioner is able to manage his office without the assistance of a Deputy Commissioner. Therefore, I do not see any reason why we should have a Deputy Commissioner

[Sir Mahomed Usman] [26th March 1931]

appointed. Moreover, I think in these days when retrenchment is necessary, it is not right that we should go on multiplying the number of our officers. I know my hon. Friend Mr. Sahajanandam is a great enthusiast in the cause of the depressed classes; but as he made his speech in Tamil, I was not able to understand it fully. All the same, I promise that I will have it examined and try to deal with all the points that have been raised by him in a very sympathetic spirit as far as possible.

“My friend Mr. Basu Dev said that the activities of the department have not been extended in this year. Nobody regrets, Sir, more than myself that the department's activities could not possibly be extended this year owing to financial stringency. I may say, however, that I shall try my very best to see that the activities are extended to the remaining four or five districts, when funds permit.

“My hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasan has spoken about the working of the Criminal Tribes Act. I may say in this connection ‘that the provisions of the Act are worked with care and consideration and the general idea underlying the Act and the view that practical effect should be given to it have always been borne in mind. The restrictions under Section 10(1) (a) are imposed in suitable cases and to the extent necessary to curb the criminal propensities of the active members. Those who conduct themselves properly and prove worthy of the concession of temporary exemption granted to them are recommended for entire removal from the registers. The Government are thus always alive to the desirability of relieving men of good conduct from restrictions under the Criminal Tribes Act.

“Now my hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasan has given some instances of hardship, and I will have them examined and see what I can do; and also find out whether I can still more liberalise the provisions.

“Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai referred to an important matter—as a matter of fact he also sent in a short notice question. I have asked the Labour Commissioner to send a telegram to the District Magistrate of Madura, to find out what the exact position is. All the facts that we have been able to gather so far are these:

“On the 19th instant a labourer with many years' service in the roving department asked to be transferred to a more easily worked frame as his feet were giving him trouble. The request was regarded by the managers as reasonable, and on the 20th instant he was transferred to a frame where a man acting for an absentee was working, and the acting man was transferred to the other frame. The acting man refused to work on the frame given to him; and in the afternoon, most of the workers in the roving department stopped work and refused to resume work until the decision of the managers had been reversed. The strikers were joined by men from other departments, and in the end, the managers had to suspend work in the mills indefinitely. So far, nothing untoward has happened.

“This is the information we have received. But I have called for a full report of the whole situation. As soon as I get it, I shall examine the question as to what steps if any Government should take. I fully

26th March 1931] [Sir Mahomed Usman]

agree that in matters of this sort, we must not only show sympathy to labour but also be just to the employers. Anyhow, I assure the House that as soon as I get the facts, I shall very seriously consider the question as to what action should be taken by the Government if any.

“My hon. Friend Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar spoke about the unemployment problem. Sir, with regard to this, in reply to a question put on the floor of this House, I stated what is being done. I am sorry I cannot add anything more to what I stated then in regard to this question. Anyhow, I shall examine the question further and see if anything more can be done.

“My hon. Friend Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar offered certain suggestions and I shall examine them carefully and see if any thing can be done.

“My hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Pillai referred to the Ramnad trouble. I know that my hon. Friends of the depressed classes feel that they are not being properly treated by the caste Hindus, but this requires careful handling. As soon as I get the report from the District Magistrate I shall examine the question very carefully in order to see that every endeavour is made to bring about friendship between the depressed classes and the caste Hindus. Many other suggestions have also been made in the course of the debate and I shall see that all these suggestions are carefully examined.”

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved—for Rs. 12,97,300 was put and carried and the grant made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

III.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

Proceedings of the seventh meeting of the Finance Committee for 1930-31 held on Tuesday the 24th February 1931.*

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

[26th March 1931]

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 728 asked by Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th March 1931, page 659 supra.]

(1)

G.O. No. 187, L. & M., dated 21st January 1931.

With reference to sections 7 (3) and 43 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, Government propose to take up immediately the question of the division of municipalities into wards and the reservation of seats for particular communities and for women. Municipal councils are therefore requested to submit proposals to the Inspector of Municipal Councils on the following subjects before the 15th February 1931, indicating in every case the bases on which they are framed :—

- (i) the division of the municipality into wards ;
- (ii) the names of the communities mentioned in section 7 (3) for which seats should be reserved and the number of seats which must be allotted to each of those communities and for women ; and
- (iii) the wards in which such reserved seats should be set apart, and the number of non-reserved seats that should be allotted to those wards.

2. In the matter of the division of wards, due regard should be paid to the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 43 of the Act and to the principles enunciated in G.O. No. 1049 M., dated the 12th July 1915, in so far as they are not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act as amended. It should be made possible for a large proportion of the members of the communities for whom seats are proposed to be reserved, to take part in the elections to those seats.

Care should be taken to see that the total number of reserved seats does not exceed one-fourth of the strength fixed for the council and that no reservation is proposed in respect of any community which according to the last census constituted more than one-half of the population of the municipality. Due regard should be paid to the number and importance of each community.

As replies to this reference received after the 15th February 1931 are liable to be ignored, chairmen of municipal councils should, if necessary, convene a special meeting of their councils and submit the proposals before the due date.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

To all chairmen of municipal councils.
„ all Collectors.
„ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
Press.

(2)

G.O. No. 188, L. & M., dated 21st January 1931.

With reference to sections 9, 47, 48 and 49 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, Government propose to take up immediately the question of the division of the area of district boards, of taluk boards and of such of the panchayats as were union boards till the 25th August 1930, into circles or

[26th March 1931]

wards, as the case may be, and of the reservation of seats in them for particular communities and for women. District and taluk boards are therefore requested to submit proposals to the Inspector of Local Boards on the following subjects before the 15th February 1931 indicating in every case the bases on which they are framed :—

- (i) the division of their areas into circles ;
- (ii) the names of the communities for which seats should be reserved and the number of seats which should be allotted to each of those communities and for women ; and
- (iii) the circles in which such reserved seats should be set apart, and the number of non-reserved seats that should be allotted to those wards.

2. In the matter of the division of the district or the taluk into circles due regard should be paid—

- (1) to the provisions of section 47 (2) or 48 (2) as the case may be ; and
- (2) to population and aggregate revenue, local needs and general importance of the areas concerned.

Care should be taken to see that the circles in which reserved seats are set apart are such as would make it possible for a large proportion of the members of the communities concerned to take part in the elections to those seats. The total number of reserved seats should not exceed one-fourth of the strength fixed for the Board and no reservation should be proposed in respect of any community which according to the last census constituted more than one-half of the population of the local board area. Due regard should also be paid to the number and importance of each community.

3. The attention of panchayats which were till lately union boards is drawn to sections 9 (3) and 49 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and they are similarly requested to submit proposals to the Inspector by the 15th February in regard to

- (i) the division of the village into wards ;
- (ii) the number of seats, if any, which should be reserved for Adi-Dravidas ; and
- (iii) the wards in which such reserved seats should be set apart and the number of non-reserved seats that should be allotted to those wards.

In framing proposals, panchayats should follow closely the instructions in paragraph 2 above.

4. Taluk boards and panchayats should submit their proposals through the President, District Board, concerned.

5. As replies to this reference received after the 15th February 1931 are liable to be ignored, presidents of local boards should, if necessary, convene special meetings and submit the proposals before the due date.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
„ all Presidents of Taluk Boards.
„ all Presidents of Panchayats which were lately union boards.
„ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
„ all Collectors.
Press.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Friday, the 27th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Krishnan Nayar, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Campbell, <i>c.s.i.</i> , <i>c.i.e.</i> , <i>c.b.e.</i> , <i>v.d.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Stokes, <i>c.s.i.</i> , <i>c.i.e.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon. Mr. H. G.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Mr. T. M.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. Palat, Mr. R. M.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Pate, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. H. B.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Patro, <i>Kt.</i> , Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Alamelumanga Thayarammal, Mrs. K.	Pooker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.	Premayya, Mr. G. E.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Raja of Bobbili.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Raja of Kallikote.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ramamurti, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. S. V.
Birley, Mr. F.	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Hilton Brown, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.
Indriah, Mr. C.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.	Ratnasabhaphati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Sabahanandam, Swami A. S.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.	Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.	Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Mahmud Sohamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Sabbarayan, Dr. P.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.	Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.	Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. P. N. V.	Vedaohala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Nanjappah Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.	Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M.
	Vengopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
	Waddington, Mr. H.
	Watson, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. H. A.
	Wright, Mr. W. O.
	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
	Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
	Zamindar of Mirzapuram.

[27th March 1931]

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Teaching staff of the Elementary schools for Mappilla children in Malabar and South Kanara.

* 734 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the number of trained and untrained teachers employed in the elementary schools for Mappilla children in Malabar and South Kanara;

(b) the number of teachers employed only to impart religious instruction;

(c) how many of (b) are trained; and

(d) what facilities are afforded to provide for the training of all untrained teachers especially teachers employed for giving religious instruction?

A.—(a) According to the information available there were 2,997 Mappilla teachers employed in elementary schools in the Malabar district in 1929–30, of whom 2,061 were untrained. No information is available in respect of the South Kanara district.

(b) & (c) Definite information is not available. It is understood that most of the untrained Mappilla teachers referred to in the answer to clause (a) are Moulvis or Musaliars teaching the Quran.

(d) The Government are maintaining a training school at Malappuram specially intended for the training of Mappilla teachers. The school provides for the training of 40 teachers of the higher elementary grade annually and 80 teachers of the lower elementary grade. Provision has also been made for giving religious instruction to the teachers undergoing training in this school.

Provision has also been made in the budget estimate for 1931–32 for opening a sessional class in this Training school to give general educational training to Moulvis or Musaliars so as to render them fit to undergo training in the lower elementary grade.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—“ May I know whether the hon. the Minister for Education will be in a position to say what provision has been made to impart religious instruction to the Mappilla students? I am asking this question, Sir, because in the answer to clause (d) of the question it is stated that ‘provision has also been made in the Budget Estimate for 1931–32 for opening a sessional class in this training school to give general educational training to Moulvis or Musaliars’. I want to know whether that is intended to give training in imparting religious instruction in all the Mappilla schools?”

[27th March 1931]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ The Sessional school is intended to give general educational training and after such training in ordinary general education they may undergo training in the training school. These teachers can give both religious and secular education.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Are the Government taking any steps to see that actual religious instruction is given to the Mappilla students in the elementary schools in areas where compulsory Elementary Education Act is introduced?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ The answer says that the majority of the teachers are intended for giving religious instruction and they are doing it.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Are they not to be trained for giving religious instruction?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ I do not think Government can undertake to train them in giving religious instruction but religious instruction is given to the students under training in the Government Training school.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—“ May I ask the hon. Minister that so long as there is a provision in the Elementary Education Act that no Muslim parent can be compelled to send his children to a school where there is no provision for religious instruction, is it not the bounden duty of the Government to see that religious instruction is provided for in all these schools?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ It is a matter of opinion.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—“ May I know, Sir, whether it is only a matter of opinion or is it not the bounden duty of the Government according to the Elementary Education Act that, when parents are compelled to send their children to a school in a compulsory area, there should be provision in that school for religious instruction before the parent can be compelled to send their children?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ There is such a provision in the existing Act, to which exception has been taken by my hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—“ May I know what provision has been made to supply schools really to train teachers in religious instruction?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ The matter requires some examination and if the hon. Member will please give notice I shall do so.”

Fisheries

Trawler ‘Lady Goschen’.

* 735 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) when the trawler ‘Lady Goschen’ was acquired and the price paid for the same;

[27th March 1931]

(b) the total loss to Government on the working of the trawler since its acquisition, including interest charges;

(c) what the nature of the work is on which the trawler is employed;

(d) the total period during which the trawler has been idle since its acquisition and the causes for the same;

(e) the total amount spent on its repairs since its acquisition; and

(f) what is the period of contract for which Captain Cribb has been entertained and when that period will expire?

A.—(a) In 1926 for £3,000.

(b) The cost of maintenance of the vessel including interest on capital has been as follows:—

	RS.
1925-26	1,881
1926-27	64,310
1927-28	71,885
1928-29	82,394
1929-30	Not available.

(c) Research and experiments in deep sea fishing. She has also been used for the inspection of the Laccadives.

(d) The trawler has not been engaged on active work on the sea for the following periods:—

In 1926-27	272 days.
In 1927-28	200½ "
In 1928-29	147 "
In 1929-30	Not available.

The reasons for the vessel not being able to do more work at sea are detailed in the administration reports. The term 'idle' time is not strictly correct as this time mostly represents the necessary intervals when field notes are compiled into statements and charts.

(e) Information has been called for.

(f) The contract expires on 13th March 1932.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know what the Government propose to do with this trawler 'Lady Goschen'?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It is under consideration."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Do the Government propose to continue the services of Captain Cribb after the present period of the contract is over?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"That will also be considered along with the other question."

Trawler 'Lady Goschen'.

* 736 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the number of times the trawler 'Lady Goschen' has been lent to the Revenue Department for the inspection of Laccadive Islands since its acquisition and the hire charges realized on that account;

[27th March 1931]

(b) whether the trawler was lent to the Revenue Department in 1930 and 1931 also;

(c) whether the trawler went out of order in 1931 and if so, what is the nature of repairs she has to undergo and the amount sanctioned for the same;

(d) whether the trawler struck recently some fishing boats near Ponnani resulting in the death of some fishermen;

(e) whether any enquiry has been held in connexion with the accident and if so, by whom;

(f) whether the report of the enquiry will be placed on the table of the House;

(g) whether the Government propose to pay any compensation to the families of fishermen who met their death; and

(h) whether any action has been taken against the officer or officers responsible for the accident?

A.—(a) & (b) The trawler was lent to the Revenue Department for the inspection of the Laccadives twice, once in January-February 1929 and again in February 1931. There was no inspection in 1930. For the inspection in 1929 a sum of Rs. 15,015 was adjusted to the credit of the working expenses of the trawler by debit to the Revenue Department. The debit involved for the journey undertaken in 1931 has not yet been ascertained.

(c) Yes. The Government are awaiting a report from the Director of Fisheries.

(d) to (g) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 747^a.

(h) The responsibility for the accident has not yet been finally decided.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know how often this trawler has gone out of order and what amount has been spent on her?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Since I gave the answer which is found in the printed paper, information has been received. The amount is about Rs. 35,000."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether in the area surveyed by this trawler fishermen have been sent to catch fish and whether they have been able to make big catches there as expected?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I do not think the survey made by the trawler has gone to that extent yet."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Am I to understand that no particular area has been surveyed by this trawler and no map of it has been prepared all these five years?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I know a map is being prepared by the officer in charge, but I cannot say for what area."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Sir, Government seem to have spent more than three lakhs for the trawler till now. Am I to understand that so far nothing practical has been achieved?"

^a Vide No. 747 on page 746 infra.

[27th March 1931]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"Something has been achieved, but whether it is practical or theoretical, it is not for me to say."

Tanur Research Station.

* 737 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : With reference to answer to question No. 422 of 24th February 1931 will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the post of the officer in charge of the Tanur Research Station has been filled up ;
- (b) what the nature of the arrangements now are, to carry on the routine work of the station ;
- (c) whether a system of commercial accounts has been introduced in regard to the working of the station ;
- (d) whether in the absence of a competent officer in charge of the work, the work is suffering badly naturally resulting in heavy loss to Government ; and
- (e) whether the Government propose to issue instructions to the officers concerned that transfers of officers in charge of such institutions should not be made without making adequate arrangements for the continuance of normal work expected to be carried on in these institutions ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Before the appointment referred to in clause (a) was made, a clerk was in charge of the operations for the curing of fish and manufacture of fish-meal.

(c) Yes.

(d) There is no reason to think that the work done in the absence of the Assistant has resulted in any loss.

(e) As the Assistant wanted leave on grounds of health it had to be granted immediately. The head of the department is quite alive to the need indicated in the question.

Medical

Facilities for treatment of tuberculosis in South Kanara.

* 738 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 tuberculosis is rampant in the district of South Kanara in general and Mangalore town in particular ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the only Government hospital in Mangalore where tuberculosis patients are treated is the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore ; if so, what is the accommodation there for such patients ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that up-to-date methods of treating tuberculosis patients is not resorted to there, but they are only given some medicinal mixtures ; and
- (d) what action the Government propose to take to provide better facilities and larger accommodation for their treatment ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information on the point, but they have no reason to believe that this disease is rampant in the South Kanara district.

27th March 1931]

- (b) Tuberculosis patients are treated as in- and out-patients in both the Government hospitals at Mangalore, viz., the Wenlock Hospital and the Lady Goschen Hospital. No separate beds are reserved for them at present in these hospitals. A separate ward of eight beds for tubercle cases is under construction in the Wenlock Hospital.
- (c) Treatment is given according to the physical conditions of the patients.
- (d) None at present.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—"May I know whether it is a fact that tuberculosis is raging in South Kanara and whether the hon. Minister will call for a report ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"May I know whether there is any special treatment for tuberculosis at all ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"I am not aware, Sir."

Public Health

Representation from the Adi-Dravida Sangham of Arkonam for sanitary arrangements.

* 739 Q.—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Adi-Dravida Sangham of Arkonam has made any representation to Government for the redress of their grievances, viz., want of drinking water well, removal of salted skin shops, provision of public latrines, lighting and drainage, etc. ;

(b) whether he is aware of the repeated recommendations of the District Health Officer supported by the Director of Public Health for the redress of the above grievances since 1922 ; and

(c) if the reply is in the affirmative, the reasons for the delay in complying with the request of the Adi-Dravidas ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) In the petitions submitted between the beginning of 1929 and March 1930 by the Adi-Dravidas of Arkonam to the Director of Public Health, complaints were made about the nuisance caused by the salt fish depot and it is only in the memorial received in March 1930, representations were made about well and latrines. In spite of the recommendations made by the Public Health Department and vetoing the action of the President, the Union Board decided to grant licence for the salt fish depot. The Collector has stated in his letter to the Director of Public Health that the Panchayat has since decided not to issue licence from April 1931 ; as regards drinking water well, the Panchayat has resolved to acquire a private well for the use of the Adi-Dravidas. The Collector has given necessary advice to the panchayat regarding provision of latrines.

[27th March 1931]

Irrigation*Construction of a dam across the river Cheyar.*

* 740 Q.—MR. M. VEDACHALA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any recommendation by the Revenue authorities, Chingleput district, for construction of a dam across the river Cheyar to get sufficient freshes to the Uttiramerur tank; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken upon it and with what result?

A.—(a) A scheme was proposed but the Revenue authorities did not recommend it.

(b) The scheme has been postponed. The supply channel to the tank is shortly to be cleared of silt and the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) proposes to observe the supply under the improved conditions before the scheme for the dam is considered further.

District and Sessions Judges*Period of stay in North Arcot district of Mr. L. C. Horwill, Sessions Judge.*

* 741 Q.—S. M. K. BAYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state for how long Mr. L. C. Horwill, the present Sessions Judge of Vellore, North Arcot district, has been in the district?

A.—The hon. Member could readily have ascertained from the Quarterly Civil List, since 7th July 1930.

State Prisoners*Number, etc., of Mappilla State prisoners.*

* 742 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the number of Mappillas who are now undergoing sentences of imprisonment or transportation on account of conviction for offences connected with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921 giving the following particulars:—

(a) the number of persons convicted (i) of murder, (ii) of waging war against the King and (iii) of other offences;

(b) the number of life convicts; and

(c) the number of persons other than life convicts who are sentenced to transportation or imprisonment for periods of (i) over 14 years, (ii) fourteen years, (iii) less than 14 years and over ten years; and (iv) ten years?

A.—The following are the particulars in regard to Malabar rebellion prisoners in Madras Jails:—

(a)	(i)	...	102
	(ii)	...	212
	(iii)	...	1,212
Total			1,526

27th March 1931]

(b)	...	...	307
(c)	(i)	...	76
	(ii)	...	1,110
	(iii)	...	30
	(iv)	...	3 (including 2 below ten years).

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the hon. Law Member when he visited Bellary last saw these Mappilla prisoners and was also told by the Superintendent that they were well-behaved and well-disciplined?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not know how that arises out of this question. I may, however, say that I saw these prisoners when I visited Bellary, but there was no conversation about their behaviour then."

Police*Alleged forcible dispersal of a procession at Udipi on 26th January 1931.*

* 743 Q.—MR. A. B. SHERIFF: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether on the 26th of January 1931 a procession taken out at Udipi in South Kanara to demonstrate the rejoicings of the people over the release of the Congress Working Committee Members was forcibly dispersed by the police;

(b) whether any order to disperse was given before force was used;

(c) whether a lathi charge was made on innocent people who had gathered at the spot, though they did not form a part of the procession;

(d) whether a Muhammadan boy of about seven years of age who got mixed up in the crowd of on-lookers was severely beaten with lathi on the head and whether he fell unconscious;

(e) who removed the boy to the hospital and when he regained consciousness;

(f) whether a report will be called for from the hospital doctor regarding the nature of the injuries sustained by the boy; and

(g) whether the person who beat the boy was a police constable or any other police officer?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 625.

(c) No.

(d) & (g) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (d) of question No. 625.

(e) The Government have no information.

(f) The Government do not see that any useful purpose will be served by doing so.

Alleged beating by the police of students of the Government College, Mangalore, on 20th February 1931.

* 744 Q.—MR. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the students of the Government College, Mangalore, were beaten by the police on the 20th February 1931 when they were getting out of the college after a literary society meeting; if so, what were the circumstances leading up to the same;

[27th March 1931]

(b) whether it is a fact that the police who beat the said students were in mufti;

(c) whether there was likelihood of a breach of the peace by the action of some of the students in crying Mahatma Gandhiki Jai; and

(a) what action the Principal has taken or is going to take against the police for having beaten the boys of the college; if not, why not?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The Government have no information.

Prevention of the Ambulance party from aiding the picketers in the City.

* 745 Q.—MR. ABDUL HAMMED KHAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was peaceful picketing of foreign cloth-shops made by Congress volunteers on the 11th February 1931 in the Godown street;

(b) whether it is a fact that there was a lathi charge made by the police on the Congress pickets and several of them lay injured;

(c) whether it is a fact that an ambulance party tried to enter the Godown street in order to pick up the injured pickets;

(d) whether the Government issued any instructions in respect of ambulance parties;

(e) whether the Government have enquired on whose authority the police prevented the ambulance party; and

(f) (i) whether the Government have called for a report on the matter, and

(ii) if so, what is the action taken thereon?

A.—(a) There was very little picketing in Godown street on 11th February 1931;

(b) There was no dispersal of picketers by the Police on that day in Godown street;

(c) No.

(d) None.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) (i) Yes.

(ii) None, as the question appears to be based upon a misapprehension.

Alleged notices for wrongful assault and damage to property by villagers of Angalur, etc., in Kistna district.

* 746 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether civil notices were issued to the Subdivisional Magistrate, the Assistant Superintendent of Police, the Circle Inspector or any other Government official by one or more of the villagers of Angalur, Gudivallera and Kowthavaram or of any other villages of Kistna district for alleged wrongful assault and damage to property; and

(b) if so, with what results?

A.—(a) As far as the Government are aware, such notices were not sent to these officers.

(b) Does not arise.

[27th March 1931]

Land Revenue

Levy and collection of dry assessment on wet lands in Tanjore district.

* 746-A Q.—MR. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Tanjore has ordered the levy and collection of dry assessment on wet lands, for which full remission of kists has been granted owing to recent floods, and on which dry crops have been reared;

(b) whether this is contrary to the Board's Standing Orders; and

(c) if so, what steps the Government propose to take in the matter?

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

(b) & (c) If the Collector has issued orders as suggested, it appears that they are in conformity with the instructions contained in paragraphs 9 to 11 of Board's Standing Order No. 13.

MR. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I find in the answer to clauses (b) and (c), the hon. the Revenue Member says that 'if the Collector has issued orders as suggested, it appears that they are in conformity with the instructions contained in paragraphs 9 to 11 of Board's Standing Order No. 13'. I take it that the Board's Standing Order quoted above refers to cases of remission where dry crops are cultivated owing to insufficiency of water. But the question refers to cases where after the wet crops have been destroyed owing to floods and fresh crops have been raised by the land-owner and in view of the fact that Government have tried to be liberal in their remissions, does not the hon. Revenue Member feel that it may be useful to give better remissions in cases where dry crops are raised after the wet crops have been damaged?"

The hon. MR. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I do not think it is necessary to give further remission than is usually done in such cases, that is to say, if we charge them only the dry rate of assessment, I think that is sufficient concession."

Village Establishments

Restoration of village officers dismissed in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement.

* 746-B Q.—MR. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many village officers were dismissed in connection with the Civil Disobedience Movement and how many resigned; and

(b) whether the Government have restored these men to their offices and if the answer to this question is in the negative, the reasons for not doing so?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not the information. They have called for reports from all Collectors and propose to review cases on receipt of reports.

[27th March 1931]

Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHAUDARI:—"May I know whether the hon. the Revenue Member will be pleased to inform us what the policy is that the Government propose to adopt in cases where village officers were dismissed in connection with the Civil Disobedience movement with this clause in the dismissal order, namely, that the office should not be given to any member of the family of the dismissed man during his lifetime and also whether in such cases even though other persons may have been appointed under the conditional circumstances, Government will be pleased to consider such cases also and see that the dismissed men are restored to their places?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"We will certainly give a liberal interpretation to the policy to be adopted and if such cases arise we shall consider them very carefully."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"In cases where new people have been appointed in vacancies caused by the dismissal of these village officers, will the Government consider the desirability of appointing these dismissed men in other villages where vacancies arise?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I do not think I can make any promise of that nature. In many parts of the presidency, village offices are hereditary and I do not know whether these dismissed village officers will have any claim or not to other offices; each case must be considered on its own merits."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Fisheries

Trawler "Lady Goschen".

747 Q.—Mr. YAKUB HASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that early in February last the Government Fisheries Trawler *Lady Goschen* ran across two fishing canoes engaged in fishing off the coast of Ponnani;

(b) whether it is a fact that out of a crew of ten fishermen in the canoe two were killed and their bodies have not yet been found;

(c) whether it is a fact that another of the crew was seriously injured and had to be admitted into the Calicut Hospital as an in-patient;

(d) whether it is a fact that the two canoes were smashed to pieces and all the nets and other fishing implements in them were lost;

(e) whether the Port Officer of Calicut held an enquiry and if so, whether the Government will be pleased to state what proposals have been made to compensate the poor fishermen for the loss they have suffered; and

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the Council the report of the enquiry, if any?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) One of the canoes was saved.

(e) Yes. The question of compensation is under consideration.

(f) The suggestion will be considered.

27th March 1931]

Public Health

Reports on Public Health.

748 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government have received the following reports referred to in the Public Health Report for 1929 from the departments or officers concerned and what action has been taken on each of them:—

(1) Report on the protection value of cholera bili-vaccine (paragraph 47 of the Report),

(2) Report on the rat-flea survey (paragraph 76 of the Report),

(3) The Report of the Special Malaria Officer (paragraph 87 of the Report),

(4) A census of the leper population (paragraph 113 of the Report), and

(5) Maternal mortality survey (paragraph 119 of the Report)?

A.—(1) Yes. The Government have sanctioned the continuance of the experiment on a restricted scale during 1931-32.

(2), (4) & (5) No.

(3) Yes. The reports on the investigations made by the Special Malaria Officer in the areas in the plains were communicated to the local bodies concerned for necessary action. The reports on investigations in Rayaghada, Bissemouttack and Pottanghi (Vizagapatam Agency) were recorded by the Government. As regards the action taken on the report on malaria investigation in Koraput (Vizagapatam Agency), a copy of G.O. No. 414, P.H.,* dated 25th February 1930, is laid on the table.

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

II.—FURTHER DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

GRANT XIV—POLICE—RESERVED

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 34,100 under Grant XIV—Police—Reserved'.

"This is in connexion with the expenditure for the administration of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, and I am moving this demand because my hon. Colleague, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, wants that this Act should be administered by the Police from the 1st of April."

[27th March 1931]

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 34,100 under Grant XIV—Police—Reserved be reduced by Rs. 100 (in order to recommend to the Government to replace the Commissioner of Police by the Collector of Madras as the Licensing Officer for the Presidency)'.

" Sir, as the hon. the Home Member has stated this demand is due to the appointment of an establishment for the administration of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, which is under the portfolio of my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, the Chief Minister. Let me preface my remarks by saying that I have far too much regard for the hon. Mr. Muniswami Nayudu to charge him with any breach of promise which he made either in the Select Committee stage or in the Council, but I am constrained to make this serious charge against him, for on more than one occasion he has assured us that the officer who will be responsible for the administration of this Act will be at any rate some other authority than the Police. In the original Bill, which he had published, he made mention of the authority which has to administer this Act as the 'registering authority,' which means the registering authority as defined in the Motor Vehicles Act. The registering authority under that Act is the Police officer. The Select Committee took objection to the Police being invested with the power of administering this Act. From all sections of the Select Committee opposition arose with regard to the Police being asked to administer the Act. The hon. the Chief Minister having taken into consideration the strong feeling that was expressed in the Select Committee agreed to alter the Bill in such a manner as to make our feelings felt. Therefore an amendment was moved that 'a licensing officer other than the Police' might be substituted for the phrase 'registering authority'. At that time my hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Nayudu said that it would be too personal and that he would have in his mind the great opposition evinced against the Police in this matter and would not ordinarily invest this power with that officer.

11-15
a.m.

" We therefore agreed to omit the phrase 'other than the Police officer' and left the phrase as 'licensing officer,' so that the hon. Minister might of his own accord appoint some officer other than the Police. Even in the speeches made congratulating the hon. Minister for the passing of this Bill special mention was made to the relief which the Members felt at the omission of the Police being invested with this power. I particularly, Sir, repeated the assurances which he gave. I don't believe that my hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, is going to deny that he has ever given the Members of this Council these assurances. I hope he will not resort to the technical defence of himself not admitting in so many words in his speech with reference to this Bill. All the objections that weighed against the Police being given this power are present to-day. Nothing has happened within the fortnight that has elapsed between the passing of this Bill through this House and its becoming into an Act, to enable the hon. the Chief Minister to consider that the opposition that we have had to the Police has lessened. The reason given to make the Commissioner of Police of the City of Madras, the licensing officer, is that he has got information already about these

[27th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

motor vehicles and that it will take up some time for any other officer to pick up that information and that until then he must be given power to administer this Act. Sir, these reasons existed even at the stage when this Act was in the form of a Bill. Even at that stage when the Members of the Select Committee and this House did not take those reasons as valid, I do not believe that those reasons are going to weigh with the Members of this Council now any more. Now the reason is a very weak reason. I do not think it will take a very long time for any officer to pick up information which the Commissioner has got to-day. Now if as a matter of fact there is anybody who has got experience in the matter of levying taxes upon motor vehicles and of the manner in which they are collected, it is the Revenue officer of the Corporation. I wonder, if the hon. Minister cannot get any other officer, why he might not indent upon the services of the Corporation and it will be only very glad to lend the services of any officer until such time as he wants, till another officer picks up the information which the Commissioner of Police has to-day. Already on the head of the Commissioner of Police are a few murders in this city and he has many burglaries to detect. This additional work will retard the already inefficient and unsatisfactory work of the Police in the city. In the interests of the peace of the city and in the interests of those whose properties are being burgled week after week, I desire that the Commissioner of Police should not be saddled with any additional duties of this nature. Here again, Sir, the hon. Chief Minister, as usual, might offer some palliative. He might say to the Council, 'Look here, owing to the pressure of time I cannot but entrust this work to the Commissioner. Let him work for a year, and after that I shall appoint another officer. Sir, I am willing to concede, if the hon. Minister finds himself unable to do without the Commissioner of Police, if he now gives a promise that within six months he will appoint another man other than a Police officer as the special officer to get on with this work. That is a matter for the consideration of this Council. *Primâ facie*, I won't concede that, there is no other officer capable of doing this work. Only a fortnight's training is required for any assistant of the Corporation to do this work as efficiently as the Commissioner. It is impossible for the Commissioner who has got full-time work with regard to the preservation of the peace and protection of property in this city to assume any responsibility of this sort. I suggested in private conversation whether the Collector of Madras, who has comparatively less work than the Collectors of other districts, may not be given this work and a capable Deputy Collector or any Provincial officer may be placed under him so that he might look to this work satisfactorily. None of these suggestions seem to commend to the hon. Chief Minister. Unfortunately, as soon as either by sweet words or bitter words he gets the sanction of the Council, all on a sudden he seems to go back on what he said and defend his original position. I expect the hon. Chief Minister to show the same response which the Members of this Council have shown him with regard to the passing of this Bill. Now since they have undertaken to co-operate with him he cannot give his words the go-by. I know Government can get a majority for passing this demand in this Council even without giving any concession to our

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [27th March 1931]

views. But that is not the way in which a responsible Minister should administer this Act. On more than one occasion, Sir, he made us believe that a responsible Minister cannot afford to ignore the opinion of this House. Well, I am putting that statement to test, and I want to ask the hon. Minister whether he is willing to give the go-by to the opinion of this House, when there are Members from this side of the House as well as from the other side, who would not like to vest this authority with the Commissioner of Police. Now if he is not sure of this opinion let him wait and let the Members on his side of the House give out their opinion; and let me see if the hon. Minister is going to respond to the opinion of this House. It is not by way of a threat that I say this. But I promise him that this course will lead to trouble. Of course, he may get this demand passed through the House; but all the same I promise it will lead to a lot of trouble. And I assure on behalf of this side of the House that he will have no peace of mind in handling his administration. Sir, the Police have to live down the reputation they have earned. (Hear, hear.) They are beyond the reach of the hand of criticism. After all the Commissioner of Police is only one man and he cannot effectively exercise his authority over all his subordinates. There are numerous underlings below him in rank who have to be controlled effectively. It is on account of this we cannot allow the Police to be left alone, and that we want some other officer to be appointed. I expect, Sir, a favourable and conciliatory response.

“As I said, I do not want any vague or indefinite promise. If there is any real difficulty in appointing a special officer immediately or in taking an officer from the Corporation and putting him under the Collector of Madras to work this Act, let him assure this Council that within six months he will appoint a special officer and that till that period the Commissioner will function. But instead of that, if he says that he will consider the matter six months hence or a year hence, it will be practically of no value. For it meant only this: that he will continue to act in the manner in which he thinks fit and appoint the same officer to whose appointment the Council objects so strongly.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, already trouble has arisen over the Bill which was passed hastily through this Council. Some of us, of course, foresaw that there will be trouble when this Act is put into force. Now even in the very appointment of the officer who has to administer the Act, we have got the beginning of the trouble. I hope, Sir, the hon. Chief Minister, who both in the Committee stage and elsewhere did assure the Members of the House that he will pay heed to the view of the Members of this Council, irrespective of the party to which they belong, will now stick to those words. Because he said that the opinion that was expressed with regard to the authority who should administer this Act in the Presidency was unanimous to the effect that Government should exclude the Police out of all consideration. Seeing that opinion the hon. Minister gave us the assurance that he would see that Government appointed an *ad hoc* body. Now, Sir, I see the hon. Chief Minister has come forward with a motion to appoint the Commissioner of Police as the chief officer for administering this Act.

27th March 1931] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

We have, both in the Committee and elsewhere, expressed to the hon. Minister and through him to Government that there will be a lot of trouble if this authority is given to the Police officers. The Commissioner of Police, as the hon. Mover pointed out, has got many things to do and so he cannot personally supervise the work that may be handed over to him. What will ultimately happen is apparent from the explanatory note that has been circulated to us. It is this: a certain number of sub-inspectors will be appointed and they will ultimately be the authority who will administer this Act in the Presidency. Some of us who have acquainted ourselves with the amount of trouble that these unfortunate owners of motor vehicles have been put to in the Police Commissioner's office, know that their presence in most cases is ignored and they are made to wait for days and days together for doing a simple thing that can be done in a moment's time. Sir, the Police have begun to feel that they can ignore anybody, they can also flout the opinion of anybody, that whatever they may do will not be questioned, that nobody has any control or check over them and that they can go headlong and treat anybody in the discharge of their work with scant courtesy. Sir, that is the unfortunate reputation that the Police have earned. Perhaps they might be doing their legitimate work quite satisfactorily. I don't grudge that. But in this matter I have found and that is also the experience of several members here, that the Police are not the proper authority to administer this Act. Sir, the hon. Chief Minister may say that since the Police Commissioner in the city was the authority who was till recently, or even to-day, responsible for registering the motor vehicles it will be easy to work the Act from the beginning of next month, if we give that authority to him. Sir, I beg to differ from that opinion of the hon. Chief Minister. I have seen his Secretary, his office and the Secretary of this Council doing very good work in seeing this Bill pass through with great haste both in the Select Committee as well as in this House. When they have got that capacity to do this work through such a short time, I have every confidence in their capacity to see that material is prepared in order to hand it over to any other officer other than the Commissioner of Police who may at present be dealing with the registering of motor vehicles. Sir, after all, this is not a very difficult work. It is mere registers that have to be prepared and handed over to the person or body that will be entrusted with the functions of administering this Act. I suggest, Sir, that the Collector of Madras may be called upon to administer this Act. For, I believe, this is primarily a matter of revenue; it is not purely one of issuing licence; it is a matter of revenue and it ought to be legitimately done by the Revenue authorities. So I do not see any justification for handing over this function to the Police officers.

“And then, Sir, if the Collector of Madras may not himself be able directly to administer this Act in the City and elsewhere, the help of the Commissioner of the Corporation can be sought; and if the Government possess the power and if it is possible under the Act to give the authority to the Commissioner of the Corporation, he may administer the Act through the Revenue Officer. I think, Sir, that he will function very satisfactorily because even now most of the taxis and other motor vehicles are paying their taxes in the city to the Revenue Officer of the

11-30
a.m.

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [27th March 1931]

Madras Corporation, because it is the Corporation of Madras that is collecting the tax. It will be easy for them to collect the tax under the Madras Motor Vehicles Act and also to supervise the activities of the department in the province as well. So, Sir, I hope that the hon. the Chief Minister will kindly remember the assurance that he has given to the committee as well as elsewhere that he would see that the Police officer is excluded and that another *ad hoc* officer or body would be appointed to administer this Act. If I remember aright, he said that he was most likely to appoint a separate officer, even other than the Commissioner of Police or the Collector of Madras. Why does he not do so now? If he wants to make use of the available authorities, I am sure the Collector of Madras or the Commissioner of the Corporation will do it very satisfactorily. I do not know why my Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti was saying that he would be satisfied by merely an assurance from the Minister that the latter will, after six months, change the authority from the Police Commissioner to the Collector of Madras or some other Revenue authority. I say that the work is not difficult. I say that there is time enough. When the Bill was brought, the Government were surely confident that this Act was almost a *fait accompli* and that only the formal assent of His Excellency the Governor and of His Excellency the Governor-General was required for it. These are all mere formalities that have to be gone through. And the Government, as they do in other matters, could have proceeded with the other work of preparing registers. Why not they do it? They may say they have no time. But they had sufficient time. The moment they had passed the Bill in this Council they could have begun the work, and there was time enough for it. The hon. the Minister has got a very able Secretary, Mr. Hilton Brown. He could have made it very easy to get these registers and the necessary equipment prepared in order to take away this from the Police Commissioner. It is very regrettable, Sir, that this power to the Police Commissioner should be retained. I hope that the hon. the Chief Minister who is a gentleman who will stand to his word will see that nobody, whatever power on this earth, will make him swerve from the assurance he gave to this Council."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, I am in a very difficult position after listening to the speeches of two of the most enthusiastic supporters of this Bill differing from each other, one saying that at least temporarily the Police Commissioner may be the agency to work this Act and the other saying that he would have none but a Revenue authority, the Collector of Madras who has also powers of a Magistrate as the District Magistrate or the Commissioner of Police. Both of them however agree in fact that the Police could be placed temporarily in charge of the management. I do not know what is referred to as 'assurance,' whether it is a convention or an agreement which the hon. the First Minister has entered into with the Members of the Select Committee or the Members of the Opposition, but this fact is clear, namely, that we here on this side are not aware of it. Hon. Members are giving a bad name to the Police, and thereby want to hang the Police by such a false device. Now, Sir, I have very carefully listened to the

27th March 1931]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

speeches of hon. Mr. Venkatachalam Chetti and Mr. Hameed Khan, and I have not been able to gather one solid fact as to how the Police Commissioner and his staff would abuse the exercise of the power or the authority under this Act. Mr. Hameed Khan has stated that there has been much delay in the Police office in issuing licences and it causes a great deal of hardship to the owners of motor vehicles if they have to wait indefinitely at the office of the Police Commissioner. That is the only ground that has been urged for this motion. The complaint is more imaginary than real. This delay in the issue of licences as the ground that has been urged against the Police Commissioner is due to many irregularities of owners of motor vehicles. If my friends have experience and knowledge of the working of similar matters in the mufassal, they will heartily be satisfied with what the Police Commissioner is doing in Madras. He has to enforce rules before issuing licences. The details of the rules have to be observed with regard to each person in charge and in respect of each vehicle, whether the proper standard is maintained or not, or whether the driver has got the necessary qualifications. Many of these points have to be examined before a licence is issued, and this is a very responsible task and is connected with the public safety. It is essentially a responsible duty that the Commissioner of Police and his subordinates have to do. Sir, the hon. Mover and Seconder have not come forward with any practical suggestion in this direction, and I must take strong exception to the very drastic criticism levelled by them both against the administration of the Police in the matter of licences. It is highly unfair and unjust. If, on the other hand, there are any solid facts placed before this House to convince us that the vesting of this power in the Police Commissioner will seriously lead to any trouble or any loss, then we could understand the position. But not having given any such facts or experiences, and not having furnished any information which would help us in forming our judgment on this matter, it is a sorry spectacle that the two enthusiastic supporters of the Bill should raise an untenable objection.

"As regards the way in which the Bill has been hurried through the Council, if any members are responsible for it in this House, I should attribute it to the great enthusiasm of the hon. Members for the City, Mr. Venkatachalam Chetti and Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan who were anxious that this Bill should be passed. In the Select Committee also I understand hon. Members were very enthusiastic to see that no delay should occur; they did not want that it should be postponed even to the next meeting of the Council. The report of the Select Committee shows that their recommendation was that this Bill should be brought into force immediately. Therefore having thus expressed their views in the matter of this Bill on its merits, it was open to them to say at the time, if they had any suspicion, that if this Act was going to be administered by the Police Commissioner, they would oppose that proposal. On all grounds it is better that this is now taken up by the Commissioner of Police. It will be more in the interests of the people themselves, that this should be done. And, as we know, both in the mufassal and in Madras the District Magistrates and the Police have

[Sir A. P. Patro]

[27th March 1931]

been administering the Motor Vehicles Act and have been issuing licences. They have experience in the matter, and so let them be tried for a time. And if the Police Commissioner or his subordinates are not equal to the task to discharge this responsibility, and if they are found to be wanting in any matter, then certainly it will be time enough for hon. Members to move again and say that these provisions in the Bill should be deleted. But without any data in the matter, without any experience of affairs before this House, it seems to me very difficult to maintain the position which the hon. Members have taken up against vesting the Commissioner of Police with this power."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am really very sorry, Sir, that there should be so much apprehension as to whether the decision of the Select Committee is going to be supported or to be ignored by me. I may say, Sir, that the Bill as originally drafted authorized the registering officer under the Motor Vehicles Act, who will be not merely the Commissioner of Police here but also the District Superintendents of Police in the mufassal, to have the power of issuing licences and collect taxes. I shall now read the Select Committee's report on the point.

'The committee considered that the collection of the tax should be in the hands of an *ad hoc* authority appointed by the Local Government and not in those of the registering authority under the Motor Vehicles Act of 1914.'

"Therefore, Sir, it was always understood that so far as the collection of the tax is concerned, it should be under a separate authority, an *ad hoc* authority, and therefore, instead of the expression 'registering authority' the words 'licensing authority' were substituted. Now, the question has been examined within the short time at our disposal to find out to what extent this registering authority under the Motor Vehicles Act can be substituted. So far as the districts are concerned, it is not intended to use the agency of the District Superintendents of Police, who are the registering authorities under the Motor Vehicles Act. For this purpose it is proposed to appoint taluk head accountants at divisional headquarters as licensing officers for these mufassal areas, and, so far as Madras is concerned, the Commissioner of Police was put in. He was put in, Sir, I may expressly state, as a temporary measure. (A voice:—"Why was he put in at all?") The question of asking any other authority was considered, but it was found, Sir, that it would involve consultation with the Revenue Board and various other authorities. And we have not had the time to discuss the matter fully as to what extent this work could be entrusted to others and also whether this could be entrusted to an independent authority. I may say, Sir, that the question as to which authority or body we can entrust this work will be considered and explored and the needful done.

"So far as the Commissioner of Police is concerned, you will find it is not a happy arrangement even as a temporary expedient, and if he was put in there it is because out of about 17,000 or 19,000 vehicles, he has now got a register for very nearly 9,000, or more than one-half, in

27th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

his office; and it was thought that his agency could be utilized temporarily for the purpose. He is given a special establishment. He is not asked to do the work with his present establishment, but is given a separate establishment for this purpose. And as soon as the transfer of this authority to the Police Commissioner is made, the establishment will also be transferred. The Government will discuss the situation with the Revenue Board and other departments to find out to what extent either the Revenue Board or the Collector of Madras would be able to take up this work. So far as the districts are concerned, we have already accepted the principle that the registering authority under the Motor Vehicles Act, that is, the police shall have nothing to do with the collection of the tax under this Act. But with regard to the Commissioner of Police for Madras, as I said, he was retained because he has already on his register more than half of the motor vehicles in the Presidency.

"Sir, even with regard to the Corporation of Madras, it is not so easy. The Corporation is altogether a different body, and to what extent the Corporation would agree to any extra duties being put upon it, it is not for the Government now to say, except after consultation with the Corporation. I should also certainly consider to what extent the Commissioner of the Corporation would be prepared to take up these duties. In these circumstances, I may submit that the proposals have now been put in with no idea of going back on the decisions of the Select Committee or on the understandings arrived at in the discussions; and I promise that as soon as possible, after discussion with the various authorities, we shall find out if there is some other authority which will take up and do the work satisfactorily. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"Can you say definitely?") That is all I can say, that the present arrangement is temporary."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I am glad, Sir, that the explanation given by the hon. the Chief Minister certainly goes some way, but I do not think that it is altogether satisfactory. My reason for making that remark is this. We found, as the hon. the Chief Minister has himself said, that the Commissioner in issuing licences in the City of Madras is not going to do it himself, but by means of a special establishment. This grant is asked for to give him that special establishment, but we find that that establishment is only police establishment.

"The establishment that is now proposed, Sir, begins with the Commissioner of Police and includes 8 sub-inspectors on a pay of Rs. 60 to 120, 35 head constables with local allowance, etc., 9 clerks, 15 boy constables, etc. I do not know what it means. The point is this; you are creating a special police establishment. Supposing you decide on having some other agency, are you going to disband the present police agency or are you going to appoint some other establishment? My friend Sir Patro accused us of being very anxious to see this Bill through. We were willing to give co-operation where it is possible. It was the

11.45 a.m.

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [27th March 1931]

Minister who was very anxious to get the Bill through. It is not our purpose to obstruct for obstruction's sake. Of course one cannot depend much upon what Sir Patro says as he advocates one day the cause of the Minister and on another day opposes him. Coming to the point, I do not think it at all satisfactory to give this establishment. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti suggested the Collector of Madras and there is substantial reason behind that suggestion: because these taxes are to be recovered as arrears of land revenue it may be found easier to have the Collector. If they wanted to have the Collector of Madras, I do not think there would have been very much trouble. The Member of the Board of Revenue in charge could have been sent for to the Secretariat and details could have been ascertained personally by a discussion within half an hour. In spite of the assurance given by the Chief Minister we on this side of the House do not consider it very satisfactory. As already stated we gave our co-operation to get through the Bill on the understanding that the agency of the Police will not be employed. I am not going to give reasons for the objections raised. But an objection was raised and it was understood that the agency of the Police was not going to be used in this matter. We are asked to sanction a grant of Rs. 30,000 consisting of a number of highly paid sub-inspectors and so forth and the members must have some satisfaction of seeing that the agreed arrangement was carried out. I hope that the necessary alteration will be made and the Police will not be employed."

* Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"As one who had been in the Select Committee, I wish to say a few words on behalf of this side of the House. As a matter of fact, the assurance was given by the Chief Minister that the registering authority should not be the collecting authority. So far as the districts are concerned, I do not think we have any grievance. So far as Madras is concerned, there seems to be a grievance. But in view of the fact that it was not definitely known whether we will be able to obtain the assent of the Governor and the Governor-General and the whole thing was in a nebulous stage, we were asked to go on with the toll-gates. In fairness to the members on the other side, it must be said that they were not anxious to rush through this Bill. As a matter of fact, they protested. It was on account of the pressure of the mufassal members that the Bill was passed, because we were anxious to afford relief to the agriculturists and poor people. It is our purpose to see that poor people are relieved of taxation and the burden falls on the rich. In view of these circumstances, I hope the hon. the Chief Minister will stick to the statement he has now made and see that another agency is appointed so far as Madras is concerned. On that assurance, I hope the hon. Members on the other side will vote for the grant, and if as a matter of fact Madras suffers on account of this hardship or if the hon. the Chief Minister does not give effect to it, there will be time enough to bring a separate resolution. I think I am speaking for myself and on behalf of others on this side when I say that I will support any such proposition. In view of this, I hope hon. Members will vote for this grant."

27th March 1931]

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"The hon. the Chief Minister has informed us that in the case of the 25 districts head accountants have been appointed as licensing officers. That being the case, for the sake of uniformity at least, it is necessary that in the City of Madras also an officer connected with the Revenue Department should be appointed as a licensing officer. The Chief Minister said that this is a temporary arrangement and that, as soon as negotiations are complete, they may decide about the appointment of a permanent licensing officer. But the matter should not remain as 'may' or 'may not.' If the Chief Minister goes a step further and says that this arrangement is not only temporary but he gives us the assurance that the Police Commissioner will not continue to be the licensing authority, it will satisfy us. The Minister said that as soon as the officer is settled, the staff would be transferred to that officer. If that is to be kept in view, the proposed staff should be changed, and head constables and sub-inspectors should not be employed for this purpose. If he would give the assurance that the licensing officer would be transferred to another officer as soon as possible, and that the Police Commissioner is only to be a temporary officer, it will satisfy the House."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I cannot say one way or the other. So far as the Madras City is concerned I think for the present the Commissioner of Police can attend to it. As soon as it is decided whether the Revenue Department, or the Collector or the Corporation or any other outside authority is to take charge, it will be transferred. If, however, it is found necessary to continue the Police, I will bring a resolution before the House and give an opportunity for the House to discuss the matter. If the House advises a change, the change will be effected. I stick to the statement made in the Select Committee that an outside authority should be constituted as the registering authority."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I just want to say a few words. If the hon. Minister finds any difficulty in appointing the authority or asking any other authority to take up this work, it is up to the Minister to mention that. The amendment clearly says that the registering authority should not be the collecting authority. We never believed that the amendment will not be given effect to. Now they say it may not be possible for any other department to take it up. There was a move to make a civilian the Inspector-General of Police and a civilian nominee was actually appointed but he did not want the appointment; so a Police officer was made the Inspector-General. If the difficulties which are now mentioned by the hon. the Chief Minister had been mentioned earlier, we might not have passed the amendment. The fact that the Chief Minister is not in a position to give effect to the amendment passed by this Council is really a state of affairs which is most undesirable. There is no reason why the City should be treated different from the mufassal. Is it the Commissioner alone who can work this? After all it is not the Commissioner that will really do the work. It will be some other subordinate officer. You can

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [27th March 1931]

detatch him and depute him to work under some other officer whom you appoint as the licensing authority. Surely it is impossible for any respectable man to go to a police station and hang on there.

12 noon. “On principle, it is really very very unsatisfactory and most disappointing. We have reposed great confidence in the assurances of the hon. the Chief Minister. But he now raises all sorts of difficulties and that only to-day. Let him be more clear. I want more clarity in his statement. Let him say that within some reasonable time he will either change the licensing authority or appoint somebody else to do that work, and also see that the police have nothing to do with it at least after some time. If he could give us an assurance of that sort now, we shall be glad. What is the use of saying that the Opposition is criticizing the Police in and out of time? We are tired of criticizing the Police. Why do you drive us to accuse the Police? It is you that often provoke us to do so. I would not mind if the Revenue authority and the registering authority be the same. Why should the Commissioner of Police be saddled with additional duties? Let the Minister therefore give us the assurance that he will appoint somebody else than the Police. Well, he now raises the difficulty that Government have no time to appoint other officers. Why should you employ additional police constables and sub-inspectors for this purpose; if it is not your intention to make them permanent, why not employ clerks who will be better suited to do this work than the Commissioner of Police and his Police assistants? The more pertinacious you are in sticking on to your proposal, the more we suspect your action. We therefore respectfully insist upon your promises being translated into action. If the hon. Chief Minister is not going to treat this House with courtesy on this occasion, which of his statements are we to rely upon in future? Are we to insist upon very amendment being made every time? It would certainly not be desirable even from his point of view. I therefore request that the hon. Minister should give us a more definite assurance than that.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The question is—

‘that the allotment of Rs. 34,100 under Grant XIV—Police—Reserved—be reduced by Rs. 100’.”

The motion was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded, and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 7. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 8. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 3. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 9. „ A. B. Shetty. |
| 4. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar. | 10. „ Abdul Hameed Khan. |
| 5. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. | 11. S. M. K. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur. |
| 6. „ Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 12. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| | 13. „ V. T. Arasu. |

27th March 1931]

Noes.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 25. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi. |
| 2. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 26. „ M. S. Sreshta. |
| 3. The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 27. „ P. C. Moses. |
| 4. „ Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 28. „ P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 29. „ V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. |
| 6. „ Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 30. „ C. Indriah. |
| 7. „ Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 31. „ T. Narasa Reddi. |
| 8. Rao Bahadur G. Jagannadha Raju. | 32. „ R. M. Palat. |
| 9. Mr. H. R. Pate. | 33. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 10. „ H. A. Watson. | 34. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| 11. „ R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 35. Raja of Bobbili. |
| 12. „ S. V. Ramamurti. | 36. Raja of Kallikote. |
| 13. „ Hilton Brown. | 37. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 14. „ T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 38. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. |
| 15. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. | 39. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 16. Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. | 40. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. |
| 17. „ K. P. Raman Menon. | 41. Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiyar. |
| 18. Rao Bahadur T. Pannirselvam. | 42. „ D. V. Narasimhaswami. |
| 19. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 43. „ K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu. |
| 20. „ M. Devadasan. | 44. „ Mahboob Ali Baig. |
| 21. „ N. Siva Raj. | 45. „ Frank Birley. |
| 22. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. | 46. „ W. M. Browning. |
| 23. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. | 47. „ H. Waddington. |
| 24. „ M. Gopalswami Mudaliyar. | 48. „ C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| | 49. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| | 50. Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| | 51. Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti. |
| | 52. Mr. G. Sriramulu. |
| | 53. „ H. M. Jagannatham. |
| | 54. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| | 55. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. |
| | 56. Mr. C. Krishnan. |

Neutral.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 3. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 2. „ Ahmed Meeran. | 4. „ C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |

Ayes 13. *Noes.* 56. *Neutral* 4.

The motion was lost.

The demand was then put and declared carried.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti demanded a poll, which was taken with the following result:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 9. Mr. H. R. Pate. |
| 2. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 10. „ H. A. Watson. |
| 3. The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 11. „ R. Madanagopal Nayudu. |
| 4. „ Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 12. „ S. V. Ramamurti. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 13. „ Hilton Brown. |
| 6. „ Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 14. „ T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. |
| 7. „ Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 15. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. |
| 8. Rao Bahadur G. Jagannadha Raju. | 16. Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| | 17. „ V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. |

[27th March 1931]

Ayes—cont.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 18. Mr. K. P. Raman Menon. | 39. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 19. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam. | 40. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. |
| 20. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 41. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 21. „ M. Devadasan. | 42. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 22. „ N. Siva Raj. | 43. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti. |
| 23. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. | 44. Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiyar. |
| 24. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. | 45. „ K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu. |
| 25. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar. | 46. „ Mahboob Ali Baig. |
| 26. Mr. B. P. Sessa Reddi. | 47. „ A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 27. „ M. S. Sreshta. | 48. „ C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 28. „ P. C. Moses. | 49. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 29. „ P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. | 50. Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| 30. „ V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. | 51. Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti. |
| 31. „ C. Indriah. | 52. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddiyar. |
| 32. „ D. V. Narasimhaswami. | 53. „ G. Sriramulu. |
| 33. „ T. Narasa Reddi. | 54. „ H. M. Jagannatham. |
| 34. „ R. M. Palat. | 55. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 35. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. | 56. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. |
| 36. Mr. G. R. Premayya. | 57. Mr. C. Krishnan. |
| 37. Raja of Bobbili. | 58. „ Frank Birley. |
| 38. Raja of Kallikote. | 59. „ H. Waddington. |
| | 60. „ W. M. Browning. |
| | 61. „ C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 7. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 8. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 3. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 9. „ A. B. Shetty. |
| 4. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar. | 10. „ Abdul Hameed Khan. |
| 5. Mr. T. C. Srinivasan Ayyangar. | 11. S. M. K. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur. |
| 6. „ Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 12. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur. |
| | 13. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| | 14. „ V. T. Arasu. |

Ayes 61. Noes 14.

The demand was carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXVIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—TRANSFERRED

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

‘that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 9,900 under Grant XXVIII—Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred.’

“ This is merely part of the demand already made. Only such of the items of expenditure that came under the Reserved side were included in the previous demand, and the rest that come under Transferred are included in this demand. I therefore request that the demand be granted.”

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ I just want to have some information, Sir. From the note circulated, I find in the previous demand amounting to Rs. 34,100 the pay of sub-inspectors and head constables and their allowances are included under

27th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

Reserved, while the pay of clerks, typists, shroff, muchi, etc., are put down under Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred. I do not know why this difference is made, since this establishment also refers to the same work.”

* Mr. H. A. WATSON:—“ This demand comes under the Minor Head ‘37-C. Miscellaneous Departments—Inspection of Motor vehicles’—Transferred’ under Grant XXVIII—Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred.”

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask for some more information? I am not able to understand the technicality of it although Mr. Watson was kind enough to quote certain Budget heads. I cannot understand why this should not come under the head ‘Police.’ As the Police are going to be in charge of this, commonsense demands, whatever the technicality may be, that this should come under some other head of expenditure.”

* Mr. H. A. WATSON:—“ I am afraid that I cannot answer for the Auditor-General. It is he who is responsible for classifying the various items under different heads in the Budget. We are only obeying him. It is the business of the Auditor-General to make these classifications.”

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“ Apart from the technicalities of the classification, I am glad that this demand has been treated as ‘Transferred.’ It is quite possible that next year the power of issuing licences will be vested in the local bodies. It is therefore a fortunate circumstance that this comes under a Transferred head.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ Sir, I am not able to understand how a police constable, however young he may be, can be called a boy constable. He must certainly be subject to the Police Act. And again, how is he going to work under a Transferred department and who is going to be his superior officer? Will he be a subordinate of the Home Member or the Chief Minister?”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ Evidently the boy constables will be treated as a class apart from the ordinary police constables. The pay of a boy constable is only Rs. 12. These boy constables would not be constables within the meaning of the Police Act.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ Sir, a constable means a police officer.”

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXXIV—STATIONERY AND PRINTING—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ Sir, I move—

‘that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 1,700 under Grant XXXIV—Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred.’

“ This is to provide money for stationery.”

[27th March 1931]

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, here again, I would like to ask our friend to explain my difficulty. The heading itself is 'XXXIV—Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred.' My hon. Friend the Home Member holds charge of Reserved and Transferred departments! Why should not this demand be split and moved separately by the Member and Minister concerned? I believe the Auditor-General could not have insisted on the course now adopted."

* Mr. H. A. WATSON:—"This change was made when the grants were re-distributed. Previously there was one demand for stationery which was required for Reserved subjects and another demand for stationery which was required for Transferred subjects. When we were re-arranging the grants, it was found that the stationery for Transferred subjects required only a very small grant and therefore we combined it with the grant for stationery for Reserved subjects. Stationery and Printing—Reserved is a subject in the hands of the hon. the Home Member and it is he who requires a major part of the grant."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask a further question for eliciting information? The argument of Mr. Watson carries us no further. For instance, we have got the Labour department and it includes Labour Transferred and Labour Reserved. Grants required for the Labour department are split and moved by a Member and a Minister. I think this should not have been treated as one demand."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, I should like to have information as to whether these appointments are going to be made under section 10 (1) (a) of the Motor Vehicles Act and whether it is the intention of Government not to bring the administration of this Act for the discussion of this House by means of token motions or otherwise."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, section 10 of the Act says that all the amounts collected deducting certain sums for the cost of collection should be distributed to local bodies. That being prescribed by statute, it will not be voted. So far as the cost of collection is concerned, it will come before the House."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

III.—DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1930-31.

GRANT VI—IRRIGATION—RESERVED.

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant VI—Irrigation—Reserved.'

"This grant is asked for a work in the Vizagapatam district. There is a stream called Palemgedda which, at a certain point, joins

27th March 1931]

[Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell]

the Duggada irrigation channel. At that point it has a catchment of $4\frac{1}{4}$ square miles. The maximum flood discharge of the gedda is 1,332 cusecs while the discharge of the irrigation channel is only 129 cusecs. It is obviously impossible for the irrigation channel to carry the whole of the water when the gedda is in flood and the water overflows its banks and damages the crops on the land below. The ayacut below the point of junction is 1,660 acres. In 1928 there was a particular serious breach of the channel. In order to prevent these mishaps in future, we propose to divert the gedda and to pass the channel under it. This work is estimated to cost Rs. 16,000. It was first thought that this should be treated as 'repairs' and not as a 'new service'. The work is urgent because it has to be completed before the next irrigation season. The Superintending Engineer was therefore authorized in the middle of February to begin the work and he expects to spend Rs. 1,500 this year. The matter was placed before the Finance Committee which decided that it should be treated as a 'new work'. I have therefore to apply to this House for a supplementary grant."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XIV ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—RESERVED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant XIV—Administration of Justice—Reserved.'

"The facts are explained in the explanatory note circulated to the hon. Members of the House. Ordinarily the post of the Registrar of the High Court is held by a Civilian officer; but since November 1929 it has been held by a non-Civilian officer. The result of it is that acting promotions have to be made in the various ranks of the officers in the High Court and this and other causes involve an extra expenditure of Rs. 20,300. The money can be found by reappropriation, but, because, when the original demand was moved last year, this House reduced it by Rs. 100, it is only with the sanction of this House that the additional expenditure, although it can be found by reappropriation, can be incurred. Hence this demand."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Sir, I rise to oppose this demand. As has been stated by the hon. the Law Member, the necessity for this token demand arises from the censure cut carried by this House during the last Budget session. Sir, in spite of repeated demands made by this House to change the authority which recruits District Munsifs, the Government have not paid any heed. Sir, this year also in this sitting, this matter was brought to the notice of the Government. In this connexion I cannot do better than quote the speech of the hon. the Chief Minister delivered when he was a non-official. Speaking on the demand for Administration of Justice in March 1930, he said:—

"I think the Judges are burdened with more executive work than they can properly and legitimately discharge. They have to devote much time to executive duties and in these they fail miserably. I may also refer here to the recruitment

[Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar] [27th March 1931]

of District Munsifs by the High Court. Sir, the report of the Royal Commission on Public Services recommended that this work ought to be taken away from the High Court. In Bengal the recruitment is not done by the High Court. The same is the case with the other provinces also. In Madras it is not so. . . In Bombay the local Government has full powers. In Bengal and Bihar and Orissa all appointments are made by the local Government, but on the nomination of the High Court under statutory rules. In the United Provinces the appointment is made by the Government. In the Punjab the procedure for filling the joint lowest grade has already been described. In Burma and the Central Provinces and Berar the local Government and local administration respectively have control.

"Why in this province alone, Sir, this control should not be vested with the Government, I cannot understand. Again, Sir, the hon. Member said:

'For this purpose (for the purpose of changing the authority which recruits District Munsifs) my hon. Friend, Mr. Ethirajulu Nayudu, gave notice of a Bill.'

'I do not know for what reason the Government refused to give their sanction to that Bill. I ask the hon. Member to say whether this change is not necessary even after thirteen years have elapsed since this recommendation was made by that Commission. We request the Government to take the necessary steps in the matter.'

12-30
p.m.

"Nearly a year has passed since those remarks were made. I wish to know what steps the hon. the Law Member has taken to make the desired change. Again, I shall refer to the remarks of my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Nayudu:

'I plead that the High Court Judges should be free from this duty of the selection of District Munsifs as recommended by the Public Services Commission. In order that the High Court may be able to discharge their duties impartially, I plead that this executive duty is not entrusted to them which will be liable to much criticism. I therefore request the hon. Member to see that this work is taken away from the High Court as recommended by the Public Services Commission.'

"I again request the hon. Member to say what steps the Government have taken to give effect to the recommendation of the Public Services Commission."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, the observations which my hon. Friend has made refer to the question of the recruitment of District Munsifs. But this particular grant has reference only to the officers who are actually employed in the High Court. This matter comes under a different heading. If my hon. Friend's opposition is agreed to by the Council, these officers cannot be paid."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask by way of information whether there will not be any saving by Mr. White, Master of the High Court, acting as the Registrar?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, ordinarily, the pay of the Registrar is regulated by the pay of the I.C.S. Officer appointed, who is generally of the Sub-Collector's grade. The present Registrar gets, I believe, a higher pay than what a Sub-Collector gets. When Mr. White, the permanent Master of the High

27th March 1931] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

Court, was appointed to act as Registrar, a number of acting appointments had to be made; ultimately a new appointment also must have been made.

"There is another and a more important point also. The pay of the Registrar, who generally belongs to the Sub-Collector grade of the I.C.S., is a non-voted item. Therefore this Council has no power to vote for his pay or against his pay. But the pay of Mr. White, who is not an I.C.S. Officer, is a voted item."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the explanation given by the hon. the Law Member, may I ask whether there will not be a corresponding saving somewhere?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"My hon. Friend is quite right; there will be a corresponding saving somewhere."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, the object of the Government in circulating an explanatory note to hon. Members is to explain things. The note that is appended is of such a nature that the hon. the Law Member has to be asked for further information. What is the explanation that he has given? I hope, Sir, that the hon. the Law Member and other Members of Government will give full details so that they may avoid not only opposition but being asked for further information."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The necessity for giving further information arose from the opposition that was offered."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT—XVI—POLICE—RESERVED.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—
'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 40,832 under Grant XVI—Police—Reserved.'

"Hon. Members will see from the note that has been placed in their hands, that a sum of Rs. 30,100 is wanted for meeting the expenditure incurred in connexion with the picketing activities. Further, we had to send a detachment of the Armed Reserves to Kalyansingapur in the Vizagapatam Agency and the charges for so doing came to Rs. 8,550. A further sum of Rs. 1,500 is required to meet the excess expenditure already incurred. For the reasons given in the note, I beg to move this demand."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I rise to oppose this motion not for what the Police did or did not do at the time of the lathi charges. When it comes to the question of spending money, the Police do so very extravagantly and without any care. I want to know from the hon. Member the rate at which motor-buses were engaged, were paid, whether that was the rate that was prevalent and whether that was the proper rate. As a matter of fact, I know that the Police gave

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [27th March 1931]

double the rate, very much more than the rate the motor-buses get. This department does not pay any heed or consideration to the financial aspect of the question. They spend the money most carelessly; I know the way in which these motor-buses were hired. I do not know why a high and exorbitant rate should have been paid, and why favouritism was shown to particular buses. That is the object with which I oppose this motion."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, from my enquiries I find that the Police had to pay higher rates, because no buses would willingly come for this purpose. These motor-buses have to go in the midst of big crowds and it is likely that the buses may be damaged. The Police Commissioner had, therefore, to pay more."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"If the buses were damaged, would not the Government meet the repairing charges? Then, why should the Police pay higher rates?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The bus-owners say, 'We would not serve you unless you pay us more in view of the risks to which we are exposed.'"

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XX—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant XX—Education—Transferred.'

"This is a token demand for the purpose of enabling the Government to pay certain equipment grants which have already been promised by the Government to certain institutions under private management, which have been mentioned in the explanatory note. The practice is to make a lump provision in the budget for the purpose of these equipment grants and building grants. A list is attached to the note which is placed before the Finance Department, showing the institutions to which these equipment and building grants are proposed to be paid and such a list will be found in the Budget Memorandum. Till 1930 the practice was, when savings were found under this head, to distribute them among other educational institutions if they were eligible for such grants. Now the Government have ruled that, before such grants can be made out of the savings, the approval of the Legislative Council should be taken if the Educational institutions to whom these grants are to be made are not mentioned in the list. For this purpose, this token demand is moved; the money is available and it can be paid with the sanction of the Legislative Council."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

27th March 1931]

GRANT XXV—CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—TRANSFERRED

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,700 under Grant XXV—Co-operative Societies—Transferred.'

"The explanatory note circulated to hon. Members of the House explains why we want this amount; I hope the House will grant it."

The demands was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXXVI—EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND OTHER THAN ON STORES—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 67,900 under Grant XXXVI—Expenditure in England other than on Stores—Reserved and Transferred.'

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

IV.—RESOLUTION RE: THE CENTRAL LAND MORTGAGE BANK.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, I beg to move the following resolution standing in my name:—

'That, in modification of the Resolution passed on this subject by this Council on the 18th November 1930, this Council recommends to Government that interest be guaranteed from Provincial Revenues at an enhanced rate of 6½ per cent per annum on debentures to the extent of Rs. 30 lakhs out of the total of Rs. 50 lakhs covered by the said resolution to be issued by the Central Land Mortgage Bank during a period of three years from a date to be fixed by Government, the guarantee to run until such time as the debentures are paid off, or are redeemed by the Bank.'

"As the Government of India is now borrowing at 6 per cent. and as in the opinion of many well-informed persons there is no likelihood of the rate of interest on Government loans being reduced during the next two years, the Board of Management of the Central Land Mortgage Bank consider that they will not be able to sell debentures unless the interest offered on debentures is raised by at least ½ per cent. over the rate on Government loans. They have, therefore, decided in consultation with Banking experts to offer interest at 6½ per cent. on the debentures of the Bank. When favourable conditions are established, the Bank can raise money at a lower rate of interest for the purpose of redeeming debentures carrying the higher rate of interest. In the circumstances, it is proposed to guarantee interest at 6½ per cent. per annum on debentures issued by the Bank for a period of three years from a date to be fixed by Government up to a limit of Rs. 30 lakhs

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

[27th March 1931]

until these debentures are paid off or redeemed by the Bank. This will be in modification of the guarantee of interest at 6 per cent. now given by the Government. I hope, Sir, the House will accept the resolution."

12-45
p.m.

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second the resolution, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I now put the resolution to the vote of the House. The question is—

'That, in modification of the Resolution passed on this subject by this Council on the 18th November 1930, this Council recommends to Government that interest be guaranteed from Provincial Revenues at an enhanced rate of 6½ per cent. per annum on debentures to the extent of Rs. 30 lakhs out of the total of Rs. 50 lakhs covered by the said resolution to be issued by the Central Land Mortgage Bank during a period of three years from a date to be fixed by Government, the guarantee to run until such time as the debentures are paid off, or are redeemed by the Bank.'"

The resolution was carried.

V.—DRAFT RULE UNDER SECTION 305 (1) OF THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, 1920.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I move that the following draft of a rule proposed to be. . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The motion has already been made, * and it is now for the discussion of the House.

"I shall now put Item I on the agenda to the vote of the House. The question is—

'That the following draft of a rule proposed to be made by the Governor acting with Ministers under sub-section (1) of section 305 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920 (Madras Act V of 1920), amending Schedule IV to the said Act be approved:—

Draft Rule.

- (i) *In rule 18 of the said Schedule (i) in sub-rule (1), for the word 'business' where it occurs for the first time, the words 'any business other than money lending' shall be substituted;*
- (ii) *in clause (b) of the same sub-rule, for the word 'percentage' the words 'percentage or percentages', for the word 'prescribe' the word 'determine' and for the words 'the business', the words 'such business' shall be substituted;*
- (iii) *in sub-rule (2)—*
 - (a) *for the word 'business' where it occurs for the first time, the words 'any business other than money lending' shall be substituted;*

* Vide page 477 of the Proceedings, dated 12th March 1931.

27th March 1931]

[The President]

(b) *for the words 'transaction of business' the words 'transaction of such business' and for the words 'turnover of the business' the words 'turnover of such business' shall be substituted; and*

(c) *for the words 'prescribed under' the words 'referred to in' shall be substituted; and*

(iv) *in sub-rule (3) for the words 'any other business' in the first paragraph, the words 'any other business except money lending' shall be substituted'."*

The motion was carried.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I now move the second part, Sir—

'That the following draft provision determining the percentages of turnover of business transacted in the area of a municipality which the Governor acting with Ministers proposes to make in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of sub-rule (1) and sub-rule (2) of rule 18 of Schedule IV to the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920 (Madras Act V of 1920), be approved:—

For the purpose of calculating the income for levying profession tax, the percentage of turnover of business determined under clause (b) of sub-rule (1) and sub-rule (2) of rule 18 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, shall be as specified in columns (1) and (2) of the following schedule:

Provided that if, in any case, the income so calculated is less than the minimum sum specified in column (3) of the said schedule, the percentage shall be enhanced to such a rate as would yield such minimum sum:—

Schedule.

	Percentage.	Minimum.
Where the turnover of business exceeds 12 lakhs of rupees per annum	1	18,000
Where the turnover of business exceeds 6 lakhs of rupees per annum, but does not exceed 12 lakhs of rupees	1.5	12,000

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [27th March 1931]

	Percentage.	Minimum.
Where the turnover of business exceeds 3 lakhs of rupees, but does not exceed 6 lakhs of rupees ...	2	9,000
Where the turnover of business exceeds 1,50,000 rupees, but does not exceed 3 lakhs of rupees ...	3	6,000
Where the turnover of business exceeds 60,000 rupees, but does not exceed 1,50,000 rupees ...	4	3,000
Where the turnover of business does not exceed 60,000 rupees ...	5	... "

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—" I second it."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Sir, I gave notice of an amendment with regard to item II on the agenda. Is that the matter now under discussion, I should like to know?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Yes; Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti may move his amendment now."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" I move, Sir, that—

(i) For the existing item (5) of the Schedule the following be substituted:—

Where the turnover of business does not exceed 1,50,000 rupees 4 "

(ii) Omit the last item in the Schedule."

" I may say, Sir, that I move this after an informal consultation with the hon. the Chief Minister. I hope that the agreement arrived at will be ratified now."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I second the amendment."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I accept the amendment, Sir."

The amendment was put and carried.

The draft rule, as amended, was put and carried.

VI.—DRAFT RULE UNDER SECTION 201 (1) OF THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920.

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Sir, I move—

' That the following draft of a rule proposed to be made by the

27th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

Governor acting with Ministers under sub-section (1) of section 201 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920 (Madras Act XIV of 1920), amending Schedule IV to the said Act be approved:—

Draft Rule.

In rule 11 of the said Schedule—

- (i) In sub-rule (1) for the word 'business' where it occurs for the first time the words 'any business other than money lending' shall be substituted;
- (ii) in clause (b) of the same sub-rule, for the word 'percentage' the words 'percentage or percentages', for the word 'prescribe' the word 'determine' and for the words 'the business', the words 'such business' shall be substituted;
- (iii) in sub-rule (2)—
 - (a) for the word 'business' where it occurs for the first time, the words 'any business other than money lending' shall be substituted; and
 - (b) for the words 'transaction of business' the words 'transaction of such business' and for the words 'turnover of the business' the words 'turnover of such business' shall be substituted; and
- (iv) in sub-rule (3) for the words 'any other business' in the first paragraph the words 'any other business except money lending' shall be substituted."

" I also move, Sir:—

"That the following draft provision determining the percentages of turnover of business transacted in the area of a local board which the Governor acting with Ministers proposes to make in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (b) of sub-rule (1) and sub-rule (2) of rule 11 of Schedule IV to the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920 (Madras Act XIV of 1920), be approved:—

For the purpose of calculating the income for levying profession tax, the percentage of turnover of business determined under clause (b) of sub-rule (1) and sub-rule (2) of rule 11 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, shall be as specified in columns (1) and (2) of the following schedule:—

Provided that if, in any case, the income so calculated is less than the minimum sum specified in column (3) of the said schedule, the percentage shall be enhanced to such a rate as would yield such minimum sum:

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [27th March 1931]

Schedule.

	Percentage.	Minimum.
Where the turnover of business exceeds 12 lakhs of rupees per annum ...	1	18,000
Where the turnover of business exceeds 6 lakhs of rupees per annum, but does not exceed 12 lakhs of rupees ...	1.5	12,000
Where the turnover of business exceeds 3 lakhs of rupees, but does not exceed 6 lakhs of rupees ...	2	9,000
Where the turnover of business exceeds 1,50,000 rupees, but does not exceed 3 lakhs of rupees ...	3	6,000
Where the turnover of business exceeds 60,000 rupees, but does not exceed 1,50,000 rupees ...	4	3,000
Where the turnover of business does not exceed 60,000 rupees ...	5	...

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—" I second it."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Items III and IV on the agenda are now for discussion."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" With regard to item IV, I move that—

(i) *For the existing item (5) of the Schedule, the following be substituted:—*

	Percentage.	Minimum.
Where the turnover of business does not exceed 1,50,000 rupees	4	

(ii) *Omit the last item in the Schedule.*"

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I second it."

27th March 1931]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I accept the amendment, Sir."

The amendment was put and carried.

The rules, as amended, were put and carried.

VII.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS HINDU RELIGIOUS
ENDOWMENTS ACT, 1926.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I beg to introduce a Bill further to amend the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1926, and move that under Standing Order No. 39 (2), the Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of more than fifteen Members."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—" I second it."

The motion was carried.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I move—

' that the Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following Members:—

- (1) Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
- (2) Mr. A. B. Shetty.
- (3) Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
- (4) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
- (5) Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
- (6) Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
- (7) Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
- (8) Mr. T. Narasa Reddi.
- (9) Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
- (10) Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapaty Mudaliyar.
- (11) Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari.
- (12) Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
- (13) The Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
- (14) Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.
- (15) Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
- (16) Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
- (17) The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell.
- (18) Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chettiyar.
- (19) Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
- (20) Mrs. K. Alamelumanga Thayaramma.
- (21) Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.
- (22) Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
- (23) Diwan Bahadur Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar.
- (24) The Mover.

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—" I second it."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask for information, Sir, as to where the Committee will meet? It will be a bad precedent created if we are to meet at Ootacamund for this purpose. I should like to know if the meeting of the Select Committee will be in Madras itself?"

* Published in the Fort St. George Gazette on 19th March 1931 as Bill No. 5 of 1931.

774

A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS HINDU RELIGIOUS
ENDOWMENTS ACT, 1926

[27th March 1931]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Originally it was intended that the Select Committee might be asked to submit the report on the 30th instant, but as I think it will be inconvenient to the Members to be here till the 30th, this may be taken up in July next. I shall see that the Select Committee meets only in Madras."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKKAR:—"Sir, in clause 3 of the Bill it is stated that in default of payment of the amount demanded by the President of the Board or of the Committee, the Collector of the district in which any property of the math, temple or endowment is situated shall, on application made to him by the President of the Board, etc., recover such amount as if it were an arrear of land revenue, etc. May I know from the hon. Minister whether 'property' includes movable property also. If it is movable property, there is difficulty, as the officers of the Revenue department may enter a temple and bring to auction such articles as are used for pooja, which action will be troublesome to the temple authorities. I therefore want to know whether the property referred to in the clause will mean immovable property only or whether it will include movable property also."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"With regard to the section as it stands, it includes both movable and immovable property. Even under the present Act, any property of the temple can be attached by a Civil Court, but if there should be any misapprehension in regard to the matter, that matter can be discussed in the Select Committee. I hope the hon. Member also is in the Select Committee and he may raise the question there."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Sir, it is not only this point that has to be considered by the Select Committee, but there are certain other points also which have to be raised and considered in the Select Committee. I hope if the proposal for a Select Committee is accepted, there will be no difficulty at all."

The motion was put and carried.

VIII.—THE MADRAS CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES BILL.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Co-operative Societies Bill (Bill No. 4 of 1931)^a and move—

'that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of more than fifteen Members under Standing Order No. 39 (2).'

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I second the motion."

The motion was put and carried.

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I move—

'that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members:—

- (1) Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
- (2) Mr. Daniel Thomas.

27th March 1931]

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

- (3) Mr. M. S. Sreshta.
- (4) Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
- (5) Mr. G. R. Premayya.
- (6) Mr. H. M. Jagannatham.
- (7) Mr. N. Siva Raj.
- (8) Mr. P. Bayappa Reddi.
- (9) Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
- (10) Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
- (11) Rao Sahib Badeti Venkataramayya.
- (12) Mr. C. Indriah.
- (13) Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
- (14) Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
- (15) B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
- (16) S. M. K. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur.
- (17) Mr. R. M. Palat.
- (18) Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
- (19) The Zamindar of Chemudu.
- (20) Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
- (21) Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
- (22) Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar.
- (23) Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
- (24) Mr. G. Sriramulu.
- (25) Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandian.
- (26) Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari.
- (27) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
- (28) Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
- (29) Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
- (30) Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
- (31) Mr. A. B. Shetty.
- (32) Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
- (33) Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
- (34) Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu.
- (35) Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
- (36) Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
- (37) Mr. C. Basu Dev.
- (38) The Advocate-General.
- (39) Mr. S. V. Ramamurti.
- (40) Mr. V. T. Arasu.
- (41) Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar.
- (42) Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
- (43) Mr. A. Kondappa.
- (44) Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
- (45) Mr. T. Narasa Reddi.
- (46) The Mover."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I second the motion, Sir."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, I propose that the whole House should go into Committee to consider the Bill, instead of having a Select Committee consisting of 46 Members. It is a most extra-

^a Published in the Fort St. George Gazette on 19th March 1931 as Bill No. 4 of 1931.

[27th March 1931]

ordinary thing to have a Select Committee of so many Members as 46 to consider a Bill consisting of about eight or nine clauses. I therefore propose that the whole House should go into Committee."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn for lunch."

After Lunch (3 p.m.).

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, I move an amendment to the hon. Minister's motion, namely, that the whole House should go into Committee to consider the Madras Co-operative Societies Amendment Bill. In doing so, Sir, I have a few facts to be placed before the House for proposing my amendment. The hon. Minister has proposed about 46 Members of this House as Members of the Select Committee to consider about eight or nine sections, with which I shall deal shortly. There is also another amendment waiting to be moved to add ten more Members. . . ."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Order, order, how can the hon. Member anticipate such a motion, Sir?"

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, the list will therefore come to about 56 Members of this House for the consideration of the Bill in Select Committee. There is Standing Order 39 of this House which says that in all cases of Bills, ordinarily there shall be 15 Members of the House for a Select Committee, to thrash out the various issues arising from the amendments and place the report before the House. Ordinarily in selecting Members for Select Committees, 15 Members are selected by the Minister in charge of the Bill in consultation with the parties in the House. In this case the names of 46 Members of this Council have been suggested. In extraordinary cases where the Bill is of considerable importance, full of intricacies and complexities involving various principles, and where it is a very large one such as the Local Boards Act or the District Municipalities Act consisting of 350 or 290 sections, consisting of a large number of amendments, which required the experience of many chairmen of municipalities and presidents of local boards with a view to make suggestions in the Select Committee for the purpose of giving effect to public opinion, a Select Committee of more than 15 Members may be justified.

"Now this Bill seeks to amend a few sections. From the Statement of Objects and Reasons it will be seen that the first paragraph relates to the provisions of ten sections. And if you analyse them, you will find that there are only four principles involved. The first of them relates to the large number of arrears due from various societies and how best to provide for them; the second point involved in this Bill is that since the number of co-operative societies has increased, adequate provision should be made for the repayment of loans. Then the third purpose refers to the registering of the Land Mortgage Banks under the Act, as the success of the Banks mainly depends on the value of the mortgaged property. The fourth object of this Bill deals with the enormous delay in winding up the affairs of the liquidated societies.

[27th March 1931]

[Sir A. P. Patro]

"This is the nature of the Bill. The principles are rather important and complex and are alleged to be beyond the ken of ordinary Members who deal with day to day business. Therefore not only 56 Members should sit in the Committee but more."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Before the hon. Member proceeds further, I wish to know under what Standing Order he is moving the amendment." (Laughter.)

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Amendment to a motion may be moved at any time." (Laughter.)

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"What is the Standing Order." (Laughter.)

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Therefore, Sir, it seems to me that it is not sufficient if the Select Committee consists only of 56 Members."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"On a point of order, Sir. My hon. Friend in moving his amendment is not moving it. He is merely questioning the discretion of the hon. President when he suspended the Standing Order by allowing the hon. Minister to increase the number of Members. He has been casting reflections on the discretion of the hon. President."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I don't think he has done so."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Therefore, I submit it is not fair and just that only 56 Members out of the total number of 98 elected Members should sit in the Select Committee, excluding the other 42. So I hope the hon. Minister will reconsider the matter and include also the other 42 Members. Now if this is done the whole House can deliberate on the amendments in full and no Member will be deprived of ventilating his views. Therefore I suggest the whole House should go into the Committee. There may not be a precedent for this before. But why not create a precedent now? We have created a precedent already with regard to the strength of the Select Committee in spite of the Standing Order which restricts its strength to 15. By doing this we also give an opportunity to Members of Government to take an interest in this. When that is done it will facilitate the work before the House. Thus no inconvenience will be caused to anybody. I therefore move that the whole House do go into Committee on this matter."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, I should like to know before any discussion takes place on this amendment this fact. Sir Patro wants this matter to be referred to a Select Committee of the whole House. Now by this the power that is vested in His Excellency the Governor to convene a meeting of this Council is sought to be abrogated. I should like to have your opinion on this. Supposing the Council agrees that the Bill be referred to a Committee of the whole House, it will be the duty of the Chairman or the Minister to convene the meeting of the Committee. Now since the Committee is practically

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [27th March 1931]

the whole House, unless His Excellency the Governor thinks it necessary to convene it, how can the Committee meet?" (Several voices: 'That is not necessary; the Committee can meet even without His Excellency's initiative'.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Standing Order 37 is clear. I think the whole House cannot go into a Select Committee. As such Sir Patro's motion is not in order." (Laughter.)

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of an amendment to the motion moved by the hon. Minister, which I think is quite in order, and therefore I beg your leave to move that all the non-official Members of this House do constitute a Select Committee and the Bill be referred to that Committee."

* Mr. N. SIVA RAJ:—"Mr. President, Sir, I want to make just one observation. The immediate effect of this amendment will be to take out the most important Member who will be of use to the Select Committee, and that is Mr. Ramamurti."

2-15 p.m. Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I feel bound to oppose the motion made by my hon. Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar."

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I only asked for information and a ruling from the hon. the President whether my amendment is in order, and if so, I wanted to move that amendment. I did not move the amendment at all. I was waiting for your ruling as regards the admissibility of the amendment; if you admit the amendment, I would like to move it, Sir."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"On a point of order, Sir. The hon. Member has a right to come forward with any motion he likes and it is the look-out of the President to rule it out of order. If it is not in order, why should he seek the ruling of the President before he moves it?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar is given permission to make the motion."

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I am constrained to move an amendment of this nature for one or two reasons, the first of them being that it is a matter involving a principle which hon. Members should observe when making motions for the appointment of Select Committees on Bills. When the hon. the Second Minister moved the motion this morning, I was forcibly reminded, Sir. . . ."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Now a motion is circulated, Sir, for the withdrawal of the original motion for 46 Members, as also another motion for a Select Committee. Which motion are we now to discuss, Sir?"

27th March 1931]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think there is no point of order in that at all, because that motion has not been moved so far. Only the motions that have so far been moved are under the consideration of the House."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"On a point of order, Sir, the hon. Member's motion is for a Select Committee consisting of all non-official Members. Does the hon. Minister come in there, Sir? He does not come in, I think."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"At any rate, the House will have an opportunity of voting on the motion."

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I shall be content even if my motion is voted down, but I move it as it involves a principle. The hon. the Second Minister moved this morning that Bill No. 4 (regarding Co-operative Societies) be referred to a Select Committee consisting of 46 Members. Then I was forcibly reminded of the story of the old man and the donkey. I know, Sir, that even in the wildest of his dreams the hon. the Second Minister would not have dreamt or thought of a Select Committee to consist of 46 Members. He must have started with a very small, and as I am told, a very modest nucleus; and he must have added on to it as every Member went to him here or into his room and insisted upon his name being added and the fate that the motion, I may assure the House, is going to meet, is the fate that the old man in the story of the old man and the donkey met with. I move this amendment because it involves a question of principle. I ask, Sir, does the hon. the Minister or any Member of this House mean serious business when he is thinking of a Committee of 46 Members to consider a highly technical Act like the Co-operative Act. It is a highly technical subject which only persons who have got first-hand experience and practical training in the field must deal with; and it is only such persons that must be put in for the purpose of considering the provisions of this Bill."

"Another very strange thing that may be observed is this, that the Bill consists of only 63 sections, and leaving out the formal sections, I think there are as many sections as there are Members proposed to be put on the Select Committee. In this connexion, I should again bring to the notice of the hon. the Second Minister and any Member who may bring in a Bill and propose that it be referred to a Select Committee, that the Select Committee must be business-like and that it must be as compact as possible and as the situation would permit. And in the matter of the selection of Members for Select Committees, I would suggest that there should be representation of causes. Though to-day Labour is represented in the Council by only one or two Members, it should be adequately represented on all Committees. There should be a representation in the Select Committee not of this person or that person of influence, but of causes. In the selection of Select Committees causes weigh more than men and principles must weigh more than familiarity. It is for that purpose that I have risen to move an amendment of this

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [27th March 1931]

sort and would, with all the seriousness at my command, tell the Members of this House and the various leaders of the parties in this House that hereafter in the selection of Members to Select Committees, it must be causes that must be represented but not persons. I have seen, Sir, during the short time I have been in the Council, various Committees, select or otherwise, being constituted. For instance, we had the Economic Enquiry Committee, we have the Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill Select Committee, we are going to have a Select Committee on the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill; and we are going to have a Select Committee on this Bill. I would insist, Sir, not only on motions for reference to Select Committees but also on the various measures in this House, that some principle must be adopted in the constitution of these Committees. We find the same persons being repeated in various Committees, and no chance is being given to other persons who are willing to serve and place their services at the disposal of these Committees. It is only for this purpose that I have risen to move this amendment, namely, that in view of the fact that 46 Members are going to be nominated for this Select Committee, all the non-official Members of this House do go into Select Committee Sir, before I sit down I would just like to mention one or two other facts, one or two cases where a gross injustice has been done because even though their names were brought to the notice of the Minister no redress has been made. Sir, I am not anxious to serve on the Committee, because I do not think I will be able to serve on it. But, Sir, I am glad that at least the cause which I represent is represented on this Committee by Mr. Basu Dev, and I am satisfied. But there are one or two notable omissions which I will not be doing justice to myself if I do not point out to the hon. Mover of this motion. My Friend, Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi, an hon. Member of this House who has been for fifteen years interested in Co-operation and has been holding a high position in the Co-operative movement, in his district (North Arcot), who has been a member of the Co-operative Federation, a member of the District Co-operative Bank, with all the experience of fifteen years behind him. . . ."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"On a point of order, Sir. Is it open to the Member when he is moving his motion to refer to the individual merits or demerits, experiences or personalities of Members? I do not think, Sir, that is fair and it will lead us nowhere. It is open to him to move amendments, but to reflect on the capacity or incapacity of Members is not fair to the persons concerned or to the House."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I do not think there is anything wrong in speaking about the merits of hon. Members of the Council."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Can demerits also be gone into?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If the question of demerits is discussed, I will have to rule it out of order unless the discussion is relevant and carried on with due regard to parliamentary decorum. Anyhow, I would advise the hon. Member speaking on this motion not to

27th March 1931]

[The President]

refer to personalities but to deal with the question as far as possible in a fair and dispassionate spirit."

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"My only point in mentioning the name of my hon. Friend is this, namely, that men of experience should be there and that a principle should be followed and not the influence or personality of this man or that man. It is only for that purpose that I move that the whole body of non-official Members of this House do constitute the Select Committee, including the Mover."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro seconded the motion.

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I should like to oppose this motion moved by Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. I certainly sympathize with many of the arguments that were advanced. But I certainly do not know who the old man is to whom he referred when he mentioned the story of the old man and the donkey. (The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—I am the old man.) (Loud laughter.) The hon. the Minister seems anxious to be the old man! Probably he may be comparable to the donkey in the story. But I want to say that the old man in this case is the Bill and the donkey is the Select Committee. So, Sir, I do not see much difference between the donkey that is proposed by the hon. Minister and the donkey proposed by my Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. There is nothing to choose between the one Committee and the other. Even on the question of principle, if we look at the membership proposed by the Minister, it appears preferable instead of the membership proposed by my friend. At any rate, I do not see any reason to choose between the one and the other. I would rather choose the Minister's nominees."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, it is no doubt true that if the Committee consists, as proposed, of 46 Members, it will be a big Committee. Objection has been taken that the Bill is a very technical one and therefore men of technical knowledge must be there. Judged by that standard, I do not know if even the Members suggested by my Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar would satisfy that principle. There are many more who have had technical experience and apart from technical experience, it is not merely the technicalities of the Co-operative law that counts but the experience of many members who, though they may not be presidents or otherwise interested in the co-operative movement, may still have something to say as to how it is going to affect the well-being of the masses. This Act is one that concerns the well-being of the masses and is intended entirely or at least mostly in the interests of the village ryots, and I am sure that the larger the Committee, the safer will it be for the villagers, because the interests of the various members of the village population will be properly and adequately represented. It has been pointed out that the Bill has got only a few clauses to amend the Act, but the fact is ignored that this is a re-enacting Bill, all the old provisions being brought in; and every Member is entitled to bring in any provision to

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [27th March 1931]

amend any section he likes. It is open to them to amend every section of the original Act. Therefore it is considered necessary to have as many people from all the various groups as possible to assist the Minister in having the Bill passed with the largest measure of agreement possible.

3-30 p.m. "Sir, it may also be stated that it is in the experience of this House that on the Bills to amend the Local Boards Act and the District Municipalities Act which concerned similarly large masses of the population, the Select Committee was also a big one. In the case of those Bills, the main amendments were confined to a few matters, namely, abolition of nominations, provision for executive officers, extension of the franchise and so on. And when once we came to a decision on these important questions, then all the other points were merely of a technical character and nothing more. This Bill to my mind involves important principles and in the application of the Co-operative Societies Act, which is an all-India Act, to this province, it is certainly necessary that the opinions of as many Members as possible are obtained for this Bill. Sir, after all, no doubt, as a working arrangement it has been laid down that the Select Committee should ordinarily consist of less than fifteen, but Standing Order 39 provides that that number may be exceeded with the leave of the House. It is therefore entirely for this House to decide as to whether it shall consist of 15 or 46 or all the non-official Members or a Committee of the whole Council. Sir, the hon. Minister has come forward with about 46 names. If the House considers that 46 is too big a number, then the question of reducing it can be considered. I find that 46 is not considered sufficient and there is an amendment that we must have a few more. It shows how each Member has something to contribute to the Committee. Now, Sir, another objection has been taken that causes must be represented and principles must be represented. But I am sorry, with all respect to my friend, that throughout his speech I find nothing but complaint that certain names are omitted. The point was that Labour was not represented. There are three people who claim to represent Labour and they are distributed among the various party groups. If proportion is to be the basis of representation in the Select Committee, I do not know if they will get even one. If there are certain Members who have not been nominated, it cannot be helped. He suggests that he is not very anxious to sit in the Committee. When there are other hon. Members, I do not think he can raise the objection of causes and principles. As far as possible it has been the practice to consult the leaders of the various groups to find out who are willing to serve and if there are some who do not form into definite groups, it is not possible similarly to choose from among them. The absence of the name of Mr. Rangaswami Reddiyar was mentioned. We have tried to include as many party Members as possible and if a particular Member is not there, it is not because he cannot contribute anything to the Committee but it is because several other people are there. I would certainly deprecate the idea of raising a camouflage of particular principles and particular

27th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

causes because particular Members are not there. I hope that this House will accept the proposition that this is a Bill which affects the agricultural masses and it is good that as many as possible are there. In regard to the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Local Boards Act, we had the experience that by having a large number on the Select Committee it is much more easy to get it passed through the Council. It is much better to have a larger number to sit in the Select Committee and pass it through the Council with less number to attack it than having a few in the Committee and allowing a large body to attack the Bill in the Council. For these reasons, I support the main motion."

* Mr. N. SIVA RAJ:—"Without meaning any disrespect to the hon. the Chief Minister, I wish to say that the arguments that he adduced, so far as I am concerned, are not very convincing. I feel that some of the arguments that he used are the very arguments that I can use against the constitution of the present Committee. The idea that on a Bill like this all sections of opinion are to be represented will be generally accepted. Sir Patro may say that this is a Bill of only a few sections, but there are others who think that this is really an important matter. Granting that it is important, and that it is necessary that all interests in this House should be represented, the Committee is imperfect. What really has happened is, whereas many people like myself have been included who are not quite so necessary, there are one or two who have been omitted but who will be useful. So far as members of my community are concerned, I know one at any rate who has a special knowledge, who has a practical knowledge of the working of the Co-operative Societies, viz., Mr. Dharmalingam Pillai, who has been left out. There are others."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has got every right to move an amendment."

* Mr. N. SIVA RAJ:—"I will leave that point. The hon. the Chief Minister said that it will be a very good thing to have many members in the Select Committee in order merely to avoid a series of discussions in this Council on the same Bill. That applies to almost every Bill and that unfortunately will create a dangerous precedent. You will find that for every Bill nearly half the House will be represented on the Select Committee. Personally I feel it ought not to be so. In the interests of serious business, the Committee must be as representative and as expert as it can be. In conclusion I may say that I am not convinced of the arguments of the Chief Minister."

Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar's amendment was put and declared lost. A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:

Aye.

1. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.

[27th March 1931]

Noes.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 31. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |
| 2. „ Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 32. Raja of Kallikote. |
| 3. „ Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 33. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. |
| 4. „ Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 34. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam. |
| 5. „ Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 35. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. |
| 6. „ Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 36. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 7. „ Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 37. Zamindar of Kirlampudi. |
| 8. Rao Bahadur G. Jagannadha Raju. | 38. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. |
| 9. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayammal. | 39. Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu. |
| 10. Mr. H. R. Pate. | 40. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur. |
| 11. „ H. A. Watson. | 41. Dr. P. Subbarayan. |
| 12. „ R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 42. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. |
| 13. „ S. V. Ramamurti. | 43. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar. |
| 14. „ Hilton Brown. | 44. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar. |
| 15. „ T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 45. „ Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. |
| 16. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. | 46. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schammad Sahib Bahadur. |
| 17. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam. | 47. Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar. |
| 18. Mr. M. Devadasan. | 48. „ T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai. |
| 19. „ N. Siva Raj. | 49. „ V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar. |
| 20. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. | 50. „ M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 21. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. | 51. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur. |
| 22. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar. | 52. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. |
| 23. Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar. | 53. S. M. K. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur. |
| 24. „ M. S. Sreshta. | 54. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. |
| 25. „ P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. | 55. „ C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. |
| 26. „ C. Indriah. | 56. „ C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| 27. „ T. Narasa Reddi. | 57. „ C. Basu Dev. |
| 28. „ R. M. Palat. | 58. Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar. |
| 29. Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu. | 59. Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti. |
| 30. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. | 60. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi. |
| | 61. „ G. Srinamulu. |
| | 62. „ H. M. Jagannatham. |
| | 63. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| | 64. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan. |
| | 65. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami. |

Neutral.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. K. P. Raman Menon. | 5. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 2. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. | 6. Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi. |
| 3. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur. | 7. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro. |
| 4. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. | 8. Mr. V. T. Arasu. |

Aye 1. Noes 65. Neutral 8.

The amendment was lost.

* Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—“Mr. President, Sir, I move—

‘that the names I am going to read now may be added to the names already mentioned by the hon. Minister:—

- (1) Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
- (2) Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
- (3) Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.

27th March 1931] [Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

- (4) Mrs. K. AlamelumangaThayarammal.
- (5) Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
- (6) Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti.
- (7) „ D. Krishnamurti.
- (8) Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
- (9) Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
- (10) Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
- (11) Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.’ ”

“In moving this, I wish to satisfy the spirit of the amendment moved by Sir Patro and Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. Though they were defeated, they had the idea of the inclusion of members who ought to sit on the Committee. Personally, Sir, I think that, notwithstanding the Bill being of a technical character, the number, viz., 15, provided in the Standing Orders may well do for this Committee also. But, as has been pointed out, the number entirely depends upon the attitude of the House, and this amendment is moved in response to a large body of influential opinion from all sections of the House that the number already included in the Committee, viz., 46, is insufficient and that it should be increased to 57. It is merely a compromise between the ideal proposed by my hon. Friend Sir. A. P. Patro and the ideal of Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. In a way it satisfies both of them. Therefore, I believe that the amendment will be accepted.”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“I second it.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I be permitted to add one more name to the list?”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member may hand in his amendment if any.”

Mr. N. SIVA RAJ:—“I beg to request that my name be deleted from the list and that the name of Rao Sahib Dharmalingam Pillai be added instead.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“If the hon. Member does not wish to serve on the Committee, he may make a motion for the omission of his name or ask some other Member to make such a motion.”

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I propose another name to be added?”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Mr. Sivaraj has not proposed any amendment yet. He has only requested that his name be deleted.”

Mr. N. SIVA RAJ:—“I move that the name of Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai be added.”

Mr. P. C. MOSES:—“I second it.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“I move that the name of Subadar-Major Nanjappah Bahadur be added.”

* Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“I second it.”

[27th March 1931]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will put Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai's amendment to the vote of the House. The question is—

'that the following names be added to the list of Members of the Select Committee:—

- (1) Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
- (2) Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
- (3) Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
- (4) Mrs. K. Alamelumanga Thayarammal.
- (5) Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan.
- (6) „ P. Subrahmanyam Chetti.
- (7) Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti.
- (8) Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
- (9) Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
- (10) Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
- (11) Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.' "

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I request you to remove my name?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That cannot be done by me."

The motion was carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The next is the amendment of Mr. Siva Raj. The question is—

'that Mr. Dharmalingam Pillai's name be added.' "

The motion was carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar's motion. The question is—

'that the name of Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur be added to the list.' "

The motion was carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—

'That Bill No. 4 of 1931, a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to co-operative societies in the Presidency be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members:—

- (1) Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
- (2) Mr. Daniel Thomas.
- (3) „ M. S. Sreshta.
- (4) Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
- (5) Mr. G. R. Premayya.
- (6) „ H. M. Jagannatham.
- (7) „ N. Siva Raj.
- (8) „ P. Bayappa Reddi.
- (9) „ A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
- (10) Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
- (11) Rao Sahib Badeti Venkataramayya.
- (12) Mr. C. Indriah.

27th March 1931]

[The President]

- (13) Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
- (14) Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
- (15) B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
- (16) S. M. K. Bayabani Sahib Bahadur.
- (17) Mr. R. M. Palat.
- (18) „ V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
- (19) The Zamindar of Chemedu.
- (20) Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
- (21) Rao Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
- (22) Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar.
- (23) Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
- (24) „ G. Sriramulu.
- (25) „ W. P. A. Soundara Pandian.
- (26) „ C. Satyanarayana Choudari.
- (27) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
- (28) Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
- (29) Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
- (30) „ A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
- (31) „ A. B. Shetty.
- (32) „ M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
- (33) „ U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
- (34) „ G. Simbachalam Pantulu.
- (35) „ T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
- (36) „ D. V. Narasimhaswami.
- (37) „ C. Basudev.
- (38) The Advocate-General.
- (39) Mr. S. V. Ramamurti.
- (40) „ V. T. Arasu.
- (41) „ M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar.
- (42) Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
- (43) Mr. A. Kondappa.
- (44) „ Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
- (45) „ T. Narasa Reddi.
- (46) Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
- (47) Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
- (48) Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
- (49) Mrs. K. Alamelumanga Thayarammal.
- (50) Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
- (51) Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti.
- (52) Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti.
- (53) Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
- (54) Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
- (55) Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
- (56) Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddiyar.
- (57) Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
- (58) Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur.
- (59) The Mover (The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan).'

The motion was carried.

[27th March 1931]

Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI:—"Where is the Select Committee to sit, Sir? On the hill top or in Madras?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I think in Madras."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again to-morrow at 11 a.m."

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

27th March 1931]

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 748 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1931, page 747 *supra*.]

G.O. Ms. No. 414, P.H., dated 25th February 1930.

Read—the following papers:—

From the Director of Public Health, R. No. 53-3-Mal.,
dated 19th August 1929.

From the Director of Public Health, R. No. 53-4-Mal.,
dated 24th October 1929.

From the Sanitary Engineer, No. 730-G, dated 29th November 1929.

Order—Ms. No. 414, P.H., dated 25th February 1930.

In his report on malaria investigation in Koraput, the Special Malaria Officer has suggested that the following anti-malaria works should be carried out in the town:—

(1) Laying of the sub-soil pipes for drainage in place of the present system of open drains—estimated cost Rs. 7,500.

(2) Oiling and weeding of the open drains beyond the limit to which they will be laid underground—annual cost Rs. 1,160.

The Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, has reported that in view of the fact that the cost of pipes will be prohibitive, owing to the cost of transport to Koraput, roughstone sub-soil drains, with broad shallow open drains above, to carry off the storm water in heavy rains, will be adequate. He therefore suggests that an experiment may be made in the current year in one area, preferably the Jail Nullah in order to ascertain the cost of construction per running foot. He has also suggested that preventive work, such as the application of 'Paris Green' to streams and marshes, filling up of pits and marshes, etc., may at once be undertaken. He has recommended that the Health Officer in charge of the operations in the villages in Gudem taluk and the Sub-Assistant Surgeon now working at Peddavalasa should be moved to Koraput for carrying out these works. The expenditure on the works will be met from the discretionary grant at the disposal of the Agent. The Government have issued separate orders regarding the above proposals of the Agent. They consider that the question of a comprehensive system of sub-soil drainage for Koraput may be examined when the result of the experiment now proposed is known.

2. The attention of the Director of Public Health is invited to paragraph 61 of the report of the Special Malaria Officer and he is requested to consider in consultation with the Surgeon-General the suggestion made therein that the Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Government Headquarter Hospital at Koraput should be trained in Malariology at Karnal, in connexion with the training of officers at the next Malaria Class there.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

A. D. CROMBIE,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Health.

- " Sanitary Engineer.
- " Agent to the Governor, Vizagapatam, through the Revenue Department.
- " Board of Revenue, through Revenue Department.
- " Public Works and Labour Department.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Saturday, the 28th March 1931.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Usman Sahib Bahadur, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed. | Narasa Reddi, Mr. T. |
| Krishnan Nayar, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. | Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V. |
| Campbell, <i>c.s.i.</i> , <i>c.i.e.</i> , <i>c.b.e.</i> , <i>v.d.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. | Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P. |
| Stokes, <i>c.s.i.</i> , <i>c.i.e.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon. Mr. H. G. | Narayanawami Pillai, Mr. T. M. |
| Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. | Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. Palat, Mr. R. M. |
| Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T. | Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T. |
| Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. | Pate, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. H. R. |
| Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur. | Patro, <i>Kt.</i> , Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. |
| Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur. | Pooker Sahib Bahadur, B. |
| Alamelumangathayarammal, Mrs. K. | Premayya, Mr. G. B. |
| Arasu, Mr. V. T. | Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V. |
| Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B. | Raja of Bobbili. |
| Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur B. N. | Raja of Kallikote. |
| Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. | Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K. |
| Basu Dev, Mr. C. | Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A. |
| Bayabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K. | Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A. |
| Birley, Mr. F. | Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala. |
| Browning, Mr. W. M. | Ramamurti, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. S. V. |
| Devadasan, Mr. M. | Raman Menon, Mr. K. P. |
| Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V. | Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S. |
| Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur S. | Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M. |
| Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M. | Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A. |
| Hilton Brown, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. | Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G. |
| Indriah, Mr. C. | Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T. |
| Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G. | Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B. |
| Jagannatham, Mr. H. M. | Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S. |
| Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C. | Sabajanandam, Swami A. S. |
| Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K. | Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr. |
| Kolanda Reddi, Bai Sahib C. | Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C. |
| Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D. | Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P. |
| Krishnan, Mr. C. | Shetty, Mr. A. B. |
| Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. | Siva Raj, Mr. N. |
| Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R. | Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A. |
| Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur. | Sreshta, Mr. M. S. |
| Mahmud Sahamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur. | Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C. |
| Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A. | Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R. |
| Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M. | Sriramulu, Mr. G. |
| Moses, Mr. P. C. | Subbarayan, Dr. P. |
| Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. | Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P. |
| Meniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I. | Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C. |
| Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M. | Sandara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T. |
| Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A. | Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib. |
| Nachiyappa Goundar, Mr. K. A. | Thomas, Mr. Daniel. |
| Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V. | Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G. |
| Nanjappah Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A. | Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M. |
| | Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. O. M. |
| | Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K. |
| | Waddington, Mr. H. |
| | Watson, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. H. A. |
| | Wright, Mr. W. O. |
| | Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur. |
| | Zamindar of Kirlampudi. |

[28th March 1931]

I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Police

Insecurity of property and person in the Ambattur village.

* 749 Q.—Mr. M. VEDACHALA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any reports have been received by the Government about the incessant thefts, burglaries and assaults occurring everyday and their increase in large numbers now in the village of Ambattur and its hamlets Varadarajapuram and Venkatapuram in the Saidapet taluk, Chingleput district;

(b) if so, whether any remedial measures have been adopted to put them down; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to open a Police outpost at Ambattur to put down the same?

A.—(a) & (b) On 8th January 1931 the Government received a copy of a resolution passed at a meeting of the Ambattur Citizens' Association held on 4th January 1931 requesting that a Police outpost might be opened at Ambattur to put down thefts, burglaries and assaults in the village and its hamlets which it was stated were increasing from day to day. A copy of the resolution was sent to the Inspector-General of Police for such action as he considered necessary.

(c) No such proposal is before Government.

Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI:—"May I know whether the Government have ascertained whether there is such an association in existence or not?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I don't know whether it exists or not. As stated in the answer, we received a copy of the resolution mentioned therein and we sent it on to the Inspector-General of Police for such action as he considered necessary."

Jails

Transfer of women convicted of infanticide to Social Service Institutions.

* 750 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether any arrangements have been made or proposed to be made for the transfer of women convicted of infanticide to Social Service Institutions, and if so, what the nature of the proposals of Government is?

A.—A copy of G.O. No. 222, Law (General), dated 20th January 1931, containing the orders of Government on the subject, is appended.

28th March 1931]

Land Revenue

Remission of assessment in Malabar.

* 751 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a memorial signed by about two hundred land-holders of Malabar including the Zamorin Maharaja of Calicut praying for the remission of the assessment payable by them for the period ending 31st March 1931; and

(b) whether the Government have ordered any remission and if not whether the Government propose to make any remission?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

Collection of quit rent on a certain land in Wall Tax Road.

* 752 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the land on which the Theatrical Hall at Wall Tax Road is constructed is vested in the Corporation of Madras and the Corporation has leased it;

(b) whether it is a fact that the lessee who pays rent to the Corporation is further required to pay ground rent to the Government for the said land; and if so, why; and

(c) whether the Corporation pays quit rent to the Government for the said land?

A.—(a) The land is the property of the Corporation of Madras and the Corporation has been leasing it.

(b) Yes. Under the terms of the lease deed executed in favour of the Corporation, the lessee is bound to pay to Government such assessment or ground rent as the Collector may determine to be payable, the said assessment or ground rent being further liable to periodical revision. Accordingly ground rent at the rate of Rs. 275 an acre is being collected from the lessee.

(c) A quit rent of Rs. 55-12-0 is being collected from the Corporation in respect of the entire strip of land lying between Wall Tax Road and the compound wall of the Central Station including the land on which the theatre stands.

Public Service

Increments to unpassed permanent men in the Revenue Department.

* 753 Q.—A. M. AHMED MIRAN SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that unpassed clerks in the Revenue Department who were confirmed in the Superior service as early as 1913-14 and who had been acting on Rs. 25 till 1916 were debarred from promotion to posts carrying more than Rs. 20 by any Government Order in 1916 or afterwards;

[28th March 1981]

(b) whether by the passing of the Government Order allowing concession to the unpassed clerks to appear for the Special Test examinations such of the successful candidates who have undergone Survey training and worked as Revenue Inspectors over one year, and who were exempted by the Board for appointment as Revenue Inspectors, were eligible for promotion to higher grade of pay, i.e., Rs. 60 and above;

(c) whether any applications for exemption from general educational qualifications (Article I of the Public Service Notification) were received by Government from 1916 to 1921 from such of the persons as were affected by the Government Order of 1916 and how those applications were disposed of by the Collector; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to call for such cases which have been so adversely affected and place them before the Council?

A.—(a), (c) & (d) It is a general rule that persons not possessing the qualification prescribed in Article 1 of the Public Services Notification from time to time cannot be appointed or promoted to posts for which such qualification is prescribed unless exempted by competent authority. The qualification prescribed in Article 1 of the Public Services Notification has always been applied to posts carrying more than Rs. 20 per mensem. No specific orders were issued by Government debarring unpassed men confirmed in 1913-14 from promotion to such posts.

Applications for exemption would have been disposed of on their merits; the Government do not consider it worth while to collect information as to how each case was disposed of.

(b) Under the Special Tests Notification in force in 1916, unpassed clerks were as a rule not eligible to appear for any special test examinations but some individuals were exempted from time to time by the Government and permitted to appear for specified special tests in order that after passing they might be eligible for appointment to posts in respect of which such tests were prescribed. It is a general rule that exemption to an unpassed man is granted only to a specified post or a specified class of posts. Exemption ordinarily extends only to a particular grade, subject in some cases to a limit of pay, and promotion above that limit or to a post on higher pay requires further exemption.

Provincial Finance

Profitable investment of the unexpended loan amount on account of the Cauvery-Mettur Project.

* 754 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have under consideration any method by which the unexpended balance of loan amount drawn on account of the Cauvery-Mettur Project could be utilized to earn some interest till the amount is required for work and, if so, what the method is?

[28th March 1981]

4.—The amount of loan taken for the Cauvery-Mettur Project in each year represents the estimated capital outlay on the Project in the year *minus* the estimated unspent balance of the loan taken in the previous year.

The fact of there being an unspent balance during the year is known only towards the end of the year and the unspent balance is utilized on the Project at the commencement of the subsequent year.

It is not possible to adopt any method by which it can earn interest.

Education

Compulsory elementary education in Malabar.

* 755 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the steps taken in the areas in Malabar where compulsory elementary education has been introduced to bring all Mappilla children of school-going age into schools;

(b) whether he is aware that poverty is the main cause of non-attendance of Mappilla children even in compulsory areas;

(c) whether the Government have under consideration any proposal to start Boarding Houses for Mappilla children of school-going age in Malabar as in the case of depressed classes to provide necessary inducement;

(d) whether scholarships are granted liberally to deserving Mappilla pupils; and if so, what their number is;

(e) what is the progress in education made by the Mappilla community since the last rebellion in Malabar;

(f) whether the Government have under consideration proposals to accelerate the progress of education among the Mappillas; and

(g) whether it is proposed to constitute a committee to review the progress made so far and to suggest further means for accelerating the progress of education among the Mappillas?

A.—(a) Under section 49 of the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, the duty of sending children to school in compulsory education areas is imposed on the parents or guardians. Under section 51 of the Act, the local bodies concerned are responsible for enforcing the provisions of section 49. Since the introduction of compulsory education in selected areas in the Malabar district largely inhabited by Mappillas, the number of Mappilla boys in public schools specially intended for them has increased from 75,845 in 1925-26 to 106,770 in 1929-30.

(b) The fact may be as stated by the hon. Member.

(c) No such proposal is being considered by Government.

(d) Yes. The following scholarships are specially awarded for Mappilla pupils annually:—

Thirty scholarships at Rs. 2, 2½ and 3 each in standards VI, VII and VIII respectively for Mappilla boys in higher elementary classes throughout the Malabar district.

[28th March 1931]

One hundred and sixty scholarships in standard IV and 60 scholarships in standard V at Re. 1 and Re. 1½ each respectively, for boys in Ernad and Walluvanad taluks.

Fifty scholarships for Mappilla girls in elementary schools. In addition to these special scholarships Mappilla pupils can compete for the general scholarships and the scholarships specially intended for Muhammadans.

- (e) The following statement gives the number of the schools specially intended for Mappillas and number of pupils (boys and girls) in them during the years 1921-22 to 1929-30 :—

Year.					Number of public institutions.	Number of pupils.
1921-22	...	...	...	...	557	39,096
1922-23	...	...	...	...	583	43,394
1923-24	...	...	...	...	661	51,292
1924-25	...	...	...	...	865	63,642
1925-26	...	...	...	...	1,067	77,757
1926-27	...	...	...	...	1,239	86,315
1927-28	...	...	...	...	1,365	86,794
1928-29	...	...	...	...	1,469	103,649
1929-30	...	...	...	...	1,637	112,569

- (f) & (g) No such proposals are being considered by the Government.

[For further list of Starred Questions, please see page 797 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irrigation

Diversion of the waters of the Gundlakamma and Jampaleru rivers.

756 Q.—S. M. K. BAYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the courses of the two main rivers, Gundlakamma and Jampaleru, supplying water to the Cumbum tank, have been diverted owing to the obstruction of bunds constructed by villagers for local irrigation purposes so much so that much water is wasted by flowing into other directions;

(b) whether the Government propose any investigation into the matter to prevent such a wastage of water;

(c) whether Government have any information regarding the depth of silt in the said tank; and

(d) whether there is any objection by the Government for private people or ryots taking out the silt from the said tank?

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

(b) The Government will call for a report.

(c) No.

(d) The question will be considered.

[28th March 1931]

Minor Irrigation

Repairs to tanks damaged by cyclone in North Arcot district.

757 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of tanks in the North Arcot district affected by the recent cyclone;

(b) the number of tanks repaired till now;

(c) the time before which all the tanks are expected to be completely repaired; and

(d) whether they will all be completely restored before the coming summer rains?

A.—(a) Two hundred and ninety-six minor irrigation tanks and 233 Public Works Department tanks.

(b) The Government have not the information.

(c) & (d) Steps are being taken to have the tanks repaired as soon as possible. It is impossible at present to state a definite date by which the repairs in every case will have been completed. It is unlikely however that all the repairs will have been completed before the coming summer rains.

Public Service

Medical certificates for examinees before the Madras Services Commission.

758 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the candidates for the Madras Services Commission examination are required to produce medical certificates from an Officer not lower in rank than the Civil Surgeon;

(b) whether there was a rule till recently that medical certificates from Civil Assistant Surgeons were considered sufficient even for confirmation of temporary servants in the Government service; and

(c) if so, why a new departure was considered and introduced?

A.—a) If the hon. Member refers to candidates for clerical appointments, the answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The notifications inviting applications for other posts specify in each case what medical certificates are required.

(c) No.

[For further list of Unstarred Questions, please see page 811 infra.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Report of the Committee on the question of agricultural instruction in Higher Elementary schools.

* 759 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHERRY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to place on the table of the House any report or reports received from the Committee appointed to consider the question of introducing the teaching of the elements of Agriculture in Higher Elementary schools?

[28th March 1931]

A.—An interim report of the committee with the orders of Government thereon was placed on the table of the Legislative Council at its meeting held on the 24th September 1929. The final report of the committee is under the consideration of Government and the suggestion to place it on the table will be considered when orders are passed on it.

Excise

Grievances of Excise Officials.

* 760 Q.—Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received a copy of the resolutions passed on the 8th instant at the conference of the 6th Provincial Non-Gazetted Excise Officials held at Bellary;

(b) whether the resolution No. 7 that Sub-Inspectors be immediately sanctioned a time-scale of Rs. 60—4—120 has the support of the Commissioner of Excise;

(c) when the time-scale proposed will be given effect to;

(d) whether it is a fact that quarters for these officials are not available and much inconvenience is caused to them for want of quarters;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Sub-Inspectors are expected to keep their records, etc., in their dwelling houses;

(f) why a house allowance is not granted to them;

(g) whether the Government propose to have a prosecuting Assistant Inspector for each division; and

(h) why no annual sports are arranged for the Excise Sub-Inspectors as is done for the Police?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

(d) Government quarters for Sub-Inspectors of Excise are provided in certain localities where it is difficult for them to find house accommodation.

(e) Yes.

(f) The house-rent allowances which Sub-Inspectors in certain special localities were drawing were withdrawn in 1924 in pursuance of a general policy of abolishing all special concessions granted to Government servants.

(g) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government

(h) The Government have no information.

Fisheries

Fishing in the Adyar river.

* 761 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government intend prohibiting fishing with nets the dimensions of which exceed 75 feet in length or 15 feet in breadth in the Adyar river from the Chingleput Collector's Office to the Bay of Bengal;

[28th March 1931]

(b) whether such fishing has been going on from time immemorial and has never been objected to till now; and

(c) the reasons for the prohibition now under contemplation?

A.—(a) Yes. The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to notification No. 45, published at page 214 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 10th February 1931.

(b) The large fishing nets came into use some 25 or 30 years ago and have not been in use from time immemorial. The Government are not aware whether they were objected to or not in the past.

(c) It has been reported that the use of the big nets for fishing in the river is highly detrimental to the interests of the fishermen (Sembadavars) who use only small-sized nets in the Adyar and also interferes with the work of the Fisheries department which, for stocking the tanks in Nellore and Chingleput, requires fry from this river.

Vacancies of petty yard officers' posts in the Fisheries department.

* 762 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are many posts of petty yard officers in the Fisheries department kept vacant as persons possessing the qualifications prescribed under the rules for the Subordinate Fisheries Service are not available;

(b) whether it is proposed to make arrangements for the training of candidates for the posts of petty yard officers to get properly qualified persons; and

(c) the number of fish-curing yards which are now in charge of (1) Sub-Inspectors, (2) petty yard officers, respectively?

A.—(a) No.

(b) If competent candidates are not available in the department candidates will be recruited and trained at Tanur.

(c) The figures are—

(1) Twenty-four.

(2) Forty-four.

Industries

Average price of sugar and gur.

* 763 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state the average price of sugar and gur respectively each year for the last twenty-five years or for as many years out of them as the Government can conveniently furnish?

A.—A statement^a showing the price of gur at different stations in the Presidency since 1921 is laid on the table. Information in regard to the price of sugar is not readily available.

[28th March 1931]

Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"In the statement furnished in answer to this question, Rs. 8.625 has been shown as the price of gur per maund in Madras. May I know the basis on which this price has been calculated and who supplied the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The Revenue officers of the place."

Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"I am told that the price is Rs. 5 or so per maund. Are the Government in a position to contradict it?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I shall examine it."

Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"Even assuming that the price is as stated by the Government, may I know from the hon. Minister whether it leaves anything to the cultivator after deducting the cost of cultivation?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I want notice."

Effect of the tariff duty on sugar and gur.

* 764 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the effect of the recent tariff duty imposed on sugar on the sugar market in the Madras Presidency; and

(b) its effect on the gur market in the Presidency?

A.—(a) The recent increase in tariff duty was anticipated in some extent by the sugar market. The price of white sugar has risen by Rs. 3-11-0 per candy since January 1931, and may further rise by one rupee more.

(b) It is believed there has also been an increase in the price of gur, but accurate information as to the extent of the rise in prices, is not available.

Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"The price per candy has been furnished in the answer. May I know what it is per maund?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

Boring operations in South Kanara.

* 765 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether any of the boring operations done in South Kanara so far have been a success; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons for the failure?

A.—(a) Yes; nearly 55 per cent.

(b) The reasons for the unsuccessful borings are as follows:—The strata are laterite over granite. Laterite contains lime which is easily corroded by the passage of water. During the monsoon the water table rises almost to the surface and in summer when the water table falls, the ground water escapes through the corroded portion of the laterite. Boreholes through granite can only be successful if they strike a crack or fissure.

[28th March 1931]

Research work done by the Director of Industries.

* 766 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) what specific improvements the present Director of Industries has been instrumental in effecting during his period of office in

(i) Pumping and boring,

(ii) Engineering workshop,

(iii) Handloom weaving, and

(iv) Leather trade institute,

(b) how far these improvements have helped the people in raising their economic condition;

(c) what are the places in the districts visited by the Director of Industries since he took charge, the total cost of tours, and with what results; in how many cases the respective specialist officers accompanied the Director;

(d) how many staff meetings the present Director held since his taking charge; if no meetings were held, what arrangements he has made for discussing details regarding the efficient discharge of duties entrusted to the officers;

(e) why the audit report on the Industrial Engineering Workshop for the half-year ending September 1930 was not placed on the Editors' Table;

(f) whether the Government have taken any action on the above said audit report and, if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the report and the orders thereon on the Council table; and

(g) when the present Director of Industries retires from service; whether there is any proposal before the Government for giving him any extension?

A.—(a) A statement * giving the information required by the hon. Member is laid on the table—vide Annexure I.

(b) The effect of the improvements can be seen only in subsequent years.

(c) The Director has visited almost all the industrial centres in this Presidency. A list * of the places visited by him is appended—vide Annexure II. A statement * giving the information required on the other points by the hon. Member is laid on table—vide Annexure III.

(d) The Director has made frequent visits to the various offices and institutions. Details of administration are discussed during such visits and also when the officers meet the Director in his office.

(e) & (f) Half-yearly reports of commercial concerns are not now received by the Government.

(g) On 13th June 1931; there is no proposal before the Government.

[28th March 1931]

Public Health*Water-supply scheme in Tirukkalikkunram.*

* 767 Q.—MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Public Health Department in the year 1918, found on analysis that the water in 'Sangu Thirtham' in Tirukkalikkunram was unfit for drinking purposes;

(b) whether any preliminary investigation was ordered by the Government prior to the introduction of water-supply scheme in Tirukkalikkunram;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Union Board of Tirukkalikkunram was asked to pay Rs. 750 towards the expenses of the preliminary investigation;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Union authorities were not able to find out even that sum;

(e) whether it is a fact that the District Board of Chingleput passed a resolution levying a profession tax in the Panchayat area of Tirukkalikkunram once in 1929 and again in 1930 and earmarked that sum for the water-supply scheme;

(f) whether it is a fact that a Government order was issued by the Government ordering the Panchayat of Tirukkalikkunram to collect the arrears of 1929 and not to refund if any collections were made already;

(g) whether it is a fact that Government order was subsequently issued asking the President of the District Board to defer collecting the profession tax; if so for what reason;

(h) whether it is a fact that the President of the Taluk Board objected to the levy of the tax as an ex-officio member of the District Board; and

(i) whether the President of the Taluk Board made any representation to the Government regarding the levy of the said tax?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) & (d) The Union Board was not addressed direct by the Government in the matter. On a reference to the Chingleput District Board, the District Board agreed to meet the cost of the investigation.

(e) In its resolution No. 6, dated 24th November 1928, the District Board sanctioned the levy of profession tax from the 1st April 1929 but abolished it in its resolution No. 143, dated the 30th November 1929. The District Board was told that the abolition could be given effect to only from the 1st April 1930. It passed a resolution in August 1930 re-imposing the tax and earmarking it for the water-supply scheme but the Union Board did not agree to the proposal.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes. The District Board was told to reconsider the question of re-imposition of the levy of profession tax in consultation with the panchayat board.

(h) Yes.

(i) Yes.

[28th March 1931]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, in view of the fact that Thirukkalikkunram is a pilgrim centre, may I ask the hon. Minister whether the Government would consider the advisability of sanctioning a scheme of water-supply for the place?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"A scheme was prepared and the Union Board was asked to state whether they could find the necessary funds. They stated that they could not find funds. The Taluk Board and the District Board were also asked and they too gave the same reply and in consequence the scheme was dropped."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the fact that this is a very necessary scheme, will the Government consider the advisability of coming to some arrangement with the Union Board to get over the difficulty and push forward the scheme?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am afraid it is not possible to come to terms with the Union Board as it is at present constituted."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if the Government will tell the Union Board that if they do not carry out this scheme, the Government will be compelled to take measures against the Board?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Government are considering what steps should be taken against the Union Board."

Number, etc., of District Health Officers and District Board Engineers.

* 768 Q.—MR. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of District Health Officers in the Presidency;

(b) the number of District Board Engineers in the Presidency; and

(c) how many of these appointments are held by Malayalis, Andhras, Kanarese, Tamilians and Muhammadans?

A.—(a) Twenty-five.

(b) Twenty-five.

(c) A statement ^a is laid on the table of the House.

Prevention of typhoid epidemic in Mangalore.

* 769 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 typhoid is a constant epidemic in the town of Mangalore;

(b) what is the annual death-rate in the town of Mangalore owing to typhoid during the last ten years;

(c) whether it is a fact that there was a proposal to supply pure water through pipes to the town of Mangalore;

(d) if so, in what stage the proposal is and what the Government have done to facilitate the completion of the said proposal; and

(e) what action the Government have taken or propose to take to prevent the spread of typhoid fever?

[28th March 1931]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The subjoined statement shows the number of deaths and death-rate per mille during the decennium ending with 1930.

Year.					Number of deaths.	Death-rate per annum per mille.
1921	...	...	...	...	72	1.3
1922	...	...	...	...	41	.8
1923	...	...	...	...	93	1.7
1924	...	...	...	...	48	.9
1925	...	...	...	...	72	1.3
1926	...	...	...	...	85	1.6
1927	...	...	...	...	43	.8
1928	...	...	...	...	55	1.0
1929	...	...	...	...	46	.9
1930	...	...	...	...	47	.9
Average ...					60.2	1.1

(c) Yes.

(d) The receipt of a reply from the municipal council to a reference issued in June 1928 regarding the conditions set forth for financing the scheme is still awaited.

(e) Free inoculation of anti-typhoid vaccine is given to those who apply for it at municipal cost. The proposal to instal a water-supply scheme in the town will be considered as soon as the Council's reply in the matter is received, until which time Government can do nothing.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Election to the Trichinopoly Taluk Devasthanam Committee.

* 770 Q.—Mr. K. SINGAM AYYANGAR :—Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state why elections have not been ordered for the Trichinopoly Taluk Devasthanam seats, and on what grounds?

A.—Elections to the Trichinopoly Temple Committee whose term of office expired on the 25th March 1931 have been held over, pending a decision on the question of amalgamating the three Circle Committees of Trichinopoly, Turaiyur and Ariyalur in the district which is under consideration.

Provincial Finance

Expenditure on the Cauvery-Mettur Project.

* 771 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the amounts borrowed to finance the Cauvery-Mettur Project since its inception;

(b) whether all the amounts borrowed were spent in the respective years;

[28th March 1931]

(c) what is the amount of interest charged to the project and the amount of interest charged to the general revenues;

(d) whether the interest charged to general revenues is due to amounts borrowed in excess of requirements;

(e) what steps have been taken to prepare budget estimates for the project as accurately as possible;

(f) what was the amount of loan over-budgeted during 1929-30 and 1930-31 and the interest paid on that account from the general revenues; and

(g) whether there is any proposal to come to an understanding with the Government of India that interest would be paid on amounts actually drawn and not on the budgeted loan amounts?

A.—(a), (b) & (f) The following table shows the amounts borrowed to finance the Cauvery-Mettur Project since its inception, the amount spent in the respective years and the closing balance :—

Year.	Opening balance.	Amount borrowed.	Amount spent.	Closing balance.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
1925-26 (Accounts) ..	..	4.71	8.44	— 3.73
1926-27 (") ..	— 3.73	100.00	52.31	43.96
1927-28 (") ..	43.96	87.39	83.73	47.62
1928-29 (") ..	47.62	77.85	103.82	21.65
1929-30 (") ..	21.65	98.00	90.09	27.56
1930-31 (Revised Estimate).	27.56	100.00	89.74	37.82

(c) The following table gives the information required :—

Year.	Interest charged to General Revenues.	Interest charged to the project.	Net excess charged to General Revenues.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
1925-26 (Accounts) ...	0.02	0.22	— 0.20
1926-27 (") ...	2.22	1.91	0.31
1927-28 (") ...	6.85	5.68	1.17
1928-29 (") ...	11.51	10.58	0.93
1929-30 (") ...	17.03	15.98	1.05
1930-31 (Revised Estimate).	21.83	21.03	0.80

(d) The reference is apparently to net excess interest charged to general revenues [vide column 4 of the answer to clause (c)]. It is partly due to borrowings in excess of requirements and partly to the difference in the rates of interest charged to the project and the rates charged to general revenues, that is, by the Government of India on the amounts lent by them to the Local Government.

[28th March 1931]

- (e) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 675, Finance, dated 22nd October 1930, printed as Appendix E-4 on pages 79 to 80 of the Public Accounts Committee's report on the accounts for 1928-29 which was laid on the table of the House recently.
- (g) Under rule 8 of the rules governing advances from the Provincial Loans Fund, the amount of loan sanctioned by the Government of India in any year cannot be reduced without their specific sanction. The Provincial Loans Fund is financed by advances made to it by the Government of India; the total amounts of such advances are fixed on the basis of the Provincial Budget Estimates and the advances are actually made in accordance with a scheme of instalments settled by the Local Government prior to the commencement of the financial year. The Government of India will not allow these arrangements to be subsequently varied with reference to the actual requirements of the Local Government ascertained later in the year, as this would mean that the Provincial Loans Fund would have to bear the interest on the difference between the amount budgeted for and the actual amount subsequently advanced. The Local Government therefore is obliged to take the loans as budgeted and in accordance with the fixed instalments. There is no proposal to alter this arrangement, nor is it likely that any such proposal would be accepted by the Government of India.

Electricity

Electrical Inspector to Government.

* 772 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the post of Electrical Inspector to Government was created and how many persons have held this appointment since that date as permanent incumbents; and

(b) for how long the present Electrical Inspector to Government has been holding this appointment as a permanent incumbent?

A.—(a) In 1908.

Two.

(b) Since 1913.

Appointment of the Junior Electrical Inspector to Government.

* 773 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the date on which the services of the Junior Electrical Inspector to Government was lent over to the Hydro-Electric Department;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Electrical Inspector to Government attends to the work of the Junior Electrical Inspector also and if so, what is the additional remuneration paid to him;

(c) who is the selecting authority for the post of the Junior Electrical Inspector; and

(d) why the post of the Junior Electrical Inspector has not been filled up?

28th March 1931]

A.—(a) 21st July 1930.

(b) Yes. One-fifth of his substantive pay.

(c) The Government in consultation with the Madras Services Commission.

(d) When the post was advertised by the Commission no candidate possessing the qualifications prescribed in the Statutory Rules applied. The question is now under the consideration of Government.

Forests

Lease for felling and removal of timber from Ulandi forests, South Coimbatore division.

* 774 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a lease for felling and removing valuable timber like teak and rosewood from Ulandi forests, South Coimbatore division, V Circle, has been given to a private party, and if so;

(b) when was the lease granted;

(c) for what period the lease has been granted;

(d) what is the time-limit fixed for the lessee to commence operations;

(e) what is the royalty rate fixed for the various species of timber in the area;

(f) whether any tenders were called for from the public;

(g) whether the Government have taken any security deposit from the lessee for the due fulfilment of the terms of the contract and if so, how much; and

(h) what is the penalty imposed in the event of the lessee failing to carry out the contract as a whole or any portion of it?

A.—(a) to (h) No lease has yet been granted; but there is a proposal to that effect under consideration of the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR.—“May I ask the hon. the Law Member who this private party referred to in clause (a) of the question is?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“I believe it is one Mr. Kuruvilla.”

Sale of teakwood at Beypore.

* 775 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have sold about a lakh and a half cubic feet of teak at Beypore to a private party;

(b) if so, whether the sale is for cash or for credit;

(c) if for credit, what steps the Government have taken to prevent loss in the event of the contractor failing to purchase the whole quantity;

(d) what are the rates at which the timber has been sold to the contractor and what are the average rates obtained for teak of similar quality in past sales by auction;

[28th March 1931]

(e) what were the reasons that made the Government decide to effect sale of such a large quantity by private bargain ; and

(f) whether the Forest department tried the more efficient methods of open auction and tenders both open and sealed ; if not, why not ?

A.—(a) 108,000 c.ft. of teak from the Beypore depot has been sold in one lot to a private party.

(b) The sale is subject to payment in cash before delivery.

(c) Security has been deposited and the sale has been made in view of the accepted tender by the purchaser for the whole of the sawn equivalent to be supplied to a railway company.

(d) The rates are furnished below :—

	Rates agreed upon		Average rates realized in auctions during 1930-31.	
	For 1930-31 stock (83,000 c.ft.)	For 1931-32 stock (25,000 c.ft.)		
	PER C.F.T.	PER C.F.T.	PER C.F.T.	
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	
Short logs ...	1 4 0	Nil.	1 1 4	
Below 2 candies ...	1 8 0	Nil.	1 7 1	
Above 2 candies ...	2 0 0	2 2 0	1 12 10	
Above 4 candies ...	2 6 0	2 8 0	2 2 7	
Above 6 candies ...	2 12 0	2 14 0	No sale.	
Above 8 candies ...	3 0 0	Nil.	2 1 7	

Little was sold in auction, the early attempts in the sale season showing that the demand was poor and the rates offered below the average of the previous season. It was therefore necessary to seek some other means of disposal if the most was to be made of the market conditions.

(e) The sale was effected to get rid of the entire stocks at reasonable rates at a time of depression in the timber market and to avoid accumulation of stocks while ensuring that the timber sold passed into use and was not accumulated in other hands in the hope that the market would improve.

(f) Open auctions were tried as usual but proved less effective. Tenders were not called for as no good would have resulted from so doing. It was necessary, if possible, to sell in a quarter which could dispose of the stocks readily and at once, at settled prices.

Licences for hunting wild animals in South Kanara in 1929 and 1930.

* 776 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cattle killed by wild animals in the reserved forests in South Kanara in 1929 and 1930 ; and

(b) the number of persons who applied and were given permission to hunt in reserves in 1929 and 1930 ?

A.—(a) & (b) The information is not available, but has been called for.

28th March 1931]

Permits for grazing cattle in the reserves in South Kanara.

* 777 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of permits issued for grazing cattle in the reserves in South Kanara in each of the last three years ; and

(b) the grazing fees collected in each of the last three years ?

A.—(a) 1927-28 ...	...	...	...	...	43,384
1928-29 ...	...	...	...	...	47,600
1929-30 ...	...	...	...	...	45,910

	RS.	A.	P.
(b) 1927-28 ...	14,479	14	0
1928-29 ...	15,357	2	0
1929-30 ...	15,286	12	0

Disafforestation of forests in the vicinity of villages in South Kanara.

* 778 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what extent of reserved forests in the vicinity of inhabited villages or cultivated lands has been so far disafforested by Government ; and

(b) whether any such disafforestation has been done in South Kanara and if so, when and where ?

A.—(a) & (b) The information has been called for.

Motor Vehicles Act

Appointment of Inspector of Motor Vehicles, Nellore.

* 779 Q.—Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Magistrate of Nellore has recently filled up the appointment of Inspector of motor vehicles ;

(b) if so, whether the person appointed has had the training in the theory and practice of automobile engineering and possesses certificates from Government recognized motor training schools ;

(c) whether there were applications from persons trained in theory and practice of automobile engineering and possessing certificates from Government recognized motor training schools ;

(d) whether the Director of Industries was consulted in making the appointment ;

(e) what are the qualifications necessary for the appointment ; and

(f) what are the special reasons for the appointment and what Government proposes doing in the matter ?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

(e) No special qualifications have as yet been laid down. Men with a knowledge of motor engineering are appointed.

(f) The Government are awaiting a report from the District Magistrate, Nellore.

[28th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I ask whether the Government propose to specify the qualifications for this post ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The whole question is under the consideration of the Government of India in connexion with the standardization of Motor Vehicle Rules. When their decision is communicated to us, we will consider the question of qualifications."

Police

Alleged insult to Mr. P. Seethakantham by the police of Tiruvur.

* 780 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether P. Seethakantham, B.A., B.L., a vakil, was deprived of his wearing apparel which was of khaddar in a public street by a police officer of Tiruvur and whether on complaint the police officer was fined Rs. 20 or punished in any other way by the Joint Magistrate;

(b) whether the said officer was defended at public cost by the Circle Inspector of Nuzvid or any other person and if so, why, and the cost thereof to the Government; and

(c) whether the Government have taken any and if so, what action with regard to the conduct of the police officer at fault?

A.—(a) Muhammad Jaffar, a police constable of Tiruvur, was convicted by the Joint Magistrate, Bezwada, and fined Rs. 20 for assaulting Mr. P. Seethakantham by pulling at his dhoti. The Joint Magistrate found that the constable's action was not wanton but due to provocation which was not however in his opinion sufficient to justify the assault.

(b) The constable was defended by the Circle Inspector, Nuzvid, and the expenditure of Rs. 76-12-0 was incurred as travelling allowance for the Inspector's journeys to defend the constable. Sanction for this official defence was accorded by the District Superintendent of Police on the ground that the offence with which the constable was charged was committed in the constable's official capacity. This is a view with which the Government cannot agree and the Inspector-General of Police will be told so.

(c) The Government have read the judgment convicting the police constable and in view of the circumstances narrated therein consider that the constable has been adequately punished by the infliction of a fine of Rs. 20.

Paucity of Mappillas in the Malabar Special Police.

* 781 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: With reference to the answer to the supplementary question to question No. 453 (c) and (f), dated the 27th February 1931, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has drawn the attention of the Inspector-General of Police, to the small number of Mappillas in the Malabar Special Police; and

(b) if not, when he will do so?

[28th March 1931]

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Does not arise.

[For further list of Starred Questions—please see page 812 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Public Health

Supply of drinking water to Salem town from the Mettur dam.

782 Q.—Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPAH Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what steps are being taken to expedite the supply of drinking water to Salem town from the Mettur dam; and

(b) whether the Government have been advised by the Engineering Department that in case water is to be taken to Salem, pipes should be laid out before the bund is actually completed?

A.—(a) The scheme is under investigation by the Sanitary Engineer.

(b) No.

Free supply of T.A.B. vaccine to local bodies.

783 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether orders will be passed making the supply of T.A.B. vaccine to local bodies by the King Institute free of cost as in the case of anti-cholera vaccine as recommended in the Public Health Report for 1929?

A.—The question will be considered on receipt of detailed proposals from the Director of Public Health.

Measures to combat pulmonary tuberculosis.

784 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: With reference to paragraph 118 (3) of the Public Health Report, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government propose to take any action regarding the high incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis, the mortality from which is very high and grave, as mentioned in paragraph 118 of the Public Health Annual Report for 1929?

A.—No special action is contemplated at present.

Opening of Public Health Museums.

* 785 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how long it will take for the proposals regarding the opening of Public Health museums to materialize; and

(b) whether such museums will be opened in important rural centres also?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have at present no proposals under consideration to open Public Health museums throughout the Presidency.

[28th March 1931]

Irrigation

Extent of 'single crop' and 'double crop' lands under the Cumbum tank in Kurnool district.

786 Q.—S M. K. BAYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of acres of land under the Cumbum tank (Kurnool district) under these two headings: one fasli and double fasli, i.e., yielding or fit for one crop and two crops respectively; and

(b) the number of karnams employed for the above land?

A.—(a) The area irrigated for first crop in 1928-29 was 5,632 acres and for second crop was 207 acres.

(b) The Government have no information.

[For further list of Unstarred Questions—please see page 822 infra.]

STARRED QUESTIONS**Education**

Decision regarding the Salem College site.

* 787 Q.—MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether orders have been issued with regard to the question of the Salem College site; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the Council Table?

A.—A copy of a G.O. No. 460, Education, dated 24th March 1931, is placed on the table.

Agriculture

Sugarcane cultivation.

* 788 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answers to question No. 1580 answered on the 18th March 1930—

(a) the methods of improvement tried or being tried in the cultivation of sugarcane in the several research stations in the Presidency; and

(b) the results that are considered conclusive enough to do propaganda work in such methods?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have called for a report.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether information regarding research work done in the various stations is not received by the Government from time to time?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I want notice, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask if the Government have come to any conclusion regarding the results of the research work done at the Anakapalle Experimental Station?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

* Printed as Appendix V on page 907 infra.

[28th March 1931]

Prevention of coconut pest in South Kanara.

* 789 Q.—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the places in South Kanara where coconut pest is now prevailing; and

(b) the results of the measures taken so far in South Kanara for controlling this pest?

A.—(a) The pest is found from Cheruvathur to Gangoli in various degrees of infestation. In many places only remains of old infestations are found, and the pest may be said to be under control to a great extent in many places. The pest may be said to be bad at present in Kalyanpur in Udupi taluk, Kunjathoor, Kottakad and Ullal in Mangalore taluk and Schamnad in Kasaragod taluk only.

(b) Control measures adopted are of the following two kinds: (1) In badly infested cases the mechanical method of cutting and burning the attacked fronds by the Special Pest Act staff in consultation with the Entomological staff, and (2) the rearing and liberation of parasites of the pest by the Entomological staff. Cases of reinfestation are generally attended to by the liberation of parasites. The results of the control measures have been to a certain extent satisfactory.

Local Boards

Bifurcation of the Chicacole Taluk Board.

* 790 Q.—THE RAJA OF PARLAKIMEDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the strong volume of opinion to bifurcate the Chicacole Taluk Board in Ganjam district; and

(b) whether the Government propose to institute at an early date an independent inquiry to gather the necessary statistics and to report on the question of the said bifurcation?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question will be considered in connexion with the giving of effect to the intention of section 4 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920. The Chicacole Taluk Board is one of the taluk boards who were asked in a G.O. No. 765, L. & M., dated the 10th March 1931—copy placed on the table—to show cause why they should not be split up into single-revenue-taluk boards.

Reservation of seats for Muslims in local boards and municipalities.

* 791 Q.—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of local boards and municipalities in the Presidency;

* Printed as Appendix VI on pages 907-908 infra.

[28th March 1931

(b) the proportion of Muhammadans to the total population in the several municipalities and local boards; and

(c) the number of seats reserved for Muhammadans in each of them?

A.—(a) 81 municipalities, 25 district boards, 130 taluk boards and 4,216 panchayats.

(b) Government have no information in the matter.

(c) If the reference is to the reservation of seats in connexion with the ensuing elections, no orders have yet been passed finally in any case.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know from the hon. the Chief Minister whether he will kindly look into the representations that he might receive in regard to this matter and nominate some Muslims? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ Yes, Sir; when representations are received the matter will be considered and as far as possible justice will be done.”

Action taken on the resolution of the Chamber of Local Boards regarding the cancellation of certain Government Orders.

* 792 Q.—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a unanimous resolution of the Chamber of Local Boards, Madras, requesting that the following G.Os. may be rescinded—

(i) G.Os. Nos. 4780, L. & M., dated 10th November 1926, and 1491, dated 26th July 1929;

(ii) G.O. Ms. No. 675, dated 21st January 1927;

(iii) G.O. No. 132, dated 26th January 1927; and

(b) what action he has taken on the resolution?

A.—A resolution of the Madras Chamber of Local Boards was received requesting the cancellation of G.Os. Nos. 4780, L. & M., dated the 10th November 1926 and 1491, Revenue, dated the 26th July 1929.

The question is under consideration.

No resolution has been received recommending the cancellation of G.O. No. 132, Revenue, dated the 26th January 1927.

The number and date of G.O. No. 675, dated the 21st January 1927, do not tally.

Medical

Term of office of Sub-Assistant Surgeons posted to Thekkady, Agency Tracts.

* 793 Q.—Mr. W. P. A. SOUNDARA PANDIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Thekkady is treated as an unhealthy place for purposes of Agency service of Sub-Assistant Surgeons;

28th March 1931]

(b) whether it is a fact that the term of full Agency service put in by sub-assistant surgeons in Thekkady has been overlooked in some cases and a further Agency service demanded of such officers; and

(c) if so, why?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

Number of Andhra medical men sent on study leave.

* 794 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: With reference to the answer to question No. 141, dated 28th January 1931, relating to the number of medical men sent on study leave, will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many of these officers belong to the Andhra districts; and

(b) what steps the Government have taken to give them a fair share of this privilege?

A.—(a) & (b) The information has been called for.

Central Record Office

Appointment of assistant in the Madras Record office.

* 795 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the result of the steps, if any, that were taken in pursuance of the answer to clause (c) of question No. 478 answered on 28th February 1931?

A.—The Curator will consider the claims of non-Brahman clerks in the Madras Record office in filling up the vacancy of assistant in that office. The vacancy has not yet been filled up.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask the hon. the Finance Member whether the Government have issued any instructions in the matter? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ Yes, Sir.”

Public Services

Exemption of acting clerks from the examination held by the Services Commission.

* 796 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 acting clerks (now in Government service) who have put in a service of less than one year are asked to sit for the examination held by the Madras Services Commission;

(b) whether it is a fact that many among such clerks have already been granted exemption from the age bar by the departmental heads concerned;

(c) whether such exemptions were held not valid by the Services Commission when those clerks applied for the examination held by the Commission, and consequently their applications were rejected;

(d) why the age exemptions granted by the departmental heads should not be treated as exemption granted by the Government; and

(e) why the clerks so exempted should not be exempted from further sitting for the examination of the Madras Services Commission?

[28th March 1931]

A.—(a) Yes; unless they had been approved by the Staff Selection Board.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information.

(d) & (e) Heads of departments are not competent to grant exemptions to candidates to enable them to appear for the examinations held by the Madras Services Commission.

Secretariat

Linguistic representation in the Secretariat staff.

* 797 Q.—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many permanent vacancies of Assistant Secretaries, Superintendents and clerks (upper division as well as lower division) have occurred in each department of the Secretariat during the three calendar years 1928, 1929 and 1930; and

(b) how many of the vacancies are filled by the appointment of Andhras, Oriyas, Kanarese, Tamilians and Malayalis?

A.—(a) & (b) Two statements ^a are placed on the table.

Electricity

Qualifications of the subordinate staff of the Electrical department, Public Works Department.

* 798 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Electrical Engineers in charge of municipal electric schemes are required by the Government rules to, and do, possess minimum academical qualifications in electrical engineering; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the subordinate staff of the Electrical Inspector to Government who are not academically qualified are sent out to inspect the work of these qualified Municipal Electrical Engineers, that their inspection reports are signed by the Electrical Inspector to Government and that they are forwarded under his name?

A.—(a) The Government propose to lay down certain qualifications for Electrical Engineers employed by municipal councils, but final orders have not issued yet.

(b) The subordinate staff of the Electrical Inspector to Government make inspections and tests in cases of minor importance. The inspection reports are signed by the Electrical Inspector and he takes full responsibility for them.

Alleged defects in the electrification schemes framed by the Electrical Inspector to Government.

* 799 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Electrical Inspector to Government drew the electrical town schemes for the municipalities of (1) Bezwada, (2) Kurnool, (3) Tanjore and (4) Hindupur;

28th March 1931.]

(b) if so (i) whether these municipalities had to pay for such services and (ii) how much;

(c) whether it is a fact that in the electrification of these municipalities the constructive engineer had to effect various heavy deviations and alterations in the course of construction, and if so, what they are;

(d) what extra amount had to be sanctioned by the Government for these deviations in each of these municipalities;

(e) whether any of these municipalities find it difficult to run the scheme and if so whether the business aspects of the schemes were considered before they were recommended by the Electrical Inspector;

(f) whether at any time any municipalities that had approached the Electrical Inspector to Government for expert advice on a town electrification, has been told that an electrification scheme for their towns would not prove a successful business proposition; if so, what they are; and

(g) whether any schemes drawn by the Electrical Inspector to Government have under working conditions been found free from defects and sound paying propositions?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) (i) Yes.

(ii) The Government are not aware of the amount paid but fees were payable to Government under the rules.

(c), (d) & (f) The Government have no information.

(e) & (g) The Government have received no such complaint from the municipal councils. As a rule the business aspects of a scheme are considered by the Electrical Inspector before he recommends it to the Council.

Jails

Advisory Board for the release of prisoners.

* 800 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any Advisory Board is associated with any Central Jail or jails in the Presidency to advise on release of prisoners before the expiry of their full term of sentence;

(b) if so, the constitution of the Board, their power and function and the class of cases on which their advice is sought;

(c) whether any independent enquiry, other than through the police, is held to judge the desirability or otherwise of the release of prisoners before their terms; and

(d) whether release is invariably refused if the police report is unfavourable?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the notification published on page 265 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 6th March 1923, containing the orders relating to the constitution and function of Standing Advisory Boards for the revision of sentences of prisoners.

[28th March 1931]

- (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 5 of the notification referred to above.
- (d) No. Each case is decided on its merits.

Release of Messrs. Somayajulu and Pakala Subba Rao.

* 801 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) why they have not yet released Mr. Somayajulu of Madura who is now at Vellore Central Jail, and Pakala Subba Rao, who is now at the Reformatory School at Chingleput;

(b) how many boys convicted in connexion with the civil disobedience movement are still at the Reformatory school; and

(c) whether the Government have cancelled the bonds of those who gave bonds as sureties for political prisoners who were released after apology or after giving bonds for good behaviour?

A.—(a) Somayajulu and Pakala Subba Rao have been ordered to be released.

(b) None.

(c) The Government are aware of only one such instance—in which the prisoner himself offered security—and they have ordered this bond to be cancelled.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Is the hon. the Law Member sure, Sir, that, under clause (b) of this question, some of these young boys are not still there?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“Quite sure. I looked into it particularly, seeing that they were young boys.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I know when the last person was released?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“I am sorry I cannot say when. It must have been during the last one week.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know how many prisoners connected with the civil disobedience movement have still to be released and when they will be released?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“I believe release has been refused in the case of about 80 persons or so, because they were found guilty of violence. About a dozen cases remain and these cases are under examination. More than 1,500 have been released.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I know from the hon. the Law Member what the difficulty in the release of these dozen persons is?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“The difficulty lies in finding out whether they are actually guilty of violence. Their judgments will be available in the course of a day or two and then they will be examined.”

[28th March 1931]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“The hon. Member stated that in the case of 80 persons, it has been found that they are guilty of violence. May I know whether they have been guilty of actual violence or whether they have been found guilty under sections which involve violence?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“No. They have been found guilty of either actual violence or actual incitement to violence. Those that have been only guilty of technical violence have been released.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I know whether the Government will consider the release of persons who have been merely charged with incitement to violence, but who have not defended themselves or taken part in the trial?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“All those aspects have been and will be taken into consideration.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“May I know from the hon. Member the real nature of the case against these 80 persons and the sections of the penal law under which these 80 persons are convicted?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“It is obviously impossible for me to say that without notice regarding each.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“Does not the hon. the Law Member consider that it is reasonable and fair to release those prisoners who are merely guilty of incitement to violence?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“If they are guilty of incitement to violence, they will not be released. In other cases, release may be possible.”

Labour

Lock-out in the Madura Mills.

* 802 Q.—Mr. T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the recent lock-out in the Madura Mills;

(b) whether it is a fact that the union of workers of the Madura Mills is registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926; and

(c) what steps the Government propose to take to bring about an immediate settlement?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have called for a report from the Commissioner of Labour. On receipt of it the Government will consider what action, if any, they can take in the matter.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether the union of workers of the Madura Mills is registered under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“I do not know. I have called for a full report.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether the Government propose, in view of the strong opinion expressed in this House, to enforce the provisions of the Trades Dispute Act?”

[28th March 1931]

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The question will be considered when the report called for has been received."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—"May I know whether the Trade Disputes Act is in force in this presidency?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Yes."

Lock-out in the Madura Harvey Mills.

* 803 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of a lock-out in the Madura Harvey Mills;

(b) what is the number of workers affected by the lock-out;

(c) if so, what action the Government are taking to bring the lock-out to an end; and

(d) whether the Government will consider the appointment either of a Court of Enquiry or a Board of Conciliation according to the provisions of the Trade Disputes Act, 1929?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) The Government have called for a report from the Commissioner of Labour. On receipt of it the Government will consider what action, if any, they can take in the matter.

Police

Dispersal of a meeting of students at Peddapuram.

* 804 Q.—Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the circumstances under which a meeting of students and others held in a high school at Peddapuram was dispersed by force;

(b) how many persons were injured by the lathi charge; and

(c) whether he will be pleased to call for a report, if he has no information already?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the statement* made by the hon. the Home Member in the Council on 19th March 1931, copy of which is appended. The District Magistrate's report since received confirms in all material particulars that of the District Superintendent of Police.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"In answer to a question on this subject sometime back, the hon. Member stated that the sub-inspector concerned was put under suspension. May I know from him what action the Government have since taken?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—

"The reason why Government did not take action is that the question is *sub-judice*. He is being prosecuted by some people. We are awaiting the result of the trial."

* Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 911-912 infra.

[28th March 1931]

Alleged caning of certain constables in private dress in Rattan Bazaar road.

* 805 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Rattan Bazaar road three constables in private dress who were among the crowd on 20th February 1931, were caned by the Malabar Special Police in spite of their giving out their identity;

(b) whether it is a fact that the constables in private dress were specially deputed to mix among the crowd and if so, for what purpose;

(c) if the answer to first part of clause (b) is in the negative, what action has been taken by the Government in respect of those constables;

(d) whether the crowd in which the said constables were mixed up was an unlawful assembly, and if so, why they joined such an assembly; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the said constables who are alleged to have been beaten complained to the authorities in the Flower Bazaar Police Station; and if so, what action has been taken in the matter by the police authorities and with what result?

A.—(a), (b), (d) & (e) The Government have no information, but have called for a report.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—"May I know why Government take such a long time to get the information? The question was sent to them as early as 24th February 1931."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—

"I have called for a report. It has not yet been received. I shall make an enquiry."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—"May I know when the report was called for?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—

"The moment I got notice of this question I called for a report."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—"May I know how long it takes for a communication to reach the lower authorities in Madras and to get information from them?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— 11-15

"I do not know why the report has not yet been received; I shall make enquiries." a.m.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—"May I ask whether reports are not received by the Government from day to day with regard to these occurrences during the Civil Disobedience Movement in the City of Madras?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—

"Not with regard to details."

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON :—"Will the hon. Member be pleased to place the information on the table of the House as soon as it is received?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"The suggestion will be considered."

[28th March 1931]

Mr. M. A. MANIKRAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I enquire the number of occasions on which the hon. Member said that the Government had no information, during this session?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I don't propose to answer it."

[For further list of Starred Questions please see page 823 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Number of girl students in the Arts Colleges in Madras and Andhra Universities.

806 Q.—Mr. P. C. MOSES: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) how many girls are now studying in the Arts Colleges situated in the Andhra area and the number in each class of the College course;

(b) how many girls from Andhra area are now studying in the Madras Arts Colleges and the number in each class of the College course; and

(c) what percentage of the girls who are declared eligible for admission to University courses by the Andhra University have sought and been admitted in the Arts Colleges of the Andhra and Madras Universities respectively this year?

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

Jails

Alleged ill-health of Messrs. Balaram Raju and J. Narayanaswami in Rajahmundry Jail.

807 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHAUDARI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Valluri Balaram Raju and Janaswami Narayanaswami now at Rajahmundry Central Jail are on hunger strike;

(b) whether it is a fact that both these persons are seriously unwell in their health, and have considerably lost in weight; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of the Jail is not paying any heed to these cases in spite of his attention having been drawn to the matter by the relations of the prisoners in question?

A.—(a) They were reported to be on hunger strike for a few days in February last.

(b) & (c) The Inspector-General of Prisons reports that the convicts were enjoying good health while in jail and that they resorted to hunger strike with a view to reducing their weight and thereby obtaining release on medical grounds. They have since been released.

[28th March 1931]

Police

Arrest of Mr. Ramadas at Bezwada.

808 Q.—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is true that on the 13th of March 1931, one Ramadas was arrested for hoisting a national flag in the Gandhi Chowk, during a "truce" meeting at Bezwada;

(b) whether in another meeting a national flag was removed by the police on the same day;

(c) whether the said meeting was declared unlawful by the Magistrate; and

(d) whether the local authorities have not been informed that such acts on the part of the police are rendered unnecessary after the Gandhi-Irwin agreement?

A.—(a) to (c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

[For further list of Unstarred Questions please see page 837 infra.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Admission of depressed classes in local board schools.

* 809 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether at any time disciplinary action has been taken against teacher-managers or local bodies that have either located schools in places not accessible to all communities or refused admission to so-called depressed classes;

(b) what the nature of such action is;

(c) what steps have been taken to enforce the orders of Government in regard to admission of the pupils belonging to the depressed classes; and

(d) whether he will be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the instructions issued for enforcing the orders of the Government?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer to clause (a) of Question No. 670 answered on the 19th March 1931. No other case requiring disciplinary action has come to the notice of the Government.

(c) In regard to schools under local bodies, these bodies have been warned that subsidies now paid on behalf of schools situated in places inaccessible to the depressed classes will be withdrawn, if on investigation it is found that such schools can be removed to accessible localities and that the local bodies deliberately omit to take action in that direction. As regards schools under private management a provision has been made in the Grant-in-Aid Code and the rules framed under the Elementary Education Act, 1920, that grants shall be withheld from institutions which refuse admission to any pupil merely on the ground of the caste or community to which he belongs.

[28th March 1931]

(d) The hon. Member is referred to—

- (i) paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 2652-A—Education, dated the 20th December 1929, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press and in the Legislative Council Library; and
- (ii) Article 1 of the Grant-in-Aid Code and Rule 9 of Chapter 1 of the Rules framed under section 42 (2) of the Elementary Education Act 1920. A copy of the circular^a issued by the Director of Public Instruction to inspecting officers is placed on the table.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask whether the Government have called for this information from the District Educational Officers, viz., whether the depressed classes pupils are admitted in these schools ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ Yes, Sir; reports are received.”

Mr. N. SIVA RAJ :—“ May I know whether there has been any necessity for the application of this rule ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ No, Sir, except in one case which arose some time back.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask whether the Government have asked the District Educational Officers to report on this point specifically ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ The Government take action in pursuance of the general policy laid down, that depressed class pupils should be admitted in schools.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ Will the hon. Member be pleased to call for specific information on this point ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ If the reports that are sent are not adequate, I should certainly consider the question of calling for further reports.”

Expenditure on Mappilla education.

* 810 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state the expenditure incurred by the Government on the education of the Mappillas since the last rebellion ?

A.—The Government have no information. They have called for it.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—“ May I ask whether the Committee which the hon. Minister has promised to appoint, will be asked to report on the question of Mappilla education also ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ The Mappillas are a portion of the Mussalmans.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—“ May I enquire whether the Government realizes that Mappillas are Muhammadans though just like other Muhammadans the Mappilla problem is a peculiar one requiring special attention of the Government ? Is the hon. Minister aware that the question of

[28th March 1931]

Mappilla education is a very peculiar one and that, for want of proper attention on the part of the Government to the Mappilla education for over a century, it has cost millions to the Government to quell the Malabar Rebellion and to maintain Mappilla prisoners and that thousands of precious lives have been lost to the country ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ I cannot speak for what has been happening for over a century ; but I may say that, during recent years, a great deal has been done to impart education to Mappillas.”

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—“ May I ask whether there is any separate establishment of officers to look after Mappilla education ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ I believe there are special officers with regard to Mappilla education.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to make special enquiries with regard to Mappilla education ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ That will probably be one of the matters on which the Committee that is proposed to be appointed will report.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—“ When does the hon. Minister propose to appoint the proposed Committee ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ I cannot say any definite date.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Will it take a year or two ? ”

Medical

Action taken on Dr. Happer's scheme for combating venereal diseases.

* 811 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what proposals have been made by Dr. Happer the Venereal specialist for combating venereal diseases ; and

(b) what measures have been taken by the Government to give effect to the scheme drawn by Dr. Happer ?

A.—(a) The Surgeon-General passed on a scheme submitted by Dr. Happer in regard to the following matters :—

- (1) Training of Medical Officers in Venereal diseases under Dr. Happer ;
- (2) Printing and distribution to District Health staff posters and charts in venereal diseases in connexion with their propaganda work ;
- (3) Purchase of drugs and equipment for diagnosis and treatment ; and
- (4) Instruction in sexual hygiene in educational institution.

(b) Government have not been able to carry many of these into effect on account of financial stringency.

[28th March 1931]

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether the Government are going to train Medical Officers for this purpose ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I enquire whether the Government do not consider it desirable to train Medical Officers for this purpose ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether the Government contemplate giving instruction in educational institutions ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I cannot answer that question now."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether the Government made any provision in the previous year and, if so, what progress has been made ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I enquire whether giving instruction in educational institutions will involve any financial commitments ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Somebody has to be deputed to do this work."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the report does suggest any prophylactic treatment for the prevention of this disease ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I cannot answer that question."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I cannot understand the Government not providing funds for this purpose. The Government say they have not been able to give effect to these suggestions."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I think the question is whether additional equipment is necessary."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the fact that the recommendations in the report do not contain any suggestion for prophylactic treatment as a preventive measure, may I ask the hon. Minister whether a report will be called for on the point ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I shall consider the suggestion."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The Government say they have not been able to carry many of these into effect on account of financial stringency. May I ask whether any general instructions have been issued ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Certain specific recommendations have been made by the Special Officer ; there is no reference to any general treatment."

28th March 1931]

Public Services

Communal representation in the Secretariat Staff.

* 812 Q.—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI : " Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of posts (permanent as well as temporary) of Assistant Secretaries, Superintendents, Upper division clerks and Lower division clerks on the 1st March 1931 in each department of the Secretariat ; and

(b) how many of the posts are held by Oriyas, Andhras, Kanarese, Tamilians and Malayalees ?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the appended statement^a.

Representation of Oriyas in the Police and Judicial departments.

* 813 Q.—The RAJA OF PARLAKIMEDI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is not a single Oriya Deputy Superintendent of Police or Subordinate Judge appointed up till now in this Presidency ; and,

(b) if so, what steps do the Government propose to take to redress the grievance ?

A.—(a) There is at present no Oriya Deputy Superintendent of Police or Subordinate Judge. The notice given is too short to enable Government to say whether there ever has been.

(b) *Deputy Superintendents of Police.*—Deputy Superintendents of Police are recruited either directly or by promotion from the rank of Inspector of Police or by transfer of members of any other Madras Provincial Service. Two out of every three vacancies are filled by promotion from the rank of Inspector of Police. Candidates in both categories are appointed after consulting the Madras Services Commission.

No appointments are made on a linguistic basis but the communal rule applies. No special arrangements are contemplated for the recruitment of Oriyas.

Subordinate Judges.—Subordinate Judges are appointed by selection from District Munsifs. There are at present two Oriya District Munsifs whose claims to promotion as Subordinate Judges will be considered in due course.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I ask whether this Government have been further consulted by the Home Government in the matter of separation of province into Oriya and Andhra provinces ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I am not able to see how this supplementary question arises out of the main question."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I enquire whether the question of the separation of the province was also considered by the Government and whether, on the recommendation made by this Government, they were further consulted ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question does not arise."

[28th March 1931]

State Prisoners*Refusal of permission to Kunhali Haji to visit his native place.*

* 814 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received an application from Mr. N. T. Kunhali Haji of Vengara amsam, Ernad taluk, now a State prisoner interned at Negapatam, for permission to go to his native village to see his old mother who is ill and to settle domestic matters and matters connected with his property;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the Government have refused to grant him the permission prayed for; and

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, what are the grounds on which the Government have refused the permission sought for?

A.—(a) Illikal Kunhalli Haji is apparently meant. His request for permission to visit Malabar was sent to Government by the District Magistrate of Tanjore.

(b) Yes.

(c) Permission was refused in view of the prisoner's antecedents and of the fact that he has close relatives in his native place to look after his affairs.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether the hon. the Law Member thinks that, because this Illikal Kunhali Haji has close relatives in Malabar, he could see his mother through the eyes of these close relatives?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The hon. Member can give an answer to that question himself."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"I ask, Sir, whether the existence of Haji's close relations in Malabar is a consolation for him in the matter of his anxiety to see his aged mother?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That is a question to which the answer can be supplied by my hon. Friend himself."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I would like to know what the antecedents of Haji are and how the existence of close relatives at a place would facilitate sons seeing their mothers. Is it telepathy or what pathy is it?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"With reference to the second part of the question, my answer is the same as that which I gave to Mr. Pocker Sahib. With reference to the first part of the question, the answer is that Haji took a very prominent part in the forcible conversion of Hindus into Muhammadanism at the time of the Malabar Rebellion and many of these who were forcibly converted and who subsequently joined Hinduism are still alive in that particular place."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether that is a reason to prevent a son seeing his old mother?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I have nothing to add to what I have already said."

[28th March 1931]

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"If Haji goes back, do the Government think that those people will again be forcibly converted?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It will lead to much trouble and commotion."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether the Government will re-consider the matter and allow this gentleman to see his mother provided he gives ample security not to disturb the peace?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government have considered the question; they came to this conclusion only recently."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether he will be allowed to go to some other place?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It will depend upon the circumstance of each village and the particular individual concerned."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether the Government are so impotent as not to be able to protect the people in Malabar from the dangers that will arise out of this single gentleman being allowed to go and see his mother?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government are very potent; that is why they refused to allow this man to go back to his village."

Remission of sentences in Mappillas.

* 815 Q.—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many Mappillas convicted of offences in connection with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921 are

(i) in Andamans

(a) with family, and

(b) without family

(ii) in the Alipuram or Bellary Jail; and

(iii) in other Jails, giving the respective numbers in each Jail;

(b) whether the Government have recently considered the advisability of remitting the sentences of the Mappillas convicted in connection with the Malabar Rebellion;

(c) how many Mappillas who have been convicted of offences connected with the Malabar Rebellion have been released so far either on the expiry of the term of imprisonment or otherwise; and

(d) whether the Government had reason to think that the return to Malabar of the persons so released has caused any disturbance of public tranquility in Malabar?

A.—(a) (i) Seven hundred and seventeen. There is no information regarding the number of prisoners living with family and the number without family;

(ii) One thousand three hundred and ninety-four in the Alipuram Jail and one in the Central Jail, Bellary.

[28th March 1931]

(iii) in other Jails 131—A statement^a showing the number in each Jail is attached.

- (b) Yes.
 (c) Eight thousand seven hundred and eighty-six.
 (d) No. Releases have been made only at intervals and with discrimination in order to obviate any such risk.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Government would certainly remember what propaganda they have been doing in Malabar through the Police and through the prisoners in Malabar to induce these prisoners to take their families to Andamans. Having done so, is it right on the part of the Government to say that they do not know how many prisoners are in Andamans with families and how many are there without families? Is it not the duty of the Government to give to the House this information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The answer is that Government are not in possession of that information."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Will the hon. Law Member call for the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I shall consider the suggestion."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know how many prisoners were released before the expiry of their terms of imprisonment?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As my hon. Friend will see from the answer, 8,786 prisoners were released and most of them prematurely."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask when the remaining prisoners will be released?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That is under the consideration of the Government."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I enquire whether any of these families in the Andamans are dead or alive?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"If my hon. Friend gives me the name of any particular individual, I shall make enquiries and furnish the information to him."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is it possible for me or any other person in this part of the country to know what is happening in that far off land—the Andamans?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is not possible for the Government to ascertain whether a particular individual is dead or alive, unless the Government know who that particular individual is."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I ask if the Government are not responsible for the lives of these prisoners when they have taken them away to the Andamans most unlawfully and by a most pernicious propaganda?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not admit the correctness of the premises of my hon. Friend."

28th March 1931]

Depressed Classes

Concessions to Agnikula Kshatriyas.

* 816 Q.—Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPAH Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Labour Department were treating the community of Agnikula Kshatriyas working as fishermen in East Godavari district as a labour class and helping them to come on a level with the other communities for the last ten years;

(b) whether the concession extended to them has been stopped a few months ago;

(c) whether the sangam have addressed the Government to reconsider their case and to extend the same concession through the Labour Department for some more years till they improve themselves;

(d) whether he has asked the advice of the Collector of the district before the help was stopped; and

(e) whether he will consider the matter favourably and order the continuance of the Labour Department's help to this class of people for some time more?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) It was ordered that the Labour Department should no longer undertake socio-economic work for them.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

(e) The question is under consideration.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I know the reasons why the Government ordered that the Labour Department should no longer undertake socio-economic work?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Because, they do not belong to the depressed classes."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I request the hon. Member to see that that work is still done, as the condition of the community has not materially improved?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I will consider the suggestion."

Police

Ill-treatment of picketers in Madras.

* 817 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether any orders have been issued by the Commissioner of Police that canes instead of lathis should be used;

(b) if so, the reasons for the change;

(c) whether it is not a fact that by the use of canes bleeding injuries which are more painful have been produced on the volunteers;

[28th March 1931]

(d) why the picketers are beaten instead of being arrested and prosecuted under the law for any offences on their part; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the picketers are dragged on the road, and taken to a distant place and there kicked and caned?

A.—(a) Yes. Not in supersession but as an alternative.

(b) Canes were found equally effective and practically eliminated any risk of serious injury.

(c) The Government consider it unlikely.

(d) Dispersal by force and arrest are alternative methods of dealing under law with picketers and prior to the 5th March were applied by the Police according to circumstances.

(e) Picketers who lay on the ground and refused to move were sometimes caned but never kicked and in the last resort carried and not dragged away.

11-30
a.m.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether the Commissioner of Police, before he gave an order to use canes instead of lathis, consulted the Government, and issued the order only with the permission of the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No permission of the Government is necessary."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the Government are aware that caning is resorted to as a punishment, and that therefore this order of the Commissioner of Police is illegal—that canes should be resorted to instead of lathis?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is not illegal because under the law, the Commissioner of Police can use force."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c) that 'the Government consider it unlikely', may I know if it is the opinion of the hon. the Home Member or of the Surgeon-General or any other doctor who was consulted on the point?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is the opinion of the Government, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that in a number of cases caning brought about profuse bleeding and caused serious injuries?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Government are not aware of it."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, in answer to clause (e) it is said that the picketers were not kicked but were caned, and that they were not even dragged. Has not the hon. the Home Member seen photos of how volunteers were dragged by their legs?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"As I have said, in order to preserve law and order, we had to disperse the volunteers."

[28th March 1931]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"In answer to clause (d), it is said that 'dispersal by force and arrest are alternative methods of dealing under law with picketers and prior to the 5th March were applied by the Police according to circumstances'. May I know what the methods in force are subsequent to that date?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I suppose everybody knows that, after the Settlement, there was no necessity to adopt any method."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Is the hon. the Home Member aware that the cane gives more pain than the lathi and therefore in spite of the principle that the least minimum force should be applied, may I know why caning was preferred to the lathi?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Because the Government were assured that the canes would be lightly used in order to clear the crowd."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the Commissioner of Police wanted the canes to be used for dispersing the crowd or for beating the crowd?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Dispersing the crowd, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In answer to my question, the hon. the Home Member has said that they were dragged. I believe they were dragged by the leg?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have answered that in the reply given."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I draw the attention of the Home Member to the printed answer where this is denied; but now the hon. the Home Member admits that they were dragged. May I know, Sir, which answer is correct?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have stated clearly that the picketers who lay on the ground and refused to move were sometimes caned but never kicked and in the last resort carried, and not dragged away."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"But just now the hon. Member said that they were dragged."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I never said so; I said they had to be carried away."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"The hon. Member said that he was sure that canes would cause less injuries than lathis. May I know who assured him to that effect, and when he was so assured?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Police."

[28th March 1931]

Alleged Police charge on shop-keepers in Gudivada.

* 818 Q.—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state:—

(a) whether at Gudivada on 15th February 1931 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. when the town was observing hartal, the local police Sub-Inspector with a posse of constables, entered shops, dragged out shop-keepers, beat and kicked them and compelled them to open their shops;

(b) whether the shop-keepers, unable to bear the torture, opened the shops;

(c) whether some shop-keepers were taken to the police station and handled in the above manner; and

(d) what steps have been taken to punish them for such unlawful activities and to prevent the recurrence of the same?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The allegations are false. The facts are as follows. On 15th February 1931 some of the shops in Gudivada closed and other shop-keepers who were not inclined to observe the hartal were intimidated by a party of seven and forced to close their shops. Some of these merchants made a complaint to the police station on which five of the intimidators were arrested and charged. No complaint was made by any merchant that he was beaten by the police. The hon. Member is referred to a petition^a received from some of the citizens of Gudivada on the subject.

(d) Does not arise.

Alleged lathi charge on a public meeting in Guntur.

* 819 Q.—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Home member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was indiscriminate lathi charge at Guntur on a meeting of citizens held to celebrate the happy news of Irwin-Gandhi Settlement;

(b) whether several persons consisting of Messrs Neti Chelapathi Rao, Ananta Chari, Annapragada Kameswara Rao, K. Sampathkumar, Vanguri Ganesa Rao, Anji Rao and others were severely beaten; and

(c) whether a lady too, by name Mrs. Kameswara Rao, received many lathi blows;

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member apparently refers to the dispersal of a mob which gathered to protest against the arrest of Mr. Konda Venkatappayya. For further details he is referred to the answer to clauses (a) to (c) of question No. 965 answered on the 16th March 1931.

(c) The allegation is untrue.

^a Printed as Appendix XII on page 916 infra.

[28th March 1931]

Alleged proceedings under section 17 (i), Criminal Law Amendment Act, against Mr. Sivaramakrishnayya.

* 820 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a case was instituted under section 17 (i), Criminal Law Amendment Act, against Mr. Mallela Sivaramakrishnayya, a vakil who ceased his connexion with the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee as soon as it was declared unlawful and, if so, when and why;

(b) whether the proceedings against the vakil were subsequently dropped and if so, when and why; and

(c) whether the Masulipatam bar had adopted resolutions welcoming Gandhiji's movement for freedom and asking for an enquiry into the police excesses at Angalur and whether Government have taken any notice of the above resolutions and if so, in what way and with what results?

A.—(a) & (b) Mr. M. Sivaramakrishnayya who was at one time Secretary of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee and who was prosecuted under the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act gave a written undertaking not to participate in future in any anti-Government movement and the proceedings against him were stayed under section 249, Criminal Procedure Code, in August 1930. The Government have no further information.

(c) The Bar Association itself cancelled the resolutions in question.

Alleged beating of certain clients in Mr. B. Ramaya Punja's house.

* 821 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home member be pleased to state with reference to question No. 51, dated 27th January 1931—

(a) whether the Government has received information as to whether a Sub-Inspector and other policemen entered the compound of vakil, Mr. B. Ramaya Punja and drove away his clients who were waiting for him in the veranda for having worn Gandhi caps;

(b) whether the clerk of the said Mr. B. Ramaya Punja who did not run away from his office was beaten by the police for having worn Gandhi cap;

(c) whether Mr. B. Ramaya Punja wrote a letter to the Superintendent or Collector and whether the Superintendent or Collector replied to the same;

(d) if the answer is in the affirmative whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of the letter and the reply on the table?

A.—(a) When the police were dispersing an unruly crowd from the public maidan on the 26th June, some of the volunteers and their sympathizers entered the compound referred to, which is not completely walled and making a further disturbance had to be ejected from there also.

[28th March 1931]

- (b) the clerk was not beaten for wearing a Gandhi cap, but being in the crowd may have received some cuts from a cane when the police dispersed it.
- (c) Yes, to the District Magistrate who replied.
- (d) The incident took place so long ago that Government consider that no useful purpose would be served by doing so.

Alleged lathi charge in Mangalore maidan in June 1930.

* 822 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to question No. 52, dated the 27th January 1931, whether he has received information as to—

- (a) whether those persons who had come to maidan at Mangalore on the second day of the lathi charge in June 1930 were pursued and beaten;
- (b) whether the said place was a place of public resort and whether it had previously been forbidden for a public resort before the said lathi charges were ordered, if so, when;
- (c) whether it is a fact that on the same evening the police entered the Sri Krishna Cinema Hall and the Taj Mahal Hotel, Mangalore and drove away and beat with lathis all the people who had gone there, because they had worn Gandhi caps; and
- (d) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) No. The hon. Member apparently refers to the dispersal by the police on the 26th June 1930 of a crowd of volunteers and their sympathizers which had collected near the maidan to make a demonstration in defiance of an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code.

- (b) There was no lathi charge.
- (c) No.
- (d) None.

Police excess in Mangalore.

* 823 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether he has received the information asked for in question No. 53, dated 27th January 1931, regarding police excesses in Mangalore and if so, what it is?

A.—Yes. The following is the answer to clauses (a) & (b) of question No. 53:—

In an interview with the District Superintendent of Police the Chairman of the Mangalore Municipality represented that a few innocent persons had received blows in a lathi charge. The District Superintendent of Police made it clear that every care was taken to see that only minimum force was used and that innocent persons did not suffer. The allegation that he undertook to see that the 'police excesses' would not be 'repeated' is incorrect.

Alleged assault on Mussalmans near Vaniyambadi.

* 824 Q.—S. M. K. BAYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government have received any representation that the Christian Adi-Dravidas of Udayendram, two miles near Vaniyambadi (North Arcot) while taking procession on 20th July 1930 passed through

[28th March 1931]

Hindu and Muslim quarters where a mosque is located, with music and pomp contrary to all existing customs there and when asked not to do it, fired gun shots against Mussalmans and belaboured two Mussalmans with grievous wounds;

- (b) if so, what action the Government have taken on it; and
- (c) whether Government are going to take any precautions to prevent such occurrences in future?

A.—(a) On 21st July 1930, the Government received a telegram from one Mohamad Ghouse saying that a clash had occurred on the previous night at Vaniyambadi between the Mussalmans and the Adi-Dravida Christians and that he apprehended an attack by the latter party on the night of the 21st. The District Magistrate subsequently reported that the Joint Magistrate and Police intervened and prevented a serious disturbance. No shots were fired on either side.

- (b) The District Magistrate was asked to take such precautions as he found necessary.
- (c) This is the duty of the local authorities.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the Government have instituted any impartial enquiry into the matter of the alleged assault on Mussalmans near Vaniyambadi?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know why they do not propose to institute any enquiry?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Because there is no necessity."

[For further Starred Question please see page 840 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

State Prisoners

Number of Mappillas killed and imprisoned in connexion with the Malabar Rebellion.

825 Q.—S. M. K. BAYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state:—

- (a) the approximate number of Mappillas that according to the information of the Government were killed during the Mappilla Rebellion, 1921;
- (b) the total number of Mappillas that were imprisoned and the number of persons sent to each place or jail;
- (c) the total number of deaths among the prisoners in each place; and
- (d) how many are still undergoing imprisonment or internment?

A.—(a) Between 1,200 and 1,500.

(b) About 11,200. Exact figure is not available. The Government have no information as to number sent to each place or jail.

(c) The Government have no information.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 815. The number interned is 206.

[28th March 1931]

Depressed Classes*Acquisition of house-sites for Adi-Dravidas in Villiavarambal village.*

826 Q.—Mr. G. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state:—

(a) whether land was acquired or is being acquired by the Government to provide house-sites for Adi-Dravidas in Villiavarambal village, Kumbakonam taluk, Tanjore district, according to the notification of the Government in the *Fort St George Gazette*, dated 11th September 1928 and 16th September 1930;

(b) (i) whether it is a fact that the occupiers and the applicants are all Christians, and

(ii) whether the acquisition proceedings are in accordance with the intention of the Government orders on the subject;

(c) (i) whether it is a fact that the ryots have objected to the acquisition on the ground that they require it for housing their own labourers, and

(ii) whether there are also Adi-Dravidas (Hindus) in that village who are all agricultural labourers and have not applied for the assignment;

(d) whether the Board of Revenue and the Government have received petitions from the ryots in July and September 1930 respectively that plain dry lands suitable for dwelling are available in the village and that the cost of acquisition of such lands will be less;

(e) if so, what action has been taken by the Board of Revenue and the Government on those petitions and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor; and,

(f) whether it is a fact that the District Labour Officer, Tanjore, has issued notices to the ryots under section 9 (3) and (10) of the Land Acquisition Act of 1894 requiring them to appear before him and if so, whether the Government will consider the desirability of stopping the acquisition proceedings?

A.—(a) The Government are not aware of the present stage of the acquisition proceedings;

(b) (i) The information available shows that some of the applicants and occupiers are Christians.

(ii) Yes.

(c) (i) Yes.

(ii) The Government have no information.

(d) Yes.

(e) An enquiry was made into the objections and they were met as far as possible. The extent proposed for acquisition was reduced from 2.07 acres to 1.15 acres.

(f) The Government have no information whether notices under section 9 (3) and (10) of the Land Acquisition Act have been issued. The Government see no reason to withdraw from the acquisition.

Implication of the term "Adi-Dravida Christians" in the Land Acquisition notification dated 27th November 1928.

827 Q.—Mr. G. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to the expression 'Adi-Dravida Christians' used in the Land Acquisition notification which appeared at

[28th March 1931]

page 1848 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 27th November 1928, whom the Government mean by 'Adi-Dravida Christians' and to give reasons for classifying some Christians as Adi-Dravida Christians?

A.—In the case referred to the Adi-Dravidas who desired land to be acquired for house-sites were Christians; but no distinction is made in the matter of providing house-sites for the depressed classes between Christians and others.

Police*Alleged police raid on the Congress Hospital at Madras.*

828 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the police raided the Congress Hospital at Madras and arrested a number of people working there and released them subsequently;

(b) under whose authority the police made the said raid;

(c) why persons against whom the police could not legally proceed were harassed by being arrested; and

(d) what action the Government has taken in the matter.

A.—(a) to (c) On the 24th February, the Commissioner of Police issued orders that volunteers who were strangers to Madras City and who could not give a satisfactory account of themselves should be arrested under section 55, Criminal Procedure Code. In accordance with these orders buildings where volunteers were known to be residing were raided early on the 25th morning. On receipt of information that some volunteers were living at No. 2 Malayaperumal street (the so-called 'Congress Hospital') that building was also raided. Seven individuals who did not explain what they were doing were taken to the Flower Bazaar Police Station. On production before the Inspector, two of them explained that one was a cook and the other a store-keeper. They were released immediately. The remaining five were sent to the Commissioner of Police who released them on receiving an assurance from Dr. Rama Rao that they were employed in his hospital though none of them possessed any medical or nursing qualifications. None of those on the premises who claimed to be patients were disturbed.

(d) None.

Alleged police raid on the Congress Hospital at Madras.

829 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Congress Hospital at Madras was raided by the police; if so, how many persons connected with it were arrested and under whose authority it was raided;

[28th March 1931]

(b) whether it is a fact that under the Geneva Convention, hospitals are exempted from being raided by the police and military; and,

(c) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

✓ A.—(a) to (c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 828.

STARRED QUESTION

State Prisoners

Detention of Balaram Palo as State prisoner.

* 830 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasaya: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how long Balaram Palo of Sikarapai in Kalyanasingapur Mutta of Rayagada taluk in the Jeypore Agency has been detained as a State prisoner;

(b) what the charges against him are;

(c) what part Balaram Palo is reported to have taken in the troubles in Kalyanasingapur Mutta;

(d) whether the troubles had their origin in some dispute between the Maharaja of Jeypore and two Deos of Kalyanasingapur;

(e) whether it is a fact (1) that the said dispute was settled by the Deos relinquishing all their claims in consideration of an allowance made to them by the Maharaja of Jeypore; (2) that the Deos who were also State prisoners were released after the said settlement;

(f) why Balaram Palo is detained as State prisoner even after the settlement of the aforesaid dispute and the release of the Deos who have permanently settled down at Berhampur in the Ganjam district;

(g) whether it is a fact that Balaram Palo's lands in Sikarapai and other villages were attached and have been under the management of the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam, and if so, how long since;

(h) whether his house at Sikarapai also has been under State management;

(i) what the gross and the net annual income of the said lands are;

(j) whether any rent is derived from the house;

(k) whether Balaram Palo is annually informed of the amounts realized from his lands and the rent of his house;

(l) the monthly allowance granted to him for himself, his wife and child;

(m) whether he petitioned to the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam and the Government as to the insufficiency of the allowance given and if so, what action was taken by Government on such petitions;

(n) whether the allowance sanctioned is paid out of provincial funds or out of the moneys provided by the Maharaja of Jeypore or out of the income of the property of the State prisoner himself;

(o) whether reports are periodically received from the Agent to the Governor in Vizagapatam as to the necessity for the detention of Balaram Palo as a State prisoner; and

(p) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place all reports received in connexion with the State prisoner on the table of the Council?

28th March 1931]

A.—(a) Since 10th March 1925.

(b) & (c) He was one of the Deo Brothers' advisers and as such responsible in part for the trouble at Kalyanasingapur. He also assisted in the arrangements for the illegal collection of kist.

(d) Yes.

(e) (1) and (2) Yes.

(f) It is considered that his presence in Kalyanasingapur would still be dangerous to the public peace.

(g) Yes. Since July 1926.

(h) Not so far as the Government are aware.

(i) The net income is about Rs. 150. The Government have no information about the gross income.

(j) The Government have no information.

(k) The Government have no information.

(l) Rs. 20 per mensem.

(m) Yes. His request that his allowance should be enhanced to Rs. 50 per mensem was refused.

(n) The allowance is paid from Provincial funds; but the income from the prisoner's lands is credited towards it.

(o) No periodical reports other than the half-yearly returns are received.

(p) The Government are not prepared to do so.

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

II.—ANNOUNCEMENT RE THE NUMBER OF QUESTIONS RECEIVED AND ANSWERED DURING THE SESSION.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to inform the House that the number of questions of which notice was received during this session was 1,005. Of these, the number admitted was 873, that answered 870, that disallowed 84, that withdrawn 24, and that referred back to Members of the Legislative Council for further information, but not received back from them, 24. Notice was not waived for 2 questions, and only one question has lapsed."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, may I submit, Sir, that to-day in view of the fact that a large number of questions have been accumulated and placed before the Members without sufficient time being given to look into them, Members have not been able to study them. I am sure that if sufficient time had been given, hon. Members would have asked more supplementary questions on some important questions put down to-day."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"We expected at first that the Council would sit on the 30th also; but since that arrangement has been cancelled, we had to place all the questions before the House to-day, lest they might lapse by the close of the session."

[28th March 1931

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, may I request that in future in such contingencies, the questions and answers may be sent over to us when they are so voluminous, a few hours earlier instead of only half an hour earlier? You may direct that to be done, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If feasible, that suggestion will be considered."

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32—*cont.*

DEMAND XXVIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,24,900 under Demand XXVIII—Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred.'"

* Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 9,97,700 for Labour be reduced by Rs. 100'

with a view to point out the inadequate provision for the year.

"Sir, I have given notice of four cut motions under Demand XXVIII—Miscellaneous Departments. I will speak on all the four items with your permission. Sir, the provision of Rs. 9,97,700 or Rs. 10 lakhs as against Rs. 11,83,000, or Rs. 12 lakhs in round figures, in the previous year, is rather inadequate. The provision of drinking water wells and establishment of labour schools have not been made in many districts for want of funds in previous years. The Labour department is not operating in five or six districts of this province. The reduction of two lakhs will not allow the Labour department to do any extended work for the amelioration of the depressed classes and it cannot be expected to establish more labour schools and provide drinking water wells, the main and ordinary requirements of the depressed classes. The establishment of labour schools in each and every hamlet of the depressed classes is an absolute necessity under the prevailing caste conditions, if the real intention of Government is to spread elementary education among them. The plea that a board school exists close by their hamlet is no good and is not workable in actual practice. The admission of depressed class boys in board schools is not only detrimental to the boys themselves as they are, in every turn, faced with their inferior social position among their comrades, but also a source of annoyance to the parents of caste boys, who indirectly bring pressure on the parents of depressed class boys to withdraw their children from the schools, and if they demur, bring them

28th March 1931] [Mr. V. Dharmalingam Pillai]

to serious troubles, by other dubious means. The Singanallur incident in Coimbatore district is a case in point. The depressed classes not only suffer bodily injury and loss of property but are also subjected to mental anxiety by attending court for months together, meeting court costs and vakil fees, etc. Many families have been ruined financially and in the end do not succeed against powerful and resourceful caste people, especially in these days when courts are manned almost by caste people who do not place any confidence or trust in the version of the depressed classes. The hon. Minister will be pleased to see that labour schools are established in every hamlet of the depressed classes.

"As regards hostel accommodation, there are only five hostels run by Government for a strength of about 180 students for the whole province—50 in Paddison Hostel, 50 in Slater Hostel, 50 in Sundaracharlu Hostel, Masulipatam, 20 in Salem and 12 in Calicut. This is comparatively a very small number for the whole Presidency. In an Indian State like Mysore, there are two hostels in Bangalore and Mysore for a strength of 300 students. There ought to be ten times this number for the province and each district should be provided with a hostel for depressed class students. The accommodation in Paddison Hostel is restricted to mufassal students only, while there are any number of students in the Madras City itself who are deserving of hostel accommodation. Sir, the parents of these students are very poor and live a hand-to-mouth existence. They make considerable sacrifices, by stinting themselves for the education of their children. The necessity for the accommodation of City students is equally great. These students live in slum areas and their removal from such unhealthy and undesirable surroundings is imperative in the interests of the welfare of the students. Hostel accommodation must be provided for a larger number of students in the city, so that the sacrifices made by their parents, in giving them education, may not go in vain.

"Sir, there are depressed class men of moderate means in the mufassal who wish to send their boys to Madras for education. These men may not have relations or friends to accommodate and to look after their boys. If such boys can be admitted into hostels run by the Labour department on payment of average cost of a student's maintenance in the hostel, it will be a great boon and will be much appreciated by parents of moderate means, as it will not only be more economical to them, but will also ensure a safeguard for their boys not falling into evil ways in a big city like Madras. The boys will be under strict discipline and care. The hostel strength should be increased for this purpose by at least 5 or 10 per cent to admit of such paying students, if any real help is sought to be given to depressed classes.

"Sir, there is another matter in connexion with the Paddison Hostel at Madras. It is under the supervision of an Englishman who does not understand the real wants of the depressed class boys in respect of their food, etc. He will be well advised, if he could consult some of the depressed class elders in the matter of their food. The average cost per head is said to be Rs. 12 per mensem. If the hostel be run under the supervision of an Indian or a Board of Indians, I am sure

[Mr. V. Dharmalingam Pillai] [28th March 1931]

it can be reduced to Rs. 9 per head per mensem; and the boys will get satisfaction in the matter of food, as at present they seem to be discontented. The hostel in the Madras Training School for Teachers is managed by the students themselves and their average cost is said to be not more than Rs. 8 per head per mensem. The Moir Hostel at Chidambaram run by the hon. Member Swami Sahajanandham is given a grant of Rs. 4,000 only for 50 students by the Labour department, but the Swami manages, with this sum and a little more funds from private sources, to support 70 children and the average cost per head is said to be Rs. 6-8-0 per mensem. If he be given a grant of Rs. 9,000 as against Rs. 12,000 for 50 students of the Paddison Hostel, I am sure he can manage to board more than 100 students in Chidambaram. The demand for hostel accommodation is so great that he had to reject 300 applicants. I am certain that similar rejections must have taken place in the Paddison Hostel too. The Paddison Hostel is located in a spacious bungalow in a big compound and can accommodate, if managed by an Indian, at least 70 students, as against the present strength of 50.

“The Sundaracharlu Hostel at Masulipatam gets a grant of Rs. 9,000 for 50 boys from the Labour department. The Superintendent, Mr. Ramji Rao, a Brahman, is allowed to draw an allowance of Rs. 150 per mensem. It is highly desirable that a hostel run by a self-less worker like Swami Sahajanandham should receive greater patronage and a larger sum than is now allowed to him.

11-45
a.m.

“Sir, while on this subject, I wish to say a few words about the agitation among the Adi-Dravida Christians for their recognition and classification as a depressed class. I do sincerely sympathize with their lot. By embracing Christianity they have not removed untouchability. Their disabilities are as great as the Hindu depressed classes. But by classifying them as depressed classes, I am afraid they will take away 50 to 75 per cent of the privileges and claims that we enjoy as depressed class Hindus. They are not backward in education. The Simon Commission report says that the Christians, though drawn from the lowest strata of society, are second to none in literacy. So, Sir, if they are classified as depressed classes there is every probability of the progress of depressed class Hindus being retarded. I do not understand with what motive caste Christians take up their cause and plead on their behalf. Is it Christian love that prompts them? There is no such distinction in the Census Report compiled by Government. I would like to know if there are two designations like caste Hindu Christian and Depressed Class Christian? The caste Hindu Christian community as a whole is well organized and well-disciplined, whereas the depressed class community is an unorganized and undisciplined unit which requires greater protection and care of the Government.

“Sir, under Co-operative Societies of the labour department, I wish to say a few words. As the result of the Puliyanthope troubles in 1921, a large number of Adi-Dravidas were rendered homeless. The

28th March 1931] [Mr. V. Dharmalingam Pillai]

Government gave protection to them in a refuge camp—a big bungalow in a large compound where they lived free of rent for more than three or four years. In the meanwhile, Government commenced constructing the Paddison and the Ganeshapuram lines. There are 102 houses in the Paddison lines and 98 houses in the Ganeshapuram lines and these were constructed at a cost of nearly a lakh of rupees. These houses are in the occupation of the men, all labourers in the mills and slaughter-houses, etc. Each line of houses was started with the aid of Co-operative Societies in 1924 with a view to pay back to Government half the rent of these buildings. I understand the original proposition was to give to each of the families that lost houses a compensation of Rs. 150. But, subsequently, the Government changed their mind and built these 200 houses for their occupation. There are three types of houses, whose value ranging from Rs. 300, Rs. 500 and Rs. 700 respectively, and the members were asked to pay monthly 1 per cent of the amount to enable them to own the houses in twenty years. The amounts collected from April 1924 to 31st December 1929 by the Paddison Society is Rs. 1,158 towards a demand of Rs. 22,635 and that by the Ganeshapuram Society is Rs. 3,339 towards a demand of Rs. 26,712. The reason for the slow and small collection seems to be—the impression created by the then Government recognized leader and his satellites of those troublous days—that the Government built these houses out of sympathy for their occupation and if the money spent on it is irrecoverable the houses will eventually be given to them free and to no others. Owing to the unsatisfactory working of these two societies, orders have been issued in January 1931 for their liquidation. Sir, I have great faith in the possibilities of the co-operative movement. I am confirmed in the belief that it is the only movement initiated by the benign British Government which would be the means for the economic upliftment of the depressed classes. The members complain that the valuation of the houses fixed by the Government was very high and if they could be re-valued by a committee of officers of the Public Works Department with one or two non-officials and if as a result of such a re-valuation the prices could reasonably be reduced, there is every chance of the members paying up the amount within a reasonable time. I therefore earnestly request the hon. the Minister to cancel the order of liquidation till such a re-valuation is made. Otherwise, liquidation would mean transfer of the property to the control of the Revenue Department which will relentlessly take steps to recover the dues. The consequence will be eviction, distress warrants, etc., and thus the depressed classes will once again become houseless and the original object of the Government in providing shelter for these poor Adi-Dravidas will be stultified. Sir, there is now in Madras a District Co-operative Central Bank to finance all the co-operative societies in the city, under the direction of Mr. Ramdas Pantulu. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has so high an opinion of his capacity and sincerity that he has placed three Government Inspectors of Co-operative Societies under the direct control of Mr. Ramdas Pantulu. The District Co-operative

[Mr. V. Dharmalingam Pillai] [28th March 1931]

Central Bank itself has three Inspectors for collection and rectification work. With six inspectors, the work of co-operation in the city will be intensely supervised and there is every hope of regular recoveries being effected from the members of the Paddison and Ganeshapuram Co-operative Societies."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I believe the House desires that the whole policy underlying this demand, should be discussed under this cut motion."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, Sir, the inadequate provision of funds for the betterment of the depressed classes is a great blow to the uplift of the Adi-Dravidas. Sir, it is admitted on all sides of this House and even outside that the elevation of these depressed class communities is a matter of national importance and ought to engage the attention of all interested in the welfare of the depressed classes. More so, it becomes the paramount duty of the Government."

"Sir, it is gratifying to note in the Administration Report that His Excellency the Viceroy during his last South Indian tour paid visits to many of the cheris and saw with his own eyes the disabilities of the depressed classes. In his reply to the various addresses that were presented to him, His Excellency the Viceroy in clear and in unequivocal terms said how important the question of the uplift of the depressed classes was. It is obvious that in spite of his observations, this particular department has been starved for want of funds. Sir, the untold misery caused to the depressed classes in the cheris during the recent flood and cyclone havoc is apparent both to the Government and to hon. Members of this House. In some districts, to rescue the poor people from drowning, boats had to be used and the so-called huts of the depressed classes were floating. In Madras alone more than 8,000 huts were destroyed by the cyclone."

"Sir, the economic distress among the depressed classes is so acute at the present juncture that the inadequacy of the provision is greatly felt. Eighteen districts in the Presidency and the City of Madras have been taken into account and ameliorative activities are being carried on. Just now our people feel the fringe of the Labour department's activities and its help and retrenching in this particular item will mean the good work started going to waste."

"Sir, preliminary investigations have been completed in several taluks and further work could not be undertaken owing to paucity of funds in the Labour department. The work of amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes consists of (1) Provision of house-sites for the relief of congestion in cheris and for the purpose of freeing the depressed classes from oppression by the landlords; (2) establishing primary schools; (3) opening co-operative societies; (4) provision of drinking water facilities by constructing new wells and repairing old wells; (5) provision of path-ways, burial grounds and sanitary requirements; (6) arranging for the assignment of lands for cultivation; and

[28th March 1931] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

(7) arranging for the lease of lanka lands. It is more than necessary that items relating to the provision of house-sites, drinking water facilities and sanitary requirements should be carried on immediately, but without proper provision of funds how is it possible to undertake these things? For the current year, there is a provision of Rs. 4,78,700 but in the budget estimate for the coming year there is only a provision of Rs. 1,62,000 and this means that two-thirds of the activities of the department has to be abandoned and the Labour department can undertake their activities only in six districts. Provision has been made in the next year's budget for Rs. 5,59,400 on account of pay of establishments. One can see how much is allotted for the real work and how much for establishment."

"Coming to the question of schools for the depressed classes, the Labour Commissioner observes in his Administration Report of the Labour department for the year ending 31st March 1930 that 'In most rural areas the caste people in general are still opposed to the spread of education among the depressed classes and to the admission of depressed class children to the ordinary taluk board or aided schools. Government have repeatedly laid down that no elementary school under public management or receiving aid from public funds should exclude any community on the ground of the caste or creed to which that community belongs. But caste prejudices are still so strong in many rural areas, that it is frequently impossible to secure admission for the depressed classes to the ordinary elementary schools. The methods by which the caste people contrive to defeat the Government policy mentioned above are too well known to need recapitulation here.' Sir, we have been agitating and even waited on deputation to the Government that the schools started by the Labour department should not be handed over to the regular department, but unfortunately it is found that most of the schools have been handed over to the regular department. Sir, in the Budget Memorandum that was supplied to us the other day, we find that even the provision made in the current year could not be utilized. It is also stated that the decrease in the revised estimate is due chiefly to the delay in opening new schools. Sir, the policy of the Government in handing over the schools to the regular department and in not spending the amount allotted for starting new schools is not good. There is also no scope of starting new schools in the next year and we have therefore to be content with the existing oppression."

"Sir, from the reports of the Government we find that only 186 students have been able to complete the S.S.L.C. course, while the school-going population in Elementary grade among the depressed classes comes to about 57,000. Moreover, taking into account the number of stipends that are given to our boys, only 50 residential scholarships are provided. Of these 15 scholarships of Rs. 25 each are ear-marked for the collegiate course and the rest 35 for high school students. On the 31st March 1930, there were 56,527 boys in elementary schools and the number of scholarships given to high school students is therefore comparatively very inadequate to the number of students."

848 DEMAND XXVIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—TRANSFERRED

[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai] [28th March 1931]

“Coming to the question of boarding grants, I do not find any regular method adopted in doling out these grants for the various hostels. My hon. Friend Mr. Dharmalingam Pillai has dealt with the question of grants for the various hostels in detail, and I do not wish to go into the question again. But what I would like to say is that hostels started by non-official agencies are given the same proportion of the amount given to hostels that are managed by the department. I know that the Nandanar Kalvikazhagam, which is managing the Moir Hostel, has 65 students in the hostel and gets only Rs. 4,000, while the Government Hostel at Masulipatam having 60 students gets about Rs. 11,000. Sir, in my own district there is a hostel for Badaga boys numbering 50 and it gets a grant of Rs. 10,000. Sir, it is not that we are against any community getting any amount, but what I say is that there must be some method whereby these institutions can get their proper share according to the number of students kept in the hostels. The Nandanar Kalvikazhakam which is managed by a private body is the only real Adi-Dravida institution in the south and I hope Government will kindly see that this institution does not starve for want of funds.

12 noon.

“Sir, Mr. Gray, who happened to be the Labour Commissioner before he went on leave, after going very carefully into the various matters relating to our community submitted proposals to the Government to allot a sum of Rs. 1,54,781 for the Labour department. But I find the Finance Committee have been able to sanction only a sum of Rs. 75,000 on the non-recurring side of expenditure and a sum of Rs. 10,000 on the recurring side of expenditure. It is a surprise that the Finance Committee has treated this department in such a manner as this.

“One other matter I wish to bring to the notice of the Government is this. At present if a student wishes to have a scholarship from the Labour department, he has to go through various courses. First of all, he has to approach the headmaster of the institution in which he is studying, then he has to seek the help of the Revenue Inspector, for poverty certificate and apart from these he has to go after the Members of the Legislative Council for recommendation. I would request Government to pitch upon some other method of awarding scholarships, so that the labour involved in getting them is minimised. I appeal to the hon. the Home Member to bring forward a supplementary demand before this House for this department this year so that the Labour department may not suffer for want of funds and that the good work that has already been done by that department in the cause of the depressed classes may not suffer for want of funds.”

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM spoke in Tamil as follows:—

“ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு வீட்டு வசதிகள் சரியானபடி ஏற்படுத்திக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். சில இடங்களில் மரியாதையானவை வைத்து மனைக்கட்டுகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் சுதந்திரம் பெறாமல் வசதிக்குறிக்கிறார்கள். சரியானபடி கூலி முதலியவை கிடையாமல் போகிறது. ஆதலால் அவர்களைச் சுதந்திர மனதோடு கொடுக்க வேண்டும். தார் மனைக்கட்டுகள் வாங்கிக் கொடுக்க அரசாங்கத்தார்கள் மனைக்கட்டுகள் சர்க்கார் புறம்போக்குகளாகவே இருந்து கொடுப்பது நல்லது. அப்படி புறம்போக்கு இல்லாத விடங்களில் கூடியவரைக்கும் மேட்டுப்பாங்கான

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam]

நிலங்களை வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கும் மனைக்கட்டுகள் நன்செய் நிலங்களாக இருக்கக்கூடாது. சுமார் 10 அணாக்களுக்குமுன் வாங்கிய நன்செய்கள் இன்னும் தூர்த்து விடுபட்ட முடியாத நிலையெயிலிருக்கின்றன. ஏழை ஆதிதிராவிடன் வயிற்றைக் கழுவும் போகுட்டை பகல் முழுவதும் உழைக்கிறான். அவன் எங்கிருந்து வாங்கிய நன்செய் நில மனைக்கட்டைத் தூர்ப்பான். ஆதலால் வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கும் மனைக்கட்டுகள் மேடாமிருப்பதோடு அரசாங்கத்தார் தங்கள் செலவில் இலவசமாகவே வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The hon. Member is speaking upon the question of house-sites. I would suggest to him to confine his remarks to the Transferred departments under this demand and not to speak on house-site.”

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—“முடிந்ததானவர் வசதி போதாது. லேபர் டிபார்ட்மென்டாரால் வெட்டிக்கொடுக்கும் கனமானில் மறுவருஷம் தண்ணீர் இருப்பதில்லை.

“கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! எனது மொஷன் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களின் வசதி யென்றும் பதமிருப்பதால் அப்படி பேசினேன். இனி கன்னி விஷயத்திற்கு வருகிறேன்.

“ஆங்காங்கும் பாடசாலைகள் அதிகமாக வந்தாடுகின்றன. ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் நாலாயிரம் ஐயாயிரம் கிராமங்களிலுமிருக்கின்றன. ஜில்லா ஒன்றுக்கு இருநூறு பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் வைத்துவிட்டால் கல்விப்பரவியிடுமா? அப்படியிருந்தால் எல்லோருக்கும் கல்விப்பரவ ஏதற்கு? ஆண்டுகள் பிடிக்கும் என்பதைப் பாருங்கள். தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் சுமார் இருநூறு பாடசாலைகளிருந்தும் ஒன்றுக்கூட உயர்தர ஐந்தாம் பாடசாலைமில்லை. உயர்தர ஆரம்பப்படிப்பு படிக்க உணவு வசதியின்றி சம்பவியாது. ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் குறைந்தது இரு நூறு பிள்ளைகளுக்கேறும் ஹாஸ்டல் வைக்கவேண்டும். தொழிற் கமிஷனார் இலாக்காவால் வேலை நடத்து வரும் 21 ஜில்லாவிலும் ஜில்லா ஒன்றுக்கு இரு நூறு பாடசாலைகள் வைத்து நடத்தப்படுவார்களென. ஜில்லாவொன்றுக்கு இருநூறு பாடசாலையானால் பாடசாலை ஒன்றின் ஒரு வயாளுக்கு ஆண்டில் கொடுத்தாலும் ஜில்லா ஒன்றுக்கு இருநூறு பேருக்கு ஆண்டில் வைக்கவேண்டும்.

“சிறப்பரத்தில் நடைபெறுவரும் மயர் ஹாஸ்டலுக்கு 50 பெருக்குத் தான் ஹாஸ்டல் கொண்டு கொடுக்கிறார்கள். கனம் தங்கிய அங்கத்தினர்கள் ராஜ் சாஹேப் வி. தர்மலிங்கம் பிள்ளையவர்கள், ராஜ் சாஹேப் முனிசாமி பிள்ளையவர்கள் முதலானவர்கள் சொல்லப்போல் அரசாங்கத்தார் சிறிது தாராளமானதோடு மயர் ஹாஸ்டலுக்கு உதவி புரியவேண்டும். இதனோடுபாது அரசாங்கத்தார் நடத்தும் ஹாஸ்டல்களுக்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் ஏராளமாகப் பணம் செலவுசெய்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் ஒரு ஹாஸ்டல் 50 பெருக்கு செலவுசெய்து பணத்தைக் கொடுத்தால் நாங்கள் நூறு பெருக்கு நடத்த சித்தமாயிருக்கிறோம். மாணவர்களுக்கு படிக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் ஆண்டு அத்து விடப்படியால் ஏராளமாக வர ஆரம்பித்துவிட்டார்கள். சென்ற வருஷம் முன்னாலு பெர்க்கை இடமில்லையென்று நினைப்பிவிட்டோம். மயர் ஹாஸ்டலுக்கு ஐம்பது பெர்க்களுக்குமேல் ஹாஸ்டல் கொண்டு கொடுப்பதில்லையென்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள்; அது சரியன்று. அதிகப்படியான பிள்ளைகளைச் சேர்க்கும்படியும் அதற்கான உதவி புரியும்படியும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“ஆதிதிராவிடப் பெண் கன்னி யிடவும் சொற்பமாயிருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கு உணவு வசதி முதலியவை ஏற்படுத்திக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். தென்னார்க்காடு ஜில்லாவில் மூன்று ஸ்டம் ஆதிதிராவிடப் பெண்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். படிக்கும் வயது இடைய பெண்கள் சுமார் ஐம்பதிலுமே வசதியில் இருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்களில் நூறு பேருக்கேறும் ஹாஸ்டல் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டேன். கனம் கமிஷனார் துரையாசாமி (முன்பு பெருக்கே சிபார்சு செய்துள்ளவர். இப்படி இருந்தால் எப்படி பெண்கன்னி பாடும்.

“ஆதிதிராவிட மாணவர்களைப் பால்கலைக்கு ஆதிதிராவிட மாணவர்கள் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். ஆங்காங்கும் கொட்டெண்டில் சிவன்கொட்டெண்டும் கொடுக்க வேண்டும். எந்த ஜில்லாவில் தொழிற் கமிஷனார் இலாக்காவால் ஹாஸ்டல்

[Swami A. S. Sahajanandam] [28th March 1931]

நடத்தப்படுகிறதோ, அல்லது அவர்கள் உபகாரம் பெறும் ஹாஸ்டல் நடத்தப் படுகிறதோ, அந்த ஜில்லாவிலுள்ள மாணவர்களுக்கு ரெசிடென்ஷியல் ஸ்காலர் ஷிப் கொடுக்கக்கூடாதாம். இப்படி சட்டம் வைத்துக்கொண்டுள்ளார்கள். அப்படி யானால் துணைவனத்தலிருந்து படிக்கும் மாணவனுக்கு சிதம்பரம் மாயர் ஹாஸ்டல் என்ன உதவிபுரியும்? அதுவும் ஜம்பது பேருக்குத்தானோ? அதனால் ஜனங்களுக்கெல்லாம் எவ்வாறு நலமுண்டாகும்? எந்த தாலுகாவில் ஹாஸ்டலி ருக்கிறதோ அந்த தாலுகா மாணவர்களில்லையென்றால் பொருந்தும்.

“காவாலி, மதுரா முதலானவிடங்களிலுள்ள செட்டிமெண்டுகளுக்கு ஏராளமான பணஞ் செலவழிக்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் அஜிஸ்நகர் ஆதிதிராவிடர் களுக்கு ஏற்பட்டது. அதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் போதுமான பண உதவி புரிவதில்லை. அஜிஸ் நகரில் ஒரு வகுப்பில் படித்த மாணவர் மாணவிகள் சில ஆண்டுகளாக அந்த வகுப்பிலேயே இருக்கிறார்கள். அரசாங்கத்தார் கிரிமினல் டிரைப் பண்டி லிருந்தேனும் அதிகமான ஸ்காலர்ஷிப் கொடுத்தால் மாணவர்கள் பிள்ளைகளை தக்க இடத்திற்கு அனுப்பி படிக்கவைப்பார்.

“ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் கல்வி விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கத்தார் தாராள நோக்கம் காட்டும்படி வேண்டுகிறேன்.”

*Mr. H. B. ARI GOWDER:—“Mr. President, Sir, it seems to me that the more Government does anything to any community the greater is the cry from that community for something more still. I do not grudge anything to any community; but if any member of the depressed classes grudges anything done to backward community more neglected than his own, then it is time that the backward classes organize themselves and assert their rights. I think the time is come for members of backward classes to form a party of their own in this House.

“My humble request to the Government, as is evident from my cut motion, is for opening a hostel for the hill tribes in Gudalur, an area which is very much neglected and an area where the people cannot help themselves without the assistance of the Government. I understand there is some difficulty in starting a hostel this year. But I do not think there is any difficulty in granting Boarding grants to the pupils of these tribes as is done in the case of hundreds of depressed class pupils all over the Presidency. I regret very much that Government have provided very little in the Budget for Part II schemes this year. I daresay however, as the hon. Finance Member has promised, that there will be supplementary demands for all new schemes to be taken up during the year and that the hon. Minister in charge of this department will be able to see that this subject is taken into consideration and a grant is made during the course of this year. For, it has been pending for a long time, and I have the support of the educational authorities of the district in regard to this scheme.”

*Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—“Mr. President, Sir, in intervening in this debate I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister for Education to the question of scholarships for Christians belonging to the Adi-Dravida community. That question, Sir, has been time and again discussed and debated upon in this Council. But it appears to me that it has not yet been discussed on its real and proper merits, and that the real and bare justice of the demand has not yet been recognized both by the Government and other hon. Members of this House.

28th March 1931]

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

“I will submit at the outset that the Labour department provides for certain special scholarships for members of the Adi-Dravida community not on the ground of their untouchableness, not on the ground that they do not enjoy the social equality and the social amenities that obtain among the caste Hindus, but on the ground of their economic backwardness. It is because of their economic backwardness that Government have thought it fit to give them some educational facilities.

“I would ask you, Sir, and through you, the members of this House, to consider whether the same ground of economic backwardness does not apply with equal force to members of the Adi-Dravida community who happen to be Christians by their religious persuasion. My hon. Friend, Mr. Dharmalingam Pillai, in opening the debate on this motion, referred to the conditions of the Adi-Dravida Christians. He expressed his sympathy for their condition, and he admitted that their economic condition is as backward as, or more or less on a par with, that of the Hindu Adi-Dravidas. While professing his sympathy to that of the Hindu Adi-Dravidas he made a few queries. He asked, ‘Is there among Christians, a section called caste Christians and another section called untouchable Christians?’ And then he made the further query, ‘What right is there for caste Christians to take up the cause of the Adi-Dravida Christians?’ Now, I may in reply to the query ask my friend, what is the motive in expressing his sympathy for Adi-Dravida Christians. Anyhow I shall not press that question. I would say, whether a Christian happens to belong to the caste section or the Adi-Dravida section, he forms all the same an integral element of the Christian community. Mr. President, I represent an Indian Christian constituency consisting of both people who originally belonged to the caste community as also people who originally belonged to the Adi-Dravida community. Now the Adi-Dravida Christian happens to be an element or factor of the Christian community.

“Apart from any question of any distinction between caste Christians and Adi-Dravida Christians—a distinction which I may mention to this House does not exist and ought not to exist—I would submit to you, Sir, that a member representing the Christian community in this Council has got a right, it is nothing more than his bounden duty, to represent to this hon. House the disabilities and difficulties which attach to any particular section of the Christian community. It is therefore, Sir, on that ground of paramount duty that I would put it to this House that I, as a member of the Christian community, would mention to this hon. House the disabilities and the difficulties which are being faced and are being thrown to the lot of the Adi-Dravida Christians in this country. Now, I would ask, Sir, whether the Government have so far. . .”

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“On a point of order, Sir. Of course, I should not be understood to be wanting in any sympathy with the depressed classes, but I want to know whether this head of the Labour department would include the Christian population. If not, I think the speech is not in order.”

12-15
p. m.

[28th March 1931]

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ May I explain, Sir? I understand that the Labour department excludes from the purview of its scholarships the Christian Adi-Dravidas. It is because of that order, Sir, that I am speaking.”

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ In further explaining the point of order, I may say, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Daniel Thomas is wrong. He is trying to raise in this department, which is Labour—Transferred—a disability which no longer exists as far as my information goes, under the Transferred head of Labour. The difficulty or disability which he refers to still exists under Labour—Reserved. If I may be allowed to explain the matter further, I may say that as regards the complaint of the Christian community, I am in full sympathy with the representation made by my hon. Friend Mr. Daniel Thomas, but our complaint is that the Labour department gives a certain number of scholarships. If they have all been transferred to education, then I should say there is no point in discussing it under this head.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—“ Mr. Daniel Thomas may go on.”

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ Sir, I was just now asking whether the Government can make any distinction with any amount of justice between Christians belonging to Adi-Dravida sections and the Hindus belonging to the Adi-Dravida sections. I would ask the Government, Sir, if these scholarships are granted to the Adi-Dravida Hindus on the ground that they are Hindus, or on the ground that they are socially untouchables, I take it not. I take it, Sir, that the Government grant these scholarships to the Adi-Dravida Hindus because they are economically backward, because they are not able to help themselves in the matter of education and educational facilities, and because the Government have got a duty to perform to educate and give facilities for the education of all people who are economically backward. Now, I submit to you, Sir, that the same grounds should apply to the Christians belonging to the Adi-Dravida section. I would also submit to you, Sir, that once upon a time, perhaps in the history of this Presidency, missionaries were supposed to have come into this province with lots of money in their pockets, they were able to indent upon resources outside this country, they had simply to call for the money and that they would get any amount of finance for the education and for the uplift of their converts. But, I submit to you, Sir, that that time has long gone by. The missionaries in this province are not now in a position to run even their present educational and other philanthropic institutions. Much less are they able to give any sort of financial help to converts from the Adi-Dravida sections. Therefore, Sir, I would submit to you that, without any question, without any possibility of cavil, it may be taken for granted that the condition of the Christian depressed classes is as backward and as economically bad as is the case with the Hindu Adi-Dravidas. I therefore submit to you, Sir, that where the need exists, the help should also be given to the Christians of the Adi-Dravida sections. The Government are pledged to religious neutrality. At present I understand that they allow half-fees to a Hindu

28th March 1931]

[Mr. Daniel Thomas]

Adi-Dravida reading in a certain school, or he is allowed to draw a Labour scholarship, if in the course of his studies he or his parents do not become converts to Christianity. But as soon as they become converts, they are deprived of their Labour scholarships, though hitherto the Government allowed them such a concession. I would ask, Sir, whether such a position can be justified on the part of the Government which is pledged to religious neutrality? Is it not penalizing a man for his faith or for his religious belief if he is deprived of a scholarship to which he would otherwise be entitled? Is it not a circumstance which would go against the religious neutrality of the Government if they treat one community differently from another on the ground of their religion? Is it not a fact that the Government ought to give facilities equally without distinction of caste or creed to all sections of the community who are economically bad? I would put it to you, Sir, of all these various grants mentioned before this hon. House, the case for the grant of scholarships to Adi-Dravida Christians is as strong, is as clear, and is as necessary as the case for the granting of scholarships to Hindu Adi-Dravidas.

“ In this connexion I would make one observation. My hon. Friend who represents the Adi-Dravida Hindu in this hon. House said that the Government have not allowed the proper amount of grants which ought to be devoted to this department. I entirely agree and I am now pressing for the Labour scholarships on behalf of the Adi-Dravida Christians. In so doing, I do not want to take away anything of the scholarships which the Hindu Adi-Dravidas are entitled to. But I only press upon the Government that they should provide extra funds, and that these should cover the case of scholarships to be allowed to the Christian Adi-Dravidas also. I therefore make it plain that in this matter there is absolutely no rivalry or difference between Adi-Dravida Christians and Adi-Dravida Hindus. While giving all and every sort of facilities for the education of Adi-Dravida students, I would submit that the Government should, in addition to that, supplement the grants and allowances to the Hindus by providing for educational facilities to Christian Adi-Dravidas also.”

* Rao Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I feel very very sorry that such a motion has been brought before the House, because it interferes with the harmony of the communities by creating ill-feeling between those who embraced Christianity and those who follow the Hindu religion. These people live together. They are friends; they are brothers and they make no distinctions. Now this motion has been brought in, and it will create ill-feeling between these two classes. I am very sorry, Sir, that I have to shoulder the responsibility of answering my hon. Friends, and I am afraid it may be rather bitter. But I will promise, Sir, that I shall not be as furious as I was before. Now, Sir, to make the whole thing plain, if you will kindly permit me a little more time I shall be obliged, and I shall be enabled to touch on the history of this Labour department, to show how it came into being. I may be permitted to give to the House a brief history

[Mr. R. Srinivasan] [28th March 1931]

of the subject. In 1890 the missionaries of Chingleput sent a memorial to the Imperial Parliament drawing attention to the depressed classes and stating that they were social lepers. On receipt of that memorial the Imperial Parliament pressed the Indian Government to ameliorate the condition of the depressed classes. The Government of Madras called upon the District Collector, Chingleput, to inquire and report. The then Collector, Mr. Tremehere, submitted his report. On the review of the Revenue Board and their recommendation, the Local Government issued an order to grant lands to these depressed classes who were then called Pariahs. And, at the same time, an order was issued in connexion with educational facilities which, if I remember rightly, was about 1892 and which we called the Magna Charta. It was so liberal that if a teacher gathered seven children in a village, it should be recognized as a school and grant given to the teacher. But unfortunately teachers could not be found then because the castemen refused to teach the depressed classes children. The missionaries kept aloof watching for a chance to convert these depressed classes into Christianity. Now, that was the position in those days. Sir, about the year 1894 or 1895 I sent a few children to the Wesleyan Mission School, Royapetta, to admit them on half fees to comply with the Government Order, but the missionaries refused to admit them. On that I wrote and brought it to the notice of the Government; the Government took steps and on enquiry found that there was no public school for these classes of people. So they urged upon the municipality to start schools in Madras. Thereafter the Local Self-Government Department came into existence and local board schools were started in the mufassal. The Government all along have had in their minds, in these matters, the object of educating and ameliorating the condition of these untouchables by giving them State aid and education, but not education through religious propagandists. On the one side there was oppression by caste Hindus on the other side the missionaries were spreading their nets to convert the depressed classes into their religion. The depressed classes saw that their position was in danger. They organized and agitated. They brought their miserable condition to the notice of the public and Government. They sent memorials to Parliament and they tried their best to get redress of their grievances. They found that the only way to ameliorate their condition was to tackle the caste Hindus who are their oppressors, and adopt a policy that unless the caste Hindus raised their social ladder they would not allow caste Hindus to rise in the political ladder. They were therefore opposed to the granting of all higher appointments to the caste Hindus. They also opposed time after time the granting of self-government. So it was the depressed classes and untouchables fought for their rights and privileges. It was not the Christian converts that now come to share fruit of the labours of the depressed classes. Great statesmen like Naoroji and very many others have pressed on the Government to uplift these unfortunate depressed classes. Thereafter the Indian Government decided to appoint a protector of the depressed classes in the Madras Province, who was selected from among the senior members of the I.C.S. This department

28th March 1931] [Mr. R. Srinivasan]

was established with the idea of uplifting the untouchables by ameliorating their condition economically, socially and educationally. Up to now neither the Government nor the statesmen have ever thought of doing anything to our Christian friends, for their welfare is looked after by missionaries. All along they were thinking to give State education to the untouchables who had no help from any source. The Labour department has started schools in several districts of the Province. We may find Christian pupils creep into some of the institutions intended for depressed classes, but we need not take that into account. Now, Sir, talking about the Labour department I say the Labour department is only a preparatory one. It is not a permanent department. Thousands of schools were started by them in various places. The protector has officers to survey the districts and to provide schools where there are none and to provide the depressed classes with water-supply, paths, burial grounds, etc.

“ Five years after the schools were started, when the children came to prepare themselves for secondary education, the Director stepped in, and took those schools in his charge. Government thought it was not practicable for them to manage. So these schools were handed over to the Director of Public Instruction. There is another fact to be noticed. The children studying in the mission schools were left to stagnate for years. I have heard of cases from reliable authorities, where the children of the depressed classes were detained even for ten years in one and the same class, all with a view to keep the strength of the school, to gain grants and also to convert such children. When the Director took away these schools from the Labour department, why should he not take away all the elementary schools from the management of the missionaries? I do not see why the State should help one set of religious propagandists that spread education with a view to conversion. It is a wrong policy. The missionaries can have special schools for Christians just as Mussalmans have. Missionaries have several thousands of schools, several high schools and colleges. It will be found that out of 658,700 Indian Christians, there are 26,000 in schools, while out of 3,415,700 depressed classes there are only 234,000 in schools. Again in the University courses, the total number of Indian Christians is 1,082, while the depressed classes are only 63. In female education, it is just the same thing. The missionaries kept the depressed classes backward in education. The parents of the depressed classes are against sending their children to foreign religious schools. They will say that, though the missionaries were educating their children, they have not done it to the extent to which they ought to have done. The Government should not have left the education of the depressed classes in the hands of the missionaries. Sir, you will see in five or six years' time the depressed classes will grow far larger in number. I will quote what the Simon Commission say:

‘ It was said that converts, at any rate in British India, were drawn from the lowest class of Hindus, especially the depressed classes and the aboriginal type. People such as these have nothing to lose and so by abandoning their all and the religion they embrace, it gives them a new hope and a new standard. When a

12-30
p.m.

[Mr. R. Srinivasan] [28th March 1931]

member of the depressed class becomes a Christian, the census no longer includes him in the former category. The Indian Christians stand high in the table of literates. More than one in five of them are literates."

"Then again, Sir, I would like to bring to the attention of the hon. the Christian Members that the missionaries have done a good deal for the depressed classes. They established schools, churches, and organized congregations. Half a dozen Congressmen put together cannot be equal to one Protestant Christian in the capacity of an organizer. They are very powerful and well-organized. These unfortunate, helpless untouchables are no comparison to them. When the depressed classes endeavour to improve their status, it is not fair for the Christian converts to come back and lower themselves to the status of untouchables. I would advise them not to mix with the depressed in order to cause confusion and obstruction to the progress of the depressed. Christian converts may be changing from one position to another or wherever there is something for them to gain. The Christian converts were casting a slur on the depressed classes and thought they were higher. When that morsel of food thrown to the depressed is taken away to-morrow many of the converts will go back and say they are Christians pure and simple. I say such a change of front is not proper. Above all, the most important fact we have to face is the change of Government. The constitution is to be changed and we are all trying to adjust ourselves to meet our requirements. Each one of us under Lord Sankey's hammer is trying to bring the iron to a shape. To-day the Christian converts claim to be the depressed classes, to-morrow they will claim to be some other body. If they so struggle, in which part of the constitution are they to be? Here are the representatives of the Christians who went to the Round Table Conference. They were treated there quite as a different community; they have separate electorates and reserved seats. It may be pointed out that there is no such status for the depressed. By trying to get mixed with the depressed, the converts are doing immense injuries to the depressed. The depressed classes do not want the converts to be called Adi-Dravidas; their object in getting mixed up with the depressed is to convert them. It is in that spirit that this motion was brought. Here we are suffering and the Government knows that. The depressed are quite a separate community from the Christians. If they have any grievance let them express and get them redressed. A Christian is a Christian. There cannot be Hindu Christian and Muhammadan Christian. I hope the Government will bear this in mind and not to get the two communities mixed up and encourage any religious propaganda against the wish of a community."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I have given a cut motion referring to the condition of the cheris in which Adi-Dravidas are living. I want to refer to the state of public health so far as those cheris are concerned. I do not want to refer to the whole Presidency, but my object is to bring to the notice of the Government the condition of the cheris in the City. I find no money has been allotted for public health

28th March 1931] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

for these purposes in the City of Madras. There are five or six Government-owned cheris which are in a very deplorable position. The inhabitants there are as much human beings as any other set of people and Government's attention to them is so meagre that conditions there remain the same as several years before. These cheris have no wells, no proper drainage, no water-supply and nothing of the amenities which are required in these days for healthy life. Sir, I have had occasion to press upon the attention of the Corporation of Madras, where I am serving the interests of a division to take up the question of these cheris. But the funds of the Corporation are so inadequate that they cannot afford any further expenditure. If these cheris are taken up by the Corporation that will mean a very large additional burden. It is the duty of the Government to see that these cheris are abolished and that the present inhabitants are lodged in comfortable houses or to make some arrangement by which these cheris can be improved. Government have been very negligent towards the Adi-Dravida communities, as is the case even with regard to the other backward communities. It is patent that the Adi-Dravida community in Madras is lacking in many of the ordinary facilities and amenities which are so essential for a healthy life in the midst of a big city like Madras. These cheris have a very important bearing on the health of the City and Government must spend a few thousand rupees. Certainly it cannot be argued that the financial stringency has made Government not to make the necessary provision for this purpose. We have got the harbour division scheme for Rs. 45,000 to lodge the Adi-Dravidas in comfortable quarters. If the Government would take up that scheme, Corporation would readily undertake the building of these quarters and lodge the Adi-Dravidas whose number is increasing by leaps and bounds. It is a pitiable sight to see them living in open streets and on the pials exposed to sun and rain. On one pial there will be hundred families living with dirty jute curtains with dozens of persons belonging to each single family. If the Government think that the mortality rate in Madras should be reduced, then they must be prepared to take up each cheri every year and finish it in the course of six years though not simultaneously. If they cannot do it they must at least grant subsidies to the Corporation who are willing to get rid of these slums. Surely the cheri near the harbour is an eyesore and the first impression of a visitor to Madras is very bad when he looks at them. I do not want, Sir, that visitors from other countries when they arrive here should carry this first impression about our city. I therefore once again request the Government to take up the question of improving these cheris either in co-operation with the Corporation or without it, as the problem is becoming more and more urgent and calls for remedial action."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I had given notice of a cut motion to criticize the policy of distributing examinerships and assistant examinerships for Government Technical Examinations. Sir, this is a very sore question, and it has been continuing so for a very long time. Either the Government or the department of Government concerned, viz., the Education department, have no knowledge of the

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [28th March 1931]

condition of affairs in this matter, or they have been aiding and abetting things that have been going on in that part of the department. At present what is happening is common knowledge. The other day I raised a question as to how the Government has been allowing retired officers to be appointed again, and this is a case in point. The gentleman who is responsible for distributing these loaves and fishes of examinerships and assistant examinerships is one who had already retired from service, and he has been continued in this office for a very long time, and in order that this should be secured he has been gathering round him a number of persons to whom these examinerships and assistant examinerships have been given from time to time. Sir, I understand that most of these gentlemen who are given the examinerships and assistant examinerships are not qualified persons or persons who hold diplomas. In order that there might be a proper and qualified set of persons who could be appointed as examiners and assistant examiners, it is necessary that this sort of nepotism that is going on should be put down. I do not know why the Government does not look into this question. The Board of Examiners consists of persons who are most of them unqualified persons. It may of course be argued that they are really experienced persons and that no diploma is necessary. In reply we may say that the Government may as well abolish these examinations. If these examinations should be recognized as worth something, it is necessary that the Board should consist of a major part of qualified persons holding diplomas. Sir, it is a scandalous state of affairs that is going on now. I hope the hon. Minister will look into this question and see that things are set right, that they are not allowed to go on in the way they have been going on for several number of years and that no nepotism or favouritism is allowed in the department."

Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI—"Sir, I have also given notice of a cut motion to discuss the policy of the Government in the matter of the constitution of Board of Examiners for Government Technical Examinations and the appointment of Examiners and Assistant Examiners for technical subjects. The subjects in which the Board is said to conduct examinations are subjects like shorthand, Typewriting, Précis-writing, Book-keeping, Commercial Correspondence, Commercial Geography and such other subjects. There can be no two opinions, Sir, that to handle subjects like these, we require men with necessary technical qualifications. But I hear it said no more than one occasion and in more than one quarter and that for a very long time that we have on the Board to-day gentlemen who have absolutely no qualifications whatsoever to be there. When I say qualifications, I mean technical qualifications. It is also said, Sir, that in the matter of appointment of Examiners and Assistant Examiners, the appointments were made without any reference to the qualifications of the persons appointed to be examiners. Well, Sir, this is a state of affairs which ought to be enquired into and stopped at once. It may be that the present Minister for Education, the hon. Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, is himself not responsible for this state of affairs, because I have been

28th March 1931] [Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari]

hearing this complaint for a very long time, long before he came into that office. May I request him to see that a thorough enquiry is made in this matter and things are set right, and the irregularities which I think I am justified in characterizing as scandalous are put an end to."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Sir, I did not wish to say much about the vexed question of extending to the Christian members of the depressed classes the privileges which are given to the depressed classes. I have already said a great deal on this subject in connexion with the education grant. But in view of the turn which the discussion on this subject has taken to-day, I feel constrained to say a few words. It seems to me that a red herring has been drawn across the trail, and the issue has been entirely overlooked. The issue merely is, if any persons who belong to the depressed classes are converted to Christianity, do they become so much advanced in the social and economic scale that they do not any longer deserve any support from the State? There can be no question that members of the depressed classes on being converted into Christianity do not rise at once in their social and economic status to a large extent, if to any extent at all, so that State aid may become unnecessary in their case. In the very peculiar circumstances in which the depressed classes are placed in this country State aid is necessary. I tried to point out in my last speech that State intervention in the case of a socially and economically backward minority community is entirely unknown in other countries and that it is a special feature in India, because caste is a peculiar feature here and it has got included in the social fabric in an extremely peculiar way. It follows that conversion to Christianity does not in any way affect the question. The only issue is, on conversion to Christianity do the depressed classes become so superior to their Hindu brethren that they do not deserve any support. In this connexion, it is very interesting to know the genesis of the whole movement in favour of supporting the depressed classes. Sir Alexander G. Cardew in a speech in the Council in 1918 pointed out that the genesis of the Government decision to provide house-sites for Panchamas was to be found in a memorial submitted by the Rev. Mr. Andrews, a missionary of Chingleput, on the position of Pariahs and the desirability of providing them with house-sites. Sir Alexander Cardew also pointed out that in consequence of Mr. Andrews' representation Mr. Gray was appointed to make the necessary enquiry. It is interesting to note that the first enquiry was held in a Christian Pariah village. If the depressed classes enjoy some privileges to-day, it is due to the efforts made by the Christian missionaries in the beginning, and so it seems to me the height of ingratitude to say that the Christian depressed classes should not get any privileges. I am sorry to have to use such strong language, because the issue has been entirely misunderstood by my hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasan. We have nothing to do whatever with caste; we have nothing to do whatever with religion to-day. The State is bound to strict neutrality on the point of religion. I may as well point out that if the question of religion is imported into this question there will be trouble. Already Indian

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

[28th March 1931]

Christians are very sore on this point and they are penalized. If this sort of speeches is made here, it would greatly exasperate the Christians. I say that there is no ground whatever to make any discrimination on the ground of religion, and the only issue is, are the Christian depressed classes deserving of support or not. I should like to explain this to my hon. Friend Mr. Srinivasan who apparently cannot appreciate this point of view. I pointed out to him last time that we have no intention of depriving the depressed classes of any of the privileges they are getting now. He apparently thinks that these privileges are a preserve for a certain section of the depressed classes. I think that is an entirely wrong view. On the other hand, on behalf of the Indian Christian depressed class community I say, we have no intention whatever that any privileges should be curtailed so far as the Hindu depressed classes are concerned. We only want that the strict religious neutrality which the State has got to observe will be observed and that if necessary an additional grant may be made so that Christian members of the depressed classes may get the privileges which are now extended to only one section of the depressed classes."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, I had no intention at all of intervening in this debate, for as I specifically pointed out in connexion with the motion of Mr. R. Srinivasan he made in another grant, we really had no grievance against the Minister for Education. There was a time when we Indian Christians speaking on behalf of the entire depressed classes had a grievance. But I may inform him that at the present moment we have no grievance. But the debate has taken, I am afraid, a wrong turn altogether. The religious element has been brought into it quite unnecessarily, and I am sorry to say that the case of depressed classes has been put on a wrong track. I did not quite catch everything which Mr. Srinivasan said. But I cannot help thinking that Mr. Srinivasan has certainly made very ungenerous and, I should say, uncalled for remarks in this matter. My Friend Mr. Sreshta properly pointed out that absolutely strict neutrality in point of religion has to be observed by the State in giving scholarships to the depressed classes. It is not on the ground that they are Christians they should be excluded from such help, but that as belonging to the depressed classes they should get the help. The Labour department is there to help particularly not the Hindu depressed classes or Christian depressed classes. It does not stop to enquire the religion of the people. So long as they are treated as depressed classes, the Labour department and the Third Minister are prepared and ought to help them. As I said, at one time, we members of the Indian Christian community had a grievance, speaking on behalf of the Christian depressed classes. Since the subject was transferred to the Ministers I believe the difficulty could be set right. I understand that at present the scholarships given for members of the depressed classes are now in the hands of the Educational Department. So, what was once under the jurisdiction of the hon. Home Member has been transferred to the Minister, and I would rather think that we should be grateful for the change that the Government have made,

28th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

and we have really no complaint to make against the Government in this matter. I know the hon. the Home Member himself has been very sympathetic in considering this question of scholarships to depressed class Christians. Had he had anything to do with it even at present, I am sure he will deal with the question in a generous spirit. But I say, Sir, we have no grievance over the Government's attitude in the matter in the Education Department; and I am only sorry for the turn this debate has taken. It is very unfortunate."

Mrs. K. ALAMELUMANGATHAYARAMMAL spoke in Tamil as follows:— 1 p.m.

"தற்காலத்தில் உலகமெங்கும் கல்வியைக் கற்கவேண்டுமென்றும், எல்லா விடத்திலும் வியாபிக்கவேண்டுமென்றும் சகலரும் விரும்பும்போது, ஆதிதிராவிடர்களும் கல்வியை விரும்புவதில் விபிதிமொன்றுமில்லை. கவர்ன்மென்டார் சகாயத்தைக் கோருவதும் குற்றமாகாது.

"எனக்கு முன்னதாகச் சில சகோதர அங்கத்தினர்கள் தாழ்த்த வகுப்பினர் கள் முன்னேற்றத்தைப் பற்றிப்பேசினார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்களுக்குள் ஒற்றுமை யின்றி வேற்றுமை காட்டி இந்து ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் என்றும் கிறிஸ்தவர்கள் என்றும் வாதப் பிரதிவாதங்களும் நடந்தன. அப்பிரயய பேதங்களும் வெளிப்பட்டன. மற்றவர்களும் கவனிப் பதில்லையென எடுத்துக்காட்டப்பட்டது. ஆனால், பொது மன்றவர்களும் கவனிப் பதில்லையென எடுத்துக்காட்டப்பட்டது. ஆனால், பொது வாய் எனக்குத் தெரிந்தவரையில் இந்தாட்டில் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் தங்கள் முன்னேற்ற நிமித்தம் பாடுபட முற்படுவதற்கு முன்பு சிலவகையு காலமாகவே மேல் வகுப்பினர் என்னும் ஜாதியார்களுள் சில கல்விமான்சனும், உயர்தர உத்தி யோகஸ்தர்களும், வேறு பலரும், ஆதிதிராவிடர்களின் முன்னேற்ற நிமித்தம் பலவழிகளில் வேலைசெய்து வந்தார்கள் என்பது யாவருமறிந்த விஷயமே. நானும் அவர்கள் நிமித்தம் நெடுங்காலமாகப் பாடுபட்டுள்ளேன். கவர்ன்மென் டாரும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களின் முன்னேற்றத்தின்பித்தம் வேண்டிய உதவி ஒத்தாசைகளும் செய்தும் செய்துகொண்டும் வருகின்றார்கள்.

"மிஷனரிகளும் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு மதபோதனையைக் கற்பித்துத் தங்கள் மதத்தில் சேர்த்துக்கொண்டார்களென்று மாத்திரம் சொல்வதற்கில்லை. அவர் களுக்குக் கல்வி, கைத்தொழில், முதலியவைகளையும் கற்பித்து விர்த்திக்கும் கொண்டுவந்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதற்கு சந்தேகமில்லை. கிறிஸ்தவர்களான ஆதி திராவிடர்களுக்கு கௌரவமளிக்கிறேன். இந்துக்களாகிய ஆதி திராவிடர்களுக்கு அவ் வளவு இல்லையென்பதற்குமில்லை. முயற்சியும், பிரயாசையும் இருந்தால், அவர் களாயினாஞ்சரி, ஒருவர்மேலும் கொடுக்காமல் முன்வரலாம் என்பதே நியாய மாய்த் தோன்றுகிறது. கவர்ன்மென்டார் செய்யவேண்டிய உதவியை ஆதிதிரா வியர்களுக்கு அதிகமாய்ச் செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்வதை அட்சேபிப் போரிடில்லை. கிறிஸ்தவ ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு கவர்ன்மென்ட் உதவி செய்யவேண் டமென்று ஒருவர் பேசவும், இந்திய ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்குச் செய்யவேண்டுமென் று மற்றொருவர் பேசவும் இவ்வண்ணம் மத வித்தியாசங்களைக் குறிப்பிட்டுப் பேசிக் கொள்வதில் பிரயோஜனமில்லை. எம்மதத்தைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களாயினும், பொதுவாய் தங்கள் குலமுன்னேற்றத்திற்கும் பாடுபடுவது உத்தமம். ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவில் ஒருவரிருவருக்காவது உபகாரச் சம்பளங்களைக் கொடுத்துப் படிப்பித்து அவர்களைக் கொண்டு அக்குலத்தினர் நன்மையை கவனிக்கச்செய்யவேண்டும். கவர்ன்மென்டார் புதிய அரசியல் சீர்திருத்தத்திற்குமுன் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு பஞ்சாயத், யூனியன் போர்ட், தாலுகா போர்ட், டிஸ்ட்ரிக்ட் போர்ட், மாகாண சட்ட சபை, இந்திய சட்டசபை முதலியவைகளில் பிரதிநிதிகளாக நியமனம் செய்திருக் கிறார்கள். அப்படிச் செய்ததின் பலனாகத்தான் இப்போதும் இச்சபையின் கண்ணுள்ள பல ஆதிதிராவிட அங்கத்தினர்கள் தங்கள் வகுப்பின் முன்னேற்ற நிமித்தம் சிலர் பேசினதைப் பார்த்தோம். மிகச் சந்தோஷமாயிருந்தது. அவர் களுக்குக் கல்வி முதலிய விஷயங்களில் வேண்டிய உதவி செய்வதற்கு லேபர் கமிஷனரை நியமித்திருந்தும் போதிய நன்மை கிடைக்கவில்லையென்று சிலர் கூறுகின்றார்கள். என்னிடமும் சிலர் சொன்னார்கள். ஆதலால், அவர்கள் மக்க ளின் கல்வி முதலியவைகளுக்கு வேண்டிய உதவி செய்வதில் இவியும் அதிக கவனஞ் செலுத்தவேண்டுமென்பதை நானும் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகின்றேன்."

[28th March 1931]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I shall start by making a few observations with regard to the point which has raised a good deal of controversy. But this is not the first time we have heard from the hon. Members of this House that converts to Christianity from the depressed classes should have all the privileges which are granted to their brethren who still continue in their old religion. The Department of Labour, as hon. Members are aware, was constituted with a view to improve the condition of the depressed classes and the amounts which have been placed at the disposal of the Labour department were intended for that purpose. The question has come up more than once for consideration by the Government whether in the term 'depressed classes' should also be included converts to Christianity from the depressed classes. With regard to all the other ameliorative activities of the Labour department, expect educational concessions, the depressed class Christians have been given the same privileges as the Hindu depressed class people. As has been stated on this occasion and, as has also been generally recognized, the social and economic condition of the depressed class people continues the same even after their conversion to Christianity. So, with regard to any steps which are intended for the improvement of their condition in their relation to the higher class people of the villages and of their economic position, the Hindu and the Christian depressed class people are in about the same level. But with regard to the educational concessions that have to be granted, a different view was taken. The point was that, after their conversion to Christianity, they became members of a very influential and wealthy organization. It was therefore unnecessary that any public funds should be devoted towards making education easier and less costly for these people. Well, that is the policy which was accepted by the Madras Government. And, as I said, the argument which found favour (as has been observed by one of the hon. Members who was then in office) was that the activities of the department, which was specially constituted to deal with the disabilities of the depressed classes, ought not to be dissipated and ought not to be made to cover such a wide field that the needs of the depressed classes would receive nothing like the attention which the department wants to give them and the funds placed at the disposal of the Commissioner of Labour are being increasingly diverted to objects and to sections of the community which did not labour under these trying disabilities. Well, the question was also asked, to bring with great emphasis the fallacy of the argument that was advanced by converts to Christianity from the depressed classes, if such concessions are going to be given to Christian converts, what about the converts from the depressed classes to Muhammadanism? Do they claim such privileges and are they going to be granted such concessions? These are all considerations that influenced the Government in coming to the conclusion that, so far as the funds at the disposal of the Labour department were concerned, they ought not to be used for the purpose of giving educational concessions to members of the depressed classes who had become converts to Christianity. But it was at the same time recognized that

[28th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

there was a great deal of feeling amongst the Christians of the depressed classes, as my friend Mr. Thomas observed, that the influential and the wealthy organization which it was thought would back them in their educational progress was gradually ceasing to have the same influence and wealth and that it perhaps became necessary therefore for the Government to step in for their aid. The question was fully discussed by the Government and it was decided, Sir, that if educational concessions were to be granted, it should not be out of the funds which are set apart for the Labour department and which are primarily therefore intended to meet the needs, and to improve the conditions, of the Hindu depressed classes. If concessions were to be granted to the Christian depressed classes, it must be from other funds—from funds placed at the disposal of the Education department out of which the Director of Public Instruction could grant concessions to converts from the depressed classes. After this decision was taken in the year 1926, the number of scholarships and the number of fee concessions that were granted in previous years was very largely increased in the budgets of the succeeding years under the Education Demand. It was also resolved by the Government that such concessions by way of scholarships and fee concessions were to be granted not only to members of the Hindu depressed classes but could be granted to Christian converts from the depressed classes also. Accordingly a large number of scholarships are now being granted from out of the allotment placed at the hands of the Education department to members of the Christian depressed classes also.

"Then, Sir, the question was considered whether it was desirable to earmark any particular number of scholarships to Christian converts. Well, the point was fully discussed when my hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan was in charge of the Department of Education and it was thought that it would be introducing an invidiousness which would be desirable neither in the interests of the Hindu depressed classes nor of the Christian depressed classes. The point that has been emphasized by our hon. Brethren who are representatives of the Hindu depressed classes is that one cannot claim both to be a Christian and to be a member of the depressed classes. If he is a Christian and if he, on that account, loses caste, he cannot claim the privileges which the Hindu depressed class people can claim. Of course, theoretically speaking, it may be a sound proposition; but we must look at the realities of the situation. The depressed class people even after conversion to Christianity are looked upon by the higher communities in the same sort of spirit with which they were looked upon when they were Hindus. The Christians of the higher communities, it must be said to their discredit, treat the converts from the depressed classes in the same manner as the Hindus of the higher castes treat the Hindus of the lower castes. So, no doubt, theoretically, it was not proper to give any concessions to the depressed class Christians on the ground of their having belonged to the depressed classes. But still, it was thought necessary, in view of the realities of the situation, that concessions should be given. In this connexion what had to be guarded

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [28th March 1931]

against was the creation of a feeling in the minds of the Hindu depressed class people that any inroad was being made on the allotment that the Government were making from year to year for the amelioration of their condition. It was for that purpose that the Government definitely stood against any proposal which had the effect of diverting the funds which were placed in the hands of the Labour department to giving concessions and scholarships to Christians of the depressed classes.

1-15
p.m. "Sir, a good deal of this controversy was perhaps due to a slight misunderstanding of the real issue. My friend, Mr. Thomas, has, to a great extent, made the point clear by saying that it was not his intention to share with the members of the depressed classes who are still Hindus any of the amounts which the Government set apart for concessions to be granted to them. He said: 'Let them have the same concessions as they are having from the Government at present. Let them have even more. We do not propose to come in for any share with them with regard to the amounts which are intended for their benefit. But our condition is such and the reasons which influenced the Government in refusing us the concessions which the Hindu depressed classes are getting have so largely disappeared that it is necessary now that we also should be given educational concessions.' The Government have got the fullest sympathy with a demand of that kind, and it is to meet a demand of that kind, as I said, that a much larger provision was made for the grant of scholarships and fee remissions in the Department of Education, and I am sure that several students of the depressed classes who are Christians are getting the benefit of such concessions. When I have said this, I believe I have said something which will satisfy both the hon. Members representing Hindu depressed classes and the hon. Members representing Christian depressed classes. It is, no doubt, very regrettable that larger provision could not be made for the next year than what has been found possible. Liberal provisions were made in previous years for the grant of educational concessions and for improvement of the condition, in respect of public health, of the depressed classes. The provision last year was something like Rs. 4.68 lakhs. This year, even before the budget proposals were submitted to the Finance Department, various spending departments were warned that the amount available was very limited and that their demands must be restricted to a certain figure which the Finance Department fixed. Proposals were sent up to the Finance Department. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, pointed out, the Finance Committee applied the axe still further and reduced the amounts which were asked for by the departments in a rather unjustifiable manner and the reduced provision that is made now is due to the reduction made by the Finance Committee. The provision which was suggested for Part II schemes was about Rs. 1.28 lakhs and that has been reduced now to Rs. 0.62 lakhs. If, as hon. Members suggest, in the course of the year it is possible to find any money which can be allotted under this head, I shall certainly

28th March 1931] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

have great pleasure to do so and to make better provision for the purpose of education for the depressed classes.

"As regards hostels, the complaint was that there are not sufficient number of hostels at present for these depressed class communities. There are at present five hostels which are under Government control and there are a number of non-official agencies which are subsidised by the Government in varying degrees. For example, the Moir Hostel at Chidambaram which is under the control of my hon. Friend, Swami Sahajanandam, was started only quite recently. In the first year it received a subsidy of Rs. 2,000. In the very next year, that is, 1929-30 the amount was increased to Rs. 4,000 on the understanding that the strength was to be maintained at 50 and that, if any further expenditure was incurred, it must be at the cost of the Nandanar Kazhagam. Since 1929-30 no representations have been made and no recommendations have come from the Labour Commissioner saying that the activities of this hostel have so largely expanded that, in spite of the undertaking given in the year 1929-30, the Government will be justified in giving a larger sum. The present provision is Rs. 4,000 and I should submit that this is a fairly liberal grant and no case has been made out for an immediate increase over the increased provision which was made in the year 1929-30.

"As regards the Paddison Hostel, the point was raised that it was not advisable that admissions should be restricted to students coming from the mufassal areas. Of course, hon. Members will certainly realize that there is greater need for providing hostel accommodation to people who come from areas outside Madras. But admission is not confined to the mufassal students alone but students who live in the Madras city in insanitary and unhealthy surroundings have the same claims as students from the mufassal. At present the strength is about 55; it was only 40 some time ago and it has recently been increased to 55. I would submit to hon. Members of the House who consider the provision to be inadequate, that it is not because the Government are not alive to the necessities of the depressed classes but it is due entirely to the financial stringency with which they are faced at present."

. The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand XXVIII—Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred, for Rs. 13,24,900 was put and carried and the grant made.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I suggest, Sir, that the next demand may be taken up after lunch."

IV.—HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS.

At 1-25 p.m. His Excellency the Governor accompanied by his personal staff entered the Council Chamber. He was received by the Members of the Council standing. Taking his seat on the right side of the hon. the President, His Excellency addressed the House as follows.

[28th March 1931]

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR:—" Mr. President and hon. Members of the Legislative Council: As the business of the Council will finish unexpectedly this afternoon at an hour when I cannot be present owing to a long-standing previous engagement, I have taken the opportunity now of addressing to the Council some general observations which I should have made if I could have been present this evening.

" During the session which is just closing, although no Bill of outstanding importance, with the exception of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill, has been before the Council, a number of useful measures have been placed on the Statute Book.

" This Presidency, in common with the rest of the world, has been and still is suffering from economic depression due to a variety of causes which, as a general rule, are beyond the power of any Government to control. My Government have, however, come to the conclusion that, though it may not be within the power of any Government to deal effectively with those causes, it may be possible that steps can be taken which will have the effect of at any rate in some degree minimizing their evil results. With that purpose they have set up a committee which, while making a general survey of the whole position, will also examine and recommend to the Government what steps, if any, it is possible and advisable to take in such an emergency.

" With regard to the financial situation, I referred in my speech at the opening of the Council to the fact that such financial stringency existed, that, though my Government were prepared to finance the whole programme for which provision had been made in the budget of the current year, we could not continue that rapid development which has, of recent years, been so marked a feature of the Presidency. The financial position has not improved in any way since then and the Government are watching and will continue to watch carefully to see that the expenditure is well administered and for this purpose they have appointed an officer to examine all phases of Government expenditure to see where economies can be effected without detriment to good administration.

1.30 p.m. " But important as these matters are, I venture to think that, in public opinion at any rate, they are overshadowed by two other matters of even greater importance. First the Round Table Conference which assembled in London and which achieved results far in excess of the most sanguine anticipations of those who supported it. I would like here to refer to the very prominent part played by the delegates from Madras in that Conference. They took their full share of the work and made their influence felt, to the material advantage of the deliberations and we should all be highly gratified by their performance. It is almost impossible to overrate the value of the work done, for, we now have within the range of practical politics a Federation of British India and of Indian States which is no longer an Utopian dream but a very real and live possibility,—I think I should be justified in saying probability. But while expressing our gratification at what has been

[28th March 1931] [His Excellency the Governor]

done, we must not leap to the opposite extreme and imagine that everything has been settled. The Round Table Conference has but given us the skeleton of a scheme and it is for us here to furnish it with that flesh and blood which will vitalize it and bring it into actual being.

" The other event of very great importance has been the Irwin-Gandhi conversations that were held at Delhi, terminating in an agreement which in its turn involved the close of the civil disobedience movement and which I most fervently hope marks a new era in the history of India. With regard to the agreement itself my Government have been and are doing all they can to implement it as rapidly as possible. I have seen it stated that we were being dilatory, but I can honestly say that there has been no dilatoriness and that we have been actuated by the sole desire to deal as rapidly as possible with all cases subject of course to the obvious necessity that in some of them there must be a careful scrutiny and in those we have done our utmost to minimize any delay.

" One appeal I would make and I would make it with all the earnestness at my command. It is directed more to those outside this Council as hon. Members have already shown their appreciation of the situation that I am going to mention. The appeal is that we should not indulge in mutual recriminations over what is past. To do so can serve no useful purpose; it can lead us nowhere except to keep alive any feelings of bitterness that may have been aroused. The task that lies before us all is so great that the best brains at our command are required to deal with it—all our energies should be concentrated on solving and not on manufacturing and enhancing the many difficulties which must necessarily lie before us. It is no use shutting one's eyes to the fact that some questions which are peculiar to this country do involve very great difficulties, but I cannot bring myself to believe that, with good will on both sides, those questions cannot be satisfactorily decided. Even with the best intentions in the world some time must elapse before an agreed measure can be carried into effect, but we can at least use all expedition in coming to such an agreement. If we do not attack the various problems with the most wholehearted desire to find a solution, proceedings may be prolonged indefinitely which must necessarily arouse impatience and disappointment, but if, on the other hand, we go forward, facing difficulties which we meet, and we know that we shall meet them, with the one thought that those difficulties are there to be overcome, I have personally no doubt whatever that a constitution will be evolved which will be suited to India's needs and that a Federated India will before long take her rightful place among the comity of nations which constitute the British Empire.

" Mr. President and hon. Members of the Legislative Council,—I thank you for your attendance and for your labours during the session which closes to-day. I trust that you will all have a pleasant relaxation from them and I hope and pray that, when you reassemble, long steps will have been taken towards healing the wounds of the past and that we shall see signs of a new and brighter dawn breaking over this country." (Loud applause.)

[28th March 1931]

His Excellency the Governor accompanied by his personal staff then left the Chamber.

The House adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1931-32—cont.

DEMAND XXIX—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 83,09,900 under Demand XXIX—Civil works—Works—Reserved and Transferred.'"

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 83,09,900 for Civil Works—Reserved and Transferred be reduced by Rs. 100.'

"Mr. President, I do not wish to say very much on a subject which is considered to have been treated *ad nauseam* by Members from South Kanara. But from the beginning of the session, a large number of speeches have been made showing how badly South Kanara is served in the matter of roads and bridges. There are about ten rivers or streams to be crossed if one travels from north to south in the South Kanara district. There is not even a single imperial road maintained by the Public Works Department in South Kanara, whereas there are about three or four such roads in Malabar. If one wants to go by any vehicle from South Kanara to Malabar, he has to take a circuitous route through Mysore and Coorg. Recently, Sir, in connexion with the Tolls Abolition Bill it was pointed out that South Kanara will not benefit much by the abolition of tolls, because although tolls may be abolished, ferries will still remain. In those circumstances, the people of South Kanara are not very enthusiastic over the abolition of tolls. As a result of this new Bill, a large sum of money will be available to the Government for distribution to the various local bodies; and I trust that a beginning will be made for remedying the drawbacks which the Members from South Kanara have brought to the notice of the House. Apart from the contribution which would be available, there is also the contribution to the province from the imperial funds. I do not think any road deserves so much attention from the Public Works Department as the road between South Kanara and Malabar. There is no continuous road at present; and perhaps it would be somewhat troublesome to construct a continuous road; but I think the Public Works Department should face the situation and take up the construction of this road as early as possible. I would earnestly request the Minister for Public Works to pay his attention to the needs of the South Kanara district and see if the contributions to be made from the imperial funds cannot be utilized in providing a continuous road from Mangalore to Calicut. It will be remembered that as a result of the Tolls Bill, South

[28th March 1931] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

Kanara has got very much to lose. Unfortunately, the local bodies here did not recover any tolls from buses; and in calculating the amount payable to the local bodies in South Kanara, a much smaller sum than would have been otherwise payable, has been determined. Therefore, this is an additional reason why the Minister for Public Works should deal generously with South Kanara; and I trust that our voices from South Kanara will not be in vain, that they will be heard and that a beginning will be made to remedy the state of things which, I must say, is a discharge to the province."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, the improvement of the river Cooum has been engaging the attention of public men, both legislators and corporators, for some decades. Sir, the river Cooum is kept in a very unhealthy condition. It is allowed to emit foul odour in certain parts of the year; its banks and a portion of the bed are allowed to be utilized by the public as a huge latrine and they are at the same time large breeding places for mosquitoes. I think about 50 per cent of the mosquito nuisance in the city is due to the river Cooum. Not only this; the Government are allowing the sewage water from the General Hospital, from the Penitentiary and the Madras Railway Company offices to flow into the river Cooum. The river Cooum is connected on the eastern side with the Buckingham Canal. Into that canal, sewage water from all the Government buildings in Chempauk, the Revenue Board and other offices, the Queen Mary's College and the students' hostels, etc., is allowed to flow. So the river Cooum is made not only unhealthy but also filthy. According to section 264 of the City Municipal Act, Sir, the Corporation of Madras has got the power to compel the owner of a pool or pond or a water-course to make it healthy and to prevent its being a mosquito-breeding place; but unfortunately, Sir, the Government of Madras happen to be the owner of this Cooum, and no amount of remonstrances from the Corporation and also notices served on them will make them yield. Most probably they think that if the Corporation of Madras takes any action against them, they could retort in some other way as they have been doing. Sir, if it were a private owner, we have every right to prosecute the owner, execute the necessary repairs, and then recover their cost from the owner concerned. But here in this case, we have served a notice, and we are waiting to see what the Government are going to do. At present they are not doing anything in that direction. Sir, many improvements have been suggested at various times. There is sitting an expert Engineer there, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar; he has been trying to see that the Cooum is improved; but his attempts have been of no use. One suggestion, however, was to fill up the Cooum. I think that is the worst anybody can suggest. The Cooum is serving as a beauty spot in our city. If the Cooum is to be filled up, I think the beauty of one of the most beautiful cities in India will be gone. Another way in which it serves us is in the matter of bringing foodstuffs from various mufassal places and also firewood to our city at a cheaper rate than otherwise would be the case. Moreover, Sir, it acts as a lung to our

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [28th March 1931]

city and an air lane by which we are having a free circulation of air. I learn this suggestion is dropped now. If it is taken up at any time, even if I cease to exist in the city, I request the posterity to see that this stupid step of filling up the Coom is not taken up. I hope the State and the Legislative Council will see that such a bad step is never undertaken.

“ Another suggestion is to have the Coom continually connected with the Harbour. I think that is a very wise step, but the Government have not done it.

2.45 p.m. “ Sir, the other suggestion was that a dredger should always be working, so that the bar should always be kept open and there may be a continuous flow of water from river into the sea. I do not know why we are not able to do this. Sir, there are engineers and engineers in our Presidency. There were also engineers who constructed the Suez Canal and the Panama Canal and I wonder whether the Madras Government is in dearth of such experts to keep the water of the Coom continuously flowing into the sea. Such is the state of things with regard to the Coom.

“ The next suggestion that is in operation now, though suspended for some time, is to pump the water from the sea into the Coom and after a few days remove the bar to allow the water to flow back into the sea. That of course was taking away some of the odour, but at the same time they should have removed the silt from the river, but they have not done so. For some time they suspended even this work. But now that they have taken it up, I hope they will continue it. Moreover, what I would suggest is that they should slope the edges of the river with concrete, so that there may not be flat space where water will accumulate and thus breed mosquitoes and a wall should be erected right through along the bank of the river within the city leaving of course some space for a flight of steps so that people if they want to approach the water may do so. That is to prevent the people from making the Coom a huge latrine. As I already suggested, there should also be a dredger working at the bar always so that communication may be established between the river and the sea permanently. The silt from the bed of the river should also be removed. One gentleman said, why should so much money be spent on a river which affords comfort to Madras alone? I can only say, we do not want it for the sake of the city, but it is the duty of the Government to do it and if it does not do it, the Corporation should be bold enough to undertake that task—I hope the Members of the Corporation who are here will take steps against the Government and prosecute the Government—I do not know who should be prosecuted—and even then if improvements are not undertaken, the Corporation will execute the work and recover the cost from the Government. I hope Government will consider these suggestions and take up the work. As a matter of fact, Sir, the Masonic lodge people and the authorities of the Connemara Hotel are keeping the bank of the Coom corresponding to their place very neat and clean by sloping the bank with

28th March 1931] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

concrete. I therefore request the hon. Minister to see that the river Coom is kept as clean as possible. I may here instance the case of Valiyathodu in Alleppey which is kept very beautiful and it cost the Government of Travancore one lakh of rupees. When the Travancore Government are able to spend so much, why not the Madras Government for this river? The Madras Government is slow in doing things which are beautiful and æsthetic in any way. I do not know also why the Civil Works department which spends lots of money on other things cannot make the River Coom at least within the city as beautiful as possible. If that is done our city will become healthy.

“ Sir, it was just now brought to my notice by an hon. Friend that among those people who are employed in the Civil Works department there is disparity in the matter of appointment of persons belonging to various communities. There are no Muslims in the department; there are no members of the depressed and of several other communities. I hope the hon. Minister will look into it and see that chances are given to all the communities alike. One radical mistake that is committed is that in the matter of recruiting students, the claims of all the communities are not taken into account. It is there that the mistake arises. I hope the hon. Minister will see that the people who are in charge of admitting students into the college give proper representation to all the communities and thus redress their grievances.”

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I gave notice of a motion in order to draw the attention of the House to the fact that though the demand is made under the transferred half, it is really a demand made by the reserved half of the Government and that most of this large amount is really to be spent for residences for members belonging to the reserved departments, for instance, putting up of bungalows for Collectors, District Judges, Superintendents of Police and people of that sort. Now, the Finance Member in his speech on the 2nd March said:

‘ When we come to the Budget of 1931-32, we find a provision of about three and a half lakhs for bungalows for officers which include necessary residences at the new district headquarters at Ellore; Rs. 6½ lakhs is for other residential quarters ’.

“ Thus altogether it comes to ten lakhs for building residential quarters for officers. Now, if we are not going to spend these ten lakhs, we will have a surplus budget, instead of a deficit budget for the deficit is only 9 lakhs. As a matter of fact, residential quarters for other lower grades of officers are quite unnecessary, because they would prefer to rent houses which they like, to suit their choice rather than live in houses built by Government and pay rent at Government rates for such buildings.

“ Then again, Sir, to show the waste that is occurring, I will take a few examples. The cost of putting up a bungalow for the Collector of East Godavari at Cocanada is Rs. 61,800. I believe, the rule governing the occupation by officers of Government quarters is that the officer has to pay 6 per cent on the Government outlay or 10 per cent of his

[Mr. R. M. Palat]

[28th March 1931]

pay whichever is less. The pay of the present Collector is Rs. 2,000 and 10 per cent of this will work out to Rs. 200 a month. The rate of interest at 6 per cent on the total outlay will work out to Rs. 400, that is if we add to the Rs. 61,800 the value of the land on which the building has to be erected and allow for depreciation. Thus we are making a present of practically Rs. 200 a month to this official. That is to say, we are adding Rs. 200 more to the pay of the Collector of East Godavari, when everywhere there is a demand for a cut in the pay of the officers. In this connexion, I may mention that the late Chief Justice of Madras, Sir Murray Coughton Trotter, was paying Rs. 200 as rent for the house in which he was living in Victoria Crescent by name 'Austerlind' while for a long time he was staying in his club at less. So, he was paying Rs. 200 for a house in Madras where the house rent is much higher than in the mufassal and the Government is giving a house for Rs. 400 a month to Collectors in the mufassal. That is to say, Government is treating the Collector much better than the Chief Justice of Madras treated himself, probably because in the one case the officer paid out of his income, while in the other case it was somebody else that pays the money.

"I will just go through some of these Collectors' buildings. The Ellore Collector's residence is to cost Rs. 59,000. The hon. the Finance Member especially mentioned this house by saying that it is necessary. If Ellore is such a God forsaken place that no houses can be rented, why should Ellore be chosen as the headquarters of the district or why does not the Government put up a small building at a cost of Rs. 10,000 or so like some of the travellers' bungalows for him to live in? I wonder why these palaces should be built for these people.

"Then again, there is to be a building for the Sub-Collector at Tirupattur at a cost of Rs. 39,000; another for the Sub-Collector at Hosur for Rs. 40,800. His pay is Rs. 1,200 and so rent, I presume, is Rs. 120; and again at Madura the Sub-Collector is to have a residence at Devakottai for Rs. 39,100. This is the only figure which includes the value of the site, as mentioned in the budget estimate supplied to us. Then in East Godavari, the District Judge at Rajahmundry is to have a residence costing Rs. 56,400; the West Godavari District Judge at Ellore is to have a residence for Rs. 59,000. He gets a pay of Rs. 1,500 and presumably the rent that he has to pay will be Rs. 150. Again at Anantapur the District Judge's bungalow has to be built at a cost of Rs. 56,400; at West Tanjore, the District Judge's bungalow will cost Rs. 58,200. His pay is Rs. 1,700. There is to be another bungalow for the District Judge, Tinnevely, for Rs. 54,340.

"Then turning to the Police department, the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Rajahmundry, is to have a residence for Rs. 26,100; and the one at Narasapur for Rs. 35,190. If you see the Civil List, you will find that the maximum pay of an Assistant Superintendent of Police is Rs. 700, so that his rent would work out to be Rs. 70 per mensem and perhaps the average will be much less because it is the maximum pay of an Assistant Superintendent of Police that is Rs. 700, and the

28th March 1931]

[Mr. R. M. Palat]

Government cannot always be getting the maximum rent of Rs. 70 in all cases. In all these cases the rate works out to be roughly between 3 and 4 per cent on the Government outlay.

"Now, we find that under the Land Improvement Act and the Agriculturists Loans Act, the Government advance money to the agriculturists at the rate of $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent and there is at present a proposal to increase this rate to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. While the agriculturists and the peasants are charged this high rate, they are charging the Government officials only 4 per cent or less. Could anything be more irresponsible? Although the money advanced to the agriculturists is productive and makes a return from land on what is paid to them, depreciation is the result in the case of buildings constructed for officers of Government. If this sort of thing were to be done by a trustee, i.e., advancing money to his own people at lower rates of interest than to others and if the matter were taken to a court of law, the trustee will get into serious trouble indeed, and remember these people say that they are the trustees for the country.

"I believe, Sir, some years ago it was the rule that Government officials should pay either 3 per cent on the capital outlay or 10 per cent of their pay, whichever was less. It was I believe in 1920 that this was changed and 6 per cent was substituted in the place of 3 per cent. Even in 1920, perhaps it was the intention of those who were in power then that Government officials should be made to pay at the rate of 6 per cent, so that it follows that they should construct residences at half the present cost. That perhaps was the intention even then, but even that, as I stated before, is far too much under the present conditions. Sir, I believe it was Mr. Daniel Thomas who mentioned the other day, that the late Mr. Gladstone jibbed at the idea of turfing his lawn at 10, Downing Street, at the public expense, but here we do not find any such reluctance on the part of these people, who would not only turf the lawn but also put up residences for themselves out of public money.

"Again, Sir, we have been agitating so long for the abolition of the Board of Revenue and why should the Government think it fit at this moment to bring in a proposal to construct a tiffin and motor shed for the Board of Revenue for Rs. 21,750? In all these cases, we see that although Government rate is supposed to be 6 per cent on the capital outlay, they really get only 4 per cent or even much less.

"We are now having the process of Indianization, and in the course of a few years we will have Indians occupying those positions that are to-day occupied by European officials. Now it is a well-known fact that the Indian does not want to live on this luxurious scale in these expensive buildings that are proposed to be built. He is content even with a less pay and he will discharge the duties that are now done by the European officers as efficiently as they do for less. This is recognized by the Government when it pays an Indian Provincial Service District Judge less than an I.C.S. District Judge and a Deputy Superintendent 3 p.m.

[Mr. R. M. Palat] [28th March 1931]

of Police less than Assistant Superintendent of Police for exactly the same work. Therefore it is unnecessary to build these quarters in such furious haste as is proposed to be done now. Further we are now on the eve of provincial autonomy and if we now spend all the money available on these residences we will be merely crippling the finances of the province to the lowest level thus making it impossible for the new reforms to be worked successfully. Already the large sums of money that we got from the Government of India have been dissipated; and the other day we heard Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar saying that the fishermen in the south are suffering from want of good drinking water; and in the matter of public health the amount of grant in this year's budget is less than what it was last year. Now instead of spending money on these matters Government are investing money in putting up expensive residences benefiting only a handful of officials. No doubt in their eyes it is more important to build palaces for themselves than to supply pure drinking water to the poor. In yesterday's paper we saw that the Government of India are prepared to cut down their expenditure to the extent of one crore of rupees in their budget, but so far we have not seen any constructive proposal from the Government of Madras in this direction. Most of my remarks apply with equal force to the Agency tracts, but as this demand does not extend to them I will not dwell on that now. Now if the European officials feel the need for proper residential quarters in any place let them put up or take for themselves the fittest buildings, i.e., the travellers' bungalows. This is doubly fit as they are all merely sojourners in this country and these bungalows contain all the necessary conveniences which only is it incumbent on the State to provide, i.e., if the State should provide anything at all. I wish to bring prominently to the notice of this House that, if they were able to preserve their local prestige and live in this country all these years a hundred years or more since the British occupation without these residential quarters, they can as well continue for the next two years without them and give a chance to the new 'autonomous' Government to spend some money. Sir, I have nothing more to add now on this subject and so I resume my seat."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, Sir, after the eloquent speech of the hon. Member for the City of Madras, Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, who is acknowledged to be the first citizen and the foremost man in the city, it is hardly necessary that I should speak on this matter. However, I should like to say a word or two on this motion. In this connexion, I would like to say that the river Cooum should be improved. It is a well-known fact that the Cooum is only two feet above the sea level and therefore it is not a difficult affair to clean the river by removing silt to the extent of two feet. If that is done the sea water will naturally flow into it and clean the whole course of the river in the city without any trouble. Then I would like Government to acquire a continuous plot of land on either bank of the Cooum and put up parks on those plots so that the river may present a good appearance. From my experience of Madras I can say that the lands adjoining

28th March 1931] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

the Cooum on both its sides are not such valuable sites as to prohibit acquisition; and knowing as I do the value of land in the city, it is not so costly as it is in the City of Bombay for instance—I may assure the Government that the cost would not be prohibitive. Therefore, Government can very well acquire sites on both banks of the river and turn them into parks.

"Now with regard to the other point raised by the hon. Member from Malabar, Mr. Palat, the hon. Member has made out a very good case when he said that it is bad policy for Government to provide quarters for their officers at the expense of the State. As was pointed out, quarters are being put up at a cost ranging from fifty to seventy thousand rupees; and if we are to calculate interest on that sum, say, at the rate of 6 per cent, it will come to somewhere about three hundred rupees a month. The hon. Member from Malabar pointed out that the officer who occupies these bungalows seldom pays more than Rs. 100 or Rs. 120. And I would like to ask the Government whether it is good business to build quarters at a cost of Rs. 60,000 or Rs. 70,000 and rent them out for Rs. 100 or Rs. 120.

"There may be some justification for erecting quarters at the expense of the State in out of the way places where it will not be possible for the officer to get a house to live in. As was said by Mr. Palat, Government may construct bungalows in places like Ellore where it is not possible for an officer to get a good and decent building for rent. But in cases like Trichinopoly, which is considered to be the third city in the Presidency, I can hardly understand how Government can put up quarters. It was only the other day I was there and I was surprised to see Government creating, as it were, a new colony by putting up quarters for all Government officials on a piece of ground far from the city proper. This practice of segregation—if I may so call it—is most reprehensible if they want to get away from the maddening crowd and if they refuse to mix with the ordinary people. I can hardly understand how Government can justify their existence. By making them live away from the people, how can you expect them to attend to the grievances of the people?

"A third important matter I should like to bring to the notice of the Minister is with reference to page 25 of the Civil Budget Estimates, where he will see an item thus:—

'South Presidency.—Conversion of a portion of the foreshore of the Marina into playgrounds for the Presidency College, Madras. No doubt the idea is a very good one, and I also share with Government the great need for a playground to the students of the Presidency College. My loyalty to the Presidency College compels me to consent to this proposal. But my love for the City of Madras and its citizens is greater and therefore, I am bound to oppose this grant. I repeat I am quite alive to the necessity of a playground to the Presidency College, but still let me assure the hon. Second Minister that the step he is now taking is a retrograde one, as in fact he is depriving the citizens of Madras of one of the finest, nay the only recreation ground that

[Mr. V. T. Arasu] [28th March 1931]

they can find. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to reconsider his decision and not allow the Presidency College to convert the foreshore of the Marina into a playground."

Mr. K. A. NACHAYAPPA (FOUNDER):—" Mr. President, Sir, while hon. Members are speaking of the amenities of their respective places, I don't think I shall be doing my duty if I do not voice forth the needs of my district. Sir, at present there is a bridge across the Cauveri at Bhavani and then for a distance of 100 miles till you come to Trichinopoly, there is no bridge at all. And Government have no idea of putting up a bridge at some place midway between Bhavani and Trichinopoly. I understand that Government, some years back, began to investigate into this matter, but it appears that after some time, they gave up the idea altogether; and I don't know what reasons weighed with them in coming to that conclusion. Quite recently, a resolution was passed by the Coimbatore District Board to have a bridge at Pallipalayam, just 10 miles below Bhavani; and the District Board, Salem, was consulted in the matter and it agreed to the proposal. And now the matter has been referred to the Government. I hope Government will come forward and give a liberal grant for the bridge to be constructed at that place; and also they will find it convenient to put up a bridge at a place just midway between Bhavani and Trichinopoly, i.e., just near Velur or Mohanur in Salem district. Both are important places where there is no conveyance to cross the Cauveri. Now, if a person owning a car, wants to cross the river there and go to Karur, he will have to drive the whole distance to Bhavani, cross the river there, then come back to Erode and then go to Karur. Now, if he has a bridge at that place, he can easily get access to Karur by traversing about 8 miles. But as it is, he has now to travel more than 100 miles. So to alleviate the suffering of the two districts, I would request Government at once to take up the matter in hand and put up a bridge across the river connecting the districts of Trichinopoly and Salem. Besides, I will also urge upon the Government to give half the grant to the putting up of a bridge at Pallipalayam since the two districts are coming forward to bear half the cost."

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, Mr. Sreshta said that the public works in his district should be enlarged. I fear we have no roads, so far as I remember, in South Kanara maintained by the Public Works Department (laughter), and I think he should address the hon. Chief Minister on that matter. If, in any case, the Public Works Department have anything to do with South Kanara, I shall certainly consider the suggestions made by him. (Laughter.)

3-15 p.m. " Sir, my Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, spoke a good deal about the river Cooum. I agree with him in thinking that the Cooum is not very clean but for that the Corporation and the inhabitants of Madras are responsible. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" How? ") Taxes are being collected and that money ought to be utilized for improving the Cooum. Though the property may be ours, it is mainly used by

28th March 1931] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

the inhabitants of Madras. Sir, various suggestions were made for the improvement of the Cooum. Eventually, it was found possible only to pump water from the timber basin of the Madras harbour through a main. In that way, we are just keeping the river Cooum clean throughout the year, not only in the summer months. For the last few months, owing to the repairs effected by the South Indian Railway Company, in connexion with the electric railway, water could not be pumped, but I am told, it has been re-started. It is only in that way that the Cooum is being kept clean. With reference to Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar's statement that he would prosecute the Government, I am glad to hear that he stated that the Corporation would carry out the necessary repairs and then claim the cost from the Government. I am willing to face even a prosecution provided the Corporation can take the responsibility of repairing the Cooum. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" And recover the cost from you? ") If the courts decide in favour of the Corporation, they can get the money. Joking apart, Sir, I would certainly consider my hon. Friend's suggestion, and will consult the President and the Commissioner of the Corporation, and see whether both parties cannot combine and do something to make the Cooum healthier and better. My Friend said that there is some scheme under the consideration of the Government to fill up the Cooum. But as far as the officers of the Public Works Department are aware, there is no such scheme at present under consideration.

" Sir, then there were some remarks made about the disparity in the proportion of appointments in the Public Works Department. I believe the communal rule has been applied in the case of initial recruitment to the department in future. There is a proposal under the consideration of the Government, namely, that there should be direct recruitment for the assistant engineer's cadre. When the Government finally make up their mind about direct recruitment, efforts will, I hope, be made to see that all communities are represented.

" Then, Sir, I come to my Friend Mr. Palat. My Friend pointed out, and rightly pointed out that, as far as the Public Works Minister is concerned, he is not directly responsible for all the schemes which are being executed by the department. The department carries out the work that is given to them by other departments. All the same, the Public Works Department is very careful to see that economies are effected as far as possible. As for residences, as has been pointed out by Mr. Palat himself, 3½ lakhs is not too much of a sum to be spent on buildings. But I may say that Government have this principle in mind in putting up buildings for officers, and that is, wherever houses are available and can be had, they are not going to build buildings. Sometimes, it is next to impossible to secure houses. Officers are also, in some cases, placed in a very difficult position when houses are available under circumstances which might bring about undesirable relationship between the proprietors of houses and the officers. In these circumstances, it is far better in the interests both of the Government

[Mr. P. T. Rajan]

[28th March 1931]

and of the officers that they should be given accommodation without placing officers in an awkward position. Moreover, Sir, buildings are given to officers when they have to reside close to their offices, such as Police stations, schools, jails, factories and so on. And we find that the Government resorts to the alternative of putting up buildings when proper houses are not available and it is found that hiring or purchase cannot be effected economically. When buildings are proposed to be purchased or construction of residences decided upon, the Government see that the cost thereof is kept as low as possible. At the same time in trying to keep the cost low, we also see that the buildings are put up in a way to be in keeping with the status of the officers concerned. As has been pointed out by the hon. the Finance Member himself, about 3½ lakhs, 6 lakhs, and 9½ lakhs is not after all very much; considering the fact that the Government have to put up so many buildings for schools, offices and so on, this sum is very poor indeed. All the same, Sir, My Friend's suggestion that the Government should, as far as possible economise the expenditure, will be borne in mind and they will see that they are as economical as possible.

"Then, Sir, my Friend, Mr. Arasu, while supporting his leader and friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar's remarks about the river Cooum and so on, eventually wound up by saying that Rs. 20,000 proposed to be spent on the playground for the Presidency College is unnecessary. I am afraid I do not agree with him. After all, we have been trying to provide facilities for playgrounds. (A Voice:—'Not on the foreshore but elsewhere.') The cry generally raised is that the Government and the authorities concerned for opening and maintaining schools are not giving enough accommodation for playgrounds. In this case, if we are going to give facilities for playgrounds for the Presidency College, the playground must be as near as possible to the institution concerned. There is no use of having a playground far away from the Presidency College, such as Guindy or any other place. It is not possible to get any place elsewhere, and the foreshore of the beach is found big enough to give accommodation without causing inconvenience to anybody. (A Voice:—'It is called the second best marina in the world.') The facilities of playground will not interfere in any way with the beauty of the beach or its usefulness to the public.

"Now, Sir, in the end, my Friend Mr. Nachiappa Gounder said that he wanted a bridge between Erode and Pallipalayam. Sir, there are already at least two bridges over the Cauveri connecting the Salem and the Coimbatore districts. Anyhow, if my Friend wants another bridge to be put up, it is easy for him to persuade my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnasabhapat Mudaliyar and my hon. Friend Mr. Ellappa Chettiyar. It is a matter primarily for the district boards concerned to take the initiative. And if the district boards of both these districts send up their proposals, I am sure my hon. Colleague the Chief Minister will be quite willing to consider them. With these assurances, Sir, I hope the hon. Mover will withdraw his motion."

28th March 1931]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, the hon. Member for South Kanara, Mr. Sreshta raised the question of the improvement of roads and bridges in the South Kanara district. South Kanara, I may say, Sir, has loomed largely in the discussions on the various demands as also in the General Discussion of the Budget. I may, for the information of the hon. Member, say that Government have provided in the Budget for 1931-32 Rs. 75,000 for the improvement of culverts and bridges on trunk roads and on second-class roads. The total commitment of the Government in respect of these bridges is Rs. 1,81,000 as against the total cost of 2 lakhs. And for next year, Sir, Rs. 75,000 has been provided. There are five works which are taken up. The main question that was raised by Mr. Sreshta is about the need for improving the Calicut-Mangalore road by providing bridges across the various crossings and make it a continuous road fit for traffic. That is a question which the Government are already considering in connexion with the improvement of trunk roads, and Government will address the President, District Board, to get the estimates ready and send them up; and as soon as the estimates are received, the question will be considered as to how far provision can be made for it next year, that is, 1932-33."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"In view of the remarks made by the hon. the Minister for Public Works and the hon. the Chief Minister, I beg leave of the House to withdraw the motion."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I object Sir, to the motion being withdrawn."

The motion was put and lost.

The main Demand No. XXIX for the grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 83,09,900 for Civil Works—Works—Reserved and Transferred was then put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXX—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,95,400 under Demand XXX—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant—Transferred."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I would just like to ask for some information concerning the establishment of the Public Works Department. The Finance Member the other day promised to appoint a Committee for examining the question of retrenchment in all departments of Government. With reference to the Public Works Department, the first question that I would like to put is what exactly this Committee is going to do, whether it is merely going to examine the necessity for the present personnel, pay and allowances or whether this Committee will be authorized to go into the question of policy also. It must be obvious to the hon. Members that if the scope of the investigations of the Committee

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [28th March 1931]

were to be confined to the former of these items, I am afraid we shall not be in a position to effect any very considerable retrenchment. I need not explain the necessity which exists for a considerable measure of retrenchment of expenditure in view of the fact that even now we are faced with financial stringency. The present condition will be all the worse when Government is faced with the loss of excise revenue, with the modification of the present revenue assessment, the possible reduction of stamp duty, etc. In view of all these facts, I do not think Government will dispute the necessity for effecting the largest measure of retrenchment possible and this cannot be done by a Committee without dealing with the question of policy. To illustrate, let us take the Public Works Department with which we are at present concerned. The question of retrenchment in the Public Works Department was examined by the Retrenchment Committee in 1922-23. That Committee, Sir, followed the first of these principles, viz., an examination of the question of the existing personnel and allowances and did not even examine the question of salaries. May I ask whether the question of the necessity of the present salaries will be examined now? The necessity for examination of this matter will be obvious. When salaries were increased soon after 1918 the argument was that prices had arisen and that consequently the scales of pay fixed years ago could not apply and officers must be given relief with reference to the conditions prevailing then in the prices of commodities, house-rent, etc.; prices have considerably fallen and they have to-day reached to what obtained in the year 1914. It was on the ground of increase of prices that these salaries were increased, and so the salaries should go down now to the level that was previously in existence. If this preliminary point is accepted it should be applied right through the line to all people to whom increase was granted. We should save not a paltry sum of 60 or 70 lakhs but something like two crores. I am not prepared to say that it ought to be done. If my argument is accepted that the salaries should be adjusted to correspond to the level of prices of commodities, we have no argument for defending the present scale of salaries. Coming to the question that I asked whether the retrenchment committee would be authorized to examine the question of policy, may I ask with reference to this department whether they have any idea of changing their present policy in the matter of establishment? When this question of the Public Works Department was examined years ago it was proposed that the buildings and roads branch should be abolished practically. They suggested that the system of carrying out works through the instrumentality of a paid public works establishment should be given up and in its stead they should employ for the purpose of designing and execution large contracting firms of consulting engineers. Then the designing and execution by the present staff will become unnecessary. Then the committee recommended the amalgamation of the minor irrigation staff with the Public Works Irrigation Staff. Effect has not been given to that. There is another point which was not solved by the committee but it came to a conclusion with which I do not

28th March 1931] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

agree. I mean the proposal to hand over the construction of buildings and maintenance of roads entirely to local bodies. The previous committee had some administrative difficulties. Whatever administrative difficulties might have been then, conditions are changing and in a couple of years conditions would have so changed that there would be no difference between "reserved" and "transferred" and so forth. In view of the changed conditions it seems to me that the committee should now decide in favour of handing over to local boards the construction of roads and buildings with slight alterations and it will be possible to do away with the maintenance of the building and Boards Branch of the Public Works Department. Even if these conditions are realised, there would be necessity for an inspecting staff, but it would not be anything like the present staff. These are important questions and unless these questions are satisfactorily answered, viz., the question of the necessity of the examination of the present scales of pay and the question of the investigation of policy, no effective retrenchment will be possible. If they are not going to be considered, the retrenchment committee would do precious little. I hope the endeavour to secure the reduction of unnecessary expenditure is genuine and Government will do its best to get the maximum amount of retrenchment possible. The retrenchment committee of 1922-23 reported with reference to the establishment which was then obtaining. If you compare that with the present you will find now the tendency for all establishments to increase has nullified the previous retrenchment. When Sir Patro was the Minister he effected considerable retrenchment in establishment and after the retrenchment committee disappeared the retrenchment also disappeared. I think this is a point that requires considerable examination."

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Sir, as regards the particular matters which my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar drew attention to, I thought that, in the remarks I made on the Retrenchment Committee in my speeches at the time of introducing the Budget and during the course of the general discussion on the Budget, I had made it clear that the field of the Committee's enquiries would be quite unlimited. I see no reason why, for instance, it should not go into the question of salaries which my hon. Friend just referred to, nor do I see any reason why it should not go into the question of policy, such as of employing contractors in lieu of having a big Government staff for carrying out public works, or again employing the District Board Engineering department for Government buildings and works, provided always that the main object we have in view, that is of economy, is attained. Personally, I should be prepared to extend the field of their enquiries also to these matters any way."

3-45
p.m.

"Again, as regards the last point my hon. Friend mentioned that the establishments in which Sir Patro effected various economies have gradually cropped up again, I shall have no objection if the

[Mr. H. G. Stokes] [28th March 1931]

Finance Committee or the Retrenchment Committee applies the pruning knife to lop off some of the luxuriant growth. I think that answers the points which my hon. Friend raised."

Demand XXX—Civil works—Establishment and Tools and plant—Transferred, for Rs. 34,95,400, was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXXI—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 96,93,200 under Demand XXXI—Civil works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred'."

Mr. H. B. ARI GOWDER:—"Sir, I move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 96,93,200 for Grants-in-aid be reduced by Rs. 100'

in order to draw attention to the inadequacy of grants for roads and to plead for the adoption of a liberal policy to facilitate road development.

"Sir, I just want to draw the attention of the Government to the need for making larger provision especially for second and third-class roads. As it is, for want of attention, these roads are deteriorating so fast that before long I am afraid they are bound to disappear altogether. Another point to which I wish to draw the attention of the Government is the need for revising the grant-in-aid of general resources made to the local bodies. That grant, so far as my district (the Nilgiris) is concerned, was made many years ago, and it is very strange that that figure has been allowed to continue without any change whatsoever all these years. Now, the Government know as well as I do that the economic progress of a country depends, among other things, upon the development of communications. I therefore request the Government to kindly see their way to pay more attention to road development."

The RAJA OF KIRILAMPUDI:—"Sir, I know the hon. Minister is very interested in rural communications. He stood for the constitution of a Rural Development Fund which I know has not been found possible owing to the present financial stringency. But I earnestly hope that before he lays down his office he will find ways and means for the constitution of such a fund which is so necessary for the well-being of the rural population who after all contribute largely to the resources of this province." (Hear, hear.)

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not know who is responsible for putting my cut down under this heading. Sir, I sent a cut to reduce the allotment by Rs. 100 with a view to discuss the necessity of undertaking an extensive enquiry and survey as

28th March 1931] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

to the possibility of connecting the Cauvery with the Palar river in the North Arcot district. Owing to some mistake, instead of the word 'Cauvery', the word 'causeway' has been put on the Order paper. Sir, now that I have come within the jurisdiction of the hon. the Chief Minister, I will try to make the best of the opportunity that I have of bringing to his notice one or two facts regarding certain causeways which actually exist in the Palar river. Well, there are two causeways in the North Arcot district across the river Palar, one at Ranipet called the Wenlock causeway and the other at Tiruvalam called the Rice causeway. These are used for the purpose of crossing the river from one side to the other, and both these causeways are situated on the trunk roads. That is to say, both the roads that are connected with these causeways are classified under the heading of trunk roads. Now, Sir, there has been for some time an agitation to have a bridge erected across the river Palar, instead of the causeway, because there are times—it is very rare of course—when even the Palar river is in floods, and these causeways then become impassable and useless.

"Now, Sir, the proposal that I understand is under consideration is this: to have one bridge near Tiruvalam near the Rice causeway and make that the main or the trunk road, and leave the other road, perhaps a first-class or a second-class road, as it is and not have a bridge at all there. Both these causeways being on the trunk roads, I would suggest to the hon. the Chief Minister that if possible two bridges should be erected. Now that we have a contribution of about Rs. 30 lakhs out of the petrol tax remitted by the Government of India to this Government, in view of the promise given by the hon. the Chief Minister at the time when this Rs. 30 lakhs was being allotted for capital works in the various districts, that if any district board will come forward with a suggestion to have a bridge across a river on a trunk road the whole cost will be defrayed by the Government, I will suggest, Sir, that two bridges may be erected one at the Wenlock causeway and the other at the Rice causeway. If, as I understand, the proposal is to have only one bridge, I will bring to the notice of the hon. the Chief Minister the fact that the road connecting Ranipet with Arcot along the Wenlock causeway is as much important as, if not more important than, the trunk road passing through Tiruvalam. Sir, the traffic which passes between Ranipet and Arcot is very much more, and if statistics are taken, it will indicate that the traffic on this road is more useful than the traffic on the other road. Besides this, there is one other factor which must be taken into consideration, and that is the question of commerce. The Arcot-Ranipet trunk road connects very important commercial centres in my district, such as Walajah, Arni, a very big grain and cloth centre, Polur, another big grain centre. Therefore, I want to press this fact that from the view point of commerce a bridge may also be erected at the Wenlock causeway in addition to the bridge that is proposed to be erected at the Rice causeway. If it is possible to erect only one bridge across the river, I would even go to the length of saying that the bridge may be erected at the Wenlock causeway and that

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [28th March 1931]

the Rice causeway may remain as it is. Now that I am in the jurisdiction of the hon. the Chief Minister, I thought I could place the views of my constituency before him, and therefore I have made the above suggestion for his consideration."

MR. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I gave notice of a cut motion in order to discuss the policy of Government with regard to grants to local bodies for roads. My intention, Sir, is to point out the need for a clear policy with regard to village development. As was pointed out by the Raja of Kirlampudi, there is a very urgent need for the formation of the Rural Development Fund. I desire to state that when the formation of that fund is to be considered, the primary need is a broader policy with regard to village communications. The limitations of diarchy, I may say, cannot be pleaded by the hon. Chief Minister for this reason at least, that so far as the Finance Department is concerned, the allotments for village communications have never been tried to be cut down. As a matter of fact, the Finance Committee has really helped this item, and I know that in the Finance Committee when a number of cuts were made, the sum allotted for village communications was left untouched, so that the hon. Chief Minister cannot plead the limitations of diarchy so far as this portion of the Budget is concerned. But the trouble arises because of the want of a clear policy. I stated, Sir, in an earlier portion of the debate that the trouble so far as village communications are concerned was that the money is not given to the local bodies in time, and there is also, Sir, this fact that, so far as the money is concerned, much of it in the first instance is given to the district boards and taluk boards, and when they in January or February found it difficult to spend the amount, they asked the village panchayats whether they would take over that amount and spend it on village roads. I think, Sir, that is a very unfair way of dealing with village panchayats. The village panchayats are not given money at a time when they want it badly. The Inspector of Panchayats is always asking the Government for funds. He is not given sufficient funds at the beginning. Money is given to the taluk boards, and finally when the taluk boards and district boards find it difficult to spend the money, the village panchayats are asked to take over the money and spend it during the harvest season when they are not able to get enough labour and when they have not got a scheme ready. As I said, Sir, this is not the proper way of asking the village panchayats to do a thing which is absolutely necessary for the improvement of villages. Another thing I noticed last year was that in the case of village panchayats—I do not know whose fault it was—for a long time no body knew who was to register most of these panchayats. The panchayats could not function because there was nobody to register them, and finally when they were registered the difficulty was for them to get the funds in time. I wish therefore, Sir, to point out the need for the Government allotting even at the outset a large amount which could be spent by the village panchayats.

[28th March 1931] [Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar]

"That money could be given to them straightaway instead of first giving it to the taluk boards and then asking the village panchayats to take the same later. ^{4 p.m.}

"Sir, another thing which I want to mention is that there is a rule in the Local Self-Government Department—I know it is not a rule which obtains in the Finance Department—that so far as village communications are concerned, the local bodies have to contribute half of the amount to enable them to get the other half from the Government. The village panchayats are not able to find half the amount necessary to earn the other half, so much so, the money that is given to them by the Government lapses. The Government should make it a rule and not an exception that in the case of village communications they should grant two-thirds of the amount and the village panchayats should find one-third. If this is done, all the money granted by the Government will be spent and no grants will lapse as they did lapse in previous years. I think that unless some such rule is made and a clear policy is laid down, there will not be much good of our allotting certain amounts in the Budget. We will be merely repeating the performance that we have been having all these years of seeing grants lapsing. I wish therefore that the hon. the Chief Minister takes this matter up and tries to change the rule and also allot more funds."

DIWAN BAHADUR C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, I wish to say a few words on the question of the grant of six lakhs which the Finance Department have provided for the next year for the improvement of village roads. Every one knows that our country is a country of villages and that our prosperity depends on the improvement of village communications. As the present Chief Minister realized this when he was sitting on this side of the House, he urged the necessity for the formation of a Rural Development Fund constituted by the Government forming, as it were, a budgetary item of this province. Grants were to be made to it every year, the unspent balances also being added on to it instead of being treated as lapsed. Sir, in the new Local Boards Act, provision has been made to constitute a fund though not by the Government themselves. The local boards have been authorized under that Act to constitute a fund called the Road Development Fund. A nucleus is to be formed by setting apart for this purpose six pies in the rupee from the land-cess adding to this the contributions that would be made by the Government. This is to be administered by the head of the local body. From the next fasli, of the six pies out of every two annas land-cess that would be going to the coffers of the district board, three pies are to go into the Rural Development Fund. When this is constituted, the village road grant allotted to each district must be merged in the development fund on condition that the local body should find an equal sum. This question was raised in the Finance Committee and, if I remember right, the Finance Member said that he would consider the proposal that is put forward in this House. Sir, I take this opportunity to request the Chief Minister, who I know is always keen on

[Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar] [28th March 1931]

having a rural development fund constituted not only by the local bodies but also by the Government, to see that as soon as these road grants are sanctioned and given to the local bodies, they go to the fund itself, and that, whether the boards are in a position to spend the amounts the same year or not, they do not lapse.

"My hon. Friend the Member for the University told us that there is considerable delay in the sanction of these allotments being communicated to the local bodies. Whatever may have happened in the past, this year, early in April sanction was communicated to the local bodies and most of the grants are likely to be spent within the year.

"As regards the panchayats, the district boards are not allotting funds to the panchayats. Out of the grants sanctioned by the Government, the Government themselves set apart a fourth or a fifth to be given to panchayats through the Registrar of Panchayats. It is not the local boards that make the distribution. I think therefore that there is no cause for complaint against the local bodies with regard to this matter. So I earnestly appeal to the hon. the Chief Minister to urge on the Finance Department the need for the constitution of a rural development fund by Government themselves even though it may take some time to be formed. I would also appeal to him to consider this proposal that as soon as these sums are allotted to the local bodies they should merge in the rural development fund and that unspent grants should not be treated as lapsed."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, I have given notice of token cut to draw attention to the unsatisfactory nature of the roads in the Nilgiris. Several times during the last four years this matter has been brought to the notice of the Government. They have not so far decided to have an alternate route from the Mettupalaiyam side. Last year during Budget debate I pointed out the seriousness of the question and described how the Nilgiris were isolated by floods occurring frequently. In November last on account of the cyclone all roads including the railway line were very badly damaged and access to the Nilgiris was impossible except from the Mysore side. The Nilgiris District Board has been agitating all these five years for the Seyur ghaut road to be made a trunk road, which will be a shorter route from Mysore. The proposal that emerged from it has, however, been unfortunately shelved. Again, Mr. James who was a Member of this House and myself proposed the desirability of converting the Mettupalaiyam-Kottagiri road into a trunk road. I do not know what the Government have done in the matter. Seeing that the Nilgiris is the sanatorium of this Presidency and that Ootacamund is the seat of the Government for several months in the year, I wonder why the Government are keeping the road communications to this district in a neglected condition. During the monsoon in 1929 most of the bridges on the ghaut road from Mettupalaiyam to Coonoor were washed away and the Government had to spend large sums of money to restore them. In 1930 when the cyclone broke out, it carried away practically all the

28th March 1931] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

important bridges. The damage caused by this has not yet been completely repaired; only temporary arrangements have been made to allow of traffic to be resumed. To repair all these damages the Government have been incurring large expenditure. So, to avoid all these contingencies, I request the hon. Minister to convert the Mettupalaiyam-Kottagiri road into a trunk road so that road communication to the Nilgiris may be safe at all times."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, I wanted to invite the attention of the hon. the Chief Minister to the policy which underlies the making of grants to local bodies. I am afraid there is a mechanical routine for dealing with the applications for grants. For example, if a local body asks for a grant, the question is very often asked whether it taxed itself in all the ways it could. No attention is paid to the possibility of its taxing itself further than it has already been doing. Merely for the purpose of illustrating this system I will take the case of a district which I know more intimately than any other. In the Bellary district if you take the condition of it during the last ten years, you will find that there has hardly been a single year in which there has not been either suspension of revenue for the whole year or at least remission of collections. Well, if the Government themselves have found it difficult to collect land revenue from places like that, how can you expect the poor local bodies to tax themselves further in order to make themselves eligible for the Government grant? Again, there is another convention observed, namely, that the local body concerned must find half the money to earn an equal amount from the Government. This also works considerable hardship in the case of the poorer local bodies. I think there must be some elasticity in this matter. We have to classify the local bodies with reference to their capacity. If a board is very poor it is certainly unfair to ask it to find the money which the Government ought to know it is impossible for it to find. I want the hon. Minister to consider these two aspects of the matter and so to revise the rules as to benefit the poorer boards to some extent at least. In the case of the Bellary district I know there are two unbridged rivers making direct communication between the different parts of the district difficult if not impossible. The western taluks are cut off from the eastern taluks by these unbridged rivers. And, so long as there is this rule, namely, that the local body should find half the amount, I am afraid those rivers will never be bridged. I hope that the hon. the Chief Minister will see his way to revise the rules in the manner suggested by me."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, the way in which the point has been urged regarding the need for the constitution of a rural development fund which will enable the taking up of the improvement of village communications on a systematic basis and also help the formation of new roads has encouraged me very much. As my hon. Friend the Member for Coimbatore pointed out, it has not been possible for the Government to constitute a road fund of their own.

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [28th March 1931]

But, fortunately, under the Local Boards Act as amended, a road development fund has been constituted and that fund has been earmarked for the improvement of village communications among other things. That fund is a fund which will not lapse, but would go on increasing year after year. He raised the point that the grants given by Government for village improvements should also be credited to that fund and then there should be no lapses. That is a question which I can only promise to consider as soon as possible. The system now prevailing is to distribute the amounts to various district boards according to their spending capacity and also to keep a reserve with a view at the end of the year to give to such boards as have already spent the amounts granted to them, something more to complete their works.

4-15 p.m. "My hon. Friend from Coimbatore suggested that that system will have to be changed. I shall consider what can be done in the matter. Then it is stated that the principles on which distribution is made to the local bodies in the matter of subsidies, require to be revised and he strongly urged that a hard and fast rule that the local bodies should give half the amount and the Government should give the other half, should not apply. In the case where a local body is found, on an examination of its finances, incapable of finding one-half of the amount, the Government have given more than half, and two-thirds in many cases. (A voice: 'Higgling') I do not think it is higgling (A voice: 'Bargaining') nor is it bargaining. I must state that, recently on the recommendation of the Inspector of Local Bodies, a number of village panchayats whose finances were examined and which required the help of the Government, were given two-thirds of the amount. Similarly in the case of districts which my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar represents, Bellary and Anantapur, grants given to the local bodies for improvement of village water-supply, have been based not merely on half the grant but on a higher basis, to the extent of two-thirds and three-fourths in many cases. It is similarly done in the case of second-class roads. With regard to the Nilgiris District Board, the Government have given grants, in the case of trunk roads, to the extent of full and in the case of second-class roads, to the extent of half. Having regard to the amount of money available, some system has to be found by which those boards which can afford to spend from their own finances, should be given money to get on with the work and others which could not afford, should be given more than half the amount.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar was complaining that the distribution of these grants to the local bodies was not made in time, so that local bodies are not given chances of spending the money placed at their disposal. I may tell him, Sir, the system under which grants are distributed, is that the amount to be distributed among local bodies, is placed at the disposal of each district board without any delay. Another amount is placed at the disposal of the Inspector of Local Bodies who was, till recently, the Registrar-General of Panchayats also, for distribution. I may say that this system has been followed for the last two or three years. This year the Inspector of Local Bodies has been able to distribute the whole of the amount. We gave an additional

28th March 1931] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

grant in January in order to enable him to distribute it to some panchayats. If, in course of time, the village panchayats increase and the need for more grants is felt, I am sure the Government will come forward to help them to the extent to which the finances of the Province would allow. At the same time, I cannot subscribe to the statement that the district boards have been delaying the distribution of the amounts to the various local boards and that these amounts are not spent. I do not think there is much justification for that statement; because, I know that the principle underlying the placing of the amount at the disposal of the district board is to give the whole system a sort of elasticity, so that, if the district board finds that a certain local board is not able to get on with the work, that amount can be transferred to another taluk board in the same district. This system has been in force during the last three or four years; it has been working admirably well and I do not see any reason why that should be changed. There are many taluk boards which could not find one-half; in such cases the district board takes up the duty on itself and gives a loan or grant to that local board. In the case of taluk boards and village panchayats also who are not able to find half the amount, they are asked to find from their own funds one-fourth and the district boards give them three-fourths of the amount. Even this one-fourth is nominal, because it is given in the shape of village labour. The work is taken up by the village itself and the village labour is put down in terms of money. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, pointed out the difficulties of local boards in Bellary and told us that they have taxed according to their capacity. I may say that they have taxed up to the maximum limit. The finances of the Bellary Taluk Board were examined recently; it was found that it has received land cess in excess of what was due to it. On the representation made by the Bellary Taluk Board, the Government have agreed to recover only Rs. 11,000. The Government will find out in due course whether that board is unable to pay the balance, and then give relief if possible.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, said that the Mettupalaiyam-Kotagiri-Coonoor Road should be taken as an alternative route. I may say that the Government have been alive to this need and I am glad to state that the necessary improvements have been taken up and an estimate for Rs. 1,35,000 has been sanctioned. Though that road is a second class road which, under ordinary circumstances, will be entitled to get only half, the Government have agreed to pay, having regard to the importance of the road, the full cost thereof. So, hon. Members will see that the Government have already moved in the matter of improving that road thoroughly. (A voice: 'Who executes the work?') My hon. Friend asks who executes the work. I cannot give an answer to that question. My hon. Friend seems to think that the Public Works Department will spend more money. As regards the Mettupalaiyam-Coonoor Road, flood damages have been repaired and provision made to have permanent bridges constructed where old bridges have been washed away.

"My hon. Friend from North Arcot, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, referred to the question of a bridge over the Palar river. There are

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [28th March 1931]

two causeways, one on the Madras-Bombay Trunk Road and the other on the Madras-Calicut Road. Both these causeways are alright except during floods. In times of floods, they are found inconvenient. This year during the last floods, the Rice causeway was damaged and steps are being taken to repair it. At the same time the Government are considering a proposal to have one bridge so that the two trunk roads may be taken over the bridge at Rice causeway and one road may be diverted to Calicut and the other to Bombay. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, suggests that there should be two bridges. All I can say is, it will not be possible to build bridges at both the places. The two causeways are only three miles apart. Of course, the roads will be a little round about. If the Government can find funds for a bridge at one of these two places, it will be more than what we can do, having regard to the claims of various other districts, especially South Kanara, as Mr. Sreshta suggested.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Ari Gowder referred to the inadequacy of grants given for second class and third class roads. He said that the grant that was given some years ago is being continued now; he wanted that the grant should be raised. I may state that the question of revising the classification of roads so as to distribute the grants on a more equitable and intelligent basis and to give more grants to roads on which there is heavier traffic and to roads which are more difficult to maintain, is under consideration. Various local bodies concerned have been consulted and their opinions invited; the question will be taken up as early as possible. I hope, Sir, that under the re-organised scheme, the Nilgiris District Board will have its own share and that necessary improvements on the road will be effected. I have nothing more to add than that the Government are doing more than what they can to improve their roads."

Mr. H. B. ARI GOWDER:—"I beg to withdraw my cut motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand XXXI—Civil Works—Grants-in-Aid—Transferred for Rs. 96,93,200 was put and carried and the grant made.

DEMAND XXXII—FAMINE RELIEF—RESERVED.

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000 under Demand XXXII—Famine Relief—Reserved'."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, the provision under this head is meant not only to relieve distress after it has taken place but, if possible, to prevent distress happening at all. If that is the purpose of this fund, I should like to know from the hon. the Revenue Member whether he is going to utilise this money under this head in preventing distress in the years to come. We all know of the economic depression prevailing in the country and the Government have appointed a Committee to go into this matter and I am afraid, Sir, that unless the Government puts its hand to this fund, it may not be possible either to relieve or to prevent distress in the coming year.

28th March 1931] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

"I shall explain myself with reference to a concrete case. In a particular area, very usually, every year the merchants are in the habit of advancing Rs. 25 lakhs to the cultivators of that area for purchase of seed or other cultivation operations, and to some extent for their other expenses also. The position of the merchants who were hitherto advancing such amounts is bad. Five of them have already filed insolvency petitions to the extent of about Rs. 5 lakhs, and I am informed credibly that another five are likely to follow. The others are not able to find the money to advance to the ryots. They themselves have been having a very small amount of capital and were borrowing from other people like the Marwaris or the Imperial Bank, etc. The Imperial Bank does not care to come to the help of these people now and the Marwari merchants have been collecting their dues and remitting money to their homes. Where then are these merchants to get their money from, to advance to the ryots? Obviously, they cannot collect the amount already advanced to the ryots, and they have no money to advance them further; and others who have some money are not willing to lend their money. So, the position is this: unless something is done to help the merchant as well as the ryot out of the distress, I am afraid things will be brought to a bad state in a few months time. It is just possible that the ryots will sow the seed and carry on a little cultivation, but some few months hence, there will be very great difficulty for the ryots to carry on the cultivation operations. My suggestion, therefore, is this: that the Government should be as much interested in the welfare of the merchants who after all have been helping the ryots so far, as in the ryots themselves. If the Government would advance money to the merchants out of this fund,—I do not wish them to give money recklessly, but on proper security—they in their turn would help the ryots who have been depending on them so long, to tide over the present difficulty. Merchants who own lands are quite willing to pledge their lands or mortgage them as security, a security which should be acceptable to the Government. On that security, it behoves the Government to advance money to them and to see that the merchants are also helped in addition to the ryots. I do not know, Sir, if the rules will not allow this sort of thing to be done; but as I said, this money is meant not only for relieving famine distress, but also for the prevention of famine conditions occurring in any area."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, as regards the Famine Relief Fund, so long as it exceeds the amount of money fixed in Schedule IV of the Devolution Rules, it is up to the Government to spend the money not only on famine relief, but also on protective works, i.e., for the prevention of famine. We know, Sir, the Government of this Presidency has certainly very often to fight famine, or at least take all the necessary steps for the prevention of famine. We are very often on the verge of famine, although famine conditions may not actually prevail. The Government's duty is to see that protective works are executed every year, and out of the money in this fund, much can be spent in that direction. Of course, the Cauvery-Mettur project is a big project which the Government have taken on hand; but it is also necessary, as has been pointed out, that protective works must be started in other

[Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar] [28th March 1931]

places like the Ceded districts, where these protective works will certainly go a long way to prevent famine conditions. Now that the Tungabhadra scheme is not yet a matter of near realization, I think it is the duty of the Government to see that other protective works are taken up in the Ceded districts. Some years ago there was an attempt by the Government to restore all old tanks; but that scheme is not now being pushed through with zest. I wish, therefore, the Government would take up this work of tank restoration in all parts of the Presidency and also try to conserve the surface water which is now really going to waste. These measures, I feel certain, are measures calculated to provide employment for poor people; and I therefore request that the Government should take steps to spend out of the Famine Relief Fund more amounts on protective works."

MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, I am very glad that my hon. Friend the Member for Bellary has raised this very important question, viz., the importance of the merchants and the economic position of the country. Sir, the economic depression which is to be found in every nook and corner is of such an appalling character that the continuity of this situation will land not only the people but the Government also into very great difficulties. Unfortunately, there is a sort of prejudice against the merchant. The merchant has been so long portrayed to be that villain who takes away large profits, without making them reach the cultivators. These critics take one or two examples and begin to generalize on the heartlessness of the middleman. But, barring a very few cases, Sir, the merchant acts as the only link between the producer and the consumer. For years past, he has been carrying on trade without causing any harm to the agriculturist; and as a matter of fact, he has been trying to organize the produce that is turned out by the agriculturists and find good markets for such produce. Owing to the prejudice that has become the fashion against these merchants, the Government also are not in a mood to listen to the grievances of the merchants. The merchants have been financing the ryots for raising the crops in nearly ninety per cent of cases; they act as warehouse-keepers, they sell the produce of the cultivators, deduct interest and commission charges from the sale-proceeds of the produce, take also the advance money they have paid and pay the balance to the cultivators. The illiterate cultivator is generally unable to know the demand of the markets of the world; and it is the middleman who is the much-maligned merchant, that knows the demand of the world markets and gets as much as possible from the purchaser, to be passed on to the producer. He has, in addition to his own resources, to borrow money from money-lenders, mostly sowcars, and partly also from banks. Owing to the great shortage of money and also owing to the fall in prices, these sowcars who have been financing the merchants, have withdrawn their moneys from them. The result is that many of the merchants or commission agents who, in addition to their own resources, have been borrowing capital and advancing it to the cultivators, are unable to do so. The result, again, is that the cultivator is unable to secure money for his produce, and with the fall in prices, his fall has been expedited.

28th March 1931] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

At a time when the prices of articles were at a very low ebb, the Government added to the burden of the ryot by insisting on the payment of kist collections. Therefore, many ryots have gone practically propertyless; and the merchants have also become bankrupts. No doubt, the Government have appointed an Economic Depression Enquiry Committee. But owing to various causes and mainly owing to the stupendous size of the problems which have got to be dealt with before any relief could be given, I do not believe that the recommendations would be of such a nature as would make the Government take immediate steps. The immediate help that the Government can possibly give now is to finance the commission agents, so that they may advance moneys on the produce of the cultivators. They will perhaps be the only and most effective way of alleviating the distress caused by the present famine—a famine of a novel kind, famine with plenty of produce but with a heavy fall in prices. One way of giving that relief to the cultivator is to make him come within the reach of current coin.

"Too much reliance, Sir, is placed on the co-operative societies. I do not believe that even a fraction of the help necessary for the agriculturists can be possibly given by the co-operative societies; nor do I believe that the ultimate rate of interest which the cultivator has to pay to the co-operative societies, either by way of interest only or by way of petty contributions before the amount of loan actually reaches his hands, is less than the actual rate charged by a merchant. I am not speaking of the usurious money-lender—the way of dealing with an usurious money-lender is quite different from that of dealing with the co-operative societies which are intended to counteract the activities of the usurious money-lender. For the present, the only way by which you can reach the agriculturist is to approach him through the commission agent who could give the Government proper security of the produce in warehouses and also his assets, in so far as he has."

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Sir, this grant which we are now discussing is intended as a sort of insurance against famine. Hon. Members may perhaps not be aware of the circumstances under which the fund is constituted and its limitations. It is constituted under the statutory orders of the Secretary of State, under rule 29 of the Devolution Rules which requires that:

'Each Local Government mentioned in Schedule IV shall establish and maintain out of provincial revenues a famine relief fund in accordance with the provisions of that schedule, and such fund shall be controlled and administered as required by those provisions.'

"In the schedule to the Devolution Rules, it is laid down what the contribution is to be every year. Under this schedule, therefore, the Madras Government have been paying each year into the fund Rs. 3 lakhs up to a limit of Rs. 40 lakhs. After that, further contribution to the fund is optional; and if the fund does accumulate in excess of Rs. 40 lakhs, the rule says:

'When the balance in the famine relief fund exceeds the amount specified in paragraph 5'—

[Mr. H. G. Stokes]

[28th March 1931]

that is, the total amount specified, viz., Rs. 40 lakhs—

'the Local Government may utilize the excess to meet expenditure on protective irrigation works and other works for the prevention of famine'—

Secondly—

'in the grant of loans to cultivators, either under the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883; or under the Agriculturists' Loans Act, 1884, or for relief purposes; or in the repayment of advances from the Provincial Loans Fund; or to meet irrecoverable balances of loans under the said Acts or for relief purposes when such loans have been made from the Provincial Loan Account.'

4-45 p.m. "The application of the surplus accumulation in the fund should strictly comply with the objects specified in the Devolution Rules. We anticipate that we shall have 52 lakhs as against the minimum of 40 lakhs. As a matter of fact we have been putting 3 lakhs annually into the fund and the result is that we have now about 52 lakhs instead of the minimum of 40 lakhs. One hon. Member, I think it was Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, urged that protective works should be executed out of the fund. As I have just explained, it is permissible to finance protective works from the excess we have accumulated and in the budget for 1931-32 we have actually made provision for one such work. I mean the Tippiyalayam project in the Kurnool district. The total cost of that work is estimated at about 3 or 4 lakhs. That is a work which we have sanctioned for execution from out of the surplus sum of 12 lakhs which we now have in this fund. I daresay that, if other works are brought forward, we might consider them also. So far as I remember, that work was particularly pressed upon our notice and I confess to having some sympathy for the Kurnool district. Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar made several other suggestions and we do recognize the value of those suggestions.

"For the rest, I could not gather from the discussions whether the Members who spoke on the motion were opposed to making this contribution at all, but I understand they quite approve of it, but that they want the fund to be utilized in the directions they have indicated. That being so, I do not propose to go into the arguments that I had prepared with reference to the actual motion tabled by Mr. Arasu.

"Then, Sir, Messrs. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Venkatachalam Chetti have raised a very much bigger question and that is as regards utilizing this fund or the surplus from this fund for the purpose of assisting to liquidate the present contraction of credit, which is so widespread all over the province. I am afraid, as regards this in particular, as I have already explained, it is not possible for us to devote this fund to that purpose. I do not think you can bring the object of 'financing a commission agent' within the four corners of the rules which I have just read out. My hon. Friends will therefore realize that expenditure from out of this fund to meet the general economic depression is an undertaking which no Government can possibly contemplate. The utmost that we can do is what we have already done, namely, the appointment of a Committee to go into the question.

28th March 1931]

[Mr. H. G. Stokes]

That is all that we can do at present. If we are asked to finance such loans, it certainly cannot be done from this fund, but if any such measures are to be adopted, money will have to be found from any other sources which Government may be able to utilize for that purpose."

*Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Can you not do it at least in the famine zone?"

*The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"To finance commission agents even in the famine zone is not permissible. We are making grants of loans to cultivators."

*Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"That is under the Takavi Act."

*The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Provision is made separately for advancing loans to cultivators under the Takavi Act. That we always do in every year and will continue to grant. If necessary we may be able to provide additional sums, if there is a great demand for more takavi advances. The rules relating to takavi advances are quite different from those relating to the Famine Relief Fund."

*Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Am I to understand, Sir, that the hon. the Finance Member can find necessary money for additional takavi loans from sources other than his fund."

*The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Yes, we can, if necessary. So, Sir, it will be seen that the Government have done what is feasible for them to do. As hon. Members are aware, a committee has been appointed and I do not think it has reported yet. Therefore, I am unable to anticipate what will be possible for Government to do or how we may endeavour to meet the difficulties to which attention of Government has been drawn. I can assure hon. Members that Government are fully cognizant of the situation and realize the difficulties. I can only say that the suggestions of hon. Members will be given due consideration by Government."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I now put the demand to the vote of the House. The question is that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,00 under Demand XXXII—Famine Relief—Reserved."

The demand was carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIII—PENSIONS—RESERVED.

*The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'That Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 63,12,100 under Demand XXXIII—Pensions—Reserved'."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

[28th March 1931]

DEMAND XXXIV—STATIONERY AND PRINTING—RESERVED
AND TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

‘that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,22,500 under Demand XXXIV—Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred.’

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—“Mr. President, Sir, the employees of the Madras Government Press are the most unfortunate men and to-day they have not even got the opportunity of giving expression to their multifarious grievances. I do not think I have enough time even briefly to refer to the very many grievances with which they are being troubled. I only hope that the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to go into this question sympathetically and do his best to grant them relief.

“One thing I must say at once and it is this—the trouble in the Government Press is not the trouble of to-day or of yesterday, but it is a trouble which has been brewing ever since 1914 or 1915. The belief is being gradually forced upon the employees that no amount of constitutional agitation will be of any use to them and it was in 1920 that owing to the indifference of the Government they were forced to go on strike. Then they were granted some measure of relief, which unfortunately was not really a relief to them at all. While enhancing the rate of wages, the Superintendent of the Government Press took away the beneficent effect of the relief by altering the system of printing to which I cannot, in the short time before me, adequately refer. I request the hon. the Home Member to be pleased to receive a deputation to represent to him the grievances of the employees in the Government Press. Sir, in this connexion I may state that I have submitted a rather lengthy memorandum to the Whitley Commission; but, owing to my misfortune or perhaps the misfortune of the workers themselves, the Whitley Commission did not think it worth while or perhaps they had not the time to go into the question of the grievances of the employees of the Madras Government Press.

“I would like to refer, Sir, to one more thing and that is a very serious thing too. The interpellations that we have been giving in the matter of the grievances of the employees of the Government Press and the answers of the Government to those questions are being read out to the employees of the Press by a gentleman who is occupying a responsible place in the Press—I refer to Mr. Mariapakyam. Sir, the answers which Government have been giving to these questions are not generally sympathetic and this gentleman has been abusing his position by reading out the questions and answers to the employees (The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur: Is it before or after they are answered here?) Before, I do not know what

28th March 1931]

[Mr. C. Basu Dev]

the attitude of the Superintendent of the Press is in regard to this matter. I even wrote to the Superintendent to investigate the matter and he wrote back to say that unless I could give a definite instance he would be unable to investigate into the question. I would press upon the attention of the Government the necessity for amalgamating both the Stationery and the Printing Departments into one, because as it is, the Superintendent, Government Press, is made the final appellate authority on all matters relating to dismissal and punishment. But, if these two departments are amalgamated and placed under the control and superintendence of the Collector of Madras, who is now the Superintendent of Stationery, the difficulties under which the employees of the Government Press are now labouring, will be, I am sure, to some extent minimised. I am afraid, Sir, I cannot go more fully into the question. I therefore move the motion that stands in my name, namely,—

‘To reduce the allotment of Rs. 81,000 for Stationary office by Rs. 100.’”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“Sir, I am extremely glad that my hon. Friend Mr. Basu Dev has had an opportunity to ventilate some of the grievances of the employees in the Madras Government Press. All that he wanted to be done was that I should receive a deputation or a representation of the grievances of the workers in the Government Press. I do not know whether there are any real grievances at all, but all the same I am prepared to receive a deputation.

“With regard to what my hon. Friend had said about the questions that are asked and answered in the Council being read out to the employees beforehand by a certain officer in the Government Press referred to by my hon. Friend, I must say I have no information about it. All that I wish to say is that I shall call for a report and find out whether it is so or not. Anyhow I am prepared, as I have already stated, to investigate the matter and go carefully into the question.

“As for the question of the advisability of amalgamating the Stationery and the Printing departments, I have already stated on the floor of this House in reply to a question of my hon. Friend put the other day that the Government have not yet come to any decision on the matter. The whole question has been referred to the Board of Revenue and, as soon as we get a report from the Board of Revenue, the question will be considered by the Government.

“These are the few points raised by my hon. Friend and I am sure he will withdraw the motion.”

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The demand was then put and carried and the grant made.

[28th March 1931

5 p.m. * The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Now that it is five o'clock, I shall put the remaining demands to the vote of the House one after another.

"The question is—

'the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,77,700 under Demand XXXV—Miscellaneous—Reserved and Transferred.' "

The demand was carried and the grant made.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,96,300 under Demand XXXVI—Agency Tracts—Reserved.' "

The demand was carried and the grant made.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,31,600 under Demand XXXVII—Expenditure in England other than on stores—Reserved and Transferred.' "

The demand was carried and the grant made.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—

'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,58,100 under Demand XXXVIII—Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred.' "

The demand was carried and the grant made.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 43,43,600 under Demand XXXIX—Loans and Advances.' "

The demand was carried and the grant made.

V.—ANNOUNCEMENT *re.* THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN OF SELECT COMMITTEES.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I appoint Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar as Chairman of the Select Committee on the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Amending Bill, and Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya as Chairman of the Select Committee on the Madras Co-operative Societies Bill."

VI.—PROROGATION OF THE COUNCIL.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have now to communicate to the House the following message which I have received from His Excellency the Governor:—

'In pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 72-B of the Government of India Act, 1. George Frederick Stanley, Governor of Madras, do hereby prorogue the session of the Madras Legislative Council at the conclusion of its business on the 28th March 1931.' "

28th March 1931]

VII.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

(1) *Proceedings^a of the eighth meeting of the Finance Committee for 1930-31 held on Thursday the 12th March 1931.*

(2) *Communication^b contained the information regarding the number of Sub-Inspector of Police selected for training in 1930 and the number of resignations from them (vide answer to a supplementary question to question No. 54 answered on the 27th January 1931).*

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

^a Printed separately.

^b Printed as Appendix XIII at page 916 infra.

[28th March 1931]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 750 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 792 supra.]

G O. Ms. No. 222, Law (General), dated 20th January 1931.

READ—the following papers :—

From the Territorial Commander, Salvation Army, dated
26th April 1930.

From the Inspector-General of Prisons, dated 9th July 1930, No. G. 786.

From the Inspector-General of Prisons, dated the 14th December 1930,
No. C.G. 1093.

Order.—Ms. No. 222, Law (General), dated 20th January 1931.

The Government have had under consideration a proposal received from the Salvation Army authorities to the effect that female prisoners convicted of infanticide in this Presidency may be detained in the Rescue Home maintained by the Salvation Army at Madras. From the communication received from the Salvation Army, it was observed that such a system was in vogue in the Bombay Presidency. The Government of Bombay were accordingly requested to furnish information in regard to the details of the scheme in force in Bombay. The Bombay Government, while furnishing the necessary information, stated that most of the female prisoners convicted of infanticide were sent to the Pandharpur Widows' Home maintained by the Prarthana Samaj, Bombay, and that only those convicts who were unwilling to go there or were not admitted to that Home were sent to the Salvation Army Rescue Home. The Inspector-General of Prisons was thereupon requested to ascertain and report whether there were institutions in this Presidency, similar to the Prarthana Samaj of Bombay, which were prepared to take charge of such female convicts and give them institutional treatment for a period to be fixed by Government in each case. The Inspector-General of Prisons has reported that the Madras Seva Sadan is willing to undertake charge of such cases.

2. The Government have, after full consideration, decided to adopt in this Presidency the scheme of sending female prisoners convicted of infanticide to a Rescue Home in preference to a jail. The first choice in the matter of detention of such convicts will be given to the Madras Seva Sadan, and only those female convicts who are unwilling to be detained in the Madras Seva Sadan or are not admitted there will be sent to the Rescue Home maintained by the Salvation Army. It will also be a condition for admission to the Home of the Salvation Army that no attempts at proselytization should be made by the Army and that prisoners are not compelled to follow the Christian mode of worship and prayer.

28th March 1931]

In future, as each case of female prisoner convicted of infanticide is reported to Government under rule 252 of the Criminal Rules of Practice, 1910, the question of detaining the convict in a Rescue Home for a fixed period will be considered by Government in consultation with the convict, and the Madras Seva Sadan or the Salvation Army authorities, as the case may be.

3. A grant of Rs. 10 per mensem will be given in respect of each female convict ordered to be detained in the Madras Seva Sadan or in the Salvation Army Rescue Home. The grant will be debited to the head "47—Miscellaneous—Donations for charitable purposes".

4. The Inspector-General of Prisons is requested to review the cases of all female convicts convicted of infanticide at present detained in the jails of this Presidency and to submit for the orders of the Government those cases in which the convicts are willing to be detained in a Rescue Home.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

U. RAMA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector-General of Prisons.
" Hon'ble the Chief Justice (with C.L.).
" Accountant-General, through the Finance Department.
" Finance Department.
" Territorial Commander, Salvation Army, Madras.
" Honorary Secretary, Madras Seva Sadan, Shenstone Park, Madras.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 763 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 799 supra.]

Prices of gur per Imperial maund of 82½ lb. in rupees.

Year.	Berhampur.	Cocanada.	Bellary.	Madras.	Kallakurichi.	Vellore.	Coimbatore.	Tuticorin.	Cuddalore.
1921	12.39	12.06	13.86	12.95	11.43	14.25	12.80	6.35	..
1922	10.24	8.66	13.06	10.60	8.72	10.06	11.01	5.19	..
1923	9.05	8.70	10.05	8.25	6.77	8.07	8.64	5.88	..
1924	8.92	10.21	9.80	9.34	8.02	10.59	10.49	6.20	11.97
1925	9.13	10.09	9.53	9.20	7.73	9.31	11.00	4.71	11.65
1926	9.45	8.48	9.52	9.26	7.08	8.76	10.98	4.72	12.19
1927	7.83	7.08	8.54	8.35	6.45	7.79	6.67	5.13	10.98
1928	7.24	7.34	5.41	7.38	6.16	7.81	7.75	4.32	9.23
1929	8.19	7.74	10.40	8.35	8.31	10.30	11.43	4.28	11.36
1930	..	..	..	8.70	..	..	..	..	..
1931	..	..	..	8.625	..	..	..	..	..

[28th March 1931]

28th March 1931]

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 766 asked by Mr. G. Simhaachalam at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 801 supra.]

Annexure I.

(i) *Pumping and boring.*—(1) The declared policy of this section is to encourage the ryots (a) to extend irrigation from wells by lending them on payment of a fee, hand-boring sets and power drills for the exploration of underground water supplies, (b) to introduce machinery in the preparation of the agricultural produce by lending the ryots such machinery as are at the disposal of the department, for instance, sugarcane crushing mills, oil-ohakkus, and (c) to place at their disposal expert advice in the matter of erection and maintenance of pumping installation and to render similar assistance to small scale industrialists in the erection and working of factories. The section has however not been closely adhering to this policy and business firms, capitalists and railway companies had also come to be aided by it instead of mostly ryots and small industrialists. The Director has since stressed the need for assisting primarily the ryots and small scale industrialists and also suggested the raising of the fees leviable for the use of the Government sets by large business firms, capitalists, etc.

(2) The Director has systematized the distribution of pumping and boring sets—principally power drills—by the maintenance of registers of applicants and regulating the order of priority in which the sets should be lent. By a careful review of the weekly diaries of the Assistant Industrial Engineers and a close scrutiny of the movement of the sets the Director has effected greater promptitude in the assignment of sets with a due appreciation of the needs of ryots and small scale industrialists.

As a result of the close scrutiny of the working of the sets by the Director the number of boring put down increased to 936 in 1929–30 against 746 in the previous year.

(3) The pumping and boring sets have till now been sent to the Industrial Engineering Workshop at Madras for repairs, however slight the repairs may be, and in whatever part of the Presidency, they may be working. To minimize delay and to curtail expenditure in transport charges, the Director has, with the approval of Government, arranged to carry out all ordinary repairs which cannot be done on the spot in the workshop attached to the nearest Government Industrial school and to resort to the Industrial Engineering Workshop at Madras only when heavy repairs are involved and technical skill is not available in the school workshops.

(4) Economy and expedition in complying with requests are being effected in distributing the drills and pumping plants and the staff among the various divisions with reference to past experience instead of transferring them as hitherto from place to place as demand arose. The sets will be shifted in future only when they are idle and when there is urgent demand for them in other places.

[28th March 1931]

(5) The Director has taken up the compilation of statistics showing the nature and capacity of the several artesian springs tapped by the Engineering Branch up to date. The ways and means of conserving the supply without allowing it to run to waste are being worked out. This is a very important work demanding urgent attention if the sub-soil supply is not to be tapped, brought up to surface and then allowed to run waste during non-cultivation season or for want of adequate demand.

(ii) *Engineering Workshop*.—This is a commercial concern and its accounts are being audited by the Assistant Director of Commercial Accounts, an officer of the Government of India. No special improvements in its working can be effected.

The Director has, however, taken steps to keep the workshop entirely distinct from the Pumping and Boring section.

(iii) *Handloom weaving*.—The following proposals have been made to Government by the Director of Industries as a result of the recommendations of the Cottage Industries Committee:—

(1) Introduction of hire-purchase system for the sale of improved textile appliances to weavers.

(2) Reduction in transport charges in yarn used by weavers and on handloom cloth.

(3) Removal of import duty on (a) cotton yarn of counts above 40s and (b) on gold thread.

Action has been deferred on item 3 (a) till the effect of the Cotton Textile Industry (Protection) Act XVII of 1930 is known. The Government of India have since enhanced the duty on gold thread with reference to the recommendation of the Tariff Board.

(4) Opening of a weaving section in the Government Industrial Institute, Madura.

(5) Increase in the number of scholarships tenable at the Government Textile Institute.

(6) Increase in the number of weaving and dyeing parties.

(7) Purchase and demonstration of a carding machine.

(8) Demonstration in important weaving centres of jacquards and dobbies and of improved appliances for winding, warping and sizing.

Steps have been taken to supply stencils to weavers from the Textile Institute on hire. A pamphlet entitled "Dyeing and Bright and Fast Shades on cotton with vat dyes" is distributed free to dyers and weavers.

(9) Introduction of improved appliances like jacquards and dobbies in weaving centres like Mayavaram and Conjeeveram. Jacquards have not hitherto worked in these places.

(10) Creation of a weaving section in the Municipal Art School, Kumbakonam.

(iv) *Leather Trade Institute*.—With a view to utilize the services of the staff of the institute to the full extent possible, the Director has proposed that a class should be started in the Leather Trade Institute for training lads who are desirous of learning the manufacture of leather goods including the manufacture of buttons from waste leather. He has also suggested that brush-making should be added to the class as the materials entering into brush-making are available in South India and as there is local demand for brushes of all kinds.

28th March 1931]

Annexure II.

Date of visit.	Name of place.	Date of visit.	Name of place.
1929—		1930—	
16th August ..	Nellore.	30th March ..	Arni.
17th August ..	Gudur.	31st March ..	Katpadi and Vellore.
18th August ..	Saidapuram.	1st April ..	Gudiyattam.
23rd August ..	Madura.	3rd April ..	Ambur and Kailasagiri.
25th August ..	Aruppukottai.	12th April ..	Bhavani.
27th August ..	Kilakkarai.	18th April ..	Hosur.
28th August ..	Tiruppallani and Perupatnam.	22nd April ..	Kollegal.
26th August ..	Dindigul.	9th May ..	Salem.
7th September ..	Ikkaadu.	2nd September ..	Peddapuram.
13th September ..	Coonoor.	3rd September ..	Samalkot.
15th September ..	Velapatti.	4th September ..	Etikoppaka.
16th September ..	Coimbatore and Peelamedu.	5th September ..	Vizagapatnam.
17th September ..	Erode.	6th September ..	Parvatipuram.
18th September ..	Salem.	8th September ..	Berhampur.
14th October ..	Adoni.	10th September ..	Parlakimedi.
30th October ..	Iravadanallur.	12th September ..	Rajahmundry.
8th November ..	Kondapalli.	21st September ..	Kuppam.
10th November ..	Ellore.	24th September ..	Venkatagirikota.
1st December ..	Tanjore.	26th September ..	Palmaner.
2nd December ..	Toppaturai.	14th October ..	Karur.
3rd December ..	Tanjore.	16th October ..	Kumbakonam.
4th December ..	Trichinopoly.	18th October ..	Mayavaram.
5th December ..	Tinnevely and Melupalyam.	20th October ..	Muthupet.
6th December ..	Nazareth and Palamcottah.	17th November ..	Conjeeveram.
1930—		21st November ..	Cuddapah.
13th January ..	Chittoor.	23rd November ..	Anantapur.
14th January ..	Pakala.	24th November ..	Dharmavaram.
15th January ..	Tirupati.	25th November ..	Penukonda.
16th January ..	Kalahasti and Nee-warapalli.	13th December ..	Cocanada.
29th January ..	Conjeeveram.	1931—	
31st January ..	Melrosapuram, Chingloput and Tirukalikundrum.	11th January ..	Coimbatore.
5th February ..	Coonoor.	13th January ..	Mangalore.
7th February ..	Calicut and Areakode.	14th January ..	Kallianpur and Malpi.
10th February ..	Mangalore.	15th January ..	Aroor.
20th February ..	Tindivanam.	17th January ..	Cannanore.
22nd February ..	Panruti, Tirukoyilur and Mel-pattambakam.	18th January ..	Calicut.
		17th February ..	Chidambaram.
		18th February ..	Valayamadevi.
		19th February ..	Kavanur.
		20th February ..	Aziznagar.
		21st February ..	Kallakurihi.
		23rd January ..	Tirukkoyilur.
		24th January ..	Tindivanam.

Annexure III.

The total cost of tours is Rs. 2,883. The tours are made for various purposes, e.g., inspection of the various industrial institutions, aided as well as owned by Government, the subordinate officers, study of nature and conditions of industries and means for their improvement.

The Sericultural Expert accompanied the Director in his tours to Hosur and Kollegal. The Industrial Engineer accompanied him in his tour to Bangalore in connexion with the investigation of the local manufacture of Power drills in Mysore. Wherever there is need for the visit of the specialist officers as a result of his personal enquiries the Director deputes them with definite instructions and his notes of inspections.

The action taken on tours has been duly recorded in the Director's inspection notes which form the basis of his action with reference to cottage and other industries.

[29th March 1931]

The results of the Director's tours for 1929-30 have been embodied in paragraphs 25 and 26 of the Administration report for 1929-30 which has been placed at the disposal of the Press.

The following are some of the instances where action has been taken as the result of his inspection on tour in 1930-31.

The proposal to open classes for teaching the manufacture of leather goods and buttons from waste leather and brushes of all kinds in the Leather Trades Institute is the result of the Director's visit to the Leather Working Institute at Cawnpore and the brush factory at Madras. He has instructed the Principal, School of Arts and Crafts, to try marble carving and other artistic articles on the lines done at Delhi and Agra. After a careful study of the climatic conditions of the Palmaner plateau, he has started a new sericultural farm at Palmaner and several demonstration fields in and around Kuppam. He has also encouraged the extension of sericulture by private landholders, such as the Zamindars of Parlakimedi and Parvatipuram. He is in correspondence with the District Forest Officer, Cuddapah, to obtain for the toy makers of Cuddapah the concession of removing from the forests the wood required by them for toys at reduced rates. Arrangements are being made by him for the introduction in the Cuddapah district of palmyra industries, manufacture of jaggery, mats, baskets, etc., and industry unheard of in the district. The proper methods of retting coir husks and making coir are being demonstrated to an exporter at Cocanada, based on the success of experiments at Topputurai in Tanjore. On the representation of the District Advancement Association, Mangalore, the Superintendent, Kerala Soap Institute, has been asked to investigate the proper method of extracting oil from cashewnuts, the Ceramic Assistant was sent to examine the possibilities of diverting the tile factories into other more lucrative directions, the list of bulletins of the department is being circularised to local bodies, and a programme of work for introducing tanning in and around Mangalore is being drawn up. A new machine for making buttons from bones, etc., on cottage industries lines is being tried by the Research Engineer in a small factory in Madras.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 768 asked by Mr. G. Simhaabalam at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 803 supra.]

	Malayalis.	Andhras.	Kanarese.	Tamilians.	Muham- madans.	Others.
District Board Engineers	2	4*	4	12	Nil	3
† District Health Officers	4	3	2	11	Nil	6

* Includes one on probation (Mr. Mallaparnju, District Board Engineer, Kistna).

† As is stood on 31st December 1930.

28th March 1931]

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 787 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 812 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 460, Law (Education), dated 24th March 1931.

The question of a site for the new building proposed to be constructed for the Municipal College, Salem, has formed the subject of discussion recently. In Memorandum No. 86-2, Education, dated 21st June 1927, the Government expressed the view that the hostel site on which it was originally proposed to construct the building was unsuitable for the purpose. Subsequently, in G.O. No. 4011, L. & M., dated 4th October 1928, they approved of the location of the building on a site adjoining the Maravaneri tank.

As a result of the representations received from the residents of Salem and the Municipal Council, the Government have re-examined the question. They consider that the site near the Maravaneri tank may be utilized for the construction of a building for the College department of the institution and for the provision of a playground for it and that the hostel site may be made use of for any extensions required for the school department.

2. The Chairman is informed that the Government subsidy towards the construction of the buildings for the college and the high school will be limited to one-half of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 1.22 lakhs (one lakh and twenty-two thousand) as fixed in G.O. No. 122, Education, dated 27th January 1925.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Education and Excise)

A. F. W. DIXON,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 790 asked by the Raja of Parlakimedi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 813 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 765, L. & M., dated 10th March 1931.

The intention of section 4 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, is that every revenue taluk should normally be a taluk board and Government propose to give effect to this intention with effect from the date on which the transitional period prescribed in the schedule to the Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1930, expires. This they propose to effect by cancelling under section 4 (2) (b) (iii), the notifications constituting all taluk boards which now comprise more than one revenue taluk and by constituting under section 6 (1) a board for every revenue taluk.

2. Under clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 4 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, Government accordingly call upon the taluk boards named in the annexure to this Order to show cause, through the President, District Board, concerned, so as to reach Government by the 1st April 1931, against the cancellation of the notifications constituting them.

[28th March 1931]

3. The Presidents of Taluk Boards concerned are requested to submit with the Board's replies skeleton budgets of all the new taluk boards involved in the proposals.

4. The Presidents of Taluk Boards are requested to submit copies of their replies to the Deputy Inspectors of Local Boards and Municipal Councils concerned and to the Inspector.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

To the Presidents of Taluk Boards and District Boards concerned.

Copy to all Collectors.

" the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

Annexure.

District Board.	Taluk Board.	District Board.	Taluk Board.
Asantapur ...	Anantapur. Gooty. Dharmavaram. Penukonda. Vellore. Ranipet. Cheyyar.	West Godavari.	Ellore. Tanuku.
North Arcot ...	Tiruvannamalai. Tiruppattur.	Guntur ...	Narasaraopet. Bandar.
South Arcot ...	Tindivanam. Tirukkoyilur. Bellary.	Kistna ...	Nuzvid. Dhone.
Bellary ...	Adoni. Harpanahalli. Hospet.	Kurnool ...	Nandyal. Koilkuntla. Markapur.
Chingleput ..	Chingleput. Saidapet. Tiruvallur.	Madura ...	Usilampatti. Nilakkottai.
Chittoor ...	Chittoor. Chendragiri. Madanapalle. Karvetnagar. Coimbatore. Erode.	Malabar ...	Calicut. Atmakur.
Coimbatore ..	Pollachi. Gobichetti- palaiyam.	Nellore ...	Gudur. Kanigiri.
Cuddapah ...	Proddatur. Rayachoti. Badvel.	Ramnad ...	Ramnad. Sivaganga. Devakottai. Sivakasi.
Ganjam ...	Chicacole. Ghoomsur. Berhampur. Chatrapur.	Salem ...	Salem. Hosur. Dharmapuri. Sankari. Namakkal.
East Godavari.	Rajahmundry. Pithapur.	Tanjore ...	Mayavaram. Pattukkottai. Koilpatti.
		Tinnevelly ...	Sermadevi. Tinnevelly. Tuticorin.
		Vizagapatam...	Narsapatam. Vizagapatam. Vizianagram. Parvatipur.

• 28th March 1931]

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 797 asked by Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 816 supra.]

Statement I—Showing the number of permanent vacancies in the several departments of the Secretariat during the calendar years 1928, 1929 and 1930.

Department.	Assistant Secretaries.			Superintendents.			Upper division clerks.			Lower division clerks.		
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Chief Secretariat ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Finance Department ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Revenue Department ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Local Self-Government Department ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Law and Education Department ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Public Works and Labour Department ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Development Department ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

[28th March 1931]

Statement II—Showing distribution of appointment to vacancies shown in Statement I.

	Andhras.	Oriyaa.	Kanarese.	Tamilians.	Malayalis.	Others.	Vacant.
Chief Secretariat—							
Assistant Secretaries							
Superintendents							
Upper division clerks							
Lower division clerks							
Finance Department—							
Assistant Secretaries							
Superintendents							
Upper division clerks							
Lower division clerks							
Revenue Department—							
Assistant Secretaries							
Superintendents							
Upper division clerks							
Lower division clerks							
Local Self-Government Department—							
Assistant Secretaries							
Superintendents							
Upper division clerks							
Lower division clerks							
Law and Education Department—							
Assistant Secretaries							
Superintendents							
Upper division clerks							
Lower division clerks							
Public Works and Labour Department—							
Assistant Secretaries							
Superintendents							
Upper division clerks							
Lower division clerks							
Development Department—							
Assistant Secretaries							
Superintendents							
Upper division clerks							
Lower division clerks							

* Proposals for filling the vacancies are under consideration.

28th March 1931]

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 804 asked by Dr. P. Subbarayan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 820 supra.]

Extract of the statement made by the hon. Home Member on 19th March 1931.

As for the Peddapuram incident, my hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan has given a short notice question which I was not able to answer because I was not able to get at the facts until yesterday. Now, with regard to this affair, I am in a position to say this: No report has been received from the District Magistrate, who is believed to be conducting jamabandi in a remote part of the district, regarding the above incident, though on receipt of the first telegraphic information from non-official sources a wire was sent to him calling for information which has been followed by telegraphic reminders. However, the Inspector-General of Police has yesterday forwarded with comments the report made to him by the District Superintendent of Police, East Godavari, who visited Peddapuram on the 14th March under instructions and held an inquiry.

One Duvvuri Subbamma was standing on the steps of the U.L.C. Mission High School, addressing an audience of some 300 boys on the subject of female education when Sub-Inspector, S. C. Krishnamurti, in mufti, with one head constable and four constables armed with lathis turned up and, though Mr. Samuel, the Headmaster, assured the Sub-Inspector that there was nothing of a political character in the speech, the latter ordered the gathering to disperse at once. When the police started to execute this order, the crowd bolted in all directions helter-skelter and a number of boys fell down and received abrasions. Duvvuri Subbamma was not molested. The Sub-Inspector denies that there was any lathi charge, and states that he took the decision to disperse the gathering because he believed that it had been pre-arranged by local ex-satyagrahis—but according to Mr. Samuel only one ex-student who can be placed in that category was present. It is not possible to say more because some of the boys who were injured have laid a complaint against the police for trespass and assault and the case is *sub judice*, but the Inspector-General considers that *prima facie* the action of the Sub-Inspector appears to have been entirely without justification, and has directed that he should be placed immediately under suspension. Upon the information before the Government at present, they are unable to understand why, if the crowd had to be dispersed, any force or show of force was needed to effect dispersal, but they must have more material before them and in particular the report of the local Magistracy, the views of the District Magistrate and the Sub-Inspector's full explanation before committing themselves to an opinion which might

[28th March 1931]

prejudice their future action. I can however assure this House that if the police are proved beyond reasonable doubt to have wantonly abused their powers, the Government will not hesitate to award those found guilty exemplary punishment. Whatever exactly may have happened, unhappily, there can be no question that local opinion has been antagonised and irritated at a time when every section of the community should be doing its best to maintain a calm and peaceful attitude, but it is hoped that nothing more will be said or done to aggravate these conditions, and I can assure the House that as soon as the case now pending has been disposed of, the question whether any and if so what disciplinary action should be taken against the Sub-Inspector concerned and his men will be examined and decided with no avoidable delay.

APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to question No. 809 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty, at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 824 supra.]

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, Dis. No. 801-3-C-30, dated 20th February 1930.

READ—G.O. No. 2652-A, Law (Education), dated 20th December 1929.

Copy communicated to all the District Educational Officers and Inspectresses of Girls' Schools for information.

2. In inviting the attention to the Government order read above, the Director desires to impress upon all the inspecting officers the need for the adoption of more effective and expeditious measures for the removal of existing disabilities in respect of the admission of depressed class children to schools not specially intended for them.

3. In the first place, it is the duty of all Inspecting Officers to press for the removal of schools situated in places inaccessible to depressed classes to places accessible to all classes including depressed classes. The Director considers that this can be most effectively done in the following manner:—

[28th March 1931]

Each Inspecting Officer should along with his or her report on schools inspected during the month submit to the District Educational Officer or the Inspectress, a statement showing schools inaccessible to depressed classes. Correspondence should be opened with the local body concerned in respect of each school and definite recommendations should be made for its removal to a place accessible to depressed classes. In the case of aided schools, recommendations should be made to the District Educational Council with reference to paragraph 9 of the rules under section 42 (2) of Chapter I of the Act. District Educational Officers and Inspectresses are requested to be good enough to give their personal attention to this matter and to see that positive and persistent efforts are made with a view to securing the removal of all schools from localities inaccessible to depressed classes. It is hoped that appreciable reduction will be made in the number of such schools during the year 1930-31.

4. Inspecting Officers are reminded that the policy is that eventually all depressed class schools as such should be closed and the pupils admitted without restriction to local schools now attended wholly or largely by caste children. It should be possible to make more rapid progress in this direction particularly in places where the exclusiveness of caste people shows signs of yielding to a spirit of tolerance. Inspecting Officers are expected to be acquainted with conditions in this regard and they should make recommendations to school managements for admission in increasing numbers to depressed class children to schools not specially intended for them.

5. In their reports for 1930-31, District Educational Officers and Inspectresses will be expected to report in detail on the progress made in the directions indicated in these proceedings, and to be able to explain satisfactorily any lack of adequate progress.

6. The attention of the District Educational Officers and Inspectresses is invited to paragraph 4 of the Government Order. They are requested to deal with the question of schools situated in inaccessible places on behalf of which provincial subsidies are now being paid, and to submit to the Director a report containing the following particulars:—

- (i) Name of the school situated in inaccessible locality;
- (ii) number and date of the Government Order sanctioning payment of subsidy and the annual recurring subsidy payable;
- (iii) whether recommendations have been made to the local body concerned to remove the school to an accessible locality; and
- (iv) whether the local body concerned has accepted the recommendations and removed the school; if the recommendations have been rejected by the local body, reasons for the same should be ascertained and reported.

7. The attention of the inspecting officers is also invited to G.O. No. 380, Law and Education, dated 30th April 1930, and paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 172, Law and Education, dated 28th January 1928, and they are requested to report to the Director any violation of the provision contained therein.

[28th March 1931]

APPENDIX X.

[Vide answer to question No. 812 asked by Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 827 supra.]

Statement showing the number of posts (permanent and temporary) of Assistant Secretaries, Superintendents, upper division clerks and lower division clerks in each of the departments of the Secretariat on 1st March 1931 and their distribution on linguistic basis.

	Total number of appointments, permanent and temporary.	Oriyas.	Andhras.	Kanarese.	Tamilians.	Malayalis.	Others.
Chief Secretariat—							
Assistant Secretaries	1	..	..	..	5	3	1
Superintendents	8	..	..	..	9	3	..
Upper division clerks	14	..	1	1	9	3	..
Lower do.	31	..	1	2	24	1	3
Total ..	54	..	2	3	38	7	4
Finance Department—							
Assistant Secretaries	2	..	..	..	2	..	..
Superintendents	14	..	..	1	10	3	..
Upper division clerks	26	..	1	..	19	3	3
Lower do.	12	..	1	1	8	1	1
Total ..	54	..	2	2	39	7	4
Revenue Department—							
Assistant Secretaries	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Superintendents	6	..	..	..	5	..	1
Upper division clerks	18	..	1	1	11	5	..
Lower do.	7	..	1	..	5	1	..
Total ..	32	..	2	1	27	6	1
Local Self-Government Department—							
Assistant Secretaries	2	..	..	..	1	..	1
Superintendents	10	..	2	1	6	1	..
Upper division clerks	27	..	1	1	21	3	1
Lower do.	15	..	1	..	11	1	2
Total ..	54	..	4	2	39	5	4
Law and Education Department—							
Assistant Secretaries	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Superintendents	7	..	..	..	7	..	..
Upper division clerks	19	..	..	..	12	4	3
Lower do.	13	..	..	..	10	1	2
Total ..	40	..	..	..	30	5	5

28th March 1931]

Statement showing the number of posts (permanent and temporary) of Assistant Secretaries, Superintendents, upper division clerks and lower division clerks in each of the departments of the Secretariat on 1st March 1931 and their distribution on linguistic basis—*cont.*

	Total number of appointments, permanent and temporary.	Oriyas.	Andhras.	Kanarese.	Tamilians.	Malayalis.	Others.
Development Department—							
Assistant Secretaries	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Superintendents	3	..	1	..	8	2	1
Upper division clerks	12	..	2	..	6	..	..
Lower do.	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	21	..	3	..	15	2	1
Public Works and Labour Department—							
Assistant Secretaries	1	..	1	..	2	..	3
Superintendents	6	..	1	..	13	1	..
Upper division clerks	16	..	2	..	4	..	..
Lower do.	4	..	..	..	..	1	3
Total ..	26	..	3	..	19	1	3
Grand total ..	281	..	16	8	202	33	22

APPENDIX XI.

[Vide answer to question No. 815 asked by B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 830 supra].

Statistics of Malabar rebellion prisoners confined in jails other than the Alipuram Jail, Bellary, and Central Jail, Bellary.

Jails.	Number.
Central jails—	12
Rajahmundry	1
Vellore	3
Trichinopoly	6
Penitentiary	13
Cannanore	12
Salem	13
Coimbatore	8
District Jail, Cuddalore	63
Wellesley Sanatorium Jail, Bellary	..
Total ..	131

[28th March 1931]

APPENDIX XII.

[Vide answer to question No. 818 asked by Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 28th March 1931, page 834 supra.]

Copy of petition from M. Naganna and 94 others.

The following citizens of Gudivada humbly beg to bring to your kind notice the following few facts for favour of favourable consideration and orders :—

On 15th February 1931, (1) Goni Guntla Subrahmanyam, (2) Boddapati Venkateswara Rao, (3) Mudeda Ramulu, (4) Gorigi Suryanarayana, (5) Chittapragada Ranga Rao, (6) Peddiniti Krishnamurti, (7) Cheruvu Venkataramayya, volunteers of Gudivada, organized themselves into a batch at the instigation of the local Congress vakils, (1) Ketavarapu Nara-imham and (2) Boddapati Puranachandra Rao, went from shop to shop and got the shops closed by force at Gudivada with intent to observe a hartal, and thus caused much inconvenience to the public. The transaction was entirely suspended till mid-day, when the police officers appeared on the spot and on whose assurances the shops were opened by the shop-keepers. The volunteers referred to above used criminal force on some of the shop-keepers who lodged complaints to the police. The police, on the complaints made to them, put up a case against them before the Stationary Sub-Magistrate, Gudivada, who is now trying the case. But for the police assurances, the public would have felt much inconvenience, it being an important festival day. In order to escape the conviction, these volunteers and vakils are intimidating the shop-keepers and others not to speak against them.

So we humbly beg to submit that such high-handed actions may kindly be put a stop to.

APPENDIX XIII.

(Vide Item VII—Papers laid on the table of the House at page 899 supra.)

PUBLIC (POLICE) DEPARTMENT.

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

[Police—Probationary Sub-Inspectors—Selection in 1930.]

With reference to the answer given to a supplementary question under question No. 54 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th January 1931, the following information is laid on the table :—

Supplementary question under Legislative Council question No. 54 answered on 27th January 1931.

Eighty-nine persons were selected in 1930 for training as Sub-Inspectors of Police. Eighty-one Sub-Inspectors were undergoing training in the Police Training School, Vellore, on 28th February 1931. Ten of them who joined the school in October 1930 resigned. Of these ten, six resigned because they found the work too arduous, one for private reasons and one on account of ill health and two for no reason disclosed. Not one of them made any protest about the treatment he had received in the school.

C. W. E. COTTON,
Chief Secretary.

70266