

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SECOND SESSION OF THE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Vol. LVIII (Nos. 1 to 4).

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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. 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. |
| | 17. Stores and Stationery (required for Reserved Departments). |

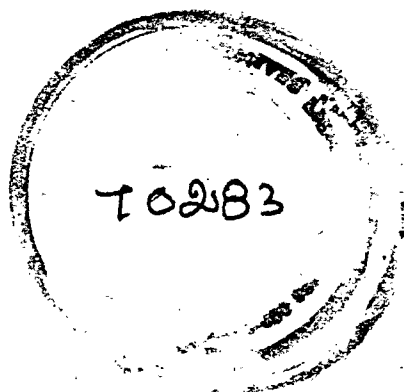
II.—Central Subjects.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 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, Kt., 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. |

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

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 subsection (1) of section 4 and declarations under subsection (1) of section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, where the public purpose referred to in the said subsections 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.
2. Mineral development.
3. Botanical survey.
4. Survey of India.
5. Zoological survey.
6. Meteorology.
7. Census and Statistics. | 8. Territorial changes.
9. Immovable property in possession of the Governor General in Council.
10. All-India services.
11. Public Services Commission.
12. Reforms. |
|--|--|

4. The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.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.
2. Pensions.
3. Local Fund audit. | 4. Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts.
5. Central Record office. |
|--|--|

II.—Central Subjects.

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

„ W. M. BROWNING.

M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA.

„ T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR Avargal.

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. (On leave).

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. Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	NOMINATED.
5. Annamalai Chettiyar, S. A. A.	Nattukottai Nagarathar's Association.
6. Arasu, V. T.	NOMINATED.
7. Ari Gowder, H. B.	The Nilgiris, N.-M. Rural.
8. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Central District, Indian Christian.
9. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Central Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
10. Basu Dev, C.	NOMINATED.
11. Bayappa Reddi, P.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
12. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ceded Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
13. Bhanoji Rao, A. V.	NOMINATED.
14. Birley, Frank	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
15. Browning, W. M.	European.
16. Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., v.D., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	EX-OFFICIO.
17. Chinnu Pillai alias Nadimuthu Pillai, A. Pl. N. V.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
18. Davis, O.B.E., J. A.	Anglo-Indian.
19. Devadasan, M.	NOMINATED.
20. Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	NOMINATED.
21. Duraiswami Reddiyar, K. M.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
22. Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
23. Foulkes, R.	NOMINATED.
24. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
25. Harischandrudu Nayudu, A.	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.
26. Hood, I.C.S., H. M.	NOMINATED.
27. Indrayya, C.	Godavari, West, N.-M. Rural.
28. Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G. (<i>Deputy President</i>).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.

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

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
57. Muthiah Chettiyar, M. A. ..	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
58. Muthu Chettiyar, P. C. ..	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
59. Nachiyappa Gounder, K. A. ..	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
60. Nanjappa 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, Rao Bahadur T. M.	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
65. Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
66. Palat, R. M. ..	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, Kt., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
72. Pattabhiramayya, K. ..	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
73. Pattagar of Palayakottai [Rai Bahadur Nallathambi Sarkarai Manradiyar].	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
74. Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B. ..	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
75. Premayya, G. R. ..	NOMINATED.
76. Rajagopala Pillai, P. V. ..	NOMINATED.
77. Raja of Bobbili (Sri Ravu Swetachallapathi Ramakrishna Ranga Rao).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
78. Raja of Kallikota (Raja Sri Ramachandra Marada Raja Deo Garu).	Northern Landholders, I.
79. Raja of Parlakimedi (Sri Sri Sri Krishna Chandra Gajapathi Narayana Deo Garu).	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
80. Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T. (Minister).	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
81. Ramachandra Padayachi, P. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
82. Ramachandra Reddi, The hon. Mr. B. (President).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
83. Ramakrishna Reddi, A. ..	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
84. Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
85. Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala ..	NOMINATED.
86. Ramamurti, I.C.S., S. V. ..	NOMINATED.

* Resigned and Mr. J. A. Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., was nominated in his place. The latter took his seat on 31st October 1931.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
87. Raman Menon, K. P. ..	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
88. Ramaswami Ayyar, T. S. ..	Madras University.
89. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
90. Rangantha Mudaliyar, A. ..	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
91. Rangantha Mudaliyar, G. ..	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
92. Rangantha Mudaliyar, M. D. T.	Tinnevelly <i>cum</i> Palamcottah, N.-M. Urban.
93. Rangaswami Reddi, M. B. ..	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
94. Ratnasabhapat Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
95. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
96. Satyanarayana Choudari, C. ..	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
97. Sessa Reddi, B. P. ..	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
98. Shetty, A. B. ..	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
99. Simhachalam Pantulu, Gade ..	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
100. Singam Ayyangar, K. ..	Trichinopoly <i>cum</i> Srirangam, N.-M. Urban.
101. Siva Raj, N. ..	NOMINATED.
102. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, K. S.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
103. Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., E. Conran.	NOMINATED.
104. Soundara Pandian, W. P. A.	NOMINATED.
105. Sreshta, M. S. ..	West Coast, Christian.
106. Srinivasa Ayyangar, T. C. ..	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
107. Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R. ..	NOMINATED.
108. Sriramulu, G. ..	NOMINATED.
109. Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	EX-OFFICIO.
110. Subbarayan, Dr. P. ..	South Central Landholders.
111. Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.	NOMINATED.
112. Subrahmanya Bhatt, U. C. ..	Kanara South, N.-M. Rural.
113. Sundara Rao Nayudu, T. ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
114. Swami Sahajanandam, A. S. ..	NOMINATED.
115. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.	Tanjore, Muhammadan.
116. Thomas, Daniel ..	Ramnad <i>cum</i> Tinnevelly, Christian.
117. Tottenham, I.C.S., G. R. F. ..	NOMINATED.
118. Usman Sahib Bahadur, Kt., The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	EX-OFFICIO.
119. Vasudeva Pillai, V. G. ..	NOMINATED.
120. Vedachala Mudaliyar, M. ..	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
121. Venkatarama Ayyar, K. R. ..	Madura City, N.-M. Urban.
122. Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
123. Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
124. Winter, W. E. ..	Madras Chamber of Commerce.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
125. Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	East Coast, Muhammadan—Rural.
126. Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.	North Arcot <i>cum</i> Chingleput.
127. Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur (Kamaraja Pandia Nayakar, T. V. K.).	Southern Landholders.
128. Zamindar of Chemudu (Sri Vyricherla Narayana Gajapati Raju).	Vizagapatam City, N.-M. Urban.
129. Zamindar of Ettayapuram (Raja Jaga Veera Rama Kumara Venkateswara Ettappa Nayakar Ayyan).	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
130. Zamindar of Kirlampudi (Sri Raja Ravu Ramakrishna Ranga Rao).	NOMINATED.
131. Zamindar of Minampalli (K. C. M. Venkatachala Reddiyar).	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
132. Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Mirzapuram Raja alias Venkataramayya Appa Rao).	Northern Landholders, II.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

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

Friday, the 30th October 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.	Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S. Foulkes, Mr. R.
Krishnan Nayar, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Campbell, c.s.i., c.i.e., c.b.e., v.d., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A. Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Stokes, c.s.i., c.i.e., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	Indriah, Mr. C.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	James, Mr. F. E.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.	Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Alamelumanga Thayaramma, Mrs. K.	Kondappa, Mr. A.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.	Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Krishnan, Mr. C.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Krishnaswami Ayyar, Diwan Bahadur Alladi.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Luker, Mr. F. G.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.	Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Birley, Mr. Frank.	Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Conran Smith, c.i.e., I.C.S., Mr. E.	Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur, T. M.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.	Moses, Mr. P. C.

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PRESENT—cont.

Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
 Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur
 A. M. M.
 Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
 Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
 Nachiyappa Goundar, Mr. K. A.
 Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
 Nanjappah Bahadur, Subadar-Major
 S. A.
 Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
 Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
 Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
 Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur
 T. M.
 Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
 Palat, Mr. R. M.
 Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
 Pate, I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
 Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
 Pattagar of Palayakottai, The
 Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
 Premayya, Mr. G. R.
 Raja of Kallikote, The.
 Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
 Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
 Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur
 T. A.
 Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
 Ramamurti, I.C.S., Mr. S. V.
 Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
 Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.

Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
 Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
 Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan
 Bahadur C. S.
 Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
 Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
 Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
 Shetty, Mr. A. B.
 Siva Raj, Mr. N.
 Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
 Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
 Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
 Sriramulu, Mr. G.
 Strathie, I.C.S., Mr. D. N.
 Subbarayan, Dr. P.
 Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
 Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
 Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
 Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
 Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan
 Sahib.
 Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
 Tottenham, I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
 Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
 Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
 Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.
 Winter, Mr. W. E.
 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
 Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram.

I.—SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS.

The undermentioned Members made the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Crown and then took their seats:—

Mr. F. E. JAMES.

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH, C.I.E., I.C.S.

Mr. W. E. WINTER.

Mr. D. N. STRATHIE, I.C.S.

II.—ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR addressed the House as follows:—

“ Mr. President and hon. Members of the Council,—In opening this session of the Legislative Council there are one or two observations on various topics that I wish to make.

“ When I last addressed you, I stated that the financial position of the Presidency in common with the rest of the world was giving cause for anxiety and that a Special Officer had been appointed to examine in detail the expenditure of the various departments to enable the Government to ascertain whether economies could be effected. The recommendations made by him have been under the consideration of the Finance

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Committee, who have been acting as a Retrenchment Committee, and have been submitted by them to the Government together with their own recommendations. Their valuable work is still continuing, and the Government hope, with their assistance, to be able to preserve the financial stability of the Presidency; but I consider it right to inform the Members of the Council that the economic situation must give cause for great anxiety for some time to come and that economy must be the first thought of us all. I would therefore beg hon. Members to assist the Government in this most urgent matter and to refrain from pressing schemes, which, though they may be measures that in more prosperous times we should be glad to adopt, must be out of our reach during this unprecedented time of economic depression throughout the world, and also not to place obstacles in the way of schemes of retrenchment which the Government may find it necessary to adopt.

“ In order to assist the country to economise, a cut has been foreshadowed in the pay of the services and I should like to pay a tribute to the way in which they have accepted what must necessarily be a grave inconvenience to them. In this connexion I may mention that Members of the Executive Council and Ministers have agreed to a voluntary cut of 10 per cent in their salaries, and there will be a similarly voluntary cut of 10 per cent in mine, though, in my case, I am having a further examination made of commitments on my private purse, with a view to a possible further surrender of salary. The hon. the Chief Justice and the Judges of the High Court have also agreed to a voluntary cut, the amount of which will be announced later.

“ On the occasion of my last speech to you I was able to sound a cheerful note on the progress that had been made at the Round Table Conference,—progress that was far greater than had ever been anticipated by even the most sanguine supporters of the Conference. There appears to be a check in that progress now; the Conference has come to grips with the communal question, which has always been the crux of the problem. At the moment no solution has been found, and there are not wanting people who say that it will not be possible to find one. I may be too much of an optimist, but I do not number myself among those. Given goodwill and an earnest desire on all sides to solve the problem, I cannot bring myself to believe that it is not possible to find a formula which can and will satisfy all communities. When such a formula is found, I can see no insuperable obstacle to the framing of a constitution which will give to India that measure of self-government to which we all look forward. When that time comes I have no doubt whatever that Madras will show the rest of India how provincial self-government should be carried out; but I consider I should be failing in my duty and should also be running the risk of frustrating the high hopes I have for self-government in this Presidency if I did not point out to hon. Members where, in my opinion, they are falling short of the standard that this Council should attain.

“ I have noticed a tendency on the part of hon. Members to make assertions on the attitude of Government in regard to various questions

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—especially those on the reserved side—which are sometimes diametrically opposed to the real facts. Such a case was very marked in the debate which was initiated at the end of last session with regard to the resettlement in the Kistna and West Godavari districts. This is not the time to go into the matter in detail, but briefly the Government could have taken the easy way and have imposed no enhancement. But they considered, and I think rightly, that they must consider not only the present but also the future and they visualised a Government of the future entirely composed of hon. Members of this Council who might well blame the Government for not having enforced the resettlement. They therefore decided that there must be an enhancement, but they also had regard to the position of the ryot and how he has been affected by the recent fall in prices. They accordingly decided that the proposed enhancement of 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent should be in three equal annual instalments and further that, though there might be an enhancement on paper, the increase should not be collected unless the price obtainable for the produce justified such an increase. What could be fairer than that? The Government of the future is safeguarded, the ryot is safeguarded because he will not be asked to pay more unless the price for his produce justifies such a demand, and I should have thought that such a decision would commend itself to any fair-minded man. I have read through the whole of the debate and the most charitable view to take of it is that the various speakers had not read the order, or if they had done so, they had not gathered the correct purport of it. The result has been to cause unnecessary concern and anxiety to the ryots where there was not the slightest need for it and it is just the kind of undesired result that I wish to emphasise. I would beg hon. Members to bear this in mind—if due consideration is not paid to what the effect may be of a motion or indeed of an individual speech—the result may be quite alien to the intentions of the speaker and may have far-reaching and possibly disastrous consequences. I have mentioned this at some length because a long parliamentary experience has convinced me of the real dangers that such a course may involve. If an hon. Member is really desirous of elucidating some question, there is the question hour for him to do so and if such a course had been followed in the case I have mentioned, the matter could have been made clear and the ryot could have been saved much anxiety. I do not for one moment contend that if an hon. Member is not satisfied with the position as elucidated, he is not to give notice of a motion, nor do I mean to say that he is not to criticise the declared policy of the Government; but I do wish to impress upon hon. Members the danger that may arise from a motion or from a speech based on a totally false impression of the intentions of the Government either now or in the future.

1-15 a.m. “I thank you, Mr. President and hon. Members of the Council, for the patience and courtesy with which you have listened to me, and I can assure you that I have only spoken as I have done because I am so jealous that, when responsible self-government is granted to the Provinces, as I believe it will be before long, the proceedings in this Council

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will be carried out in such a way as to redound to its dignity and to ensure the contentment of the people of this Presidency. I will conclude by tendering to you, Mr. President, and to the hon. Members of the Council, my most fervent good wishes for the work of this session and my earnest hope that it may not be long before I shall have the privilege of opening a Council which will be the first in this Presidency under provincial self-government.”

The address over, His Excellency left the Council Chamber.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“As it is now 11-20, we shall go on with Questions and Answers till 12-20.”

III.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Depressed Classes

* 222 Q.—[Cancelled.]

Grant for education to depressed class Christians.

* 223 Q.—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one-third of the Labour grant for education has been assigned to depressed class Christians; and

(b) how the proportion of one-third was arrived at?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Emigration

Withholding of the passport to Mr. Gubil Sundaresan.

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

(a) whether the passport to Mr. Gubil Sundaresan, Journalist, Trichinopoly, to proceed to England was withheld by the Government; and

(b) if so, what were the reasons?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) His passport was cancelled for political reasons, which no longer hold good. A fresh passport has now been issued to him.

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know what were the political reasons for which his passport was cancelled?”

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

“The passport has since been given, and I do not think it is necessary to go into personal matters.”

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General*Instructions regarding alleged breakdown of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact.*

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

(a) whether the Government ever intimated to their subordinate authorities that the Gandhi-Irwin Pact has been broken; and

(b) whether any instructions were conveyed by the Government to district officers to consider the Congress as enemies of the Government?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know, Sir, if the Government say that they have not given any instructions to the Police, whether they are aware of the recent happenings in Madura and one or two other places which justify the inference on the part of the people that the Government have been responsible for breaking the Gandhi-Irwin Pact in this province ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ A number of questions have been asked on this subject, and we have given replies to them, and perhaps they will come up here to-morrow or the day after. They will show that the Pact has been observed in this province.”

Alleged circular by the District Magistrate, Chittoor, for unfettered use of section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, in cases of picketing.

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

(a) whether the District Magistrate of Chittoor has asked the Sub-Magistrates in the Chittoor district, to use section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, freely in cases of picketing;

(b) whether he has instructed them, by circular or otherwise, to treat picketing by Congress people as a political offence to be crushed, whenever possible, by whatever means; and

(c) whether the District Superintendent of Police of Chittoor has been authorized by the District Magistrate to approach the Sub-Magistrates direct and get orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, against picketers?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) No.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ May I know if the Government are aware that the District Magistrate of Chittoor circularised to his subordinates that the Gandhi-Irwin Pact had been broken and that the Government officers were at liberty to deal with Congressmen as they pleased? ”

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ As I have just now said, the Government have already furnished answers to a number of questions on this subject, and I need not add anything to them.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I then ask Government what they mean by saying ‘no’ in answer to this question on paper, while an answer is promised to these questions later on? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ This is only a statement of fact.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“ Is the Gandhi-Irwin Pact in force in this province or not at present ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ As hon. Members know, it is in force.”

Government Press

Supersession of the claims of seniors in making promotions to the posts of Type Store-keeper and Overseer, Government Press.

* 227 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the matter of promotions to the posts of Type Store-keeper and Overseer in the Government Press, Mint Buildings, Madras, on Rs. 100—5—150 and Rs. 150—5—200, respectively, the claims of senior men were overlooked; if so, why; and

(b) what are the duties of the Type Store-keeper in the Government Press, Mint Buildings, and what is the reason for the great disparity in scales of pay between Mount Road man and Mint Buildings man, Rs. 30—2—60 and Rs. 100—5—150?

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

(b) The duties of the type-store-keeper in the Government Press at Mint Buildings are

- (1) to be in charge of the type-store and to do all duties connected with it,
- (2) to issue unserviceable types, leads, etc., to the foundry and to examine, weigh and receive all types cast in the foundry,
- (3) to be in charge of moulds, matrices and punches,
- (4) to be in charge of the press and machine departments in the temporary absence of the overseer, and
- (5) to be in charge of the library of books on technical subjects maintained in the press at Mint Buildings for the use of the employees.

The type-store work at Mount Road press is only about half of that in the press at Mint Buildings and the type-store-keeper at the Mount Road press has not to attend to the duties mentioned in items (2) to (5) above. The difference in pay referred to is thus accounted for by the difference in work and responsibility of the two posts.

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Mr. C. BASU DEV:—" May I know whether Government will be pleased to call for information in regard to clause (a) of the question? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" There is no necessity to call for the information. If a Government servant has been superseded, he has always got the right of appeal."

Duties of the Publication Assistant, Government Press.

* 228 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what are the duties of the Publication Assistant on Rs. 200—10—250 in the Government Press, Madras; and

(b) what are the duties of the Head Clerk on Rs. 125—5—175?

A.—(a) The Publication Assistant is practically a Personal Assistant to the Superintendent, Government Press, on non-technical matters. He relieves the Superintendent of much of his routine work and exercises a general supervision over the office of the Superintendent, Government Press.

(b) The head clerk is in immediate charge of correspondence and accounts relating to the Government Press.

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—" Is it a fact that the Superintendent, Government Press, has also got two Deputy Superintendents to assist him? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I suppose so."

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—" If so, will the Government be pleased to consider the question of abolishing the post of Publication Assistant as a measure of retrenchment? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" That does not arise."

Motor Vehicles Act

Qualifications of Bus Inspectors.

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

(a) the qualifications prescribed for the holders of the office of Bus Inspectors;

(b) the number of Bus Inspectors already appointed in the Presidency and how many out of them are qualified; and

(c) the districts for which the appointments have yet to be made?

A.—(a) No qualifications have been prescribed.

(b) Twenty Inspectors of Motor Vehicles have been appointed for twenty-one districts.

(c) Anantapur, Cuddapah, Guntur, Kurnool and Madras City.

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Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know what the considerations are which are kept in view in making these appointments? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Experience and practical knowledge."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know who makes these appointments? "

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether it is not the case that men who are unfit for any such work are appointed for the post? "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to appoint in future only men with experience of motor-driving? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The question will be considered, Sir. As hon. Members know, we have appointed a Committee to examine the rules in connexion with the working of the Motor Vehicles Act. When that Committee meets, this will be one of the questions to be considered."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether at least hereafter the Government will prescribe the qualifications for the post, so that there will be no room for appointing unqualified men? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" As I said just now, that point will be considered by the Committee."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether the Bus Inspector appointed for Nellore had any technical qualifications? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I want notice of the question."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—" I had some months back put an interpellation regarding the appointment made by the District Magistrate, Nellore, and the Government then replied that they were awaiting a report from the District Magistrate. May I know whether the report has been received? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" If I remember aright, the report has come."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—" May I know whether the report shows that the man appointed possesses the requisite qualifications and experience? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I do not remember the details. If the hon. Member tables a question, I shall give details."

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether one or two persons who have held these posts have absolutely no qualifications but have been debarred and disqualified by the college and other educational institutions ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have no information. "

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether it is a fact that in Tinnevely the appointments were made without even an advertisement calling for applications for the post ? "

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

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know whether in the City of Madras not only the types of vehicles should be licensed with the particular driver of each vehicle, but also each number of the type is also required to be licensed with the driver's licence ? "

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

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the Government have got a list of motor vehicles in regard to which licences are sought ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The Government have not got it. I think the District Magistrates and the Commissioner of Police have got such lists. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the Government are aware of the extent of the hardship that this order involves on the poor drivers of motor buses and motor cars with regard to the fulfilment of this condition ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I am prepared to consider the suggestion, Sir. "

Driving licence for motor bus drivers.

* 230 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state why motor drivers are required to obtain complementary licence for driving every make of motor bus?

A.—In order to prevent them from driving buses with whose mechanism they are unfamiliar.

Closure of the Museum road for bus traffic.

* 231 Q.—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the reasons for not permitting buses to run along the Museum road?

A.—The Commissioner of Police has reported that buses can be allowed to use the Pantheon road up to the Museum and the Victoria Technical Institute, but not beyond the Anderson bridge. The area beyond the bridge is entirely residential and the persons living there do not need buses. The proper route for buses bound for Nungambakkam is along the Spur Tank road which they are now using.

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Police

Withdrawal by the District Magistrate, Coimbatore, of all criminal cases against the caste people of Singanallur.

* 232 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the District Magistrate of Coimbatore has ordered the withdrawal of all criminal cases against the caste people who rioted and assaulted the Adi-Dravidas in Singanallur in July 1930;

(b) what are the reasons that prompted him to adopt such a course;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of this House the reports that were received by the Government from the District Magistrate from July last in this connexion; and

(d) why the criminal cases were withdrawn after nine months of such assaults?

A.—(a) The District Magistrate has ordered the withdrawal of the criminal cases against both caste-Hindus and Adi-Dravidas.

(b) & (d) The cases were exacerbating feeling rather than allaying it and were withdrawn in the interests of both parties, who were agreeable to a compromise, and in the hope of promoting a lasting settlement between them.

The cases were not disposed of earlier owing to petitions being presented first by the accused in one case for the withdrawal of the cases (which could not, however, then be accepted because the request for withdrawal did not come from both sides) and later for the transfer of the cases under section 526 (8), Criminal Procedure Code.

(c) The Government consider this to be unnecessary.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" In answer to clause (d), it is stated that they were agreeable to a compromise. May I know whether there is anything in writing from the Adi-Dravidas asking for a compromise ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I do not think it is necessary that it should be in writing. "

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether before now the District Magistrate attempted to bring about a compromise between the parties ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The Government have got the information that a compromise has been effected. "

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know the terms of the compromise ? "

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

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Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Has a lasting settlement been arrived at?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"That is my information, Sir."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Has the Government been informed that a settlement has been arrived at in regard to the difficulties that arose in the matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"That is my information."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Is the hon. Member aware that the compensation that was promised to the Adi-Dravidas has not been paid?"

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

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Is it not a fact that there are some cases pending in the civil courts against the Adi-Dravidas?"

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

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Why will not the Government make enquiries when the matter is brought to their notice that a settlement is not yet effected?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Because there was an end of the trouble. If the hon. Member thinks otherwise and wants more facts, I shall be prepared to enquire."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know from the Government what makes them say that it is unnecessary to proceed with the cases?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Because they have been settled by a compromise."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I inform the hon. the Home Member that there was no compromise so far as Adi-Dravidas were concerned?"

Alleged Hindu-Muslim clash in Vellore in July 1931.

* 233 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that there was a clash between the Hindu processionists and the Muhamadan processionists on the evening of Tuesday, the 28th July 1931 at Vellore;

(b) what was the cause of the trouble and how did it develop;

(c) whether the scene of action was very near the police station;

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(d) why the police did not control the situation sooner than they did; and

(e) what steps the Government propose to take to avert such clashes between the communities in future?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A Hindu-Muslim clash occurred at Vellore on the night of July 28th. The cause of the trouble appears to have been the unexpected meeting of a Hindu procession, on its way to hold a meeting at which certain Congressmen were expected to speak, and a Muhammadan procession in honour of the Prophet's birthday which, however, has not been conducted in recent years and was organized this year without previous notice of any kind. Small parties of each community armed with sticks assaulted each other in various streets of the town, but no one was seriously injured. The Government have no information as to the distances of these scenes of assault from the Police station. The situation was speedily brought under control under the personal direction of the District Magistrate and District Superintendent of Police.

(d) The question is based on a misapprehension. The police acted with great promptitude and but for their prompt action the affair would probably have taken a much more serious turn.

(e) The Government feel that, generally speaking, responsible leaders on both sides can do more to promote feelings of goodwill between the two communities than can the Government. So far as actual clashes are concerned, the local authorities are always prepared to take any preventive action open to them by law if the necessity for it arises. In the present instance, the clash was so unexpected that preventive action was out of the question.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (e) that the clash was so unexpected that preventive action was out of the question, may I know why the Police did not interfere but were merely looking on?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They have promptly put down the trouble."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"The answer to clauses (a), (b) and (c) gives the cause of the trouble, and that shows that members of the two communities were armed with sticks and prepared to come to a clash. So the Police must have been aware of it?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"When the Police found that both the parties came out for a clash, they entered on the scene."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Is it not a fact that Hindu-Muslim relations were much strained there long before?"

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ I do not know. ”

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—“ Are not the Government aware that on the Muharram occasion previously, there was some bundobust and expected trouble was prevented ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ There was some trouble then, but everything was settled soon after. ”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether the Government are aware that similar Hindu-Muslim disturbances are looming in the horizon in Kilakarai in the Tinnevely district and what steps the Government propose to take in the matter ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ The question does not arise. ”

Alleged injury caused to an old woman by Mr. H. G. Furness while driving his motor car.

11-30
a.m.

* 234-A Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the police have enquired into the case of severe injuries caused to an old woman at about 12 noon on 11th July 1931 by Mr. H. G. Furness, Principal of the Police Training School, Vellore, while driving his motor car; and

(b) if not, why not?

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether information will be called for in this case ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ I do not think any useful purpose will be served; if the hon. Member is very particular, I shall call for information. ”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ Thank you, Sir; we do want it. ”

Non-observance of public holidays by the Principal, Police Training School, Vellore.

* 234-B Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether public holidays including penultimate Saturdays are not given effect to as such by the Principal of the Police Training School at Vellore; and

(b) on how many such holidays during the last six months the Principal held parades and classes?

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ I want to know whether he does not want to call for information. Will he call for the information now ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ Yes, ”

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Opening of golf link by the Principal, Police Training School, Vellore.

* 234-C Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Principal of the Police Training School, Vellore, has opened a golf link; and

(b) whether the Principal is employing the Plan-Drawing Instructor of the school and a large number of recruit constables every day to clear and keep the golf links?

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether the Government will again call for information in this case ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ The question will be considered. ”

Sub-Inspectors selected for training at the Police Training School, Vellore.

* 235 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the number of Sub-Inspectors of Police who were selected and sent to the Provincial Police Training School, Vellore, in October and the number out of them who resigned before December during each of the four years 1926—1929, together with the reasons therefor, if available?

A.—The appended statement ^a is placed on the table of the House.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—“ It is said that there were two persons who resigned in 1927. May I know whether it is due to ill-treatment ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ I do not think so. ”

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Will the hon. the Home Member ascertain about it ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ No, Sir. ”

Staff employed in the office of the Inspector-General of Police.

* 236 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement of the staff employed in the office of the Inspector-General of Police, Madras, and to state the number of hands employed therein from among Andhras and from the other principal linguistic areas?

A.—The appended statement ^b is placed on the table of the House.

^a Printed as Appendix I on page 136 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix II on page 136 infra.

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Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know with reference to the statement in Appendix II, how many candidates from the Andhra Desa have applied for these posts ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" No information. "

Stationery

Purchase of khaki drill.

* 237 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Superintendent of Stationery called for quotations recently for the supply of 7,000 yards of khaki drill from manufacturing firms in the Presidency;

(b) if so, which are the firms from which quotations were received and what was the price quoted by them; and

(c) at what price did the Superintendent finally book the order and with whom?

A.—(a) Quotations were invited by the Superintendent of Stationery for the supply of 5,200 yards only of khaki drill.

(b) The tenders received were confidential and Government regret they cannot see their way to divulge the contents.

(c) The order was booked at the rate of As. 7-9 per yard with the Central Jail, Coimbatore.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether it is a fact or not that Messrs. Binny & Co. tendered for far cheaper price than the price at which the Stationery Superintendent accepted the goods from the Central Jail ? "

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

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Why should the Government treat the tenders as confidential ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Because some of the firms in order to get the patronage of Government give them special cheap rates and it will not be fair to disclose them. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" When a rate thus tendered was cheaper, why should they not accept it ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" All those things were considered before coming to a decision. "

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" Is there anything wrong in disclosing their names ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" If notice is given, I shall consider the suggestion. "

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I repeat the question why, if certain rates were cheaper, the Government should not accept them ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Because the Coimbatore Jail is a Government institution to which we must give preference. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" When the rates were cheaper, why should not the contract be given to a private individual ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Because the Coimbatore Jail belongs to Government. "

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I know whether there are many offers which are lower than the rate that has been thus accepted by Government ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I do not think so. "

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" None at all ? "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether it is not a rule laid down by Government that, when two tenders give the same price, then only the Government institute should be given preference and not otherwise ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The position is quite different here. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" By how much was the rate accepted more than the cheapest rate ? "

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" I should like to know from the hon. the Home Member whether it is not laid down by Government that when same rates are offered for a certain article by different tenders, the Government Jail or other industrial institution should be preferred and not otherwise ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" There is no such definite rule. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Is it suggested that private firms should not compete with Government institutions, like the Central Jail ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" This is all for purposes of Government supply. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Is it the policy of Government to kill private enterprise ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We do not want to kill private enterprise; we want to encourage our own articles. "

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Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the rate accepted here was equivalent to the lowest tender or a little more or less ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Perhaps it was a little more. As I have stated the principle is to encourage our own institutes. "

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—" I should like to know from the hon. the Home Member whether all things being equal it is the general policy of the Government to give preference to quotations from Government enterprises over quotations from private enterprises ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We must try to encourage our own institution as far as possible. But we do not want in any way to discourage private enterprise. "

Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—" How can both these things be reconciled ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" In this case it is our own institution which we want to encourage. "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether tenders, even after they are opened, remain confidential ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" They are confidential. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Are not the rates known to the other tenderers ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I do not know. "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Under what rule or law tenders, even after they are opened, are considered confidential ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" As I have already said, the reason why I refuse to disclose them is that in order to get Government patronage some firms might have quoted special rates, and it will not be fair to them to publish them. "

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—" In view of the answer given by the hon. the Home Member, I should like to ask a further question: in view of the fact that the normal way of encouraging a private enterprise is to accept tenders from them when they are reasonably low, should not Government allow fair play to such enterprises when they come in competition with Government quotations ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Four years ago, I myself when I was in charge of the Jails, passed an order to that effect. In this case there are special reasons for accepting this contract. "

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" What are those special reasons ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We want to encourage our own industry. "

Cinchona

Estimate for opening the Cinchona plantation in the Anamalais.

* 238 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total estimate for opening the cinchona plantations on the Anamalais and how many acres were opened in 1928, 1929 and 1930 and when the first year's planting will come to bearing;

(b) what is the failure in the above year's plantings;

(c) what remedies were taken to arrest the spread of ' die back ' pest in the plantations and nurseries;

(d) whether there are proposals before the Government to stop further plantations of cinchona on the Anamalais;

(e) whether the hon. Member has ever visited these plantations both in the Anamalais and Nilgiris;

(f) what are the facts ascertained by the Government regarding the future usefulness of the plantations; and

(g) what was the estimated damage to the plantations during the heavy rains in October-November 1929 and in 1930?

A.—(a) The total estimate under the sanctioned scheme for the first ten years working is just under 15 lakhs. Recently, however, estimates modifying the scheme have been submitted and are under consideration. They involve an expenditure of Rs. 8½ lakhs from 1925 to 1938.

The area planted in the past three years is as follows:—

1928	...	...	...	...	230 acres.
1929	...	...	...	...	6 "
1930	...	...	...	...	180 "

The first year's planting is now yielding a small amount of bark but it is hoped it will increase rapidly hereafter.

(b) By the end of this planting season the position will be as follows:—

1928	...	...	...	...	Nil.
1929	...	...	...	...	Nil.
1930	...	...	...	...	About 10 acres.

(c) Extensive spraying is now adopted both in the planted areas and in the nurseries. Continuous rain which amounts to 76 inches in one month is a contributory cause of ' die back ' but draining, as far as funds permit, is being done.

(d) Government have under consideration a revised scheme limiting the acreage to be planted.

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- (e) He has not visited the Anamalais plantations, but has seen portions of the Nilgiris plantations.
- (f) Considerable progress has been made and the Government have reason to look to the Anamalais plantation to supply the higher grade bark required for the quinine factory.
- (g) No material damage was done to the plantation in the periods referred to.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"It is observed that after this year's planting, the failure in 1928-29 clearings will be 'Nil'. May I know what acreage the Government propose to plant this year to bring the figure to 'Nil'?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That is under consideration."

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member as to the total acreage which is not under cultivation and which is reserved for this purpose only?"

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

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, the Government's policy in extending the cinchona plantations? Is it with a view to getting all the necessary supply locally without importing anything from outside?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That is the ambition of the Government."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if Government will be able to meet the whole demand here and also export some quantity to outside places, such as Bombay?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is too early to say anything about that."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"With reference to the answer to clause (d), may I know when the revised scheme will be ready for publication?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I am not able to say when it will be ready."

Civil Justice

Direct recruitment of District Judges.

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

(a) how many posts of the cadre of the District Judges are available by way of direct recruitment from the Bar;

(b) when was this system introduced, and how many gentlemen were recruited so far after its introduction and from which linguistic areas;

(c) of these so recruited, who are the gentlemen now in service and to which linguistic areas do they belong;

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(d) to which linguistic areas do the District Judges promoted from the Provincial Judicial Service belong;

(e) what was the total number of Subordinate Judges working on the 1st April 1931; and to which linguistic areas do they belong; and

(f) what is the total number of District Munsifs working on the 1st April 1931 and how many of these belong to 'Andhra Desa'?

A.—(a) Five.

(b) The decision to try the experiment of appointing District Judges direct from the Bar was announced by the Government of India in December 1920, and since then five such appointments have been made. Of these, one is from the Kanarese area, two from the Malayalam area and two others, who are Muhammadans, from the Tamil area of this Presidency.

(c) All the five officers are now in service: they are—

	Names.	Linguistic area.
1.	Mr. K. P. Lakshmana Rao ...	Kanarese.
2.	„ K. Sankara Menon ...	Malayalam.
3.	„ A. V. Govinda Menon ...	Do.
4.	„ Mir Zynuddin ...	Tamil.
5.	„ Mir Amiruddin ...	Do.

(d) Two to the Kanarese area, two to the Tamil area, and one to the Telugu area.

(e) Sixty distributed as shown below:—

Tamil area ...	30
Telugu area ...	12
Malayalam area ...	14
Kanarese area ...	4

(f) One hundred and sixty-five, of whom 50 belong to Andhra Desa.

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"With reference to the answer to (a), do the Government recognize that injustice is being done to the Telugu speaking population of the Presidency? If so, will they take the earliest opportunity to remedy the same?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"With reference to the first part of the question I do not grant that there has been any injustice done; with reference to the second, the valuable suggestion of my hon. Friend will be considered when the next vacancy arises."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"The Government say that they have appointed two Mussalmans direct from the Bar as District Judges. May I know who these gentlemen are?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I would refer my hon. Friend to the printed answer. The names are given there."

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I want to know whether they have been appointed directly from the Bar, and whether they had not been in service before."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"They are regarded as members of the Bar for purposes of this appointment."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"What are the names of the districts from which the two Muhammadan gentlemen come?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not know the districts from which they come."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if they do not belong to Madras and if Madras is included in the Andhra Desa or in Tamil Nadu?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As far as I am aware, it is included in the Tamil area."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know on what grounds does the hon. the Law Member think that Madras is included in the Tamil area?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Because the major portion of the people of Madras according to my information speak Tamil, and not Telugu."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I submit it is an incorrect information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I thank you for the correction."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Is the hon. Member aware that a resolution was recently passed that Madras should be the capital of the Andhra Desa?"

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"According to the recent Census Report the number of Andhras and Tamils are equal?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I thank you for the information."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that one of the District Judges was a permanent Deputy Registrar of the High Court when he was recruited as District Judge?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not know that personally. If my hon. Friend says so, I shall accept it."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member to exclude these people, both of them (both the Mussalmans) from being considered as directly recruited from the Bar?"

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I cannot do it."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether Bellary is considered to be Kanarese or Telugu area?"

Filling up of vacancies in the posts of District Judges and District Munsifs.

* 240 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state why two posts of District Judges were kept vacant from July 1930 and December 1930 till last month and why five posts of Subordinate Judges and 15 posts of District Munsifs are still kept vacant?

A.—The two vacancies in the posts of District and Sessions Judges which arose on 19th July 1930 and 15th December 1930 were not kept vacant until June 1931 as suggested but were filled up permanently with retrospective effect from the date on which the vacancies arose. Orders filling up the vacancies were not issued until June 1931 because for various reasons it was not possible to arrive at a decision earlier.

The question of filling up the vacancies in the five posts of Subordinate Judges which had necessarily to wait for the orders on the confirmation of District Judges is now under the consideration of the Government.

The vacancies in the posts of District Munsifs are filled up by the High Court. The Government have no information on this point.

Proposal for the abolition of the District Munsif's Court at Cheyyar, North Arcot.

* 241 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARAST: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether there is any proposal now before the Government to abolish the District Munsif's Court at Cheyyar (North Arcot district)?

A.—No.

Electricity

Charges made by the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, for the supply of electricity to the public and the Government.

* 242 Q.—Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have permitted the Madras Electric Supply Corporation to charge 5 annas per unit for supplying electric current to the public, whereas they are now getting the same at 3 annas per unit in regard to the supply of the electric current to their buildings;

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(b) when this arrangement was made between the Company and the Government;

(c) what is the cost per unit incurred by the Madras Electric Supply Corporation; and

(d) what will be the cost as estimated by the Government Experts when the supply is to be made from the Pykara Electric Supply Scheme?

A.—(a) The rate per unit for lights and fans on a combined circuit is 5 annas for the general public, but large consumers are charged on a sliding scale according to the amount of power used. The Government pay a fixed rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ annas per unit.

(b) With effect from 1st January 1930.

(c) The working cost (i.e., excluding capital charges) per unit in 1930 was 1.249 annas.

(d) It is not anticipated that power will be supplied to Madras from Pykara but it is estimated that when the Mettur Hydro-Electric Project is completed power could be transmitted and sold in bulk to large consumers such as the Madras Electric Supply Corporation at an approximate average cost of 0.55 anna per unit.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether it is not a fact that the Madras Electric Supply Corporation is collecting and holding, without paying interest, large sums as deposit from consumers ? "

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether it is not a fact that all the articles required for electric work have become far cheaper and have come to pre-war level and whether the Government do not consider it desirable that the rates should be decreased ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" My friend's conclusion depends on the accuracy of his premises; I am not aware of the accuracy of his premises. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" What was the rate charged to Government before 1930 ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I want notice. "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask the hon. the Law Member to call from the firms which are dealing in electrical installations and goods, the present prices of goods and articles which will furnish him the premises which in turn will lead to the reduction of the present rates ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" If the Government will find it necessary, they will call for the information. "

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the hon. Member is aware that large consumers of electricity, including the Corporation of Madras, have complained that the rate is very high? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not aware of it. "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the Madras Electric Supply Corporation is a consumer or supplier ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I believe it is both. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Is not the hon. the Law Member aware that a representation has been made by the Corporation of Madras about the increased rates ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not aware of it. "

Staff recruited for the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme.

* 243 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of engineers, assistant engineers and accountants recruited in connexion with the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme and what are their special technical qualifications and their respective salaries, local and leave allowances;

(b) whether these posts were advertised in India; if so, in what all newspapers and how many times; and

(c) the number of applications received.

A.—(a) A statement ^a is attached.

(b) No.

(c) The question does not arise.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" With reference to (b), may I know whether there is any special reason for not advertising for these posts ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Because the Hydro-Electric Chief Engineer called for applications from both officials and non-officials throughout India and interviewed many of the applicants who had sent in their applications. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" By advertisement will they not get applications ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Not of the required type. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" In what other way will applications be called for ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" By correspondence with officers in the Presidency. "

^a Printed as Appendix III on page 137 infra.

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Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"That is to say, only those recommended by certain officers are considered?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That depends on the discretion of the Chief Engineer of the Hydro-Electric Department."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"If, in addition to the recommendations of officers, advertisement also is made, will it not result in securing more suitable men?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Not likely."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Why were not applications invited?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Because it was not thought necessary."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Why not?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I have already answered that question."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Who fixes the pay of these posts?"

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

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Do the Government think Rs. 400 and 500 are necessary as initial pay?"

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

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Cannot Government get cheaper men by advertisement?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I have answered that question."

Forests

Appointment of the Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests.

* 244 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) why the appointment of Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests is being made from the ranks of Deputy Conservators of Forests and not Deputy Collectors as before; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Chief Conservator of Forests has been objecting to the appointment of Indian officers to the post and if so, what is his objection?

A.—(a) Because an officer of the department with some years of District experience is found more useful as a Personal Assistant than a Deputy Collector.

(b) No.

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that, by appointing a Deputy Conservator to be the Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests, they are incurring a higher cost than they would have incurred if they had appointed a Deputy Collector?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government are decidedly of opinion that an officer of the department will make a far more efficient Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator than a Deputy Collector who knows nothing about the working of the department."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Am I to understand that the Government knew it only now?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government learned this by experience. The first Personal Assistant was a Deputy Collector and, after the experience which the Government had, they adopted the present course."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the whole staff of the Conservator's Office is manned by non-forest service men?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I am not aware of it, Sir."

Deputation and retirement of Mr. J. W. K. Wernham, late of the Indian Forest Service.

* 245 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the actual cost of deputation of Mr. J. W. K. Wernham, late of the Indian Forest Service of this Presidency;

(b) on his return from the deputation, whether he was able to do anything for the department as a result of the experience gained by him abroad;

(c) when he was deputed and when he retired on proportionate pension;

(d) when he applied for retirement, whether the Government did not ask him to refund the cost of his deputation; if not, why not;

(e) with reference to the deputation of two forest rangers to the Philippines some time back, when they were deputed and what the cost of the deputation for each was;

(f) whether at the time of the deputation there was a specially appointed Logging Engineer on a salary of Rs. 1,500 and if so, why these rangers were deputed to the Philippines for training in logging;

(g) what are these officers now doing; and

(h) who was responsible for their deputation?

A.—(a) The cost of the deputation was Rs. 25,384.

(b) On his return from the deputation, Mr. J. W. K. Wernham served as the Forest Utilization Officer in which post the experience gained in America was useful to him.

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- (c) He went on deputation on 17th July 1924. He retired from service with effect from 2nd January 1931.
- (d) No. The Government did not consider the question.
- (e) The Rangers were deputed to the Phillippines on 5th September 1928. The cost of the deputation of the officers was Rs. 3,536-5-10 each.
- (f) Yes. It was considered desirable that Indians should be given opportunities for training in these subjects so that in course of time they might be able to assume charge of works which were entrusted to officers on special contracts. The training which could be had under the Logging Engineer in Madras who had then only a restricted programme of work was considered insufficient and these officers were deputed so that they might gain broad experience in all methods of extraction and conversion of timber which could be had only in the Phillippines which had successfully adopted the largest hardwood lumbering industry in the world under conditions similar to Madras.
- (g) One of the Rangers is in charge of Valparai sleeper project in the South Coimbatore division and the other is under the Forest Engineer in charge of the Nilambur bridge and road works.
- (h) The Government sanctioned the deputation on the recommendation of the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know the sort of work which this Logging Engineer who has been paid Rs. 1,500 per month has been doing all these years?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"He was engaged in collecting data for mapping and cruising."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Have the Government any report of his work?"

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

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will they be pleased to place it on the table of the House?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I shall consider the suggestion."

Proposed abolition of the Utilization Branch of the Forest Department.

* 246 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government have considered the question of abolishing the Utilization Branch of the Forest Department and with what result and for what reasons?

A.—The question has not been considered.

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Duties of the Forest Research Officer.

* 247 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) what are the duties of the Forest Research Officer;
- (b) when this appointment was created; whether the Government will be pleased to state exactly what results have been achieved by this officer and how it has been utilized to the benefit of the department and the people at large;
- (c) whether it is a fact that nothing by way of timber research has been taken up by this officer, particularly researches in seasoning and the economic conversion and utilization of timber; and
- (d) whether the Government are aware of the reasons why we are importing into this Presidency nearly 80 lakhs worth of Burma teak while practically no Malabar teak has found favour in the Madras market; and if so, what?

A.—(a) The duties of the Forest Research Officer are to study the sylviculture of the deciduous, semi-evergreen and evergreen forests of the West Coast with a view

- (1) to the regeneration of the most valuable commercial species in the most economical manner; and
- (2) to the subsequent treatment of the crop in accordance with the sylvicultural requirements of the several species.

In addition he is also to advise District Forest Officers on regeneration and sylvicultural experiments carried by them in their divisions.

(b) The appointment of Sylviculturist for Madras was created in 1918. For results, a reference is invited to the "Report on Sylvicultural Research in the Madras Presidency" which is issued annually as a printed publication. The results achieved are utilized when carrying out various sylvicultural operations and, notably when drawing up sylvicultural prescriptions during the preparation of working plans. The department and the people at large will reap the benefit which will result to the crops of the future as a result of their improved formation and treatment.

(c) Yes. One of the best Forest Research Institutes in the world exists at Dehra Dun for the express purpose of carrying out research relating to timber in all its aspects.

(d) Large quantities of Burma teak are imported into Madras because the Presidency produces insufficient high grade logs to meet the demand. At present selling rates, Malabar teak in the round would cost at Madras as much as Burma teak in squares.

Burma teak is easier to work than Madras teak and is preferred by the East Coast carpenters for this reason.

There is also ample demand outside Madras City for all the high grade logs produced in the Presidency and hence there is little point in developing a market for Malabar teak in Madras City.

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Forest range offices in North Arcot and Salem districts.

* 248 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many forest range offices there are in each of the North Arcot and Salem districts;

(b) in which of those ranges expenditure is greater than that of the income from the range; and

(c) what is the total income and expenditure respectively from Krishnagiri range of the Salem district?

A.—(a) North Arcot 8
Salem 13

(b) Namakkal Range of the Salem district.

(c) Income Rs. 17,089 }
Expenditure 5,485 } in the year 1930–31.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ May I ask the hon. the Law Member to state whether there is any proposal to abolish such ranges as are not self-supporting? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ No.”

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ Why? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ Because there is no need.”

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ If they are not self-supporting? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ Money is not the only consideration.”

Classification of areas by the Forest department.

* 249 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the classification of areas in the forest is now done by the Forest department alone without consultation with any local body or panchayat?

A.—The general classification of forests into provincial and local or ryots' forests was completed by 1927 and in making that classification local opinion was consulted. Subsequent transfers from provincial to local were, however, made only in consultation with local forest officers. But in the case of some transfers from local to provincial, the panchayats also have been consulted.

Consultation of forest panchayats in allotting coupes for cutting fuel.

* 250 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether in allotting blocks or coupes for cutting fuel the forest panchayats are not consulted?

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A.—The Forest Panchayats are not consulted in the allotment of blocks or coupes in the reserves under the control of the Forest Department and in the allotment of major coupes in the Panchayat Forests. But in cases where small fuel coupes are worked in the Panchayat Forests, the scheme is drawn up after consulting the panchayats which are to work them.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ May I know what the difficulty is in consulting forest panchayats in regard to the major coupes? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ With reference to major coupes, working plans were already adopted and they are being worked even now.”

Prisons*Release of Mappilla prisoners.*

* 251 Q.—Mr. YAKUB HASAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many Mappillas imprisoned or confined in connexion with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921 have been released since 1st January 1931;

(b) how many are still (1) in the Andamans and (2) in other jails;

(c) what period still remains to be served by these prisoners; and

(d) in view of the promise made by the hon. the Law Member on the floor of the House in March last, what decision the Government have arrived at in the matter of the release of the remaining Mappilla prisoners?

A.—(a) Two hundred and sixty-four prisoners including 226 from the Andamans were released from the 1st January 1931 to the 14th August 1931. Four State prisoners have also been released since 1st January 1931.

(b) The figures as on the 14th August 1931 are—

(1) 557.

(2) 1,489.

(c) Varying periods between a year and a half and 26 years, not taking remissions and premature releases into account.

(d) The hon. Member is referred to the press communiqué^a, dated the 24th October 1931, a copy of which is placed on the table.

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—“ Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to give, with reference to this communiqué, a rough idea at least of the number of those who have been guilty of more heinous offences.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I am not able to give exact information, but, as far as I can say, I suppose roughly it will be about 150 or so. My friend should not take my answer as being accurate. I am only speaking from memory.”

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B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know the reason why the Government took such a long time to issue this communiqué? They gave a promise to this House to this effect in March last?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, on the contrary, I think that there has been no delay. It has been possible to take this action so soon only on account of the fact that this question has always been engaging the attention of the Government."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Have the personal histories of these persons been considered by the Government and have they come to any conclusion?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government have come to the conclusion that such of them as may be released without danger to society should be released."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether the Government have not decided to close down the Alipuram jail?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is the intention of the Government to close it, if they can, by the end of the current official year."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"If the Government have come to a conclusion regarding the individuals who will not be a danger to society if they are released, the time taken by them is justifiable. But have they come to any conclusion as regards the individuals to be released? The communiqué says it is left to the discretion of the District Magistrate?"

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, the communiqué says that these prisoners will be released in batches. May I ask the hon. the Law Member to state what the number, in practice, which each of these batches will consist of?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is not possible to say that now."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Do I understand the hon. the Law Member to say that out of the 2,400 odd prisoners, about 150 will be retained and the rest will be released?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As I told my hon. Friend, that is my impression."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Under the communiqué issued, is it not left to the discretion of the District Magistrate to decide upon the persons to be released?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is left to the discretion of the Government who have to base their conclusions upon the report of the District Magistrate."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir my question was based on the wording of the press communiqué which says: 'Orders have therefore

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issued to the District Magistrate to arrange for the release of persons still under detention excepting those convicted of more heinous offences . . . It is not left to the discretion of the District Magistrate, according to the communiqué?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"No, it is not."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In the communiqué the Government say: ' . . . in view of the present conditions in Malabar and the continued peaceful conduct of the Mappilla population . . . ' On these grounds the Government have decided to release these prisoners. May I know how the Government justify the exclusion of a certain class of prisoners when their premise establishes the fact that conditions have become normal?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Conditions really are normal. But these dangerous persons may have it in their power to cause trouble even in normal conditions."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Does this communiqué apply to State prisoners, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I believe not, but I cannot say anything definitely about it now."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know if their cases have not been considered by the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Their cases have been considered and some of them have been already released."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the conditions in Malabar now are such as to enable State prisoners to be released?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The cases of State prisoners also will be considered."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why some are considered dangerous to society?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I am afraid my hon. Friend is asking me to repeat my answer for the third time."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Have the Government considered the question of Mr. Narayana Menon in this connexion?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"No, not in this connexion."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Are they going to consider it now?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is premature to say that now."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is Mr. Narayana Menon more dangerous than all these 2,000 Mappillas, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It is a matter of opinion."

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* 252 Q.—[Cancelled.]

Wool spinning plant of the Central Jail, Bellary.

* 253 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what was the cost of the first set of wool spinning plant installed in the Central Jail, Bellary;

(b) what is the cost of the new set of wool spinning plant recently purchased for the same jail;

(c) how does this price compare with the cost of the plant installed by the Department of Industries and what are the reasons for the variation, if any;

(d) to whom the work of erecting the newly received plant for the Central Jail, Bellary, was entrusted;

(e) what was the cost of the erection work; and

(f) whether any quotations were called for and whether any experts were requisitioned or consulted?

A.—(a) Rupees 7,573.

(b) About Rs. 6,685.

(c) The difference in price is due to the fact that the machines were supplied by different firms in different countries. The first one was supplied by Messrs. Josephys Erben and Company, Poland, and the second by Messrs. Redshaw and Company, England.

(d) The work of erection was done by the Superintendent and the workshop staff in the Jail.

(e) Rupees 60.

(f) The Director of Industries, Madras, informed the Superintendent of the Jail that Messrs. Brady and Company, the local Agents for Messrs. Redshaw Lister and Company who supplied the plant, might be requested to erect the machines. That firm reported that they had no mechanic available who could erect the plant. The work of erection was carried out by the Superintendent of the Jail.

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know why the first set of wool-spinning plant was not purchased from the Company who supplied the second set?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Because the Government did not then know that the second set would be cheaper."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know why the Government ordered the first set from Poland instead of from England?"

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

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Economic Condition

Action taken by Government to mitigate the economic distress in the Presidency.

* 254-A Q.—MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHIETTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(a) to place on the table of the House summary reports of the Collectors of districts as to the economic distress prevailing from April 1930 to the present time;

(b) to state whether the Government have considered these reports with particular reference to the economic distress;

(c) if so, whether the Government have introduced or propose to introduce any measures to mitigate the distress;

(d) whether the Government have considered the Report of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee and notes of members thereof;

(e) if so, what are the recommendations accepted by the Government;

(f) what are the reasons for rejecting others;

(g) whether the Government have taken any action in regard to the recommendations accepted by them; if so, what is the action taken so far;

(h) whether the situation has considerably worsened since the submission of the report;

(i) what is the percentage of collection of kist to the demand districtwar; and

(j) what is the number of coercive proceedings taken to collect the revenue last time as compared with the previous instalment?

A.—(a) The hon. Member presumably refers to the weekly season reports, which are submitted by Collectors to the Board of Revenue and by the Board to the Government. An abstract of the reports is published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* every week.

(b) Yes.

(c), (d), (e) & (g) A committee, of which the hon. Member was a member, was appointed specially to examine the effects of the general economic depression and to report whether any measures should be adopted by the Government to mitigate them, by arranging for the co-operative marketing of certain products, or otherwise. The Government have the Committee's report under their consideration and have already issued orders on certain of the recommendations contained in it. Attention is invited to the orders contained in G.O. No. 1111 (9-S.), Revenue, dated 21st May 1931, which has been placed at the disposal of the Press, and in G.O. No. 1079, P.H., dated 12th June 1931, a copy^a of which is attached.

^a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 138-139 infra.

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- (f) The Government have so far not rejected any recommendation of the committee.
- (h) The Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested.
- (i) A statement^a showing the percentage of collection of land revenue at the end of June 1931 is appended.
- (j) The Government have not the information.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have any idea of mitigating the distress in the districts? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" They are watching the trend of prices and will consider whether any special steps are necessary to take in consequence of the economic situation. It is not possible now to make any definite statement on the matter."

Action taken on the recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee.

* 254-B Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee which have been accepted by the Government and the areas in which they have been given effect to, and how?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clauses (c), (d), (e), (g) and (f) of question No. 254-A.

Prices of certain food-grains and industrial crops.

* 255 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table a statement containing the prices of the important staple food-grains and industrial crops which form the wealth of the bulk of the population as shown below:—

<i>Food-grains—</i>	<i>Industrial crops—</i>
Rice and	Tobacco,
Ragi	Chillies and
	Jaggery

for faslis 1336 to 1340?

A.—*Rice and ragi.*—The hon. Member is referred to the supplement to Part II of the *Fort Saint George Gazette*, in which the prices of rice and ragi for each week and month are published.

^a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 138-139 infra.

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Chillies.—A copy ^a of a letter from the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, dated 15th July 1931, and its enclosure is attached.

Tobacco leaf and jaggery.—A statement ^b showing the wholesale prices of tobacco leaf and jaggery in Madras City for each fortnight of faslis 1336—1340 is attached.

Forest Panchayats

Protest against the enhancement of grazing fees in Forest Panchayats.

* 256 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the ryots of Kudligi in meeting assembled have sent a representation protesting against the enhancement of grazing fees in Forest Panchayats to 6 annas per cow unit and praying for the removal of the ban on grazing in panchayat areas during the months of May and June and if so, how the representation has been disposed of?

A.—The Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed at a meeting of the ryots of the Kudligi taluk held in July last. One of the resolutions relates to the subject mentioned by the Honourable Member. No action was taken on the resolution itself, but the question of grazing fees is under enquiry in another connexion. Under paragraph 6 (a) (iii) of the Standing Order on Forest Panchayats the period of closure of forests to grazing is fixed in consultation with the panchayats.

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether there was any consultation with the forest panchayats before the rates were enhanced? There is a feeling, Sir, that this enhancement works very hard."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I have have no information whether the enhancement works very hard."

Fees for grazing permits issued to the villagers of Gadiganur, Hospet taluk.

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

(a) the scale of fees at which the villagers of Gadiganur, Hospet taluk, Bellary district, have to take out licences for grazing their sheep and cattle in the panchayat forest and whether it differs from the scale in force in the neighbouring villages of Tornagal, Papinayakanahalli, and, if so, to what extent and why; and

(b) the number of cow units up to which the Gadiganur Forest Panchayat was allowed to issue permits in the previous years and the number to which they have been restricted now, and if the number has been reduced, why?

^a Printed as Appendix V on pages 139-141 infra.

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- 4.—(a) The rate of grazing fees in force in the Gadiganur panchayat forest, Hospet taluk, Bellary district, was 4 annas per cow unit until 1st July 1931. With the consent of the Panchayat the rate was raised from 1st July 1931 to 6 annas, which is the departmental rate. The rate obtaining in the neighbouring panchayats of Tornagal and Papinayakanahalli is 4 annas per cow unit, the current agreements executed by these panchayats which provide for this rate remaining in force until 30th June 1933.
- (b) Prior to 1st July 1930 the grazing limit was 2,000 units. It was reduced in 1930–31 to 1,680 with the consent of the panchayat in order to prevent over-grazing.

Irrigation

Repairs to the irrigation tanks in the Chingleput district.

* 258 Q.—Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total expenditure incurred by the Government on the repairs to the irrigation tanks in the Chingleput district during each of the last three years:

(i) in respect of those maintained by the Public Works Department,

(ii) in respect of those maintained by the Revenue Department;

(b) what is the total number of such tanks maintained by the Public Works Department in each of the taluks of the Chingleput district; and

(c) what amount has been allotted for the repair and maintenance of such tanks by the Public Works Department in 1931–32?

					RS.
A.—(a) (i)	1928–29	...	...	...	44,335
	1929–30	...	...	...	57,630
	1930–31	...	...	...	57,811
(ii)	1928–29	...	...	...	79,132
	1929–30	...	...	...	79,372
	1930–31	...	...	...	86,618
(b)	Madurantakam	...	...	...	92
	Conjeeveram	...	...	...	95
	Chingleput	...	...	...	106
	Saidapet	...	...	...	62
	Sreeperumbudur	...	...	...	60
	Tiruvallur	...	...	...	96
	Ponneri	...	...	...	105
	Total	...	...	...	616

(c) Rs. 1,46,340.

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Land Revenue

Impending increase in the land revenue of the Salem district.

* 259 Q.—Diwan Bahadur S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the land revenue of the Salem district is going to increase as a result of the re-survey and settlement now going on in the district;

(b) if so, by what percentage and from what year; and

(c) what is the basis on which the increase has been proposed?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have not yet considered the matter. It may be mentioned that in view of the present financial stringency the resettlement of those portions of the district in which resettlement is due before 1934–35 has been postponed to that year. Meanwhile all survey and settlement operations in the district will be suspended.

MR. BASHEER AHMED-SAYEED:—“ May I know whether orders have been issued suspending the settlement operations in the district of Salem? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ I think orders have been issued; if not, they are on the point of being issued.”

Public Service

Eligibility of Government servants to carry on private trade.

* 260 Q.—MR. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is not a fact that people in Government service are not allowed to carry on private trade or to be engaged in any calling even akin to the nature of the work that they do for the Government as a source of supplemental income;

(b) whether there is any department of Government service in which this rule is suspended; and

(c) if so, what are the special reasons for which this rule has been suspended in those cases?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to rule 15 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules (extract ^a attached).

(b) & (c) The rule is applicable to all departments of Government. In the Medical Department, however, executive medical officers are, subject to certain exceptions, permitted to afford professional assistance to persons unconnected with the Government service and to accept remuneration therefor, provided that their departmental duties are not thereby neglected. The reason for this exception to the general rule is explained in the answer to question No. 21 given on 3rd August 1931.

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Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"With reference to the answers to clauses (b) and (c) of the question, may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the Government realize that this privilege undermines the morale of the service?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I think the hon. Member should address his question to the hon. Minister in charge of the department."

Appointment of Rao Bahadur V. N. Viswanatha Rao as the Law Secretary to Government.

* 261 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any principles or rules that guide the Government in the selection and in the appointment of Law Secretary to Government;

(b) whether the same principles also apply in selecting and appointing persons to acting vacancies;

(c) whether the selection of Rao Bahadur V. N. Viswanatha Rao satisfies those conditions;

(d) whether the Government intend appointing Rao Bahadur Viswanatha Rao permanently to the Law Secretary's post;

(e) whether his probationary period as a Deputy Collector had to be extended for an unusually long period before he could be confirmed as a Deputy Collector and if so, why; and

(f) whether it is a fact that even after the said confirmation, Mr. Viswanatha Rao was posted to less onerous duties, and if so, for what reasons?

A.—(a) & (b) There are no special principles or rules governing the selection of officers for appointment as Secretary to Government in the Law Department except that the appointment can be held only by a member of the Indian Civil Service or by a member of the Madras Civil Service holding or selected to hold a 'listed' post in the cadre of the Indian Civil Service. The same principle is followed in the selection of persons for appointment to acting vacancies.

(c) Yes.

(d) A Secretary ordinarily holds his appointment as such for a period of three years if he does not proceed on leave but Rao Bahadur Viswanatha Rao is at present holding post of Law Secretary subject to the lien of Rai Bahadur U. Rama Rao who has been deputed to the Legislative Assembly but has not yet completed his term of three years as Law Secretary.

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(e) The probationary period was extended by about a year to enable him to undergo the training in settlement work and to pass the Survey and Settlement Test. This training and test had not been prescribed at the time of his appointment as Probationary Deputy Collector.

(f) The answer is in the negative. A list of the appointments held by Mr. Viswanatha Rao will be found in the History of Services of Gazetted Officers.

Lower Division clerks promoted to the Upper Division in the Secretariat.

* 262-A Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: With reference to the answers to question No. 682 delivered on 23rd March 1931, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many Lower Division clerks in each of the various departments of the Secretariat have so far been promoted to the Upper Division permanently during the past seven years; and

(b) what are the communities to which they belong?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the appended statement.*

Appointment of non-graduate Lower Division clerks in the Secretariat to acting vacancies in the Upper Division.

* 262-B Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many non-graduate Lower Division clerks are at present actually employed in acting vacancies in the Upper Division in the various departments of the Secretariat; and

(b) whether training in Upper Division work is regularly given to Lower Division clerks with a view to eventually appointing them to permanent vacancies in the Upper Division?

A.—(a) Five.

(b) Generally no, except such as they obtain when appointed to officiate in the Upper Division.

Increase in the pay of Lower Division clerks in the Secretariat.

* 262-C Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the maximum pay of the Lower Division clerks in the Chief Secretariat prior to the reorganization of salaries in 1921 was Rs. 80;

(b) whether the maximum pay of the Lower Division clerks to-day is also Rs. 80; and

(c) what is the improvement effected in the conditions of the pay of the Lower Division clerks of the Secretariat by the General Reorganization in 1921?

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A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

(c) Prior to 1921 Lower Division clerks in the Chief Secretariat were with two exceptions on a graded scale of pay ranging from Rs. 25 to Rs. 60. The two excepted posts carried a pay of Rs. 70 and Rs. 80 respectively, but the prospects of attaining them were naturally limited. In 1921 these graded scales were replaced by a time scale of Rs. 40—40—5—65—3—80 and the maximum of this scale can be reached by every clerk (provided that his work is generally satisfactory). It will be seen, therefore, that the prospects of clerks have been appreciably better since 1921 than they were before.

Finance

Introduction of fixed travelling allowance.

* 263 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the system of fixed travelling allowance has been introduced to any extent in this province and, if so, in what departments and when;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce the system of fixed travelling allowance in all departments of Government in this province; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) Yes. There are Government servants in most departments who receive fixed travelling allowance. A list will be found in Annexure III of the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules printed at pages 79—88 of Volume II of the Madras Manual of Special Pay and Allowances, a copy of which is in the Council Library.

(b) If what the hon. Member has in mind is the abolition of all ordinary travelling allowances and their replacement by fixed travelling allowances, the answer is in the negative.

(c) Because the system of fixed travelling allowances can only be introduced with economy to Government and without unfairness to the individual, in the limited number of cases in which a Government servant has a definite amount of touring to do in the restricted area. The system would not be suitable for officers whose journeys in the performance of their duty fluctuate both in number and distance.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know from the hon. the Finance Member whether the Government of this province have examined how the Government of India are basing their policy regarding fixed travelling allowance to officers? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know, Sir, whether they will examine it? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ No, Sir.”

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know, Sir, the number of officers who have been drawing fixed travelling allowance after this question was given notice of? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ I should like to have notice of the question.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether the question of fixed travelling allowances is being considered by the Retrenchment Committee? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ Yes, Sir.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ Have they finished the consideration, Sir? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ They have made certain recommendations to Government on the subject.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether these recommendations will be placed on the table of the House? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ In due course the House will know them.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ Will they let the Council know before they take any decision on them? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ It rests with the Government.”

Madras Record Office

Appointment of an I.C.S. Officer as Curator, Madras Record Office.

* 264 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an I.C.S. Officer was appointed as Curator of the Madras Record Office in the year 1930 with the object of preparing a manual on revenue records;

(b) whether it is a fact that, subsequent to the appointment of the I.C.S. Officer as Curator, an additional staff of nine clerks was sanctioned to assist him in his special work;

(c) whether it is a fact that on the request of the Curator, the Government sanctioned a special pay of Rs. 10 per mensem to the senior clerk of the special staff;

(d) what is the annual expenditure on the Madras Record Office before the appointment of the I.C.S. Officer with the special staff and the annual expenditure on the same after the appointment of the I.C.S. Officer with the special staff;

(e) whether the Government propose to abolish the office of Curator as a measure of retrenchment; and

(f) what would be the saving effected as a result of abolishing the office of Curator?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Yes.

(d) The annual expenditure for the Madras Record Office prior to the appointment of the Special Officer and his staff is Rs. 60,696 and the expenditure as anticipated in the Budget Estimates for 1931–32, i.e., after the appointment of the Special Officer and his staff, is Rs. 1,08,600.

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- (c) The Government have decided to retain the office of Curator until the end of the current year. The question of its further continuance will be considered in due course.
- (f) The savings in a full year would be about Rs. 39,300.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (e) of the question, may I know whether that question was considered by the Retrenchment Committee?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"The Retrenchment Committee has not examined the Record Office."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Will they be considering it, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"No doubt, they will."

Pensions

Grant of an extra sum of Rs. 2 for pensioners.

* 265 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the civil pensioners were granted an extra sum of Rs. 2 per head from the year 1921;

(b) to which class of pensioners such extra amount was allowed, whether to those drawing a pension of less than Rs. 20 per month or even to those who drew more than Rs. 20 per month;

(c) why this extra sum of Rs. 2 per head per month was cancelled from after February 1931; and

(d) whether the Government propose to reconsider their order in the case of all pensioners drawing less than Rs. 10?

A.—(a) & (b) The details^a of the scheme relating to the grant of temporary increases to pensioners in receipt of pensions up to Rs. 45 a month which was sanctioned at first temporarily for three years from 1st November 1920 are given in the appendix.

(c) The question of varying or abolishing the temporary increases was considered in 1926, and the Government sanctioned the continuance of the increases in the case of pensioners in receipt of a superior pension subject to the condition that they would be abolished if the cost of living index figure as given in the *Bombay Labour Gazette* published by the Labour Office, Secretariat, Bombay, remained below 125 points for three consecutive months. As the cost of living index figure fell below 125 points and remained so for three consecutive months orders were issued discontinuing with effect from 1st March 1931 the grant of increases to pensioners in receipt of a superior pension. In 1926 the addition given to inferior pensions was made permanent and was unaffected by the order of 1931.

(d) No.

^a Printed as Appendix VIII on page 143 infra.

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Hindu Religious Endowments

Report by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board on the Tirupati Devasthanam Bill.

* 266-A Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received any report from the Hindu Religious Endowments Board on the Tirupati Devasthanam Bill, given notice of by me among others; and

(b) if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, whether he will be pleased to lay it on the table of the House?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The papers^a are placed on the table.

Report on the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill.

* 266-B Q.—Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any report or memorandum from the President of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board on the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill; and

(b) if so, whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the same?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 266-A.

Constitution of temple committees.

* 267 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) with reference to G.O. No. 2032, L. & M., dated 12th June 1931, where the Government say that they provisionally fix the strength of temple committees as in the annexure thereto, whether the Government propose to raise the strength to the maximum by nominating their own candidates; and

(b) if so, why they have introduced this system at all?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

Local Self-Government

Elections to the local boards and municipalities.

* 268 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the elections to the district boards, taluk boards and panchayats and municipalities will take place actually;

(b) whether the elections throughout the Presidency will be held at a time or whether they will be conducted in one district after another district;

^a Printed as Appendix IX on pages 144–152 infra.

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(c) whether instructions have been issued to the Election Officers, in the matter of the preparation of electoral roll, and further proceedings of the elections; and

(d) whether a copy of the same will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) Elections to Municipal Councils will commence in September and are expected to be completed by the 15th of December next. It is not possible to say when elections to local boards will be actually held, but they will probably commence only after 15th December.

(b) The dates for elections to Municipal Councils will be fixed for each separately. The polling for district and taluk boards will probably take place on the same day in each polling area but, until arrangements are more advanced than now, it is difficult to say whether polling at all polling stations in a district will be on the same day. The elections for panchayat boards will be held separately from those for district and taluk boards.

(c) Yes.

(d) If the hon. Member will specify the particular subject instructions in respect of which he desires to be placed on the table, Government will consider the suggestion.

Reservation of seats for minority communities in Mangalore Municipality.

12 noon. * 269 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) on what principles reservation of seats for minority communities is made in Municipal Councils and Local Boards; and

(b) whether it is a fact that two seats for Christian men and one seat for Christian women have been ordered or are contemplated to be reserved in the case of the Mangalore Municipality; if so, on what basis the reservation has been ordered to be made?

A.—(a) Government are guided by the provisions of sub-sections (3) and (4) of section 7 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and of sub-sections (4), (5) and (6) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920. As under the Acts not more than one-fourth of the number of seats on any local body can be reserved, reservation is ordinarily limited to 50 per cent of what the communities will be entitled to on the population basis. Each case, however, is decided on its own merits.

(b) Two seats have been reserved for Indian Christians and two for women. Two seats are less than what Indian Christians are entitled to on the 50 per cent working principle referred to in the answer to clause (a). The reservation of two seats for women is in accordance with the wishes expressed by the Municipal Council in its resolution, dated 12th March 1931.

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Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“ May I know what the recommendation of the Inspector of Local Bodies was in these matters? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ I don't remember. I want notice of that question.”

Grant of extension of service to the Headmaster of the Municipal High School, Cuddapah.

* 270 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the municipal authorities at Cuddapah got the sanction of the Government before granting an extension of service for the sixth time to the Headmaster of the Municipal High School, Cuddapah; if so, whether the Government will state the reasons that led them to grant such an extension?

A.—No application for sanction was received from the Municipal Council.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether the headmaster is continuing as headmaster without sanction having been obtained from the Government? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ After the reply was sent to the Council Office, we received information from the Director of Public Instruction that the present incumbent was reappointed. The Director of Public Instruction also recommended that no action need be taken now and that the Municipal Council may be directed not to extend his term any further. The Government have issued orders accordingly.”

Alleged delay in the payment of salaries to school teachers in Malabar and South Kanara Taluk Boards.

* 271 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether complaints have been received by Government or their officers from school teachers employed by taluk boards in Malabar and South Kanara districts regarding undue delay in the payment of their salaries;

(b) whether Government have received such complaints from other districts as well;

(c) what action Government have taken to insist on local bodies paying the salaries of teachers promptly and regularly; and

(d) whether the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts has brought to the notice of Government such cases of undue delay in the payment of salaries?

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A.—(a) to (d) No complaints have been received by Government. Mention has been made of such delays in the audit reports of certain taluk boards, e.g., Chicacole, Proddattur, Raya-choti and Palladam; and Government have warned these boards against similar delays in future. The Director of Public Instruction recently reported that there has been great delay in the disbursement of salaries to teachers by the Markapur Taluk Board and a report has been called for from that Board.

As regards the Taluk Boards in the Malabar and South Kanara districts it is observed from the audit reports for the year 1929–30 that the Malabar District Board and the Chirakkal Taluk Board had not been disbursing the salaries regularly. The Chirakkal Taluk Board has since been abolished. In reviewing the audit report of the Malabar District Board that body has been asked to see that such delays do not recur.

Access to depressed classes to wells and tanks under local bodies.

* 272 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received information that there are still some wells, tanks, public roads, pathways and schools under local bodies to which access is denied to the depressed classes;

(b) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to put a stop to the practice wherever it exists; and

(c) whether the local bodies have been warned against the perpetuation of such distinctions on pain of being subjected to punitive measures such as withholding of grants for the purpose of digging wells, tanks, etc.?

A.—(a) No case where the depressed classes have been denied access to wells, tanks, public roads and pathways has come to the notice of the Government. In 1929–30 there were 1,508 schools in the Presidency held in places inaccessible to pupils of the depressed classes. Later figures are not available but the number must have been considerably reduced by this time.

(b) & (c) The questions do not arise in respect of wells, tanks, public roads and pathways. As regards schools, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (c) of question No. 809 at the meeting of the Council held on 28th March 1931.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“Sir, with reference to the answers given to clauses (b) and (c), viz., ‘The questions do not arise in respect of wells, tanks, public roads and pathways,’ may I know why, Sir?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“No, Sir.”

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Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“May I know whether there have been no such denials at all in the past?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“I can’t say.”

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“May I know from the hon. the Chief Minister whether some of the local boards are awaiting his order on this subject?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“Not that I am aware of.”

Medical

Principle of selection of Medical Officers for the Agency.

* 273 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state the principle, if any, on which medical officers are selected for service in the Agency?

A.—There are no specific rules for the selection of medical officers for duty in the Agency tracts. The period of duty in those tracts is generally fixed at two years so as not to keep the officers too long in what is occasionally an unhealthy area. Of the officers available for service, usually the more junior and active are selected.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I know who was the person transferred to the Agency tracts prior to the present incumbent serving there? May I know the reason why he was transferred there and what his age was at the time of transfer?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“The question does not refer to any specific incumbent.”

Purpose and cost of the Conference of District Medical Officers and Civil Surgeons.

* 274 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Surgeon-General to the Government of Madras is holding a conference of all the District Medical Officers and Civil Surgeons in the Presidency;

(b) if so, what is the purpose for which the conference is being held; and

(c) what is the expenditure involved in the holding of the conference?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) For the discussion of certain important questions connected with the development of the Medical Department.

(c) About Rs. 3,880.

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—“In answer to clause (b) it is stated that the conference is held ‘for the discussion of certain important questions connected with the development of the Medical department’. May I know what are those important questions?”

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The subjects that were discussed are, (1) the appointment of honorary medical officers, (2) equipment of libraries with books and periodicals, (3) consideration of pay and prospects of rural medical practitioners, (4) Government medical staff, (5) Local Fund medical staff, (6) clerks, compounders, menials, and so on. These are some of the subjects in respect of which the Surgeon-General wished to know the opinion of the various medical officers."

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Was there not a similar conference held last year and may I know whether they submitted any report?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I think so, Sir, we are awaiting the report."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether in the previous conferences the same subjects were not discussed?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The previous conferences were held by some years ago. The Government felt that it would be better if they elicited the opinion of the medical officers on these subjects again."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether in those conferences they did not discuss the pay and prospects of the medical cadre?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I don't know. The Government do not want that to be discussed."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"It may not be wanted. But may I know whether that subject was not discussed in previous conferences?"

Alleged detention of Mr. K. E. Shivaraman in the Mental Hospital at Madras.

* 275 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 Government have issued instructions, written or otherwise, to Superintendents of Mental Hospitals to detain patients who are politically inclined as long as possible;

(b) whether it is a fact that one K. E. Shivaraman is detained in the Madras Mental Hospital;

(c) whether it is a fact that when some persons applied for his discharge, they were told that he should avoid political occupation and that if any persons would give undertaking to that effect he would be discharged;

(d) whether it is a fact that only because none would give the undertaking he is still detained in the hospital; and

(e) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) No.

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(e) The patient is reported to have shown some improvement. If his improvement continues and if some responsible person is willing to take care of him he will be placed before the Visiting Committee of the hospital for discharge.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"With reference to the answer given to this question, may I know whether the person referred to who has been detained in the mental hospital is a major or a minor?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I have no information on the point. I want notice."

Orders relating to the eligibility of medical officers to private practice.

* 276 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House copies of all the orders passed by either the Government or the Surgeon-General permitting and regulating the privilege of private practice that is now enjoyed by the officers in the Medical Department?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the rules regulating private practice of medical officers contained in paragraphs 279 to 288 of the Madras Civil Medical Code which is available in the library for reference. Government consider it unnecessary to place on the table several Government orders on which the above rules are based.

Alleged running of a nursing home by the Second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital.

* 277 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital is running a regular nursing home in 'Binfield' house in Poonamallee High Road; and

(b) if so, the nature of the disciplinary action that the hon. the Minister proposes to take against that Surgeon?

A.—(a) Yes. He has been permitted by the Surgeon-General to maintain a nursing home for his own private patients.

(b) The Government do not propose to take any disciplinary action.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I shall like to know from the hon. the Chief Minister under what section of the Madras Medical Code the second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital was allowed to run a nursing home?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"He was given permission in 1928 by the then Surgeon-General and the present Surgeon-General has agreed with the action of his predecessor."

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Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"In reply to a question put on the floor of this House on the 28th of February last, the hon. Minister said that according to Governmental rules they are not permitted to run nursing homes. May I know how permission was granted to this gentleman, and whether there are different rules for different persons?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Will he kindly read that question and answer?"

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Sir, in reply to a question put by my hon. Friend Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar—this is how it reads—'Are they not permitted under the rules (to run nursing homes)' the hon. Minister said: 'No.'"

"Then again in answer to a question put by my hon. Friend Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, viz., 'Will not the Surgeon-General be able to furnish the information whether they are running (nursing homes) or not?', the hon. Minister said: 'These medical officers are not permitted to run nursing homes, and Government have no reason to think that that rule is violated.' May I know, Mr. President, from the hon. Minister the special reasons that prompted the Surgeon-General to permit Major Pandalai to maintain a nursing home, and whether the answers of the hon. Minister that I have just now read out were made without reference to the Surgeon-General?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Evidently that answer was given without knowledge of this case."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Then, Sir, with reference to another question put by me as to whether the hon. Minister would categorically deny that certain officers of the General Hospital are running nursing homes, the hon. Minister said: 'No information.' The Minister then went on to say that 'if specific cases are brought to my notice, I shall have an enquiry.' I want to know, Mr. President, as to whether the hon. Minister would be pleased to appoint a committee of this House to make an enquiry into the conduct of this officer?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I said 'if specific cases are brought to my notice.'"

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Sir, I am placing before the hon. the Chief Minister a specific case, viz., the running of a nursing home by the Second Surgeon of the General Hospital (Major Pandalai)."

"Does the hon. Minister realize that the morale of the whole service is being undermined by this officer's conduct?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not admit that statement."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know if the Surgeon-General is empowered to permit doctors to observe a day's silence in the week?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question does not arise."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if these Surgeons are not transferred?"

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"They are liable to be transferred."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"For how many years has he been holding the same post there? Do not the Government consider that he should be transferred?"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if the exemption granted to this particular doctor was at the instance of the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Was the Government previously informed by the Surgeon-General before exemption was granted?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I want notice."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government be prepared to grant similar concession to others as well?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"As I said, it is not the Government that gives permission. The Surgeon-General has to be moved in the matter."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if the Surgeon-General has ever consulted the Government before he gave that concession?"

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Was that permission conditional?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Surgeon-General says that there is no objection to the permission given in the case of this officer."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether the Superintendent of the General Hospital (Lieut.-Col. Bradfield) brought to the notice of the Government and the Surgeon-General that owing to the running of the nursing home by this officer, the work of the General Hospital has suffered very much? And is the Government satisfied that the exemption granted to this medical officer is in consonance with the rules regulating the medical service?"

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"In view of these discussions, will the hon. Minister be pleased to cancel the exemption granted?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

Qualifications of the Honorary Cardiologist in the Madras General Hospital.

* 278-A Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have appointed an Honorary Cardiologist to the Madras Government General Hospital and whether he is in independent and sole charge of that department;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, what are his special qualifications to fill that post;

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(c) whether the Honorary Cardiologist has had any opportunity of studying the science recently either in England or on the continent; and

(d) when did this gentleman visit the western countries, if any, and in what capacity?

A.—(a) The hon. Member has apparently in view the appointment of M.R.Ry. T. Krishna Menon Avargal, M.B.C.M. (Mad.), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), Honorary Physician, Government General Hospital, Madras, as Honorary Lecturer in Cardiology and Hæmatology, in the Madras Medical College. This Lecturer is not, however, in charge of any special department for Cardiology in the Government General Hospital, Madras.

(b) His special qualifications are that he has undergone post-graduate study in England in the following hospitals:—

- (1) Charing Cross Hospital, London.
- (2) Brompton Hospital for diseases of chest.
- (3) West London (Post-Graduate) Hospital.
- (4) Mount Vernon Hospital, London.

Since appointment as Honorary Physician, Government General Hospital, Madras, he has been working in the special subject under the directions of the Professor of Medicine, Medical College, Madras, as there are facilities for the study of the subjects at the General Hospital.

(c) He has had no occasion to visit England or Continent recently.

(d) He visited England in 1913 and was then a post-graduate student there.

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—“ May I know whether in the case of Provincial Service officers such as Professor of Physiology, Madras Medical College, Professor of Bacteriology, Madras Medical College, Professor of Pharmacology, Madras Medical College, Lecturer in Operative Surgery, Vizagapatam Medical College, appointments have been made subject to this rule, viz., that within five years they must qualify themselves for the post by passing higher examinations. May I know whether that is not the rule? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ That rule applies only with reference to paid appointments. In the case of these honorary appointments the Surgeon-General has got the discretion to appoint such men as he thinks best.”

Appointment of a lecturer in Cardiology.

* 278-B Q.—Mr. H. M. JAGANNATHAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) why a lectureship in Cardiology was created this year in the Madras Medical College, and whether the same was advertised;

(b) how many candidates applied for the place;

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(c) what the qualifications of the selected candidate were; and
(d) whether the selection was made by the Madras Services Commission or by whom it was made?

A.—(a) No lectureship in Cardiology was created in the Madras Medical College. Dr. T. Krishna Menon, M.B.C.M., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Honorary Physician in the General Hospital, Madras, was appointed Honorary Lecturer on Cardiology and Hæmatology in the Madras Medical College without any remuneration or honorarium for the work.

(b), (c) & (d) Do not arise.

Duties of the Professor of Operative Surgery, Medical College, Madras.

* 279 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of lectures that the Professor of Operative Surgery in the Madras Medical College has to deliver every year; and

(b) the monthly allowance that he is being paid for this work, and the number of his assistants and their respective allowances?

A.—(a) Four hours of Lecture Demonstrations weekly, extending over three terms of three months each.

(b) Rs. 250.

There is one assistant to the Professor of Operative Surgery and he is paid a monthly allowance of Rs. 125 (including a City allowance of Rs. 50).

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ May I know whether lectures on all the subjects on which the Professor of Operative Surgery in the Madras Medical College has to deliver are finished by him every year and not dragged on for a pretty long time? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ My hon. Friend may have more information. But all I can say is that the Surgeon-General is satisfied with the work done by that professor.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know who is the present incumbent in the professorship of physiology in the Medical College? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ I cannot give the information offhand.”

Strength of the first-year classes of Tanjore and Rayapuram Medical Schools.

* 280 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the maximum strength allowable of the first-year classes of the Tanjore and Rayapuram Medical Schools;

(b) how many students are now in those classes; and

(c) whether there are any vacancies in those classes and, if so, what steps are being taken to fill them up?

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A.—(a) The maximum number of new admissions to the first-year classes in Rayapuram and Tanjore has been fixed at 66 and 40, respectively. The maximum total strength of the first-year class which will include re-admissions on account of failures has not been fixed.

(b) Rayapuram ... 89 } includes re-admission.
Tanjore ... 61 }

(c) There are no vacancies.

Promotion of clerks in the Medical Department to the selection grade.

* 281 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Surgeon-General recommended last year any clerks in the Medical Department to be promoted to the selection grade of clerks drawing Rs. 60 to Rs. 80;

(b) if so, what were the names of the said clerks;

(c) whether the Government passed any orders in or about December last approving the said recommendations of the Surgeon-General; and

(d) if so, whether the said Government orders were carried out and when?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) On the Surgeon-General's recommendation, Government exempted last December the undermentioned clerks from Article I of the Public Service Notification so as to enable them to hold posts on Rs. 60—4—80 in the Medical Department—

(1) M. Sankara Ayyar, Clerk, District Medical Officer's Office, Tanjore.

(2) C. Jayaram Pillai, Head clerk, District Medical Officer's Office, Chittoor.

(3) S. Narasinga Rao, Head clerk, District Medical Officer's Office, Ganjam.

(d) Yes. The exempted clerks were promoted to the higher scale of pay (Rs. 60—80) with effect from 30th March 1931.

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—" May I know why in these cases alone the clerks concerned were given selection grade? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Because in those particular cases the work of the clerks was found satisfactory. "

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—" May I know why the case of one clerk has been overlooked? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The discretion rested with the Surgeon-General. "

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Motor Vehicles Taxation

Collection of motor vehicles tax.

* 282 Q.—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHIETTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of motor vehicles tax collected during and for the first quarter of the year districtwar;

(b) the collecting expenses and its ratio of collection districtwar;

(c) the amount allotted to each of the local bodies and the Corporation of Madras;

(d) the ratio of such allotments to the amounts claimed by them;

(e) whether it is a fact that the licensing authority at Madras required the owners of motor vehicles to produce registration certificates;

(f) whether it is a fact that failure to produce them would entail payment of Rs. 16 for a duplicate copy;

(g) under what rule of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act was this authorized; and

(h) if the Police Commissioner is acting under any other Act, whether he was authorized to exercise such powers when administering this Act and simultaneously with it?

A.—(a) A statement ^a is laid on the table of the House.

(b) Government have no information regarding the collection expenses so far incurred. It will be possible to calculate them accurately only at the end of the year.

(c) ^a G.O. No. 1081, L. & M., dated the 28th March 1931, showing the provisional amount allotted to each of the local bodies is placed on the table of the House. More accurate figures have been obtained and are under the consideration of Government.

(d) Government do not consider it necessary to work out the ratio as the figures given in the appendix to G.O. No. 1081, L. & M., dated the 28th March 1931, are only provisional and as a fresh distribution is being worked out in accordance with the provisions of section 10 (2) (a), (b) and (c) of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931. Only a few local bodies have made representations in the matter.

(e) Yes.

(f) Duplicate copies of the registration certificate in the case of almost all motor vehicles except motor cycles can be got on payment of Rs. 8 being half the original fee.

(g) & (h) Under section 5 (3) (a) of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHIETTI:—" May I know if any instalments have been paid to local bodies? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Yes. "

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know whether the amount collected for the first quarter would fall very much below the expected revenue? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Yes, to some extent."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know what the Government propose to do to make up the deficit? Under the Act if the amount collected is less than what they anticipated, the Government would be able to give the local bodies only *pro rata*. Therefore the local bodies would be denied the amount which they were originally getting? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The local bodies would get what is available *pro rata*."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Was not the original estimate based on the actual collections made by the local bodies? Have not the Government failed in their expectations? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The original estimate was based on the number of vehicles in the Presidency."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know what it is due to? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Due to present financial stringency."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Is it suggested that owing to present financial stringency the number of motor vehicles has gone down? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Is it on account of financial depression, or on account of increased taxation? "

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

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the Government anticipate any increase in future? "

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

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, if the additional registration fee is charged, whether it would add to the revenues that will be collected under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act? May I know if the officers of the City Police have taken licence under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act? "

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

16 Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Does the amount collected go to make up the total of the tax or does it go towards the payment of officers? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The amount is collected under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act."

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Why should the Commissioner of Police take action under the Motor Vehicles Act when he is administering only the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act a certificate under the Motor Vehicles Act has also to be produced before the licensing officer."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Have any cases come to the notice of the hon. the Minister of persons, especially Police officers, who have not taken a licence under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" No, Sir."

Public Health

Work done by the Public Analyst to the Government of Madras.

* 283 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the nature of the work that is being done by the Public Analyst to the Government of Madras;

(b) the number of municipal councils and local bodies that have sought his help till now from the time of his appointment and the nature of the help or advice that those bodies sought of him; and

(c) whether any fee is being collected for any such advice rendered?

A.—(a) A statement^a showing the nature of the work done by the Public Analyst is placed on the table.

(b) Mr. Hawley has been appointed Public Analyst for the Madras Corporation, 15 municipal councils and one panchayat board. Excepting the panchayat board and four municipal councils, the other local bodies have sought his help for analysing samples of food. He has also advised local bodies on technical matters involved in sampling, by circular and, when required individually, on special points.

(c) Contributions at the rate of Rs. 5,000 a year from the Madras Corporation and Rs. 720 a year from each of the other local bodies are being recovered towards the pay of the Public Analyst and laboratory charges. Each municipal council or local board concerned can send to the Public Analyst for analysis free of cost 15 samples of food every month, any sample sent in excess of this number in any particular month being analysed on payment of Rs. 7 per sample. No fees are levied for advice.

^a Printed as Appendix XI on pages 156-157 infra.

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Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Is the Public Analyst authorized to undertake the work of analysing samples sent by private persons and companies?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Notice, Sir."

Staff employed in the office of the Director of Public Health.

* 284 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the staff employed in the office of the Director of Public Health and also state the number of men drafted from Andhra Desa and from other principal linguistic areas?

A.—A statement^a showing the staff employed in the office of the Director of Public Health is laid on the table. Only a peon of the staff belongs to Andhra Desa (Vizagapatam district) and most of the rest to the Tamil districts of the Presidency.

Village Panchayats

Appointment of District Panchayat Officers by the District Boards.

* 285 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state what District Boards have applied to the Government for permission to appoint District Panchayat Officers?

A.—Applications were received from the Presidents of the District Boards of Chingleput, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Ramnad, Trichinopoly and Vizagapatam for Government sanction to the appointment of District Panchayat Officers. Thereupon the Government issued a general order (G.O. No. 887, L. & M., dated the 16th March 1931) stating that they had no objection to District Boards appointing for the time being, competent persons for work connected with the formation and supervision of panchayats.

Abolition of the Village Panchayats at Pedacherukur, etc.

* 286 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state with reference to his answer to question No. 432, dated 24th February 1931—

(a) whether the villagers have again memorialized to him; and
(b) if so, what action the Government propose to take thereon?

A.—A representation has now been received and it is being transferred to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards for disposal with reference to the powers delegated to him in G.O. No. 498, L. & M., dated the 16th February 1931.

^a Printed as Appendix XII on pages 157-159 infra.

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Transfer of cattle-pounds to panchayats.

* 287 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether any, and, if so, what panchayats have applied for the transfer to them of the cattle-pounds in their respective areas and the orders passed on such applications?

A.—The Panchayat Boards of Sembiam (Chingleput district), Nidamangalam (Tanjore district), Kovvur (West Godavari district) and Madhavaram (West Godavari district) applied to Government for the transfer of control of cattle-pounds in their respective areas. A copy^a of G.O. No. 1169, L. & M., dated 9th April 1931, is placed on the table.

Agriculture

Proposals for the establishment of a sugarcane farm in Bellary district.

* 288 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether proposals have been called for establishing a sugarcane farm or research station in the western taluks of the Bellary district; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter now is?

A.—(a) & (b) No such proposals have been called for.

Facilities for fruit cultivation.

* 289 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Mysore Government are actively supporting fruit cultivation in their State by granting loans free of interest, exempting the lands from assessment for eight years from the date of grant of loan and otherwise liberalizing the rules for the grant of Government loans; and

(b) whether the Government of Madras have under consideration the issue of orders on the same or similar lines here?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No such question is under the consideration of the Government.

• Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Has the Government at present any officer who is an expert in fruit cultivation?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the fact that there are vast areas under fruit cultivation some of which are going to waste, has the Government considered the necessity of appointing such an officer?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"No, Sir, the Government have not considered the question."

^a Printed as Appendix XIII on pages 159-160 infra.

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Co-operative Societies*Refusal to register a co-operative society of Digapahandi.*

* 290 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on 10th June 1931, the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Ganjam district, refused to register a co-operative society of Digapahandi on the ground that there is economic depression; and

(b) whether he did so on his own responsibility or in pursuance of any directions issued to him by the Registrar or the Government?

A.—(a) No application for the registration of a co-operative society at Digapahandi was received by the Deputy Registrar, Ganjam district, in accordance with rule I of the rules under the Co-operative Societies Act but a petition signed by five persons was received for the organization of a co-operative society. It was rejected by the Deputy Registrar as he considered that there were not enough men capable of managing a society and as the Berhampur District Bank was not in a position to finance any new societies.

(b) On the instructions of Government the Registrar has informed the district officers that greater attention should be paid to the rectification and consolidation of the existing societies than the organization of new societies.

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—“ Sir, clause (a) of my question has not been fully answered. The hon. Member has only given an evasive reply to it. Will he kindly give a direct reply to my question? ”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“ This is all I can say on the matter now. I will call for more information.”

Expenditure on the staff connected with the starting of land mortgage banks in the Presidency.

* 291 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what is the staff so far employed in connexion with the starting of land mortgage banks in the Presidency;

(b) what is the total amount spent on the staff including travelling allowances from the date on which the banks were started;

(c) how many land mortgage banks were started in the various districts ever since the introduction of the scheme and in what places; what is the amount so far advanced to the ryots under the scheme; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies in the Northern Division is refusing to start land mortgage banks and recommend financial help to them unless the office-holders in the various banks are elected according to his instructions?

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A.—(a) A statement^a is furnished.

(b) The actual expenditure incurred by the special staff attached to land mortgage banks ever since their entertainment up to 30th June 1931 amounts to Rs. 69,600.

(c) Thirty-nine. A statement^a is furnished. Rs. 13,88,140.

(d) No.

Establishment of additional land mortgage banks and rural credit societies.

* 292 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have under consideration the question of establishing more land mortgage banks and rural credit societies, and granting long-term loans to the agriculturists?

A.—Additional land mortgage banks will be started as and when the Central Land Mortgage Bank which finances the primary banks is able to obtain adequate funds by the issue of debentures.

Staff employed in the office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

* 293 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement of the staff employed in the office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and state how many of them are from Andhra Desa?

A.—The information^b required by the hon. Member is placed on the table.

There are no clerks from the Telugu districts working in the Registrar's office.

Public Works

Creation of a special subdivision for the water-supply scheme of Tuticorin.

* 294 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether a special subdivision of engineering officers has been created exclusively for carrying out the works of the Tuticorin water scheme and if so, from what date and with what strength of staff;

(b) what is the strength of the staff of the Tuticorin water-works subdivision (i.e., apart from the supervision work of the Superintending Engineer and the Madura Special Division Executive Engineer) since January 1931;

(c) what are the monthly establishment charges (inclusive of overseas and travelling allowances and leave allowance and pensionary contribution) of this subdivision;

^a Printed as Appendix XIV on pages 160-161 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix XV on page 162 infra.

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(d) when the subdivision completed the works of the distribution system;

(e) what length of pipe line has been laid, how many fountains constructed and what other works executed by them since February 1931 up to the end of June 1931;

(f) what are the works yet remaining to be executed; and

(g) whether the Government have considered the feasibility of reducing the staff and establishment charges of the subdivision?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 343.

Construction of an elevated reservoir for the Tuticorin water-works.

* 295 Q.—MR. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether an elevated reservoir at Tuticorin has been sanctioned for the Tuticorin water-works and if so, when and at what estimated cost;

(b) when tenders were called for for this work, whose tender has been accepted and when it was accepted;

(c) whether, and if so, when, the work was commenced by the contractors and when it is expected to be completed;

(d) why tenders were not called for for this work soon after it was sanctioned and the work completed already, along with the completion of the distribution system; and

(e) who is responsible for the failure or omission in getting this work done along with the other works?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given to question No. 344.

Purchase of furniture required for Government departments.

* 296 Q.—MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number, size and value of steel safes, steel almirahs and steel shelvings (record racks) the Government have purchased during each of the last three years from—

(i) Indian manufacturers,

(ii) London, and

(iii) the Continent of Europe or America;

(b) the names of the firms and the value of the articles purchased from each of these firms;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government are making in their P.W.D. Workshops steel record racks;

(d) if the answer to clause (c) be in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of this House figures for

(i) cost of making such racks,

(ii) the life of such racks, and

(iii) the cost of repainting and renovating them during the total period of their life; and

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(e) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of the General Hospital, Madras, has placed orders for steel shelvings and almirahs and surgical cabinets for the new extensions of the General Hospital with firms in England?

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

(c) Yes.

(d) The Government have not the information.

(e) No.

Registration

Selection of non-graduates as sub-registrars.

* 297 Q.—RAO SAHIB B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state under what circumstances are non-graduates selected for the posts of sub-registrars in the Registration department and on what ground, for instance, Mr. C. Ramachandra Prasad was chosen as a sub-registrar?

A.—Under the Madras Registration Subordinate Service Rules, the minimum qualification for admission to that service is the possession of a Secondary School-Leaving Certificate. As Mr. C. Ramachandra Prasad had the requisite qualification, he was appointed to that service.

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“What are the special reasons which induced Government to make an exception in this case from the general rule that only graduates should be appointed as sub-registrars?”

The hon. MR. P. T. RAJAN:—“There is no rule that only graduates should be appointed as sub-registrars.”

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“At any rate they have been following such a convention. What are the special reasons to make them depart from this convention?”

The hon. MR. P. T. RAJAN:—“Government is not the appointing authority in this case.”

Veterinary Department

Admissions to the Madras Veterinary College.

* 298 Q.—MR. M. A. MANICKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of applications received for admission to the Veterinary College, Madras, and the number selected for admission;

(b) how many Brahmans, Muslims, Vannikula-Kshatriyas, and depressed classes were selected respectively; and

(c) how many Vannikula-Kshatriyas applied?

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A.—(a) 1,073 and 40 respectively.

(b) Brahmans	...	...	...	...	8
Muhammadans	...	...	...	...	6
Vannikula-Kshatriyas	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Depressed classes	...	...	...	...	3

(c) One.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I ask why no member of the backward classes was selected?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The Public Services Commission must be asked about that."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Why was the only candidate from the Vannikula-Kshatriya community who applied, not selected?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Probably he was not up to the mark."

Proposal to start an institute in Madras to prepare anti-rinderpest serum.

* 299 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether Government have decided to start their own institute in Madras for making anti-rinderpest serum and, if so, when the institute will begin to work and what amount will be sanctioned for it?

A.—Yes. It is expected that manufacture will commence in April next. The details of the scheme are under the consideration of Government.

Weights and Measures

Standardization of weights and measures.

* 300 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) what measures the Government have adopted for a uniform standardized system of weights and measures in this Presidency;

(b) whether Chambers of Commerce, the Departments of Industries and Agriculture and the public have been consulted regarding any specific scheme;

(c) whether the railways and large public corporations and organizations have agreed to give speedy trial and advertisement for the standardized units of weights and measures;

(d) whether the Government intend providing every village and fair, market or public business place with a set of standardized weights and measures for ease of comparison and verification in charge of a local official; and

(e) by what year do the Government intend enforcing the standardized system of weights and measures for the whole of the Presidency?

[30th October 1931]

A.—(a) A Bill to provide for standards of weights and measures for use in this Presidency has been prepared and is under scrutiny.

(b) The above Bill will be published soon for public criticism.

(c) They have not been consulted so far, but as the provisions of the proposed Bill are compulsory and not optional, the question of the railways and other organizations agreeing to the standards of weights does not arise.

(d) It is proposed to keep standard weights and measures in the district or such portion thereof, as the case may be, at such places as may be convenient for public inspection and to provide for their maintenance in an efficient condition and for their periodical verification.

(e) Provision has been made in the Bill to bring the Act into force in the several districts or portions thereof on such dates as may be notified by the Government. It is hoped that the Bill may be enforced throughout the Presidency without any great lapse of time after it has been passed into law.

Education

Admission of failed F.L. students to the B.L. course in the Madras Law College.

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

(a) whether the Academic Council has approved of the admission of failed F.L. students to the B.L. course in the Madras Law College;

(b) whether the Law College Council has considered this question and come to any decision; and

(c) whether the Government have found out how much revenue the Madras Law College is annually losing on account of such students going to Trivandrum to complete their course in the Law College there?

A.—(a) & (b) The regulations of the University of Madras do not prevent students who fail in the F.L. examination from undergoing the B.L. course. Rule 13 of the rules relating to the working of the Madras Law College does, however, provide that students who have passed the First examination in Law shall be prepared for the B.L. degree examination. A proposal for amending this rule so as to permit candidates who fail in the F.L. examination to study for the B.L. course in the college was considered by the College Council in 1929 and rejected by it.

(c) No.

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Admissions into the Teachers' College, Saidapet.

* 302 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) on what basis the admissions to the Teachers' College, Saidapet, were made till last year and also this year;

(b) whether it is a fact that till last year M.A.'s were selected first and then ordinary graduates;

(c) whether it is a fact that people alleged to have been selected on the basis of experience in teaching high school classes this year were actually found to have had little or no experience or were merely teachers of higher elementary schools, and whether any reports of the statements of students regarding the same were recorded by the lecturers, and whether the said reports tally with the applications made; and

(d) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to rule 3 of the rules of the College printed in the College calendar. The admissions were made on the same basis this year as last year.

(b) No.

(c) The answer to the first part of the clause is in the negative. No such reports as those referred to in the second part were recorded.

(d) Does not arise.

Admissions into the Lady Willingdon Training College.

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

(a) the number of women candidates who had applied this year for training as L.T.'s at the Lady Willingdon Training College;

(b) the number that have been given admission; and

(c) whether the Government have taken or propose to take any steps for giving additional facilities for training in this College?

A.—(a) 104.

(b) 36.

(c) The provision of additional facilities for training is bound up with the question of additional accommodation. This question cannot be taken up now on account of financial stringency.

Admissions into the Civil Engineering College, Madras.

* 304 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the number of admissions made this year to the Civil Engineering College, Madras;

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(b) the districts wherefrom no candidates at all were selected for admission together with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the districts from which the candidates were admitted and the total number so admitted from each of such districts?

A.—(a) to (c) A statement^a is appended.

Inadequacy of accommodation in the Government Secondary and Training School for Women, Mangalore.

* 305 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that for want of accommodation in the Government Secondary and Training School for Women, Mangalore, a large number of students are refused admission every year; and

(b) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Owing to the present financial stringency it is not possible to consider the question of increasing the accommodation of the school.

Number of District Educational Officers classified on a linguistic basis.

* 306 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state the number of District Educational Officers in the Presidency and how many of these officers are drafted from each of the principal linguistic areas?

A.—There are 26 District Educational Officers at present. Of these 5 belong to the Telugu districts; 13 to Tamil districts, 2 to Kanarese districts and 4 come from Malabar. One belongs to North India and one is a European.

Staff employed in the office of the Director of Public Instruction.

* 307 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement of the staff employed in the office of the Director of Public Instruction and state how many of them are from Andhra Desa and from other principal linguistic areas?

A.—It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the non-gazetted staff. The following statement gives the information:—

Superintendents—

Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Clerks—Upper division—

Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

^a Printed as Appendix XVI on pages 163-164 infra.

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Clerks—Lower division, typists and stenographer—

Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	26
Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	1
						—
						57
						—
From the Tamil area	...	...	...	...	...	44
From the Telugu area	...	...	...	...	...	5
From the Malayalam area	...	...	...	...	...	7
From the Kanarese area	...	...	...	...	...	1
						—
						57
						—

Fisheries*Income from fisheries sales in Nellore district.*

* 308 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) what are the amounts realized by the fishery sales in the Nellore district from the tanks that have been handed over to the Fisheries Department in 1929–30 and 1930–31 and during the two years during which the Public Works Department had the direct control over them last;

(b) what is the method according to which sale is conducted—by public auction, tender system or by a secret private arrangement between individuals and the department;

(c) if it is by public auction whether it is a fact that in many cases confirmation is made by the department or Government privately of bids other than those that are the highest;

(d) whether in certain cases, the auction sale was for one year and the confirmation was for two years and three years at one stretch by private negotiations;

(e) whether it is a fact that such negotiations are left completely to the Deputy Director of Fisheries, Mr. Chakrapani Ayyangar, and the Inspector of Fisheries, Mr. Adayya;

(f) whether such negotiations are merely oral or are placed on record;

(g) whether Government have received complaints about the unsatisfactory nature of some of these negotiations, and if so, what action has been taken on them; and

(h) whether the Government have gone into the matter of making satisfactory and unquestionable arrangements with regard to the sale of fisheries, and if so, what they are?

A.—(a) 1929–30	...	...	...	Rs. 12,200
1930–31	...	...	...	Rs. 20,200

Figures for the other two years are not available with the Government.

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(b) & (h) A copy^a of G.O. No. 339, Development, dated 24th February 1928, issuing instructions regarding the sale of fishery rights in inland waters is placed on the table of the House.

(c) No.

(d) Yes, if two or three years' lease is found advantageous to Government.

(e) Private offers, when made to local officers, are forwarded, if found suitable, to the higher authorities, Government being the authority competent finally to accept or reject such offers.

(f) All private offers are brought to record.

(g) Complaints are received from disappointed tenderers.

Sale of fishery rights of Elundrakondan Periakulam, Srivilliputtur taluk.

* 309 Q.—MR. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) when the sale of fishery of Elundrakondan Periakulam, Srivilliputtur taluk, Ramnad district, for 1931 was proposed by the Revenue Inspector;

(b) what was the state of supply then in the tank;

(c) when the sale notice was published in the village;

(d) when the sale was held and for what amount;

(e) whether a re-sale was ordered; if so, with what result; and

(f) if a re-sale was not held, why it was not held?

A.—(a) The sale was ordered by the Tahsildar on 4th February 1931.

(b) There was then a month's supply of water in the tank.

(c) The sale notice was published by tom-tom in Elundrakondan village and adjacent villages from 27th February 1931 to 2nd March 1931.

(d) The sale was held on 3rd March 1931 and it fetched Rs. 205.

(e) & (f) A re-sale was ordered but not held as it was subsequently brought to notice that there was little water in the tank.

Enquiry into the accident to 'Lady Goschen'.

* 310-A 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 of the Port Officer of Calicut on his enquiry into the recent accident to 'Lady Goschen' near Ponnani which resulted in the death of a few Mappilla fishermen and the orders of Government thereon?

A.—The report of the Port Officer was only a report to the Government of India on the preliminary enquiry. The Government are unable to lay the report on the table of the House.

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Compensation to fishermen who died as a result of the accident to 'Lady Goschen'.

* 310-B Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether Government have come to any conclusion on the question of payment of compensation to fishermen who died on account of the accident to 'Lady Goschen' near Ponnani?

A.—No.

Expenditure on the trawler 'Lady Goschen'.

* 310-C Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) whether trawler 'Lady Goschen' is now in working order;
- (b) if the answer to (a) is in the negative, what is the nature of the work in which Captain Cribb is employed;
- (c) whether the Government have arrived at a decision regarding the future of 'Lady Goschen'; and
- (d) what is the amount spent on repairs till now after the recent accident and the amount that will still be necessary to complete the repairs?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Captain is engaged in ascertaining the repairs needed and the cost of repairing or replacing the boiler and how and where it has to be done. He has with the help of the skeleton crew completely cleaned and painted the vessel as a preliminary to her being surveyed with a view to determining how long she will be fit for work.

(c) No.

(d) Nothing has been spent since on the repairs of the vessel.

Work done by the Assistant Biologist working on the 'Lady Goschen'.

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

- (a) whether the Research Assistant and the Assistant Biologist are deputed to work on the trawler 'Lady Goschen';
- (b) whether before the appointment of the Assistant Biologist the Research Assistant was being paid allowances only during the period he worked on the trawler;
- (c) whether the Assistant Biologist is now whole-time officer attached to the trawler;
- (d) whether the trawler is now out of order and, if so, the work the Assistant Biologist is now doing; and
- (e) whether the Assistant Biologist is being paid the allowances even though the trawler is not in working order?

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A.—(a) An Inspector and an Assistant Biologist are deputed to work on the trawler.

(b) No. The Inspector of Fisheries attached to the trawler was paid the allowance irrespective of the actual period he worked on board the trawler.

(c) The Assistant Biologist works on board the trawler when she is out of port. In the intervals, between her cruises, he is engaged in collating the information collected by the trawler and in controlling and supervising the work at the two research stations, viz., Calicut and Krusadai.

(d) Yes. The trawler is out of order. The Assistant Biologist is now working in the Calicut Biological station. After the trawler was disabled he was able to attend to the reports on the trawler's work which were in arrears. He has completed the second report on the trawler's survey for 1928-29 and is now working on the third report for 1929-30. Besides this, he has been attending to the equipment of the two Biological stations at West Hill and Krusadai island with apparatus and fittings sanctioned by Government and organizing the research work of the stations, especially the research on sardine at West Hill and on pearl and chank and on commercial fisheries in the Gulf of Mannar, such as, the recently discovered Pamban sardine fishery, at the Krusadai Biological station.

(e) Yes.

Work done by the Assistant Biologist of the Fisheries Department.

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

- (a) what is the nature of the work of the Assistant Biologist of the Fisheries Department;
- (b) whether he is still working on board the 'Lady Goschen'; and
- (c) whether he is still drawing the special allowance sanctioned for work on the trawler?

A.—(a) Work on board the trawler when she is out of port.

Work at the Calicut and Krusadai research stations in the intervals between cruises.

The former will consist of collection of specimens while the latter will consist of charting out results obtained during cruises, recording observations, identifying specimen and control and supervision of the work of the shore stations.

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

Qualifications of the officer in charge of the Tanur Research station.

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

- (a) whether a qualified Chemistry Graduate has been appointed to Tanur Research station;

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(b) who is the officer now in charge of the station and whether he is qualified to do research work; and

(c) whether any apprentices are now undergoing training in research work in Tanur station?

A.—(a) Not yet.

(b) The officer now in charge of the station has 16 years' experience in the department and is competent to carry out experiments ordered by the Director.

(c) No.

Use made of the motor engine in Tanur Research station.

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

(a) whether a motor engine was purchased in recent years for the use of the Tanur Research station;

(b) whether it is being used there now; and

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the negative, whether it is being used for any other purpose?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The engine is now used for collecting Hilsa at Bezwada and at other times at the Ennore station.

Admission of pupil teachers into the Fisheries Training Institute, Calicut.

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

(a) what is the number of pupil teachers admitted or proposed to be admitted into the Fisheries Training Institute, Calicut, during 1931-32;

(b) what is the number of teachers who have completed their training in the Institute during 1929-30 and 1930-31;

(c) the number of such trained teachers that have been absorbed by the Fisheries schools;

(d) whether the Government consider that there will be sufficient number of vacancies in the Fisheries schools in future to absorb the candidates who have been trained and will be trained; and

(e) whether the Government have considered the advisability of maintaining the Institute even if there are no vacancies in the Fisheries schools?

A.—(a) Five.

(b) Seven in 1929-30 and 12 in 1930-31.

(c) All the seven of 1929-30 and 11 out of 12 of 1930-31.

(d) Candidates so far trained have all been absorbed. As regards the candidates that will be trained in future, it may not be possible to provide them with posts if the financial stringency continues.

(e) No.

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Industries

Work done by the Research Engineer of the Industries Department.

* 316 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) what are the specific duties allotted to the Research Engineer of the Department of Industries;

(b) what facilities have been given him for carrying out research work and when he commenced work;

(c) what are the appliances which he has evolved so far and with what results; and

(d) whether copies of the quarterly reports on the work of the Research Engineer with the remarks of the Specialist Officer and Director of Industries will be placed on the table?

A.—(a)—The Research Engineer was appointed for the purpose of improving existing appliances and devising new appliances for use in the cottage industries, especially in the textile industry.

(b) Copy^a of a letter from the Director of Industries giving the information required is appended. The Research Engineer assumed charge of his duties on the 4th June 1930.

(c) (i) An improved furnace has been constructed for the collection of lampblack. Preliminary trials have to be made.

(ii) A hot air sizing machine has been evolved. Its economic value will be known after the machine is tried under actual working conditions.

(d) Copy^a of a report received from the Research Engineer explaining the work done by him up to the end of March 1931 is appended. The Government do not consider it necessary to place on the table the remarks of the Specialist Officer and the Director of Industries.

Duties and pay of the Inspector of Industrial Schools.

* 317 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) what are the qualifications and pay of the Inspector of Industrial Schools; and

(b) what are his duties?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the annual list of establishment of the Director of Industries, a copy of which is placed in the Council Library. The Officer's present pay is Rs. 1,200.

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(b) His duties are—

- (i) Supervision, control, and direction of the Industrial schools aided by the Department (67 in number); —
- (ii) General inspection and supervision of the five Government Industrial and Technological institutions; and
- (iii) assistance to the Director in the administration of the five scholarship schemes sanctioned in the Department.

Alleged grievances of the cottage industrial workmen.

* 318 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government that the cottage industrial workmen along with the English educated young men are suffering on account of the unemployment problem;

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce any new scheme by which they could protect the children of those practising ancient and indigenous arts and crafts from the unemployment problem in future; and

(c) if so, what the nature of the scheme is?

A.—(a) The Economic Depression Enquiry Committee have reported that cottage industries are severely affected and that the weaving community has particularly suffered by the trade slump and political agitation.

(b) No new schemes are feasible, but action is being taken on the recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee.

(c) Does not arise.

Libraries

Admission of Indians into the Nilgiri Library.

* 319 Q.—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) why Indians are not allowed to enter the Nilgiri Library unless they are dressed in European style;

(b) what grant the Government have annually been giving to the library; and

(c) whether he will be pleased to take steps to see that all decently dressed Indians are allowed to enter the library for study?

A.—(a) & (c) The rules of the library do not lay down any such restriction. The relevant rule is extracted below:—

“No person shall be admitted to the library or reading rooms who, in the opinion of the committee, is not suitably dressed.

Nothing in this rule shall contravene any regulation now, or at any time in force, with regard to the dress of Indian gentlemen attending Government House functions.”

(b) No annual grant is given to the library. A rent of only Rs. 50 a month is charged for the building occupied by the library against the standard rent of Rs. 142.

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Library grants to village panchayats.

* 320 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether the Government have passed any orders that library grants should not be disbursed to village panchayats for or from the year 1931–32, and if so, the reasons for them?

A.—No such orders have been passed. Owing to financial stringency, no provision has been made in the Civil Budget Estimates of the current year for grants to public libraries. It is not, therefore, possible to sanction grants either to village panchayats or to local bodies towards the maintenance of public libraries.

Museums

Latrine arrangements for the Museum and the Connemara Library.

* 321 Q.—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) what latrine arrangements have been made for the visitors to the Museum and the Connemara Library; and

(b) if there are not suitable arrangements now, whether steps will be taken to provide them early?

A.—(a) There is flush-out lavatory in the compound of the Museum for the use of visitors to the Museum and the Connemara Library. There is also, in the compound of the Victoria Technical Institute quite close to the Museum, a public lavatory which is open to visitors to the Museum.

(b) Does not arise.

[N.B.—For a further starred question please see page 97 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Backward Communities

Ameliorative work for the benefit of the Viswabrahmans.

* 322 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received copies of the resolutions passed in the several sessions of the Andhra Provincial Viswabrahmana Conferences which were convened under the auspices of the All-India Viswakarmam Liberal Federation urging the Government to instruct the Labour Department to take up ameliorative work for Viswabrahmana community also; and

(b) what orders were passed by the Government on this request?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to clauses (b) and (c) of question No. 489 on 28th February 1931.

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Control of Books*Proscription of the book "Yanthra Chintamani".*

323 Q.—PANDIT GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have proscribed the ancient Sanskrit work named "Yanthra Chintamani" printed by Ananda Press, Madras, and published by Mr. Pattisapu Venkateswarulu of Rajahmundry, East Godavari district; and

(b) if so, on what grounds?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

General*Instructions by the Government to the Police and the Excise Departments regarding picketing.*

324 Q.—MR. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Government have issued any definite instructions as to how and when picketing is to go on without obstruction from the Police or the Excise?

A.—The instructions issued by the Government on the subject of picketing are to the effect that, where it involves a breach of paragraph 7 of the settlement with the Congress, dated 5th March 1931, it may be dealt with as the law provides or suspended in accordance with paragraph 7 at the discretion of the District Magistrate concerned.

Orders or rules, if any, passed by the Excise Commissioner regarding picketing.

325 Q.—MR. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Excise Commissioner has issued and passed any orders or rules in connexion with picketing for the guidance of his subordinates; and

(b) if so, what they are and how far they are observed?

A.—(a) & (b) The Commissioner of Excise issued a circular to the effect that the Delhi Settlement, in so far as it related to picketing, did not include the picketing of abkari sales. As soon as this circular came to the notice of the Government they pointed out to the Commissioner that picketing was in no case illegal in itself and, consequently, was not illegal if resorted to at abkari sales and instructed him to modify his circular.

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Alleged cases of obstruction of picketing by the Police and the Excise Departments.

326 Q.—MR. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Police and Excise Departments have taken any steps to prevent picketing and obstruct the same; and if so, why?

A.—No action has been taken by any department against picketing unless it became aggressive or involved a violation of the ordinary law or endangered the public peace. In such cases action has been taken by local authorities as circumstances demanded.

Promulgation of an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, in Kuppam, Chittoor district.

327 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have perused the order, dated the 25th August 1931, of the Sub-Magistrate, Kuppam, Chittoor district, under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, prohibiting the holding of meetings, delivery of speeches and lectures, organizing or taking part in processions and display of any flags other than the Union Jack;

(b) why such an order was issued in spite of the Gandhi-Irwin pact; and

(c) what action was taken by Government to have it cancelled?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The situation in Kuppam was such that the Magistrate considered that there was danger of a breach of the peace.

(c) None.

Police*Quartering Reserve Police in Kuppam, Chittoor district.*

328 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether any Reserve Police have been quartered in Kuppam in connexion with the alleged Congress activities, and if so, when and why, and the strength of the Reserve Police stationed therein?

A.—Two Reserve parties of 1 head constable and 10 constables each were stationed at Kuppam, one from 17th August 1931 to 25th August 1931 and the other from 19th August 1931 to 30th August 1931 for the purpose of preserving the peace of the village.

Alleged ill-treatment of Mr. Narasappa's son by the Sub-Inspector of Police of Penukonda.

329 Q.—MR. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. P. Narasappa, clerk, Sub-Collector's Office, Penukonda, complained in the month of April to the Superintendent of Police to the effect that the Sub-Inspector of Penukonda sent for his son to the police station, ill-treated him and beat him and kicked him with his boots;

[30th October 1931]

(b) whether the Superintendent replied to the said Mr. Narasappa in an open post-card as follows:—

“ I regret I do not believe your allegations and would advise you to endeavour to behave in a gentlemanly and decent manner ”; and

(c) whether the Government propose to call for a report?

A.—(a) A copy of the complaint referred to was sent to the Government by Mr. T. Sivasankaram of Penukonda.

(b) Yes.

(c) No. The Government have referred Mr. Sivasankaram's letter to the Inspector-General of Police for disposal.

Criminal Justice

Appointment of Viswabrahmans as Honorary Bench Magistrates.

330 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state how many Viswabrahmans were appointed as Honorary Bench Magistrates to the 1st and 2nd class Bench Courts in this Presidency and Special Magistrates in the metropolis, since 1920, classified according to linguistic basis (Andhra, Tamil, Kanarese, Kerala and Oriya)?

A.—The Government have not got the information.

Hydro-Electric Schemes

Progress of the Pykara schemes.

331 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the progress of the work in the Pykara schemes up to the 31st March 1931; and

(b) when the power supply is likely to be extended to Coimbatore, Salem, Trichinopoly, and Madura districts?

A.—(a) All preliminary works, such as quarters for staff, workshops and transport arrangements were completed. The civil works were brought to an advanced stage of construction. Orders for the hydraulic and electrical machinery and equipment were placed. Works progressed in accordance with the programme and estimates. It is anticipated that the scheme will be completed by the estimated date, viz., end of 1932.

Detailed information will be found in the Administration Report of the Department for 1930–31 which will be issued shortly.

(b) Coimbatore—
December 1932.

Salem—

From Mettur, about November 1931.

Trichinopoly and Madura—

These are not at present included in the area to be served by Pykara.

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Prisons

Release of two satyagrahis convicted in connexion with the Neill Statue Satyagraha.

332 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASAWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a girl, Ammakannu of Cuddalore and Kanthimathinathan of Tinnevely, two young satyagrahis in connexion with the Neill Statue Satyagraha are still in jail;

(b) if so, where;

(c) whether these cases were examined for release under the recent Gandhi-Irwin pact;

(d) whether the Government regarded this case as a case of resorting to violence or of incitement to violence;

(e) whether the Government have received a large number of influentially signed petitions for their release; and

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to consider the question of their release in view of the tender age of these children?

A.—(a) and (b) The girl named Ammakannu was detained in the certified school under the Madras Children's Aid Society, and the boy Kanthimathinathan in the Senior Certified School, Chingleput.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No.

(f) They have since been released.

General

Use of the suffix 'Asari' to Viswabrahman names.

333 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have received any representation that the Karnams of the Northern districts and the Monigars of the Southern districts are recording the names of individuals belonging to the communities known as Kamasalin, Kammalan and Thattan, etc., with the form of the suffix “Asari” in the birth and death registers maintained by them instead of “Acharyulu Garu” or “Acharyar Avargal”?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Adoption of the honorific prefix and suffix to Viswabrahman names.

334 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it was brought to the notice of the Government that in communications from the Revenue Officials, members of the Viswabrahmana community are being addressed without the honorific prefix of “M.R.Ry.” and suffix of “Garu” or “Avargal”?

A.—No.

Land Revenue

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Assignment of waste lands to skilful artisans.

335 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Government to assign waste lands on ordinary darkhast rules to skilful artisans of cottage industries;

(b) whether the abovementioned concession will be extended to Viswakarmans also who are mainly engaged in indigenous handicrafts; and

(c) if so, when the Government will come to a conclusion on that matter?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have no such proposal under consideration.

Public Service*Representation of Viswabrahmans in the Secretariat.*

336 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any Viswabrahmans in the various departments of the Secretariat; and

(b) if so, how many clerks in the upper and the lower divisions and how many in the Superintendent and Assistant Secretary cadres, classified as Andhra, Tamil, Kanarese, Kerala and Oriya?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) One Upper Division clerk who is acting as a Superintendent. He is a Tamilian. There is also a Viswabrahmana typist, who is a Tamilian.

Local Self-Government*Postponement of the elections to local bodies.*

337 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government are contemplating to postpone elections under the Local Boards and Municipal Councils' Amendment Acts till the next general elections to the Madras Legislative Council?

A.—No.

Amount of income from toll-gates and from licences to vehicles for 1926 to 1930.

338 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount realized by various Local Boards, Municipal Councils, Public Works Department and Corporation of Madras from toll-gates annually for 1926-27 to 1929-30; and

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(b) the amount realized by various Municipal Councils and the Corporation of Madras by licence fees from—

(i) motor vehicles; and

(ii) non-motor vehicles

annually for 1926-27 to 1929-30?

A.—(a) The figures relating to the toll income of municipal councils and district boards for the four years ending 1929-30 are available in the General Reviews of the district municipalities and the annual reports on the working of local boards in the Presidency for the respective years copies of which were supplied to all Members of Legislative Council. The total income realized by the Corporation of Madras and the Public Works Department is given in the subjoined statement:—

	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Corporation of Madras ..	56,307	81,000	85,000	96,100
Public Works Department.	82,704	92,267	3,78,844	3,36,683

(b) Information is not available.

Medical*Transfer to Government service of Viswabrahman medical officers employed by local bodies.*

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

(a) the number of candidates of the Viswabrahmana community who have completed the M.B.B.S., L.M.S. and L.M.P. courses with Government stipends;

(b) how many of them are serving in the Government;

(c) whether the Surgeon-General has recommended to the Government that certain members of the Viswabrahmana community employed by local bodies under rural schemes should be drafted into the Government service; and

(d) what action the Government have taken in the matter?

A.—(a) Information is not available.

(b) Four are serving as Sub-Assistant Surgeons.

(c) No.

(d) The question does not arise.

Motor Vehicles Taxation*Number of cars, buses, etc., in the Presidency.*

340 Q.—Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA RAVUTTAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of pleasure cars that are plying at present in each district;

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- (b) the number of taxis that are plying in each district;
- (c) the number of buses that are plying in each district;
- (d) the number of lorries that are plying in each district;
- (e) the amount realized in the first quarter of this year for licence in each district under each of the above heads under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act of 1931 (Act III of 1931); and
- (f) the number of lorries and cars exempted from the operation of this Act?

A.—(a) to (d) The latest year for which particulars^a regarding motor vehicles are available in 1930. They are appended. Separate information regarding motor lorries is not available.

(e) Government have no information.

(f) So far as information is available, 109 motor vehicles have been exempted from the tax.

Village Panchayats

Rural Development Fund Committee.

341 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have laid down any policy for the guidance of the Rural Development Fund Committee in the matter of the utilization of the Rural Development Fund;

(b) whether the village panchayats have any representation on the Rural Development Fund Committee;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations on this matter on behalf of the village panchayats; and

(d) if so, what action the Government have taken on such representations?

A.—(a) No. They have, however, been issuing certain instructions as and when certain local boards raised doubts in regard to the working of the Fund.

(b) Attention is invited to section 114-a (5) of the Act.

(c) No.

(d) The question does not arise.

Agriculture

Import of rice from other countries into this Presidency.

342 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that surplus rice from other countries like Japan is being imported into this Presidency in large quantities and consequently there has been more and more fall in price of paddy; and

(b) what steps the Government have taken to protect the ryots from this competition?

^a Printed as Appendix XIX on pages 168-169 infra.

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A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the latter portion of paragraph 24 of the Report of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee which has been placed at the disposal of the Press. Figures^a for the imports of rice into the several ports of the Madras Presidency from foreign countries from 1st March 1931 to 31st July 1931 are appended.

(b) From the figures of exports and imports of rice in respect of this Presidency, the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee concluded that this Presidency as a whole did not produce as much rice as it required for its own consumption and did not, therefore, consider it necessary to take steps to discourage the import of rice and paddy at present. In view of the above opinion the Government do not propose to take any action.

Public Works

Strength and cost of the staff of the Tuticorin Water-works subdivision.

343 Q.—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether a special subdivision of Engineering Officers has been created exclusively for carrying out the works of the Tuticorin water scheme, and if so, from what date and with what strength of staff;

(b) what is the strength of the staff of the Tuticorin Water-works subdivision (i.e., apart from the supervisory work of the Superintending Engineer and the Madura Special Division Executive Engineer) since January 1931;

(c) what are the monthly establishment charges (inclusive of overseas and travelling allowances and leave allowance and pensionary contribution) of this subdivision;

(d) when the subdivision completed the works of the distribution system;

(e) what length of pipe line has been laid, how many fountains constructed and what other works were executed by them since February 1931 up to the end of June 1931;

(f) what are the works yet remaining to be executed; and

(g) whether the Government have considered the feasibility of reducing the staff and establishment charges of the subdivision?

A.—(a) Yes; from 3rd January 1927 with one subdivisional officer, one supervisor, one overseer, two clerks and four peons.

(b) One subdivisional officer
two supervisors
one overseer
two clerks
one store-keeper and
five peons.

(c) About Rs. 1,250.

(d) In July 1931.

(e) A list^b of works done is appended.

^a Printed as Appendix XX on page 169 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix XXI on page 170 infra.

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- (f) The construction of an elevated service reservoir, rest-house, cleaners and assistant driver's quarters at the head works, recaulking and retesting of certain pipe lines on the distributing system, fitting up workshop at the head works and provision of fencing.
- (g) Proposals for the abolition of the overseer and of one clerk have been received and are under consideration.

Construction of an elevated reservoir at Tuticorin.

344 Q.—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether an elevated reservoir at Tuticorin has been sanctioned for the Tuticorin water-works, and if so, when and at what estimated cost;

(b) when tenders were called for for this work, whose tender was accepted and when it was accepted;

(c) whether, and, if so, when the work was commenced by the contractors and when it is expected to be completed;

(d) why tenders were not called for for this work soon after it was sanctioned and the work completed already, along with the completion of the distribution system; and

(e) who is responsible for the failure or omission in getting this work done along with the other works?

A.—(a) Yes. In December 1926 at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,57,294.

(b) In December 1930. The tender of Messrs. Gannon Dunkerly was accepted in February 1931.

(c) The work was commenced in July 1931 and is expected to be completed in April 1932.

(d) Though the construction of the reservoir was included in the original estimates, it was expressly ordered that it should not be taken up for execution until experience showed that it was not possible to give an adequate supply of water without the reservoir.

(e) The question does not arise.

Education

Measures for improving adult education.

345 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the measures adopted by the Government to improve the adult education of all the backward communities; and

(b) whether there is any scheme under consideration to open more night schools for the exclusive use of the working classes?

A.—(a) The Government give grants towards the maintenance of night schools and adult education classes under non-official agencies. Adult education classes are also attached to a few Government institutions. These schools and classes are intended for the benefit of all communities. Besides these, night schools are maintained by the Labour Department for the depressed classes.

(b) No.

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STARRED QUESTION

Proposals regarding retrenchment in Government expenditure.

* 345-A Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what the proposals of the Government are in regard to retrenchment;

(b) whether any measures of retrenchment have so far been given effect to; and

(c) whether the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee will be placed before the Council before final decisions are taken on them by the Government?

A.—(a) In accordance with the procedure prescribed in G.O.^a No. 255, Finance, dated 10th April 1931, appointing and defining the functions of the Retrenchment Committee and the Retrenchment Secretary, 41 memoranda and supplementary memoranda on general or departmental expenditure have been prepared by the Retrenchment Secretary and the Committee have held 18 meetings, 4 in Ootacamund and 14 in Madras till the end of September. At these meetings, 23 of the memoranda referred to above have been considered by the Committee and economies amounting in all to about Rs. 63 lakhs have been recommended. A list^a of these economies marked A is laid on the table.

In addition, at their first meeting the Committee recommended the issue of a circular to all heads of departments calling upon them to explain how an 8 per cent cut in expenditure could be secured by administrative measures with the least possible prejudice to efficiency and progress. The circular was issued on June 30th and replies have since been received and have been examined or are still under examination.

Finally, the Government themselves, with the concurrence of the Retrenchment Committee, found it necessary, in view of unfavourable reports as to the prospects of revenue—and particularly Excise revenue—during the current year, to order reductions in the budget provision under various heads without in all cases specifically consulting the Committee beforehand. Such reductions as have been made in this way, without previous reference to the Committee, are for the current year only and without prejudice to any recommendations that the Retrenchment Committee may decide to make when they come to consider each head concerned in detail. A list^a of these reductions is attached marked B.

^a Printed as Appendix XXII on pages 171-176 infra.

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- (b) The lists A and B to which reference has already been made show what measures of retrenchment have already been given effect to. The orders so far passed on the specific recommendations of the Committee (list A) are calculated to secure savings (mostly of a recurring nature) amounting to about Rs. 16·71 lakhs in a full year. Further economies may of course be expected as Government come to pass orders on the proposals that are still pending.

The immediate savings ordered for the current year only (list B) amount to about Rs. 88 lakhs, which figure includes the savings that will accrue during the remaining months of the year on those proposals of the Committee that have already been accepted by Government.

- (c) Government have carefully considered the suggestion made by the hon. Member and have come to the conclusion that it would be impracticable if retrenchment is to be effective and speedy, to place all the proposals of the Committee before the House before passing final orders on them. The proceedings of the Committee are given ample publicity by means of daily Press Communiques while the Committee is in session and the procedure of the House is open to any member who desires to raise objection to any of the proposals made. In addition, Government will take every opportunity, such as the present, to keep the House as fully informed as possible of what is being done.

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

IV.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF REVENUE OFFICERS AT ELLORE.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHIETTI:—“ Sir, under Standing Order 20, I beg your leave and the leave of the House for making a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit:

‘The conduct of the Revenue Officers of Government at a public meeting held at the Y.M.H.A., Ellore, on the 18th October 1931’.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ Will the hon. Member say how the matter is urgent at this stage? ”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHIETTI:—“ The urgency of the matter is this. Unless the conduct of the Revenue Officers which showed itself in the public meeting referred to is checked, it is very likely that such conduct will be repeated. In the interests of peace and order it is necessary that Government should take notice of these things and do something to check the over-zeal of some of their subordinates.”

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ I think the motion is in order. Does any hon. Member object to it? ”

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ I do not object to the motion. I request that it may be taken up for consideration to-morrow.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The motion will be taken up to-morrow at 4 p.m.”

V.—ACT ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The hon. the President announced that the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act, 1931, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General on the 29th September 1931.

VI.—ACTS ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

The hon. the President announced that the undermentioned Acts received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the dates mentioned against each:—

1. The Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1931 ... 5th August 1931.
2. The Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1931 ... 5th August 1931.
3. The Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Act, 1931 ... 31st August 1931.
4. The Gudalur Compensation for Tenants Improvements Act, 1931. 5th September 1931.
5. The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act, 1931 ... 7th September 1931.

VII.—AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER 21 OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider a draft amendment to Standing Order 21 and move that the report be taken into consideration.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I second it.”

The motion was put and carried.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ I beg to move that the amendment be passed.”

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“Standing Order 21, as amended by the Select Committee, reads thus:

‘21. If the President is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, he shall read the statement to the Council and ask whether the member has the leave of the Council. If objection is taken, the President shall request those members who support the motion to rise in their places, and if twenty or more members rise accordingly, the President shall intimate that the motion will be taken at 4 p.m. the same day. If less than twenty members rise, the President shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the Council.’”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“I second it.”

The amendment was put and carried.

VIII.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS PREVENTION OF ADULTERATION ACT, 1918.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“Sir, I beg to introduce a Bill^a to amend the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918 (Bill No. 23 of 1931) and move that the Bill be taken into consideration.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“I second it.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The motion is that Bill No. 23 of 1931 be taken into consideration.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“Sir, I am sorry I have not given notice of an amendment that the Bill may be referred to a select committee. But having regard to the fact that the rules, as at present framed, do not suit the local requirements, I appeal to the honourable Minister to see whether it is not advisable to have all the rules scrutinised and amended in such a way that they suit the local conditions. Let me cite one or two examples to show how even in the case of persons who want to conform strictly to the provisions of the Act, the rules work very great hardship. The Corporation of Madras prosecuted certain ghee merchants. Mr. Smith knows those cases. The merchants were prosecuted because they did not put up labels showing the proportion of the various ingredients composing the sample of ghee. The rules required that they should put up such labels for every tin of ghee offered for sale. That means that they should send their samples to the Public Analyst or the Corporation Analyst and take his report of the analysis of the samples and only then sell their ghee clearly showing the proportion of the various ingredients in it. The merchants submitted that

^a Published in the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 20th October 1931.

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such a rule was unworkable. They agreed to put up labels showing whether the ghee was adulterated or unadulterated in order to warn customers as to what they were buying. It appears to me that what the merchants want is very reasonable and is worth examining. If the rules are examined in this light it might be possible for us to amend them in such a way that while not giving up the objects of the Act, no hardship will be caused to the merchants by forcing them to observe impracticable and unnecessary rules.

“I beg the hon. Minister to consider this aspect of the question. I dare say that there will be some rules which will be unsuitable to the City of Madras and other places; these rules were framed on the model of the western countries where a good deal of the transactions are done wholesale in order to warn people of the ingredients of each commodity. Unlike other countries, the charge of examination and chemical analysis is rather prohibitive in this country. I beg the indulgence of the hon. Minister to view this aspect of the question and to see whether this Bill may not be referred to a Select Committee and the suitability of the rules to the present day requirements and local conditions examined.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Sir, this legislation is of a very important character. I am glad that this amending Bill has not come a day too late. Every one who knows the conditions prevalent not only in the city but also elsewhere in the Province, is aware of the enormous amount of adulteration that is going on in foodstuffs generally and the absence of any active attempt made by local bodies to put it down. I sympathise with certain difficulties which the merchants will experience when this Act is enforced. But, Sir, unless they are taught a lesson, they will continue to cheat the public as they have been doing so long. To mention only two cases of ghee and coffee, I find that the Madras Corporation has taken action and has prosecuted a certain number of the merchants and it should not be difficult for them to put labels on the tins with regard to the proportion of the ingredients of each tin. They ought to do it if the merchants do not want to sell adulterated commodity as a pure one. The poor buyer, the ordinary consumer of the foodstuffs, does not know what he is purchasing. It is only after he has purchased the commodity, taken it home and used it, that he realises that he has been cheated. This evil has become universal because the local bodies have not given effect to the provisions of the Adulteration Act. I hope, Sir, that the hon. Minister in charge of Local Bodies will draw the attention of the local bodies to this fact and see that this Act is enforced in a better way hereafter than in the past. At the same time I sympathise with the merchants and, if they really suffer any hardship in this matter, the Government will have to consider their case also.”

* Mr. F. E. JAMES:—“Sir, I think there seems to be some misunderstanding with regard to this Bill; the motion to refer the Bill to a Select Committee is due to a misunderstanding. The difficulty under the present Act is that there are legal doubts as to whether the

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[Mr. F. E. James] [30th October 1931]

rules issued under it, may not have to be re-issued each time the Act is extended to a municipality. It is the purpose of this Bill to remove this legal doubt. In a sense this is only a drafting measure, and it is unnecessary to deal with the principles underlying the attempt to cope with food adulteration. I am as interested as anybody in this House, in the question of checking food adulteration. But I venture to suggest that the measures which are necessary to amend the rules or to make them more applicable to certain places have to be dealt with in another way. Reference of this particular Bill to a Select Committee will not bring about the object which my hon. Friend, the Member for Madras, has in view. I join with him in suggesting to the hon. Minister an examination of the rules which are issued under this Act. But I do suggest that, for this purpose, it is not necessary to refer this Bill to a Select Committee. This is merely a drafting measure to remove a legal difficulty. I suggest that the Bill may go through without any further discussion and after that I shall consult my hon. Friend, the Member for Madras, and see whether we may not ask Government to amend some of the rules made under this Act with a view to alleviating any difficulty in the way of merchants and at the same time to strengthening the provisions of the Act in the direction of putting down what is a growing evil, viz., the adulteration of foodstuffs."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, as explained in the Objects and Reasons, the object of the Bill is to remove a technical difficulty. A doubt was raised in the High Court in a recent case. Under this Act, rules were framed in the year 1926. In 1929 this Act was extended, by notification, to the Madras City. To prosecutions launched under the Act in the Madras City, objection was taken that, as the Act now stands, the rules framed in 1926 are not applicable to the city as the rules were not framed after the Act was extended to the city. The High Court expressed a doubt as to whether they will apply to the City. It is to avoid that difficulty and to see that the rules once framed, are made applicable to all localities when the Act is extended subsequently by notification, that this Bill has been brought forward. I shall certainly be prepared to consider the question of modifying the rules if specific proposals are brought forward. I may also mention that recently the merchants to whom my hon. Friend from Madras referred presented a petition as to the difficulties they are experiencing with regard to the working of these rules and the question is under the consideration of the Government. Consistent with the enforcement of the Act, I shall certainly consider any modification of the rules that may be necessary to deal with these cases. So far as the present Bill is concerned, its object is merely to take power to make these rules applicable to whatever locality the Act may be extended."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I be permitted to say that the only way of dealing with the difficulty of the applicability of the rules to certain parts of the country is to consider also the grievances made by the merchants? Both these points might be considered

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simultaneously. What I say is that the Government might consider both these cases simultaneously, viz., the applicability of the rules to certain localities and the amendment of the rules so as to meet the legitimate and reasonable difficulties of the merchants when the Act is enforced. But if the Government insist upon the Bill being passed now and if they assure us that the proper consideration of the grievances will be made in the near future, there is no reason why I should press my point of view. But all the same I think that even in the interest of enforcing the provisions of this Act, it is desirable that the rules should be so modified as to suit local conditions and not to adopt in toto the rules framed in other countries in this connexion."

The question that the Bill be taken into consideration was put and carried.

Clauses 1 to 4 of the Bill were successively put and carried.

The Preamble of the Bill was put and carried.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I now move that the Bill be passed into law."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

IX.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS SUPPRESSION OF IMMORAL TRAFFIC ACT, 1930.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I beg to present the Report^a of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930 (Bill No. 9 of 1931) and to move that the Bill, as amended by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration. Hon. Members will remember that this Bill was referred to the Select Committee and the Committee have submitted their report. They have made certain recommendations and they will be considered when the Government put this Act into force."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I second it."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, I desire to make one or two observations with regard to this Bill. I am glad that the Government have decided to enforce the provisions of this Act. This resolution on the part of the Government is due to our hon. ex-colleague Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddi who indefatigably worked for the passing of this measure. Though I had to differ from some of the provisions of this Bill, it is not my intention that the present evils of immoral traffic that is very rampant in the city of Madras and in some parts of the Presidency, should go on. What I am afraid of is that too much power is vested with the Police in the discharge of their duties in connexion with the administration of the Act. In other countries prosecutions are generally launched against persons only when these prosecutions are sanctioned by an officer called the Director of Public Prosecutions, who brings to bear upon each case his judicial

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mind before he sanctions the Police to proceed with the cases. In the provisions of this Bill, this healthy restraint is absent. Therefore it becomes all the more necessary for the Government to introduce restraints and checks against any possible misuse of the powers by the Police. I am not exaggerating the state of affairs when I say that it is quite probable that the Police would abuse these powers. Even under existing conditions, you find cases of Police Officers misbehaving in the matter of dealing with women. The Government might be aware of the instances which occurred in Tinnevely and other places where Police Officers were responsible for very great mischiefs. Therefore I am not at all exaggerating any possible fear in this respect. I would only request the Government to issue instructions to the Police Officers to act in consonance with social workers who would be better informed in these matters and who are really earnest in putting down this evil. Instead of doing that, if you allow the Police Officers to take action on their own initiative, I am really of opinion that it is possible of much misuse. I do not want that any respectable woman should be put to any trouble by any of these Police Officers on the ground of suspicion.

12-45 P.M. "I would rather prefer immorality in so far as it is confined to certain women to go on, than that a respectable woman be brought out to the public as a suspect of immoral life. It is this kind of thing happening that the Government should carefully safeguard against.

"There is another thing also. It is unfortunate that after these women are taken out of the brothels, there is no responsibility taken by the Government to protect them and to reform them. No doubt it may be due to financial reasons; but the Government ought not to undertake a legislation of this sort unless they are able at the same time to provide sufficient accommodation for these poor and destitute women who are turned out of the brothels. It is not for mere pleasure or the fun of it that these women go into the brothels. Mostly, it is on account of the stringent economic conditions prevailing in the country that these girls or women find an easy refuge in the first instance in brothels. If, therefore, it is the intention of the Government to reform these women, it is absolutely necessary that they should assume responsibility for running Rescue Homes. I am very sorry that Government are not in a position to run any themselves and that they are depending upon private effort that may be made by some philanthropists and social workers for founding Rescue Homes. I hope however that Government will at least give some subsidy to the private associations or social workers that run Rescue Homes and thereby enable the unfortunate women to lead a life of chastity and good character, after they are removed from the brothels. I trust, Sir, that the hon. the Home Member who has taken such great interest in getting this measure passed, will be enthusiastic enough to see that provision is made for helping private efforts in the matter of founding Rescue Homes for these women. Unless such Rescue Homes come into existence and the Government are assured of their proper management and supervision, I would request the hon. the Home Member not to enforce this measure."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is that Bill No. 9 of 1931 (a Bill to amend the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930) be taken into consideration."

The motion was carried.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 of the Bill were successively put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I now move, Sir, that the Bill be passed into law.

"In this connexion, Sir, I should just like to refer to the speech delivered by my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. He wanted that Government should issue certain instructions which the Police should remember, in connexion with the bringing into force of the provisions of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, namely, the prevalent customs of the country. The same question was raised, Sir, in the Select Committee and I then told my hon. Friend that I would have his suggestion examined. I repeat the same thing now, that the suggestions made by my hon. Friend will be examined.

"As regards the ample subsidy that he wanted the Government to give, I may say that on account of financial stringency at this juncture, it is not possible for the Government to do anything in that direction. I have already had a talk with Mr. Sesha Ayyangar, the Secretary of the Vigilance Association, and he told me that his Society was collecting funds for the purpose of starting a Rescue Home. Of course, it is not possible for the Society to bring a permanent organization into existence immediately. I would therefore appeal to private generosity to come forward to assist the Government in providing Rescue Homes. The moment I come to know that a proper Rescue Home has been provided, the provisions of this Act will be put into force. I am sorry, however, that at the present moment, on account of great financial stringency, it is not possible for the Government to do anything in the matter."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I second it, Sir."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"There is only one matter, Sir, on which I want to say a few words and it has already been referred to by my Friend, Mr. Venkatachalam Chetti. If the Act is going to be put into force at all, I do not see how Government are going to do it unless they have Rescue Homes to fall back upon. In the original Bill, there was a provision to the effect that the Government should see that Rescue Homes were brought into existence; but that provision was dropped later on. Now, if this Act is to be put into operation, I think Government ought to start Rescue Homes. We are not in a position even approximately to know the number of girls or women that will have to be taken care of, nor have the Government given us any idea as to the manner in which those women will be looked

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after. If this Act is not to be enforced at all, then it is all right; but there are already some Rescue Homes which are managed by private bodies. Yet, the hon. the Home Member said that the Government are not in a position to give any help to those private bodies. I do not know if that remark was made in view of the previous refusal of the Government to start any Rescue Homes themselves. At the same time, it is not known whether Government will allow this Act to be a dead letter. Unless really something is done by them to provide Rescue Homes—at least in the way of helping others to start such Homes or even of helping institutions which are already looking after these fallen women—I am sure this Act will become a dead letter. I would therefore like the hon. the Home Member to give the House some assurance that Government will at least help those who are running Rescue Homes at present, so that the Act might not remain a dead letter.”

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—“ Sir, I am a member of the Vigilance Association and I am in a position to inform the House that serious attempts have been made to collect sufficient funds for opening a Rescue Home. Though the funds so far collected are not much, owing to the present financial conditions, people who were expected to pay in thousands paid only in hundreds. But still we find that the amount so far received is enough to rent a house wherein to house these women. Of course there is a big scheme for erecting a building and admitting a large number of women and so on; but that cannot take shape for some time. And so far as Madras city alone is concerned, I think the number of women to be rescued will not in the beginning be so large as to make their maintenance beyond the means of any single private association. However, I feel quite sure that as the need for more funds arises, there will be a fresh appeal and more funds will be forthcoming. I would therefore join Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar in requesting the hon. the Home Member to reconsider his decision and not simply refuse all help on the ground that Government are not in a position to do anything. That is not the sort of reply that we expect from him who has taken so much interest in this matter. Government have no idea as to how much funds will be required, nor have we any idea as to the amount; but anyway, a beginning must be made. We want this Bill to become an Act. The hon. the Home Member said that this Act will be enforced as soon as arrangements are made for starting Rescue Homes; but we want this Act to be put into force at once. It should not be made a condition that if Rescue Homes do not come into existence, this Act will not be enforced. For, then, one will depend on the other and it will be a vicious circle and the result will be that this Act will not come into force, nor will Rescue Homes be brought into existence. The Vigilance Association is trying its level best and has even given an undertaking that it will establish a Rescue Home on a small scale, and so this Act should be enforced without delay. The Government should give some support to it. It may not be a very large amount; but even with all the present financial difficulties, Government must find some amount for this purpose. Where there is a will there is a way, and Government ought not to excuse themselves

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by saying that there are such and such difficulties and that therefore they cannot promise any amount. I therefore appeal to the hon. the Home Member again to see that the Government promise some pecuniary assistance for the purpose of starting these Rescue Homes, even though it may not be very much.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ Sir, what I said was that the Secretary of the Vigilance Association told me that efforts were being made by the Association to bring a Rescue Home into existence and he also told me that they had collected certain funds. The moment the Rescue Home comes into existence, I shall put this Act into force.

“ As for subsidy, Sir, the question has been examined fully. At present, it is not possible for the Government to give any subsidy to any institution. The Vigilance Association cannot of course without Government help carry on this work always; and it is hoped that two or three years hence, when the finance of this province are much better, we shall certainly consider the question of subsidies. The Secretary of the Vigilance Association told me that he was taking steps to bring a Rescue Home into existence very soon and the moment it is started, I shall put this Act into force.”

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—“ Will the hon. Member kindly consider any application in this behalf? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ It is not possible for me to do so, owing to present financial difficulties.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ On the question of subsidy, Sir, I should like to say a word. The Government are really magnifying unnecessarily this question of financial stringency. Even with regard to very wholesome measures like this, the Government bring forward this excuse of ‘ financial stringency ’. The Government ought to look into the whole question in the way in which they meet necessary expenditure from time to time. The Government have been on the question of retrenchment so long and they are going to save a lot of money. What are they going to do with all that money? They will perhaps spend it in a wasteful manner. If the House invites the attention of the Government to the need for spending some amount on this very wholesome object, they come forward with the excuse of ‘ financial stringency ’. This is certainly a bogey which should not be trotted out by Government in season and out of season. They should make some difference between a good thing and a bad thing. When the Government themselves agreed to this measure and knew at the time that without a Rescue Home, this Act could not be given effect to, they ought not to have stood in the way on the only ground that they could not run Rescue Homes themselves. No doubt, it all depends on the generosity of the public to a certain extent but the Government must also realise that there is a limit to such public generosity. The same causes that affect the Government finance affect finances of the private individuals. How can the Government say that they are unable to find

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money at present for giving subsidies, and yet at the same time expect the people—who are equally suffering under the same financial stringency—to help an institution like this? If the Government expect public generosity, the Government should also realise that that generosity begins from themselves. I still hope, Sir, that when the Vigilance Association makes a request that the Government should assist it in bringing into existence a Rescue Home—however small it may be and however temporary it may be—the Government will not hesitate to come to its rescue and give a generous help in that direction.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ I hope the House is now ready for a vote. The question is that the Bill be passed into law.”

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (3 p.m.)

X.—THE MADRAS GAMING (AMENDMENT) BILL.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Gaming (Amendment) Bill (Bill^a No. 21 of 1931) and move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.

“ This is a Bill, Sir, in which it is proposed to introduce two small amendments, one to Section 5 and another to Section 6. In Section 5 as it stands at present, the Police officer who can issue a warrant is himself unable to execute it. We want to make it clear by giving him power also to execute the warrant issued by himself. In Section 6 we want to insert the words ‘ until the contrary is proved ’, after the words ‘ shall be evidence ’. As has been stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the fact that this section, as it now stands, merely enables instruments of gaming to be used as evidence and creates no statutory presumption against the accused has been commented upon in a judgment of the High Court. In order to remedy these two defects I have introduced this simple Bill.”

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“ I second it.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

‘ that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee.’

“ I have no doubt that the hon. the Home Member will agree to this motion having regard to the fact that though the amendment is of only one clause, in the Madras Gaming Act of 1930, that amendment is a very important one seeking to take away from the accused persons at least one chance of proving their innocence. After all, the Madras Gaming Act was passed in 1930 and it has had very few chances of

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being executed. There was only one case which went up to the High Court and it seems that one Honourable Judge of the High Court commented upon the lack of statutory presumptive evidence against the accused by the mere reason that certain articles used for the purpose of gaming were found in a gaming house. I beg to submit, Sir, that the opinion of the Honourable the Judge of the High Court, however important it might be, should not be taken as a reason for trying to take away one of the opportunities for the accused persons to defend themselves against any false or misinformed charges against them. There must be much more evidence collected in order to justify the Government before they go to the Council seeking to alter the existing Act. I have no doubt that lawyer members of this Council will throw great light upon the necessity of retaining the Act as it is without introducing the very drastic amendment which the hon. the Home Member wants to introduce by means of this Bill. I therefore beg, Sir, that this House might agree to the motion I make, namely, that this Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of—

- (1) Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
- (2) Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
- (3) Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
- (4) Mr. H. M. Jagannatham.
- (5) Mr. C. Basu Dev.
- (6) Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti.
- (7) The Advocate General.
- (8) Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
- (9) Mr. W. M. Browning.
- (10) S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur.
- (11) Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan.
- (12) Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
- (13) Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
- (14) The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
- (15) The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
- (16) Myself.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ I second it.”

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ I do not oppose it, Sir.”

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was referred to the Select Committee, composed as above.

XI.—THE MADRAS CITY POLICE (AMENDMENT) BILL.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras City Police (Amendment) Bill^a (Bill No. 22 of 1931) and move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.

^a Published in the Fort St. George Gazette on 15th September 1931.

^a Published in the Fort St. George Gazette on 29th September 1931.

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“ Sir, sections 42 and 43 of the Madras City Police Act correspond to sections 5 and 6 of the Madras Gaming Act. So, these sections 42 and 43 should be amended for the same reason as to why sections 5 and 6 of the Madras Gaming Act are proposed to be amended, as the City Police Act applies to the City of Madras. I therefore beg to introduce the amending Bill and move that it be taken into consideration at once.”

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“ I second it.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ Sir, as has been explained by the hon. the Home Member, this Bill is also an amending Bill in respect of a provision in the Madras City Police Act similar to that found in the Madras Gaming Act, with an additional amendment of empowering the officer who makes the search to do so even without the issue of a warrant. While the reasons which prompted me to ask for the leave of this House to refer the Madras Gaming Bill to a Select Committee govern so far also as this Bill is concerned, there is still another reason why this Bill should be referred to a Select Committee, namely, that it seeks to empower a Police officer who goes to a house to search the house even without a warrant being issued by any officer statutorily empowered to do so. That seems to me to be a very drastic amendment and ought not to have been put before the Council. Moreover, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is admitted by the Government that though the Madras City Police Act was passed so early as 1888, no difficulties have so far been experienced in administering the Act. And I wonder, Sir, why in the year 1931 the Madras City Police should feel any difficulty in getting on with the City Police Act, as it is. As a matter of fact, there are many sections of the Indian Penal Code which are used for purposes other than those for which they were originally intended, the most classical instance being the extensive misuse of section 144. This Government or the Government of India have not taken any trouble to get that section amended. But simply because there was a flaw found by one of the Honourable Judges of the Madras High Court in respect of a common gaming house, it is unnecessary, Sir, to arm the Police with greater powers by empowering the searching officer to do so even without a warrant issued by a superior officer. Curiously enough, it is only in the City of Madras that the Police Commissioner enjoys the powers of a Magistrate also, which in the mufassal, the District Superintendent of Police does not exercise or possess. The Police Commissioner is also a Magistrate in the City; he is given the power of acting as a Magistrate in the issue of warrants; while he issues a warrant to a Police officer he brings to bear upon that question the Magisterial aspect of his duties, and issues the warrant on definite and justifiable considerations. That aspect is now intended to be taken away, or modified according to the present Bill. At any rate, it is necessary that this matter should be examined

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properly in a Select Committee. I therefore move, Sir, that the Bill be referred to the Select Committee the names of which I have already mentioned in connexion with the previous Bill, i.e.—

- (1) Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
- (2) Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
- (3) Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
- (4) Mr. H. M. Jagannatham.
- (5) Mr. C. Basu Dev.
- (6) Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanyam Chetti.
- (7) The Advocate General.
- (8) Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
- (9) The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
- (10) Mr. W. M. Browning.
- (11) S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur.
- (12) Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan.
- (13) Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
- (14) Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
- (15) The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
- (16) Myself.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ I second it.”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ I have no objection, Sir.”

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was referred to the Select Committee, composed as above.

XII.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT, 1920.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill* to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act of 1920 (Bill No. 24 of 1931) and move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee and the Committee be asked to present their report before the 3rd November 1931, the Committee to be composed of the following members:—

- (1) The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
- (2) Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
- (3) Mr. R. M. Palat.
- (4) Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.
- (5) Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapatī Mudaliyar.
- (6) Mr. N. Siva Raj.
- (7) Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiayar.
- (8) Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi.
- (9) Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiayar.

* Published in the Fort St. George Gazette on 20th October 1931.

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- (10) Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
- (11) Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
- (12) Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
- (13) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
- (14) Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
- (15) Mr. F. E. James.
- (16) Myself.

“As explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the intention of the Government was to introduce a comprehensive amending Bill in which provision was sought to be made for introducing compulsory elementary education within the province on a much larger scale than has been found possible under the existing Act. But the reasons why it was found impossible to proceed with a Bill of that kind at present have been explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. Of course, money has to be found if elementary education is to be expanded. It was provided in the Bill which had been drafted during the time of my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, that all local authorities should be compelled to levy education cess at a particular rate and, under the Act, the Government would have to pay an amount equivalent to the proceeds of such a tax; but both taxation at this particular time and also the demand for an increased contribution from the Government would be difficult of achievement. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—‘The latter particularly.’) It was with great reluctance, Sir, that the introduction of that Bill had to be postponed. But in the meanwhile the amendment of one section in the existing Act had become very necessary.

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“The position of these private school managers particularly in the City of Madras became very difficult for reasons over which they perhaps had no control. Under the existing Act, in compulsory areas where private schools cannot levy fees they could get compensation from the local authorities which had introduced compulsion. In the City of Madras from the year 1925 compulsion had been gradually introduced in one division after another and, except in the case of Muslim girls, all other children of school-going age have now come under compulsion. Private schools cannot, therefore, levy fees under the present Act and the Corporation has been paying compensation to them at varying rates. The rules framed under the Act by the Government provided that in the City of Madras compensation should be paid by the Corporation at one and one-fifth of the standard rates of fees, while, in the remaining portion of the Presidency, the rate was the standard rate. An increased rate was provided for in the City of Madras alone. But as a matter of fact the private schools claimed that they were levying much higher rates before compulsion was introduced and naturally demanded that they must be paid compensation at the same rates as they were levying before the introduction of compulsion. The Corporation had to solve the difficulty and they were paying four times and even five times the standard rates. The Government, having prescribed the rates at which

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compensation could be paid, could not allow the Corporation or any other authority to debit to the Elementary Education Fund any larger sum than that prescribed; and so the Corporation could pay only a portion of the compensation out of the Elementary Education Fund and the rest had to come out of the general revenues. The present financial position of the Corporation had made it impossible for them to pay any compensation for the private schools either at the standard rates fixed by the Government out of the Elementary Education Fund or out of the general revenues. So, Sir, they have decided by a resolution, whether the Act compelled them to pay compensation or not, that they were not going to pay anything to the private managers. So the position of the managers has become very serious. They could not levy fees because there was a statutory embargo and the Corporation, for some reason or another—it is not necessary to go into the question whether it is sound or not—had definitely declined to pay the compensation. There were only two alternatives; either they should close down their schools altogether or they must be enabled to levy fees. I must say, Sir, in this connexion that mission agencies particularly and several private managers have been largely supplementing the efforts of the Corporation for providing elementary education in the city and many of the schools under private management have been particularly efficient and it will be a great disaster to have these schools closed. I am sure even if they levied fees most of these private schools which were so well managed would still attract a large number of students. Under these conditions, it became necessary for Government to introduce this piece of legislation which would enable private managers to levy fees. But there being compulsion within the City of Madras it was thought also necessary to provide a few free places where necessary for pupils who could not afford to pay. With that end in view, it has also been provided in the Bill that whenever it was thought necessary, that is to say, when there was no school, within one mile of the residence of the pupil it was open to the District Educational Council to insist upon certain number of free places being reserved for such poor pupils. That has also been provided for in the Act; but on no account could any compensation be demanded by these school managers as the Corporation had definitely declined to pay and in the mufassal also the local authorities were doing the same. It is with this view that this amending Bill has been brought as an urgent measure and it is because the position of the school managers has become difficult and they must be told what their position will be in the future that I have said that the Select Committee must meet and send their report before the 3rd November. I thought that it might be possible to take the Bill into consideration at once; but the hon. the Leader of the Opposition had given notice of a motion that it should be referred to a Select Committee. I had a consultation with him and we agreed that perhaps some of the controversies raised could more advantageously be discussed in a Committee than in the open Council. I have accordingly brought forward this motion that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee and in view of the Bill being considered as early as possible I have asked that the

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Select Committee should report before the 3rd November. No doubt it will be a great strain on the hon. Members. But for the reasons I have already explained and in view of the great urgency to tell the private managers what their position is going to be, I hope hon. Members who are Members of the Select Committee will agree to work extra time. After all there is only one section of the Bill which raises some controversy and it can easily be finished at a sitting within two or three hours. I hope therefore that it will be able to report on the 3rd November."

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I beg to second it."

* MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"It was usual, Sir, in this Council to introduce a Bill and explain to the Council the principle and the policy underlying the Bill and allow discussion upon that and afterwards to move for referring it to a Select Committee together. But of late we have been following the procedure of having both the introduction and referring to a Select Committee. I propose now to speak only with regard to the principle and policy of the Bill just now introduced by the hon. the Minister. I desire to mention, Sir, that this Bill is a result of the agitation started by the managers of aided institutions particularly in the City of Madras. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons my hon. Friend the Minister expressed wordy sympathy with regard to the compulsory education in the Presidency. But there is nothing in this Bill which aims to bring his object into effect. He pleaded the general complaint of lack of funds. But this Bill became an Act in the year 1920 and from 1920 it was the duty of the Government to forecast to the authorities what the execution of that Act would devolve upon the finances of the Government. Successive Ministers have failed to take cognizance of that necessity and did not make ample provision for the purpose of extending compulsory education. Of course, the hon. Minister now is in a very convenient position of throwing the whole blame on local bodies. He knows more than anybody else the condition of the local bodies and the taxable capacity of the people and still he ignores all that knowledge which he had gained as a non-official and put on the garb of an official and says that the local bodies ought to have undertaken this responsibility and that the failure of compulsory primary education was due to the local authorities. I demur to any such contention. I must say that the Government have not been able to provide larger funds for the purpose of extending compulsory education. So far as the present amendment is concerned, viz., to enable these schools to levy fees, I must say this action is due to the policy of Government in the matter of allowing the Corporation to debit general revenues of the Corporation to the Elementary Education Fund. The Elementary Education Fund consists of the amount which a local authority was spending on primary education previous to the introduction of compulsion, proceeds of the educational cess that the authority may levy and an equal contribution derived from the Government. These three sources of income formed the nucleus of the Elementary Education Fund. The object is to spend those moneys upon elementary education in that locality. And whenever compulsion is introduced by

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the local authority under section 47, no fees shall be charged at any elementary school in any area affected by a notification under section 46, provided that the local authority of such area shall pay compensation for such period and in such manner as may be prescribed for any loss of income, which may be caused by such remission of fees to elementary schools under private management. A reading of this section clearly shows that whatever might be the loss of income which the schools were getting in that particular area ought to be compensated by the local authority from out of the Education Fund which is constituted by the three sources of income which I have mentioned. But in the rule making power the Government had defined what the loss of fee income is by saying that the loss of income is according to standard rates. There is no mention of the standard rates in the Elementary Education Act. But the rules under the Grant-in-aid Code have got certain standard rates for schools maintained by themselves. These standard rates are based upon the consideration that education that is imparted in institutions maintained by public authority should be as free as possible. Naturally therefore the standard rates prescribed under the Grants-in-aid Code were very very low, when the schools were managed by private persons who were allowed to levy fees.

"There is no comparison between the fees charged in private institutions and those charged in public institutions. Therefore, there is no justification for the Government to say that the loss of fee income should be calculated only on the standard rates which are those prescribed by Government for their own institutions, which are only nominal. Naturally, the teacher-managers of aided institutions found that they were put to a great loss by being compensated only to the extent of a portion of the loss of fee income. Therefore it was that they influenced the local authority to pay compensation equal to the actual loss of fee-income. Governments can be irresponsible to public opinion but local authorities cannot afford to do that. They naturally saw the justice of the claim of the aided institutions not only on account of the fact that the actual loss suffered by these institutions were considerably larger than the amount of compensation prescribed under the Government rules, but also on account of the fact that if the local authority failed to give compensation to these institutions the result would be that these private institutions would have to be closed and would necessitate local bodies to open new schools which would certainly cost much more than the compensation they would be liable to pay according to the charges claimed by these private institutions. It was therefore that the Corporation of Madras agreed to pay the full loss of fee-income according to the strength of each institution. The registers were examined, and we found out what was the actual number of pupils reading in each institution, also examined the rates of fees charged by these institutions, calculated this amount and asked the Government to allow the Corporation to pay the compensation out of the Elementary Education Fund which was intended for the purpose of expanding primary education in the city. I cannot really see what objection there could be for the

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Government to permit the Corporation from spending out of the Elementary Education Fund. After all, if these institutions have to be closed, the local authority is bound to open more schools unless it withdraws the notification of compulsion. No doubt, when these teacher-managers were unable to get from the Corporation any fixed payment as compensation, they were obliged to go to the Government and say that the Government, instead of putting them in a state of suspense and uncertainty, might allow them to levy fees. But I do not think they took that argument to the Government very seriously. They only expected the hon. Minister to ask the Corporation to pay this amount from the Elementary Education Fund. However, I cannot conceive that any teacher-manager would think that it would be an easier thing to levy fees and collect money, instead of getting from the Corporation the full compensation in a lump. But the hon. Minister took them very seriously and he is now proposing a measure which would not perhaps be as beneficial as the teacher-managers once represented it to be to him. Now, what is the effect of this amendment? You allow these private institutions to levy school-fees. There will be the difficulty whether the Madras public which has now become accustomed not to pay any school-fees for their children for the last five or six years would now be willing to pay fees, as long as the Corporation has taken upon itself the responsibility of educating free every youth of school-going age. Naturally, there will be great difficulty unless teacher-managers are able to collect fees from the parents of boys. Granting that it will be possible for some managers to maintain the institutions on school-fees collected by them, I have not the slightest doubt that a large number of private institutions will disappear for the mere reason that they would be unable to collect fees from the public, because they are already accustomed to non-payment of fees. Then, it will only mean that either the Corporation should withdraw the notification of compulsion or must provide education for the boys turned out of the private institutions which are closed. Now, what will be the effect of this charge on the resources of the Corporation? The Elementary Education Fund of the Corporation was at one time rich enough to pay full compensation, but the Government would not allow it to be disbursed from that fund. Therefore the Corporation increased its expenditure on its own schools, and began to spend liberally upon costly buildings, upon costly furniture and also upon the increase of salaries of headmasters and other teachers of their institutions, with the result that all the money available in the Elementary Education Fund is fully appropriated to all that expenditure, leaving no balance whatever even to pay to the teacher-managers. Having left the Corporation at that position, you now expect those private institutions to levy school-fees, thus driving them to the necessity of turning out a number of boys from those schools and also driving the Corporation to the necessity of opening more schools in order to take in those boys. Has the Corporation enough resources to do all that? It has not. And what is after all the advantage of not permitting the Corporation to pay this compensation from out of the Elementary Education Fund but still throwing the responsibility on the Corporation of

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opening new schools and maintaining them? After all, the contribution of the Government to that fund is only equivalent to the education cess. Only if the Corporation is able to increase the income of the fund by a further increase of the education cess, then the Government will be obliged to pay more money. There is no such fear, because the Corporation will not be in a position to become unpopular by attempting to increase taxation. So, so long as the money that is contributed by the Government is a fixed sum which is equivalent to the education cess, why should it prevent the Corporation from spending out of that fund to pay compensation in the absence of which they will be called upon to maintain more schools? I really cannot conceive the objection of the Government to that aspect of the question. Sir, the fact that the Corporation sent up a resolution to the Government and also to the teacher-managers of aided institutions that, whether the Act is amended or not, they would not be paying compensation, is due not to the unwillingness of the Corporation to shoulder the responsibility, but because you have put them in a position which would make the Corporation take no other course than the one they adopted in their resolution which was sent up to the Government. If to-day you are prepared to say that the Corporation might spend, so far as compensation is concerned, out of the Elementary Education Fund, I should think the Corporation must be in a position to adjust its finances to enable some private schools, which are necessary, to continue to run, because it would be more economical and much more advantageous to the Corporation to allow these aided institutions to continue than to maintain all the schools themselves.

"In any case, Sir, it seems to me necessary that any amendment that may be made in this Act should take effect from a particular definite period and not immediately after the Bill is passed, for the reason that we are in the middle of a school year. I do not think it will be possible for the managers of aided institutions to levy school-fees even in the middle of a school year. As there is some interval between the passing of this Bill and the actual introduction of the measure, it must be possible for the Government to advise the Corporation to debit the compensation paid to these institutions to the Elementary Education Fund."

* Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, the measure that has been introduced by the hon. the Minister for Education is a part of the original Bill which the Government ought to have introduced long ago. I will not go into the reasons why the Government did not think it fit to introduce the original Bill as a whole till now. The two questions that are to be considered in this Bill have been referred to by the hon. Member representing the city of Madras, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. It seems to me that elementary education, if it is to be introduced and if it is to be expanded in our province, it will not be possible to do so unless the Government takes up a larger control over the management of these schools not only in the matter of supervision but also in maintaining these schools. Many of the members

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not only of the Corporation, but I am sure of the other local bodies also have experienced that on account of the demands financial and otherwise of the local bodies, it has not been possible for them to devote their concentrated attention to the expansion of elementary education in their areas. I believe, therefore, that if the Government is serious about expanding elementary education in the province, it will have to take up the entire management in its own hands and deal with the question with a large heart and finance the whole thing itself.

“ With regard to the question of compensation, we in the Madras Corporation have found it very difficult to deal with it because the rules are such that when the compensation is to be paid to the teacher-managers of the aided schools we have also to contribute out of the general funds. It is on that account, as has been pointed out by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, that the trouble began. If the Government removes that difficulty by enabling the Corporation and also other local bodies wherever compulsion is introduced to pay the full compensation from the Elementary Education Fund, it will be easy for the local bodies to satisfy the teacher-managers. But then the question comes whether if the Government allows teacher-managers to levy fees, either as soon as this Bill is passed into an Act or from the beginning of next year, whether it will be possible for the teacher-managers to run their elementary schools in the same area by levying fees where the local body also conducts schools without any fees. The competition will be keen, and it will be impossible for the aided managers to run their schools. The ultimate result will be that a number of pupils for whom provision could be made both by the local body, in this case the Corporation, and the aided managers in their schools will be limited. Most of the aided schools will go out of existence. The result will be that a number of children attending these aided schools will be considerably reduced. The question of introducing compulsion in an area like the city of Madras is a huge task, because the number of children attending schools will be considerably large. If the Corporation has to take upon itself the duty of providing schools for all children of school-going age, I may say that the expenditure will be much larger than it would be if we are allowed to pay the compensation to the teacher-managers and thus enable them to run their schools. Otherwise, a number of children from these aided schools who will be sent out when they are closed will have also to be provided for by the Corporation.

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“ These are certain hardships which have to be prevented by the way in which we are going to work the provisions of this Bill. Either the Government will have to consent to enabling the Corporation to give the entire compensation from the Education Funds, or they must say once for all that the Corporation need not take up the responsibility of introducing compulsion in the city till better times come when the Government will enable the Corporation to take it up. Also Government will have to realize that the people of the city have found the rate of taxes already very heavy. It will be impossible for us to

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increase the cess and collect more money in order to meet the educational expenditure and pay the compensation from the general funds. Therefore, the net result of the passing of the Bill will be the non-existence of a large number of teacher-manager schools, which will ultimately mean the reduction to an absurd position of the question of compulsion in the city. Therefore, the Government will have to give its best attention to this matter, and when the Bill emerges from the Select Committee, I am sure that it will have solved this very intricate problem, keeping in mind the expansion of elementary education in the Province.”

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“ Mr. President, Sir, the hon. the Minister as well as the two hon. Members who have spoken on this matter seem to have had only the Madras city in view. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: ‘ Naturally.’) I suppose that in 25 or more municipalities, compulsory education has been introduced, and also in some other areas like the Saidapet taluk. Sir, I sympathize with the circumstances which have compelled the Minister to come forward with a piece of legislation of this sort. One finds some difficulty in giving his approval to the main object of this Bill. This Bill seeks to dispense with the system of compensation and to permit aided schools to levy fees in compulsory areas. I submit it is wrong in principle to levy fees in areas where compulsory education is in force. I do not think that in any country in the world compulsory education has been introduced without its being also at the same time made free. (The hon. Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar: ‘ Just the opposite.’) Moreover it will mean double taxation on people if they are asked to pay fees where compulsory education is introduced. The local authority will necessarily have to levy an educational cess in compulsory areas and if people are to pay fees for the education of their children, in such areas, it will practically amount to the imposition of a double tax. No doubt a number of free places are proposed to be reserved in schools so as to give exemption for poor children. I do not know on what basis this exemption is proposed to be given. To get even poverty certificates one will have to spend some money. We are not told how many free places will be reserved, and whether the aided schools will be compensated for the loss of fee income which they will suffer in this way. There is no doubt that aided schools will suffer by competition if they are to levy fees, while the local board and municipal schools give education free. There is already a good deal of rivalry and overlapping between the various classes of elementary schools both in urban and rural areas. In many places, schools levying fees under public management have been placed in such a way as to be detrimental to aided education. Surely, the aided schools cannot expect to attract pupils unless they are schools of a very superior sort. I believe it is the policy of the Government to give all the encouragement they can for aided education. Government have more than once declared it to be their policy, that they will make elementary education their first concern and spend for it all the money they can

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spare. I am afraid Government will be defeating this purpose if they discourage aided schools and make them suffer in competition with local board and municipal schools.

"I suppose this measure is meant only to be a temporary measure and I trust that the earliest opportunity will be taken to help aided schools also to give free education in compulsory areas."

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHIAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, I am one of those who feel that the entire cost of elementary education should be a charge on the revenues of the State; but, Sir, with the Government, as also with the local bodies, the question of finance always stood in the way of introducing compulsion in many municipal areas. Like the hon. Member Mr. Shetty I also feel that whenever compulsory education is introduced in any area, it should always be free and no levying of fees should at any stage be introduced. But in the evolution of the education of our province, I am afraid that until Government come forward to meet the entire cost on account of elementary education from the State funds, or until the local bodies are prepared to tax themselves properly a via media has to be found out. My Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, said that they would not permit the Corporation to pay the compensation out of the Elementary Education Fund. At the same time he also admitted that the Elementary Education Fund had got completely exhausted. I will just request the hon. Members to imagine this position. If only the Government had permitted the Corporation to pay the compensation due to private managements out of the Elementary Education Fund, the Elementary Education Fund would have got exhausted not this year but very much earlier and they would have come to a deadlock some two or three years since the introduction of compulsion. So, we cannot blame the Government for their order to the Corporation that it should not draw the compensation payable to the teacher-managers out of the Elementary Education Fund. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti said that this Bill is the outcome of the agitation on the part of the teacher-managers. I say it is also due to the helplessness on the part of the local bodies in not introducing compulsion. This payment of compensation stands in the way of introduction of compulsion by very many municipalities. But for this, several municipalities would have introduced compulsory education long ago. As I have said before, until the local bodies are prepared to tax themselves more or until Government are prepared to help these local bodies with greater subsidies a via media has to be found out and that is provided for in this Bill. So, Sir, I support the hon. the third Minister's motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee."

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, my predecessors, at least many of them, spoke from the point of view of persons who are entrusted with the task of discharging civic duties as members of one municipal council or another. So far as I am concerned, I take my station here to-day as one who claims to be connected with

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private aided institutions educating a large number of boys in the city of Madras. Therefore, Sir, I venture to offer a few remarks on this subject in a somewhat interested fashion. It has been said by the previous speakers that so far as elementary education in this country is concerned, whatever may be the condition in other countries, compulsory elementary education carries with it the fact that it must also be free. I remember, Sir, reading over the discussion of the late Mr. Gokhale when he introduced that Bill several years ago, he said that an element of compulsion made that education to be given free. I also know that in countries like England where compulsory education is insisted upon, it is not free, because compulsory education is given through two agencies, viz., through aided institutions, and also through public institutions. But so far as conditions in this country are concerned, no progress can be made at all in compulsory elementary education unless it is both compulsory and free. And this prophecy or proposition of Mr. Gokhale has been amply borne out by the experiment that has been carried on in compulsory education after the passing of the Compulsory Education Act of 1920. Sir, I am constrained to say that in spite of this Act being on the Statute book, so far as our country is concerned, we find that we have not progressed very far, and even the Government in their Statement of Objects and Reasons of this amending Bill has stated that compulsory education has not made the headway that it was anticipated to make, the reason being that compulsory education has not been made enforceable all over the Presidency, it being left to the local bodies to introduce compulsion in their areas. It seems to me to be a problem of the first magnitude upon the solution of which the whole welfare of the future, not only of this Presidency, but of the whole country depends; and whatever pretence the Government might have had in the past, it has thrown away that cloak of pretence, and in the concluding sentence of the first paragraph in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the Government has given a frank but a very sudden and disappointing statement that whatever their intentions might have been in the past, and they found fault with the local bodies for not extending the area of compulsion, they now say they are not going even to take that initiative of asking the local bodies to initiate compulsion. This is what they say: 'Unfortunately, since the success of the new proposals depends mainly on the provision of funds through the compulsory levy of the education tax involving large additional expenditure from provincial funds, Government have been compelled to postpone their introduction owing to the present financial stringency.' In other words it is a sorry thing to see that the finances of the province have been reduced to such an extent that even such public utility service as free compulsory elementary education has to be postponed.

"Sir, the hon. Member for the city of Madras who spoke previously on this question said that this Bill is the result of the agitation of teacher-managers. I think he would agree with me that, so far as the teacher-managers are concerned, there are two equally powerful groups among them, for some favour free and compulsory education while

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others favour the system of the levy of school fees. I shall now address myself to the difficulties felt by the private aided institutions, which are not all teacher-manager schools, in regard to this amending Bill. According to the rules framed under the provisions of the old Act, compensation was to be paid on the standard rates to institutions in places where compulsion was introduced and where no school fees could be levied. Now, the question of standard rates has been a sore one, and, so far as I can lay my hands on a definition of what is meant by standard rate, the one that is prescribed in Chapter V of the Madras Educational Rules is this: 'For the first and second standards, the standard rate is one anna, for the third, 2 annas; for the fourth, 4 annas and for the fifth, 4 annas.' Now, Sir, this standard rate, even according to the definition, is the rate levied in schools under public management. It cannot for one moment be contended that these aided institutions have been charging these rates or can carry on the schools charging these rates. There is no definition at all of what is meant by standard rate. And when compensation has been prescribed to be given on the standard rates, the aided institutions found themselves incurring a very great loss. For, they had been levying fees at a rate much higher than that fixed as standard. I may go one step further and tell this House that even in Government schools—take for instance, the Presidency Training Schools which are institutions managed and paid by Government—the fees levied are much higher than the standard rates as defined in Madras Educational Rules. I know as a matter of fact that in the first standard of the Presidency Training Schools the fee charged is ten annas whereas the fee prescribed in the rules is only one anna. Sir, I am mentioning this only to show that the payment of compensation has absolutely no relation to the existing practice and state of things and the sooner this is done away with, the better.

"Sir, so far as the private aided institutions are concerned, some of them have certainly agitated for the levy of fees. But I may tell the House that that agitation has been mainly due to the slipshod way in which compensation was being awarded to those institutions. Sir, the difficulties which the managers of private aided institutions have to undergo in receiving compensation at the hands of the Madras Corporation are numerous although the Corporation is not solely responsible for it. Managers have to wait at the doors of the Corporation on many occasions with uncertainty in their minds. Sometimes the Corporation paid the managers only four times the standard rate and sometimes three times the standard rate. Now, Sir, the managers have been circularized by the Corporation of Madras that so far as aided institutions are concerned, they would not get any compensation from 1st January 1932. So that the private aided institutions stand to-day in this unenviable position. On the one hand on account of the existing Act they cannot levy fees and on the other, no compensation is to be paid to them from 1st January 1932. When the managers of aided institutions are in this predicament, the hon. Minister in charge of Education has come forward with this amending Bill. Sir, so far as the Government are concerned, they give the right to levy fees. But I

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think it is necessary to bear this in mind that, so far as the poor children are concerned, they will be unable to find accommodation in schools on account of the fact that the local bodies will be unable to provide for all of them. I have got statistics so far as the city of Madras is concerned. In the 134 schools maintained by the Corporation there are 31,456 boys and girls. In the city of Madras with a population of over 6½ lakhs the number of school-going children may be roughly put at 60,000. Though the Educational Officer of the Corporation puts the figure at 53,911, making allowance for some error, I would say that at least 60,000 school-going children exist in the city of Madras. For this huge number, it stands to reason that no adequate provision can be made by the Corporation within the twinkling of an eye. Aided institutions have taken charge of most of these pupils. From the statistics we can see that aided institutions give education to at least half the aggregate number.

"Now, the position will be this: if fees are asked to be levied by aided institutions and if compensation is to be withdrawn from them, these children would perforce be driven away from the schools for the simple reason that they would not be able to pay fees. Again, the time chosen for the levy of these fees is also very inopportune. So far as free schools are concerned, most of the poor pupils would flock to them. The middle-class people, on account of the financial distress they are now undergoing, would find it difficult to pay fees for their children which the private aided institutions would demand. If, all on a sudden, in the middle of the school year—the school year begins in June—when the parents of the children would not have made provision in their family budgets for this school fee, demand is to be made for fees, even the children of the middle-classes would either flock to the Corporation schools or sit at home and waste the rest of the term thus education being cut off in the middle of the school year. This responsibility weighs very heavily on those who are in charge of aided institutions. So far as the city of Madras is concerned in areas where compulsion is now in force, it would be very difficult to make the parents pay school fees. The people could not easily be induced to change their ideas to which they have been accustomed all these six or seven years. All these are objections to the levy of fees. And, as I ventured to suggest earlier, it seems to me, Sir, that with special reference to the existing conditions in this Presidency, the only proper course would be to make education compulsory and also free. For this purpose a large provision must be made in the budget. While on this point, Sir, the work on which the Retrenchment Committee is engaged, naturally occurs to my mind. The Committee has been sitting from March. Even to this day, 30th October, the economies which we all expected have not come to pass. On the other hand, things seem to move on in a different manner altogether. In other countries which are more businesslike, the men at the helm of affairs are more responsible for public opinion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I would advise the hon. Member to limit his remarks to the Bill before the House."

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* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"The next objections so far as private aided institutions have to urge against the system of levying fees in the city of Madras is this: that on account of the fact that education has been made compulsory and free in the city of Madras, the Corporation has started a number of schools even in areas which were being served efficiently with aided institutions. In one instance, at least, I find that four Corporation schools have been started within a radius of half a mile of an important aided institution with the result that even with the power of levying fees granted to the aided institution, the institution is bound to find itself helpless on account of the existence of these free Corporation schools in the neighbourhood. Therefore, there seems to be some cogent objection to the levy of fees so far as the city of Madras is concerned. I confess I am not aware of the situation in the mufassal or in other parts of the Presidency.

"I therefore think, Sir, that so far as the general policy underlying the Bill is concerned, the House must clearly express the opinion that compulsory education must be free. But if the city of Madras is to be faced with this alternative of levying of school fees or no compensation at all, that is to say, that they must receive no compensation and that they must not levy any school fees, aided institutions will certainly prefer the levy of fees with certain safeguards, the safeguards being this, that during the transitory period until public mentality can be changed to adapt to new circumstances brought by this Bill, a provision must be made by way of subsidy to be given either by the local authority enforcing compulsion or by Government. That is the object with which I gave notice of my amendment. When I move my amendment, I shall explain the provision that I have suggested, namely, that during the period of transition, say three years, provision should be made to make good the loss that would be sustained by aided schools by this change in the system of levy of school fees.

"With these observations, I have pleasure in supporting the proposition that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, from the statement made by the hon. Gentleman on the floor of this House during the discussion of the Budget, I really thought that he was going to introduce a comprehensive measure. I find however from the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill that he finds difficulty with regard to the financial implication of the Bill and has thought it necessary to drop that comprehensive measure. I would like to ask him in this connexion whether even now the Government could be compelled statutorily to find the funds necessary if the local bodies, under the Elementary Education Act as it exists to-day, chose to levy the education cess. Therefore, the Government must always think of the situation that will arise if the local bodies concerned choose to-day to levy the education cess. Therefore, I do not think it would help the Government very much. This liability is always facing them. It would be very much expensive to the Government if they really are going to compel local

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bodies to levy this cess. I think the Statement of Objects and Reasons 4-15
itself admits that, as far as the Government can envisage the situation, P.m.
it has not been possible to compel any local body to have any scheme of compulsory education prepared. Again, as is stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is one of the objects of the new measure to take power to the Government to compel local bodies to have a scheme of compulsory education. Therefore, Sir, I do not think the idea of financial stringency ought to have prevented the Government from taking this step. Of course, the hon. the Minister may very well reiterate by saying that I had an opportunity of doing this and I did nothing all the four years during which term I was in office. But I am sure he himself admitted on the floor of this House that a certain amount of work has been done during the last four years and there was material very much ready at hand for him to take up and solve this problem. If he really has a mind to solve this question, as he professes to have, I cannot understand why he should not have persuaded his hon. Colleagues of the Government to let him pilot this measure in this House. I do not think that any piecemeal legislation of the kind that is sought to be undertaken by this measure is going to solve the problem of elementary education in this province; because, I would like to mention in this connexion, as my hon. Friend Mr. Chettiyar pointed out, the only concern of this Bill is with the city of Madras. I think the speeches made by the hon. the Minister himself and by the two hon. Members sitting behind me who represent the city of Madras in this House really prove that this measure is really intended for the city of Madras. I can sympathize with the position of teacher-managers and managers of Mission schools which the hon. the Minister spoke of, but at the same time I would like to give my warning both to the managers of Mission schools and the teacher-managers. Take it for granted that this measure is passed into law. As my hon. Friend the gentleman opposite, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, pointed out, most of the children who are now attending schools managed by teacher-managers and missionary bodies freely will have begun to pay fees from 1st January 1932, because I believe it is the date which is now proposed by the Corporation as the date from which they will not pay any compensation to such schools. If that happens, I am sure the hon. Members will envisage the situation when the Corporation schools are bound to be crowded. If that is so, then the Corporation will have to find more funds for starting more free schools, because the accommodation is available only for 30,000 pupils in the 134 schools of the Corporation which exist to-day. According to the calculation made by the Educational Officer of the Corporation places must be found for another 23,000 pupils, because that is the figure that has been given of pupils who are of school-going age. Therefore, the Corporation, in spite of having passed their resolution, that they will not be in a position to pay compensation to the teacher-managers, will find themselves in the position of having to spend this money which they are now refusing to give, because, having once introduced the principle of compulsion, they will have to find places for all the school-going population, if they are going to be

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compelled to stick to the principle of compulsion. Of course it is a well-understood principle, at least as far as I am concerned, I can speak with a certain amount of confidence, that the schools managed by the Corporation are more expensive than aided schools which are conducted to-day. If that is the case, the Corporation will have to find double the money of what they are now spending by way of compensation. They will have to find the sum to run the schools which are necessary to accommodate all the children who have been compelled to go to schools.

"I do not think the mere passing of this measure is going to solve the problem which has to be faced both by the Government and the local bodies concerned. I am glad at least the hon. the Minister has thought it fit to let this Bill go before the Select Committee. When this Bill is sent to the Select Committee, they might decide to drop it; even if they do not drop it, the Council might drop it. I presume that power is vested in the hands of this House to drop this measure if they find that the method adopted is not one that is going to solve the problem which has confronted both the Government and the local bodies concerned. The hon. the Minister has throughout mentioned that, in places where education is made compulsory, it should also be made free. I do not think we are far wrong when I say that we have not attained that stage yet. In England the rich parent is prepared to spend heavily for the education of his boys. But we have attained a different stage in this country. Even though we may spend large sums of money on festivals and other things, the parent in this country thinks twice before he sends his children to costly schools, because the fees charged are more. If that is the state of affairs in this country, I do not think we can compare ourselves with countries like England where the mentality of the people is different with regard to education of their boys. Therefore, I reiterate Mr. Chettiyar's proposition, that if really compulsion is going to be enforced and we are going to bring all school-going children into schools, it ought to be made not only compulsory but also free.

"With these few words, I do not mean to oppose the Bill going to the Select Committee."

* Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"I am one of those who appreciate the difficulties which have confronted the hon. the Minister for Education. However, I would submit that this Bill should be considered merely as a stop-gap arrangement. If we are going to have compulsory elementary education in this Presidency, it is the duty of the Government to make it free. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition told us that in England the parents do not mind spending large sums of money for the education of their children, whereas in India the parents do not care to send their children to costly schools, but that they are prepared to spend large sums of money on fairs and festivals. I do not agree with him in that statement. India is a poor country and really there is no comparison between England and India. I am of opinion that elementary education should be made the first charge on the provincial revenues and any scheme that is brought forward

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to popularize elementary education should recognize the principle that Government should find money for elementary education. There is no good of looking to the local bodies for finding money, for the local bodies will in their turn look to the Government for funds. This system of asking local bodies to introduce compulsory elementary education in their areas that Government contributing a moiety of the amount that the local bodies will have to find on condition that the local bodies should restrict their expenditure to certain liabilities is an unworkable scheme. If Government is serious, about introducing compulsory elementary education in this Presidency, they should make it free. It is only the other day that the Government undertook to collect taxes in regard to motor transport to give subsidies to local bodies for maintaining roads. Cannot a similar procedure be adopted with regard to elementary education? I do not like the Government adopting a stop-gap arrangement with regard to elementary education. His Excellency the Governor pointed out at the opening of his speech at the last session of the Council that elementary education should be popularized if the country should progress. His Excellency sympathized with the need for the Government taking up this question, but this Bill makes one feel that we are really trying to go backward. If once the question of levying fees comes in, I am afraid, though it is stop-gap arrangement it may become permanent. The managers of aided institutions in their anxiety to get some money have reconciled themselves to the collection of fees. If Government is anxious that elementary education should be made popular, this is not the right method. Government should make it a provincial question and make contributions from their provincial revenues to local bodies and ask them to run their schools. The local bodies should be relieved of the obligation to run elementary schools. The Government may ask the District Educational Councils to be in charge of elementary education and the Government may send their contributions to the District Educational Councils who in their turn may be asked to give subsidies to aided schools or run elementary schools. The whole difficulty has come in because the local bodies have been made to take up the responsibility. It is owing to this difficulty that the spread of elementary education in this Presidency has been impeded. Of course, as I said, the hon. the Minister for Education feels that something should be done to relieve the situation and that this could be done by allowing the Bill to go to the Select Committee. There is a feeling both in the Government and the Opposition Benches that as a temporary measure at least we could try levying fees. I am afraid that that is not the right method. It may be expedient just for the present, but the question is whether it is going to solve the problem permanently. I therefore suggest to the hon. the Minister for Education to think twice before he makes a permanent change in the Statute Book. He must think that it is only a temporary measure just. We may perhaps adopt it as a measure of retrenchment but as a change in policy. I therefore commend to him that he should consider this Bill only as a measure of expediency and not as one intended to change the policy of Government."

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4-30
P.M.

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I am not in a mood to take part in this debate. As all my Colleagues in the Corporation of Madras have taken part, I think, it is my duty to say a few words: Sir, I quite realize the intention of the hon. the Minister for having brought forward this emergency measure. If this Bill is allowed to become an Act without sufficient safeguards, it will defeat the object with which he has brought it forward. I am glad the hon. the Leader of the Opposition consented to allow it to go to the Select Committee, its report being returnable to the Council on the 3rd November. The Corporation has decided not to give any compensation from the 1st January and many of the teacher-managers will be almost helpless, after that date. Sir, my Friend Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar was telling that there are 60,000 school-going children in the city of Madras. That is a superficial estimate. That is an estimate got from the children that are attending the various schools to-day, both Corporation and aided. I know that a number of children are working as domestic servants, in various bazaars and elsewhere. So it will be 5,000 or more who are not being sent to schools. Of these 60,000, 30,000 are educated by the Corporation at a cost of about 8 lakhs of rupees and the rest 30,000 are being educated by aided schools. Of course, aided schools are nothing but agencies to assist the Corporation in the scheme of compulsory education.

"If these aided schools are refused assistance what will happen? As one hon. Member remarked, people who have not been accustomed to pay fees for the last seven years will not easily adjust themselves to paying fees now, and they will all flock to the Corporation schools. The Corporation having made education free and compulsory ought to give education to these people. It will cost them Rs. 8,00,000 where they are only spending Rs. 1,00,000. I estimate that the total cost of educating all the 70,000 children of school-going age will be about 16 to 18 lakhs of rupees—an amount which the Corporation cannot think of spending in the present bad state of its finances. If Government really want that education should be free and compulsory, they should, as my friend Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar remarked, make education the first charge on their income. Government should advise the Corporation, as my friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti remarked—although he is himself a member of the Corporation Standing Finance Committee he has allowed such things there—not to go in for costly palatial buildings for these elementary schools. They should be asked to curtail their expenditure on such buildings. They spend about Rs. 6,00,000 on their own schools and I may say that if that amount was distributed to aided schools you could educate nearly six times the number of children now educated in the Corporation schools. It is high time that the Corporation and the Government recognized pial schools and even schools under the banyan tree. Were not many of the greatest philosophers of India who shook the whole world educated in their early days under the banyan tree? Is it not better that we go back a little in this matter to our ancient institution if our object is to spread education among all classes of people—the poor as well as the rich? The Corporation should

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not spend so much on palatial school buildings and highly paid teachers and headmasters. If the Minister or the party in power arranges to pass this Bill as it is without any amendment, it will be disastrous to the cause of elementary education in the city. Also, if as the hon. the Leader of the Opposition remarked, the Bill was dropped, even then it would be disastrous to elementary education in the city. It is the duty of the Government to devise a remedy to meet the situation in order that the metropolis of the Presidency may be an example to the whole Presidency in the matter of free and compulsory education. I suggest that Government should come to the rescue of aided schools and pay them full fee compensation and not the disgraceful standard rate prevailing at present. If it costs Rs. 400 to run a school, it can get a compensation of only Rs. 40 according to standard rate. The standard rate is one anna per boy and half an anna per girl. Which school can be managed efficiently with this small compensation? Again why should there be a lower rate for girls than for boys? Do they think that women teachers are more easily available than men teachers? As my Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti said, it is high time that the rules are also revised in addition to amending the Act. Government which has consented to make the area free and compulsory must certainly come to the aid of the Corporation. They should not stand in the way of our utilizing the amount from the education fund. In this connexion I should say that I did not expect Mr. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar who is a local body gentleman to take up that attitude. We know how much we suffer in the Corporation of Madras. The Government are afraid that if we spent from the education fund they would also have to pay an equal amount. They feel nervous about that contingency. They are now making retrenchments in various directions and I do not see why they cannot find Rs. 2,00,000 for this purpose. There are some schools like certain Mission schools which want to levy fees. Let them be given the option of levying fees. In such cases if they do not get as much as they would get by levying full fees or as much as the compensation that was being paid to them, let the Government or the Corporation come to their rescue. There is a statutory amount—about Rs. 24,600—set apart for distribution according to the standard rates. I think this amount will be sufficient to meet the difference I have referred to above. Perhaps the Corporation may say that they have spent all this amount already. So we have to find the money necessary for running the schools from January to March and if the hon. Minister can spare Rs. 6,000 to maintain these schools all these things will adjust themselves. I request the Select Committee to amend the Bill in such a way that when it is presented to the Council it will be in a form acceptable to them and in no way disastrous to the cause of free elementary education in the city of Madras."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"I am here to support any measure whose object is the free and compulsory education of the masses, especially the depressed classes. There are two provisions in

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this Bill to which I want to refer. The first is that by making a provision for the levy of fees you will be hitting hard the depressed classes who are too poor to pay school fees for their children. In many places the depressed classes have felt the introduction of compulsion a hardship, because on account of their poverty they have to send their children to school often without meals, owing to the pressure of attendance committees. If this Bill was passed into law and fees were levied, I am sure a large percentage of depressed class pupils will have to go without education, especially as there is provision in the Bill for admitting only a certain limited number of poor students. In many places it is a matter of great difficulty to get certificates of poverty. At a time like this when the depressed classes have just come to realize the value of elementary education, unless the Select Committee carefully considers these difficulties and makes provision to meet them, I am afraid that what little concessions have been shown to the depressed classes will go in vain. The hon. Minister also said that he had fixed one mile as the distance limit for the starting of new schools. Circumstances differ in various places and an arbitrary distance such as a mile will be a hardship in some cases. I request the hon. Minister and the Select Committee to take into consideration all these circumstances in fixing the distance limit."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, I no doubt did compliment my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, on the fact that he had put into legislative form some excellent provisions intended for the expansion of elementary education. The important section which the present Bill contains is word for word what is found in that excellent Bill of his. And I am therefore very much surprised that he should have taken exception to that provision on the question of its principle itself. I certainly understand his criticising my not having brought the more comprehensive Bill which it was his ambition to introduce during the time of his Ministry, which unfortunately he was not able to realize. Well, it was my ambition also to introduce it and I have explained as clearly as I can the reasons for my not doing so. My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, said that even now if a local authority chose to introduce the education cess it is obligatory on Government to provide an amount equivalent to the proceeds of that taxation. I am no doubt aware of that. But does my hon. Friend mean to say that there is no difference between a local authority voluntarily taxing itself and Government statutorily imposing on the local authority the obligation of levying the tax whether it is willing to do so or not? And my hon. Friend's Bill which, as I said, he was intending to introduce, had also enhanced the rates of education cess provided for in the existing Act. Although I join with him in the lamentation that I was not able to introduce the original Bill which had been framed by my hon. Friend, I cannot certainly follow him when he took exception to this provision in the present Bill, which, as I said, is taken word for word from his Bill itself. It was not

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intended by him as temporary measure as some of his followers want ⁴⁻⁴⁵ this measure to be; it was measure which he intended to hand down ^{P.M.} to posterity permanently on the statute book of this Province.

"Mr. President, I do not feel called upon at this stage to answer all the criticisms that have been advanced, because I observe there is a general consensus of opinion that the Bill should go before a Select Committee. But I may perhaps be permitted to remove one misapprehension with regard to what prevails in other countries and other provinces of this country. My hon. Friend said that wherever compulsion had been introduced education was also made free."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"In England it is the case."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It is not the case in England. My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, knows that it is not the case and has said so just now."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I have got the testimony of Mr. Winter to the effect that it is so."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Well Sir, then it is a case of one oath against another. I cannot myself speak with first hand knowledge of the state of things in England. But in several other provinces of our country where statutory provision has been made for compulsion, education is free only in public schools. Private schools are at liberty to levy fees. And that is exactly the provision which we are seeking to introduce in the present Bill."

"Sir, I am not going into a detailed examination of the various criticisms that have been made on the Bill. I am glad to note there is a general agreement on the question that it should be referred to a Select Committee. I am also glad to see that the House is in favour of having the Select Committee's report presented before 3rd November."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is that Bill No. 24 of 1931 be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Members proposed and that the Committee be asked to present their report before 3rd November 1931."

The motion was carried.

XIII.—RESOLUTION UNDER THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT.

* The hon'ble Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, I beg to move the following resolution:—

'This Council recommends to the Government that the following notification laid in draft before the Council under section 8 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (III of 1923) (XXXIV of 1925), be approved and issued by the Local Government in the form in which it has been so laid:—

Notification.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Cotton Transport Act, 1923 (III of 1923), the Governor acting with Ministers is hereby pleased to issue the following

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amendments to Development Department Notification No. 278, dated 19th September 1928, published at pages 1455 to 1461 of Part I of the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 25th September 1928, as subsequently amended:—

Amendments.

In paragraph 2 of Schedule II appended to the said notification—

- (i) *After the words 'from Villupuram to Trichinopoly both inclusive', the words 'from Cuddalore to Vriddhachalam both inclusive', and after the words 'from Trichinopoly to Erode both inclusive', the words 'from Sembatta and Chettinad to Parayankulam on the Trichinopoly-Manamadurai section' shall be inserted; and*
- (ii) *for the words 'from Salem junction to Salem town both inclusive', the words 'from Salem junction to Vriddhachalam both inclusive, from Salem junction to Mettur dam both inclusive' shall be substituted.*

"With a view to maintain the purity of cotton grown, the Province was divided into two areas and in order to prevent import of cotton from one area to another a notification was issued under paragraph 2 of Schedule II of the Development Department Notification, dated 19th September 1928. That notification states that cotton can be imported into the area only if the person holds a licence. Consequent on the opening of the new railway lines in the southern area it has been found necessary that these lines also should be included in the notification. This is a formal resolution and I hope the House will be pleased to pass it."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

XIV.—AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE IV OF THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, 1920.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I beg to move the following motion:—

'That the following amendment to the provision made to determine the percentages of turnover of business transacted in the area of a municipality and published with Local Self-Government Department Notification No. 715 at pages 344-45 of Part I-A of the Fort St. George Gazette, dated the 14th April 1931, 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:—

That the words "per annum" occurring in the first and second items in column (1) of the schedule appended to the said provision be omitted.'

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"The object of the amendment is that: under the District Municipalities Act and also under the Local Boards Act, there is a provision for the levy of what is called profession tax on business carried on by people and that levy is based upon the income of the business calculated at a certain percentage of turnover. There is a rule in the schedule to the Acts that the Legislative Council should approve of the principle on which the income should be assessed. This House gave approval to my proposal to fix the percentage on the turnover; in accordance with the approval of this House, the resolution has been published. But in the resolution it is stated that the turnover to be taken into consideration should be the turnover of the business during one year. But the provisions of the Act itself say that the tax should be levied on the turnover for a half-year and not on the basis of the whole year; therefore the turnover has to be calculated for each half-year separately. It has been pointed out by certain municipalities that this rule is inconsistent with the provisions of the Act itself. It is to avoid that inconsistency and to bring the rule into line with the Act itself that this amendment is moved. I therefore beg to move the motion."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I second it,"

The motion was put and carried.

XV.—AMENDMENT TO SCHEDULE IV OF THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I beg to move the following motion:—

'That the following amendment in the provision made to determine the percentages of turnover of business transacted in the area of a local board and published with Local Self-Government Department Notification No. 717, at page 345 of Part I-A of the Fort St. George Gazette, dated the 14th April 1931, 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:—

That the words "per annum" occurring in the first and second items in column (1) of the schedule appended to the said provision be omitted.'

"I have already stated the reasons why the amendment is moved. This amendment relates to the Local Boards Act while the previous one relates to the District Municipalities Act."

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

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XVI.—THE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES BILL—ADDITION OF A MEMBER TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, with your permission, I beg to move—

'that the name of Mr. D. N. Strathie be added to the list of Members of the Select Committee on the Madras Co-operative Societies Bill (Bill No. 4 of 1931)'. "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I second it."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"May I ask what the number of this Member is in the list of Select Committee Members on the Co-operative Societies Bill?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I want notice, Sir."

The motion was put and carried.

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

XVII.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

^a *Press communiqués issued, summarizing the deliberations of the Retrenchment Committee meetings held from 23rd to 25th and on 30th and 31st July 1931 and on 1st August 1931.*

^b *List of posts on Rs. 500 per mensem and above created during the quarter ending the 30th June 1931.*

^c *Statement of action taken by the Government on the resolution passed during the first session of the Fourth Madras Legislative Council, 1930-31.*

^d *Proceedings of the meetings of the Finance Committee, 1931-32 (2 and 3), held on the 23rd and 30th July 1931.*

^e *Press communiqués issued, summarizing the deliberations of the Retrenchment Committee meetings held (1) from the 6th to 8th August 1931 and (2) on the 11th, 12th, and 14th to 16th September 1931.*

^f *Press communiqué, dated the 14th September 1931, summarizing the progress achieved in the matter of retrenchment during the current financial year.*

^g *Notification No. 1401, dated the 11th August 1931, regarding supersession of the Madura Municipal Council for a period of one year.*

^h *G.O. No. 1583, P.H., dated the 28th August 1931, regarding discontinuance of anti-drink and drug propaganda.*

ⁱ *G.O. No. 1052, Development, dated the 20th July 1931, regarding amendment to rule 24 of the rules framed under the Madras State-aid to Industries Act, 1922.*

^a Printed as Appendix XXIV on pages 179-182 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix XXV on pages 183-186 infra.

^c Printed as Appendix XXVI on page 187 infra.

^d Printed separately.

^e Printed as Appendix XXVII on pages 187-193 infra.

^f Printed as Appendix XXVIII on pages 193-196 infra.

^g Published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

^h Placed on Editor's Table.

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^a *G.O. No. 881, Development, dated the 13th June 1931, regarding audit report and accounts of the Chenat Nair Exploitation Division for the year 1929-30.*

^b *G.O. No. 969, Development, dated the 2nd July 1931, regarding audit report and accounts of the Agricultural College Dairy, Coimbatore, for the year 1929-30.*

^c *G.O. No. 1080, Development, dated the 24th July 1931, regarding audit report and accounts of the Wynaad Forests Division for the year 1929-30.*

^d *G.O. No. 1231, Development, dated the 17th August 1931, regarding sale of quinine at reduced prices in Indian States.*

^e *U.O. Note No. 4785-C-1, Law (Registration) Department, dated the 23rd September 1931, regarding the appointment of a temporary sub-registrar at Mangalore with reference to the answer to Question No. 26, dated the 3rd August 1931.*

^f *Proceedings of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras, L. Dis. No. 7032/31-D-1, dated the 19th August 1931, regarding the marking of trees on kumaki lands in South Kanara with reference to the answer to Question No. 102, dated the 5th August 1931.*

^g *Communication from the Law (Registration) Department regarding the number of Settibalijas employed in the Registration Department, with reference to the answer to Question No. 120, dated the 5th August 1931.*

^h *Extract from G.O. Ms. No. 2436 W., dated 26th September 1931, regarding the repairs and improvements to the Kalikavu-Wandur road in the Malabar district.*

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

^a Printed separately.

^b Printed as Appendix XXIX on pages 196-197 infra.

^c Printed as Appendix XXX on pages 197-198 infra.

^d Printed as Appendix XXXI on page 198 infra.

^e Printed as Appendix XXXII on page 198 infra.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 235 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 25 supra]

Number of persons who were selected for training as Sub-Inspectors of Police in 1926, 1927, 1928 and 1929 and the number out of them who resigned before December of the year.

Year.	Number of persons selected.	Number of persons who resigned before the end of the year.	For what reasons.
1926	65	No information.	...
1927	81	2	Not known.
1928	90	Nil.	...
1929	86	Nil.	...

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 236 asked by Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 25 supra.]

Non-gazetted staff employed in the office of the Inspector-General of Police classified according to linguistic areas.

	Tamil.	Telugu.	Mala- yalam.	Kanarese
Senior Superintendents	2	...	...	...
Junior Superintendents	6	...	...	...
Upper division clerks	24	2	...	1
Lower division clerks	25	1	2	...
Typists	2	...	...	...
Attender	1	...	...	...
Peons	3	...	...	...
Total	63	3	2	1

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 243 asked by Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 35 supra.]

List of Engineers, Assistant Engineers and Accountants employed on the Pykara Construction Works with their qualifications, Pay, Allowances, etc.

Name of officers.	Qualifications.	Pay.	Allowance	Remarks.
1. Mr. G. B. E. Truscott (Resident Engineer).	Assoc. Am. Soc. C.E., M.I.E. (Ind). M.I. E.I.	Rs. 1,750	Rs. *	On agreement up to 31st March 1933.
2. Mr. John Kuriyan (Engineer-in-charge, Power Supply, Workshops and Transport).	B.A., B.E., A. A., I. E. E.	600	*	Transferred to this Department from the post of Junior Electrical Inspector.
3. Mr. S. R. Krishnamurti (Assistant Executive Engineer, Dam and Head Works).	B.E., A.M.I.E. (Ind).	500	*	
4. Mr. N. Krishnamurti (Personal Assistant to the Resident Engineer).	B.E.	425	*	Is an Assistant Engineer of the Public Works Department.
5. Mr. M. Subramaniam (Assistant Engineer, Coimbatore Distribution Scheme).	B.E., Certificate of Proficiency in Engineering at the Indian Institute of Science (Bangalore).	400	*	
6. Mr. K. C. Thampan (Assistant Electrical Engineer, Power Supply, Workshops and Transport).	Has had good practical experience on the Tatas on the Electrical side.	300	*	
7. Mr. T. E. Martin (Assistant Mechanical Engineer, Power Supply Workshops and Transport).	Has had good practical experience on the Mechanical side.	250	*	Promoted from the post of Mechanical Supervisor.
8. Mr. N. Gopalakrishnan (Chief Accountant).	B.A., S.A.S. (Civil), Public Works Divisional Test, Account Test and Bookkeeping.	250	* 25 (bill allowance).	Is a Divisional Accountant of the Accountant-General's office.

* Indicates that free quarters are being provided.

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APPENDIX III-A.

Vide answer to question No. 251 asked by Mr. Yakub Hasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 41 supra.

PUBLIC (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

Dated, Fort St. George, the 24th October 1931.

The Government have again considered the case of persons concerned in the Mappilla rebellion. They have decided that in view of the present conditions in Malabar and the continued peaceful conduct of the Mappilla population the time has come when the majority of those still in detention may be released without undue danger of disturbance in the district. Orders have therefore issued to the District Magistrate to arrange for the release of persons still under detention excepting those convicted of the more heinous offences and those whose return is likely to endanger the public tranquillity. The releases will be effected in batches as early as practicable and unless untoward circumstances intervene most of them will be completed before the close of the official year.

G. T. H. BRACKEN,
Chief Secretary.

To the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras
(for issue of press communiqué).

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 254-A asked by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, pages 45-46 supra.]

1

G.O. Ms. No. 1079, P.H., dated 12th June 1931.

Read—the following:—

G.O. No. 948, Revenue, dated 1st May 1931.

Order—Ms. No. 1079, P.H., dated 12th June 1931.

In paragraph 81 of their report the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee has recommended that food adulteration should be prevented by a vigorous application of the provisions of the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act. The Act came into active operation only during 1929-30 and has so far been extended to the Madras City, 15 mufassal municipalities and one panchayat area. That the local bodies concerned are taking increasing interest in the prevention of adulteration of foodstuffs is evidenced by the fact that 392 samples of food were sent by them to the Public Analyst in 1930-31 as against 98 in the

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previous year. Vigorous steps were also taken by local bodies to prosecute the offenders and the success in this direction would have been greater, but for certain defects noticed in the rules framed under the Act. Steps are being taken to rectify these defects.

2. Local bodies to whose areas the provisions of the Act have not so far been extended are requested to consider the advisability of extending the Act to their areas. The extension of the Act and the strict enforcement of its provisions will, as observed by the Committee, have beneficial results.

2

*Percentage of the collection of land revenue at the end of
June 1931 districtwar.*

District.	Percentage of collection to demand.	District.	Percentage of collection to demand.
Ganjam	98.9	Chittoor	98.8
Vizagapatam	99.4	North Arcot	98.3
East Godavari	96.1	South Arcot	96.9
West Godavari	97.5	Tanjore	95.8
Kistna	98.8	Trichinopoly	99.3
Guntur	99.4	Madura	98.5
Nellore	98.2	Ramnad	92.5
Cuddapah	99.7	Tinnevely	99.4
Anantapur	99.95	Coimbatore	99.7
Bellary	91.5	The Nilgiris	97.6
Kurnool	99.9	Salem	99.7
Madras	98.6	South Kanara	97.4
Chingleput	98.2	Malabar	99.8

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 255 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 47 supra.]

Copy of letter No. G. 670, dated 15th July 1931, from the Honorary Secretary, The Southern India Chamber of Commerce, Madras.

[Price of chillies—Your letter No. 2186-E/31-2,
dated 11th July 1931.]

A statement of fortnightly prices reported of country chillies ex godown Cocanada for the period 30th June 1926 to 30th June 1931 is appended. The prices prevailing in the Madras City cannot be

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ascertained and compiled without much labour, but the Cocanada prices may be taken as a fair index of the Madras prices, as the Madras market, receiving the bulk of its supplies from that side, is readily responsive to fluctuations in the Cocanada market.

Statement of prices in rupees of country chillies ex godown Cocanada per candy of 500 lb. net.

		1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
January	15th ..	..	110	90	60	100	85
	31st ..	..	110	80	70	100	80
February	14th ..	..	100	85	70	85	70
	28th or 29th ..	..	120	85	70	70	70
March	15th ..	..	135	90	85	80	70
	31st ..	..	130	80	105	80	65
April	15th ..	..	130	80	90	80	65
	30th ..	..	135	80	85	80	65
May	15th ..	..	130	80	120	90	65
	31st ..	..	130	65	100	90	85
June	15th ..	..	130	60	120	100	70
	30th ..	125	130	60	100	100	80
July	15th ..	140	140	60	105	100	..
	31st ..	130	140	60	110	100	..
August	15th ..	130	140	60	110	95	..
	31st ..	135	140	60	110	90	..
September	15th ..	140	140	60	120	100	..
	30th ..	145	140	60	140	110	..
October	15th ..	120	125	60	140	105	..
	31st ..	145	120	60	140	105	..
November	15th ..	150	125	60	140	100	..
	30th ..	140	120	70	140	110	..
December	15th ..	140	110	60	110	110	..
	31st ..	140	85	60	100	100	..

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Wholesale prices of jaggery and tobacco leaf (per Imperial maund of 82½ lbs. at Madras.

For the fortnight ending	Jaggery.					Tobacco leaf.				
	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
January 15th	..	9-05	7-42	8-23	8-66	8-2	..	16-37	16-38	16-38
January 31st	..	8-22	7-42	8-23	8-86	7-38	..	16-37	16-38	16-38
February 15th	..	..	7-42	8-23	8-86	7-38	..	16-37	16-38	16-38
February 28th	..	..	7-42	8-23	8-79	7-38	..	16-37	16-38	16-38
March 15th	..	..	7-41	8-23	8-79	6-85	..	16-37	16-38	16-38
March 31st	..	..	7-41	8-23	8-73	6-85	..	16-37	16-38	16-38
April 15th	..	..	6-59	8-23	8-75	6-58	..	16-37	16-38	16-38
April 30th	..	..	6-59	8-23	8-69	6-58	..	16-37	16-38	16-38
May 15th	..	..	6-59	8-23	8-72	6-58	..	16-37	16-37	16-38
May 31st	..	..	6-59	8-26	8-67	6-052	..	16-37	16-37	16-38
June 15th	..	..	6-59	8-26	8-62	6-052	..	16-37	16-37	16-37
June 30th	..	..	7-41	8-26	8-50	6-052	..	16-37	16-37	16-37
July 15th	..	9-05	6-59	8-26	8-47	..	19-75	16-37	16-37	16-37
July 31st	..	9-05	7-42	8-26	8-62	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
August 15th	..	9-87	8-24	8-26	8-50	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
August 31st	..	9-87	8-24	8-26	8-50	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
September 15th	..	9-87	8-24	8-26	8-50	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
September 30th	..	10-68	8-24	8-26	8-50	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
October 15th	..	9-87	8-24	8-26	8-65	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
October 31st	..	9-87	8-24	8-26	8-65	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
November 15th	..	9-87	8-24	8-26	8-65	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
November 30th	..	9-87	8-24	8-26	8-65	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
December 15th.	..	9-87	7-42	8-23	8-65	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37
December 31st	..	9-87	7-42	8-23	8-65	..	16-37	16-37	16-37	16-37

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APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 260 asked by Mr. V. T. Arasu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 49 supra.]

Extract from the Government Servants' Conduct Rules.

15. *Private trade or employment.*—A Government servant may not, without the previous sanction of the local Government, engage in any trade or undertake any employment, other than his public duties.

A Government servant may undertake occasional work of a literary or artistic character, provided that his public duties do not suffer thereby; but the Government may, in its discretion, at any time forbid him to undertake or require him to abandon any employment which in its opinion is undesirable.

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 262-A asked by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 51 supra.]

Departments of the Secretariat.	Number of Lower Division clerks permanently promoted to the Upper Division during the last seven years.	Community.			
		Brahmans.	Non-Brahmans.	Christians.	Muhammads.
1. Chief Secretariat	2	..	1	1	..
2. Finance Department	1	..	..	..	1
3. Revenue Department	1	1	..	..	..
4. Law and Education Department	2	1	1	..	..
5. Local Self-Government Department	1	..	1	..	..
6. Development Department	1	1	..	..	..
7. Public Works and Labour Department	2	1	..	1	..
Total ..	10	4	3	2	1

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APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 265 asked by Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 54 supra.]

Details of the scheme relating to the grant of temporary increases in small pensions up to Rs. 45 a month.

(1) For purposes of the scheme pensioners will be divided into the following classes:—

(i) *Class A.*—Pensioners in receipt of a superior pension who have retired before the introduction of revised rates of pay. Those who were on long leave on the date of the introduction of the revised rates of pay and have retired on a pension calculated on the old rates [vide article 60, and rule 1 (a) under article 487 of the Civil Service Regulations] should be treated as having retired before the pay of the establishments, in which they were employed, was revised.

(ii) *Class B.*—Pensioners in receipt of a superior pension who have retired after the date of the introduction of the revised rates of pay but who, not having since that date put in three years' service qualifying for pension, have not received full pensionary benefit of the revision.

(iii) *Class C.*—Pensioners in receipt of an inferior pension.

(iv) *Class D.*—Pensioners in receipt of a pension granted under the rules in Part VI of the Civil Service Regulations or under articles 679, 684 and 685 of the same Regulations.

(2) (a) Pensions of those in class A will be raised on the following scale:—

(i) Pensions up to Rs. 10 a month by Rs. 2.

(ii) Pensions over Rs. 10 and up to Rs. 20 a month by Rs. 3.

(iii) Pensions over Rs. 20 and up to Rs. 30 a month by Rs. 4.

(iv) Pensions over Rs. 30 and up to Rs. 40 a month by Rs. 5.

(v) Pensions over Rs. 40 and up to Rs. 45 a month by an amount which will bring the pension up to Rs. 45 a month.

(b) Pensions of those in Class B will be raised on the scale given in clause (a) above reduced by one-sixth for every completed six months of service qualifying for pension from the date of the introduction of the revised rates of pay.

(c) Pensions of those in Class C who retired before the introduction of the revised rates of pay, as well as of those who retired after the introduction of the revised rates of pay, but on pension calculated on the old rates, will be raised on the scale given in clause (a) above. In the case of those retiring after the introduction of the revised rates of pay the maxima limits of pensions in article 481 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations will be enhanced in accordance with the same scale.

(d) Pensions of those in Class D will be enhanced on the scale given in clause (a) above.

(3) In cases in which a portion of the pension has been commuted the increase will be calculated on the original amount of the pension as it existed before commutation.

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APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to question No. 266-A asked by Mr. C. Basu Dev at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 55 supra.]

Letter from the President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, Madras, No. 18599-A/31-1, dated the 20th July 1931.

With reference to Government Memorandum No. 23843-1-L. & M.-A-2, dated 30th June 1931, I have the honour to append a memorandum showing the nature of the management hitherto prevailing in the Tirupati Devasthanam and giving the Board's views in respect of the chief reforms proposed in the Bill to be introduced with a view to place the administration of the temple on a proper footing. I may add that the Board accepts not only the general principles of the Bill, but also the various provisions thereof subject, however, to the following few minor alterations:—

(1) The strength of the Advisory Committee may be increased by one, and the additional member may be a Hindu citizen of Tirupati town;

(2) The term of office of members of the Committee may be fixed at five years instead of three;

(3) The subjects for the study of which a University may be established need not now be mentioned in the Bill, such details being left to be decided by the Local Government by rules or otherwise in consultation with the Board;

(4) In the collection of arrear contributions due to the Board from the Tirupati Devasthanam exemption from attachment and sale may be made in respect of those articles, which have been so excluded under the Bill to amend Madras Act II of 1927 recently considered by the Select Committee; and

(5) Sanction of estimates for public works and supervision of their construction may be specially mentioned among the matters for which the Board can make by-laws—vide clause (11) of the Bill.

The Board would be glad if the Government throw their weight on behalf of the Bill and get it passed with the least practicable delay.

ENCLOSURE

Memorandum showing the nature of the past management of the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanam, and containing the Board's views on the non-official Bill given notice of by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, M.L.C., and others.

The Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanam consists of the main temple on the hill and of a number of subordinate temples both on the hill

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and in Tirupati and Tiruchanur which are under the same management. This temple is the most important one in the whole Presidency and is held in great veneration by the Hindu community in all parts of India. The Devasthanam was under the direct management of the officers of Government prior to the year 1843, when in consequence of instructions from the Court of Directors, the Government of Madras resolved to withdraw from the direct management of the institution. Acting on the recommendation of the then Collector of North Arcot, the Government issued a sanad, dated 10th July 1843, placing it under the charge of Seva Doss, the then head of the Hathiramjee Math in Tirupati as being the most likely person to fulfil the duties of vicharanakartha with good faith and to the satisfaction of the general body of worshippers. The sanad also vests the succession to the office of vicharanakartha in the successors of the said Seva Doss in the headship of the Hathiramjee Math. He then executed an agreement binding himself, among other things, to discharge the duties entrusted to him with fidelity and in conformity with the established practices and customs of the Devasthanam. This arrangement as regards its management continues up to this day subject to a scheme framed by the Privy Council as a result of the litigation initiated by worshippers who were thoroughly dissatisfied with the administration under the hands of Seva Doss and his successors as vicharanakartha of the Devasthanam.

2. The Judges who dealt with the suit and appeals were quite convinced that there had been gross mismanagement and misappropriation on the part of Seva Doss and other Mahants of the Hathiramjee Math, who followed him and were in charge of the Tirupati Devasthanam as vicharanakartha thereof. In the judgment in O.S. No. 31 of 1898, the District Judge of Chittoor (Mr. K. C. Manavedan Rajah) summarizes the allegations as regards this matter as follows:—"It will thus be seen that from 1843 down to the present time (November 1901) successive Mahants have been mismanaging and misappropriating temple funds which there are no adequate and proper means to recover. The existing system is thus proved to be inadequate. A change is therefore necessary. Thus the first Mahant appears from the accounts to have misappropriated Rs. 92,000 and odd. The second Mahant was found to have defrauded the temple to the extent of Rs. 2,28,000 and odd. The third Mahant was convicted of misappropriating Rs. 2,27,000 and odd. The fourth Mahant was sued for the recovery of Rs. 1,30,000. The defendant is charged with misappropriation of Rs. 6,27,000. A separate suit has been brought for his removal. The expenditure on account of litigation has been extravagant. Under this head the second Mahant spent Rs. 52,000, the third Mahant Rs. 93,000, the fourth Mahant Rs. 14,000 and the defendant Rs. 30,000 up to the date of suit. The defendant has stopped a number of utsavams altogether and has reduced the scale of other utsavams." The District Judge finding that the above allegations were substantially proved, framed a strong scheme providing among other things for a committee of control. In the appeal against the District Judge's scheme filed in the High

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Court, the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court agreed that a scheme was necessary, but provided for the appointment of an additional trustee instead of a committee. In the course of their judgment they observed as follows:—

“ Now when in 1843 the management was transferred, it was, no doubt, expected that the management by the Mahant would prove satisfactory; but the history of what took place subsequent to Seva Doss' death is, to put it shortly, a record of waste and embezzlement. It may here be pointed out that the Mahant as well as the Bairagis who form the fraternity of the Hathiramjee Math are not natives of this Presidency but come from the northern parts of India. The Mahants, so far as it appears on the evidence in the case, have not been men of any education, and are celibates supposed to have little or no concern with worldly affairs. . . . It is not surprising that they have proved altogether inefficient as managers, as also, in most instances, dishonest. Another point to be remembered is that they possess no private property from which the temple can be recouped in respect of the embezzlements committed by them. Properties to which a Mahant succeeds as the head of a Math are not at his disposal except for the purpose of that institution, and even the incomes received by a Mahant during his incumbency are subject to a first charge in respect of disbursements appropriate to the Math. The result has been that notwithstanding that decrees have been obtained for large sums of money against the Mahants concerned, the temple has not been able to recover any portion of the amounts decreed, save in one instance when the decree debt was paid up, but was immediately followed by another act of embezzlement of temple funds. It is thus clear that the arrangement made in 1843 for the administration of the institution has not answered the expectations then entertained, that the Mahants have shown themselves to be utterly incompetent to discharge the duties of the office properly and that the surplus income has been misappropriated by them partly for their own personal use and partly for the aggrandisement of the Math.”

3. The Hon'ble Judges then held that “ the Mahant is not a trustee deriving his power of management under the constitution originally laid down centuries ago. As already pointed out, the institution was completely under the control of the public authorities up to 1843 and when the management was transferred to the Mahant in that year, it was an agreement made by the Board of Revenue in whom the control of such institution was then vested under Regulation VII of 1817. In other words, the arrangement was analogous to a scheme settled by a lawful authority and therefore quite liable to be varied by that or other authority legally competent so to alter or modify it.” The High Court accordingly framed a scheme to ensure proper management and to put an end to the mal-administration that had been rampant in the Devasthanam since 1843. When the High Court's judgment was appealed against, the worshippers did not arrange to have their views placed before their Lordships of the Privy Council. So in their judgment in A.S. No. 6 of 1906 their Lordships modified the scheme framed by the High Court in

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an ex parte decision in the manner which they “ thought will meet the exigencies of the case without impairing the authority of the Mahant.” The Privy Council was then under the mistaken impression that the Mahant as vicharanakarthha had certain purely religious duties in the Devasthanam and that it would wound the religious susceptibilities of the public if a committee of control were introduced to supervise the administration. Mainly to arrange for proper custody of monies and valuables, to prevent embezzlement and to provide for the investment of surplus funds, the Privy Council settled this scheme and empowered the District Court to frame rules therefor, and no attempt was then made to ensure proper management in all branches of the secular affairs of the Devasthanam.

4. The present state of affairs is quite different as compared with the conditions prevailing in 1843 when the Devasthanam management was handed over to the Mahant of the Hathiramjee Math or with the conditions prevailing at the time the Privy Council settled the scheme now in force. The policy of non-intervention by the State has undergone a change, especially after the last reforms. Public opinion has asserted itself in favour of Legislative measures for the protection and better management of religious endowments as is evidenced by the passing of Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act I of 1925 and the re-enacting measure, namely Act II of 1927. It may here be observed that Mr. E. F. Elliot in his judgment in O.S. No. 14 of 1867, given as long ago as 1869, expressed his opinion that the system of management that had been prevailing since 1843 was itself wrong and added: “ this I consider must continue to be the case until a radical reform is effected by some other Act of Legislature either by reverting to the system of Government management, which while it lasted proved apparently most successful and efficient as well as economical or of putting the management of these pagodas on some better footing than under the control and superintendence of ascetics, who are essentially men not versed in business or the ways of the world—for it cannot be expected that one ascetic can be a better secular manager than another or that better results are to be derived by the dismissal of the present incumbent.” The need then felt for an Act of Legislature to place the management of the temple on a satisfactory footing and to have a competent hand to control its affairs is more imperative now than ever before.

If, even in the days of Mr. Elliot, the qualifications and training necessary for the task were lacking in the Mahant it is more so at present for the reason that the resources of the institution have increased very much since, with a corresponding accentuation in the volume and complexity of its administration. From the papers submitted to the House of Commons in 1849 in regard to the management of Hindu temples in the Presidency, it is observed that the income then derived by the Tirupati Devasthanam amounted to an average of Rs. 1,09,873 per annum, while the average disbursements came to no more than Rs. 32,528. Now the annual income is considerably more than 10 lakhs and out of the surplus derived since the time of the

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transfer of management to the Mahants, large landed estates have been purchased, and costly public works undertaken including the electric installation for the lighting of the way up the hill and also the temples. It may be noted in this connexion that in the budget of the Devasthanam for fasli 1341, there is a provision of Rs. 5,04,220 under the head 'public works', Rs. 4,07,400 for new works and Rs. 96,820 for repairs. The need for a qualified and trained administrator at the helm of affairs is now a very urgent necessity.

5. As already observed in paragraph 3 above, the scheme framed by the Privy Council was not conceived so as to be adequate to ensure proper management in all branches of the Devasthanam administration. In practical working even what was aimed at has not been fully achieved. Embezzlement and fraud in some form or other appear to have gone on even after the scheme came into force as will be seen from the following remarks of Judicial officers in certain cases:—

(i) *The District Judge's remarks made while dismissing the Criminal Revision Petition in the well-known Civet case*—"No doubt there is a grave suspicion of a gigantic fraud, but this is not enough for a Criminal prosecution."

(ii) *The remarks of the Magistrate who dealt with the Neerazhi Mantapam case*—"It will be observed in the first place that these frauds and falsities could not have occurred if there had been proper check of the bills and vouchers in the accounts branch of the Devasthanam office. There appears to have been mere arithmetical checks, but not a check of the accounts with the quality and quantity of the work after actual inspection of the latter."

(iii) *The District Judge's remarks in the above case*—"The District Judge has perused the auditor's report of the Neerazhi Mantapam work at Tirumalai and the reply of the Vicharanakartha. Making every allowance for the difficulties of the work in Tirumalai and the heavy expenses of carrying materials, there remains a grave suspicion that more money has been paid out than was legitimately spent on the work. . . there are irregularities in measurements and estimates commented upon by the auditor which have not been explained. Muster rolls and purchase of materials give opening for frauds. The District Judge cannot see the utility of prosecuting any one for frauds in connexion with the work. There may have been and probably have been frauds and embezzlements somewhere amongst those who handled monies; but it is impossible now, as far as one can see, to bring home the offence to any one."

6. The Treasurer appointed by the District Court under the scheme can only look to routine requirements like existence of proper vouchers and the sanction of the Vicharanakartha for payments and he cannot go into the merits of the budget for which the expenditure is incurred. Under the rules framed by the District Court, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the scheme, the budget of the Devasthanam is merely filed for the information of the Court, which cannot interfere with the allotments made therein. The allocation of budget heads and the

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Mahant's powers to transfer allotments are not at present properly regulated or controlled. There is no expert scrutiny of the estimates for the public works or adequate supervision of their construction, as the Devasthanam does not employ a highly qualified engineer; nor is it usual for the Devasthanam authorities to take the advice of the Government Public Works Department. Large quantities of articles required for worship and services in the temples have to be purchased for over a lakh of rupees every year, and the Vicharanakartha's discretion in accepting tenders for the supply of the same is not controlled in any manner. There are no adequate arrangements for ensuring good quality, especially in the case of the articles of consumption as very loud complaints are made by the worshippers in this regard. The Board is satisfied that there is some truth in these complaints.

Further, apart from the supervision in the matters referred to above, there is a big central office to maintain accounts and carry on correspondence. Its work has also to be properly controlled and supervised. At present there are no regulations to ensure security and contentment for the subordinates employed either in the central office or in the subordinate offices attached to estates. It has been brought to the notice of the Board that fluctuations in the salary of the same individuals, creation of new posts and abolition of old ones take place without satisfactory reasons. Though the Board has not found it practicable to investigate into such complaints, it has no doubt that no settled principles are followed in regard to such matters. It is necessary in the case of an institution like this, that there should be service regulations and provision for appeals against orders of punishment at least of the higher grade of officers and subordinates.

7. The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Board can exercise its powers under Madras Act II of 1927, only subject to schemes framed by Courts and hence it is practically helpless in the matter of effecting real improvements in the administration of the Tirupati Devasthanam. It is not even able to obtain information from the Mahant in response to its calls. The Board has not succeeded in getting from him even copies of budgets and audit reports for its information. In a letter addressed to the District Judge in September 1925, the Mahant expressed the view that having regard to the Privy Council scheme the Hindu Religious Endowments Board had no jurisdiction whatsoever over this temple and it had no right to call for budget, etc. He also questioned the right of the District Court to call upon him to furnish the Board with copies of such papers.

Notwithstanding the limitations imposed by the scheme, the Board ever since its constitution tried to study the affairs of this Devasthanam with a view to suggest to the Vicharanakartha such improvements as it deemed necessary, and several inspections were made by the Commissioner in charge of the Chittoor district, the present and previous Presidents of the Board and its Secretary. Generally speaking, the Vicharanakartha has not carried out the suggestions made as a result of the said inspections and the Board came to the conclusion that unless

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the scheme settled by the Privy Council was modified with a view to vest in it definite powers of control, it could not make its influence felt. As a suit for modification of the scheme and subsequent legal proceedings in appeals would involve a lot of expenditure, the Board decided to postpone such a course but wanted to move the District Court for an amendment of the rules in order to effect some improvement at least in matters coming under the scope of the rule-making power given to the District Court under the scheme. This application for amendment of the rules has been pending in the District Court since the beginning of September 1930. The Board has also been considering the question of the enactment of a special law to govern the administration of this Devasthanam, so that litigation connected with the modification of the scheme, which would of course be costly and prolonged, might be avoided. The Board, therefore, welcomes the introduction of the Bill which has been given notice of by certain non-official members belonging to different parties in the Madras Legislative Council.

8. All the defects noticed above are sought to be remedied by the provisions of this Bill. In the first place the Bill provides for the management of the secular affairs of the devasthanam being entrusted to a whole-time paid officer. This will be a most salutary reform, as the Government who are empowered to make the appointment, would choose a qualified and capable person possessing much experience and a high character. The Board is emphatically of opinion that for all important and rich temples and maths there should be a paid officer to supervise the collection of incomes, to look to the details of management, to ensure the proper custody of cash and valuables, to control the work of the subordinate staff and generally to look after the day-to-day administration and that such an officer should be appointed not by the trustee but by an outside authority. A judicial officer of vast experience, Mr. Wigram has expressed a similar view after observing the woeful mismanagement of trust funds in South Malabar, where he was District Judge. His remarks are as follows:—

“The remedy I would propose is that the law should compel the Uralars (trustees) to appoint a duly qualified Manager of the whole Trust Funds, who would be personally responsible for the expenditure. The office of Uralan would then be merely honorary and would not be so eagerly coveted. I do not believe that there is another country in the world where people are so tenacious of their rights as trustees, and the only inference to be drawn from this fact seems to me to be that something more than position attaches to the office.”

Though the Board considers that as a rule the chief paid officer of a religious institution should work under the orders of the trustee as suggested by Mr. Wigram, it has no doubt that in the case of Tirupati the Commissioner proposed in the present Bill, who will be appointed by the Government and who will be an officer of high status, must independently manage the secular affairs of the devasthanam subject to the supervision and control of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, and the rules and by-laws to be framed under the Act. It has

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to be remembered that in the case of Tirupati, the Vicharanakartha will be a Bairagi from Northern India and an ascetic with no administrative experience or educational qualifications as observed by the Hon'ble the Judges of the High Court in their remarks quoted in paragraph 2 above.

9. Under the provisions of the Bill the Hindu Religious Endowments Board has to sanction the budget which will be prepared by the Commissioner in consultation with the Vicharanakartha and submitted with the remarks of the Advisory Committee. The Board will also have the power to frame by-laws for regulating the employment of establishments, introduction of a provident fund for their benefit, collection and custody of offerings, the investment of funds, the purchase and supply of provisions, the maintenance and audit of accounts and such other matters of importance. All these are salutary provisions which will go a long way to improve the administration of the devasthanam.

10. There is a widespread feeling among the public, as evidenced by complaints received by the Board, that a considerable portion of the offerings of worshippers is diverted by the misleading devices of the Mahant's disciples in the Math. It is suspected that unwary pilgrims are persuaded to make their offerings at the adjoining Hathiramjee Math instead of at the shrine itself. There are circumstances which give strength to the above suspicion. Disciples of the Math are stationed at entrances which have to be entirely controlled by the temple officials. When two institutions are situated near each other and the head of one happens to be the head of the other also, the situation would naturally be difficult to manage if the subordinates are not kept under proper control. It is a fact that the Hathiramjee Math which in former days derived a poor income, has improved its resources a good deal and the public are tempted to infer that it has done so at the cost of the temple. Whether or not this inference is correct, it is desirable to put an end to the present anomalous situation by changing the existing system of management of the temple endowments as provided for in the Bill now in question.

11. One important method of utilizing the surplus funds of this devasthanam is to foster educational activities. The non-official Bill now to be introduced provides for the utilization of its surplus funds for a University among other objects. The Bill also specifically provides for the establishment of hospitals, opening up of communications and the provision of adequate sanitary arrangements for the convenience of pilgrims. These are wholesome provisions which the Board would heartily support.

12. While under the proposed Bill the defects referred to in the previous paragraphs as regards the administration of the secular affairs will be remedied, especially by the appointment of a Commissioner and by the vesting of definite powers of control in the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, the Vicharanakartha will be responsible for the worship and other religious ceremonies to be carried on in the temple and his authority will not be impaired so far as their conduct is concerned. Even in regard to secular

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affairs he will have some voice as the budget will be prepared in consultation with him and as a member of the Advisory Committee, he will be able to have his views considered by it.

13. Pilgrims from all parts of the country flock to this devasthanam and its main source of income has always been offerings made by the public and at present they have no satisfactory means of getting their grievances considered by the authorities of the devasthanam. The Advisory Committee provided for in the Bill will supply this want and the public can, through their representatives, returned by the Madras Legislative Council, suggest improvements in the various branches of the temple administration. This will go a great way to allay the prevailing discontent among the worshippers.

APPENDIX X.

[Vide answer to question No. 282 asked by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 67 supra.]

Statement of collections up to 30th June 1931.

(1)

District.	First quarter.		
	RS.	A.	P.
Ganjam	10,660	8	0
Vizagapatam	26,520	0	0
East Godavari	18,260	0	0
West Godavari	7,727	8	0
Kistna	11,987	8	0
Guntur	15,600	0	0
Nellore	11,862	8	0
Cuddapah	6,152	8	0
Anantapur	8,810	0	0
Bellary	19,610	0	0
Kurnool	7,602	8	0
Chingleput	16,792	8	0
Chittoor	10,922	8	0
North Arcot	19,427	8	0
South Arcot	10,627	8	0

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Statement of collections up to 30th June 1931.

District.	First quarter.		
	RS.	A.	P.
Tanjore	26,907	8	0
Trichinopoly	23,485	0	0
Madura	55,155	0	0
Ramnad	46,120	0	0
Tinnevely	30,722	8	0
Coimbatore	70,592	8	0
Nilgiris	51,662	8	0
Salem	35,927	8	0
South Kanara	32,997	8	0
Malabar	35,970	0	0
Madras City	1,61,651	0	0
Total	7,73,754	0	0

(2)

G.O. No. 1081, L. & M., dated 28th March 1931.

In pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 10 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, the Board of Revenue, the Inspector-General of Police, the Commissioner of Police, the Superintendent, Government Press, and the Superintendent of Stationery are requested to submit to Government on the 15th April each year, a statement showing the expenses in connexion with the working of the above Act.

2. The method of annual payment to each local body from the proceeds of the tax will be as follows. The total sum due to local bodies has in the first instance been determined tentatively and for immediate purposes at 66 lakhs on the basis of the average gross revenue from tolls and vehicle tax on motor vehicles for three years ending 1929-30. The amount payable on this basis to each participating local body is shown in the appendix to this order. A detailed and more accurate adjustment of the compensation amounts is being worked out with reference to section 10 (2) (a), (b) and (c) and to the substitution of 1931 for 1930 in clause 10 (1). Any discrepancies in the amounts due to local bodies as a result of the rough and ready calculation adopted in the first instance will be adjusted later when the amount finally due to each local body is ascertained.

3. The sum of 66 lakhs as above will be taken as the basic amount for purposes of distribution in 1931-32. On 15th April 1931, three-sixteenths of the amount or 12½ lakhs will be disbursed. On 15th July 1931 another three-sixteenths of the amount or 12½ lakhs will be disbursed. On 15th October 1931 a further three-sixteenths of the amount

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or 12½ lakhs will be disbursed. On 15th January 1932 a further three-sixteenths of the amount or 12½ lakhs will be disbursed. Thus three-quarters of the amount due in 1931-32 will be paid within the year. The remaining quarter or such portion thereof as the proceeds of the tax will meet will be disbursed as soon as the net proceeds excluding charges of collection and the amount to be credited to Government under section 10 (1) (b) or 10 (3) can be ascertained definitely from the accounts. At the close of the year, that is to say, on the 31st March 1932, a rough estimate of the proceeds actually taken during the year will be made and if this new figure is less than 66 lakhs it will be substituted for the original 66 lakhs as the basic amount for distribution during 1932-33. Distribution for 1932-33 will then be made in the same manner as above. The procedure for 1932-33 will be repeated for subsequent years.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector-General of Police.
 „ the Commissioner of Police.
 „ the Board of Revenue.
 „ the Superintendent, Government Press.
 „ the Superintendent of Stationery.
 „ all Presidents of District Boards.
 „ all Chairmen, Municipal Councils.
 „ all Collectors
 „ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 „ the Surgeon-General.
 „ the Director of Public Health.
 „ the Director of Public Instruction.
 „ the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
 „ the Accountant-General, through Finance.
 „ the Finance Department.
 „ the Law (Legislative) (Drafting) and (General) Departments.
 „ the Revenue Department.
 „ the Public (Police) Department.
 „ the Public Works and Labour Department.

Appendix.

(1) Madras Corporation.

	In thousands.
	RS.
Tolls	1,00
Vehicle taxation	2,75
Total	3,75 or
	3,75,000

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(2) District Boards.

	In thousands. RS.		In thousands. RS.
Anantapur	53	Madura	3,82
North Arcot	1,39	Malabar	2,30
South „	1,72	Nellore	48
Bellary	48	Nilgiris	1,31
Chingleput	1,48	Ramnad	2,84
Chittoor	60	Salem	2,73
Coimbatore	3,22	Tanjore	2,09
Cuddapah	64	Tinnevely	2,34
Ganjam	98	Trichinopoly	2,03
East Godavari	1,55	Vizagapatam	1,65
West „	71		
Guntur	87	Total	38,32
South Kanara	66		
Kistna	97		or
Kurnool	93		38,32,000

(3) Municipal Councils.

	In thousands. RS.		In thousands. RS.
Anantapur	7	Cuddapah	14
Hindupur	18	Prodattur	18
Tadpatri	13	Berhampur	33
Gudiyattam	14	Chicacole	15
Tiruppattur	16	Parlakimedi	9
Tiruvannamalai	27	Cocanada	35
Vaniyambadi	10	Peddapuram	15
Vellore	46	Rajahmundry	32
Wallajapet	17	Chirala	13
Chidambaram	28	Guntur	50
Cuddalore	36	Narasaraopet	15
Villupuram	14	Ongole	6
Adoni	19	Tenali	23
Bellary	20	Mangalore	15
Hospet	11	Bezwada	32
Chingleput	22	Ellore	36
Conjeeveram	33	Masulipatam	23
Saidapet	17	Palacole	30
Chittoor	21	Kurnool	23
Tirupati	7	Nandyal	36
Coimbatore	90	Bodinayakkanur	15
Dharapuram	39	Dindigul	51
Erode	50	Kodaikanal	7
Pollachi	1,02	Madura	1,37
Tiruppur	55	Palni	27
Udamalpet	46	Periyakulam	27

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(3) *Municipal Councils—cont.*

	In thousands. RS.		In thousands. RS.
Calicut	22	Tanjore	96
Cannanore	7	Tiruvavur	23
Cochin	5	Palamcottah	34
Palghat	14	Tinnevely	28
Tellicherry	11	Tuticorin	34
Nellore	27	Srirangam	11
Coonoor	6	Karur	34
Ootacamund	20	Trichinopoly	58
Karaikudi	67	Anakapalle	23
Sivakasi	13	Bimlipatam	8
Srivilliputtur	18	Vizagapatam	22
Virudhunagar	29	Vizianagram	43
Salem	95		
Kumbakonam	60	Total	23,93
Mannargudi	25		
Mayavaram	22		
Negapatam	23		
			or 23,93,000

APPENDIX XI.

[Vide answer to question No. 283 asked by Mr. V. T. Arasu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 69 supra.]

Duties of the Public Analyst to Government.

A.—Permanent duties.

1. To advise the Government on technical points in connexion with the working of the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918.

2. To make recommendations for standards for foodstuffs to be prescribed by Government under section 20 of the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918.

3. To assist local public analysts by—

(a) investigating food adulteration in the presidency and recommending methods of detection; and

(b) giving them advice on any technical difficulties which may arise.

4. To act, when required, as reference analyst under section 16 of the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918, when the certificate of the analyst is contested.

5. To examine and report on samples of foods and drugs forwarded by Government hospitals and institutions or by Government officials carrying out inspection duties in the presidency.

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B.—Temporary or subsidiary duties.

6. The Government may appoint him temporarily as Public Analyst for those local bodies which have not appointed their own local analysts. He will then deal with samples forwarded by such local bodies in the manner prescribed by the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918.

7. He will be in charge of the work in the Public Health section of the King Institute, Guindy, under the control of the Director of the Institute.

8. He will undertake such other work connected with his special subject as may be entrusted to him by the Surgeon-General or the Government from time to time.

APPENDIX XII.

[Vide answer to question No. 284 asked by Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 70 supra.]

Director of Public Health, Madras.

Names.	Post.	Native district.	Mother tongue.
1. M.R.Ry. P. C. Cheriyan Avargal, M.A.	Manager	Travancore State.	Malayalam.
2. A. Guruswami Achari ..	Superintendent ..	Madras	Tamil.
3. C. N. Nayagam, B.A. ..	Statistical Assistant ..	Tinnevely	Do.
4. T. Ramanuja Mudaliyar ..	Head clerk	Madras	Do.
5. T. A. Ramaswami Ayyar ..	Clerk	North Arcot	Do.
6. P. R. Venkatachala Mudaliyar.	Do.	Pondicherry	Do.
7. T. B. Panchapagesa Rao ..	Do.	Tanjore	Mahratta.
8. S. Swaminathan	Do.	Madras	Tamil.
9. T. K. Uthup, B.A.	Do.	Cochin State	Malayalam.
10. V. Muthuswami Ayyar ..	Do.	Tanjore	Tamil.
11. T. Jagannatha Mudaliyar ..	Do.	Chingleput	Do.
12. P. Gajapati Nayudu	Do.	Madras	Telugu.
13. Abdul Rahiman Sahib ..	Do.	Chingleput	Urdu.
14. N. S. Gopalakrishna Ayyar ..	Do (on other duty) ..		..
A. Subrahmanyam (Acting).	Acting clerk	Tanjore	Tamil.
15. P. R. Vedagiri Mudaliyar ..	Clerk	Pondicherry	Do.
16. O. I. Verghese, B.A. ..	Do. (on other duty) ..		..
P. V. Devasigamony (Acting).	Acting clerk	Madras	Tamil.
17. V. P. Srinivasa Mudaliyar ..	Clerk	North Arcot	Do.
18. A. Samuel	Do.	Chingleput	English.
19. Muhammad Azizullah ..	Do. (on other duty) ..		..
T. Ranganatham Pillai ..	Acting clerk	Chingleput	Tamil.
(Acting).			
20. S. Subrahmanyam	Clerk	Tanjore	Do.
21. A. D. Sundararajan	Do.	North Arcot	Do.
22. M. K. Sangameswaran, B.A. ..	Do.	Malabar	Malayalam.
23. C. V. Viswanathan, B.A. ..	Do.	Do.	Tamil.
24. V. Nagaswami	Do.	Salem	Do.
25. T. Ithanakoti, B.A. ..	Do.	Trichinopoly	Telugu.
26. K. Venugopal	Do.	Chingleput	Tamil.
27. G. Elumalai Chetti	Do.	Do.	Do.
28. H. Venkatarama Ayyar ..	Stenographer	Trichinopoly	Do.
29. T. Manickam Pillai	Do.	Chingleput	Do.

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Director of Public Health, Madras—cont.

Names.	Post.	Native district.	Mother tongue.
30. S. K. Visvanatha Ayyar ..	Stenographer ..	Malabar ..	Malayalam.
31. P. Sridananda Mudaliyar ..	Do. ..	Madras ..	Tamil.
32. S. Subrahmaniyam ..	Do. ..	Madura ..	Do.
33. C. V. Rama Rao ..	Typist ..	South Arcot ..	Mahratta.
34. R. Rangaswami Ayyar ..	Do. ..	Trichinopoly ..	Tamil.
35. G. V. Rajagopalan ..	Do. ..	Madras ..	Do.
36. M. P. Padmanabha Mudaliyar.	Draftsman ..	Chingleput ..	Do.
37. C. Paramasivan ..	Artist ..	Ceylon ..	Do.
38. Akbar Sherif ..	Attender ..	Madras ..	Urdu.
39. P. N. Lakshmanachari ..	Do. ..	North Arcot ..	Mahratta.
40. P. D. Selvanagayya Nayudu.	Do. ..	South Arcot ..	Tamil.
41. S. Hanumantha Rao ..	Do. ..	Coimbatore ..	Kanarese.
42. B. Jaya Singh ..	Do. ..	Madras ..	Urdu.
43. R. Srinivasachari ..	On other duty ..	..	..
John Paul (Acting) ..	Acting attender ..	Salem ..	Tamil.
44. Muhammad Siddick ..	Attender (on other duty) ..	..	..
Syed Abdul Kahim (Acting).	Acting attender ..	Madras ..	Urdu.
45. Yusuff Khan ..	Attender ..	Do. ..	Do.
46. C. Manavalan ..	Duffadar ..	Chingleput ..	Telugu.
47. Yasim Khan ..	Peon ..	Madras ..	Urdu.
48. Abdul Gaffoor ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do.
49. V. Appalaswami ..	Do. ..	Vizagapatam ..	Telugu.
50. Abdul Kareem ..	Do. ..	Madras ..	Urdu.
51. Sekhar Menon ..	Do. ..	Malabar ..	Malayalam.
52. V. Muzuswami ..	Do. ..	Salem ..	Tamil.
53. S. Murugasen ..	Do. ..	Chingleput ..	Do.
54. Ponnai ..	Do. ..	Madras ..	Do.
55. Sankara Nayar ..	Do. ..	Malabar ..	Malayalam.
56. Batona ..	Do. ..	Madras ..	Urdu.
57. Kunjan Menon ..	Do. ..	Malabar ..	Malayalam.
58. Sankara Nambiyar ..	Do. (on other duty) ..	..	..
Manikkam (Acting) ..	Acting peon ..	Chingleput ..	Tamil.
59. Raman Nambiyar ..	Peon (on other duty) ..	..	..
Chidambaram (Acting) ..	Acting peon ..	Chingleput ..	Tamil.
60. Gopala Kurup ..	Do. ..	Malabar ..	Malayalam.
61. Vacant K. N. Verghese (Acting).	Do. ..	Travancore State.	Do.
62. Vacant Deyaraj (Acting) ..	Do. ..	Chingleput ..	Tamil.
63. Vacant Sankara Menon (Acting).	Do. ..	Malabar ..	Malayalam.
64. Vacant Abdul Kareem (Acting).	Do. ..	Madras ..	Urdu.

Temporary clerk.

R. S. Jothilingam ..	Temporary clerk ..	Madras ..	Tamil.
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Research Section.

1. P. R. Ramamurti ..	Stenographer ..	Tanjore ..	Tamil.
2. R. Srinivasachari ..	Attender ..	Do. ..	Mahratta.
3. Pydul Kurup ..	Peon ..	Malabar ..	Malayalam.

Madras Section (Temporary).

1. A. Sambandamurti ..	Steno clerk ..	Tanjore ..	Tamil.
2. A. V. Krishna Nair ..	Laboratory attendant.	Malabar ..	Malayalam.
3. Parthasarathi Mudaliyar ..	Do. ..	Madras ..	Tamil.
4. Subrahmanyam ..	Peon ..	Chingleput ..	Do.
5. Venkatesan ..	Do. ..	Do. ..	Telugu.

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Director of Public Health, Madras,—cont.

Names.	Post.	Native district.	Mother tongue.
<i>Rural Sanitation Office.</i>			
1. A. S. Krishnamurti ..	Chief clerk ..	Tanjore ..	Tamil.
2. M. S. Subramayya ..	Clerk ..	Madras ..	Telugu.
3. K. Sundaresan ..	Stenographer ..	South Arcot ..	Tamil.
4. Muhammad Siddick ..	Caretaker ..	Chingleput ..	Urdu.
5. R. Kannan Nayar ..	Peon ..	Malabar ..	Malayalam.
6. Isaac David ..	Do. ..	Madras ..	Tamil.

APPENDIX XIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 287 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 71 supra.]

G. O. No. 1169, L. & M., dated 9th April 1931.

Cattle pounds are established under the provisions of the Cattle Trespass Act which is an Act passed by the Government of India. Section 6 of the Act lays down that in the Madras Presidency the village headman shall be, ex-officio, the keeper of the pound, by whomsoever the pound is controlled or managed.

2. Under section 5 of the Act the pounds shall be under the control of the Magistrate of the district, but under section 31, the Local Government may transfer to any local authority all or any of the functions of the Local Government or of the District Magistrate and may direct that the whole or any part of the surplus from pounds fees shall be placed to the credit of local funds. As the village headman is ex-officio pound-keeper, he has to be paid commission which, in this Presidency is normally fixed at 50 per cent of the fees received, subject to a maximum of Rs. 20 a month. If the receipts are below one rupee a month, the pound-keeper takes all of them. It is obvious that panchayat boards would only wish to take over those pounds which work at a profit. There are 8,800 pounds in the Presidency and only a few of them yield any substantial surplus. From the surplus, under section 18 (b), Government have to incur the cost of the construction and the maintenance of pounds throughout the Presidency and any further surplus may be applied to the construction of roads and bridges and to other purposes of public utility. In this Presidency, after providing for the maintenance of pounds, any balance goes towards the construction and maintenance of village chavadis. Government after due consideration have decided that they are not prepared to hand over to panchayat boards profitable pounds and retain the maintenance of those run at a loss; further, for the sake of uniformity, they consider that it is not desirable

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to use the provisions of section 31 of the Act to allow a panchayat board to construct a new pound at its own cost, and to exercise full control over the same, subject only to the village headman being pound-keeper.

3. The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards is requested to bring this decision to the notice of those panchayat boards which were not originally unions.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards with copies for Presidents of Taluk Boards and Presidents of Panchayat Boards which were unions on the 25th August 1930.

„ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
„ the Revenue Department.

APPENDIX XIV.

[Vide answer to question 291 asked by Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 73 supra.]

(1)

Deputy Registrars for Land Mortgage Banks.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur O. N. Ramaswami Ayyar Avargal, from 30th December 1930 to 16th March 1931.
„ V. Sivasubbarao Pantulu Garu, from 9th February 1930 onwards.

Sub-Deputy Registrars.

M.R.Ry. S. M. Shah Sahib, from 11th January 1930 to 18th June 1930.
„ S. Rama Rao Nayudu, from 24th June 1930 to 5th December 1930.
„ C. Srinivasa Ayyangar, from 21st January 1930 to 5th December 1930.

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Sub-Deputy Registrars—cont.

M.R.Ry. A. Hirudayasami, from 1st February 1930 to 5th December 1930.
„ S. Balayya Sastri, from 17th February 1930 to 1st December 1930.
„ N. S. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, from 12th April 1930 up to now.
„ S. B. Panda, from 19th April 1930 up to now.
„ Y. Ramachandra Rao, from 19th April 1930 up to now.
„ A. Mallikarjunudu, from 20th April 1930 up to now.
„ M. Anantarama Ayyar, from 28th April 1930 up to now.
„ P. N. Sekharan, from 1st May 1930 to 30th April 1931.
„ M. G. Padmanabha Mudaliyar, from 16th July 1931 up to now.

(2)

Serial number and name of the Primary Land Mortgage Banks.	Serial number and name of the Primary Land Mortgage Banks.
East Godavari district—	Coimbatore district—
1. Alamuru Land Mortgage Bank.	21. Perundurai Land Mortgage Bank.
2. Pithapuram do.	22. Kamblampatti do.
3. Amalapuram do.	23. Peelamedu do.
West Godavari district—	24. Bhavani do.
4. Bhimavaram Land Mortgage Bank.	25. Suler do.
5. Penugonda do.	Trichinopoly district—
6. Ellore do.	26. Trichinopoly Land Mortgage Bank.
Kistna district—	27. Kulitalai do.
7. Vaddamannadu Land Mortgage Bank.	28. Lalgudi do.
8. Gudlavalleru do.	Tanjore district—
9. Kaikalur do.	29. Tanjore Land Mortgage Bank.
10. Vuyyuru do.	30. Mayavaram do.
Nellore district—	31. Tiruvarur do.
11. Nellore Land Mortgage Bank.	32. Kodavasal do.
Chingleput district—	Ramnad district—
12. Chingleput Land Mortgage Bank.	33. Rajapalayam Land Mortgage Bank.
13. Conjeeveram do.	34. Watrap do.
14. Madurantakam do.	Madura district—
15. Kilacheri do.	35. Uttanapalayam Land Mortgage Bank.
North Arcot district—	Ganjam district—
16. Ambur Land Mortgage Bank.	36. Berhampur Land Mortgage Bank.
17. Chengam do.	Nilgiris district—
18. Tiruvannamalai do.	37. Ootacamund Badaga Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank.
19. Sholinghur do.	South Arcot district—
South Arcot district—	1. Kallakurichi Land Mortgage Bank.
20. Kattumannargudi Land Mortgage Bank.	Tinnevely district—
	2. Tinnevely Land Mortgage Bank.

Central Land Mortgage Bank.

	Rs.
Debentures issued	3,51,900
Advances for the issue of debentures	1,27,000
Total	4,78,900
Loans issued to the primary land mortgagebanks.	5,46,690

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APPENDIX XV.

[Vide answer to question No. 293 asked by Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 73 supra.]

Statement of the staff of the office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras.

Name.	Post.	Native district.	Language.	Qualifications.
1. M.R.Ry. A. Cuniah Chetti- yar.	Senior Ins- pector.	Madras ..	Telugu ..	F.A.
2. „ P. R. Sundaram Ayyar.	Do.	Madura ..	Tamil ..	B.A.
3. „ K. A. Padmanabhan.	Do.	N. Arcot ..	Tamil and Telugu	M.A. (Hons.).
4. „ R. Muthukumara- swami Pillai.	Do.	Ramnad ..	Tamil ..	Inter. (Part II).
5. „ M. Pubalarayan ..	Do.	Tinnevelly.	Do. ..	R.A., B. Com.
6. „ A. Singararaju Pil- lai.	Do.	Tanjore ..	Do. ..	B.A.
7. „ P. Rajagopala Ayyar.	Do.	Do. ..	Do. ..	Matric.
8. „ T. M. Kuttikrishna Nambiyar.	Do.	Malabar ..	Tamil and Mal.	B.A.
9. „ K. V. Masilamani Mudaliyar.	Junior Ins- pector.	Madras ..	Tamil ..	Matric.
10. „ R. Kalyanasun- dam Ayyar.	Do.	Tanjore ..	Do.	S.S.L.C.
11. „ K. Kannappa Mada- liyar.	Do.	Madras ..	Do. ..	Do.
12. „ D. Balam	Do.	Trichino- poly.	Do.	B.A.
13. „ G. Chandrasekha- ran.	Do.	Chingleput.	Telugu and Tamil.	B.A. (Hons.).
14. „ P. Andikesava Mada- liyar.	Do.	N. Arcot ..	Tamil ..	B.A.
15. „ K. Bashyam Ayyan- gar.	Do.	Chingleput.	Do. ..	B.A. (Pleader- ship).
16. „ K. P. Ramunni Menon.	Do.	Malabar ..	Mal. and Tamil.	B.A.
17. „ S. Somasundaram ..	Do.	Tanjore ..	Tamil ..	B.A. (Hons.).
18. „ R. Krishnaswami Ayyangar.	Do.	Do. ..	Do. ..	Inter. (Part II).
19. „ P. Karunakara Menon.	Do.	S. Malabar.	Mal. and Tamil.	B.A.
20. „ B. Achutha Nambi- yar.	Do.	Calicut ..	Do.	B.A.
21. „ P. Sampathgiri Rao.	Routine clerk.	Madras ..	Tamil ..	Nil (Exempt- ed).
22. „ B. K. Rama Rao ..	Do.	Do. ..	Do. ..	Do.
23. „ S. Krishna Rao ..	Do.	Travancore.	Tamil, Mal and Mah- ratti.	B.A., B.L.
24. „ G. Madalaimuthu Udayar.	Do.	Trichino- poly.	Tamil.	B.A.
25. „ R. Sathanam ..	Do.	Ramnad ..	Do. ..	B.A.

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APPENDIX XVI.

[Vide answer to question No. 304 asked by Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 79 supra.]

Engineer Class.

Total number admitted in 1931—68.

Number admitted from each district.

Tanjore	7	Chingleput	2
Trichinopoly	4	South Kanara	4
Tinnevelly	4	Kistna	2
North Arcot	9	Chittoor	1
South Arcot	3	Malabar	6
Madura	1	Vizagapatam	2
Ramnad	3	Anantapur	1
Madras	4	Ganjam	2
Salem	3	Pudukkottai State	1
Coimbatore	2		
West Godavari	3		68
East Godavari	3		
Nellore	1		

Districts from which no candidate was admitted and the reason therefor.

Cuddapah and Kurnool.—No candidate was found suitable.

The Nilgiris.—No applicant.

Guntur and Bellary.—The one applicant selected from each of the districts did not join.

Probationary Subordinate Class.

Total number admitted in 1931—109.

Number admitted from each district.

Tanjore	28	Tinnevelly	7
North Arcot	7	Madura	3
Ramnad	4	Salem	3
Coimbatore	5	Chittoor	1
South Kanara	1	Anantapur	1
Malabar	9	East Godavari	1
Trichinopoly	14	Cochin State	2
South Arcot	10	Pudukkottai State	1
Madras	5		
Chingleput	5		109
Kurnool	1		
Bellary	1		

District from which no candidate was admitted and the reason therefor.

Cuddapah.—No applicant.

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The Nilgiris.—The only applicant from the district did not send particulars of his S.S.L.C. marks.

Districts included in the Andhra University area.—The Engineering School, Vizagapatam, caters for the needs of these districts.

APPENDIX XVII.

[Vide answer to question 308 asked by Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 81 supra.]

G.O. No. 339, Development, dated 24th February 1923.

As a general rule, fishery rights in public inland waters such as tanks, rivers, estuaries, canals, drains, etc., are at present leased out in open auction or by inviting tenders either by Revenue or Public Works Department officers. Disposal of such rights otherwise than by public auction requires the previous sanction of the Government. In cases where the fisheries have been taken over by the Fisheries Department for stocking and development, the sales are confirmed by Revenue or Public Works officers after consultation with the Fisheries Department. Cases have, however, recently occurred in which the Fisheries Department has approached Government for the lease of fishery rights to co-operative societies after a regular auction has been held by the Revenue or Public Works Department officers. This nullifies the object of the auction and is objectionable in principle. It is also unnecessary for the officers of the Public Works Department and the Revenue Department to hold an auction when the Fisheries Department is intending to recommend the disposal of the fishery otherwise than by auction. With a view to regularizing the procedure in the matter, the Government are pleased to lay down the following instructions for the guidance of the officers concerned:—

(1) The fisheries in all public inland waters should be disposed of by the local officers of the Revenue or Public Works Department by lease in public auction or by inviting tenders. Disposal otherwise than under these methods should be the exception and be resorted to only in exceptional circumstances which should be explained to Government and their sanction obtained to such disposal.

(2) In the case of waters the fisheries of which have been taken over by the Fisheries Department for stocking and development that department should be consulted, before the auction is confirmed.

(3) If in respect of the waters referred to in clause (2) above the Fisheries Department desire that the lease of fishery rights in any particular case should be leased to a co-operative society or a private body or individual without bringing them to open auction, they should arrange to give intimation, 30 clear days in advance of the date on which the auction would be held, to the officers of the Revenue or Public Works Department to postpone the auction and to obtain the orders of

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Government before the expiry of the current lease for the disposal of fisheries otherwise than by public auction. The Fisheries Department should inform the Revenue or Public Works officers, as the case may be, of the orders of Government immediately they are issued.

(4) If no intimation is received by the Revenue or Public Works officers from the Fisheries Department for the postponement of fishery sales before the time prescribed in clause (3) above, the fishery should be disposed of in the usual course and the results intimated to the Fisheries Department before confirmation. No proposal at that stage from the Fisheries Department to set aside the auction will be entertained by Government unless it is shown that there was fraud or collusion or combination which has led to a loss of the legitimate income as compared with the average rentals of the past few years.

APPENDIX XVIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 316 asked by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 85 supra.]

(1)

Letter from the Director of Industries, No. 280-D/31, dated 30th July 1931.

The officers of the department are assisting the Research Engineer in every possible way with information, staff and materials.

2. The process of sizing as carried out in the mills by the use of power driven machines was explained to him, and all the literature available on the subject was placed at his disposal by the Assistant Director of Industries (Textiles). The working of the existing departmental hand driven forced hot air sizing machine and its shortcomings from a commercial standpoint were also explained to him in detail. The conditions which the newly evolved appliance should fulfil in order to meet the requirements of the street sizers were indicated to the Research Engineer who was also shown the financial aspect of the working of the departmental sizing machine. A number of components and accessories were supplied to the Research Engineer for constructing an experimental sizing machine and as soon as it was ready, a demonstrator for the Textile Institute was placed at his disposal for the purpose of working the newly evolved machine.

3. In regard to the evolution of the lampblack collecting apparatus all necessary facilities for the investigation were arranged by the Superintendent of the Industrial Institute, Madras, who has closely collaborated with the Research Engineer in his experiments in this regard.

4. In the matter of workshop facilities, all possible assistance has been rendered to the Research Engineer by the Industrial Engineer and his Assistant. The resources of the workshop are at the disposal

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of the Research Engineer and whatever work he entrusts, it is carried out as expeditiously as possible under the personal supervision of the Assistant Industrial Engineer in charge. The Research Engineer and his two mechanics often visit the workshops when work is in progress and every facility is given to them to offer their suggestions with a view to its satisfactory execution. In cases where the work required by the Research Engineer is beyond the resources of the Industrial Workshops recourse is had to private workshops. The Research Engineer freely acknowledges the assistance rendered him by the Industrial Engineer and the Assistant Industrial Engineer in the course of the experiments.

(2)

I submit in the following brief notes regarding my work and present outlook. I indicate also the lines on which I would be best employed in the immediate future.

I have concentrated myself on two problems, lampblack apparatus and sizing machine.

Lampblack.—As the Director may be aware, lampblack has been made out of dead oil and crude oil in a specially devised furnace and collecting chambers and small quantities were in the first instance collected with a view to ascertain the possibility of collection and the usefulness of the product. Having been fairly satisfied in both respects by ascertaining that the yield was about 20 per cent of the oils burnt and that the product was good enough for manufacture of rotary ink (higher quality printing ink) we have now been constructing a moderate sized apparatus consisting of burners, burning chamber and collecting chambers to ascertain the commercial efficiency. Considerable progress has been made in the construction of the chambers, etc., and in a few days the plant will be in actual operation.

This apparatus is being built on the experience and observations made in the preliminary tests and it remains to be seen whether it may require modifications in the light of experience gained after working the plant for some time. I have in view alternative ideas for deflecting the products of combustion in the collecting chamber, but in the proposed plant only one of my ideas has been embodied. The alternative ideas will also be practically tested after noting the result of the working of the plant as it is now being constructed.

As regards the materials employed for conversion, it is essential to investigate the possibility of utilizing coaltar for generating lampblack. I hope to try this aspect with specially devised burners and burning chamber simultaneously. I have not taken up this question till the lampblack plant under construction approaches completion. I hope to take up this question of obtaining lampblack from coaltar from the beginning of next month as by that time the apparatus under construction is likely to be completed and ready for regular production of lampblack.

I have constructed the chambers in the open ground adjoining the Government Industrial Institute taking due precaution that the

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posure to wind and rain would not hinder the operation. The roof of the chambers is sloping and adjoining ground covered with concrete and plaster to prevent dirt and mud from getting mixed with the product.

Sizing machine.—When I was charged with the devising of simple textile appliance I was definitely told by the Textile Expert and the Director that the Amalsad Patent Sizing Machine should be improved upon in the following respects:—

(1) That the number of ends should be increased by about 50 per cent; and

(2) that the drying effect should be more pronounced and quicker than the Amalsad Sizing Machine. I have accordingly constructed a machine to satisfy both the above conditions.

Having tested the working of this machine it seems necessary that a few minor alterations have to be made before making further tests with the machine. The Textile Expert after carefully examining the working of the machine has submitted a report to the Director and the observations made therein with regard to the efficiency of the machine have certainly to be considered in making the appliance much more efficient and economical.

In the first few months after I have taken up the question I was unable to perceive as clearly as I do now with regard to the general principles underlying sizing operations in a hand-driven machine. In all the power sizing plants there is no brush while the new and Amalsad Sizing Machines and in the street sizing method brushing forms an important operation in the practice of sizing. Both in the Amalsad Sizing Machine and in the new machine now constructed the warps very often break and the piecing together of these forms a tedious and wasteful item. There is no reason why a sizing machine for hand-power cannot be devised without this brushing operation on the model of power sizing machines. This is being considered by me and will be practically tested in the next few months.

In the Amalsad Sizing Machine and the machine now constructed there are only a limited number of ends and there is no reason why a hand-driven sizing machine cannot be devised so as to contain all the warp ends entering into the cloth just in the same manner as the dresser sizing machine. But of course this would involve that the yarn should be previously wound on the beams and the weaver should be able to take sized yarn from the beam as practised in the power looms. There should be no difficulty to make the weavers adapt to this condition provided, of course, that the cost of machine sizing is cheaper than street sizing.

If the breaking of the threads is entirely eliminated by doing away with the friction at the brushes and the minimizing of friction in other places such as the rollers, reeds, etc., the length required for the fitting up of the sizing machine can be considerably diminished by taking the yarn sheet three or four times in successive layers one below the other, after it has passed the furnace.

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Both in the Amalsad Sizing Machine and the new machine now constructed the yarn from the sizing machine converges to the beamer to such a narrow width as will produce unequal strain in the different ends. This also leads to the breaking of the yarn and this factor for the breakage of the threads will be entirely cut off if the beamer winds up the yarn sheet to the same width as that obtaining over the sizing machine.

These main ideas as well as other smaller details have been found by me after carefully studying the merits and demerits of some of the hand and power-driven machines and also the working of the street sizers.

The machine now completed will only mark just a step forward but is by no means as satisfactory as it ought to be. So long as a hand-driven sizing machine would require no piecing and so long as the drying would be as quick and effective as a power sizing machine, then alone can we say that a suitable handsizing machine has been evolved. In the next few months my attention would be devoted to discover the possibility of evolving such a machine and it is not prudent to cut off from this direction at the present moment and devote to some other weaving appliance with greater concentration. A sizing machine thus evolved would answer the purpose of a moderate sized weaving factory or would be a useful means for distributing warps to a number of handloom weavers who cannot economically take to handsizing.

With regard to individual weavers or weaver families a small sizing equipment capable of handling ten to twenty ends should be devised so that small warp lengths can be easily and quickly sized for small scale weavers working with humble resources. Mr. Radhakrishna Chetti of Kuppam told me that he had come across an intelligent young man who has been successfully experimenting with a small outfit for sizing about ten ends and I propose to see what this man has achieved to enable me to devise a small sizing equipment for individual weavers.

C. S. RAMACHANDRAN,
Research Engineer.

APPENDIX XIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 340 asked by Mr. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 94 supra.]

Name of district.	Number of cars at the end of 1930.	Number of taxis at the end of 1930.	Number of buses at the end of 1930.
Madras City	5,500	157	510
Anantapur	25	4	77
North Arcot	119	15	193
South Arcot	143	14	157
Bellary	116	5	75
Chingleput	241	...	247

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Name of district.	Number of cars at the end of 1930.	Number of taxis at the end of 1930.	Number of buses at the end of 1930.
Chittoor	89	5	104
Coimbatore	604	45	564
Cuddapah	38	...	53
Ganjam	176	18	77
East Godavari	683	30	294
West Godavari	155	88	59
Guntur	169	...	108
South Kanara	247	96	215
Kistna	310	80	230
Kurnool	42	7	120
Madura	605	17	427
Malabar	398	33	534
Nellore	136	13	120
The Nilgiris	447	50	62
Ramnad	1,246	92	255
Salem	584	5	291
Tanjore	260	273	237
Tinnevely	242	27	318
Trichinopoly	180	66	190
Vizagapatam	411	24	210
	13,156	1,164	5,727

APPENDIX XX.

[Vide answer to question No. 342 asked by Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 95 supra.]

Import of rice from foreign countries into this Presidency from 1st March to 31st July 1931:

Ceylon	12 Cwt.
Straits Settlements	32 Tons.
Indo-China	5,657 "

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APPENDIX XXI.

[Vide answer to question No. 343 asked by Mr. Daniel Thomas at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 95 supra.]

Details of work done from February 1931 to June 1931.

(1) *Rising main.*—The relief valve has been fitted up on the main and masonry pit for the same constructed.

(2) *Engine house and suction well.*—Fixing of glass panes for the doors and windows of the suction well and engine house was completed. Fitted up vacuum gauges to the suction pipes.

(3) *Engines and pumps.*—The standby steam engine was tested and a bigger pulley indented and obtained. After fitting up the same the engine was worked, though there had been some difficulty with gauge glasses in the beginning. A temporary shed for the steam engine has been erected. Another steam engine was also obtained for emergencies as suggested by the Chief Engineer. A diversion road to cross the upper odai at Pudukottah was formed for conveying the above steam engine to head works. The second steam engine was also erected and tested. Direct pipe connection to the oil engine from the over-head tank was given.

(4) *Flood bank round head works buildings.*—The flood bank was completed as per sanctioned estimate and a deviation statement as per orders of the Chief Engineer was prepared and approved.

(5) *Cleaners quarters and inspection bungalow.*—Correct positions for the location of the above buildings were marked after making necessary trial pits, spot levels, etc., and the estimates together with sections and plans for the same were submitted for sanction.

(6) *Assistant drivers quarters.*—Tenders were called for and an agreement has been entered into with the lowest tenderer.

(a) Lay out plan for workshop was prepared and sent to Public Works Workshops for further action.

(7) *Gravitation main.*—Bigger surface boxes for the scour and sluice valves in the main were fixed and roughstone drains formed.

(8) *Repairs to distribution system laid as per partial scheme.*—About eleven sluice and scour valve pits which were found leaky were demolished and reconstructed with bigger dimensions.

(9) *Distribution system.*—Stop cock pits 27 numbers and fountain branches and G.I. pipe connections to fountains 32 numbers were fixed and completed during the period.

(10) *Elevated reservoir.*—Site for the reservoir was selected and necessary site plans and plans showing the pipe connections, etc., required for the reservoir were prepared. Site has been handed over to the contractor on 29th June 1931.

(11) *Single tap fountain in Sub-Collector's office, Tuticorin.*—This was taken up and completed during the period.

(12) *Temporary taps to salt quarters.*—Two temporary taps were fitted with 600 feet of pipe connections.

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APPENDIX XXII.

[Vide answer to question No. 345-A asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th October 1931, page 97 supra.]

G.O. No. 255, Finance, dated 10th April 1931.

Speaking in the Legislative Council on the 17th March 1931, the hon. the Finance Member made the following statement:—

“What the Government 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 they will entail a great deal of labour—the results 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. 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.”

2. In fulfilment of these assurances and in conformity with what they understand to be the wishes of the Legislative Council, the Government now invite the Standing Committee on Finance to undertake the proposed enquiry, in addition to the functions which they already fulfil under the order of their appointment. Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., has already been appointed as the Special Officer in G.O. Ms. No. 294, Public (Special), dated the 24th March 1931.

3. The procedure contemplated by the Government is as follows:—

The Special Officer, who will be known as the Retrenchment Secretary, will take as his starting point the Report of the Retrenchment Committee of 1922–23, which, in their own words, attempted to arrive at “a normal standard of expenditure which would be sufficiently covered by the normal revenue and would leave an opening balance year after year.” He will examine the extent to which the several recommendations of that Committee have been accepted and maintained in force; how far expenditure which was then reduced has been restored to its previous level; the extent to which and the reasons for which expenditure has increased (or diminished) since that time. Taking the budgets of the various departments in turn, he will prepare a series of memoranda explaining the position in each and making such preliminary suggestions as he may think fit. These memoranda will be laid before the Finance Committee, as they are ready.

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It will then be open to the Committee, in the words of the hon. the Finance Member, 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.

Finally, the Committee will submit their reports to the Government.

4. Apart from the detailed investigation of departmental expenditure referred to above, the Retrenchment Secretary will similarly examine, and lay before the Finance Committee memoranda on wider questions affecting all departments such as the desirability of maintaining the system of incremental scales of pay, the possibility of introducing some form of sliding scale to follow the rise and fall of prices, and any other matters of a general nature that may arise in the course of the enquiry.

5. To enable him to perform his duties thoroughly, the Retrenchment Secretary is authorized to call for any information that he may require from any department of Government and the Government trust that all departments will realize that retrenchment may involve the reduction of expenditure which, in ordinary circumstances, would be desirable and will co-operate in attaining the common object in view.

6. The Retrenchment Secretary will be placed formally under the orders of the hon. the Finance Member, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, and all communications to him should be addressed, care of the Finance Department, Fort Saint George.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

H. M. HOOD,
Secretary to Government.

To all Members of the Finance Committee.

„ all Departments of the Secretariat (all sections) for communication to heads of departments under them.

„ the Accountant-General.

„ the Superintendent, Government Press.

„ the Curator, Madras Record Office.

„ the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.

„ the Superintendent of Stationery.

„ the Presidency Port Officer.

Press.

[30th, October, 1931]

TABLE A.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE FINANCIAL EFFECT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE AND OF THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON BY GOVERNMENT SO FAR.

I.—Anticipated ultimate savings in Expenditure.

Departments.	As recommended by the Retrenchment Committee.	So far accepted and orders issued by Government.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1. Registration— (Includes the abolition of six District Registrars' offices and all temporary clerks and Sub-Registrars.)	Rs. 1,52,300	Rs. 73,200	The abolition of six District Registrars' offices, has, it is understood, been accepted by Government; but they are still awaiting the proposals of the Inspector-General for the territorial reorganizations.
2. Jails and Convict Settlements— (Includes the abolition of the Alipuram Jail and the conversion of the Koraput Jail into a sub-jail.)	2,36,000	11,000	It is understood that the closure of the Alipuram Jail has been accepted by Government in principle, but the question of the release of Mappilla prisoners is under consideration.
3. Labour— (Includes the temporary amalgamation of the post of Labour Commissioner with that of a Member of the Board of Revenue and the restriction of labour activities.)	1,88,300	1,26,500	The amalgamation of the post of Labour Commissioner with that of a Member of the Board of Revenue has, it is understood, been accepted in principle. A reference is pending with the Board of Revenue.
4. Medical— (Includes the gradual abolition of the Medical School, Tanjore, and a large number of reductions in establishment, e.g., conversion of 4 Civil Surgeons into Assistant Surgeons' posts, 13 Assistant Surgeons into Sub-Assistant Surgeons, abolition of teaching and other posts, 13 Assistant Surgeons, 23 Sub-Assistant Surgeons and other nursing and non-medical staff.)	6,72,800	3,81,300	
Public Health— (A) Abolition of 3 Assistant Directors of Public Health, 2 Deputy Sanitary Engineers and the Director of Town-Planning in addition to some reduction of subordinate establishments and restriction of other activities.	3,16,400	57,100	

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TABLE A—*cont.*

Statement showing the financial effect of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee and of the action taken thereon by Government so far—*cont.*

I.—*Anticipated ultimate savings in Expenditure—cont.*

Departments.	As recommended by the Retrenchment Committee.	So far accepted and orders issued by Government.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	
5 Public Health— <i>cont.</i>			
(B) The withdrawal of the grant for Anti-Drink Propaganda.	1,90,000	1,90,000	
(C) Reduction in future scale of grants for water-supply and drainage schemes.	6,25,000	..	
6. Travelling Allowances including Fixed Travelling Allowance.	7,00,000	7,00,000	This is an approximate figure.
Includes reductions in the rate of—			
(a) Railway fare from 1½ to 1½ and class of accommodation for the lower grades;			
(b) Daily allowance and mileage for all grades except the last grade; and			
(c) journeys on transfer (both in the number of tickets allowed and maundage of luggage admissible).			
7. Allowances (other than Travelling Allowance and Fixed Travelling Allowance) including Special Pay—	5,66,400	..	Pending consideration of these detailed proposals, Government have accepted a temporary scale of cuts in compensatory allowances calculated to secure about Rs. 2.20 lakhs in a full year. For savings secured during the current year, see Statement B.
Includes a revision of all Presidency Allowances and the reduction or abolition of a number of special pays.			
8. Public Works Department—			
(a) Reduction in future scale of provision for all major works (Buildings, Roads and Irrigation).	16,00,000	..	
(b) Reduction in future scale of grants to local bodies and others for roads and bridges.	8,00,000	..	
Total I—Anticipated ultimate Savings in Expenditure.	60,47,200	16,39,100	

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TABLE A—*cont.*

Statement showing the financial effect of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee and of the action taken thereon by Government so far—*cont.*

II. *Anticipated increase in Revenue.*

Departments.	As recommended by the Retrenchment Committee.	So far accepted and orders issued by Government.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	RS.	RS.	
1. Registration— (Levy of Registration fees on Co-operative Societies.)	1,30,000	1,30,000	
2. Medical— (Enhancement of fees, curtailment of free studentships and concessional rates of fees.)	1,00,000	2,000	The figures are approximate. The main question of enhancement of fees is under consideration.
Total II—Anticipated ultimate increase in Revenue.	2,30,000	1,32,000	
Grand Total—I and II	62,77,200	16,71,100	

TABLE B.

Statement showing savings so far effected during the current year (1931-32) under the several heads of account.

[NOTE.—Where special remarks are not entered the savings are mainly due to percentage cuts ordered by Government under Travelling allowances, Contingencies, Supplies and Services, etc.]

Head of account.	Budget, 1931-32.	Savings effected.	Main items of savings.
	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	
5. Land Revenue	29.08	1.58	Abolition of a survey party.
6. Excise	40.51	.79	
7. Stamps	6.69	.87	
8 & 8 A. Forest and Forest Capital Outlay charged to Revenue.	41.60	3.60	Restriction of expenditure on forest works.
9. Registration	30.36	.96	
15. XIII and 16. Irrigation works charged to Revenue.	93.74	6.39	Postponement of expenditure on new works and restriction of expenditure on works in progress.
22. General Administration ..	282.94	3.70	
24. Administration of Justice ..	100.68	.64	
25. Jails and Convict Settlements.	29.27	2.15	
26. Police	176.40	4.88	
27. Ports and pilotage	0.29	0.01	
30 & XXX A. Scientific departments and Hydro-Electric Surveys—Working expenses.	3.03	0.30	
31. Education	264.77	13.24	Reduced scale of expenditure on stipends and scholarships and grants-in-aid.

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TABLE B—cont.

Statement showing savings so far effected during the current year (1931-32)
under the several heads of account—cont.

Head of account.	Budget, 1931-32.	Savings effected.	Main items of savings.
	RS. IN LAKHS.	RS. IN LAKHS.	
32. Medical	94.75	3.30	
33. Public Health	31.12	2.66	Includes Rs. 1.38 lakhs on account of the withdrawal of the grant for anti-drink propaganda.
34. Agriculture—			
Agriculture	20.60	1.41	
Veterinary	12.12	0.48	
Co-operative credit	12.33	0.42	
35. Industries—			
Industries	13.17	1.03	
Fisheries	7.98	0.64	
37. Miscellaneous departments—			
Labour	20.35	2.42	
Other departments— (Factories, Electrical Inspector, Steam Boil- ers, Government Examinations.)	6.87	0.25	
41. Civil Works—Original Works—			
(Buildings, Communica- tions, Miscellaneous and Repairs).	100.40	17.27	Postponement of new works and restriction of expenditure on works in progress.
Establishment and Tools and Plant.	49.89	2.73	Disbandment of Tank Restoration Scheme division and subdivisions and reduction in establishment due to curtailment in works programme.
Grants-in-aid—Roads and Bridges (including village communications).	67.70	4.08	
Water-supply and Drainage.	9.73	4.74	
43. Famine	1.00	.99	
45. & 45A. Pensions (including Commuted Value of Pen- sions).	79.33	2.33	Restriction of expenditure of commutation of pensions and compassionate gratuities.
46. Stationery and Printing	23.57	1.71	
47. Miscellaneous	4.21	.11	
Refunds of Revenue	10.96	1.01	
Total	1,668.84	86.63	
Add Savings due to arbi- trary percentage cuts ordered under all kinds of compensatory allow- ances under all heads of account.	..	1.25	
Total — Expenditure charged to Rev- enue.	1,668.84	87.78	

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APPENDIX XXIII.

(Vide Item IX "A Bill to amend the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930," at page 103 supra.)

BILL No. 9 OF 1931.

*A Bill to amend the Madras Suppression of Immoral
Traffic Act, 1930, for certain purposes.*

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,
OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

WE, the undersigned Members of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill to amend the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930 (Bill No. 9 of 1931), for certain purposes, have the honour to submit the following report.

2. The Bill was published in English in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 28th July 1931.

3. We met on the 8th of August 1931 and considered the provisions of the Bill. We have approved of all its provisions.

4. We, however, consider it necessary to recommend to the Government that in giving effect to the provisions of the Act, they should associate honorary or paid women officers with the work of the Police, and that great care should be exercised in choosing the places where the minor girls rescued under the Act are to be placed in custody. We also recommend that any rule proposed to be made by the Local Government under section 16 of the Act shall not be brought into force without consulting the Women's Indian Association and the Vigilance Association.

5. We recommend that the Bill need not be repub-
lished.

B. VENKATARAMAYYA (*Chairman*).

C. BASUDEV.

SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI * (with a note).

T. NARASA REDDI.

YAKUB HASAN.

K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR.

K. ALAMELUMANGATHAYARAMMA.

V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI.

P. SUBRAHMANYAM CHETTI.

M. KRISHNAN NAYAR.

MAHOMED USMAN.

R. MADANAGOPAL.

F. G. LUKER.

A. T. PANNIRSELVAM.

[30th October 1931]

* NOTE.

I agree with the above. But I still think that a restraint in the shape of a Vigilance Committee, even official, should be placed on the Police in the matter of prosecutions as having regard to various practices and customs prevalent in several communities in the Presidency and to the large powers vested in the Police under this Act, the provisions of the Act might be abused.

SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI.

BILL No. 9 OF 1931.

(As approved by the Select Committee.)

A Bill to amend the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930, for certain purposes.

Preamble. WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; Madras Act V of 1930.

AND WHEREAS the previous sanction of the Governor-General has been obtained to the passing of this Act; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title. 1. This Act may be called the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic (Amendment) Act, 1931.

Substitution of new sections for sections 1 and 2 of Madras Act V of 1930. 2. For sections 1 and 2 of the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the following sections shall be substituted, namely:—

Short title. “1. This Act may be called ‘The Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, 1930.’”

Extent and commencement. “2. The Local Government may, from time to time, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, apply all or any of the provisions of this Act to the whole or any portion of the Presidency of Madras from such date as may be specified in the notification and may cancel or modify any such notification.”

Amendment of section 6, Madras Act V of 1930. 3. In sub-section (ii) of section 6 of the said Act, for the words and figures “before a Juvenile Court constituted under section 36 of the Madras Children Act, 1920”, the words and figures “before a court established under sub-section (i) of section 36 of the Madras Children Act, 1920, or where no such court has been established, before a court sitting in the manner specified in sub-section (2) of that section” shall be substituted. Madras Act IV of 1920.

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APPENDIX XXIV.

[Vide Item XVII “Papers laid on the table of the House” at page 134 supra.]

FINANCE (RETRENCHMENT) DEPARTMENT.

MEETINGS OF THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE SECRETARIAT, FORT ST. GEORGE, FROM THE 23RD TO 25TH, 30TH AND 31ST JULY AND 1ST AUGUST 1931.

I.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 23RD JULY 1931.

Suggestions for immediate economies.—The Retrenchment Committee re-assembled at the Secretariat, Fort St. George, this morning. The first subject discussed was the head for effecting immediate economies in the budget provision for the current year. A memorandum prepared by the Finance Department explained that on the information so far available considerable shortages were anticipated under various heads of revenue, notably Excise, compared with the budget estimates. To meet these shortages, it was suggested that more or less arbitrary cuts should be made in certain heads of the budget such as the provision for travelling allowances, petty construction and repairs, books and periodicals and other contingencies. It was also suggested that definite savings might be secured in various other ways, e.g., by the discontinuance of further expenditure from Collector's discretionary grants, by reducing the provision for compassionate gratuities and commutation of pensions and by curtailing provision made for buildings of all kinds. The Chief Engineer had already submitted to Government a list of new works or works in progress which in his opinion might be stopped or slowed down with a consequent saving of about Rs. 10 lakhs.

The Committee accepted the proposals made by the Finance Department and scrutinized in detail the list of works submitted by the Chief Engineer. As a result of the scrutiny they recommended that the savings might be increased from Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 16 lakhs under this head. They also expressed the desire to examine the Chief Engineer and the Surgeon-General regarding the possibility of curtailing expenditure, in view of the existing financial stringency, on certain large schemes such as the remodelling of the General Hospital and the construction of headquarter hospital at Madura.

II.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 24TH JULY 1931.

Travelling allowances.—The Retrenchment Committee spent the whole day examining proposals for the reduction in the rates of travelling allowances under the three main headings of Railway journeys, Road mileage, and Daily allowance. A comparison with the rates in other parts of India showed that, generally speaking, the present Madras allowances have been pitched on a generous scale; and the Committee finally agreed to recommend considerable reductions all-round.

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As regards Railway fares they recommended that the rate should be reduced from $1\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the fare for all ordinary journeys; but agreed that some special provision would be required to meet the cost of more expensive types of journey performed by heads of departments and other officers in the first grade.

Under Road mileage reductions were recommended in the ordinary rates for all except the last, the greatest reduction from 12 annas to 8 annas being in the rate for the highest grade. They also supported a suggestion that for journeys performed by lower grades of Government servants by regular public motor services the mileage allowances should be reduced by half.

Under Daily allowances similar reductions were recommended ranging from a cut of Rs. 3 in the rate of grade I officials down to a cut of one anna in the lowest grade.

The rates of travelling allowances for journeys on transfer and the special rates allowed to certain high officials will be taken up for consideration to-morrow.

III.—PRESS COMMUNIQUE, DATED 25TH JUNE 1931.

Travelling allowances.—The Committee to-day completed their examination of the travelling allowances. They recommended a considerable reduction in the rates allowed for journeys on transfer both by rail and road. They also decided to recommend for the consideration of Government that Members of Council and Ministers might temporarily agree to utilize reserved compartments instead of reserved carriages or saloons for ordinary journeys on tour and that they should also accept reductions in the rate of halting allowance and mileage. They further agreed that similar reductions in the rates of daily allowance and mileage should be applied to the Members of the Board of Revenue and the President of the Legislative Council. It was finally accepted that the rates for Members of the Legislative Council should be reduced to the same extent as those for grade I officers.

2. *Compensatory allowances.*—In the afternoon the Committee took up the subject of compensatory allowances and decided to recommend that these should be cut by five annas in the rupee for all allowances above Rs. 50, by four annas in the rupee for allowance of Rs. 50 down to and including Rs. 20 and two annas in the rupee for allowances below Rs. 20. They went on to recommend that reductions at half the above rates should be made in the rates of hill allowances during the stay of Government at Ootacamund.

3. *Pooling of tents.*—They supported the proposal that all tentage allowances should be abolished and that the necessary supply of tents should be maintained by Government and supplied to officers as required.

4. *Housing concessions.*—On the subject of the various housing concessions now in force they considered that the concession of allowing free quarters should be abolished except where it forms part of the conditions of service and that rent should be levied under the ordinary rules either at full or at concessional rates.

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5. *Supply of electrical energy.*—Finally they suggested that the free supply of electrical energy where this is now allowed should be abolished.

IV.—PRESS COMMUNIQUE, DATED 30TH JULY 1931.

The Retrenchment Committee reassembled this morning and transacted the following business:—

1. *Koraput District Jail.*—They considered a report that they had called for from the Inspector-General of Prisons on the possibility of reducing the Koraput District Jail to the status of a sub-jail. The Inspector-General's report showed that this would be possible and would produce savings of about Rs. 10,000 a year. The Committee supported the proposal.

2. *Fixed travelling allowances.*—They then considered the question of reducing the rates of fixed travelling allowance and decided to recommend a general cut of about $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent in all cases.

3. *Reduction of salaries.*—In the afternoon the Committee had a preliminary discussion of the principles to be followed in approaching the general question of reducing salaries. They reached no final conclusions and decided to call for further information on a number of points.

V.—PRESS COMMUNIQUE, DATED 31st JULY 1931.

1. *Special pays.*—The first subject for discussion for the Retrenchment Committee this morning was the question whether any reduction should be aimed at in the allowances now granted to Government servants under the heading of special pay. The Committee decided to make no general recommendation on this subject but to examine in detail the list of allowances themselves with a view to discovering whether the reduction or total abolition of certain allowances could be justified.

2. *Public Works Department.*—The Committee then proceeded to examine a preliminary memorandum on Public Works Department expenditure, with reference primarily to the standard of expenditure in future years under this head. They came to the provisional conclusion that the scale of expenditure on major and minor works might be reduced by about Rs. 20 lakhs. They then examined the ratio between the cost of establishments and the outlay on works, and expressed the view that the amount spent on establishments at present was excessive and that reductions, in accordance with the revised scale of expenditure on works, might be secured of about Rs. 7 lakhs.

The Committee were inclined to think that it would be necessary to appoint a special Sub-Committee to enquire in detail into the methods and machinery of the Public Works Department, but before coming to final conclusions on any of these matters they decided that it would be advisable to interview the Chief Engineers.

3. *Irrigation expenditure.*—The Committee then considered the proposals made by the Chief Engineer, Irrigation, for immediate reduction of expenditure during the current year. His proposals were

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calculated to secure a net saving of about Rs. 4 lakhs on works and the Committee agreed that these might be accepted, but expressed the opinion that greater economies should be possible and decided to pursue the matter further in consultation with the Chief Engineer.

4. *Grants for roads and bridges.*—On the subject of the non-recurring grants which are at present given for roads, bridges and village communications, the Committee recognized that having regard to the fall in revenues that they anticipate, some reduction would be necessary in comparison with the scale of grants that have been given during the last few years. The figure of reduction suggested under these combined heads was Rs. 8 lakhs.

VI.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 1st AUGUST 1931.

1. *Labour Department.*—The Committee resumed the discussion which had been initiated at their first series of meetings held in Ootacamund, on the future of the Labour Department. While adhering to the opinion that the Commissioner of Labour should not be abolished, the Committee finally agreed to recommend that his duties on behalf of the depressed classes should be performed as an experimental and temporary measure for two years by a Member of the Board of Revenue who for this purpose would also be the Commissioner of Labour.

They further considered that certain duties at present performed by the Commissioner in connexion with purely industrial and labour matters might be distributed among the various officers in Madras and in the districts.

2. *Registration Department.*—After lunch the Committee took up for consideration the Registration Department on which they had called for further information at their June sittings in Ootacamund. The Committee after examining a detailed memorandum furnished by the Inspector-General of Registration made the following among other recommendations:—

- (1) Reduction of the number of District Registrars' offices by six;
- (2) amalgamation of the post of the Inspector of Registration Offices and the Personal Assistant to the Inspector-General; and
- (3) abolition of the itinerating Sub-Registry offices.

The Committee after examining the Inspector-General and a specimen of an enlarged photo-copy, specially produced by him, decided to recommend the continuance of the experiment of photo-copying documents, full size photo-copies being substituted for the present small copies and the fees being raised, if necessary, to cover the extra cost.

On the questions of reducing the number of Sub-Registry offices or raising the rates of Registration fees, the Committee reserved their opinion until a later date.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
3rd August 1931.

G. R. F. TOTTENHAM,
Retrenchment Secretary.

[30th October 1931]

APPENDIX XXV.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 134 supra.]

List of posts on Rs. 500 per mensem and above created during the quarter ending 30th June 1931.

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Date of creation.	Remarks.
A.—PERMANENT.			
<i>Local Self-Government Department—</i>			
Research Officer ...	Rs. 500—50—900 —1,000.	1st April 1930 ...	... A Pharmacological unit was sanctioned permanently from 1st April 1929 for conducting research work on the indigenous drugs of South India. The unit is to work under the Professor of Pharmacology and included a post of Research Officer on Rs. 350—20—550—25—800. This pay has been revised to Rs. 500—50—900—1,000 and the post has been included in the cadre of Civil Surgeons retrospectively with effect from 1st April 1930.
B.—TEMPORARY.			
(i) EXTENSION OF PREVIOUS SANCTIONS.			
Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
<i>General Administration.</i>			
<i>Public (Services) Department—</i>			
Special Accounts Officer in the Local Self-Government Secretariat.	Pay in the regular line of the Indian Audit Service plus Special pay of Rs. 150.	From 27th June 1931 to 20th July 1931.	The post was first sanctioned for three months from 27th March 1931 for work connected with the issue of statutory rules for local bodies and preparation of certain manuals and its period is now extended.

B.—TEMPORARY—cont.

(i) EXTENSION OF PREVIOUS SANCTIONS—cont

Department and designation of the post. Pay per mensem. Period of tenure. Remarks.

Administration of Justice.

rs.

Law (General) Department—
Additional Sub-Judge, Devakottai.
Additional Sub-Judge, Amalapur.
Additional Sub-Judge, Rajahmundry.
Additional Sub-Judge, Masulipatam.

650 One year from 22nd April 1931.
650 From 1st April 1931 to 16th April 1931.
650 From 30th April 1931 to 30th September 1931.
650 From the commencement of the summer recess of 1931 till the commencement of the summer recess of 1932.

650

Additional Sub-Judge, Chingleput.
Temporary Sub-Judge, Tenali.

650 For one year from 1st August 1931.

Public Works and Labour Department—

Executive Engineer

625—1,375

To end of March 1933

For the charge of the Central Presidency Division. The post was first sanctioned for two years from the formation of the division, i.e., from 1st April 1929. For charge of the Dowlaishweram Circle. First sanctioned for two years from 1st April 1929.

Superintending Engineer

1,750—2,150

To end of March 1934

Civil Works.

Executive Engineer

625—1,375

To end of March 1932

For charge of the Coimbatore Water-works Division. Originally sanctioned from 1st March 1925 to 31st March 1929 and continued up to 31st March 1931. Further extension is sanctioned up to 31st March 1932.

Do.

625—1,375

Do.

...

For the charge of Ganjam Agency Division. First sanctioned for one year from 1st April 1929 and then continued for another year.

Do.

625—1,375

Do.

...

For the Special Investigation Division, Bezwada. This was first sanctioned for one year from 18th June 1929 and then continued from 19th June 1930 to 31st March 1931 and is now extended to 31st March 1932.

(ii) POSTS NEWLY CREATED.

General Administration.

Public (Services) Department—
Additional Assistant Secretary to Government in the Finance Department.

500—50—800

Five months from 1st April 1931.

To examine the method of budgeting in subordinate offices. The post was first sanctioned for one month from 19th August 1930.

Administration of Justice.

Law (General) Department—
Additional Sub-Judge, Vizagapatam.

650

From the reopening of the Sub-Court after the summer recess of 1931 up to the commencement of the Christmas holidays.

....

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B.—TEMPORARY—cont.

(ii) POSTS NEWLY CREATED—cont.

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	RS.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
Public Works and Labour Department— Executive Engineer	625—1,375	...	For two years from 8th April 1931.	For the Kattalai Special Division.

C. E. JONES,
Deputy Secretary to Government,
Finance Department.

30th October 1931]

APPENDIX XXVI.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 134 supra.]

Statement of action taken by the Government on the Resolution passed during the first Session of the Fourth Legislative Council 1930-31.

Serial number and resolution.	When passed by the Council.	Nature of action taken by the Government.
1. That this Council recommends to the Government, that, with reference to the recommendations of the Economic Enquiry Committee, the proposed resettlement in Kistna and East and West Godavari districts be not given effect to.	29th January 1931.	The Government have decided not to accept the recommendation of the Economic Enquiry Committee that the resettlement proposals should not be given effect to, and in G.O. No. 1486 (21-a), Revenue, dated the 11th July 1931, have directed that the revised rates proposed by the Special Settlement Officer should be introduced in the three districts with effect from 1st July 1931. The Government Order has been made available to the Press.

APPENDIX XXVII.

[[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 134 supra.]

FINANCE (RETRENCHMENT) DEPARTMENT.

MEETINGS OF THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN
THE SECRETARIAT, FORT ST. GEORGE, FROM THE 6TH
TO 8TH AUGUST 1931.

I.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 6TH AUGUST 1931.

The Retrenchment Committee to-day discussed the expenditure of the Public Health Department. A proposal to combine the Medical and Public Health Departments under a single head was discussed, but the Committee finally agreed that such a step would be inadvisable. They considered, however, that the number of Assistant Directors of Public Health might be reduced and asked the Acting Director of Public Health who was present to examine the possibility of reducing the strength of the district health staffs. The Committee also examined a number of specific suggestions for economy made by the Acting Director. Some of these they accepted, such as the abolition of the special malaria officer, the postponement of the quinquennial training of health inspectors, the abolition of the post of planters' health officer and the abolition of compounders working under the L.M.P. health inspectors

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in the Agency. In other respects the Committee were prepared to go beyond the recommendations of the Director. They recommended, for instance, the abolition of the rural sanitation officer, and the special rural sanitation units; also the abolition of the propaganda officer working under the Director and the abandonment of propaganda work except through the agency of the district health staffs.

2. The Committee then considered the grant for anti-drink propaganda and recommended that it should be abolished at the earliest possible date, retaining a small sum only for subsidizing certain temperance associations.

3. They also considered that the clerical staff now employed in Collectors' offices for the tabulation of vital statistics might be dispensed with and the work entrusted to a small staff employed under the Director of Public Health.

4. The Committee commenced their examination of the sanitary engineering establishments, but eventually adjourned further consideration of this and other matters connected with the Public Health budget until Saturday, the 8th August.

II.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 7TH AUGUST 1931.

In the morning the Committee examined the Surgeon-General, the Chief Engineer, Buildings and Roads, and the two Executive Engineers concerned regarding the General Hospital remodelling scheme and the Headquarter hospital scheme in Madura. As regards the former, the Committee decided to recommend that all items, with a few specified exceptions for which commitments have not yet been entered into, should be stopped. They were unable to come to a definite conclusion regarding the new venereal diseases block for which a contract has not yet been given and finally decided to inspect the premises to-morrow morning in company with the Executive Engineer, the Superintendent of the hospital and the Venereal Diseases Specialist. The Committee also decided to recommend the stoppage of further work on the construction of the Medical College hostel.

2. As regards the Madura Headquarter hospital scheme, they made a similar recommendation to the effect that pending re-examination of the scheme by Government, all further works should be stopped as far as possible.

3. In the afternoon the Committee took up the Surgeon-General's proposals for immediate and recurring economies on colleges, schools and medical institutions. The discussion centred primarily round the question whether the Vizagapatam Medical College and the Tanjore Medical School should be retained or discontinued. The Committee finally decided by a majority to recommend that the Vizagapatam College should not be abolished, but that economies amounting to about half a lakh in expenditure and half a lakh by way of increase in revenue might be effected.

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4. As to the Tanjore Medical School, the majority of the Committee favoured its abolition on the understanding that it would not in itself involve large additional expenditure on the Rayapuram school building scheme.

5. A number of detailed reductions of staffs proposed by the Surgeon-General in various medical institutions and hospitals were agreed to with slight modifications together with certain immediate and non-recurring savings on stores and similar items.

III.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 8TH AUGUST 1931.

The members of the Retrenchment Committee who paid a visit to the General Hospital this morning agreed as a result of their inspection that the building of the new venereal block was necessary and should be proceeded with.

2. The Committee then completed their examination of the remaining items in the Medical Department budget. They agreed with the Surgeon-General that the fees for post-graduate courses of study in medical colleges should be increased and, after examining the Principal School of Indian Medicine, recommended an enhancement of fees and a reduction in the number of free studentships and in the value of stipends, in addition to certain minor economies, in that institution and the hospital attached to it.

3. The Committee then took up the question of the retention of the Director of Town Planning and finally agreed to recommend that this post should be combined with that of Consulting Architect to Government and that the activities of the Director should be confined for the next few years chiefly to the execution of the schemes in progress rather than the investigation of new schemes.

4. As regards the Sanitary Engineering Department the Committee came to the conclusion that, in view of the probability of decreased expenditure in future years and the financial situation, the post of Sanitary Engineer might be converted into that of Deputy Chief Engineer (Water-supply and Drainage) and that the number of Deputy Sanitary Engineers should be reduced from 4 to 2 and should be officers of the grade of Assistant Engineers. They also recommend the abolition of the personal assistant and a corresponding reduction in the subordinate staffs.

5. The Committee then examined the question of the scale of grants for water-supply and drainage schemes in future years. Taking into consideration the actual expenditure of the last few years and the present and the prospective financial position of the Presidency, they recommended that for mufassal local bodies and rural water-supply and drainage schemes the total grant should not exceed about Rs. 10½ lakhs in future, as against the present budget provision of nearly Rs. 16 lakhs. They also expressed the opinion that grants to the Madras Corporation for similar purposes in future should not exceed about Rs. 3 lakhs a year.

[30th October 1931]

6. The Committee then adjourned and will resume their sittings in Madras about the middle of September.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10th August 1931.

G. R. F. TOTTENHAM,
Retrenchment Secretary.

FINANCE (RETRENCHMENT) DEPARTMENT.

MEETINGS OF THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 11TH, 12TH AND 14TH TO 16TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

I.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 11TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

The Retrenchment Committee re-assembled in the Secretariat at Fort St. George at 11-30 a.m. this morning. The morning was spent in discussing the principles underlying the grant of special pays and allowances. In the afternoon the Committee examined the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police regarding the special pays and allowances granted to various grades of officers and men in the Police Department. Their examination had not been completed by the end of the day, but they were able to recommend the total abolition of certain allowances and a considerable reduction in the rates of others. In particular the Committee recommended that the special allowances now given to Deputy and Assistant Commissioners of Police should be reduced from Rs. 100 to Rs. 50, that the rates of C.I.D. special pays for various grades should be lowered and that a small reduction of two annas should be made in the uniform allowance of one rupee per mensem now given to all head constables and constables. This last item will involve a sacrifice of Rs. 1-8-0 a year for each head constable and constable and will result in a saving of Rs. 36,000 a year to Government.

2. The Committee also considered that a 12½ per cent reduction should be effected in the lump sum grants at present given for the initial purchase of uniforms to various grades of Police officers and asked the Inspector-General to examine and report upon the question whether a distinct uniform was necessary for the City Police and what economies would be secured by making the City Police uniform in all ranks identical with that used in the mufassal.

II.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 12TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

The Retrenchment Committee this morning completed their examination of allowances and special pays in the Police Department. The Committee recommended a cut of 50 per cent in the special pays of the Assistant Inspector-General of Police and the Personal Assistant to the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, C.I.D., to be partially compensated for by the grant of a Madras allowance to meet the extra cost of house-rent. The special pays of the two Deputy Superintendents employed in the C.I.D. office were also recommended for reduction. Similar but somewhat smaller cuts were recommended in the special pays now drawn for various special duties by the City Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors.

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2. The Committee then took up the special pays and allowances of Secretariat officers and decided to recommend that the special pay of Rs. 250 now drawn by Secretaries to Government should be reduced to Rs. 100 and that corresponding reductions should be made in the special pays of Deputy and Under Secretaries. At the same time they agreed that these officers might be given allowances in accordance with a general scheme to cover the extra cost of house-rent in Madras.

3. The allowances in a number of minor departments were then examined and the most important recommendation made was that the special pay of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies should be abolished and be replaced by a Madras house allowance, in accordance with a general scheme.

4. The large special pay of Rs. 400 now drawn by the Secretary of the Madras Services Commission also evoked considerable criticism and the Committee eventually recommended that no Government servant appointed to this post should receive more than the special pay granted to an Under Secretary to Government in addition to his grade pay.

5. The general question of shorthand and typing allowances was also discussed, and the Committee decided to recommend that all existing allowances should be continued to their present holders as personal pays, but that in future only one allowance should be granted for shorthand qualifications and none for typing. The shorthand allowance of Rs. 25 should be confined to those who passed the higher test and should only be granted for two years at a time, its renewal being dependent on periodical requalification according to the latest standards.

III.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 14TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

1. The Committee spent the whole day in examining the various allowances and special pays granted in the Medical Department. The Surgeon-General was present throughout. In addition to a number of smaller cuts, the Committee decided to make certain important recommendations.

2. In the first place they considered that no special pay should be granted to the Principals of colleges or Superintendents of hospitals and schools in virtue of added responsibility. They agreed however that the holders of such posts might be given compensation for loss of private practice, where the tenure of the post involved prohibition of such practice, and that those stationed in Madras might receive Madras allowances under whatever scheme may be made applicable to other officers in similar positions.

3. Secondly, with reference to the numerous teaching allowances that are now given to professors and lecturers in colleges and schools, the Committee considered that large reductions should be made. They recommended that the members of the staff of a hospital to whose duties as such are added the duties of teaching in a medical college or school might be entitled to teaching allowances at rates varying from Rs. 75 to Rs. 20 according to the grade of the service to which they belong.

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4. Thirdly, the Committee agreed with the Surgeon-General that the allowances now given to medical officers doing X-Ray work on the ground of the dangerous nature of the duty should be abolished. The Committee were impressed by the very large number of different allowances now granted to the members of the nursing service. The Surgeon-General assured the Committee that the supply of nurses, even at the present rates, was difficult to maintain and the Committee eventually decided not to abolish the allowances, but to make certain percentage cuts in the rates.

IV.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 15TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

Although to-day was a holiday, the Committee continued their examination of special pays and allowances. They dealt with the allowances in the Jails, Veterinary, Industries, Fisheries, Labour and Miscellaneous departments and recommended considerable reductions. Perhaps the most important were the abolition of the special pays now attached to the posts of Director of Industries and Commissioner of Labour and also of the special pays given to revenue officers performing the duties of District Labour Officers and Inspectors. In the Jails Department certain reductions were recommended in the rates of allowances to Medical Officers for medical charge of Central Jails and in the Fisheries Department most of the special pays drawn by one officer or another were recommended for abolition. The abolition of the special pays of the Principal and the Lecturers in the Veterinary College was also recommended.

2. In the afternoon the Committee examined a scheme for the revision of Presidency allowances prepared by the Secretary. The main feature of this scheme is the replacement of the present flat rates of Presidency allowances by a series of variable house allowances to meet the actual amount of rent paid by an officer in excess of the ordinary 10 per cent of his salary that he is expected to pay when occupying Government quarters. Schedule rates of house allowances would be laid down and would be regarded as maxima. The actual amount payable would depend on the amount required in individual cases. The Committee agreed that a scheme of this nature might be introduced for gazetted officers, but reduced the schedule rates proposed. According to their recommendation the maximum rates for gazetted officers in future will vary from Rs. 80 to Rs. 35. So far as non-gazetted officers were concerned, the Committee considered that the enquiries necessitated by such a scheme would be out of proportion to the economy likely to be secured. They therefore recommended reduced flat rates of house allowances for non-gazetted officers varying from Rs. 18 to Rs. 4.

V.—PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ, DATED 16TH SEPTEMBER 1931.

1. The Retrenchment Committee to-day completed their examination of allowances and special pays except for one or two small items. The departments dealt with included Education, Forests, Excise, Land Revenue and District Administration, Public Works, Agriculture,

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Judicial and Miscellaneous. The Committee pursued a consistent policy of recommending the abolition of a large number of special pays grouped under the heading of added responsibility, including those at present granted to Principals of Colleges, Deputy Directors of Public Instruction, the Principals of the Forest and Agricultural Colleges, the Forest Working Plans Officers and Research Officer, the Headquarters Deputy Director of Agriculture and other similar posts. They also recommended the abolition of the "arduous duties" special pay at present drawn by Settlement Officers. They agreed that a small special pay might be given to the Secretary and two Assistant Secretaries in the Board of Revenue on the analogy of secretariat departments.

2. They also recommended reductions in almost all conveyance allowances in the above departments and the complete abolition of some allowances of this description.

3. The Committee have thus succeeded, during their present session of five meetings, in making an exhaustive survey of many hundreds of allowances, which it is hoped will result in very considerable economy.

4. The Committee will meet again for about a week on the 20th October.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
17th September 1931.

G. R. F. TOTTENHAM,
Retrenchment Secretary.

APPENDIX XXVIII.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 134 supra.]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCE (RETRENCHMENT) DEPARTMENT.

PRESS COMMUNIQUÉ.

Dated Fort St. George, the 14th September 1931.

The following summary of the progress achieved in the matter of retrenchment during the current financial year may be of general interest.

2. The Retrenchment Committee have held two sessions—the first, consisting of four meetings, in Ootacamund, and the second, consisting of nine meetings, in Madras. They are at present holding their third session in Madras.

3. The Committee have examined in detail the expenditure of five departments, viz., Medical, Public Health, Jails, Registration and Labour; and their resulting recommendations are calculated to secure

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an ultimate reduction of expenditure, chiefly of a recurring nature, of about Rs. 23 lakhs and an increase of revenue of about Rs. 2 lakhs in these departments. The distribution is approximately as follows:—

Department.	Reduction of expenditure.	Increase of revenue.
(1)	(2)	(3)
	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
1. Medical ...	6.50	.75
2. Public Health ...	11.00	...
	Including a reduction of about Rs. 6 lakhs in the future scale of grants for water-supply and drainage schemes, in order to bring expenditure down to the level of earlier years, and the abolition of the anti-drink propaganda grant of Rs. 2 lakhs.	
3. Jails ...	2.25	...
4. Registration ...	1.50	1.25
5. Labour ...	1.75	...
Total ...	23.00	2.00

The above recommendations have been forwarded to Government and they have already accepted certain of the proposals, involving savings of about Rs. 4 lakhs a year, viz., about Rs. 1.25 lakhs each under Medical and Labour, nearly Rs. .75 lakh each under Public Health and Registration, and a small amount under Jails, where the main item of retrenchment is the closure of the Alipuram Jail at the end of the year. The remaining proposals are still under consideration.

4. The Committee have conducted a partial examination of the Public Works Department expenditure and have tentatively recommended a reduction in the future scale of expenditure on major works alone (Buildings, Communications and Irrigation) of about Rs. 15 lakhs compared with the present level. In addition they have examined in detail the General Hospital and the Madura Headquarters Hospital schemes and have recommended savings in the former amounting to about Rs. 8 lakhs and the stoppage of all further work on the latter. They expect to be able to recommend further considerable reductions in future expenditure on Minor works and on Maintenance and Repairs and also corresponding economies on establishment charges. The orders of Government under this head must await the final recommendations of the Committee.

The Committee have not dealt with the Cauvery-Mettur Project.

5. In addition, the Committee have spent a considerable time in examining certain general questions affecting all departments, such as Pay and Allowances. They have already recommended reductions in

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the rates of travelling allowances of all kinds and certain preliminary cuts in compensatory and cost of living allowances. Their present series of meetings is being confined to a further and more detailed examination of all allowances and, particularly, special pays. The financial effect of the reductions already recommended under Travelling Allowances and Compensatory Allowances alone cannot be precisely estimated, but is probably about Rs. 10 or 12 lakhs a year. It is understood that the majority of these recommendations have been accepted by Government and will be given effect to shortly.

The Committee still have to make recommendations about special pays and salaries, and will then resume their detailed examination of the expenditure of the remaining departments.

6. The sum total of the ultimate savings anticipated from the recommendations of the Committee up to date is thus in the neighbourhood of half a crore of rupees a year while the savings so far accepted (or shortly to be accepted) by Government may be put at about Rs. 15 lakhs a year. Further savings may of course be expected when Government have passed orders on the remaining proposals.

7. In addition to, and to some extent independently of, the activities of the Retrenchment Committee described above, the Government have themselves been engaged for the last few months in cutting down expenditure during the current year in order to keep pace as far as possible with the fall in revenue, as compared with the budget estimates, which is anticipated on account of the present conditions.

For this purpose they have ordered considerable immediate cuts in the budget provision of all departments, under certain general heads, such as Contingencies, Supplies and Services and Petty Construction and Repairs, and they have also accepted certain recommendations from heads of departments for immediate reduction of expenditure in other ways, in advance of the Retrenchment Committee's detailed examination of their budgets. The surrenders secured by these means already amount to over Rs. 20 lakhs, including about Rs. 4 lakhs under Police, Rs. 3 lakhs under General Administration, Rs. 2½ lakhs under Forests, Rs. 2¼ lakhs under Pensions, Rs. 1¾ lakhs under Jails (exclusive of the Committee's recommendations), Rs. 1½ lakhs under Land Revenue and Rs. 1½ lakhs under Medical (in addition to the Committee's recommendations) and Rs. 1 lakh under Agriculture.

8. Finally, the Chief Engineers have been called upon to postpone expenditure on works of all kinds, so far as this can be done without incurring breaches of contracts or delaying essential construction or repairs. The Retrenchment Committee have examined the proposals of the Chief Engineers and have recommended savings in the current year on buildings amounting to Rs. 16 lakhs. Their examination of the proposals for immediate savings on communications and irrigation works has not yet been completed, but surrenders of over Rs. 6 lakhs under Irrigation have already been made, and of Rs. 2¾ lakhs under Grants-in-aid for Roads and Bridges and Water-supply and Drainage schemes.

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9. The sum total of the immediate savings secured by the methods described in the two preceding paragraphs is thus also not far short of half a crore of rupees. Owing particularly to the fall in Excise Revenue, this amount will have to be considerably increased before the end of the year, if serious inroads upon the Provincial balances are to be avoided.

G. R. F. TOTTENHAM,
Retrenchment Secretary.

APPENDIX XXIX.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 135 supra.]

LAW (REGISTRATION) DEPARTMENT.

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

U.O. Note No. 4785-C-1, dated 23rd September 1931.

With reference to the answer to the supplementary question to question No. 26 answered on the 3rd August 1931, the information contained in the annexure hereto is placed on the table of the House.

V. N. VISWANATHA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Legislative Council Office (with enclosure).

ANNEXURE.

* 26 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that every year a temporary joint sub-registrar is appointed in the Registrar's office at Mangalore, for about four months from June;

(b) whether it is a fact that usually an experienced clerk of the office is appointed for the post in the absence of a probationary sub-registrar;

(c) whether it is a fact that there was a vacancy of a temporary joint sub-registrar this June also; if so, whether the registrar recommended an experienced clerk who had acted for nearly two years as a sub-registrar;

(d) whether the Government or the Inspector-General of Registration turned down the proposal of the Registrar and ordered a junior man from Hosdrug to be appointed for the job; if so, why the claims of the senior officer have been ordered to be superseded; and

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(e) what extra travelling allowance and acting allowance will have to be paid to the newly appointed temporary joint sub-registrar by reason of his having to come from Hosdrug?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Registrar's nominee was a non-graduate Brahman. As the previous sanction of the Government had to be obtained for his appointment as sub-registrar and as the vacancy was expected to last only for three weeks, a senior non-Brahman clerk was appointed. The order that the sanction of Government is necessary for the appointment of non-graduate Brahmans as sub-registrars has since been withdrawn.

(e) The travelling allowance and the extra acting allowance that had to be paid to the clerk appointed as temporary joint sub-registrar was Rs. 5-13-0 and Rs. 2-13-0 respectively.

APPENDIX XXX.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 135 supra.]

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

With reference to the answer given to the supplementary question to question No. 102 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th August 1931, the following report of the Chief Conservator is laid on the table of the House:—

Proceedings of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras,
L.Dis. No. 7082/31-D-1, dated 19th August 1931.

No trees standing on kumaki lands were counted or marked by the Revenue authorities anywhere in the district. The District Forest Officer, South Mangalore, reports that mature valuable trees standing on Government waste land were counted with the object of preparing a scheme for utilizing such trees without further deterioration and waste in Kasaragod and Puttur taluks and during the course of such enumeration, in one or two cases, a few trees standing on kumaki lands were also marked by mistake, as kumaki limits were not clear and that as soon as the mistake was found out, such trees were excluded.

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2. I had a communication from the Honorary Secretary, Landholders' Association, in the matter and he was informed that a few trees in kumaki were marked by the District Forest Officer, South Mangalore; but they were excluded when it was found out that they were in kumaki.

S. V. RAMAMURTI,
Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX XXXI.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 135 supra.]

LAW (REGISTRATION) DEPARTMENT.

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

With reference to the answer to the supplementary question to question No. 120 answered on the 5th August 1931, the information contained in the annexure hereto is placed on the table of the House.

V. N. VISWANATHA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Legislative Council Office.

ANNEXURE.

* 120 Q.—MR. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to place on the table the number of the members of the Settibalija community employed in the Registration Department.

A.—There are three Reserve Sub-Registrars and five clerks belonging to the Settibalija community employed in the Registration Department.

APPENDIX XXXII.

[Vide Item XVII "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 135 supra.]

Extract from G.O. Ms. No. 2436 W., dated 26th September 1931.

* * * * *

His Excellency the Governor authorizes under the proviso (b) to section 72-D (2) of the Government of India Act the expenditure of not more than Rs. 70,000 (seventy thousand) on repairs and improvements to the Kalikavu-Wandur road under the head "41. (b) Civil works—Transferred—Original works—Communications".

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF
MADRAS.

Saturday, the 31st October 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.	Krishnaswami Ayyar, Diwan Bahadur Alladi.
Krishnan Nayar, Kt., The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J. Luker, Mr. F. G.
Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R. Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.	Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A. Moses, Mr. P. C.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur, S.	Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I. Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Alamelumanga Thayaramma, Mrs. K. Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.	Nachiyappa Goundar, Mr. K. A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	Nanjappah Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.	Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Birley, Mr. F.	Palat, Mr. R. M.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Conran Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E.	Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Devadasan, Mr. M.	Pattagar of Palayakottai, The
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Raja of Kallikote, The
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Indrayya, Mr. C.	Ramanurti, I.C.S., Mr. S. V.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
James, Mr. F. E.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Khalif-ud-dah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Kondappa, Mr. A.	Ratnasabhupati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur, C. S.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.

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P R E S E N T—cont.

Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshtha, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.

Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Thorne, O.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Winter, Mr. W. E.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The

I.—SWEARING IN OF A MEMBER.

Mr. J. A. THORNE made the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Crown and took his seat.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Non-observance of the three years' rule in the case of the Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction and the Deputy Director of Public Instruction.

*346 Q.—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state what special reasons have constrained the Government to continue the present Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction and the present Deputy Director of Public Instruction (personnel) in their posts for a period longer than the usual three years' period?

A.—No rule has been laid down fixing a definite period for the tenure of the offices of Deputy Directors and Personal Assistant.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know whether Government will consider the desirability of making transfers of these officers in view of the fact that they have remained in these posts too long, where naturally they may have their own likes and dislikes so far as the establishment is concerned ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ Yes, Sir, I shall consider that. ”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether it is not a fact that such a policy is being followed in other departments of Government in the City of Madras ? ”

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ Certain posts have been classified as tenure posts, the incumbents of which ought not to remain in those posts for more than three years. These posts have not been classified as such. ”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether these officers will be classified as such ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ That question was once considered by the Government and dropped. ”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ In view of the answer that has just been given, may I know if the hon. the Minister will consider again the desirability of bringing these posts also under tenure posts ? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ I have already said that I would consider the desirability of transferring these officers. This is a new question; and I shall consider this also. ”

Need for the abolition of the post of the Deputy Directress.

* 347 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a post of Deputy Directress in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Madras;

(b) what is the approximate annual expenditure incurred by retaining this post by way of—(1) pay, (2) special pay, (3) overseas pay, (4) local allowance, (5) travelling allowance and (6) other allowances, if any;

(c) whether a similar post exists in any of the other major provinces of India;

(d) what will be the annual saving that will be effected by abolishing this post; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to abolish this post in connexion with the proposals for the retrenchment of public expenditure?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The post is held by an officer of the I.E.S. Women's branch. The present incumbent draws Rs. 625 a month in the scale of pay of the ordinary grade of the service, Rs. 400—25—850 with an overseas pay of Rs. 100 a month. She is also granted a special pay of Rs. 100 and house-rent allowance of Rs. 100 a month.

The amount spent on the travelling allowance of the Deputy Directress from July 1930 to June 1931 was Rs. 847.

(c) Similar posts exist in Bihar and Orissa and in the Punjab.

(d) The eventual saving will be the expenditure referred to in the answer to clause (b).

(e) The retrenchment proposals in the Education Department are still under the consideration of the Retrenchment Committee and the recommendations of the Committee have not been received by the Government yet.

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Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know the special reason for retaining the Deputy Directress in her office for such a long time ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There was no special reason to remove her; that is all I can say. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the hon. the Minister is not aware that there is a reason for removing her ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I am not at present in a position to say anything about that, without a longer notice than this. "

Deputy Directress of Public Instruction.

* 348 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) who is the Deputy Directress of Public Instruction;
- (b) how long she has been holding that appointment;
- (c) whether there are any Indian women officers of the Indian Educational Service who are seniors to her; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to appoint an Indian woman officer to the post of Deputy Directress of Public Instruction?

A.—(a) Miss Irene H. Lowe.

(b) She has been holding the post since the 17th August 1926. During this period she has been on leave for about eleven months.

(c) No.

(d) No.

Tours made by the Deputy Directress of Public Instruction.

* 349 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI:— Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

- (a) what tours were made by the Deputy Directress of Public Instruction during each of the months from July 1930 to June 1931;
- (b) what expenditure was incurred on travelling allowance in respect of these tours during each of these months; and
- (c) what specific work was done by the Deputy Directress in each of these tours?

A.—(a) & (b) The following statement gives the information:—

Month.	Districts visited.			Expenditure on travelling allowance.
				About Rs. 107
July 1930 ..	Vizagapatam	and	East	
	Godavari.			
January 1931 ..	North Arcot	..	..	61
March 1931 ..	Guntur	..	..	105
	South Arcot and Tanjore	..	..	91
	Chingleput	..	..	32
June 1931 ..	Coimbatore	..	..	
	Malabar	..	..	
	Anantapur	..	..	
	Bellary	..	..	451
	Kurnool	..	..	
	Cuddapah	..	..	

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- (c) In each of the tours useful information was collected in regard to questions affecting individual schools which required local investigation and also in respect of the general question of the development of female education in the locality.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, with reference to the answer to clause (c) of the question, what information has been obtained ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I cannot say without notice. Abundant information has been received which the Government consider useful."

Alleged petition for the removal of Miss B. Amirthammal from Government service.

* 350 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether Miss B. Amirthammal, Lecturer in the Lady Willingdon Training College, was on leave from 23rd January to 23rd February 1931 and, if so, for what reason;

(b) whether on the expiry of her leave she took her residence in the Widows' Home attached to the College, and, if so, on what terms, and on whose permission; and

(c) whether any petitions were received by the Superintendent of the Home and by the Government for her removal from the Home and from Government service and how they have been disposed of and why?

A.—(a) Miss B. Amirthammal was granted leave for 25 days from the 26th January 1931 for reasons of health.

(b) The Principal has reported that Miss Amirthammal stayed in the Ice House Hostel for the last five days of February, the whole of March and the first five days of April 1931 and that she paid the hostel at the rate of 12 annas a day in February and April and Rs. 15 for the month of March. The Principal accorded permission to the lecturer to stay in the hostel.

(c) It is stated that two petitions were received by the Superintendent of the hostel who showed them to the Principal, but took no further action on them as they were anonymous. Petitions were also received by Government who examined the allegations made and came to the conclusion that no enquiry was called for.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether Miss B. Amirthammal was granted leave for real ill-health or for any other reason ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It was for ill-health, Sir. "

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Was there any certificate produced, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I think so."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know, Sir, why she was allowed to stay in the Ice House Home?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"She stayed there with the permission of the Principal and as a guest of one of the residents of the Home."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Has there been any other such woman who was allowed to reside in the Ice House Home?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

Appointment of Mr. N. Sivaraj as an Assistant Professor in the Law College.

* 351 Q.—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law College Council did not originally send up the name of Mr. N. Sivaraj for appointment as a Lecturer in the Law College;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government addressed the President of the Law College Council with a view to obtain his consent to the appointment of Mr. N. Sivaraj on the ground of his being a member of the depressed classes and his previous experience for six years as a Lecturer in the College;

(c) whether the President in reply informed the Government that the desirability of appointing a member of the depressed classes as Assistant Professor had been considered by the College Council and that nevertheless the Council was unanimously of opinion that Mr. Sivaraj was incompetent for the post; and

(d) if so, what reasons compelled the Government to appoint Mr. Sivaraj as an Assistant Professor?

A.—The Government are not prepared to publish correspondence relating to appointments, which is treated as confidential.

Personnel of the Selection Committees of the Teachers' College, Saidapet, and the Engineering College, Guindy.

* 352 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state the number and names of gentlemen serving on the students' selection committees in the Teachers' College, Saidapet, and the Engineering College, Guindy?

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Teachers' College, Saidapet (5).

- A.—1. The Principal of the College.
2. M.R.Ry. S. Balakrishna Ayyar Avargal, Lecturer, Teachers' College, Saidapet.
3. M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar Avargal, M.L.A.
4. M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib N. Chengal Rao Avargal, Retired Registrar, Madras Secretariat.
5. Khan Bahadur Abdul Razak Sahib Bahadur, Chairman, Municipal Council, Saidapet.

College of Engineering, Guindy (6).

1. The Principal of the College.
2. Mr. M. Lingard, Chief Engineer, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.
3. Khan Bahadur Abdul Razak Sahib Bahadur, Chairman, Municipal Council, Saidapet.
4. M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur C. Arunachala Mudaliyar Avargal, Zamindar of Channampet.
5. M.R.Ry. P. Ramannathan Avargal, Solicitor, Madras.
6. M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja Avargal, M.L.A.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask if these Committees are appointed from time to time or, when once they are appointed, they go on for ever?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"They are appointed from time to time; the period is three years, if I am not mistaken."

Admission of Andhra students in the Presidency College, Madras.

* 353 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total number of applicants and total number of admissions into the Intermediate classes (Arts course) of the Presidency College, Madras;

(b) of these, how many applications were received from the students of 'Andhra Desa', and how many of them were actually admitted;

(c) what is the personnel of the Committee of selection of students for admission into the College, and how many persons from 'Andhra Desa' were included in the Committee; and

(d) what are the functions of the Committee?

A.—(a) 457 and 175 respectively.

(b) Number of applications received ?
 Number of candidates who were offered admission and to whom admission cards were sent
 Number that actually joined

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- (c) (1) The Principal of the College.
 (2) M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar Avargal, M.L.C.
 (3) The hon. Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chetti Garu, C.I.E.
 (4) M.R.Ry. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar Avargal, M.L.C.
 (5) Khan Bahadur Haji Muhammad Abdul Aziz Badsha Sahib Bahadur.
 (6) M.R.Ry. C. K. Krishnaswami Pillai Avargal, Professor of Geology in the College.
 (7) M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur T. Varadarajalu Nayudu Garu, Retired District Judge.
 The Committee is not constituted on a linguistic or territorial basis.

- (d) The Committee is to assist the Principal of the College in the selection and admission of students into the College.

Advisability of holding parallel examinations under the old and new S.S.L.C. schemes.

* 354 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great difference in the curricula of the old S.S.L.C. scheme and the new S.S.L.C. scheme; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to consider the advisability of making arrangements for the holding of parallel examinations under both the schemes for a period of another two years at least to relieve the hardship of students reading in the V and VI forms at present and the failed S.S.L.C. students of previous years?

A.—(a) There is a difference between the old and the new S.S.L.C. scheme.

(b) Orders have already been issued directing that the public examination in accordance with the old scheme should be held in the years 1932 and 1933 for the benefit of pupils who studied in form VI in 1930-31, but did not appear for the public examination in March 1931 and of those who appeared for the examination in 1931 or in previous years, but were not declared eligible for admission to the University courses of study.

Death of the boarders of the Mission Hostel, Erode.

* 355 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government know that there were several deaths of the boarders in the Mission Hostel at Erode a few months back;

(b) whether it is a fact that this sudden death was due to a poison caused by a reptile being boiled with the rice;

(c) if the answer to (b) be in the negative, the real cause for such sudden deaths;

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(d) who is in charge of the hostel and what is his explanation to the authorities concerned; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the head of the hostel would not permit the parents to remove their suffering children when they were in an unconscious state for medical aid?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Cholera.

(d) The Reverend W. Clewes was the manager and Mr. J. T. Rajanayagam the headmaster of the institution. There were also resident masters in charge of the different units of the hostel.

The headmaster's explanation was that the outbreak was due to a very virulent type of cholera infection in the food eaten by the boarders at night.

(e) It is not a fact that any student was denied medical aid. All patients were admitted into hospital and received immediate medical attention.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"With reference to answer to clause (d) of the question where it is stated 'the outbreak was due to a very virulent type of cholera infection in the food eaten by the boarders at night,' may I know what action has been taken against those who were responsible for the death of some of the boarders?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"As far as I am aware, nobody was particularly responsible for that, and an investigation was made and the necessary sanitary improvements have been effected. Beyond that, no notice seemed called for in the matter."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHIPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether cholera was prevalent in Erode prior to its outbreak in the boarding house?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know what the Government mean by saying in answer to clause (c) that it was due to cholera and then again in clause (d) that it was due to a 'virulent type of cholera infection in the food eaten by the boarders at night'? Evidently, cholera was confined only to that area?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot say that without notice."

Mr. Champion's scheme of elementary education.

* 356 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) how many municipal councils, district boards and educational councils have approved Mr. Champion's scheme of centralizing and consolidating elementary education; and

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(b) whether it is the intention of the Government when the scheme is brought into operation to do away with all or any of the elementary schools maintained by the Labour department?

A.—(a) Local bodies which maintain elementary schools have alone been advised to prepare schemes in the light of the recommendations made in Mr. Champion's report and submit them to the Director of Public Instruction. Seventeen taluk boards and nine municipal councils have so far addressed the Director in the matter. Of these, nine taluk boards and all the municipal councils have generally approved of the recommendations in the report. No communication has been received from any District Educational Council approving of the recommendations.

(b) If a school maintained by the Labour department is found to be superfluous and if the pupils in that school can be provided for in any of the existing schools, its removal will be considered provided there is some guarantee that the facilities for pupils of the depressed classes will not be diminished after the Labour school has been closed.

Alleged incompleteness of the list of areas suitable for opening schools.

* 357 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the list of places noted in Annexure B of the Director of Public Instruction's proceedings R.O.C. No. 1855-B/29, dated 19th June 1930, is incomplete with regard to Sankari Taluk Board;

(b) whether any correspondence has passed between the President of the Taluk Board and the Government as regards the inclusion of certain important places which he considered suitable for opening girls' schools in the list issued by the Director of Public Instruction; and

(c) why the suggestion of the President of the Taluk Board was not taken into consideration?

A.—(a) The lists of school-less centres are prepared on the basis of the population recorded in the Village Census Statistics of 1921 and in consultation with the Inspectresses of Schools. The list referred to in the question is the third list and is as complete as possible. The Director of Public Instruction proposes to revise it in the light of the census figures for 1931 as soon as they are available.

(b) Yes—between the President of the Taluk Board and the Director of Public Instruction.

(c) The centres suggested by the President of the Taluk Board, Sankari, had a population of less than 2,000 according to the census of 1921. The Government are not subsidizing local boards towards the cost of opening and maintaining girls' schools in centres with a population of less than 2,000.

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—" May I know whether population is the only consideration? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Yes, Sir; under the existing rules, population is the consideration."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether there is any proposal before the Government to reduce the number of the population limit with regard to school centres? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There is no such proposal under consideration."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" With regard to at least the backward communities, Sir? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" With regard to none."

Proposed use of the buildings of the Government School of Commerce for the Training School for men, Calicut.

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

(a) whether the accommodation for the Government Training School for men, Calicut, is adequate;

(b) whether the District Educational Officer, Malabar, suggested at any time the use of the buildings of the Government School of Commerce, Calicut, for the use of the Training School for men, during the period of the day when the commercial school is not in session;

(c) what the hours of working of the School of Commerce are;

(d) what the decision of the Government is on the subject; and

(e) whether there is a proposal to change the working hours of the Government School of Commerce, Calicut?

A.—(a) The accommodation is considered fairly satisfactory.

(b) Yes. The Director of Public Instruction, however, was of the view that the existing accommodation will suffice for the present on the execution of certain minor improvements which have been carried out.

(c) The typewriting class is held from 7-45 to 10-45 a.m. and from 3-30 to 7-30 p.m. The other classes are held from 7-45 to 9-45 a.m. and from 4-30 to 7-30 p.m.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No.

* *List of Government Training Schools for Women in the Presidency.*

* 359 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the names of Government training schools for women in this Presidency on 1st March 1931;

(b) the strength of the secondary, higher elementary and lower elementary training classes in each of these schools on 1st March 1931;

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(c) the expenditure from Provincial funds on each of these training schools during 1930-31;

(d) the approximate cost of training a student for each of these schools for 1930-31; and

(e) whether there are any proposals for abolishing any of these schools in connexion with the proposals for retrenchment of public expenditure and amalgamating the classes in those schools with the classes of neighbouring schools?

A.—(a) to (d) The hon. Member is referred to the subsidiary tables at pages 130-132 of Part II of Volume II of the Report on Public Instruction for 1929-30. Information for 1930-31 is not available.

(e) The answer is in the negative.

Personnel of the Board of Examiners for Shorthand and Typewriting.

* 360 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) who are the members of the Board of Examiners for Shorthand and Typewriting;

(b) what is the principle underlying the selection of the Board of Examiners and the Assistant Examiners; and

(c) what are the qualifications of Assistant Examiners in each case?

A.—(a) & (c) The information asked for is confidential.

(b) When selecting examiners and assistant examiners, particular account is taken of their knowledge and practical experience, their status and their capacity to discharge the responsible work entrusted to them.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know the qualifications which decide the selection of these examiners? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Oh yes; they must have knowledge of the subjects, practical experience, and they must have the capacity to discharge their responsible work as examiners."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Is it not a fact that thoroughly unqualified people are examiners now? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" No, Sir."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Of the present examiners, how many are Brahmans and how many are non-Brahmans? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I am not prepared to disclose who are all the examiners, nor can I give the communities to which they belong."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Is it a fact that not less than two have been there for seven or eight years as examiners? "

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I cannot say."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Is it the policy of the Government that one or two people should have the monopoly of these examinations? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It is not the policy of the Government, Sir."

Government technical examinations in shorthand and typewriting.

* 361 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased—

(a) to place on the table of the House a statement showing the number of candidates who appeared for the Government examinations in shorthand and typewriting (both lower and higher grades) for the last ten years districtwar and the number of candidates who came out successful;

(b) to state the number of candidates who appeared and came out successful in the Government examinations in shorthand and typewriting (lower and higher) held in April 1931; and

(c) the reasons for the increase or decrease in the percentage of candidates who were successful for the last three years?

A.—(a) The lower and higher grades were introduced only with effect from April 1924. The printing of the statement required will be expensive. A statement in manuscript is available for inspection.

(b) The figures are given below:—

Subject.	Lower.		Higher.	
	Number examined.	Number passed.	Number examined.	Number passed.
Shorthand ..	702	46	118	Nil
Typewriting ..	1,918	386	217	29

(c) The results in 1929 were not unsatisfactory. For 1930 and April 1931 they were bad, particularly in Shorthand. The valuation was strictly in accordance with the rules and few candidates reached the required standard.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the Government will enquire into the reasons why there has been such a huge failure, especially in shorthand? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Yes, Sir; they have enquired. The reason that they have been able to discover is that in previous years the examiners were very lenient and this year the examiners have been strict."

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Committee to draw up plans for starting the Science Institute of the Andhra University.

* 362 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether the Government have appointed a committee to draw up plans and make arrangements for the starting of the Science Institute of the Andhra University next year, and if so, its constitution, terms of reference and the progress made in the work entrusted to the committee?

A.—The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask whether the Government will make arrangements for the technological side as early as possible, considering that this was one of the main objects with which the Andhra University was started? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ It is the business of the University to start this or any other Institute; and it is not the business of the Government to start them.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Have any proposals been received from the Andhra University or anybody else? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ No.”

Expenditure on education for Muslims and depressed classes.

* 363 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of money spent by Government for Muslims, for the running of special schools and colleges and hostels and the award of scholarships to them;

(b) the amount of money spent by Government for the depressed classes for the running of special schools, hostels and the award of scholarships to them;

(c) the amount of money spent for the Kallars for running schools and awarding scholarships; and

(d) whether any amount is spent by Government for running schools and awarding scholarships to the Vannikula-Kshatriyas?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to statements Nos. 75 and 78 in Part I of Volume II of the Report on Public Instruction for 1929-30. Beyond the information contained in these statements, no separate figures of the expenditure incurred on the education of Muslims and depressed classes are available.

(c) & (d) The information is not available.

Compilation of the Tamil Lexicon.

* 364 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) what is the expenditure incurred so far in compiling the Tamil Lexicon and what more would it cost to bring the work to completion;

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(b) how many volumes will go to make up the complete Tamil Lexicon, what is the number of volumes that have so far been issued to the public and how many volumes now await printing and issue;

(c) whether the Lexicon is issued to the public by the Government Press and if not, by whom and why;

(d) how many time the work has changed publishers and sellers and why;

(e) whether sale agencies are paid commission depending upon their sales or whether they are paid at a flat rate; and

(f) whether Government have received complaints from the public regarding non-receipt of the serial issues regularly and what steps the Government have taken to stimulate sales on a business-like basis?

A.—(a) The expenditure incurred until the end of 1930-31 was Rs. 2.90 lakhs; the Government have no information as to what further expenditure will have to be incurred.

(b) There is no information as regards the first part; in regard to the remaining parts, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reports recorded in G.O. No. 1570, Education, dated 3rd September 1931, which has been placed at the disposal of the press.

(c) to (f) The copyright in the work having been surrendered to the University of Madras, the arrangements for printing and publishing the Lexicon are made by the University and not by the Government Press. The Government have, therefore, no information on the points raised in clauses (d) to (f).

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know when the compilation will be completed? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ The hon. Member must ask the University, because the University is in charge of the work. The copyright has been surrendered to the University.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know how many volumes have appeared so far? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ That information has been included in a publication which is available to the hon. Member.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know from the hon. the Minister what exactly is the expenditure on the work done so far? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ Beyond what is found in that publication which is available to him as well as to me, I cannot give any further information; because as I said, it is the University that is in charge of the work.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know if half or quarter of the work has been done so far? ” (No reply.)

*Unauthorized use of the titles of Vidwan and Siromani
in Northern Circars.*

* 365 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that some people in the Northern Circars who have not passed the Government Public Examinations of Vidwan and Siromani are freely adding those titles to their names; and

(b) whether the Government propose to take any action to stop this malpractice?

A.—(a) The Government do not conduct any such examinations; nor are they aware of the existence of the practice referred to.

(b) Does not arise.

Excise

Report regarding illicit manufacture and sale of liquor.

* 366 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the case of illicit manufacture and sale of liquor the report about such illicit manufacture or sale is to be made to the Circle Inspector of Excise; and

(b) whether instances have been reported to the Government in which Excise officials tried to suppress such reports?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to section 38 of the Madras Abkari Act, 1886.

(b) A petition of May 1930 has been traced in which it was stated that Excise officers did not take due notice of reports regarding illicit sale of liquor and that they were countenancing adulteration and other irregularities. Enquiry showed that the allegations were not true.

*Location of a liquor shop in Old Jalarpet, Temple Ward,
Vizagapatam.*

* 367 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations have been made to him regarding the location of a liquor shop in Old Jalarpet, Temple Ward, Vizagapatam;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to remove the said shop; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer is in the negative.

(c) Does not arise.

Agriculture

Applicants for admission to the Agricultural College.

* 368 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how many candidates applied for admission to the Agricultural College this year;

(b) whether all the applicants were asked to appear before the Selection Committee; and

(c) how many of them came for interview and what was the number of candidates that were finally selected?

A.—(a) Three hundred and twenty-one.

(b) Yes.

(c) Two hundred and thirty-four and forty-five. The latter figure excludes the three seats reserved for failed students of the previous year's batch.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, whether all the applicants were called for interview without any preliminary scrutiny having been made of the applications ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I want notice."

Age-limit for admission of students to the Agricultural College.

* 369 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there has been any age-limit for admission of students to the Agricultural College;

(b) whether agricultural graduates of above 25 years of age were being entertained in the Agricultural Department till last year and if so, what was the age bar provided for such appointments; and

(c) whether this year the Madras Services Commission has called for applications from candidates below 25 years for the posts of Agricultural Demonstrators?

A.—(a) Candidates must have attained the age of 17 at the time of joining College.

(b) Under Subsidiary Rule 8 to Fundamental Rule 10, no person whose age exceeds 25 years can be admitted in Government service without the sanction of the head of the department. This rule was embodied in the General Rules regulating the recruitment, condition of service, etc., of Subordinate Services issued in 1929, but the power of exemption exercised by heads of departments has since been withdrawn. These rules apply to the Madras Agricultural Subordinate Service.

(c) The Madras Services Commission called for applications from candidates born on or after 2nd October 1906.

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Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether, in view of the fact that students have undergone the course without knowing that this power of exemption will be withdrawn from the Heads of departments, Government propose to show any concession to such students?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I don't think so."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether the Government have considered the advisability of raising the age of applicants from 25 to 27?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"They have raised the age from 25 to 27."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know then whether such of those as suffered from the age limitation, who have now been enabled to get into the selection, will also be given the chance of appearing before the Committee?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The matter is under consideration, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the hon. the Minister is aware that the Services Commission have asked the applicants to see them on the 4th of next month?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"If Government come to a decision before that, perhaps the Commission will be informed."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the Government will consider the advisability of postponing the selection till all the applicants who are eligible can also be called and then holding a general selection?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The matter is under consideration."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the Government consider it favourably?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"No undertaking can be given, but they will consider the question."

"Activated Sludge" experiments in the Government Central Farm Estate, Coimbatore.

* 370 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) how long ago and under whose initiative the "Activated Sludge" experiments were started in the Government Central Farm Estate, Coimbatore;

(b) what was the capital outlay on the plant;

(c) whether any, and what, royalty has been paid or included in the cost;

(d) to what country the patent rights belong;

(e) what is the nature and cost of construction of buildings and accessories that have been provided;

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(f) what have been the expenses incurred yearly on (1) the staff and (2) the running and maintenance costs of the machinery;

(g) whether the staff in charge of the installation has been selected from the department or recruited on special merits and whether they receive any special allowances;

(h) whether the Government have any contract or understanding with the suppliers of the plant for expert supervision and advice;

(i) what has been the yearly output of manure in tons since the plant was erected and what has been the cost of production per ton including depreciation of machinery and supervision charges;

(j) how the chemical analysis of this manure compares with the compost of human excreta made by municipalities; at what price per ton this manure is valued on a chemical analysis basis and what profit the Government has made by this innovation; and

(k) whether the plant is large enough to supply manure for all the experimental stations around the Central Farm and whether any surplus manure has been sold to the ryots and what has been the sale-proceeds realized so far?

A.—(a) In 1926 the Director of Agriculture suggested to Government to install an Activated Sludge plant at Coimbatore.

(b) & (c) Completion report is awaited from the Public Works Department.

(d) England.

(e) The following buildings and accessories were constructed:—

(i) Two macerating tanks;

(ii) one settlement tank;

(iii) five aeration tanks;

(iv) four reactivation tanks;

(v) one effluent reservoir;

(vi) one engine-shed; and

(vii) covered and open drains to convey the sullage.

The cost will be known from the completion report which is awaited from the Public Works Department.

(g) The staff consists of the engine drivers and a watchman. No special allowance of any kind is paid to them.

(h) No.

(f), (i) (j) & (k) The plant was taken over by the Agricultural Department on 8th September 1931. It is, therefore, too early to give any information on these points.

The Agricultural Chemist will conduct experiments here—

Public Works

List of officers who pay rent to the Government for buildings occupied by them.

* 371 Q.—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to furnish a list of officers with pay of Rs. 1,000 and above who pay rent to the Government for the Government buildings occupied by them or on whose behalf the Government pay rent with the amount of rent paid in each case?

A.—A list^a is attached.

Expenditure incurred on account of the pumping scheme of the Cooum River.

* 372 Q.—Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the expenditure incurred by the Government in each of the two years 1927-28 and 1930-31 on the pumping scheme of the Cooum River within the Madras City;

(b) in what stage the Cooum improvement scheme is at present; and

(c) the actual number of days when the pumping of sea water was resorted to in each of the last three years during each of the hot months of the year, to maintain proper depth and level for sanitary purposes?

A.—(a)

		Original works.	Maintenance.
		RS.	RS.
1927-28	...	26,186	5,258
1930-31	...	2,340	6,983

(b) All works except construction of the lock at the Elephant Gate bridge have been completed.

(c) 44 days in 1928 and 107 days in 1929 as shown below:—

Month.	Number of days.
1928—	
July	12
August	29
September	3
Total	44
1929—	
March	8
April	23
May	31
June	30
July	15
Total	107

^a Printed as Appendix I on pages 328-331 infra.

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No pumping was done in the hot season of 1930 as the pipes leading from the harbour limits on the foreshore were removed by the South Indian Railway in connexion with the remodelling of the Beach station and the diversion of the Springhaven Road.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, with reference to the answer to clause (b), when the lock at the Elephant Gate Bridge will be completed?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Has the work been taken on hand?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"It is under construction."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government propose to start pumping water into the Cooum at least in the year 1932?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"As soon as the South Indian Railway authorities finish their work, pumping will be restarted."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government consider that the system of pumping water into the Cooum from the sea is satisfactory?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I believe it has been satisfactory; if it is not so, we will stop it."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know what is the information which has made the Government 'satisfied' with the progress of the work—the basis on which they have come to the decision that the system has been satisfactory?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"They have found the work satisfactory; that is all." (Laughter.)

Staff employed in the Chief Engineers' offices.

* 373 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement of the staff employed in the offices of the Chief Engineers of the Public Works Department and state how many of them are from Andhra Desa and from other linguistic areas?

A.—A statement^a is attached.

Veterinary Department

Admission to the Veterinary College for 1931-32.

* 374 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of candidates who applied for admission to the Veterinary College this year;

^a Printed as Appendix II on page 331 infra.

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- (b) the number that was called for interview; and
- (c) the number that was finally selected for admission?

A.—(a) 1,073.

(b) 395.

(c) 40.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"With reference to clause (b), may I know whether the number '395' indicates the number that came for interview or the number that was called for interview?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I want notice."

Local Self-Government

Notice by the Collector of Guntur to the nominated councillors of the Chirala Municipality.

* 375 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been called to the following notice issued by the Collector of Guntur on the 29th June to certain nominated councillors of the Chirala Municipal Council:—

"When the proposal to present an address at a cost of Rs. 50 to Mr. Subash Chandra Bose of Bengal on the 1st proximo was put to vote on 27th June 1931 you left the Council saying that you will be ill-treated by the volunteers if you voted against it.

"Please explain before 5th July 1931 why Government may not be moved to take necessary action against you."

(b) on what authority and under what provision of law the Collector issued this notice;

(c) what is the nature of the 'action' which the Collector proposed to take; and

(d) what was the information on which the Collector acted and whether that information has been proved to be false; if so, what action has been taken against the informant?

A.—(a) Government have ascertained that the Collector of Guntur issued the notice in question to two nominated councillors on 29th June 1931.

(b) There was a clique in the Chirala Municipal Council bent upon embarrassing the Municipal Chairman and Vice-Chairman in every possible manner. The Collector considered that nominated councillors should render support to the loyal elements in the Council. It was on this principle and not under any formal provision of law that the Collector interfered in this case.

(c) The Collector wanted to inform Government of any possible disloyal activities of the persons nominated by them.

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(d) The Collector acted on the information which he got to the effect that certain nominated councillors left the hall when the question of voting an address to Mr. Subash Chandra Bose was put stating that they would be ill-treated by volunteers if they voted against it and he states that he found the information to be true. There is, therefore, no question of taking action against anybody for furnishing false information.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government has authorized the Collector of Guntur to issue the notice which he did?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if he has since repudiated that order?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"There is no need to do so."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if other Collectors will be empowered to issue notices of this sort?" 11-15 a.m.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I see no need for it also, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Having regard to the fact that one Collector did issue such instructions, has the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government not thought it necessary to issue a circular to other Collectors not to interfere with the independence or discretion of the nominated members?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not think such a circular is necessary, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the hon. the Minister if the Government approve the action taken by the Collector?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"It depends on the circumstances of each case, Sir. In this particular case there was no need to approve the action or otherwise. The Collector had information on which he acted."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Is the hon. the Minister sure that no other Collector issued a similar notice?"

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

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"My question has not been answered, Sir. I asked the hon. the Minister to state if the Government approved of the action taken by the Collector?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The occasion for approving or disapproving did not arise."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In this case, did it not arise?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No."

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"What is the opinion of the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That does not arise."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"What is the meaning of 'loyal' in (b) and of 'disloyal' in (c), Sir? Is it loyalty to the municipality or loyalty to any other authority?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"It is used in the sense of loyalty to the chairman and the party conducting the administration."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if the nominated members are bound in law to obey the dictates of the chairman?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"They are expected to stand by the chairman in the conduct of administration by him."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Before nominating members, is the condition laid down that they should be loyal to the chairman?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Before nominating any member, the Collector is expected to consult the chairman of the municipal council concerned."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"The Collector is said to have stated thus: 'Please explain before 5th July 1931 why Government may not be moved to take necessary action against you.' May I know what the definite action suggested by the Collector to be taken against these members is?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No reference was subsequently made by the Collector and therefore we do not know what action he would have suggested."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"What was the intended action that was proposed to be taken by the Collector?"

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

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if section 144 would be handy in this matter, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That is a matter of opinion."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the fact that the Government is not aware of the intentions of the Collector with regard to the action proposed to be taken by him, will the Government make an enquiry?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not think there is any need to enquire into this matter."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Will the Government remove the nominated members who do not obey the chairman before their term?"

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That is merely an academical question."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Having regard to the action of these persons, will the hon. Minister remove them before their normal term would expire? Why did not the Minister remove them before their term expired in view of the desertion they played?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"There is no question of removal in this matter."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Does not the hon. Minister think that the nominated members deserted the chairman?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"It may be the opinion of the hon. Member."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know what the hon. the Minister's opinion is, having regard to the circular issued by the Collector to these nominated members?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"It is not necessary to give it now."

Proposed supersession of the Madura Municipal Council.

* 376 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAIA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils sent a report to the Government recommending the supersession of the Madura Municipal Council;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government asked the Municipal Council, Madura, to show cause against the supersession;

(c) what the reply of the Municipal Council was and if no reply was sent, whether the Government know why no reply was sent; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to lay all the papers including the report of the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils on the table of this House?

A.—(a) One of the courses discussed by the Inspector was the supersession of the Municipal Council.

(b) Yes.

(c) & (d) The papers have been placed at the disposal of the Press—vide G.O. No. 2871, L. & M., dated 10th August 1931. A copy of the notification directing the supersession of the Municipal Council has also been laid on the table with reference to section 41 (1) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the report of Inspector of Local Boards will be circulated to Members who ask for it?"

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The relevant portions of the report have already been given in an answer to a question, and copies of this have been circulated to every Member of this House."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if before resorting to this drastic step of supersession, the Government considered other measures, for instance, whether they could not have dissolved the Council and have elections held again?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Well, Sir, they did consider the question most anxiously, and they have stated the reasons in the Government Order on the subject."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know the reasons that prompted the Government to take this drastic step in view of the fact that they could have resorted to milder measures?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"In view of the resolution tabled on this question, I would ask hon. Members to wait for detailed information till it comes up for discussion."

Suggestions for the rearrangement of the wards of the Kumbakonam Municipality.

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

(a) whether the Government received from the Secretary, Sri Kamakshi Vilas Reading Room Hall, Kumbakonam, a copy of the resolutions passed at its general body meeting, under the presidency of Mr. N. Natesa Pattar on 22nd August 1931 and from R. Nagarajan, a copy of the resolutions passed at the meeting of the municipal tax-payers of the fifth ward, Kumbakonam, held on 24th August 1931, urging the Government to modify the new arrangement of wards and suggesting a different arrangement of wards; and

(b) what orders the Government have passed thereon?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposal for the abolition of the collection of professional tax by the local bodies.

* 378 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to abolish the collection of profession-tax by local bodies?

A.—There is no such proposal.

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Retirement of the Manager of the Hindupur Municipality.

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

(a) whether the Municipal Council of Hindupur passed a resolution on 16th March 1931 that the permanent manager of the office should retire from service;

(b) whether the Chairman, Municipal Council, issued orders directing the retirement of the permanent manager from service;

(c) whether the Accountant-General, Madras, raised any objection to the retirement in question on the ground that no Government sanction was obtained;

(d) whether the Council at its meeting held on 10th August 1931 cancelled the resolution referred to in (a) above;

(e) whether the Chairman has given effect to the resolution of the Council, dated the 10th August 1931, and restored the permanent manager to office; and

(f) if the Chairman has failed to restore the manager to office, whether the Government propose to take action and see that the manager is restored to office without further delay?

A.—(a) In the resolution referred to, the Council while revising the scale of pay of the manager permitted the then incumbent to draw Rs. 100 from 1st April 1930 on the understanding that he will retire from service from 1st April 1931.

(b) & (c) The Government have no information except that there was some correspondence on the subject between the Chairman and the Accountant-General.

(d) The Council modified the resolution in so far as it related to the retirement of the manager.

(e) & (f) No. The Government consider that the resolution was in excess of the powers of the Council and have asked the Council to show cause why it should not be cancelled.

Proposed construction of a new road connecting the Bombay road with the Ranipet-Kolar road.

* 380 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether a mahazar was received by him from the villagers of Puttur near Sembarayanallur, Gudiyattam taluk, North Arcot, protesting and adducing reasons against the proposed new road to connect the Bombay road with the Ranipet-Kolar road;

(b) why it was not proposed to improve the old connecting road;

(c) what would be the relative cost of laying a new connecting road and of improving or broadening the existing connecting road; and

(d) whether the laying of a new road would require the acquisition of wet lands on which the villagers depend for their living?

A.—(a) No.

(b) An extract of the report obtained from the President, District Board, North Arcot, is given below:—

“The old connecting road consists of many sharp curves. The road width is only that of a third-class road (in many places barely 30 to 33 feet in width). Even if this road is taken up, a realignment will have to be made to avoid the sharp curves and also to acquire lands on either side for forming the full width for a trunk road. There are also avenue trees planted on both sides, the rows being not far apart to admit of a trunk road being formed. One line of avenue trees will have to be cut down. Further the line passes within the home signal limits of the Tiruvalam Railway Station which would mean that the gates will be closed for long periods when the train has been signalled, or, worse still, when goods trains stop at the station and shunting operations take place. There are also a large number of road dips which will have to be converted into culverts if this alignment is to be decided on. The proposed new alignment will be 2 miles 3 furlongs shorter in length than the existing road. This also means less cost in the shape of bridges and culverts to be constructed and savings in the maintenance cost.”

(c) The relative cost of the alternative routes has not yet been worked out in detail but from the investigation made so far, it is reported that the cost of the formation of the new road would be much less than the cost of improvements to the existing road.

(d) Yes.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether, in view of the answer to clause (d), it would not be advisable to incur the slightly extra cost of repairing the old road rather than constructing a new road?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“That aspect will be considered when the question is decided.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Am I to understand that no definite opinion has been formed on the question?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“It is still pending with the District Board and we are awaiting their report and suggestions.”

Memorial from the villagers of Kandimallayya Palli for conversion of certain foot-paths into metalled roads.

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

(a) whether the Government received any monster petition from the villagers of Kandimallayya Palli through the trustees of the Mutt of His Holiness Jagadguru Pothuloori Veerabrahmendra Swamulu

Varu that the foot-paths from Nandyalampet to Jangammaraju Palli and from Manney Palli to Kandimallayya Palli may be converted to public metal roads;

(b) whether the Engineer of the District Board, Cuddapah, sent any report supporting this request; and

(c) what orders the Government passed thereon?

A.—(a) No such petition has been received by Government.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Medical

Rewards to Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the Agency tracts.

* 382 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons now serving in the Agency tracts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts are Oriyas or persons who have learnt Oriya and received rewards from Government;

(b) how the knowledge of Oriya on the part of non-Oriya Sub-Assistant Surgeons is tested; and

(c) what the reward offered is?

A.—(a) There are no Oriya Assistant or Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the Agency tracts at present. There are two non-Oriya Sub-Assistant Surgeons who have passed the colloquial examination in Oriya and received rewards.

(b) Candidates for the colloquial examination in Oriya are required to show ability to express themselves clearly and to understand readily what is said to them on some topic connected with the duties they have to perform, so as to afford proof that they are competent to conduct such duties without the aid of an interpreter.

(c) Rs. 250.

Staff employed in the office of the Surgeon-General.

* 383 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the staff employed in the office of the Surgeon-General and also state the number of men drafted from Andhra Desa and from other linguistic areas?

A.—A statement* furnishing the information is laid on the table of the House.

Motor Vehicles Taxation

Representation regarding the burden of provincial taxation and licence fees on buses and lorries.

* 384 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations have been made to Government regarding the burden of provincial taxation and excessive licence fees charged by certain local bodies on buses and lorries; and

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(b) whether it is a fact that many buses and lorries have been withdrawn from the road as a result of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have no information.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government propose to reduce the rates of provincial taxation? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" There is no such intention at present."

Mr. W. M. BROWNING:—" May I know, Sir, in view of the answer to clause (b), whether the Government are aware that over 700 buses have been withdrawn from the road since the 1st May of this year, in eighteen districts alone? "

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" Is the Government aware, Sir, that hon. Member for the information. At the same time I may inform him that the Government is collecting information on this point."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether the Government propose to take any action to prevent local bodies from levying excessive licence fees? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I do not admit that the licence fees are excessive. At the same time I may say that we are considering the question."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" Is the Government aware, Sir, that the licence fees are not to be made a source of revenue? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is a matter of opinion."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Will the hon. Minister be pleased to call for information as to how many buses and lorries have been withdrawn from the road in the Presidency? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I have already answered that question that the Government have no information."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Is the Government aware that a number of private cars also have been withdrawn from the road? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I thank the hon. Member for the information."

Production of registration certificate before the licensing authorities under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931.

* 385 Q.—Mr. F. E. JAMES: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that the licensing authorities under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, demand the production of the Registration certificate in the case of each payment of the motor vehicle tax;

(b) the necessity for the production of this certificate at each payment;

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(c) whether he has received complaints that this requirement causes considerable inconvenience to owners of motor vehicles, and in some cases seriously delays the payment of the tax; and

(d) whether he will consider increasing the number of licensing officers and improving the facilities for and simplifying the method of payment of the tax?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes. Attention is invited to section 5 (3) (a) of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931.

(c) Yes.

(d) This question is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know what necessity there is for the production of a registration certificate once the licence fee has been accepted by the Government every time the licence fee is paid? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I have answered that question, Sir. The law as it now stands requires it. The question is being considered."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" In view of the great inconvenience that is being caused, will the Government consider the desirability of amending that section? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I have already answered the question."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know in how many cases so far have duplicate registration certificates been obtained by reason of this provision of law? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I have no information."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know what action has been taken by the Government on the complaints received? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" That matter is under consideration."

Public Health

Leprosy in South Kanara district.

* 386 Q.—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to give the following information—

(a) whether investigation has been made to ascertain why Sherwa in South Kanara district is badly affected by leprosy;

(b) if so, what are the results of the investigation;

(c) if there are statistics showing the incidence of leprosy at Sherwa, what are the figures for the years for which statistics are available;

(d) what is the result of the work of the Special Officer sent to Sherwa to train the local medical officer in the treatment of leprosy;

(e) what was the number of lepers treated in the local hospital;

(f) whether it is true that the treatment has been given up; and

(g) if so, for what reasons?

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A.—(a) Yes. The station was visited by the Medical Officer in charge of leprosy propaganda and survey work.

(b) The Medical Officer states as follows:—

This disease which is an endemic one has probably been introduced some decades back by a leprosy person and is now on the increase, but not to an alarming extent. Unhygienic conditions and ignorance of the infective stages of the disease are the chief causes of the spread in this area.

(c) The total incidence for Sherwa and in some of the surrounding villages within a radius of three miles is 150 for a population of 24,000. No further figures are available.

(d) The Special Leprosy Officer who worked in South Kanara district during the latter part of 1930 trained the medical officer in charge of the Local Fund dispensary, Sherwa, in "Leprosy, diagnosis and treatment." He opened an out-patient leprosy clinic at Sherwa and gave advice to the President, Udipi Taluk Board. He also got the leprosy clinic equipped with the necessary drugs and out-fit; and treatment was carried on in the vacant room behind the dispensary.

(e) The total attendance for the six months the clinic was in existence amounted to 1,150 and the total number of cases which sought treatment for leprosy was 98.

(f) Yes.

(g) The reasons given by the President, Taluk Board, Udipi, are:—

(1) The finances of the Taluk Board are too poor to bear the charges connected with the leprosy clinic.

(2) The charges should be borne by the District Board under the provisions of the Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Act of 1930.

The Surgeon-General pointed out to the President, District Board, South Kanara, the advisability of providing funds for re-opening the leprosy clinic but the District Board has not so far sanctioned any funds for the purpose.

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"May I know what charges were incurred during the time the clinic was in existence?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Notice."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"May I know whether the District Boards cannot be compelled to provide the funds required?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir, not under the law."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"If not, cannot the required funds be provided by the Government having regard to the fact that it is very necessary to eradicate leprosy in a small town like this in the whole district as there is danger of the disease spreading to the other parts of the district and even beyond it?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I quite realize the seriousness of the situation, but that applies equally to all places which are affected with leprosy. I am afraid that under the present financial stringency, the Government cannot provide the funds."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"May I know what action Government propose to take?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I have already answered it."

Supply of drinking water to Pedda and Chinna Matams in Kandimallayya Palli, Badvel taluk.

* 387 Q.—PANDIT GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received resolutions adopted by the eighth session of the Andhra Provincial Viswabrahmana Conference which was convened under the auspices of the All-India Viswakarma Liberal Federation urging the Government that water may be supplied to the Pedda and Chinna Matams in Kandimallayya Palli, Badvel taluk, Cuddapah district, from the stream near Poleramma temple through pipes; and

(b) what steps the Government propose to take to supply drinking water to these mutts?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Government do not propose to take any steps in the matter.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Withholding of tasdikis due to temples in South Kanara.

* 388 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 tasdikis due to the several temples in South Kanara have not been paid during the last three years; if so, why and at whose instance and under what powers the said amounts were withheld; and

(b) what are the temples, the amounts due to each and the years in which they were not paid?

A.—(a) & (b) A copy^a of the letter from the Collector of South Kanara on the subject which contains the necessary information is placed on the table. The tasdikis were withheld by the Collector for the reasons stated in his letter.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether the Collector stopped the payment of tasdikis at his own instance or at the instance of the President of the Committee?"

^aPrinted as Appendix IV on page 332 infra.

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- (5) *All selection grade appointments to be kept in abeyance.*—The suggestion will be placed before the Retrenchment Committee and will be considered by Government in due course. Meanwhile partial effect has been given to it by the order of Government declaring that all appointments made after the 15th of August are to be on a temporary basis.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"With reference to clause (b), sub-clause (4), i.e., reduction of establishments by retiring of men who have put in more than 25 years' service, may I know whether the Government have considered the question of retiring men who have put in more than 25 years' service in the Medical department?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"The Government did not consider the question with special reference to the Medical department. The question is under consideration generally with reference to all departments."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know, with regard to answer to No. (1), whether the proposals include the abolition or reduction of local allowances as such?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Yes, Sir; they do."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if it is not a fact that the Retrenchment Committee have already made their recommendations with regard to the Medical department and they have not made this suggestion as to the retirement of Medical men who have already put in more than 25 years of service?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"The Committee have made a recommendation and they have also added a general recommendation on the subject of retiring men who have put in more than 25 years' service."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Has the Retrenchment Committee considered the question whether it is advisable to retire persons who have put in more than 25 years' service in the Medical Department rather than send out people who are probationers?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I have already said that the Retrenchment Committee have not made any recommendation specially with regard to the Medical Department."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, if this suggestion of retirement of persons of 25 years' service is acted up to, how many vacancies will be created?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Notice."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is it not in the financial interests of the Government that people of 25 years' service should be retired rather than probationers being sent out?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"It may be or it may not be. The financial effect of various proposals requires examination."

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B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Has not the Government considered this question at all?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"The Government is considering it."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the Inspector-General of Police has since been examined by the Retrenchment Committee with reference to clause (2)?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Not yet."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government consider that, as between the two alternatives of retiring men who have put in 25 years' service and sending away new appointees, the former alternative is better?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"That matter is under the consideration of Government."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"With regard to answer (3), may I know if the Government or the Retrenchment Committee proposes to have a sliding scale instead of 10 per cent reduction?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Sliding scale in respect of what establishment or department?"

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"General cut in the pay of all."

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"It does not arise on the question."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer given by the hon. Member to my question that the question is receiving the consideration of the Government, is it not a fact that, when this question of retirement of people who have put in 25 years' service is under consideration, a number of junior men have been sent away from Government service?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I am not aware of it, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if the reduction of the salaries of Government servants is under consideration?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I do not think that arises from this question, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"It arises out of the question of retrenchment, Sir."

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"It does not arise from this question."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether, with reference to clause (3)—general cut of at least 10 per cent in the strength of all establishments—the Government have sent away new recruits, thus nullifying the recent communal Government Order?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I am not aware of it. Recruitment has been made presumably according to the rules."

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The answer is there, Sir."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether the Collector has taken previous care to see whether he has stopped the tasdiks of temples which do not require the appointment of a committee—temples which are managed by sole hereditary trustees?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Notice."

Petition for handing over charge of the Kanchi Kamakshamma temple, Vizianagaram City, to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board.

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

(a) whether the Government received a petition from Mr. Kasi Ramamurti, Vice-President, the All-India Viswakarma Liberal Federation, stating that as the Kanchi Kamakshamma temple at Bondada street, Vizianagaram City, Vizagapatam district, is at present in bad management, the Hindu Religious Endowments Board may take charge of the same; and

(b) the result of this complaint?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Extension of the Wakf Act to the Presidency of Madras.

* 390 Q.—Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Wakf Act of 1923 (India Act XLII of 1923) has been extended to the Madras Presidency for the better management of Wakf properties of the Muslims;

(b) in how many districts have advisory committees been appointed;

(c) what the rules and regulations prescribed for their guidance are; and

(d) who the members of the various committees appointed are?

A.—(a) Yes; with effect from the 1st of January 1932.

(b) The Act does not contemplate the formation of any Advisory Committees.

(c) & (d) The question does not arise.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what steps the Government propose to take in order to work the Wakf Act of 1923?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Government need not take any steps. The Act itself provides that those who are interested in the wakfs may move the Courts."

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Finance

Consideration of certain suggestions of Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, M.L.C., regarding retrenchment.

* 391 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Retrenchment Officer, the Retrenchment Committee and the Government have considered the suggestions made by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, M.L.C., communicated to the hon. the Finance Member in his letter, dated 2nd June 1931;

(b) if so, what was the decision arrived at and why?

A.—(a) & (b) The suggestions referred to by the hon. Member are as follows:—

(1) *Abolition of all duty allowances, local allowances and rent free houses.*—The Retrenchment Committee have conducted an exhaustive review of all allowances on their merits. Their proposals, which include the abolition of a number of allowances and the reduction of others, are now under the consideration of Government.

(2) *Reorganization of Revenue and Police charges so as to reduce the number of Deputy Collectors and Deputy Superintendents of Police by at least one in each district.*—Suggestions on these lines have not yet been considered either by the Retrenchment Committee or by the Government; but a report is awaited from the Board of Revenue on the possibility of reorganizing Revenue charges of all kinds, and, as regards police charges, the Inspector-General will be examined by the Retrenchment Committee.

(3) *A general cut of at least 10 per cent in the strength of all establishments.*—No such wholesale proposition has been considered either by the Retrenchment Committee or by Government. The Retrenchment Committee have, however, already recommended, and the Government have accepted on their merits, certain reductions of establishments in the departments whose expenditure has so far been examined and the Committee will in due course consider the question of reducing establishments in the case of other departments as they are taken up.

(4) *Reduction of establishments by retiring of men who have put in more than 25 years' service.*—This is not a retrenchment proposal, but a suggestion as to the manner in which retrenchment should be given effect to. The Retrenchment Committee have, however, recommended that, where reduction of establishment is necessary, it should be carried out, as far as possible, on the lines suggested. The views expressed by the Committee will be considered by Government when passing orders on individual proposals.

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not a fact that, on account of the communal Government Order, members of communities not represented in the service have been appointed, and they are the people who are in the lower ranks of the service, and it is people who are in the lower ranks that are to be sent away?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"All people in the lower ranks of the service are not people designed to be benefited by the communal Government Order."

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"May I ask the hon. the Finance Member whether, in view of the further saving in stationery charges, he has considered or will consider the possibility of adding to the Finance Committee the name of Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed? (Laughter.)"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I do not suppose this question would arise."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know whether, having regard to the useful work so far rendered by the hon. Member, Mr. James, on the Finance Committee, he will be considered to be a permanent member of the Finance Committee?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It does not arise."

Formation of Committees of the Council to examine the possibility of retrenchment in general in Government departments.

11-30 a.m. * 392 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to set up independent committees of the Council to examine the possibility of retrenchment in general in each department of Government and to examine in particular the necessity for a number of posts in each cadre, especially in the Revenue, Judicial and Public Works departments?

A.—No.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know why the Government think that separate committees are not necessary?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I have already stated that the Government do not think it necessary."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know why, when the Government of India has done what has been asked for in this question and particularly in view of the fact that the present Retrenchment Committee has taken more than five months, the hon. Member thinks that it will not be done more expeditiously by having separate committees?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"There is no reason to suppose that multiplication of committees will expedite matters at all."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Government is willing to co-opt members who are acquainted with the working of particular departments when questions concerning those departments come up for consideration?"

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The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"The Government will consider the suggestion."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask if the Government will allow the committees to take evidence from not merely Government officers but also from outside, such as retired officers who are acquainted with the internal working of these departments, as is being done by the Government of India, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"It seems to me a matter mainly for the committee to consider."

Abolition of the Board of Revenue and the Survey and Settlement departments.

* 393 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government or the Retrenchment Officer or the Retrenchment Committee have examined the question of the abolition of the Board of Revenue and the Survey and Settlement departments as a measure of retrenchment; and

(b) what will be the saving effected by the abolition of the above-said two departments?

A.—(a) No, but Government are at present examining certain proposals from the Board of Revenue on the subject of reducing the number of survey parties, and it is understood that the Board is considering a scheme for the reduction of expenditure on Settlement. The matter has not yet come before the Retrenchment Committee.

(b) The hon. Member will find the information he requires on page 57 of the Civil Budget Estimate.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the Government have any specific reasons not to abolish the Revenue Board?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know what, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"It will take too long to explain, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May we have a brief statement, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"The present administration is indispensable."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I want to know whether the Government received any proposals from the Board of Revenue suggesting the wholesale dismissal of the Central Survey office?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I believe not as yet, but I want notice."

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Abolition of all allowances and certain posts in other provinces.

* 394 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact and whether the Government are aware that the Governments of Bombay, Assam, Bihar and United Provinces have recommended all allowances to be abolished in the case of all gazetted officers as a first measure of retrenchment;

(b) whether it is a fact that the aforesaid provincial Governments have also recommended the abolition of the posts of Superintending Engineers, Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, Deputy Directors of Public Health, Deputy Directors of Public Instruction, and such other intermediary posts, in addition to the reduction in the strength of several other cadres; and

(c) if the information asked for in (a) and (b) is not in the possession of the Government, whether they propose to call for the same and lay it on the table of the House?

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

(c) The information will be obtained and the Government will further consider, on obtaining it, the suggestion made.

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether the Government have since obtained information? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ No, Sir.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know if they have taken steps to get it? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ Yes, we have written to ask for the information.”

Question of abolition of certain intermediary posts.

* 395 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have under consideration the question of abolishing intermediary posts, such as, the Superintending Engineers, Deputy Inspectors-General of Police, Deputy Directors of Public Health, Deputy Directors of Public Instruction, etc., as a measure of retrenchment;

(b) whether proposals on the above lines were placed before the Retrenchment Committee; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

(c) Under the procedure prescribed, the Retrenchment Committee is examining the expenditure of each department on its merits and the question whether the posts mentioned should be retained or not must depend on the nature of the work to be done in each department.

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MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know what posts have been abolished so far? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ Notice.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Retrenchment Committee has recommended any post to be abolished so far? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ Yes, Sir; numerous posts.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether a statement of them will be placed on the table.”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ We have already placed the statement on the table? ”

Consideration of the abolition of the posts of certain Deputy Collectors and Deputy Superintendents of Police.

* 396 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government or the Retrenchment Officer or the Retrenchment Committee have examined the question of the abolition of at least one Deputy Collector in each district, one Deputy Superintendent of Police in each district and the re-organization of their divisions existing at present; and

(b) if so, what were the recommendations on this subject and what were the decisions arrived at by the Retrenchment Committee?

A.—(a) No. The question of redistributing charges in the Revenue Department is under consideration by the Board of Revenue, but it is being examined on its merits and not on the lines suggested by the hon. Member. The organization of the Police department will shortly be examined by the Retrenchment Committee.

(b) Does not arise.

Consideration of the amalgamation of certain offices and the abolition of certain institutes by way of retrenchment.

* 397 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government or the Retrenchment Officer or the Retrenchment Committee have considered (i) the question of the amalgamation of the posts of the Director of Public Health with that of the Surgeon-General; and (ii) the question of the abolition of the Leather Trades Institute and the Industrial Engineers Workshop as a measure of retrenchment; and

(b) if so, what is the decision arrived at, and if not, why not?

A.—(a) The Retrenchment Committee have considered the question of amalgamating the two posts of the Surgeon-General and the Director of Public Health. They have not yet considered the question of abolishing the Leather Trades Institute and the Industrial Engineers Workshop.

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- (b) The Committee decided that it would be unwise on administrative grounds to combine the Medical and the Public Health departments under the headship of the Surgeon-General and, therefore, recommended that the present system should be maintained. The Government have accepted the recommendation of the Committee. The retrenchment suggested in the Industries department will be considered in due course.

Retrenchment in the Forest Department.

* 398 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the question of effecting retrenchment in the Forest Department and if so, on what lines;

(b) whether any recommendations as to the retrenchment in the Forest Department were placed before the Retrenchment Committee and if so, what they were; and

(c) what was the decision arrived at by the Retrenchment Committee?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The expenditure of the Forest Department has not yet been examined in detail by the Retrenchment Committee. The only point that they have considered was the possibility of temporarily closing down the Forest College; and this they decided would be impracticable, as an immediate measure of economy. The Chief Conservator has, however, made comprehensive proposals for reduction of expenditure during the current year and surrenders of just under Rs. 3 lakhs have either been made or ordered by Government, chiefly by restricting the programme of timber extraction and cutting down capital expenditure on communications and buildings to the lowest possible figure. Further avenues of retrenchment will be explored by the Retrenchment Committee in due course.

Stoppage of recruitment to permanent service pending the question of the pay of future incumbents.

* 399 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the question of stopping all future appointments on a permanent basis pending the examination of the question of future pay and strength of public service;

(b) whether any recommendations have been made by the Retrenchment Officer or the Finance Committee in this behalf;

(c) if so, whether any orders have been issued by Government to heads of departments in this direction; and

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(d) whether a copy of the orders will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) With the concurrence of the Retrenchment Committee orders were issued in G.O. No. 810, Public, dated 5th August 1931.

(d) The Government Order has already been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*—See page 1023, Part I, dated 11th August 1931.

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know, Sir, whether the consideration of the future pay has been concluded or is it still under consideration? ”

The hon. MR. H. G. STOKES:—“ The matter is still under consideration.”

Abolition of certain permanent and temporary appointments.

* 400 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government or the Retrenchment Committee have considered the question of abolishing all additional, permanent and temporary appointments sanctioned during the last three years and carrying a salary of Rs. 200 and above, as a measure of retrenchment; and

(b) what is the total number of such appointments and what is the budget allotment therefor?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Government have no information and do not consider that the labour involved in collecting it would be commensurate with the value of the results.

Agency Tracts

Proposal to reserve the Agency tracts as a colony for the exclusive benefit of the Europeans.

* 401 Q.—PANDIT GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are contemplating a scheme to set apart the Agency tracts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and Godavari districts as a colony for the exclusive use of the Europeans; and

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table all the papers connected with this affair?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no such scheme under their consideration.

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Irrigation*Decision of the Government regarding the Vamsadhara project.*

* 402 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the decision of the Government regarding the Vamsadhara project in the Ganjam district?

A.—In accordance with the recommendation of the Committee which inquired into irrigation projects in Ganjam district the project has been abandoned. The hon. Member's attention is invited to the papers printed at pages 773-774 of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, Volume LI, No. 7.

Progress report regarding the Tungabhadra project.

* 403 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to make a statement as to the further progress made towards the execution of the Tungabhadra project?

A.—Replies from the other Governments are still awaited.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know if the Government have finally decided the site of the dam? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" No, Sir. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I take it that they have not completed the estimates yet? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" The final detailed estimates have not yet been prepared. "

Extent of irrigation by the Kanigiri Reservoir in Sangam.

* 404 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total acreage that was expected to be irrigated by the Kanigiri Reservoir in Sangam when the project was first brought into existence;

(b) the total acreage so far brought under cultivation till now in the Sangam delta;

(c) if the original expectations have not been fulfilled, the reasons therefor and what measures are under contemplation to improve the delta; and

(d) whether it is one of the subjects recently referred to the Irrigation Board for report?

A.—(a) 94,000 acres (first crop) and 16,026 acres (second crop).

(b) The area irrigated in 1929-30 was 83,652 acres first crop and 12,929 acres second crop.

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(c) Several villages which were originally included in the project ayacut were not in fact brought under irrigation and after a thorough investigation the original estimate was revised in 1898 to 84,130 acres first crop and 4,500 acres second crop. The excavation of the Vidavalore channel will add 670 acres of first crop irrigation and the Vovveru channel and branches will bring in a further 1,000 acres. The natural conditions of the delta are such that no further large extension is possible.

(d) No.

Estimate for improving water-supply to the tank in Sovenahalli, Kudligi taluk.

* 405 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether an estimate for improving the supply to the tank in Sovenahalli, Kudligi taluk, Bellary district, has been prepared or is still under preparation; and, in either case, whether the estimate includes repairs to Komaranahalli supply channel which has breached in parts and, if not, why not?

A.—No estimate for improving the supply to the tank has been prepared nor is any under preparation.

Investigation of the Appapuram project by the Special subdivision.

* 406 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Special Division appointed to investigate into the Appapuram project, is surveying a new line at a distance of more than three furlongs from the old line proposed by the Government at first;

(b) if so, whether the Government have instructed the Special Division to survey the new line;

(c) if so, what the instructions are; and

(d) whether the Government have assured the Appapuram Project Committee that the Special Division will consider the line suggested by the Project Committee?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government sanctioned the formation of a special division to investigate in detail, and prepare plans and estimates for the extension of irrigation in the Kistna Eastern and Western deltas. They issued no detailed instructions.

(d) No.

Paucity of irrigational facilities in Salem district.

* 407 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the district of Salem has few facilities for irrigation;

(b) whether there are abundant sources for easy irrigation; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to utilize them for purposes of irrigation?

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A.—(a) Salem has one major irrigation system, 116 minor irrigation works in charge of the Public Works Department and 2,432 minor irrigation works in charge of the Revenue Department.

(b) No. A number of projects have been examined from time to time and found impracticable.

(c) One new project is now in progress, and two are under consideration.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—"The answer to clause (b) is 'no'. May I know whether the attention of the hon. Member has been drawn to the various sources of irrigation referred to in Lefanoe's Manual?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"No, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member for drawing my attention to it."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether, in view of the fact that the Government have not found any means of further irrigation of Salem, they will extend the existing Cauvery channels?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I am not sure whether it is possible to do so."

Failure of the supply channels from the Cauvery in Namakkal taluk.

* 408 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was total failure of water-supply in the channels (leading from the Cauvery) in Namakkal taluk of Salem district for more than 20 days at a stretch;

(b) whether huge losses have been incurred by the ryots on account of this failure; and

(c) whether the Government contemplate to enquire into the matter and take immediate steps to redress the grievances of the distressed ryots and grant a generous remission in the land-tax?

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

(c) The Government do not consider it necessary to order any special enquiries as the matter can be dealt with by the local officers under the ordinary rules in the Board's Standing Orders.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—"With regard to (a) and (b), the Government say they have no information. Will they be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Yes, Sir."

Supply of water from Mettur dam to Salem and Coimbatore districts for irrigation.

* 409 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have taken or propose to take any steps regarding the supply of water for

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Salem and Coimbatore districts from Mettur dam for irrigation purposes, after the cut motion was carried in the Council on 16th March last?

A.—No.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—"May I know why no action was taken?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Orders on the question have either been published in the Press or placed on the table of this House."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"The question refers to Salem and Coimbatore districts. May I ask the Government to state whether they do not propose to give further irrigation facilities to the Coimbatore district?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Not under the Mettur project."

Agreement between Government and the ryots of the Vadavar Ayacut.

* 410 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was any agreement entered into between the Government on the one hand and the ryots of the Vadavar ayacut on the other between the years 1800—1840; and

(b) if so, what were the terms of the agreement and whether a copy of the agreement will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have called for a report.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the report has since been received?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"No, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Will he expedite it, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"It will take some time to search for the papers. We have had reports that no agreement can be found in the Madras Records office, or in the Superintending Engineer's office or in the Executive Engineer's office. We are awaiting reports from the Collectors."

Clearance of silt in the Buckingham Canal.

* 411 Q.—Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total expenditure incurred in each of the last three years,

(i) on the clearance of silt from the Buckingham Canal and (ii) the other improvements to the sections of the said canal situated (1) to the south of Madras and (2) to the north of Madras;

(b) the length of the section of the said canal situated to the north of Madras and south of Madras;

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(c) whether any petitions were received by the Government from the boat owners' associations or others complaining about the shallowness of the canal especially in the southern section causing delay in the transit of boats loaded with cargo and fuel consigned to Madras; if so, how many in each of the years 1928, 1929 and 1930;

(d) what action the Government had taken thereon;

(e) whether the Government have enquired as to the condition of the canal for purposes of navigation; if not, what they propose to do for improving the condition of the navigation in the said canal; and

(f) whether any proposal was ever made recently or in the pre-Reform days for extending the canal from the Markanam end to the districts of South Arcot and Tanjore and if so, with what result?

A.—(a) (i) The Government have not figures of the expenditure on the clearance of silt separately, but the total expenditure on maintenance and repairs, in which the clearance of silt is included, has been as follows in the last three years:

	RS.
1928-29	2,64,057
1929-30	2,27,329
1930-31	2,47,262

(ii) (1) & (2) The expenditure incurred on extensions and improvements to both the south and north canals is

	RS.
1928-29	24,832
1929-30	31,450
1930-31	3,947

Separate figures for south and north canals are not available.

(b) 196 miles and 66 miles, respectively.

(c) Four petitions were received between 1928 and 1930 dealing, among other things, with clearance of silt.

(d) So far as the shallowness of the canal was concerned, estimates amounting to Rs. 1.92 lakhs were sanctioned in 1928 for deepening the Junction and South Canals, but, as the Chief Engineer reported that the work done to the value of about Rs. 60,000 was infructuous owing to heavy springs and lightness of the soil of the bed, further work was stopped.

(e) Yes. No improvements other than annual maintenance including the clearance of silt are contemplated.

(f) The proposal was considered several times in the past, but it was decided that it was impracticable and prohibitively expensive.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May we know the income that is derived from the Buckingham canal? "

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

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know who is responsible for the waste of Rs. 60,000 over a work which was found to be infructuous? It is said that the work done to the value of about Rs. 60,000 was infructuous owing to heavy springs and lightness of the soil of the bed. Why did not the Chief Engineer consider this before wasting Rs. 60,000? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I do not think it could be known to anybody that these springs existed to the extent to which they did or that their effect would be so great as to affect the work that was done."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask what the reference to the spring is? It is apparent that the Chief Engineer adopted the particular method of carrying out the work, apparently by pumping out water. Is it not possible to dredge the canal? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" As earth is removed, mud comes up from underneath."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" To get over the difficulty of springs, the question is whether it could not be dredged."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I will ask for a report on the suggestion."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" My question is, have all these been not examined before launching on the scheme? "

Land Revenue Administration

Failure to pass the equitation test a bar to promotion as Deputy Collector.

* 412 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any Sub-Magistrates or Tahsildars have been debarred from promotion to the rank of Deputy Collectors on the mere ground that they have failed to pass the horse-riding test;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the Deputy Collectors never maintain or use a horse after they pass the riding test; and

(c) whether the Government have at any time been asked to consider the question of abolishing the equitation test as a compulsory test for Deputy Collectors?

A.—(a) No person is eligible for selection for admission to the Madras Civil Service (Executive Branch) by promotion from the Madras Revenue Subordinate Service unless among other qualifications he has passed the Equitation Test.

(b) The Government are not aware that the fact is as suggested.

(c) The answer is in the negative.

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" If any representation has been received, will the Government consider it now? "

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The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"No, Sir; we consider it necessary for these officers to pass the equitation test."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"In these days of speedy motors, is horse riding necessary?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Yes."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Are Deputy Collectors using animals at present?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I hope so, Sir."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Have Government called for information on this matter?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I have not called for information."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"What is the necessity for this test in these days of rapid motors?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"These officers should visit places which cannot be reached by motor cars or motor cycles."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask if a horse is not a necessity?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Yes, though the necessity varies in different districts."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Is it a fact that nobody maintains a horse? What is to become of the test then?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Some time or other they may have to use the horse."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is horse-riding a test for appointment as members of the Executive Council?" (Laughter.)

Muslims as Tahsildars.

* 413 Q.—Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are Muslim Tahsildars now working in the districts of Kurnool, Guntur, Kistna, West Godavari, Vizagapatam and Ganjam, and if so, for how many years; and

(b) whether there are any qualified Muslims available in the above-said districts for employment as Tahsildars?

A.—(a) The Government have no information other than that contained in the Revenue Establishment Lists corrected up to 1st April 1931 which are available in the Legislative Council Library.

(b) The Government have not the information.

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Is the Government satisfied that Muslims are adequately represented in these districts?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I have not examined the question."

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Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"Will the Government examine it?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"No, Sir. In cases where there is a preponderance of any particular community, the preponderance will be corrected in due course by recruitment under the communal rotation rule, but promotion within a service is not usually affected by communal considerations."

Transfer of the proprietary estates of Bhadrachalam and Rekapalle to British possession.

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

(a) when the proprietary estates of Bhadrachalam and Rekapalle came into British possession; and

(b) what the peshkash of the estate was at first, and how often it was enhanced afterwards, when and why?

A.—(a) In the year 1860.

(b) A summary settlement was made in 1861 and the amount of peshkash was fixed at Rs. 9,500. A regular settlement was made in 1867. This was revised subsequently on two occasions, viz., in the years 1890 and 1922. The revisions were made in accordance with the settlement rules in force in the Central Provinces, to which these areas originally belonged. Under these rules the revenue payable by the proprietors to the Government is increased or decreased in proportion to the total rent payable to the proprietor.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member the extent of the savings anticipated?"

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

Proposal to apportion Sathiavedu to Ponneri and Tiruvallur taluks.

* 415 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal now before the Government to abolish Sathiavedu, in Chingleput district, as a separate sub-taluk and apportion it to Ponneri and Tiruvallur taluks; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons that impelled Government to take such a step?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The proposal is under consideration as a measure of retrenchment.

Extent of dry lands in South Kanara.

* 416 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total area of land classified as 'dry' or 'punja' land in South Kanara;

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(b) what extent of the above land has so far been given on darkhast;

(c) what is the area of dry land under ragi cultivation; and

(d) what is the basis on which dry lands are assessed in South Kanara?

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

(c) The Government have no separate information as regards dry land. According to the season and crop report for fasli 1339 the total area under ragi cultivation in the district was 6,536 acres in that fasli.

(d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the notification for the settlement of the South Kanara district which was published in the District Gazette of that district for the month of November 1902. Relevant extracts* from the notification are attached.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether it is a fact that ragi cultivation is done only in very small portions of the dry land area in South Kanara? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" The information is given in answer to clause (c). According to the Crop Report for fasli 1339 the total area under ragi cultivation in the district was 6,536 acres."

Minor Irrigation

Supply of water to certain tanks in Alangayam village.

* 417 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a chain of tanks from below Pudieri and Periyeri tanks in Alangayam village, Tiruppattur taluk, North Arcot;

(b) whether they are only rain-fed tanks and whether for the past few years owing to the failure of rains the tanks had no sufficient water for irrigation;

(c) what is the amount of remission granted to Alangayam for the past six years; and

(d) whether the Government contemplated a scheme of diverting the waters of a jungle stream into the tanks in and around Alangayam village?

A.—(a) to (d) A copy^b of a report received from the Collector of North Arcot on the subject is attached.

* Printed as Appendix V on pages 333-334 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix VI on pages 334-336 infra.

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Public Service

Employment of the subjects of Indian States by the Government of Madras.

* 418 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a considerable number of Travancoreans, Cochinites and Mysoreans are employed in the Medical, Educational, and other departments under the Government of Madras;

(b) whether such non-Madrasis are eligible for all appointments under the Madras Government; and

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to ensure reciprocal treatment of Madrasis by these States?

A.—(a) A certain number of subjects of Indian States are so employed. The exact number is not known.

(b) No subject of a State in India can be employed without the previous sanction of the Local Government which is given only in exceptional circumstances when qualified and suitable British subjects are not available.

(c) No.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know why Government have not taken any steps to ensure reciprocal treatment of Madrasis by these States? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I do not think it necessary for the Madras Government to see that the subjects of this Presidency are not employed in the Indian States unless it is not possible to obtain the services of qualified and suitable subjects of the State."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know with reference to clause (b) whether Government has put this embargo on all appointments even in lower grades? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" What steps does the Government usually take to find out whether an applicant is a British subject or not? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" It is a matter for enquiry by the appointing or selecting authority."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" What is the ground on which the Government gives sanction for appointment of a non-British subject? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" That is stated in the answer, viz., when qualified and suitable British subjects are not available."

Posts advertised for and the applications received by the Madras Services Commission in the course of this year.

* 419 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) to what all posts the Madras Services Commission has invited applications in the course of this year;

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(b) how many applications they have received for each of these posts;

(c) how many candidates appeared for competitive examinations or came for interviews in each of these cases; and

(d) what number was finally selected in each case?

A.—(a) to (d) Government have no information in the matter. The hon. Member is requested to await the publication of the reports of the Madras Services Commission for 1930–31 and 1931–32.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“ May I know whether the Government cannot call for the information? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ I am unable to call for a report in anticipation of a general report which will be received in due course, as it will cause considerable trouble to save a small delay.”

Cinchona

Quinine output by the departmental plantations.

11-45 a.m. * 420 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the quinine output from the bark obtained from the departmental plantations during the years 1928, 1929 and 1930; and what is the cost per lb. and how the price compares with the imported quinine; and

(b) what is the quantity of bark purchased from others during the years 1928, 1929 and 1930 and how the quinine contents compared with the departmental bark?

A.—(a) The quinine output from the plantations is as follows:—

	LB.
1928–29	8,676
1929–30	5,770
1930–31	8,005

The cost per pound is Rs. 15 including overhead charges. The cost of imported quinine is Rs. 18 per pound. The Government quinine is sold at the same rate as that of imported quinine.

(b) The quantity of bark purchased during the past three years, is as follows:—

	LB.
1928–29	268,421
1929–30	325,220
1930–31	423,368

Most of this bark comes from high grade ledger bark grown on a private plantation in the Anamalais now converted into a tea estate. The average quinine content is 6 per cent against the average content of Nilgiris plantation bark of 4 per cent.

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Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“ In view of the large output of cinchona bark and better quinine contents of the bark obtained in the Anamalais, does not the Government think it advisable to encourage private agencies to grow cinchona? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ The private agencies are now turning to tea cultivation.”

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“ If private agencies are given a higher rate of price, I am sure private agencies will come forward to take up cinchona plantation? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I thank the hon. Member for his information.”

Electricity

Charges for electricity supplied by the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd., to the Government.

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

(a) the amount paid by the Madras Government to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd., for the energy supplied by them to the Government buildings during the last year;

(b) the rate charged by the company per unit;

(c) the reasons why the Government have agreed to a higher rate than that obtaining in Bombay, Calcutta or Rangoon;

(d) whether the question of the reduction in the rate charged for electricity supplied by the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd., was ever considered and, if so, when and with what results;

(e) the name and description of meters that are used for calculating the current consumed and their respective actual costs and the charge levied per month for meters supplied by the Corporation; and

(f) whether the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Ltd., furnishes every year to the Government of Madras its annual report on the working of the Company?

A.—(a) The exact amount paid by the Madras Government has not been ascertained but Rs. 4,07,776–12–6 was paid for energy supplied to all Government buildings including those belonging to the Government of India.

(b) 3·5 annas.

(c) The Government have no information as to the rates now charged at Calcutta, Bombay or Rangoon, but at the time the present rate (which was a reduction on the old rate) was agreed to the latest information available was that Calcutta paid 1·9 annas, Bombay 3·06 annas and Rangoon 3·5 annas per unit. The variation of rate depends upon a variety of conditions.

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- (d) Yes, in 1928 and 1929, so far as the charge for Government buildings is concerned and a flat rate of 3.5 annas per unit was agreed to for three years from 1st January 1930.

As regards rates charged to the public the Government decided in 1928 that no reduction was called for.

- (e) The Government have no information.

- (f) Yes.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether Government is not aware that the Madras Electric Supply Corporation is giving a lesser rate to private companies consuming a large number of units? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I know that they regulate the rates according to the quantity consumed. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" When Government is consuming a large amount of current, why are they not getting that concession? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" We have got that concession which depends on the quantity consumed by us. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether some private companies are not paying much less than what the Government is paying? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not aware. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" In view of the fact that in Calcutta the rate charged is 1.9 annas per unit, have Government satisfied themselves that the rate which the Madras Electric Supply Corporation is charging Government, viz., 3.5 annas per unit, is not too high? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The conditions in different cities are different. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know how long this agreement with the Electric Corporation entered into in 1928 should continue and how long the present rates will continue? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The rates payable by private consumers are under consideration. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" I am very glad that they are under consideration, having regard to the representation made by the public both to the Corporation and through newspapers. Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to consider the advisability of reducing the rates? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am sorry I cannot give a definite undertaking. But I can give this assurance that, as I said, the question of rates will be carefully considered. "

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether, as a measure of retrenchment, the Government will not think it desirable to reduce the rates they are now paying? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The question of retrenchment has nothing to do with the rates payable to others. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know if the public will be taken into confidence in considering the rates the company will be allowed to charge? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I shall consider my hon. Friend's suggestion. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" In clause (c) of the answer, it is said 'the variation of rate depends upon a variety of conditions.' May I know some of the varying conditions? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" For instance, the extent of consumption, the facilities which the suppliers have, the facilities which the consumers have and many other conditions. "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether Government are aware that, if they reduce the rate by one anna or half an anna, half a lakh of rupees will be saved from the amount they are now paying? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not aware of that. "

Use of teak poles for transmission lines from Pykara to other distributing centres.

* 422 Q.—Mr. YAKUB HASAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken up the question of using teak poles for the transmission lines from Pykara to the various distributing centres and also within the areas which actually receive the power;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating the use of steel poles;

(c) whether there is any proposal to insist in future that all licensees should use only teak poles for transmission lines as has been done at Calicut; and

(d) what would be the saving in expenditure if teak is substituted for steel for the transmission lines from Pykara?

A.—(a) & (b) The question has been considered by the Chief Engineer for Hydro-electric development. It is not proposed to use teak poles for transmission lines as the cost of teak poles including transportation and erection charges is higher than that of steel poles of equivalent strength and longer life, and steel affords a better protection against interruptions to the service due to lightning.

(c) No.

(d) The cost would be higher.

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Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Are the Government aware that the Mysore Government is using teak poles for transmission lines?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"My information is otherwise, namely, that the Mysore Government is generally using steel poles, and teak poles only on insignificant lines. On all important lines they are using steel poles."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Why should they use teak poles on insignificant lines?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Because probably, the cost of transport of teak poles is not heavy."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know whether the steel poles are indigenous or foreign?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As far as I am aware, teak poles are indigenous; no teak is imported from outside."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I beg your pardon. I am afraid I did not make myself heard. I was referring to steel poles."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I want notice."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"The cost of steel pole given here is the same as the cost of teak pole. Is it that longer life has been taken into account?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Yes, longer life and protection against interruptions due to lightning, as is referred to in the answer."

Law Department

Appointment of a temporary Assistant Secretary for Law (Drafting) Department.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a temporary Assistant Secretary for drafting has been appointed by the Government to be in charge of the Estates Land Act (Amending Bill) and if so, what are his pay and allowances and for what period he has been appointed; and

(b) what is the nature of the work that is proposed to be done by him?

A.—(a) An Assistant Secretary has been appointed to give relief to the Under Secretary (Drafting) whose work has been on the increase since 1929 and has been particularly heavy since the beginning of this year. The appointment of the Assistant Secretary is not solely for the Estate Land Act (Amendment) Bill. His salary is Rs. 500. No allowances are granted to him. The appointment is for a period of six months.

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(b) It is intended that he should be responsible for such portion of the work of the Law (Drafting) Department as may be assigned to him from time to time by the Under Secretary, Law (Drafting) Department.

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"My question was whether the Assistant Secretary was appointed to be in charge of the Estates Land Act (Amending Bill). May I know whether that was not the principal object and whether the appointment was not made in that connexion?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"No, Sir. It was in connexion with the heaviness of work in that section."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"When was the appointment made and what is the work entrusted to the Assistant Secretary?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The appointment was made some time ago, and the work to be done by the Assistant Secretary, as is stated in one of the answers, is regulated by the Under Secretary."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"What is the date of appointment?"

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know what was the heaviness of work due to?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That section has to deal with many rules under the Acts, and recently it had to deal with many Bills."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"Who is the person appointed and what are his qualifications?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"He is, I believe, an M.A., and an M.L."

Forests

Forest grievances of the ryots of Harur, Salem district.

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

(a) whether the ryots of the taluk of Harur in Salem district held a conference at Thirthamalai on 9th September 1928 and passed some resolutions regarding their difficulties in forest matters and communicated them to the Collector and to the Government; and

(b) what action has been taken in the matter; if not, why not?

A.—(a) No resolutions have been received by Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the resolutions have been received at least by the Collector of Salem?"

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

Representations from the ryots of Salem district regarding forest grievances.

* 425 Q.—MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the ryots in Salem district regarding their grievances relating to reserve forests, under the forest department, as well as those under the forest panchayats; and

(b) if so, what action do they propose to take on them?

A.—(a) A petition has been received from the ryots of Hosur taluk.

(b) It is under the consideration of Government.

MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—“ May I know, Sir, from which place in Hosur the said petition has been received? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ Yes, a petition has been received as stated in the answer.”

MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—“ My question is from which places in Hosur taluk, the said petition has been received? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ From the places referred to by my hon. Friend.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether the grievances have been redressed? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ As I said, the petition is under consideration.”

Petitions for the disafforestation of portions of the Thoppur Reserve, Salem district.

* 426 Q.—MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the people of Dhombarakampatti and surrounding villages have submitted petitions to Government for disafforesting portions and assigning lands for cultivation in Thoppur reserve forest and Dhombarakampatti reserves in Salem district; and

(b) whether a copy of the order in this matter passed by the Chief Conservator of Forests will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) A petition for the lease of about 1,340 acres of land in the Thoppur and Barigam B reserved forests was received.

(b) The copy of the relevant portion of the order is “ The areas applied for will not be disreserved.”

MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—“ May I know, Sir, the reasons which led the Conservator of Forests pass such an order? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ Because it is not in the interests of the Forest department to disafforest those areas.”

Rates fixed for grazing permits in Salem district.

* 427 Q.—MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what were the grazing rates originally fixed by the Government in various forest areas in Salem district; and

(b) whether the rates have been increased subsequently, and if so, by how much?

A.—(a) In 1890, the following rates of grazing fees were fixed as a maximum, subject to the condition that only half the rates should be the maximum for agricultural cattle:—

	AS.
Buffaloes	8
Bulls, cows, etc.	4
Sheep and goats	2

In 1895, the above differentiation between the agricultural cattle and others was abolished and the following uniform rates were prescribed, viz.—

	AS.
Buffaloes	6
Bulls, cows, etc.	3
Sheep and goats	1½

(b) The rates have since been revised according to local conditions. A statement^a showing the existing rates is appended.

MR. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—“ May I know, Sir, the reasons for raising the rates of grazing fees to more than double or treble the old rates? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ It was raised in the interests of good cattle and also in the interests of the forests.”

Wages paid to the aborigines employed by forest officials in Nugur and Bhadrachalam taluks.

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

(a) the arrangements in force for the forest officials in Nugur and Bhadrachalam taluks of Godavari Agency to obtain the necessary labour for work in forests, etc., in their respective charges;

(b) whether the aborigines are required to furnish the labour needed by the forest officials; if so, under what conditions and on what terms; and

(c) the scale of wages paid to the aborigines when employed by the forest officials?

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A.—(a) The following arrangements are in force:—

The forest subordinates apply to the headman or patel of the village and the latter arranges the requisite labour. During the time of harvest the patel raises a party at the rate of one for each kamatham (a group of two or three families formed for the purposes of cultivation). The wages of all the labourers from a village were being paid to the patel until last year. But as this system of paying wages to the patels did not work satisfactorily, the system of paying each individual is being introduced in some places as an experimental measure. In apportioning the work among the several villages, care is taken not to indent on a single village for too much labour.

(b) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

(c) Generally the labourers are paid on the quantity or outturn basis. But in a few cases daily wages are paid at the rate of four annas per male and three annas per female.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the fact that the wild tribes in these districts are asked to do forced labour and they are not often paid any wages at all, will Government be pleased to make an enquiry considering the desirability of stopping this forced labour?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"There is no forced labour."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Have the Government made enquiries?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government are aware that there is no such thing as forced labour."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (a), are we to take it that the system of paying for compulsory labour is going to be introduced throughout this Presidency?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"We are not here concerned with the Presidency as a whole but with the particular forest area."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I am asking whether a similar system will be adopted in other parts of the Presidency?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That has nothing to do with the present question."

Alleged exaction of forced labour from the aborigines by the forest officials of Nugur and Bhadrachalam taluks.

* 429 Q.—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is not a fact that the forest officials in Nugur and Bhadrachalam taluks of Godavari Agency exact forced labour from the aborigines at a low wage of annas 8 per week; and

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(b) whether the Government are taking any steps to put an end to this system?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Prisons

Alleged grievances of Mr. S. Srihari Rao in Vizagapatam jail.

* 430 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. S. Srihari Rao who is now in Vizagapatam jail was treated as a special class prisoner before he was transferred to Vizagapatam and whether after he was transferred, the same treatment has been withdrawn and he is treated as an ordinary criminal; if so, why so;

(b) whether he is placed or was placed in a cell in solitary confinement in Vizagapatam jail; if so, why; and

(c) whether he has been on hunger-strike; if so, for how many days; and what is his condition; and whether the Government have investigated into the grievances which had to his hunger-strike; and what is its result, if any?

A.—(a) The prisoner has been throughout treated as an ordinary C class prisoner.

(b) The prisoner was locked up in the day time in a separate block outside the quarantine in order to prevent other prisoners being instigated by him to disobey orders.

(c) He was on hunger-strike for 66 days and his present general condition is reported to be good. The grievances which led to the hunger-strike were enquired into and the Government are satisfied that the prisoner is not entitled under the rules to the concessions claimed by him.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know, Sir, the actual necessity which led the Government to keep this prisoner in a separate block? The answer given is, 'in order to prevent other prisoners being instigated by him to disobey orders.' I want to know whether there was any such case due to which he is kept in a separate block."

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

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"What was the case?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Because it was found actually that he was instigating others to disobey orders."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"What is it that he did?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"What he did was that he was instigating other prisoners to disobey orders."

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B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"The answer to clause (c) is, 'The grievances which led to the hunger-strike were enquired into and the Government are satisfied that the prisoner is not entitled under the rules to the concessions claimed by him.' What are the concessions claimed by him to which the Government says he is not entitled?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"He claimed all the concessions of an A class prisoner."

Depressed Classes

Acquisition of a strip of land for the extension of a pathway for the benefit of the Adi-Dravidas of Gopalsamudram.

*431 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Adi-Dravidas living in Panchama School street, Gopalsamudram, Tinnevely district, applied to the Revenue Divisional Officer, Shermadevi, to the District Labour Officer, and District Collector, Tinnevely, for the extension of their street to the main road by acquisition of a strip of land measuring 4 cents in S. No. 284/4 of the said village;

(b) if so, for how long they have been making that request;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Union Board, Gopalsamudram, passed a resolution on 20th January 1928 to the effect that a pathway should be acquired for the Adi-Dravidas;

(d) whether the said resolution was communicated to the Revenue Divisional Officer, Shermadevi;

(e) what was done thereupon;

(f) whether Rs. 39-1-7 and Rs. 2-4-10 were received from the Adi-Dravidas by the Government on 14th April 1920 and 18th October 1921, respectively, towards the acquisition of the land for the extension of the street;

(g) whether it is a fact that a further instalment of money was also required to be paid by the Adi-Dravidas in 1929; and

(h) why the acquisition has not yet been made?

A.—(a) to (h) The Government have no information but are making enquiries.

Factories

Extension of the provisions of the Indian Factories Act to private workshops.

* 432 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of the recent Labour Commission's enquiry presided over by the Rt. Hon. Mr. Whitley, the Government of India circularized to the local Governments that Labour legislation may be extended to various private workshops where work in wood, ivory, stone, engineering, iron, steel, brass, bell-metal, copper, silver, gold and other metals is being carried on and whether they have called for the opinion of the local Governments as to the advisability of bringing these workshops also under the operation of the

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Indian Factories Act as seasonal factories, e.g., factories using no power but employing substantial number of workers; and
(b) whether any and what steps the Government have taken on the same?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether the answer given to clause (a) is correct?"

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

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether it is not a fact that the Royal Commission on Indian Labour has made definite recommendations suggesting to the local Governments that legislation should be passed on certain lines?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Whitley Commission's report is under the consideration of the Government at present."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I am asking, Sir, whether the Royal Commission has made any recommendations suggesting legislation to be undertaken by local Governments in this matter."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"That answer is to the question whether the Government of India circularized to the local Governments."

Representation of the All-India Viswakarma Liberal Federation for official recognition.

* 433 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation that the All-India Viswakarma Liberal Federation may be recognized as the central organization for the promotion of the innate talent and welfare of the employees in the various private workshops where work in wood, ivory, stone, engineering, iron, steel, brass, bell-metal, copper, silver, gold and other metals is being carried on; and

(b) if so, what action they have taken thereon?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

General

Instructions by the Government to the district officers to treat the Congress organizations as enemies of the Government.

* 434 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether before or after the Gandhi-Irwin Pact, the Government issued instructions to any district officers to treat the Congress organizations as enemies of the Government, and if so, when and to whom and why?

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Breach of Gandhi-Irwin Pact by Government subordinates.

* 435 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Government have, on enquiry, found any actual breach of any of the terms of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact and whether the Government have in such cases drawn the attention of their subordinates to avoid such breach?

A.—The breaches of the settlement brought to the notice of the Government have been mainly by persons picketing shops. In cases in which any Government officer has misinterpreted the orders relating to the observance of the settlement his attention has been drawn to the matter.

Circular by the Collector of Chittoor regarding Congress activities in the Chandragiri taluk.

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

(a) whether the circular (copy) annexed herewith) was published by the District Collector of Chittoor and distributed in the Chandragiri taluk by the Tahsildar;

(b) under whose instructions was the circular issued;

(c) from what material was the information contained in the circular drawn; and

(d) whether any oral instructions were conveyed by the Collector of Chittoor or the District Superintendent of Police to all their officials or subordinates in the district to prevent Congressmen from holding meetings, processions or propaganda?

A.—(a) & (b) The circular * in question was not published by the Collector of Chittoor. It was issued by the Tahsildar of Chandragiri to the village officers of his taluk on his own authority.

(c) The circular was based on an order issued by the Collector to Magistrates as to the action to be taken in certain eventualities.

(d) No.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ It is said that the Tahsildar of Chandragiri was responsible for the issue of that circular. May I know if the Government are satisfied that the circular was issued without the sanction of the Collector of Chittoor? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ Yes, Sir. The Government are satisfied.”

* Printed as Appendix VIII on page 338 infra.

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ May I know whether any disciplinary action was taken against this Tahsildar for having issued a circular without the Collector's sanction? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ Government have adversely commented on the conduct of the Tahsildar.”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ Have the Government heard that any disciplinary action was taken in his case? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ No, Sir.”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ It is said that the circular issued was based on an order of the Collector to Magistrates as to the action to be taken in certain eventualities. How did the Collector foresee these eventualities? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ At the time when Mr. Gandhi refused to go to the Round Table Conference, the District Magistrate thought that there might be a resumption of the civil disobedience movement and a definite breach of the Pact, and so he issued those orders.”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ Did the Collector's circular say that Congressmen should be treated as enemies to the Government? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ I do not remember. Perhaps he has said so.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“ Does the Government think that the Collector was right in thinking that the Pact would be broken when Mr. Gandhi refused to go at first? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ In case there was a resumption of the civil disobedience movement, he wanted his officers to be ready prepared.”

Issue of an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, by the Sub-Magistrates of Chittoor, Tirupati, Puttur and Kuppam.

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

(a) whether the orders under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code by the Sub-Magistrates of Chittoor, Tirupati, Puttur and Kuppam, to prevent the hoisting of the new national flag were issued on or about 30th August 1931 under instructions of the District Magistrate, Chittoor;

(b) whether identical information was laid before each of the sub-magistrates referred to in clause (a); and

(c) whether the orders issued by the various sub-magistrates referred to in clause (a) are all copies of the draft order circulated by the District Magistrate for the information and guidance of the sub-magistrates concerned?

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A.—(a), (b) & (c) The District Magistrate did not issue specific instructions to each of the Sub-Magistrates mentioned to prohibit the hoisting of the National flag. The District Magistrate decided that in view of the circumstances of the situation it was undesirable to allow the flag-hoisting ceremony to proceed in places where it was likely to endanger the public peace. The Sub-Magistrates were accordingly instructed that if, on the application of the Police, they found it necessary to prohibit the ceremony, they should issue an order on the lines of that drafted by the District Magistrate for their guidance.

Alleged instructions to local authorities to prevent the flag-hoisting ceremony.

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

(a) whether the Government issued any instructions to the local authorities to prevent flag-hoisting ceremony on the 30th August; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the flag-hoisting ceremony was observed in all parts of the Presidency except Chittoor district; whether it was prevented in those parts of the Presidency;

(c) why was the Union Jack paraded in Chittoor through the streets by the Police Reserve constables on the morning of the 30th August and whether the same was hoisted in the Town Police Station, and, if so, why?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Government understand that the flag-hoisting ceremony was observed in several districts but have no detailed information of the particular places in which it was observed. In the Chittoor district it was temporarily prohibited in the following places:—

Kuppam, Tirupati, Tirumalai, Chittoor, Puttur, Narayanavaram, Tiruttani, and Kalahasti.

(c) The police apparently wished to make a demonstration.

Prohibition of all flag-hoisting ceremonies.

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

(a) whether all flag-hoisting ceremonies have been prohibited by the Sub-Magistrates of Tirupati, Puttur and Tiruttani, in their respective jurisdictions, and if so, why;

(b) why such orders have been issued in spite of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact; and

(c) what steps the Government have taken to cancel them?

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A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 450 and the answer to question No. 437.

(c) None.

Alleged ban by the First-class Magistrate, Gudur, on the Zamindari Ryots' Conference proposed to be held at Venkatagiri.

* 440 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(i) to state whether the Government have taken explanation from the Sub-Collector-Magistrate of Gudur for issuing orders under section 144 against the holding of a Zamindari Ryots' Conference at Venkatagiri; and

(ii) to place the correspondence on the table?

A.—(i) No.

(ii) No.

Alleged issue of an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, against the organizers of the Depressed Classes Conference at Eluvankottai.

* 441 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table of this House the report referred to in answer to question No. 164 asked on 5th August 1931?

A.—A copy * of the Sub-Magistrate's order, dated the 14th June 1931, is placed on the table.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“The order passed by the Sub-Magistrate is printed in the Appendix. May I know, Sir, whether Government is aware that this order has caused resentment among the depressed classes in view of the fact that they are law abiding and peaceful citizens?”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“No.”

Labour

Operations of the Labour Department in Tinnevely district.

* 442 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the operations of the Labour Department were started in Tinnevely district; and

(b) to how many taluks the operations of the Labour Department were extended and how many of the taluks are left untouched by the department?

A.—(a) In 1929–1930.

(b) The operations of the department have so far extended to four taluks.

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Supervision and cost of labour societies.

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

(a) the number of labour societies formed up to date and how many out of them are still working;

(b) the total amount lent to them by Government and how much out of it has been recovered, and how much is overdue and how much has been written off; and

(c) the number of inspectors and peons and higher officials employed to form and supervise the working of the labour societies and their annual cost to the Government?

A.—It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to Co-operative Societies for the Depressed Classes.

(a) 1,810 such societies were working on 1st April 1930.

(b) The statement below gives the advances and recoveries during the last ten years:—

Year.	Advances.	Recoveries.
	RS.	RS.
1920-21	1,04,543	73,728
1921-22	1,40,340	87,886
1922-23	93,005	63,418
1923-24	4,29,465	1,89,732
1924-25	2,07,542	76,748
*1925-26	5,53,611	1,30,098
1926-27	5,29,283	60,180
1927-28	51,252	1,21,897
1928-29	49,377	52,589
1929-30	63,068	66,218

The amount of loan overdue on 1st April 1930 was Rs. 3,42,115 and the amount written off up to that date was Rs. 94,695-4-9.

(c) 1 Deputy Registrar, 144 Inspectors, 1 clerk, and 14 peons. The annual cost is Rs. 1,62,814.

Action taken by the Government on the Report of the Whitley Commission.

* 444 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what action, and when, the Government propose to take on the recommendations contained in the Report of the Whitley Commission as far as they concern the Local Government?

A.—The recommendations of the Commission are under examination.

* Includes also advances given and recoveries made in regard to loans to individuals also.

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Police

Distribution of shorthand-writers now stationed at Vellore.

* 445 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the C.I.D. shorthand-writers are stationed at Vellore and sent to different districts at considerable travelling expense; and

(b) whether the Government contemplate distributing and stationing the shorthand-writers at different district headquarters?

A.—(a) The Shorthand Bureau is attached to the Provincial Training School, Vellore; the staff are deputed for shorthand work in the districts as necessity arises and draw ordinary travelling allowance.

(b) It was decided in 1919 that the balance of advantage favoured the concentration of the shorthand staff at Vellore in preference to distributing it over the districts. The Government have re-examined the question and consider that the advantages of concentration of the staff at Vellore definitely outweigh any small saving in travelling allowance that might be effected by distributing the staff among various centres.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ May I know whether this question will be considered by the Retrenchment Committee? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ I am afraid that question must be put to my hon. Colleague, the Finance Member.”

Alleged counter-propaganda by Revenue officials of Godavari East, Godavari West and Kistna districts regarding Re-settlement.

* 445-A Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have issued any orders to the District Magistrates of West Godavari, East Godavari and Kistna to instruct village officers and ryots not to join the Ryots' Association;

(b) whether the Government are aware of the fact that Revenue Officers in Gudivada and Bezwada taluks are coercing village officers and ryots to resign from the Ryots' Associations;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the Revenue Officers of Ellore taluk are going about in the villages stating that the ryots can afford to pay the taxes;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Revenue officials with the help of a handful of persons held a meeting in Ellore on the 18th instant to carry on counter propaganda on Re-settlement problem;

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(e) if so, whether it is a fact that the Revenue Divisional Officer presiding at the meeting prohibited some ryots and others to speak;

(f) whether the Government are aware of the recent arrest of Mr. D. Narayana Raju, Ex-M.L.C., member of the Economic Enquiry Committee and four others; and

(g) whether there are any instructions to Revenue officials to carry on counter propaganda on the Re-settlement propaganda? *

A.—(a) & (b) No.

(c) No. The Government are however aware that Revenue Officers are endeavouring to correct misrepresentations made as to the effect of the orders of the Government regarding the resettlement.

(d) A meeting was held at Ellore on October 18th and presided over by the Revenue Divisional Officer.

(e) Not so far as the Government are aware.

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes. A leaflet on the subject has been sent to the Collectors for distribution in the villages. A copy * of the leaflet is attached.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"The Government say that they do not have any information regarding this question, as to whether the Revenue Divisional Officer presided at the meeting and prevented certain people from speaking. Will the Government call for the information?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I do not think it is necessary to call for information."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if Government is aware that Mr. D. Narayana Raju who was once our Colleague here was arrested at a public meeting presided over by the Divisional Officer?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Yes, I understand that he was arrested?"

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know under what section he was arrested?"

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

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if Government is aware that at a public meeting where everybody was allowed to attend and which was held to consider a public question, some people alone were not allowed to interject by the presiding Revenue Divisional Officer, and that five gentlemen who were members of that meeting were called up to the platform, were declared an unlawful assembly and arrested?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"This matter is *sub judice* at present."

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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Assignment of Lands**

Assignment of S. No. 203 of Melpulam village, Arkonam taluk, in prejudice to public interests.

446 Q.—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one cent of S. No. 203 of Melpulam village in Arkonam taluk was assigned away recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that this assignment is prejudicial to the public interests as it blocks up the right of way to the tope to the west of it; and

(c) whether it is a fact that for over fifteen years endeavours were made to get this plot assigned and that successive officers dismissed the application for assignment?

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

Public Service

Alleged ill-treatment of the Thattans of British Malabar.

447 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the Thattan community of British Malabar that they are being treated by the caste people therein as untouchables and that their community may be included in the list of depressed classes for purposes of public service; and

(b) what orders the Government have passed on it?

A.—(a) & (b) No such representation has been received by the Government.

General

Alleged seizure of Congress flags by the Police in the Chittoor district.

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

(a) whether the flags of the Congress people at Kuppam or elsewhere in the Chittoor district were seized by the Police and if so, when and under whose orders; and

(b) whether any of the Congress people complained before the Kuppam Sub-Magistrate against the Police that they forcibly took away their flags, and if so, with what results?

A.—(a) Flags were seized in Kuppam on the 23rd August and the 15th September 1931 by the Sub-Inspector of Police. No special orders to seize flags were issued by any higher authority.

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- (b) A complaint was preferred in the Sub-Magistrate's Court, charging the Sub-Inspector of Police with theft of a flag under section 379, Indian Penal Code. The complaint was dismissed under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code.

Order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, issued by the Sub-Magistrate, Chittoor, on 11th July 1931.

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

(a) whether the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, issued by the Sub-Magistrate of Chittoor on 11th July 1931 against Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar and others was obtained by the District Superintendent of Police, from the Sub-Magistrate, without the knowledge of and contrary to the instructions of the District Magistrate; and

(b) whether the District Magistrate had promised the President and Secretary, District Congress Committee, Chittoor, to set aside the order on his return to Chittoor on the 29th July 1931 from camp and whether he did so, and if not, why not?

A.—(a) The order which was dated the 12th July 1931 was passed by the Sub-Magistrate of Chittoor on an application made by the Circle Inspector of Police. The District Magistrate had no knowledge of it until after the order was passed. He had not issued any instructions in the matter.

(b) The District Magistrate made no such promise.

Order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, prohibiting the flag salutation ceremony fixed for the 30th August 1931.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, was served by the Sub-Magistrates of Chittoor, Kuppam, Tiruttani and Puttur on August 30th or thereabout that the Congress flag salutation should not take place on the 30th of August;

(b) what were the facts which led to the passing of the above orders;

(c) whether it is a fact that the District Magistrate sent round a circular to all Subordinate Magistrates that the Gandhi-Irwin Pact has been cancelled;

(d) whether it is a fact that the District Superintendent of Police and the District Magistrate of Chittoor directed all the subordinate officers of the Police of the district to watch all the Congress volunteers and members as persons constituting a grave menace to the peace of the district;

(e) whether the District Superintendent of Police ordered all the police to be ready for lathi charges and undergo training for the same;

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(f) on what facts the District Superintendent of Police and the District Magistrate made such regulations and arrangements;

(g) whether the Government of Madras issued orders to the Chittoor authorities to take such action and if so, for what reason;

(h) whether the Government issued any instructions to the district authorities for the observance of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact; and

(i) whether the Government issued any instructions to the local authorities to prevent the flag hoisting ceremony on the 30th August and if so, the reasons therefor?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer to question No. 437.

(c) No.

(d) No.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) No.

(h) Immediately after the announcement of the settlement with the Congress the Government issued certain instructions with a view to implementing the settlement.

(i) No.

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

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* DISPENSING WITH THE SERVICES OF TEMPORARY STAFF IN THE CENTRAL SURVEY OFFICE.

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ Mr. President, Sir, under Standing Order 19 of the Madras Legislative Council, I beg leave of this House to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely—”

“the recent order of the Board of Revenue asking the Director of the Central Survey Office, Madras, to dispense with the services of all the temporary staff in that department, who number over five hundreds.””

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ Is the Government prepared to make any statement ? ”

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ I cannot give much information, Sir. I understand a notice has been issued to the temporary staff in the Survey department in anticipation of the fact that there will have to be retrenchment but which members of the temporary staff will be actually sent away, has, I understand, not yet been definitely settled. ”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ I think that as the matter relates only to temporary establishment and as it is said to be under the consideration of the Retrenchment Committee, I cannot hold the motion to be in order.”

12 noon.

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NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

IV.—BILLS.

(1) THE TIRUMALAI-TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS BILL.

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill (Bill No. 17 of 1931) be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Members whose names I will give presently.

“ Sir, the Bill has been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on the 18th August 1931. Before I make a reference to the general provisions of the Bill, I wish to refer briefly to the history of the Devasthanam. Sir, the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanam is one of the richest, or rather the richest, Devasthanam in Southern India. Pilgrims go to that temple from far and wide, in fact from all parts of India. The Devasthanam consists of the main temple at Tirumalai and many subordinate temples at Tirumalai, Tirupati and Tiruchanur. All the temples are situated in the district of Chittoor from which the hon. the Chief Minister hails; and it is particularly fortunate for us that he should be in charge of this portfolio of endowments. I have no doubt that he, as a true and sincere follower of the late revered Raja of Panagal, would be very much interested in placing this piece of legislation on the statute book.

“ Sir, let me briefly refer to the management of this Devasthanam. In olden days, the Devasthanam seems to have been managed by Hindu Kings, and after their fall, the control and management of the Devasthanam seem to have gone into the hands of the Nabob of Carnatic who through his Revenue officials was managing it. Then the East India Company came in, and through their Revenue department or the Board of Revenue, under Regulation 7 of 1817, had been managing the Devasthanam. There had been no complaint about the management of the Devasthanam when it was under them. But in the year 1843, I do not know for what reasons, probably under instructions from Home, the East India Company thought it proper that they should divest themselves of this duty. They had been trying hard to find suitable persons to manage this Devasthanam, but they were not able to get hold of proper persons, and unfortunately for the Devasthanam, in the year 1843, on the recommendation of the then Collector of North Arcot, the East India Company appointed one Sevadas of a small mutt called Hathiramjee Mutt to be the sole Vicharanakartha of the Devasthanam. The bad days of the Devasthanam began from that date. From the year 1843, the management of the Devasthanam was anything but satisfactory, and the whole state of affairs has been a complete scandal. Let me give a few facts about the mismanagement of the administration under the Vicharanakartha who came from the Hathiramjee Mutt. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons some of the defects of the administration and the necessity for this legislation have been set forth. A large number of pilgrims make rich offerings to the Deity, but the authorities of the mutt, under the guidance of the Vicharanakartha, divert the offerings from the Deity to the Vicharanakartha or the manager or

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some authority of the mutt. There are large estates which are managed by the Devasthanam. In fact about seven or eight taluks, or nearly half the district, are owned by the Devasthanam, but the management is bad. A lot of money is expended on litigation and sometimes decrees are got, though belated, and even such decrees are not executed in time and are allowed to be time-barred. The details of such mismanagement have been given in the appendix with reference to an interpellation by the hon. Mr. Basu Dev in questions and answers placed on the table of the House yesterday. I do not wish to go into details now but at a later stage I will refer to some of the important defects that have been pointed out. Articles are supplied to the Devasthanam on a large scale, such articles as ghee, camphor, musk, etc. There is no proper supervision over the supply of these articles and even inferior articles are supplied. One or two instances are noted in this statement how far musk pieces of stone and cloth have been supplied which the authorities did not note or did not think fit to note. For such a big Devasthanam there is no proper accommodation for pilgrims at Tirumalai, and no sanitary arrangements worth the name.

“ Then with regard to the staff, there is a large staff employed by the Devasthanam, and they have to be working at the whim and caprice of the Vicharanakartha; there is no fixity of tenure and their service is precarious. According to the whims and fancies of the Vicharanakartha, the servants are employed and dismissed. With regard to the gross mismanagement and misappropriation I will refer to the judgment of the District Judge of Chittoor at page 57. The then District Judge of Chittoor, Mr. Manavedan Rajah, summarizes the allegations in regard to this matter—in O.S. No. 31 of 1898—as follows:—

‘ It will thus be seen that from 1843 (that is, the fateful day on which the control of the Devasthanam passed from the East India Company into the hands of the Hathiramjee Mutt) down to the present time, November 1901, successive Mahants have been mismanaging and misappropriating temple funds which there are no adequate and proper means to recover. The existing system is thus proved to be inadequate. A change is therefore necessary. Thus the first Mahant appears from the accounts to have misappropriated Rs. 92,000 and odd. The second Mahant was found to have defrauded the temple to the extent of Rs. 2,28,000 and odd. The third Mahant was convicted of misappropriating Rs. 2,27,000 and odd. The fourth Mahant was sued for the recovery of Rs. 1,30,000. The defendant (i.e., the present Mahant) is charged with misappropriation of Rs. 6,27,000.

‘ Then with regard to the charges under litigation.

• ‘ Under this head the second Mahant spent Rs. 52,000, the third Mahant Rs. 93,000, the fourth Mahant Rs. 14,000, and the defendant Rs. 30,000 up to the date of suit.’

“ In the District Court a scheme was framed. Then it was taken up before the High Court and the High Court Judges have made this remark about the management:—

‘ . . . the history of what took place subsequent to Seva Doss' death is, to put it shortly, a record of waste and embezzlement'. ‘ The Mahants have shown themselves to be utterly incompetent to discharge the duties of the office properly and that the surplus income has been misappropriated by them, partly for their own personal use and partly for the aggrandisement of the Mutt.’

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"But the Mahant has large resources. He did not leave matters there, but took up the question to the Privy Council and the Privy Council framed an ex parte scheme which is now in force. But, Sir, as it has been pointed out in this statement, the scheme though on paper it may appear to provide for the exercise of proper control, in practice no such control was exercised as was thought to be necessary. It may be asked, Sir, that after the passing of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act II of 1927, the Hindu Religious Endowments Board could have sufficient control over this Devasthanam. But the powers of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board are after all subject to the Scheme, and therefore their powers are limited; and even when they began to exercise their limited powers, the Mahant with his large resources puts up all sorts of objections in the District Court and completely nullifies the efforts of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board to exercise proper control. The properties of the temple, both movables and immovables, are worth nearly two crores of rupees and the income per annum for the Devasthanam is nearly 15 lakhs. Such a big Devasthanam with such a large income is now left under the management of a body which has been repeatedly commented upon and criticized, and the remarks of the District Judge will clearly show that the management is very bad and discloses a scandalous state of affairs.

12-15 p.m. "Therefore, Sir, it would be clear that there is great necessity for having effective control over these Devasthanams. Any attempt to amend the existing Scheme would be infructuous and litigation would be protracted and ultimately it would not serve the purpose which we all so much desire. The only course therefore is to take effective and proper control over the Devasthanams by means of this legislation.

"I will now briefly refer to the general provisions of the Bill. Under the Bill the control is sought to be vested in the Hindu Religious Endowments Board which would exercise such control by appointing a full-time Commissioner who would be at the head of all secular affairs of the Devasthanams. The appointment of the Commissioner will be made by the Government on the recommendation of the Endowments Board which has got vast experience in the management of temples.

"The Bill does not seek to interfere with the religious rites and affairs of the Devasthanams. The Vicharanakartha will continue to be the person, who happens to be the head of the Hathiramjee Mutt, and will have charge of the religious affairs of the Devasthanams.

"Then, there is provision made for an Advisory Committee to advise the Commissioner and the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. Provision has also been made for proper audit of the budget. As it is, under the Scheme, it is only required to file a budget in the District Court and there is no provision for getting any change made in it. The Mahant simply files the budget in the District Court. No person has any right to interrogate him on it or interfere with it. Provision also exists in the Bill for proper audit of the accounts.

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According to the Bill a proper budget has to be prepared and sent in time through the Commissioner to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board and this body has power to revise and do such other things necessary in the interests of the Devasthanams.

"No doubt, Sir, there would be some difference of opinion regarding the provision in the Bill relating to the manner of the constitution of the Advisory Committee and the number which it should consist of. These differences could be easily settled in the Select Committee. At this stage it is only necessary for us to go into the main provisions of the Bill. I hope every hon. Member of the House will agree with me that this piece of legislation has been long overdue and that every effort should be made to place these Devasthanams of Tirumalai, Tirupati, etc., on a proper footing providing for effective control over their affairs.

"I therefore move to refer the Bill to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members:—

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapatil Mudaliyar.
The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
Mr. R. M. Palat.
" M. A. Muthiah Chettiar.
Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanya Chetti.
Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
The Advocate-General.
Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
" C. Basu Dev.
" K. Koti Reddi.
" M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
" Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
Dr. P. Subbarayan.

"Sir, with your permission, may I crave leave of the House to suspend Standing Order 39 (2) to enable me to add the following names also to the Select Committee:—

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar.
Mr. A. B. Shetty.
" C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.
Mr. Daniel Thomas.
" Yakub Hasan."

Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, in rising to second the motion of my hon. Friend. . ."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Sir, I rise to a point of order and seek your ruling upon this point. The motion has been moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee. The debate

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on the motion has therefore to be conducted on the merits and demerits of the various points referred to in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. It is known to several hon. Members of this House that the Endowments Board and another petitioner Mr. T. K. Alasingaravarada Thathachariar of Tirupati have filed a petition before the District Court of Chittoor for framing adequate rules under the scheme of the Privy Council. It is C.M.P. No. 219 of 1930 under O.S. No. 31 of 1898. It is open to anybody to look into the allegations made in that petition. They are identical with the grounds set forth in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to this Bill. Only in the one it is in a condensed form and in the other in an extended form. For the information of my hon. Friends I will read out the parallel references. I hold in my hand a copy of the petition now pending in the District Court.

In the matter of the Privy Council scheme relating to Tirumalai, Tirupati, etc., Devasthanams.

Between

The Commissioners of the Endowments Board, etc.

and

The Vicharanakartha of Tirumalai, etc., Devasthanams.

Petition filed on behalf of the petitioners under clauses 2 and 10 of the order, in the Privy Council Scheme sheweth:—

1. That the first petitioner is the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Board, the 2nd petitioner its President and the 3rd petitioner is the Prathama Acharya Purusha holding important Mirasi offices in the Tirumalai, Tirupati, etc., Devasthanams. The Tirumalai, Tirupati, etc., Devasthanams are the richest temple in Southern India. Every Commissioner of the Board is an ardent worshipper of the said temples and the Board is charged with the general superintendence and management of the said temples.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Is the hon. Member presenting a petition to the Council?”

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—“Sir, we have not been supplied with copies of those papers.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I do not think it is quite in order for the hon. Member from Chittoor to present a petition in this haphazard fashion. I should like to hear him if he has anything to say in favour of his point of order apart from the petition that he has got in his hands.”

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—“The petition I now read from is the petition filed by the Endowments Board on matters which are directly the subject matter under discussion in this hon. House at this moment. Standing Order 27 (2) says: ‘A Member while speaking must not refer to any matter on which a judicial decision is pending. The matter in respect of which a judicial decision is now pending is contained in the petition (filed in the District Court) which I am reading. The Bill now under discussion covers the same grounds covered by this petition filed by the Endowments Board. The petition requests the Court to frame additional rules to control the action of the Mahant or Vicharanakartha. Here with

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the same object in view we are attempting a legislative enactment. Therefore I was simply referring to the provision or provisions of the Bill and the contents of the petition now pending a judicial decision. The allegations made in the petition are the same as those mentioned in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, viz., inadequate supervision, wastage of funds, mismanagement and so on. The Bill in its Statement of Objects and Reasons says that there is imperative need to provide better accommodation for pilgrims at Tirumalai, etc., and that unwary pilgrims are misled into making their offerings at wrong quarters, etc. The petition also says the same thing. It says that it is necessary to frame additional rules regarding the receipts of all offerings, incomes, etc. The petition also submits that the decrease in income is mainly due to the respondent being in charge of the collections. So, the object of both the petition and the Bill is the same. Again, in another portion the petition contains the following:—

‘The Treasurer or the assistant treasurer have no power to check or punch the tickets under the existing rules or have they power to prohibit the admission of pilgrims for special sevās without tickets or the free performance of festivals for the benefit of the individual pilgrims. The income from Arijithams, etc., amounts to nearly two lakhs of rupees a year. Then there is the complaint about the purchase of provisions, etc. It is said therein that the foodstuffs and other provisions are now purchased for the temples for a lakh and a half rupees a year which is nearly twice as much as in the year 1911, and that the best quality or the proper quantity has not been supplied to the temples in consequence. The discretion given in the acceptance of the tenders has been abused in many cases by the respondent (Mahant) and it is learnt that in certain cases the contractors were mere name-lenders for some Byragis or other disciples of the Mutt.’”

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR (*interrupting*):—“Mr. President, Sir, Standing Order 27 (2) has been pressed into use by my hon. Friend, Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. I should like to raise another point of order. Sir, in the same Standing Order which my hon. Friend relies upon, the following sentence occurs: ‘The matter of every speech must be strictly relevant to the matter before the Council.’ Sir, an hon. Member while speaking must not refer to any matter on which a judicial decision is pending. So, when the Mover of the Bill was making his speech, if he referred to any matter on which a judicial decision is pending, it was the business of the hon. Gentleman to have raised the point of order then and drawn your attention to it. I submit, seeing that he did not raise the point at that stage, the question does not arise at this stage.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar will finish his point of order.” 12-30 p.m.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHIETTI:—“May I submit, Sir, that the point of order that has been raised may be confined to a short statement instead of illustrating that point of order by reading in extenso all the statements made in the petition filed in the District Court of Chittoor and also the statements made in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to this Bill? It seems to me to be sufficient if he illustrates his point of order by quoting one single instance.”

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Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"I wanted to compare the provisions of the present Bill with the existing state of affairs which formed the subject-matter of enquiry in the District Court of Chittoor. I waited till the hon. Member who moved for the introduction of this Bill finished his speech so that I might place all the facts which form the subject-matter of enquiry in the District Court of Chittoor and also the provisions of the present Bill before the whole House just to show how both these things are identical."

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"May I ask if the hon. Member is reading from a speech?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to say that we cannot strictly apply that Standing Order to the question now raised. I do not think there is any point of order."

* Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, it is very gratifying to note that this is not a party measure. On the other hand it is a non-party measure inasmuch as Members of almost all the various sections of this House have given notice of the Bill. However, it is very essential that there should be unanimity of opinion in this House on this measure. Though it is not entirely a piece of social legislation, all the affairs concerning this temple are of interest to the public. The millions of people who come to worship do not know that there is such a thing as Hathiramji Mutt different from the temple. These Mahants and Bairagis do not owe any allegiance to the temple, nor have they endowed any property of their own, to this temple. It may be that the temple has become richer during the term of office of the Mahants as trustees of the temple. There is no private right of the Mahant involved in this question, which we have to take into consideration on this occasion. As regards the management of the affairs of the temple, for the past 80 years by the Mahants, it is very interesting to note what the hon. Judges of the High Court have said on this point. It has been very well summarised by the Hon'ble Judge of the High Court and subsequently approved by Their Lordships of the Privy Council as a 'record of waste and embezzlement.' There have been a number of complaints against the administration by pilgrims and others. In 1901, Mr. K. C. Manavedan Rajah, the learned District Judge of Chittoor, gave out in his judgment in O.S. No. 31 of 1898, what his opinion was with reference to this Mutt and by hon. Friend from North Arcot has just now read out extracts from it. If hon. Members go through carefully the able memorandum submitted by the President of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, placed on the table of the House favouring this Bill, they will come to the conclusion that this Bill is very necessary especially in these days of social reform and social legislation.

"Sir, in the midst of their extravagances, the Mahants have not cared for the pilgrims. It is not a place where hundreds of pilgrims worship, but it is a place where thousands of people go every day. It is the comfort of pilgrims that we have to take into consideration above all things. These pilgrims have not good residences to stay

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there and they are not admitted easily into the temples unless they have the favour of the Bairagis. With regard to the provisions and articles purchased for the temple it is said that the whole affair is hopelessly mismanaged, that tenders are indiscriminately accepted, that the rules governing these are not adhered to. This Devasthanam has very large estates comprising two or three taluks. For the management of such large estates an able administrator should be at the head of affairs. I learn that the ryots are not contented. Recently there was a deadlock between the ryots and the temple authorities. There are arrears of land revenue to the extent of six or seven lakhs of rupees. In the management of a big concern like this where there are large temples and estates, necessitating the services of a large number of employees, these employees should have security of tenure, definite terms of service, and also an assurance that those terms will be adhered to. Various complaints have been made that some employees have been dismissed, others suspended and in the case of a few others increments stopped without any principle. A number of educational institutions are under the control of the present Mahant. No doubt the present Mahant is an educated man. But there is no guarantee that all his successors should be educated persons as the Mahant has the right to nominate anybody whom he chooses as his successor. As a matter of fact he may nominate even a minor. To entrust such a big establishment, these large estates and schools in the hands of the Mahant is not at all a businesslike proposition. The temple and the Math have been so wound up together that many cannot distinguish them as two separate institutions. It is alleged that the Math has been enriched at the cost of the temple, that the Bairagis in the Math make money from the pilgrims. The South Indians and the North Indians come all the way to worship Lord Venkateswara only and they do not owe any allegiance to the Math.

"In the past attempts have been made for the better management of this institution. There is the scheme as a result of Privy Council decision. I need not take the House through the protracted proceedings in the District Court, the High Court and the Privy Council, in this connexion. According to the present scheme only a copy of the budget has to be filed by the Mahant in the District Court and nobody can scan it. So far as this temple is concerned, although there is the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, we cannot effectively apply that Act to this temple inasmuch as we have to apply it subject to the scheme. So the Hindu Religious Endowments Board are helpless in this matter. They are not able to exercise control over it. They are not even able to get information as to the affairs of the temple. To a letter from the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, dated September 1925, to the Mahant, the latter replied, that having regard to the decision of the Privy Council, it is enough if he files a copy of the budget in the District Court and that he is not bound to reply the Board's letter. This only shows that the present Act is ineffective and this is patent from the President of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board's memorandum before us. Some of the worshippers have

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launched suits against the Mahant, but all in vain. It is too idle to expect private persons to set right things against a person like the Mahant with vast resources at his disposal. One of the allegations made against him is that he spends plenty of money in litigation, and therefore nobody can afford to continue a protracted litigation against him. As a matter of fact in the previous litigation the other side was not represented in the Privy Council during the last stages of the case. It is said that under the present scheme the District Judge can look into the affairs of the temple. But I believe District Judges are generally averse to interfere in such matters. You cannot expect the District Judges to devote that amount of time and energy which are necessary. As a matter of fact although the petition referred to by my hon. Friend Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar was filed in 1930, I do not think that it has reached any stage for decision. It only shows the delay in litigation and that Courts cannot interfere usefully in these matters. Sir, the enactment of a separate law was found necessary by Mr. E. F. Elliot so long ago as 1869.

“ Mr. E. F. Elliot, in his judgment in O.S. No. 14 of 1867 (delivered in 1869) expressed his opinion that the system of management that had been prevailing since 1843 was itself wrong and added: ‘ this I consider must continue to be the case until a radical reform is effected by some other Act of Legislature either by reverting to the system of Government management, which while it lasted proved apparently most successful and efficient as well as economical or of putting the management of these pagodas on some better footing than under the control and superintendence of ascetics, who are essentially men not versed in business or the ways of the world, for it cannot be expected that one ascetic can be a better secular manager than another or that better results are to be derived by the dismissal of the present incumbent.’ The need then felt for a separate Act of Legislature is more imperative now, than ever before.

“ With regard to the provisions of the Bill, I have only to say that they are moderate and well balanced. There may be some defects here and there, but they can be rectified in the Select Committee. There are three noteworthy features in the Bill, viz., (1) the Commissioner, (2) the Vicharanakarthā and (3) the Advisory Committee. The Commissioner is asked to look after the secular management of these institutions. I hope hon. Members will realize the necessity for a responsible Chief Executive Officer,—no matter what you call him,—whether Commissioner or Peshkar or head clerk—to manage an estate which yields an annual income of 16 lakhs of rupees, if any good is to be derived from the management of such an estate.

“ Every day hundreds of pilgrims visit the place and elaborate arrangements have to be made for the proper collection and management of the whole of their offerings which they give piece-meal. I am prepared to assume that the present Mahant is quite a competent man in spite of his recent illness when he was not supposed to be of sound mind. But where is the guarantee that future Mahants will be able to

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satisfy the qualifications necessary for the management of this institution? It is true that he is deprived, by this Bill, of the uncontrolled powers which he is now enjoying. The Commissioner is only a nominee of the Government and is given powers only to manage his own office, and collect the revenue that is derived from the estate. He is not given powers to interfere with the temporal affairs of the temple, nor with the persons employed by the Mahant to conduct religious ceremonies of the temple. The serious objection to the Bill by the Mahant is the appointment of the Commissioner, if the Bill is passed into law. I should consider that if this Bill is passed without making provision for the appointment of a chief executive officer, viz., the Commissioner, it will be nothing. It will be worse than the present state of affairs. With regard to the Vicharanakarthā and his position as provided in the Bill, I can only say that the Bill does not try to impair his dignity. It will enable him to devote more time to the temple.

“ As a matter of fact, this Mahant has not been able to devote much time to the temple on account of his ill health. He cannot manage both the landed estates and the temple and consequently the management is inefficient. It has been said by the other side that if this Bill was passed, it would reduce the Mahant to the position of a *monigar*. The Mahant will even then be the sole authority in the matter of the conduct of festivals, ceremonies and worship. A religious person like him should consider it a proud privilege to carry out these religious functions. If he considers it *infra dig* to occupy that position of religious head of the temple and carry out these religious functions, I consider it better, that he goes out completely.

“ With regard to the appointment of the Commissioner, I urge that his appointment should solely rest with Government and that the Mahant should have nothing to do with it. Otherwise, the Commissioner will be liable to the influence of the Mahant.

“ With regard to the appointment of an Advisory Committee, I think it will tend to have a steadying influence, on the administration of the Devasthanam. Advisory committees are appointed for the management of bigger concerns such as the railways. Advisory committees have their place in the scheme of things and I do not see any reason why there should be any objection to constituting an Advisory Committee for the management of such a public institution like these devasthanams in question. I am sure such a Committee will work in the best interests of the people, the temple and the Mahant also. Though their resolutions are not binding on the Commissioner, they will have a great effect on his work and on the attitude of the Endowments Board and Government.

“ With regard to the composition of the Advisory Committee, I am not particular that it should contain only representatives of the Legislative Council. Local bodies, as the District Board of Chittoor, the Municipal Council of Chittoor and other important bodies interested in the devasthanam may be asked to send representatives to the Committee. The number of members may be settled in the Select Committee.

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“ With regard to the justification for bringing this Bill, I would like to say a few words. As this temple was under the management of Government formerly, I think we are perfectly justified in bringing any measure for the better management of the devasthanam at any stage when we think that the present incumbent in office is not able to discharge his duties properly. In these days of democracy it is agreed on all hands that religious institutions should be controlled by Government. There was a great opposition to the Hindu Religious Endowment Bill when it was introduced and passed into law in 1925 and when the Act was amended in 1927. The Bills were passed with great difficulty. Between then and now public opinion generally has veered round in favour of the principle of control of religious institutions. If there is to be a referendum now on the question of Government control of religious institutions, I am pretty sure that the vote will be in favour of it. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: ‘Question.’) The late Raja of Panagal was very much interested in the control of religious institutions. If he were living now, he would be one of the happiest persons to see a Bill of this kind becoming law. The principle of control of religious institutions was at first his thought. Now, it is gratifying to note that it is no more a party question and that it is the thought of all. With these words, I beg to second the motion.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ It has been moved and seconded that the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill (Bill No. 17 of 1931) be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Members a list of whom has been circulated already. For the convenience of the House I would suggest that all those hon. Members who have given notice of similar Bills might speak on this particular Bill and formally move their Bills later on in the order in which they are entered on the Agenda paper.”

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—“ Sir, I move—

‘ that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.’

“ My object in moving this motion is this. Certain facts relating to this Devasthanam after 1898 are now the subject of enquiry in the District Court of Chittoor. If we circulate the Bill for eliciting opinion on it, by the time we receive the opinions of the public, we will also have the benefit of the judgment of the Chittoor Court. All the decisions of Courts of Law on this subject were given before 1898. The Courts of Law have not pronounced any opinion on matters which have occurred since 1898. The matters referred to in this Bill and in the Civil Miscellaneous Petition will be decided by the Chittoor District Court shortly and we will have the benefit of their opinion.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ Hon. Members need not refer to any matter that is pending before the Court, especially in view of the Standing Order to which I have referred.”

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—“ All I wanted to say was that it would be better if we had the opinion of the Court on several matters in addition to eliciting public opinion.”

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ I second the motion.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The amendment as well as the original motion are now for discussion.”

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—“ The devasthanam is of all-India importance. Pilgrims go there not only from South India but also from North India. Years back there was a suit filed by the Dharmarakshana Sabha of Madras for the purpose of framing a scheme for the management of the devasthanam. The Sabha also filed suits for the purpose of framing schemes for other devasthanams also. Some of the schemes are working well, while others like the Tirupati Scheme require alterations. In the view of the courts and also, I think, in the view of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, the Tirupati Scheme requires alterations. Certain petitions have been filed in the court to have the scheme altered so that the temple may be better managed. The machinery of the court may or may not be adequate for the purpose. But if a Select Committee is appointed now to go into the question, it will take evidence—if it is so authorized—only from persons who are interested in it and who can come before it. But as this is a temple whose importance is not confined to particular localities or particular communities or groups of communities in South India, but which is of all-India importance, I submit that the Bill will suffer nothing but on the other hand, gain very much by time being allowed to the public for eliciting their opinion thereon. For these reasons, I heartily support the motion of Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.”

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I support the Bill and at the same time oppose the amendment of Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar said that this devasthanam is of all-India importance. That is the very reason why I submit that a Bill of this kind is absolutely necessary. When the matter goes before the Select Committee, they will be at liberty to go into all the details and call for any records which they may think necessary for the purpose. It is not necessary for us here to say that the committee should take this kind of evidence or that kind of evidence. As hon. Members are aware, I obtained leave of this House at its last meeting for the introduction of the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill. Before I move that Bill I should like to say a few words on the present Bill itself. Both the Mover and the Seconder of this Bill have told the House the necessity for a measure of this kind at the present moment. They have made out such a clear case that I do not want to cover the same ground again.

“ I request hon. Members to realize that in the case of this devasthanam, it is imperatively necessary to make satisfactory arrangements for its administration, even presuming that all the allegations about its present management are untrue. The devasthanam derives an annual income of more than ten lakhs. Large offerings are made by pilgrims coming from all over the country and extensive landed estates are owned by the devasthanams. The Hindu Religious Endowments Board

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has, in its memorandum, expressed its helplessness in improving the affairs of the devasthanam under the present management. Even the amendment of the rules, for which a petition has been filed in the District Court to which my hon. Friend Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar referred, would be merely tinkering with the existing system, while what is required is a thorough reorganization of the existing arrangement.

“ I will now briefly touch upon the main scheme of the Bill and explain its salient features. In the first place, the Bill provides for the bifurcation of the management of the secular and religious affairs of the devasthanam, so that a whole-time officer of administrative experience may be in charge of its secular affairs, while the Mahant may continue to supervise the proper performance of the religious functions, ceremonies and festivals in the main shrine and its allied temples. Such a bifurcation has been considered necessary by courts even in the case of some smaller temples. The chief executive officer proposed in the Bill, to be called a Commissioner of the devasthanam, will be appointed by Government in consultation with the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, on a salary not exceeding Rs. 1,000 per mensem. For an institution of such an importance as Tirupati it should not require much argument on my part to show that the officer at the helm of secular affairs should be of some status to command the esteem of the public and the subordinates in the service of the devasthanam. The Hindu Religious Endowments Board is empowered by the Bill to pass the budget prepared by the Commissioner with due regard to the views of the Vicharanakartha and the Advisory Committee proposed to be constituted under the Bill. The Board will also frame by-laws relating to sanction for estimates, creation of posts, appointments and punishments of the officers and servants of the devasthanam, contracts for supply of articles and other similar matters which are now left unregulated. The servants who have to attend to the religious ceremonies and functions will be entirely under the control of the Vicharanakartha, while the rest will be under the control of the Commissioner. It is also provided in the Bill that the Board should settle doubts that may arise as to whether a particular function comes under the secular or the religious side of the devasthanam service. The Board is also expected to determine the application of surplus funds in educational and other activities such as provision of sanitary arrangements, etc. In certain matters of importance provision has been made allowing the Vicharanakartha or other aggrieved persons to resort to the District Court for getting the orders of the Board revised, for instance, its orders on the budget and its decisions in regard to the utilization of surplus funds. The provisions of the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act II of 1927 in regard to the right of persons having interest to institute a suit for obtaining reliefs and the appointment of an interim Vicharanakartha under special circumstances are retained in the Bill. The Advisory Committee contemplated in the Bill will be the mouthpiece of the public in having the grievances brought to the notice of the Vicharanakartha and the Commissioner with suggestions for effecting

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improvements in the administration of the devasthanam. The existing rights of the hereditary officers and servants of the devasthanam are specially safeguarded in the Bill.

“ Before I conclude, I would request hon. Members to remember ^{1 p.m.} that, by enacting this measure, we are not taking away the vested rights of any family in which succession to trusteeship was hereditary. There is no use referring to the state of affairs prevailing in 1843 when the State divested itself of the management of religious institutions or to the conditions prevailing in 1907 when the Privy Council framed the scheme now in vogue. After the Reforms, public policy has changed and by the passing of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act of 1925 and the re-enacting measure of 1927, this legislature has provided for Government control over religious endowments through the Transferred side of the Government and the Hindu Religious Endowments Board working under it. Especially in the case of a devasthanam with such vast resources as Tirupati, special treatment is necessary, and in the nature of the case it cannot but be unique. It is no good instituting comparison between ordinary temples for which the ordinary provisions of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act might be enough. I would request hon. Members to treat this measure as an all-party one and to see that the Bill is passed into an Act at an early date.”

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I heartily support the motion brought by my hon. Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, and I oppose the amendment of Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar. The memoranda submitted by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board as well as by Mr. Ananthasayanam reveal a most scandalous state of affairs; it is not something but almost everything that is rotten in the state of Tirumalai and Tirupati. I invite the attention of hon. Members of this House to both these memoranda and request them to consider the state of affairs revealed by these memoranda. People in many parts of the country and in our coast also, have been under the impression that, after the introduction of the Scheme framed by the Privy Council, things have been going on well in Tirumalai and Tirupati. They will be sadly disappointed if they were to know that the misappropriation and waste that was characteristic of the regime in Tirumalai and Tirupati in the days before the scheme, is still continuing in some form or other as is evidenced from the remarks of judicial officers in several cases. I understand that in 1912 there was a suit by Sir S. Subrahmanya Ayyar for removal of the present Mahant. The Mahant is the boss of the whole show; his powers are arbitrary and uncontrolled. In the matter of the budget, his power over expenditure is uncontrolled, he can spend the vast income of the temple to the last pie and also draw upon reserves. Nobody has the power to scan the budget or to go into its merits; he can transfer the allotment from one head to another; he can increase expenditure and come forward with a supplementary budget. As regards the main items of expenditure, previous speakers have already drawn attention to what is happening there. Provisions worth more than one lakh of rupees are required every year; we are told that they are purchased through benami contractors or the tenders

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of the Mahant's proteges are accepted in preference to other tenders. As regards public works, we are told that, in the last 15 years, several lakhs have been spent on buildings. There is no expert scrutiny of the estimates prepared for these buildings nor is there any strict supervision over the construction of buildings. A petition in the court asking that works costing over Rs. 5,000 should have plans and estimates approved by an officer of a sufficiently high rank and they should be check-measured by him after completion is said to have been opposed by the Mahant. The devasthanam has a large establishment costing nearly Rs. 3 lakhs; the scale of pay is not fixed; new posts are said to be created and old posts abolished at the sweet will and pleasure of the Mahant; there are no service regulations nor any provision for appeals against punishment. Exorbitant amounts are spent on litigation. As the High Court remarked some time ago, what is saved from misappropriation is spent away in litigation. Audit is a farce; there is no concurrent audit; audit takes place long after the bills are passed and the auditor is not asked to find whether the expenditure is in accordance with budget provisions. The estate management is said to be hopeless; the investments over lands amount to several lakhs but the rate of interest that these investments fetch is said to be as low as 1 per cent and more than Rs. 7 or 8 lakhs of rent are said to be in arrears. There are no decent buildings or rest-houses for pilgrims at Tirumalai; the richer class of pilgrims have to go to the Math if they want comfortable lodgings and so many people are made to pay their offerings to the Math instead of to the temple on account of misrepresentations to the effect that whatever is paid to the deity at the temple goes to the temple officers and to the coffers of the Government. In the matter of surplus, the rules require that it should be invested every year; but this does not seem to be always done. Nor is the surplus utilized for proper purposes. Now the surplus is all gone. The Math is said to have been enriched at the expense of the temple; its income of Rs. 10,000 has now swelled to more than one lakh. There have been several petitions to modify the rules and all these petitions have been dismissed. There was a petition to modify the Scheme, filed by Mr. T. R. Ramachandra Ayyar, a leading advocate of this place so far back as 1912 for setting right the administration, and that petition was dismissed. All the attempts that have been made through the courts to set matters right in the matter of administration, have failed. Any further attempt for the modification of the Scheme will only result in protracted and costly litigation. The Mahant has got vast resources at his back and no individual worshipper is in a position to contend against him in the courts and spend money. The very passing of the Religious Endowments Act was resisted by the Mahant and he is said to have spent more than Rs. 30,000 for this purpose. The Endowments Board finds itself practically helpless in effecting any improvements in the administration of Tirupati. If the Board asks for any information, for copies of the budget or of audit reports, the Mahant refuses to give them; he says that the Religious Endowments Board has no jurisdiction over this temple and it has no right to call for the budget.

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The suggestions of the Board for any improvements are not accepted. The powers of the Board are subject to the Scheme; so, unless the Scheme is modified and definite powers of control are vested in the Board, the Board cannot do anything. The Board itself has been thinking of enacting a special legislation for the purpose of setting matters right in this devasthanam and it welcomes the present Bill. I am glad that this Bill is being sponsored by Members representing several sections of the House.

"The objects of this Bill have been explained by hon. Members who have already spoken and I do not think it is necessary to go over the same ground. We have to take note of the fact that the Mahant has neither founded this temple nor endowed any properties to it; he cannot claim to be the supreme arbiter over the affairs of the temple. The people of this province must have a voice in its management. A temple with such vast income should have honest and efficient management. If the Mahant has only the interests of the temple at heart, he should not seek to put impediments in the way of this Bill. Public opinion now is definitely in favour of legislation for the better administration and control of the religious endowments in this province. It is the duty of the hon. Minister who is responsible for the good administration of our temples to see that this legislation is placed on the statute book as early as possible. This Bill will of course receive due consideration from the Select Committee and be suitably altered before it is passed by this Council."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I rise to support the motion for circulation of the Bill, before committing it to the Select Committee. An hon. Friend suggested that I should not interfere in the discussion of this Bill—as I am a Muhammadan and the Bill relates to a Hindu temple. It is true I am a Muslim and the devasthanam is supposed to belong to a community known as the Hindu. But, Sir, I may point out that these religions are not so very different. My own idea is that there is very little difference between the Hindu and Muhammadan religions, if you go to the origin of these religions and even to the method of worship. The Koranic conception of religion is that all who believe in one Supreme Being are Muslims or are of the true religion. The present tendency that is fast developing is that there cannot be but one religion, as there can be only one God, and that religion is God's religion. I also understand that some of the valuable properties belonging to the temple were endowed by Muslims.

"Sir, this temple is a very rich temple with very hoary traditions of its own; it has been in existence for several years. It is a well-known fact that people come to this temple from all parts of India. It is not only the people of this presidency that are interested in this temple but even people from other parts of India and of other religions are interested.

"One of the charges made against the Mahant is that he has been misappropriating the proceeds of the temple; no court, Sir, has, so far,

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held that the present Mahant is guilty of breach of trust. Another charge made against him is that he is employing *bairagis* for the management of the temple. Who are these biragis? Are they all ignorant people? Simply because they have given up wordly things, are they to be supposed to be fools or to know nothing about the affairs of this world? What about Mr. Gandhi? Is he not a sanyasi? Would you say that he is not capable of managing such temples? This is such an important matter that it should not be rushed through. I do not say that no reforms are necessary; some reforms may be necessary. But the Privy Council has framed a Scheme under which the temple is being managed now. The District Court of Chittoor is given power to appoint an additional manager; all safeguards have been taken to prevent mismanagement. It is admitted that budgets are being prepared every year; and copies of these budgets are filed in the District Court. When all these precautions are being taken, we should not rush to the conclusion that the affairs of the temple are altogether mismanaged or that the amounts of the temple are altogether misappropriated. I beg of this House to give sufficient time for the people and for the Members here to understand the import of the Bill. The Mahant has been managing the affairs of the temple for several years now. It is admitted that several schools have been started by him; several charitable institutions are being conducted and so many other useful things also are being done. The money and the temple are not going to be swallowed by anybody by the lapse of a few months. Let us give some time and not give the impression to the people that we are rushing through the Bill, because some people are interested in it. If the Bill is referred to the Select Committee now, you know what will happen. In a few days the Committee may submit some report. It may immediately be taken up for consideration and passed as usual, perhaps the hon. the President putting clause after clause to the Council while the Members have very little time to study the different aspects of this legislation. The others may not have sufficient time to know anything about it, but the whole thing will be passed. What I say is: there must be sufficient time for the people to study and understand the Bill. The Government also must appoint a committee to take evidence and to examine witnesses and the Government themselves must know where they stand. Therefore, Sir, I support the motion for circulation."

*Rao Bahadur T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, I support the motion that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee and oppose the motion that it be circulated for eliciting public opinion. It is significant that the Mover and the Seconder of the amendment have not traversed the allegations made in support of the motion to refer this to a Select Committee. The main allegation in support of the motion for referring it to a Select Committee is that the administration of the devasthanam has been a record of waste and embezzlement and that there is need, in the interests of the public, for better management. That allegation remains unanswered. Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar referred to the fact that really the subject-matter is under investigation by the Court. This is significant, this only means that

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there is sufficient ground for being investigated by the Court. That shows there is something wrong with the affairs or the administration of the Tirupati devasthanam. Therefore, the very ground that was urged by the Mover of the amendment is a point in support of the fact that a Bill of this kind is necessary, and the sooner it is referred to a Select Committee, the better it is for all concerned. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar then urged as a reason in support of the amendment, the fact that this temple is of an all-India character and that therefore sufficient time ought to be given to people in the north to express an opinion on the Bill. But I should be permitted to say that all the properties of the devasthanams are all situated in our presidency. We, in this presidency, have expressed strongly that the affairs of this devasthanam are not conducted properly. So, if the opinion of people outside the presidency is to be expressed at all, it should be based only on public opinion of people in this presidency. It is significant that so far there has not been a single suggestion that the administration is all right. If we here find the administration to be bad, it is up to us to come forward with proposals to set it right and not merely wait for the opinion of people outside who will be guided only by our own opinion.

"Then came Mr. Schamnad who made a number of assertions, but I am sorry they are not at all based on facts. If he had been a pilgrim or even if he had paid a visit to the place, we could have given weight to his assertions. Therefore, to circulate the Bill for eliciting public opinion at this stage, is like delaying the matter which is admitted on all hands to be urgent and necessary. The Bill has not been introduced now for the first time. That there should be a Bill in respect of this devasthanam has been long in the air. If I am not mistaken, even in the last Council there were people who were anxious that a Bill of this kind should be introduced. Why, as a matter of fact, even when the last Hindu Religious Endowments Act was under consideration, efforts were made to bring this endowment under the Act. It was on account of the influence which the Mahant possessed that the attempt failed. Therefore, it is not as though this Bill comes before this Council for the first time. This has been before the public for the last six or seven years ever since 1925. (An hon. Member: 'Has the Mahant lost his influence now?') Somebody asks me whether the Mahant has lost his influence. I am not able to answer it, but I may say that public opinion is now getting better informed on the matter. It is also significant that in support of this Bill there was in Madras a public meeting presided over by an eminent gentleman interested in the administration of religious endowments. As this Bill has been before the public for a very long time, I think sufficient time has been allowed for public opinion to assert itself—at least since the last Council when the leave for introducing this Bill was granted. After the publication of the Bill in the Gazette, public opinion, in so far as we know it, has expressed itself in favour of the present Bill. At the same time, it does not mean that if this Bill is referred to a Select Committee, public opinion cannot hereafter be expressed. For these considerations, Sir, I oppose the amendment and I support the motion of Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar."

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* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"Sir, though the Bill is in form a new Bill, in substance it is only an amendment of the Religious Endowments Act. Already the Endowments Act extends to the temple and the Board has got some control over it; but there are certain difficulties. With a view to remove those difficulties this Bill is introduced, in other words, to do away with the Scheme of the Privy Council which can be set aside or modified only by a suit or other judicial proceedings which may take a long time. That is the reason why this Bill is introduced. Therefore, this is not a new Bill and it is not raising any new or fundamental principle. There is absolutely no reason why there should be circulation. All that is sought to be done is to appoint a commissioner, to be an associate, so to speak, of the trustee, and to apportion the functions between the two. There is also to be a consulting body, I think. The appointment of an associate to the trustee was included in the Scheme framed by the High Court before the matter went up to the Privy Council. Therefore, this idea too is not a new one. The Privy Council removed the provision for the appointment of an associate in its Scheme; and by this legislation, it is practically proposed to revive that provision. It may be said that the same result can be obtained by a suit; but that will be a more costly thing and take a very long time. Therefore, in order to save the Mahant and the people and the Hindu Religious Endowments Board all worry and unnecessary expenditure, this Bill has been introduced. There is no necessity, Sir, for circulating it at this stage."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I also stand to support the original motion and to oppose the amendment. My position is very simple. This is an endowment, a public endowment; and it is not an endowment the creation of which was due to anybody or which was specially contributed for by anybody. It is not a matter in which any person who has been managing the affairs of this endowment for a long time has thereby acquired any special interest either in its management or in any of the benefits arising therefrom. Such being the case, it seems to me that it is the duty of the public to provide for the proper administration of this endowment. That seems to me to be a position which cannot be questioned by any one. It also seems to me that unless the Council intervenes, there is no other satisfactory way of providing for a proper administration of this big endowment. The endowment is probably the biggest in India; it is probably one to which the largest number of people resort from all parts of India. Such being the case, our responsibility is all the greater—since it is situated in our province—to provide for its better administration. What do we find? Almost since the time the endowment was entrusted to the charge of the Mahant who is the head of this Math, we have been seeing some litigation or other has been going on in a most immoral way—if I may put it like that. This institution was handed over to the Mahant about the middle of the last century. Within a few years, litigation starts, petitions are filed in the courts, suits are filed in the courts, and as early as the year 1898, a suit for the proper administration of this endowment was filed in the Chittoor Court which

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went up to the Privy Council. The Privy Council had to frame a scheme ultimately; but in the meanwhile there were other suits by disinterested persons who formed themselves into this Dharmarakshana Sabha in the old days—people like the late Dr. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. Ramachandra Ayyar and others. They cannot be said to be people who have no faith in religion or do not care for the proper administration of endowments. Such people thought that there ought to be a proper scheme prepared for the administration of this big endowment. They were not satisfied with the management of this institution by the Mahant. That is a fact. Not only that. Ever since the Privy Council framed its Scheme, almost every year we have been seeing some sort of legal proceeding going on in the several courts of the Presidency. This is not surely a satisfactory state of affairs; and the only way in which this can be avoided is by this Council taking charge of the matter and providing in an Act of its own for the proper administration of the endowment. If we do not do it, what is going to happen? Well, Sir, there will be interminable litigation; litigation means money and it means some interest to be taken in this matter by somebody or other. We have already got a man who is amply endowed with money—money belonging to the endowment—who is interested in keeping things as they are at present; and there are also others who have got no such means for carrying on litigation and whose only interest is the public interest for the proper administration and management of this endowment. I do not think if we, Members of this Council, realize our responsibility, we will allow this matter to be settled again in a court of law, as it can only mean further litigation, further litigation involving large funds belonging to the endowment being wasted, probably interminably going on for several years—waste of money, waste of energy, room for temptation on the one side and probably waste of money belonging to the endowment itself by people who are interested in keeping the present state of affairs. It seems to me, therefore, that our clear duty lies in preventing the people from going to courts of law, and providing a satisfactory method for administering this endowment. In saying this, I think I have given my reply to the motion moved by my Friend Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar for circulation. One ground on which he based his argument was that there is a suit pending in the Chittoor Court and that, if we waited, we would have the opinion of the District Judge. That is really what I want to avoid. I do not want further money to be wasted, nor do I want to allow any more time during which the endowment may be mismanaged in ways which may not appeal to Members here. The sooner we take charge of this matter, the better it is for all concerned. In that view, I oppose the amendment of Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.

"It was also stated by Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar that, unless the Select Committee is authorized by this House, it won't be in a position to know the views of the people outside. I beg, Sir, most respectfully, to correct him. Under Standing Order No. 39 (4), 'A Select Committee may hear expert evidence and the representatives of any special interests affected by the measure before them.' It is therefore always open to them to take the evidence of experts or of persons interested in the Bill.

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"In a matter of this public importance, I do not think it would be difficult to obtain the evidence of any person except probably those persons who are not interested in this matter. Anybody can come and give evidence either in writing or on oral examination. So, I do not think anybody would be affected or prevented from expressing his opinions by our directly referring the Bill to a Select Committee, and leaving it to the Select Committee to go into the Bill in a detailed way.

"I will only refer to one point more, Sir, before I conclude, namely, that it is not absolutely necessary for the Members of this Council to agree to every detail of the proposals that are made for the administration of the endowments. It is quite open to the Select Committee, Sir, to go into the matter fully, hear expert evidence or the evidence of people interested in the matter and frame such a scheme as would satisfy everybody, and at the same time secure the proper administration of the endowment. It is open to them to do all this. As I conceive it, the only thing that the Select Committee cannot go into is the question whether any provision ought to be made anew and whether a Bill for proper administration ought to be passed or not. That they cannot do. But they will have to agree to frame some scheme for the administration of the endowment. That is the principle of the Bill, and I do not think that the Select Committee is entitled to go behind that principle. Leaving it aside, there are various other matters, such as the arrangements to be made and other details of the scheme to be worked out. I beg to submit that it is open to the Select Committee to go into all these questions. If any person has anything to offer in regard to the proposals already made or that are to be made hereafter, it is open to him to make representations before the Select Committee, and it is for the Select Committee to consider all these representations and frame as effective a scheme or proposal as they may find necessary. So, Sir, I do not think that anybody can really have any reason to fear that any matter is going to be specially shut out by this procedure of referring the Bill to a Select Committee. And it is not, as I already said, the case that public opinion or the opinion of persons interested in the Bill will not be available to the Select Committee unless the Bill is circulated for eliciting public opinion. So, Sir, it is for this reason that I am unable to agree with my hon. Friends, Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar and Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar, in their view that the Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion. It is already high time, as I have said, that this matter is settled in some satisfactory way. This matter has been hanging on for a long time; indeed for nearly a century. The management was transferred to the Mahant, and afterwards there was a lot of litigation, and so it is high time that some sort of arrangement should be arrived at, especially in view of the fact that there is a suit pending in the Chittoor Court. I would ask the Council to expedite the matter and come to some conclusion on this question, so that there may be no need for the suit to be proceeded with. It is for these reasons, Sir, that I support very strongly the motion that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

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After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

V.—ANNOUNCEMENT *RE* THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN TO CERTAIN SELECT COMMITTEES ON BILLS.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that I nominate Mr. W. M. Browning as Chairman for the two Select Committees regarding the Madras Gaming (Amendment) Bill and the Madras City Police (Amendment) Bill.

"I nominate Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed as Chairman of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920."

IV—BILLS—*cont.*

(1) THE TIRUMALAI-TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS BILL—*cont.*

Discussion was then resumed on the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I welcome the introduction of a Bill, the object of which is to ensure efficient management and popular control of the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams. In order to justify an object of that sort and the consequent introduction of a Bill to ensure the accomplishment of that object, it does not seem to be necessary for anybody to allege acts of mismanagement and much less to prove them against the present Vicharanakartha. It is enough, Sir, if the public opinion is in favour of preparedness to take the management of a big religious institution like the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams and make such provisions to effectuate that object. Therefore the fact that a suit is pending in a court of law for framing a scheme or for making amendments in the existing Scheme which governs the management of that institution need not act as an impediment for the legislature to go on with this Bill. Any day I am of opinion that control of a popular body of any big institution is much more dependable and much less susceptible to corruptions and autocracy than the management of such institution by a single individual. Probably the individual trustees themselves of temples, hereditary or nominated, might sometimes feel the necessity of assistance of the members of the public who are interested in that institution.

"Though as many as seven or eight hon. Members of this Council have given notice of Bills affecting the proper management of these devasthanams, it is practically one Bill that we have got to deal with. Therefore this House is denied the enlightenment that it would have derived had the Bills been the result of individual thinking of each of the hon. Members who have given notice of this Bill. Presumably all the Bills are drafted by a single author and it is whispered, Sir, that the Bill is the result of considerable thinking in the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. If my presumption is correct, it would have been indeed a very convenient matter for this Council, had that Bill been sponsored by the Government. The Government had been anxious to make improvements in the management of this temple for a considerably long time. When the Hindu Religious Endowments Act was before the legislature, it was thought that the Act aimed particularly at this devasthanam. But owing to some cause or another it was not possible

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to exercise effective control over the Tirupati Devasthanams under the existing provisions of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act. Therefore the necessity for a separate legislation has been felt by several people and I am not sorry that it has come to-day for the due consideration of the Council and I am also particularly glad that the Bill will be referred to a Select Committee with no previous commitments with regard to the adherence of this Council in respect of particular provisions of the Bill. What is agreed upon by hon. Members representing all parties is that this Council is prepared to draft a measure to ensure proper management and effective popular control over the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanam affairs. Otherwise it would be necessary for us to mention even now our difference of opinion with regard to particular provisions of this Bill. I may frankly say that I am not in favour of several provisions of this Bill which seek to substitute the authority of the Commissioner in the place of the present Vicharanakartha. If the Council or the public are dissatisfied with the management of a single individual as susceptible of being abused, the same reasons apply with equal force, if not greater force, in respect of powers that is sought to be vested in the Commissioner. I know it may be said that the Commissioner's powers are not as unfettered as the Vicharanakartha's are and there is the Hindu Religious Endowments Board to check or control the acts of the Commissioner. Sir, I must here say that the Hindu Religious Endowments Board with all its advertised efficiency has not yet been able to convince either the public or this House of its effective and efficient management. As a matter of fact, its very existence is precarious. The salaries of several of the Commissioners of that Board are still perhaps in arrears and unless the Government advanced loans from time to time one cannot be sure of the continuance of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. Unless the Government are prepared to put the Board on a satisfactory and permanent basis and make it as a limb of the Government, it will be a dangerous thing to entrust any power to the Hindu Religious Endowments Board. So, Sir, I am not enamoured of the existence of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board as a supervisory authority over the acts of the Commissioner. (Hear, hear.) Sir, even as we are anxious that the Government of our country should be in the hands of popular control responsible to the people, I would like that experiment is started with regard to an institution of this sort. We have given full autonomy to the local self-governing institutions. We have made the presidents of district boards and municipal boards responsible to the councils and their boards. I would like that instead of making the Advisory Committee as merely nominal only on the analogy of the railway advisory committees which would not at all be complimentary to the advisory committee now proposed, I would make that Committee to be the arbiter of the affairs of the devasthanams concerned because they will be representatives of the people, they will be elected by the people, because they will be persons interested in the proper management of these temples and the estates connected with that temple. So, if you are a believer in democracy and if you think that self-government is a better substitute than even good government, I would insist, Sir, that more powers should be given to the Committee instead

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of either to the Vicharanakartha or to the Commissioner. Sir, however, the mere fact that the Commissioner is going to be a substitute to be appointed either by the Board or by the Committee, that mere fact is not going to change the character or the honesty of the persons thus appointed. If a Vicharanakartha with the large influence that he now commands and with the vast wealth that he now possesses is still suspected, to be guarded against what guarantee is there that a person appointed on a thousand rupees pay could be less susceptible to the same temptation which we fear would confront the Vicharanakartha? What guarantee is there that the Vicharanakartha and the Commissioner might not go in shares so far as the spoils from the affairs of this temple are concerned? Unless it be that the Commissioner that is to be appointed is recruited from the permanent and non-retired active servants of the Government, there is no guarantee—I say without meaning any offence to anybody—that retired officers or other persons who may be appointed temporarily for this purpose could be above temptation of being corrupt. I therefore warn those gentlemen, who think that they have done their best by merely substituting the Commissioner in the place of the Vicharanakartha, to be careful lest we should not be confronted even sometime later on with the same or similar set of difficulties as we are now confronted with.

“ Sir, I have not so far heard, from the speeches of hon. Members who have spoken before me, what prevented them from giving the Committee more powers than they thought fit to give under the provisions of this Bill. It must be due to the fact that directly they did not take active part in the drafting of the Bill, if they have only wanted to convey their personal opinions on the present bill. But I have no doubt that, so far as the Committee is concerned, it would have been given wider powers and probably supreme control. But at the same time, it must be made plain that under the provisions of this Bill, the Vicharanakartha is reduced to a figure-head. There is no denying that fact. It might probably be the intention of those who are responsible for the introduction of this Bill to reduce him to such a position. I do not want to dispute their intention, nor am I prepared to say whether the Vicharanakartha would or would not be given more powers than what is ensured to him under this Bill. But there seems to be some misconception with regard to his existing duties. I do not think that the Vicharanakartha to-day is anything more than the secular head of that institution. I have not heard that he has got any share in the matter of religious functions except as any ordinary dharmakartha would be. I suppose he is a trustee of the institution in all secular matters; and there is no meaning in saying that so far as secular matters are concerned, we will take away his powers and that we will allow him to exercise the same powers he is now exercising in regard to religious matters. After all, every religious matter becomes secular at one stage or other, even as a secular matter may become a religious matter. If the Vicharanakartha wants a particular festival to be performed, say at 3 or 4 o'clock, on a particular day, is it a secular matter or is it a religious matter? It will be difficult to define where the secular matter

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ends and where the religious function begins; and so there is no meaning in saying that so far as secular matters are concerned, the Commissioner would be supreme and in religious matters the Vicharanakarthā. If the Commissioner takes into his head to question the Vicharanakarthā as interfering in secular matters of which he has got the supreme charge, then there will be no end of trouble, and he may say that the festival shall be conducted at 4 o'clock and not at 3. The Vicharanakarthā might say Raghukalam sets in at 4 o'clock and so the festival should begin at 3 o'clock on that day. Then who is to judge that the festival must be celebrated at a particular time? These matters will naturally lead to a clash. It will be a ruinous thing to suggest two independent authorities over one institution. Either it must be frankly admitted that the Vicharanakarthā has no power if he is going to be divested of those powers which are now sought to be vested in the Commissioner or the Commissioner must be made subordinate to the Vicharanakarthā. That must be made clear. I have no doubt that all these matters will be gone into with due consideration in the Select Committee. I also think that the Select Committee, composed as it is, must not hesitate to receive assistance from people who are interested and who are willing to help us in this matter. Of course, there is no need to say either to the Select Committee or to the Council not to lose sight of the fact, namely, that we are determined to frame a measure to ensure the proper, effective and popular management of the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanam affairs."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"I rise to support the motion. In doing so, I hope that the objections that have been raised hereto will be carefully gone into at the time of consideration of this Bill by the Select Committee. I gather from the opinions already expressed that most of the objections are not against conferring the administration and management of the landed estates and the income of the temple into the hands of a Commissioner with a view to ensuring efficiency. My Friend, Mr. Sāmi Venkatachalam Chetti—I do not know whether he has really supported the Bill or is against it—has no doubt put forward some arguments in regard to the powers of the Commissioner, which I hope will receive the attention of the Select Committee. He contended that even as the present Mahant with all his vast wealth and powers is suspected by some people to be not above corruption, so also it is not possible for the future Commissioner that is going to be appointed under this Bill to be above corruption. I admit he might be. But I am one of those who believe that there are persons even in this world, if they are properly selected by the persons responsible for the selection, who will be above corruption. We have known of several instances of public servants, very poorly paid, but who are still above corruption. At the same time, we have officers, very highly paid, concerning whom it cannot be so said. If we think that the world is corrupt and that everybody is corrupt, so nothing need and can be done, and such an argument should not be in our way. I think proper persons for the position can be found. Again there is this difference, that the Mahant is a hereditary trustee and it is not so easy to remove him from that position if he is found undesirable. However, it is for us to come to a conclusion whether

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a Commissioner is to be appointed for a definite period of years for a short term or long term to manage the estates. Again, Sir, it is much better that the Mahant is not looked upon merely as a secular head, as my Friend Mr. Sāmi Venkatachalam Chetti seems to believe. Whatever legally he may be, the popular opinion with regard to the Mahant of Tirumalai-Tirupati temples is that he is a religious head, that he has a good deal to do with the functions and festivals and the performance of various ceremonies connected with the temples, and he is not really looked upon as a mere manager of the estates. As such, it will be much better if the Mahant is disburdened of his secular responsibility of managing the vast estates and income of these temples, especially as we find that the large landed estate requires a full-timed man to efficiently manage them. It will be rather unpleasant for a Mahant who is looked upon not merely as a secular head but also as a religious head, by worshippers from all parts of India, if most of his time is to be devoted to attending to a number of secular questions and troubles, and disputes consequent in managing landed estate. It will therefore be much better that this religious head dissociates himself from certain secular functions, especially those of managing the estates. From that point of view, I think it is absolutely necessary that the Mahant should be disburdened of this responsibility.

"I personally also to a certain extent agree with my hon. Friend that in the Select Committee some of the provisions of the Bill do need some change, and one of those provisions, as my hon. Friend suggested, is that regarding the powers to be conferred on the committee. I hope that the objections raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar, will also be gone into by the Select Committee. Some of us believe that even if the allegations made against the present Mahant with regard to improper use of funds and inefficient management of the estates and his not being above temptation are found untrue by the court, even then a case has been amply made out, as I said, for the appointment of one, who is not connected with the religious ceremonies of the temple to look after the proper management and administration of the vast landed estates. As such, Sir, I believe that the decision which the District Court of Chittoor may be likely to arrive at the various allegations against the present Mahant ought not in any way to deter us from pursuing the course outlined in this Bill. I therefore heartily support this motion."

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Coming from a district in which these temples are situated, I can give some information about the state of affairs there. My Friend, the Mover, has considered only one side of the picture and made his comments upon it. In a question of this kind we have to fall back upon a considerable reserve of reason and commonsense, because we have two versions and to find out the equilibrium between the two is probably the work of this House and more so of the Select Committee. One thing I may say, that reading the various judicial pronouncements from 1898 and subsequent petitions

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that have been presented to the District Court and the High Court, we find that it has been amply demonstrated that whoever might be trustee he must exercise reason and commonsense and judgment for the purpose of looking into the affairs of the temple and he must have first-hand knowledge of the working of the scheme. No person should be appointed who is not well versed in the affairs of the temple. Suppose a Commissioner is appointed, he will have to be changed after a certain period, and in the case of such appointment frequent changes will affect the administration for worse. What is happening with regard to this devasthanam during the last thirty years? Till 1843, the Government was in charge and the income of the devasthanam was only one lakh. The amount left over after meeting the expenditure was credited to Government. Not a pie was spent on the devasthanam. What do we find now? The income has risen from one lakh to Rs. 15 lakhs. Is it due to mismanagement? Secondly at the time when the Government was in charge of this trust they never invested any money over the purchase of property or any accumulating fund for the devasthanam. But we find that since the Mahant came to be in charge of the trust, the trust has been considerably enlarged and it owns landed properties in several taluks. Thirdly, as regards education and social amenities, there are two educational institutions, one in Tirupati and another in Vellore, and both of them are running on up-to-date lines. Anyone who goes there will observe that both of them are fit to be raised to the status of a first grade college. When the Mission institution at Tirupati was abolished, an application was made to the devasthanam that Muhammadan students should be admitted into the devasthanam institutions which was granted, and from thence Muhammadan students were freely admitted into those institutions. (Mr. Schamnad: Hear, hear.) Another improvement is that the whole of the hills has now been electrified. That is to say, people can go up and down at any time of the night without fear of any kind. About Rs. 40,000 is expected to be the net return. The Municipality of Tirupati is now wanting to supply the town with electricity from the devasthanam plant, and there are other consumers also, so that the devasthanam stands to gain by this electrification scheme. Then, I may mention the many choultries built on a large scale for the accommodation of pilgrims and every attempt is made to cater to the intellectual, physical, and moral wants of the people going there. Does this not mean the exercise of discretion on the part of the trustee? If a Commissioner were to be appointed in his place, will he have the experience, sympathy and understanding that are required for the purpose of meeting the wants of the people there? I will request the House to take into consideration all these facts and not be guided by one-sided versions. A man who is considered excellent in one line may have equal deficiencies in the other. Any number of rules and legislations cannot create an ideal man. The appointment of a Commissioner will in no way solve the problem. We have a Board of four Commissioners for Endowments, and they might have gone there and

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sat down and laid their fingers on certain defects. That kind of thing won't meet the wants of the people. What is wanted is larger understanding and spiritual perception. I do not mean to say that the institution is run on model lines. But so long as a human being is in charge of the administration, there will be defects and need for improvement. But you must take the rose along with the thorns. Probably you may work out a scheme of the most wonderful type in the Select Committee. (Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: You are also there.) This is a religious institution and it has been going on for a long time; that shows there is a power behind which keeps it going. So, let us not put one more log of wood in the way of the administration of this devasthanam. We want the spiritual power to be retained. The spiritual power is wielded for the sake of the whole of India and I will not be a party to any proceeding which will curtail it in the least degree. In spite of the Religious Endowments Board, there are many temples in Southern India which are a disgrace to our land. Why has this institution alone come to the forefront? I daresay that no man that you are going to appoint can clean the Aegean stables. He will prove to be a dismal failure and will bring down the spiritual institution to the level of an Aegean stable which it will take many years to cleanse. Living in Chittoor district, being in the midst of affairs and having watched the institution for 30 years, with the weight of the knowledge I possess, I must say it requires the greatest prudence and considerable wisdom and deep foresight to find out a man who will be able to answer to our expectations.

“Certainly it is no easy task. So, why not say, in the first clause of the Bill itself, that you do not want the institution of Mahantship any longer and that hereafter the Hathiramji Mutt should have nothing to do with the devasthanams. It would have been better and saner to adopt that course than this course of saying in a roundabout way that you will make the Mahant a zero. The Mahant's spiritual claim is undoubted. Rightly understood, spirituality means efficient capacity to administer. Spirituality does not mean growing a beard and sitting in a corner of the mutt. (Voices: ‘Hear, hear.’) Spirituality has in it an effective dynamic force. A man who is to occupy the post of spiritual head of a large community should be in a position to set an example to the world. Are you going to find a Commissioner of that kind? I have no doubt you will fail. If you want to reform the institution, you have at hand the provisions of the Hindu Religious Endowments Act which can be exploited to the full. If you do that, you can make the institution 1,000 times better than what it is now. If you are incapable of utilizing those provisions, I am not certainly going to subscribe to the theory that further powers are necessary. Anyhow, Sir, I have no objection to the Bill being referred to a Select Committee, but I firmly believe that the provisions for the appointment of the Commissioner and the 15 members though they look well on paper will not easily lend themselves to be translated into action.”

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(2) A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS MEDICAL REGISTRATION ACT, 1914.

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I beg leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras Medical Registration Act, 1914."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I introduce the Bill."

(3) THE MARUMAKKATTAYAM BILL.

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"I move that the Marumakkattayam Bill* (Bill No. 13 of 1931) be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members:—

- (1) The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
- (2) The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
- (3) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
- (4) Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
- (5) Mr. C. Krishnan.
- (6) Mr. P. Madhusoodhanan Thangal.
- (7) Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
- (8) B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
- (9) Mr. R. M. Palat.
- (10) Mr. A. B. Shetty.
- (11) Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
- (12) Mr. F. E. James.
- (13) Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
- (14) Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
- (15) Myself.

"Sir, I think it is necessary to briefly indicate the necessity for a legislation of this kind and the lines on which legislation is proposed. The communities governed by the Marumakkattayam and Aliyasantana law have been asking for the legal recognition of the customary marital unions prevailing among them. The Malabar Act of 1896 was passed in response to this demand. But that legislation is a very imperfect measure and has failed to meet the requirements of the people concerned. It does not legalise the sambandham, but provides for the optional registration of marital unions to invest them with validity. The refusal of the Court to regard the sambandham as a legal marriage has stamped one of the most enlightened classes in this country as an inferior race and prevented it from growing to its fullest natural stature. The Bill seeks to invest the sambandham with all the incidents of legal marriage. This may, in theory, look like a great departure from the existing state of things, but it is in truth no more than giving a formal legal sanction to what, in practice, is regarded as a sacred and lifelong union. Apart from marriage and inheritance, the need for a law providing for partition has long been felt. The tarwads have expanded beyond all natural limits so much so that it is often

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difficult to trace the exact relationship of the members composing them. The consequence has been ruinous litigation. There is hardly a family of substance in Malabar that is not in the courts. Suits for maintenance instituted by the junior members are a common feature of Marumakkattayam and Aliyasantana life. There are instances of crimes committed on account of family quarrels. The Bill endeavours to remedy this evil by providing for partition in rather a conservative fashion. It does not create the right to individual partition, but only to tavazhi partition. Personally I stand for individual partition and I am also aware that there are a good many people in Malabar who demand individual partition. But partly as a concession to orthodox opinion, and partly by way of abundant caution, only tavazhi partition has been provided for. The Bill that has been introduced by my hon. Friend, Mr. Palat, also provides for tavazhi partition. But his Bill excludes from its operation the Rajas and Sthanies. I have not excluded them. But there is a provision in my Bill allowing any tarwad to remain impartible in case not less than two-thirds of the major members of any tarwad desire to remain impartible. But if my hon. Friend, Mr. Palat, who is the accredited representative in this House of the Rajas and Sthanies of Malabar, thinks that the position I have taken up is not enough so far as Rajas and Sthanies are concerned, I have not the slightest hesitation in accepting his view.

"Mr. President, the need for such a legislation as this was felt years ago. Two eminent sons of Malabar who are important members of this House—I refer to the Law Member and my hon. Friend, Mr. K. P. Raman Menon—had introduced Marumakkattayam Bills, which elicited a volume of opinion in its favour, even in pre-reform Legislative Councils. The Bill that I have introduced is, except for a few minor verbal alterations, the same Bill that was introduced into the third Legislative Council by Mr. K. Madhavan Nayar and had met with popular approval. I, therefore, hope that this Bill will meet with the active sympathy and hearty co-operation of the whole House. To the hon. the Law Member, who is the Government Member in charge of this Bill, I would earnestly appeal in the name of Malabar, which had stood very loyally by him in all his elections, to facilitate the passage of this Bill, which he fully knows is the cry of Malabar to-day."

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"I have great pleasure in seconding this motion. In doing so, I wish to lay before you some two or three aspects which have not been referred to by the hon. Mover. Firstly, I may say that this Bill is of very urgent necessity from an economic point of view in addition to the legal inconvenience from which the people have been suffering. I may say that the present system of management by Ejaman who has absolutely no interest in the property of the tarwad beyond taking everything that is possible for him to take from the property is very detrimental to the tarwad property. The economic development of the family property suffers, because once a member becomes Ejaman of the property he grabs as much as he can

* Published in the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 18th August 1931.

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from the tarwad property and hordes up as much as he can for his wife and children. He does not care to spend a single pie of the surplus income which he may get for the improvement of the tarwad property and the property goes to rack and ruin. Secondly there are the junior members of the families. It may be said that the junior members of the families may spend some money and energy for the improvement of the tarwad property. They too do not; because so long as they get for their maintenance, they do not care for the tarwad property and they have no further interest in it. After all, Sir, the junior members of the families would come into management very remotely, and perhaps may not come in at all within their lifetime in most cases. Sir, this system of law was prevalent when marriage was not a recognized institution. Now marriage has come to be thought of as a well established social institution. Why not give it a legal recognition too? I therefore submit that this system of law which is now prevailing in Malabar and South Kanara should be changed. The sooner it is changed the better it will be for all concerned. I submit, Sir, when it is known that a Bill was introduced by the hon. the Law Member and another also by Mr. Raman Menon, a third by Mr. Madhavan Nayar in the third reformed Council and if again this is introduced for a fourth time, it establishes a case for such a measure beyond all doubt. I submit that the sooner it goes to the Select Committee and it is thrashed out, the better. The people in Malabar and South Kanara are crying for a legislation of this kind. I do hope that the House will consider this aspect of the question and will see that the Bill is referred to a Select Committee.

“With these few words I second the motion.”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“I have given notice of an amendment to this motion and it reads thus:—

‘That the Marumakkattayam Bill (Bill No. 13 of 1931) be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.’

“My hon. Friends of this Council will understand that this is a piece of social legislation. Attempts are made in this Bill to introduce rights of partition and other rights which do not now exist among the communities that are governed by this law. According to the existing law, properties of these Marumakkattayam families and Aliyasantana families are impartible. One of the objects of this Bill is to give power to branches of these big families to demand compulsory partition of the family properties. Then again, there are other chapters in this Bill which deal with the question of guardianship, with the question of testate and intestate succession. According to the existing law, properties of these Marumakkattayam and Aliyasantana families descend in a particular way. There is an attempt made in this Bill to make these properties descend in other ways. There are also provisions in the Bill connected with the marriage question, which introduce changes in the existing customs of Nayers who are governed by the Marumakkattayam law and these changes will also apply to some people of the South

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Kanara district, who are governed by the Aliyasantana system of inheritance. In addition to all these provisions, the Bill applies not only to two communities, viz., the Nayers and the people governed by Aliyasantana system of law, but it applies also to all Hindus who are governed by Marumakkattayam law. I may say for the information of this House there are other communities in addition to Nayers who are governed by Marumakkattayam law. For instance the Tiyas whose community consists of many enlightened members are governed in parts of Malabar district by the Marumakkattayam law. There are, again, certain classes of temple servants who are governed by this system of law. There are also certain classes of Brahmans who are governed by the Marumakkattayam law. My hon. Friend wants to apply the provisions of this Bill not only to the members of these communities, but also to some non-Marumakkattayam Hindus. I do not want to say anything about the merits of the Bill or the desirability or otherwise of passing this measure, at the present stage. What I say is that this measure is a piece of social legislation. Government, before making up their minds as to the attitude which they should take, should have materials before them, i.e., the opinions of the members of the communities concerned.

“I had an informal conversation with my friends of the Marumakkattayam community in this Council and they said that if I could give an undertaking that the opinions of the community and the persons that would be affected by the Bill would be obtained by the Government before a particular date, say, the 5th or 10th of January next, so that they might consider them before the next meeting of the Council, they would have no objection to the amendment that I have moved now. I give that undertaking now on the floor of the House. I shall issue instructions to the effect that the opinions of the members of the community should be elicited and that they should reach the Government before the 5th or the 10th of January next. After they are received they will be printed and placed before the House. I do not wish to make a long speech at this stage. With these observations I move the amendment.”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“I second it.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The amendment before the House is that the Marumakkattayam Bill (Bill No. 13 of 1931) be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon. Both the original motion and the amendment are now before the House for discussion.”

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“I do not want to oppose the amendment of the hon. the Law Member. I believe that materials on this question had already been collected and the opinions of the communities affected by this Bill must have been obtained when the hon. the Law Member as well as Mr. Raman Menon sought to introduce similar Bills in this Council in the pre-reform days. We shall be much obliged to the Government if they make those materials available to us now. This

3-45
p.m.

[Mr. A. B. Shetty]

[31st October 1931]

Bill was introduced three months ago and there was ample time for the Government to call for information and know the views of the people concerned in this matter. I do not see why they should have been indifferent and slept over this matter so long. What is the procedure they are now going to follow in eliciting public opinion—in choosing persons who will be asked to give their views on this matter? To whom will this Bill be sent for remarks? I am afraid if this Bill is referred only to karnavans and adverse opinions are received, it would be an effective way of damning it even at the beginning. Government should elicit the opinion of all parties interested in this matter, not merely of the karnavans but also of the junior members of families. I do not know whether arrangements will be made for calling public meetings and ascertaining popular opinion regarding this Bill. In South Kanara we have been holding public meetings and ascertaining the views of the people affected by this legislation. We have held meetings of Bunts and Billavans and Marumakkattayam people belonging to Kasaragod taluk. I do not propose at this stage to tell the House what views people in South Kanara have expressed in regard to this Bill. (Hear, hear.) It is not necessary to go into it now. I would only request the hon. the Law Member to see that this Bill is sent for opinion to a representative body of people, to publish the opinions collected and place them on the table of the House. If possible arrangements may also be made for holding public meetings and eliciting the opinion of the public on the Bill.”

* Mr. C. KRISHNAN:—“ I fully support this Bill.”

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—“ In view of the undertaking given by the hon. the Law Member that he would make arrangements for eliciting public opinion on the Bill before the 5th or the 10th January I do not propose to press my motion for referring the Bill to a Select Committee. I accept his amendment.”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ May I say one word, Sir, at this stage before you put the motion to the House? My Friend, Mr. Shetty, referred to the materials collected in connection with a Bill which he says I introduced some time ago. I remember to have introduced some measure about 25 years ago when I happened to be a member of this Council as it was then constituted. I do not think it proceeded far because I left the Council for another part of south India. Mr. Raman Menon's Bill also was introduced many years ago and I do not know whether opinions were collected then and even if they were collected whether they are now in existence.

“ If lists of persons to whom the Bill should be circulated are furnished to me, I shall certainly consider them. I may not personally know all the persons in the list; therefore, I hope that my friend will be careful to include in the list persons who are likely to be in favour of the Bill as well as those who are likely to be opposed to the Bill. In addition to this, I shall also ask the Collectors of Malabar and South Kanara to select persons to whom this Bill should be sent.

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[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

“ As for holding public meetings, I am afraid it is beyond Government. It is for my hon. Friend to hold meetings and send the resolutions passed by them to Government for information. In fact, this is one of the ways in which my friend can help Government. Let him arrange to hold meetings in various parts of the country, of people who are in favour of the Bill and of people who are against the Bill, and send their opinions to Government. Such opinions are likely to reflect the opinion of the community and they will be of considerable help to Government.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ Mr. Hameed Khan may move his amendment now.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ I formally move—

‘ that the Marumakkattayam Bill (Bill No. 13 of 1931) of Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon and that such opinion be obtained and placed on the table of the House before the next meeting of the Council ’.”

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—“ I second it.”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ The date of the next meeting has not been fixed. It may be after the 10th of January. As I have said before, I undertake to get the opinions of the persons concerned before the 5th or the 10th of January. After getting the opinions of the persons concerned, I shall print them and place them before hon. Members. In the light of these remarks I hope my hon. Friend will not press his amendment.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ I do not press my amendment; I hope the opinions will be received before the 5th January.”

The amendment was by leave withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The question is that Bill No. 13 of 1931 be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.”

The motion was carried.

(4) THE NAMBU DIRI BILL.

* Mr. P. MADHUSOODHANAN THIANGAL:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move that the Nambudiri Bill* (Bill No. 14 of 1931) be referred to a Select Committee. Before I do so, may I, Sir, now with your kind permission make a few observations, regarding the necessity for legislation on the lines proposed by me.

“ My Bill does not propose to introduce any revolutionary change. The whole Bill centres round one question, i.e., whether all Nambudiri males should be allowed to marry within caste. If this question is to be answered in the affirmative, then the Bill has to be accepted. The only other important question involved in the Bill is whether a member should have the right to ask for his share of the family properties. I do not think that any one would give a negative answer to this question. There may be some people who think whether their right to partition is not likely to be abused. It is to appease them that certain restrictions have been imposed on the exercise of their right. The greatest disease

* Published in the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 18th August 1931.

[Mr. P. Madhusoodhanan. Thangal] [31st October 1931]

of the community now is unemployment and lack of education. Though the Nambudiris are an intelligent race and though there are many rich families among them, you can count on your fingers the number of Nambudiris who have availed themselves of the present system of education. On account of this backwardness in education, they continue to be the strongholds of superstition and orthodoxy and retard the progress of even other communities. Would you believe if I say that, in this year of Grace 1931, there are people who would excommunicate their relations for the great sin of having allowed their women to have cloth umbrellas or wear jackets to cover their nudity or to wear a pair of gold bangles? And won't you lend me your helping hand if I say that such things have taken place just a couple of months ago and I want to prevent their repetition? If this Bill is accepted and with the goodwill of the House, is allowed to be put on the statute book, then, in a few years' time the Nambudiris shall work a miracle. The Yogakshema Sabha, the accredited organization of the Nambudiris, has been asking for legislation in the above matters for some time. The Nambudiri Yuvajana Sabha which is the organization of the Nambudiri youths has been clamouring for more radical things. Mr. O. M. Narayanan Nambudiripad, who was a member of the last Council, drafted a Bill and obtained the permission of the Viceroy; but for some reasons did not introduce it. At the last annual sessions of the Yogakshema Sabha and the Yuvajana Sabha I was asked to introduce a Bill for the above purposes in this Council, and it is in pursuance of that mandate, and at the request of innumerable individual Nambudiri gentlemen, that I seek to introduce this Bill.

"Before concluding, let me make mention that a similar necessity was felt at Travancore and the Nambudiris there have succeeded in getting a Bill passed in the Travancore Legislative Council, and I am glad to tell you that the Maharani Regent has kindly assented to it recently, and the Bill is in force now. So, in the name of thousands of Nambudiri women, who are rotting behind the parda, in the name of the Nambudiri race, which is rapidly decaying in ignorance and superstition, and in the name of a healthy family life, I beseech you to accept this Bill and allow it to be referred to the Select Committee, composed of the following members:—

- (1) The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
- (2) The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
- (3) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
- (4) Mr. H. R. Pate.
- (5) Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
- (6) Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
- (7) Mr. R. M. Palat.
- (8) Mr. C. Krishnan.
- (9) Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
- (10) Mr. A. B. Shetty.
- (11) Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
- (12) Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
- (13) B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
- (14) Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
- (15) Myself."

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* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, Sir, though I do not belong to the Nambudiri community which is concerned in this Bill, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion of my hon. Friend Mr. Thangal. I trust that the Bill will be referred to a Select Committee and that the hon. the Law Member will not come forward with a dilatory motion of the kind that he brought in connexion with the Bill that was just before us, namely, that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon. It is very regrettable that Government should adopt this obstructionist and defeatist policy with regard to measures brought by private members. I do not see what the Council is here for, if non-official members are not given opportunities to move and bring forward Bills on matters with which they are concerned.

"The hon. Mover of this motion has explained in detail the objects of this Bill and its very important provisions. At this stage I feel it is not necessary for me to go any further into the detailed points on which this Bill has got a bearing. I would conclude by earnestly requesting the hon. the Law Member once over, not to move any motion for circulating the Bill for eliciting public opinion."

(As it was then 4 o'clock, the adjournment motion was taken up.)

VI.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THE CONDUCT OF REVENUE OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNMENT AT ELORE.

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the business of the Council be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—

'the conduct of the Revenue Officers of the Government at the public meeting held at the Young Men's Hindu Association, Elore, on the 18th October 1931.'

"Sir, I feel I must preface the few remarks that I am going to make in this connexion, by an apology to the Council for venturing to adjourn the business of this House by a motion instead of being satisfied with the answers that might be elicited by putting interpellations to the Government. My experience of the last 7 years of this Council has taught me that invariably on questions of importance and public interest, the Government have no information on the interpellations put by non-officials. When the Members of the Government are attacked by a fusillade of supplementary questions, they hesitate to consider the advisability of calling for information. In fact that reluctant acceptance to agree to consider the suggestion for calling for further information is not generally followed up by action unless there is the prospect of a resolution or adjournment motion coming up for discussion in the Council. When such motions or resolutions are tabled, the Government have the particular knack of defeating the purpose by metaphysical arguments or by mechanised majorities. But if these resolutions are backed up by a consensus of opinion from all sections of the House, then the Government show a tendency to agree to consider the subject-matter of the motion and thus effectively persuade the movers of the motions to withdraw them. I must admit that hon. Members of this House, to whatever section of the House they may belong, are always

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Mrs. A. ALAMELUMANGA THAYARAMMAL:—“ திருமலை தேவஸ்தான சீர் திருத்த மசோதா விஷயமாய் இச்சட்டசபை அங்கத்தினர் பலரும் பேசினார்கள். இந்த திருப்பதி தேவஸ்தானம் மிகமதிப்புள்ளது. தென்னிந்தியாவிலுள்ள தேவஸ்தானங்களில் மிகப்பெரிய விசேஷமான வைஷ்ணவ ஸ்தலம். அதற்குச் சொத்து கோடிக்கணக்காயிருக்குமென்று கூறுகின்றார்கள். லக்ஷக்கணக்கான திரவியம் உண்டியில் சேர்வதற்கு அநேக லக்ஷக்கணக்கான யாத்திரிகர்கள் வருவதே காரணமாகும். யாத்திரை வாசிகளுக்குள் அதிகமாய் தென்னாட்டினர்களும், வடநாட்டினர் குற்றவாயும் வருகிறார்களென்றே சொல்லவேண்டும். சுவாமிக்குக் காணிக்கைகள் செலுத்துபவர்கள் தென்னாட்டினராவர். இந்நாட்டிலிருக்கும் ஏழைகளும், பிரபுக்களும், கற்றவர்களும், கல்லாதவர்களும், தரித்திரர்கள் முதற் கொண்டு தனவந்தர்கள்வரை யாவரும் கடவுளின் கடாசுநத்தைப் பெருவதற்குச் செலுத்தும்பணம் வீணில் செலவழிக்காமல் பாதுகாக்கவேண்டுமென்பதே சீர் திருத்த மசோதாவிலுள்ள உண்டாகவேண்டிய நன்மையாயிருக்கின்றது என்பதே என்னது அபிப்பிராயமாகவிருக்கின்றது. இப்பொழுது ஒருவாறு காலம் மாறி வருகின்றது. ஏற்றத்தாழ்வின்றிச் சகலரும் சமமென்று சொல்லிவருகின்றோம். ஜனநாயகமென்று சொல்வதிற சகிர்தமில்லை. சொல்வதற்கேற்றபடி வேலை செய்யவேண்டும். சுவாமிக்குப் பிரார்த்தனை செய்துகொண்டு பொன்னும், வெள்ளியும், தங்க நகைகளும், தட்டுமுட்டுச் சாமான்களும் வேண்டியமட்டும் வந்து குவிக்கின்றன. அவைகளிலிருந்து சுவாமிக்குச் செய்யவேண்டிய நித்திய பூஜைக்கும், நீதியான உற்சவ ஊர்கோலங்களுக்கும் செலவிட்டதுபோக மிகுந்த சொத்தைக்கொண்டு நாட்டிற்குவேண்டிய பலநற்காரியங்களுக்குதவி செய்யலாம். எனக்கு முன்பேயிச் சகோதர அங்கத்தினர் தேவஸ்தான சொத்திலிருந்து வேலூரிலும், திருப்பதியிலும் பாடசாலைகளை வைத்துநடத்தி வருகின்றார்கள் என்றும், மகம் மதிய பிள்ளைகளையும் மதபேதமின்றி அந்தப் பாடசாலைகளில் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளுகிறார்களென்றும் குறிப்பிட்டார்கள். சுவாமி மனையே பூபி நாச்சியாராகையால் இதில் புதுமையொன்றுமில்லை. வைஷ்ணவ சமயம் ஜாதி சமயபேதமின்றி எல்லாரையும் ஒன்றுபடுத்தவந்த சமயமென்பதை யாவரும் அறிவர். கோயில் சொத்தைக்கொண்டு நம் நாட்டிற்கு முக்கியமாய் வேண்டிய கல்வியைப் பரவச் செய்யலாம். இப்போது தேவஸ்தானத்திலிருந்து இரண்டொரு பாடசாலைகளுக்காக செலவழிப்பது விசேஷமல்ல. மேனாட்டிலிருக்கும் ஆக்சுபோர்ட், கேம் பிரிட்ஜ் முதலிய சர்வ கலாசாலைகளைப்போல வைத்து நடத்த முயல்வேண்டும். பலரிடமிருந்து வரும் பணத்தை நல்லவழியில் பலரும் அனுபவிக்கச் செய்ய வேண்டும். கடவுளுக்குச் செய்வதெல்லாம் நமக்கு நன்மையளிக்க வேண்டுமென்று செய்வதேயாகும். ஆதலால் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு வேண்டிய உத்தம காரியங்களுக்கு அத்திரவியத்தைச் செலவிடப்பார்க்கவேண்டும். பாஷை வேஷங்களில் வேறுபட்ட இந்நாட்டினரல்லாத வடநாட்டிலிருந்த பைராசிகள் வசமாயிற்று. அவர்கள் மகந்துக்கொள்ளும் சொல்வார்கள். கௌரவ தலைவர்களாகி கோவில் சொத்தை சதவினியோகம் செய்யாமலிருந்திருக்கிறார்களென்று சில ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன்பே பலரும் அறிந்திருக்கின்றனர். அவர்கள்மேலில் பலவிதமான குற்றங்களுக்கள் முன்பே வெளிப்பட்ட விஷயம். இக்காலத்திலுங்கூட கோவில் சம்பந்தமான விவகாரங்கள் அடிக்கடி கோர்ட்டு கச்சேரிகளில் நடந்து வருகின்றன. இவ்விஷயம் என்னைவிட வக்கீல்களாகிய சட்டசபை சகோதர அங்கத்தினர்கள் நன்கறிவார்கள். கோர்ட்டுகளில் விவகாரங்கள் நடத்தும் காலத்தில் சுவாமியைப் பற்றியும், கோயிலைப்பற்றியும், ஆகம தந்திரங்களைப்பற்றியும் அடிக்கடி பேசிவருவது கடவுளை பூஜிப்பதாகாது. உண்மையான பக்தி செலுத்துவோருமாகமாட்டோம். இனிமேலாவது அம்மாதிரி நடைபெறாமல் கமிஷன் மூலமாகவும், கமிட்டி மூலமாகவும் நன்கு விசாரணைசெய்து கோர்ட்டுகளுக்கு வீணசெலவு செய்யவிடாமல் பாதுகாக்கவேண்டும். சகல ஜனங்களுக்கும் அனுசூலமான வழியில் திருப்பதி தேவஸ்தான சட்டத்தைத் திருத்தி அமைக்கவேண்டும். பொதுவாய் தேவஸ்தானச் சட்டம் கொண்டுவந்த இராஜா இராமராயநிங்கார் அவர்களுடைய அபிப்பிராயமும் நல்லபிப்பிராயமேயாகும். வீண் விவகாரங்களுக்கு அதிகமாய் இனி இடங்கொடாமலிருக்கவேண்டும். வீண் செலவுகளை நிறுத்தவேண்டும். சிக்கனம் சிக்கனம் என்று எங்கும் ஒரே பேச்சாயிருந்துவரும் இக்காலத்தில் கோவில் பணத்தை வீணாக்கப்படாது. பிரஜைகளுக்குப் பயன்படும்படி.

[31st October 1931]

[Mrs. A. Alamelumanga Thayarammal]

செய்வதுதான் சுவாமிக்கும் பிரீதியான காரியம். ஆதலால் திருமலை தேவஸ்தான மசோதா சீர்திருத்தம் பெற்று, நாட்டிற்கு நன்மை யளிக்கவேண்டிய வழியில் வேலை செய்யவேண்டுமென்றே ஆதரிக்கின்றேன்.”

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM:—“ கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! எங்களுக்கும் இந்த பில்லில் உரிமை இருக்கிறது. திருமலை திருப்பதிக்குத் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களும் ஏராளமாகச் செல்கிறார்கள். ஏராளமாகக் காணிக்கைச் செலுத்துகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அவர்களுக்கு அங்கு பறப்பெருமான கோயிலென்று ஒன்றை ஏற்படுத்தியுள்ளார்கள். அந்தக் கோயில் பாழடைந்து சப்பாத்திக் காட்டால் சூழப்பட்டுள்ளது. ஆனால் காணிக்கைகளை மலையின் அடிவாரத்தில் யாதவ வகுப்பைச் சேர்ந்த ஒருவர் எடுத்துக் கொண்டு போகிறார். அது அவர்க்கு மிராசு பாத்தியமாம். திருப்பதி தேவஸ்தானத்திற்கு ஏராளமான வரும்படி வருகிறது. ஒரு ஜில்லா போர்டுக்கு எவ்வளவு வரும்படி வேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவிற்கும் அதிகமாக வருகிறது. ஒழுங்கான முறையில் நிருவாகஞ் செய்தால் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவோ நன்மை செய்யலாம். ஆதலால், இந்த பில் வரவேண்டுமென்று பொது ஜனங்கள் விரும்புகிறார்கள். நாங்கள் மிகவும் சந்தோஷமாக வரவேற்கிறோம்! மகந்தாக வருபவர் நல்லவராயிருக்கலாம் அவர் தனிமையாக நடத்துவதால் அவர் மீது பலர் கேஸ் எடுக்கவும் அவநம்பிக்கைக் கொள்ளவும் இடமுண்டாகிறது. அதற்காக ஒரு போர்டும் ஒரு காரிய கர்த்தாவும் ஏற்படுவது மிகவும் அவசியம். போர்டும் காரியகர்த்தாவும் மகந்துக்குப் பாது காப்பாயிருப்பார்கள். சில கனந்தங்கிய அங்கத்தினர்கள் பொது ஜன அபிப்பிராயத்தை தெரிய வேண்டுமென்றார்கள். பொது ஜனங்கள் பில் வேண்டுமென்றே விரும்புகிறார்கள். இக்கனந்தங்கிய சபையிலுள்ளவர்கள் பொது ஜனங்களால் தேர்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டவர்களே. நமது அபிப்பிராயமே பொது ஜன அபிப்பிராயமென்று கொள்ள வேண்டும். தற்காலம் குடியரசு வேண்டுமென்று நாடு விரும்புகிறது. மகந்து நிருவாகம் போர்டு முன்னிலையில் வரக்கூடாதென்பவர்கள் சுய ஆட்சி வேண்டாமென்பவர்களே. கடவுள் செயலன்றி ஓரணுவும் அசையாது அவனது திருவுளப்பாங்காலேயே இந்த பில் கொண்டுவரப்பட்டுள்ளது. இதனை சர்க்குலேஷன்விட வேண்டாம். செலெக்ட் கமிட்டி மூலம் பரிசீலனை செய்து விரைவில் பில்லை ஆக்டாக் கொண்டு வர வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.”

Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—“ Mr. President, I beg to move that the question be now put.”

Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—“ I second it.”

The closure motion was put and carried.

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar's motion for circulation of the Bill for eliciting opinion was then put and lost.

Then, **Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar's** motion to suspend the operation of Standing Order 39 (2) and to refer his Bill to a Select Committee consisting of the Members proposed by him was put and carried. The Bill was referred to the Select Committee accordingly.

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—“ Mr. President, under Standing Order 33 I beg to move—

“ that items 2 to 15 on the Agenda be postponed and that the House do proceed to consider item 16 ”

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—“ I second it.”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The question is that all items up to item 16 be held over.”

The motion was carried.

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ready to agree to withdraw motions provided they see even a ray of a conciliatory attitude on the part of the Government. If, in spite of the numerous infantile diseases that beset non-official resolutions, we are able to carry a resolution in spite of the opposition of the Government, then they do not give effect to the resolution justifying their action because of the persistent attitude of the non-official Members in passing that resolution. Therefore, Sir, we might be excused if, in spite of the fact that there is the opportunity of eliciting the Government point of view by putting interpellations, we persist in wasting the time of the Council by bringing forward resolutions or adjournment motions. But I may assure the hon. Members of the Government that there is absolutely no intention on the part of any hon. Member of this House to waste the time of the Council, because with the waste of the time of the Council, one's own individual time is wasted. Knowing, as we do, the professions and occupations in which hon. Members of the House are engaged, it must be rather incredible to believe that they can afford to waste their time by moving motions which would prove to be ineffective.

“With this apology, Sir, I move this motion. In regard to this particular motion I am further handicapped by the fact that this is perhaps the first time I am referring to the conduct of individual officers of the Government. It is no pleasant task to any hon. Member of this House to indulge in attacks against Government officers who are not present here to refute the arguments or allegations made against them. If, in spite of all these handicaps, I feel impelled to bring to the notice of the Government the conduct of particular officers of the Government, it is more in the interest of peace and order and contentment of the people affected than in feeling any pleasure by indulging in personal attacks and recriminations. The officer concerned in this matter is one Mr. Venkataramana Rao Nayudu, Deputy Collector of Ellore. I understand that Mr. Mothay Ganga Raju who was a Member of the Legislative Council in the year 1926 as a representative of the Congress Party which swamped the elections then and who was sitting on this side of the House, issued invitations convening a public meeting of ryots of the West Godavari district in order to publish the truth about the resettlement proposals. The notice convening the meeting was printed in Telugu so that the ryots, who are all Telugu people, may understand the purpose for which the meeting was organized. I have myself seen a copy of this notice and I can say unhesitatingly that it cannot be said that that meeting was organized to represent a particular point of view and that it was not open to those who differed from that point of view. When this notice was sent, it was accompanied by a letter signed by the Deputy Collector addressed to individuals asking them to be present at the meeting. I can understand officers of the Government taking the trouble of explaining the policy of the Government to the ryots by directly calling for a conference of the ryots or by themselves going to the residences of the ryots or places of public resort and explaining the matter. But I cannot surely reconcile myself to the position which this Government officer occupies when he enclosed with the invitation of a public man his own letter asking the ryots to be present. Is the public to understand that the meeting was organized by one

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amongst themselves in order to know the truth about resettlement proposals or that the meeting was one in which Government officers alone were going to be allowed to speak correctly or incorrectly? That was the dilemma in which the public were, as the notice of the meeting was accompanied by the letter from the Deputy Collector. Granting that that was permissible, what do we find later on? A large number of people assembled in the hall, numbering about a thousand, amongst whom there were many ryots. My friend Mr. Mothay Gangarazu proposed, as the convenor of the meeting, Mr. Venkataramana Rao Nayudu to the chair. Thus he became the chairman of the meeting. He is a Deputy Collector; and now he is the chairman of a meeting convened by a resident of the locality. As the chairman of the meeting, he began with his introductory speech and he took care to say that the meeting was organized for the purpose of explaining the truth about the resettlement rates. If he had anticipated what was to take place afterwards in the meeting, he would have taken care to say that the meeting was organized to explain the Government point of view on resettlement proposals. Every one in that district, I daresay, is too painfully aware he therefore said at the beginning that the meeting was organized to explain the truth about the resettlement proposals. At the entrance to this meeting place, there was a big placard of welcome welcoming everybody to come to the meeting and to hear the truth about the resettlement proposals. We are familiar with the truth about the resettlement proposals. Every one in that district, I dare say, is too painfully aware of the truth about the resettlement rates; they need no reminder from this Deputy Collector; they must have watched the resettlement operations which took place against the protest of the public and of this Council. They must be aware that subsequently the Government, as a concession which is very unusual, generously agreed to the constitution of an Economic Enquiry Committee to enquire into the economic condition of these districts. They must also be aware that that distinguished Committee refuted every statement that was made by the Settlement Officer and came to different conclusions from those of the Settlement Officer. The Committee reported to the Government that the enhancement of the rates was unwarranted and that great hardship would be caused. They were also aware that the Government did not pass orders on the report of the Economic Enquiry Committee and that they delayed it as long as possible. They were also aware that many protests were made by means of interpellations, resolutions and adjournment motions in this Council, in order to impress on the attention of the Government the necessity of not levying the enhanced rates. They were also aware of the prevaricating answers which the Government gave without saying definitely whether they would levy these enhanced rates from this year or not. They were also aware of the latest reply of the hon. the Revenue Member that the 18½ per cent would be distributed among three years, that he had not yet made up his mind whether he would levy any enhanced rate this year and that he would call for reports from these districts to see whether the economic condition of the people would justify the levy of the enhanced rate. It is this vagueness and it is this indefiniteness that compelled the people of these districts to kept up an agitation.

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" Well, Sir, if the Government were not convinced of the necessity of suspending these rates, having regard to the existing state of affairs of those districts, what else could possibly convince the Government? Naturally, therefore, the ryots were interested to see that they sent up protests, petitions and appeals to the Government to suspend these rates. Well, the Government might have been well-intentioned in asking District Collectors to forward reports on the economic condition; but the Government ought also to be aware from their long experience that they have got officers whose zeal always outruns their discretion. It is to that category that our friend, Mr. Venkataramana Rao Nayudu, belongs; and it is due to the conduct of such officers, Sir, that the Government is brought into disaffection, ridicule and contempt. If to-day there is dissatisfaction against the administration of this Government, it is due more to the misguided zeal and enthusiasm of some of its officers.

" Now, turning to the history of that meeting, I am to say that, as the President was speaking, Mr. Dandu Narayana Raju, a Member of the Legislative Council in the last Council, a member of the Economic Enquiry Committee and the Secretary of the Ryots Association, stood up from his seat and asked the President if, in regard to the exposition of the truth about the re-settlement proposals, anybody else would be entitled to speak. The President at once scented danger—because his statements would bear no scrutiny, no evidence, if only the other side began to open its mouth; and so the first step that he took was to silence the other side and that was by stating 'No, nobody else has power to speak excepting those who are called upon', that is, excepting those who were selected by the President. He then proceeded with his speech and said that a propaganda for a no-tax campaign was being organized in the districts. That is a statement which affected the reputation and the methods of those who constituted themselves as the representatives of the ryots."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—" Sir, I raise a point of order, there is a proceeding pending in a court of law. The whole proceedings at that meeting form the subject of a case before a court; and evidence will have to be let in on all these points. Under these circumstances, I think it is not admissible, when the case is *sub judice*, that those matters should be discussed here."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: " I have not yet come to that line or boundary wherein it may be said that I am transgressing the rules or standing orders in regard to matters which are *sub judice*.

" Sir, I was saying that he would not allow Mr. D. Narayana Raju to proceed. Naturally, there was some hissing and confusion."

* Mr. F. E. JAMES:—" On a point of order, Sir. My friend on the opposite side of the House has placed a very important question before the House as to whether a reference to some of the incidents is admissible owing to the fact that the whole case is *sub judice*. The hon. Member himself admits that they are not admissible. I wish to suggest, Sir, to you, with respect, that the decision on the matter rests with you and you only. I should like to know whether that matter has received your attention."

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. the Mover of the motion has himself answered the question, and I therefore thought that it was not necessary to give any ruling on that point."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Sir, I am only objecting to the Deputy Collector silencing the other point of view from being expressed in a meeting ostensibly for the purpose of propounding the truth of the resettlement proposals. Sir, I am only appealing to the Government to restrain these over-zealous officials, so that their action might not have the undesirable effect of fomenting discontent and agitation. We are passing through critical periods. It is the business both of the Government and of the public to see that no cause is given for grievance on either side. I am glad the Government is in a position to appreciate the difficulties from which these agriculturists are suffering. I have no doubt that with the same kind of attitude, they would come to the conclusion not to levy even that one anna rate for this year. I am speaking, Sir, in this strain because there does not seem to be any anxiety on the part of the Government to grind the poor agricultural ryot. They only want to know the truth. They are sometimes under the impression that too much is made of the economic depression. Probably, they are justified in trying to know the real truth. They will have the assistance of the public in their attempts to find out the truth. But instead of deputing that work to persons who seem to think that by collecting more revenue in these distressing circumstances, they would be pleasing the Government, they themselves must take the trouble of going to the districts and finding out the truth which would convince both the Government and the public of the justness of their claims. It is from that point of view that I am appealing to the Government. It is not with a view to make a complaint against a particular official. Probably there may be number of people who would like to follow that example so long as it would benefit their personal prospects. Sir, it will be impossible for me to think that the public of these districts are merely exaggerating or aggravating their difficulties when I see persons like my hon. Friend Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu presiding over a meeting of the agricultural ryots protesting against the levy of these enhanced rates. To mention only one person, Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu, who is a representative of that district, was the president of a meeting to protest against these enhancements. Having regard to the circumstances, having regard to the real nature of the conditions of the people, would it be possible to believe that there would be anybody of those agricultural ryots who would say that they agree to these enhanced rates, that they would invite the Government to levy these rates?—that would be too incredible to believe. So, any representation that may be made by any public meeting organized by any one who would favour the enhanced rates should be considered to be a cooked up one, a faked up thing, and not a real thing. I therefore appeal to the Government to know the truth of the matter and issue orders to their subordinate officers to be sympathetic to the people, not to add to the troubles of the Government which are already too many, by unnecessarily creating agitation by organizing counter-meetings and getting some people to support their

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move. Sir, I have absolutely no malice against the particular officer in making this motion. I only want that we must be saved from any disastrous consequences that might follow. I do not want to refer to the proceedings launched against these gentlemen in a court of law. It is for the Government to say whether it would be in consonance with their declared intentions to help the ryot and agriculturist to go on with proceedings of that sort”

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ Now, I am afraid that my hon. Friend is treading on forbidden ground. To make any observations regarding a pending case is not admissible; and my friend is as much aware as myself of the standing orders and the rules of the Legislative Council bearing on this.”

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“ I shall take the advice of the hon. the Law Member. But still, Sir, I do not know if I have made any observations on the case before the Court. I request the Government to find out if it is desirable to go on with these prosecutions.

“ With these observations, Sir, and a fervent appeal to the Government not to misunderstand the people but really to give a healthy and tonic restraint to their over-zealous officers to act and conduct themselves agreeably in the districts, I move this motion. That would, I think, more than repay the labours which this House has put forth in regard to the well-being of the ryots.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ Mr. President, it is indeed very unfortunate that some Members in this House have to bring forward motions of this nature, motions to adjourn the normal business of the House as it is understood, in order to discuss a matter of very urgent and recent importance. As has been stated by the Mover, none of us here comes to waste either his own time or the time of the House. If we bring forward adjournment motions, we do so under the standing orders. If an adjournment motion is made, it is not beyond the standing orders, and this every Member realizes. I daresay every Member of the House will agree with me when I say that we know our responsibilities. When we bring forward motions like this, we do so under great necessity.

“ Mr. President, Sir, the motion is one of very great importance, because it affects the very people whom we seek to represent in this House. It is possible that those who are seated here in the Opposition may hold an opinion which may not be agreed to by Members of Government or those who support the Government. But yet, the Government follow one policy; the Government have to consider the prestige of their officers; they have to consider their own prestige. We have not the time or the opportunity, as Members of Government have, to know the truth about all things as they arise; but we do recognize that we have to support the Government in their actions whenever and wherever they do require to be supported. At the same time, there are certain actions of the Government which cannot be accepted by the

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real representatives of the people; because they know that the situation created by the actions of Government needs, in certain cases, criticism and representation in this House.

“ Sir, this matter of resettlement, in the three districts of the Circars, has become an ancient affair. We have known how agitation has been carried on in the districts; and as a result of that agitation, representatives of those districts invited the attention of Government in this very House thereto. Government very wisely agreed to the appointment of an Enquiry Committee. The Enquiry Committee, on the agreement of the Government, went into the question, spent a lot of time over it and came to certain conclusions. After all, Sir, to whom and to which officer are the conclusions of this Enquiry Committee to be referred for report—to the very same officer, the same settlement officer who was carrying on his resettlement work before the Enquiry Committee was appointed? Was this the person to whom this report should be referred for report again? Sir, is that a proper procedure I ask? Is that, I say a righteous procedure? If the Government were really interested in the welfare of the people, they would have certainly referred this report to an independent officer—an officer who was not directly concerned with the resettlement work in those three districts. Sir, the Government depended upon his report, and depending upon his report, they have resolved to take a certain course of action. Well, when the Members of this Council came to know that the Government were going to take action in contradiction to the conclusions of the Enquiry Committee, a motion was tabled in this House, and it was passed, and that is that the Government should not give effect to their desires with regard to the re-settlement question.

“ Sir, Government flouted the decision of this Council, went 4-30
merrily along with their work and now they are face to face with a P.m.
situation which I am sure from the way in which they or some of their officers are conducting themselves in those districts, is serious indeed. They found themselves helpless after the thing was done. If they felt that what was being done was the proper thing, certainly they would not have resorted to this method of holding public meetings, and sending out officers among the ryots in order ostensibly to explain as it were the truth of this resettlement affair. As a matter of fact, from analogies from other provinces we can easily observe that it is in order to coerce the ryot into paying the enhanced rates that this is done. This is the way in which the Government wishes to collect the rates from the poor ryots who are not able even to carry on the work of cultivation on account of the prevailing economic depression. Sir, we know that the Government says it wishes to explain the truth of it to the ryots so that they might not succumb to the agitation that a handful of people are carrying on in the province. Sir, I might ask the Government and such of my colleagues as are here whether it will be possible for a handful of people to carry on any agitation unless they know that the people are behind it. The ryots are behind it. It is at the instance of the ryots who feel that there is a real grievance in regard to this matter that conferences and public meetings are held. They are carrying on a consti-

tutional agitation in order to impress upon the Government, that their point of view might be considered and that the Government might not enforce the enhanced resettlement rates. Sir, the Government say that they are not going to force the people to pay these enhanced rates immediately. But then, they don't realize that when a people find it difficult to pay even the existing rates on account of the economic conditions prevailing."

* Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"Sir, may I rise to a point of order? I do not want to interrupt the hon. Gentleman but I should like to ask you, Sir, whether in view of the fact that the adjournment motion deals with the conduct of the revenue divisional officer at a particular meeting on a particular date, it is in order to make a general review of the revenue settlement policy of the Government."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"It is wrong to make a general review of the whole situation. I would request the hon. Member to confine his remarks to this particular motion."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I bow to your ruling, Sir, but I would tell my hon. Friend who interrupted that if what was sought to be explained at the public meeting was the truth of the question, I want to tell the House what the truth was, whether what they said was the truth or was not the truth. Sir, the Government, as I said, was in a helpless condition. The Revenue Divisional Officer whose name was mentioned by the hon. Mover, that is, Mr. Venkataramana Rao Nayudu, was one of those present at that public meeting; and I understand that at that public meeting he was proposed to the chair. He was the president of the public meeting and he was there to explain on behalf of the Government the truth about the resettlement rates. Well, Sir, if there are any members in this House who, on account of their social relationship with that particular gentleman, want to come forward to take up his brief, to take up his cause, I wish to tell them that they have to place their public duty above their sympathy for their relations. We are here in this Council to represent the people. We are not here to represent our relations. Sir, if my relation has acted against the interests of the public . . ."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"Does this relate to the conduct of this officer, this homily?"

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Yes, Sir. If he is the relation of any one . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. The hon. Member will see that he confines his remarks to the conduct of the officer."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, the Revenue Divisional Officer is also a Magistrate. He was there in his capacity of the Revenue Divisional Officer in order to explain to the ryots a matter purely concerning the revenue of the State. He was presiding there over a public meeting not called by him nor by any Government agency, but a public meeting called by a private individual, a citizen of that place.

It might be by accident or by design that he was chosen to be the president of that meeting. I dare say it was an accident because he was supposed to be one of the leading persons at that meeting on that occasion. He was voted to the chair. He ought to have taken, as chairman of a public meeting where people had assembled holding different opinions, no point of view therein. It was his duty as chairman not to take any particular point of view, for as chairman it was his duty to remain neutral. It was his duty to allow all points of view to be expressed on the question which was being discussed at that meeting. On the other hand, we find that he becomes a partisan. He does not act as the elected chairman of a public meeting, but a partisan of a particular point of view. And when he becomes a partisan, that meeting did not remain a public meeting. He converted it into a meeting of his own. Of course the Government knows what has happened ultimately, and I do not wish to enter into the question which is considered to be forbidden on account of its being sub-judice (The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"You can't"), on account of certain rules which prevent me from going into them. But then the Government knows, all the public knows, what the result has been of the action of the Government. Sir, I should like to refer in this connection to the fact that the Banking Enquiry Committee have supported the conclusions of the Economic Enquiry Committee, and they have also incorporated many chapters into their report. That itself shows that there seems to be a consensus of opinion with regard to this matter, and yet the Government use their officers in order to force the hands of the people and create situations out of which they find it very difficult to extricate themselves. Sir, I hope the hon. the Revenue Member who has a reputation for mercy, who has got a reputation for love of truth, who has got a reputation for everything that is good ('Hear, hear' and Laughter) will forget that he is the Revenue Member of the Government of Madras (Laughter) when he has to deal with this very important matter. I therefore join in the appeal that has been made by the hon. Mover, and I would request the hon. the Revenue Member to see that this thing is dealt with in a manner that situations that have been created are not repeated and the people's case is considered sympathetically."

* Mr. C. INDRAIYA:—"Mr. President, Sir, coming as I do from the districts where this incident took place, I feel it my duty to support this motion. Before I deal with the conduct of the officer in question, I must briefly preface it by stating the events that have led up to the summoning of the meeting on the 18th of this month. Ever since the publication by the Government of the notification, G.O. No. 1486 giving effect to the proposals of Mr. Holdsworth with regard to the enhanced rates, the ryots in my district and also in the district of East Godavari woke up and began to realise their helplessness in this matter. They began to ventilate their grievances by holding meetings. Various meetings were held all through the districts, and resolutions were passed praying the Government to cancel the G.O. No. 1486, as the ryots are not able to bear any additional taxation under the present economic conditions. To carry on further propaganda in the matter, several ryots'

organizations, firka organizations, taluk organizations, and district organizations came into existence, and the movement has been gaining strength day by day. And either at the instance of the Government or on their own initiative some of the over-zealous Revenue officers of the Government took it into their heads to organize a counter-agitation in the matter and try to interfere with the free expression of opinion of the people with regard to the resettlement. With this object in view I understand an informal gathering was held on the 13th of this month in the office of the Ellore Revenue Divisional Officer. There the District Collector of West Godavari, I understand, was also present. Some other non-officials of the district also were present, to decide upon a course of action with regard to this agitation that has been going on in the district. There it was decided to convene a meeting of the people of the district on the 18th instant, and it was also decided at that meeting that invitations should be issued over the signature of Rao Bahadur Mothay Gangaraju to all the people in the district. Accordingly invitations were issued over his signature to various people in the district asking them to attend the meeting to be convened on the 18th of this month. The object of the meeting, as announced in those invitations, was to organize a People's Party in the district with a view to publish the truth about the resettlement question. That was the object as stated in the invitations. Accordingly on the 18th of October at the appointed time, 4 p.m. several people gathered there, not only people to whom invitations were issued but also several others to whom no invitations were sent. There were several leading ryots and there were several leading title-holders present on the occasion. The District Collector of West Godavari, I understand, was also present there. The Revenue Divisional Officers of Bhimavaram, Narasapur and Kovvur, I understand, were also present on the occasion. Then the Ellore Revenue Divisional Officer was proposed to the chair and he commenced his speech by stating the object of the meeting to be to form a People's Association or a People's Party in the district. Mr. D. Narayana Raju, I understand, asked the president whether others would be allowed an opportunity to speak on the occasion, and the president replied that only speakers selected by him would be allowed to speak and no others. It seems that Mr. Narayana Raju protested against the reply given by the president and said that it was not proper not to allow others to speak on the occasion. The president got wild, I understand, and said, 'You have no business to talk here; shut up; sit down' and so on. He was thus insulted by the president. Thus, he was made to sit and the president was proceeding with his speech and he was stating in the course of his speech that some people were misrepresenting facts with regard to the resettlement and propagating false ideas."

4-45 p.m. Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I rise to a point of order, Sir. I am afraid he is going into matters sub-judice."

* Mr. C. INDRAYYA:—"Mr. President, I shall not go into the merits of the prosecution or into the conduct of the Revenue Divisional Officer in arresting the five gentlemen on the occasion. I will only deal with one act of the Revenue Divisional Officer, i.e., insulting some of the

leading gentlemen of the district who gathered there. One Mr. Narayana Deo from East Godavari was brought specially to Ellore to make a speech on the 18th and he was asked to address the gathering. For some time he addressed the gathering. During his speech there were some hissings and interruptions and subsequently the meeting was dissolved. Then followed the arrest of the five gentlemen. I am not concerned with the arrest. It is not my business to deal with the propriety or otherwise of the arrest or the conduct of the Magistrate in arresting them. Revenue officers in the district are entrusted with the revenue and administration of criminal justice. They are invested with certain powers. It is their duty to watch public opinion in the district and to report to the Government impartially. Revenue officers should not organize counter-propaganda or become parties to public meetings. If the Government want to carry on counter-propaganda in the matter, let them do it by all means. But let them not instruct Revenue officers who are invested with powers. Let them appoint special officers to carry on propaganda in the matter. In this connexion I may tell you one other instance which took place in my own taluk of Narasapur. Mr. Manne Satyanarayana is a village munsif owning 200 acres of land and paying Rs. 1,000 as land tax. He happened to preside over a ryots' conference at Palakole, Narasapur taluk."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I am afraid, Sir, that my friend is going beyond the limits of the resolution before us. I submit that the motion is limited to what occurred in a public meeting held at Ellore on a particular date, the 18th October. He refers to actions of other persons on other days."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. Probably the hon. Member wanted to throw further light upon the conduct that was exhibited on that particular date. However, I request the hon. Member not to mention that particular point again."

* Mr. C. INDRAYYA:—"Now there is a criminal case pending against all these five people. So, I am not going to express any opinion on the conduct of the Magistrate. If, after the case is over, the Revenue Board institutes an enquiry, I hope justice will be done to the gentlemen concerned. With these few remarks I have great pleasure in supporting this motion."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"Mr. President, Sir, before I go into the subject proper I must answer one insidious insinuation made by an hon. Member from the other side. It was stated that a man should rise above his interests and do his duty. (Hear, hear.) In stating so, probably my friend judges others by his own standard. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'I have no relations.') That I am one who can rise above personal interest is clear from the fact that the supporters of the accused after arrest came and requested me to appear on their behalf. Another thing is that, when they convened a protest meeting they came and asked me to preside and to speak therein. Before this meeting was announced they came with a written notice and

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asked me to sign the same. I said that so far as resettlement rates were concerned I was one in perfect agreement with them in raising my protest against the action and conduct of the Government. I have done so fearlessly here and elsewhere and I continue to do it. I made this point clear to them and added that I cannot be a party to muster people to disturb a meeting held under the auspices of the West Godavari People's Association. I said, 'Don't spoil your programme by attending and coming into conflicts with meetings which other parties organize and hold. If you carry on your work it is a sufficient condemnation of the counter-propaganda'. I said, I cannot be a party and I won't sign the notice. Secondly the day on which the meeting was convened one gentleman interested came to me and ascertained from me whether I would attend the meeting in the evening. Then again I said, 'It seems to me to be a private meeting. If they do not allow you it is not right for you to speak there at all. You organize a different meeting and speak there.' I am sorry to have to refer to these incidents. But for the fact that an insinuation was made and I am forced to speak I should not have referred to these incidents. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'I did not mention names.') You need not mention names. It is clear enough to everybody. I protest against it most emphatically. People in my own district and people who are supporting the accused know what I am. I do not care whether my hon. Friend judges me after his own standard. Of course I happened to be present at the meeting and I cannot help stating what I know. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: 'In spite of your advice not to attend.') I did not advise them not to attend. I advised them to restrain themselves and speak in their own meeting. I also told them that I may or may not attend and that if my Court work permitted I would attend. It is not a matter about those things that is in issue. (Cries of 'Oh !'). The cry of 'Oh' does not matter either. (Laughter.) I am accustomed to this sort of interruptions.

"Then coming to the question, Sir, my friend read the notice from a certain paper. I do not know whether he has got the authority to say that the organizers of the meeting published the notice to the effect that there will be a public meeting. So far as I am aware, there was separate special invitation sent to some members. (A voice: 'Were they not tom-tommed?') Then, when some of these people who had no invitation wanted to attend. (A voice: 'Why did you attend?') Because I was invited. They said they would merely attend the meeting and not take part in it. I am not going to discuss the subsequent proceedings because according to me they are matters which cannot be discussed in the Council so long as a case is pending in Court. So far as the conduct of the Revenue officers is concerned in organizing or giving their support to the meeting, there is nothing wrong; it is not the Revenue officers that have to be blamed but the Government that put them in this ridiculous position. In answer to clause (g) of question No. 445-A of Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, viz., whether there are any instructions to Revenue officials to carry on counter-propaganda

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on the resettlement propaganda, this is what the Government say: 'Yes: A leaflet on the subject has been sent to the Collectors for distribution in the villages. A copy of the leaflet is attached.' The leaflet says:

'They have spread the collection of increase over a period of 3 and 4 years respectively in the case of lands in which the enhancement is 18½ per cent. and those on which it is 12½ per cent. . . . Considering that even this concession may not meet the situation if the downward tendency of prices continues Government have undertaken to examine the question whether the amount of remission granted in each fasli might not be increased with reference to the economic situation prevailing at the time when kist collections are due to begin. Please remember this important assurance and do not listen to the advice of interested agitators who will incite you to unconstitutional courses of action.'

"What can the poor Revenue subordinate do in the light of the instructions of Government? I do not see anything wrong in the conduct of the Revenue subordinates to obey the mandates of the Government. Well, so far as the merits are concerned, I already said that I am not going to speak about it, nor is it permissible to do so. So that I do not really see the object of the Mover in moving the motion or in wording it as a protest against the conduct of the Revenue officials. It is under the authoritative mandate of the Government that the meetings were held. As regards the other point I am in perfect agreement with him; notwithstanding all our agitation, Government have come to a certain view, passed the Government Order and enhanced the rates. Still they say there is time yet to consider for not collecting the rates at all. In spite of that statement they know that members are not going to rest content. Why should the Government not say at least now: 'We are not going to enforce the rates in which case there will be no trouble at all.'? Instead of asking the subordinates to carry on counter-propaganda, I should think that would be the better course.

"All the same, I am not in agreement with those who preach a no-tax campaign. I am certainly jealous of the ryots' interests, and I am myself organizing Ryots' associations in my own way and telling them that their associations are for the protection of their own interests, not merely against the injustice done to them by the present Government but probably also the injustice that may be done by future governments, as even under a government by our own people there may be such occasions. I tell them that as such occasions might arise they will have to organize their own associations, memorialize the Government and send their protests, and that if they proceed on that footing the Government would still yield to them and cancel the collection of any enhanced tax. Well, Sir, as to what would happen in the future, that is a matter to be considered then.

"Again, Sir, there seems to be some truth in the assertion on the part of the Government that not altogether true facts are put before the ryots by some speakers at these meetings. I have to say that because, in certain meetings organized as Ryots' associations resolutions are sent up to us that we Legislative Councillors should resign our seats because the Government did not cancel the resettlement rates.

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What does that mean? That shows that these meetings of ryots are organized not merely in the interests of the ryots but to do propaganda work for some other purpose. (A voice: What is the purpose?) You and I know what it is. We find there is a certain section saying that we ought not to go to the Legislative Council. What is the meaning of that propaganda? (A voice: Is it to displace you?) That is how the electorate is educated. I say that would not do. By all means be earnest about the ryots' interests and organize associations to really protest against the conduct of the Government. The Government may not agree with you. But if you have your own views on the matters and feel that a certain position taken up by the Government is wrong, there is nothing wrong in expressing your own view-point, and pressing it, till you succeed in the matter. Success may be attained by several methods, I may adopt one method, and another man may adopt another method. At the same time, I may say that I am no supporter of the Government in respect of the resettlement question. I have not only presided over but have preached at meetings that the attitude of the Government on this question is not correct. On that point, I am absolutely clear. But there are certain persons who want to take part in meetings and create disturbances and thus take the consequences of their action. Well, if they are prepared to do so, let them do so.

"As I said before, when the matter is pending before a Court of law, why should it be brought up here now? In so far as it is argued that it is merely to criticize the conduct of the Revenue officers, I have shown there is absolutely no point in it. While particular parties might carry on their agitation against the Government, it may be that the other associations are organized by the officials or even by the Government itself. Yet, people have their own liberty to organize meetings as they like. But my hon. Friends on the other side say, 'just go and disturb those meetings organized by some other party that has a different programme.' That is not right." (Interruptions.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has exceeded his time."

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—"I submit I have made my position absolutely clear, and I do not want to speak further."

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend, the Mover of this resolution, began by explaining, as an apology for bringing this motion for the adjournment of the business of the House, that he was not able to get adequate information from the Government in answer to interpellations. Well, Sir, I must repudiate that charge on behalf of my Colleagues and myself. I can assure hon. Members that we do endeavour to obtain and give them information which they require. It is true that on occasions we refrain from complying with requests for information, generally because it would involve considerable amount of labour—and labour necessarily means expense—if that information were to be collected. But it is our

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endeavour to give hon. Members of this House all the information they may desire to have and which we can supply them with at a reasonable cost.

"Now, Sir, the motion is moved with reference to the conduct of the Revenue Divisional Officer in connexion with a certain meeting held at Ellore on the 18th October. I gather that objection is taken to his action in the following respects:—In the first place that he ought not to take any part at all in this movement to place before the people the truth about the resettlement; in the second place that he ought not to have sent out a covering letter to invite certain persons to attend the meeting which was called by Rao Bahadur Mothay Ganga Raju; in the third place, when some one wanted to speak at the meeting he should not have told him that it rested with the chairman to decide who was to speak at the meeting. Well, Sir, as regards the first point, I may read the following rule which is found in the Government Servants' Conduct Rules issued by the Government of India:—

'A Government servant may, for the purpose of removing misapprehensions, correcting misstatements and refuting disloyal and seditious propaganda, defend and explain in public the policy of the Government.'

"That shows that the Revenue officers were acting within their rights, if they had to deal with certain misstatements or something of that kind. Now, Sir, the information which had been received by the Collector of the district and which has been passed on to the Government is that misstatements were made in various meetings of ryots which were convened in different parts of the district. These were the kind of misstatements that were being made; that the taram of the class of lands is being raised—Rs. 2 land being raised to Rs. 3, Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 and so on; that in addition, the classification sources of irrigation were being raised and that this was being done before the enhancement of the rates is brought into force. It is true in one or two cases, there have been certain changes in the classification, but I think these have been generally in favour of the ryot rather than the other way. Another statement which has been made is that the water-cess is to be increased in this fasli; that is also a misstatement. Then, it is generally stated that the whole of the three annas increase would be put on and collected in this fasli, although the Government definitely stated that at the outset they will not collect more than one anna in the increase, and nothing whatever was said about the Government being willing to consider further whether any increase should be put on at all this year until we knew what the position was just before the time when the kist was due for collection. Those misstatements were naturally alarming the people, and, in addition, some speakers added words to the effect that there was no use carrying on constitutional agitation any more as the Government would not listen and that possibly the only thing to do was to have recourse to a no-tax campaign. This was very disturbing to the people of the district, and I think that the Revenue officers were perfectly right in taking measures, in which they had our support, to correct these misstatements and misapprehensions. Now, Sir, the way in which that can be done is naturally by convening

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meetings of ryots at various places at which prominent non-officials who are well acquainted with the matter may be invited to address them. As far as I know, in this particular meeting there was no resolution under discussion, but it was merely a meeting for conveying information to the people who attended it.

"Now, as regards the charge that the Revenue Divisional Officer should not have sent the invitation in support of Mr. Mothey Ganga Raju's notice, I confess I can see no reason whatsoever why he should not have done so. Naturally, it was his desire that the leading representatives of the people of the neighbourhood should be present at this meeting and the fact that he would be likely to make what might be regarded as an official exposition of Government's policy would add force to the invitation.

"Then, Sir, as regards the charge that he regulated the speakers, that, I believe, is the usual duty of the chairman. In this House, any one who attempts to speak without your permission, Sir, is at once out of order, and I believe that is the general rule at all public meetings, that it is the chairman who regulates the proceedings and who decides who should speak at any particular moment, and no one should address the meeting without the permission of the chairman.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Indrayya, asked me whether I will institute an enquiry regarding the conduct of the Revenue Divisional Officer at this meeting, after the judicial proceedings now going on are over. Well, Sir, I cannot make any such promise, because to make a promise of an enquiry will *prima facie* prejudice the case which is under enquiry. I shall, however, be prepared to look into the records of the case and see whether there is any case for an enquiry to be made. I do not wish to say anything with reference to the conduct of the Revenue Divisional Officer either one way or the other lest it should prejudice the proceedings of the court.

"The Mover of this motion suggested that we should not rely on the reports of our district officers as regards the condition of the district, because they are naturally prejudiced and would make reports in the direction which would please the Government. It is not my experience that district officers are not prepared to put forward what are their real opinions. I do not think for one moment that they feel cowed in any way or think that they must not give their true opinion. Certainly that is not my experience.

"In this case I have not expressed any *prima facie* opinion one way or the other. At the same time, I may mention that the Commissioner for Land Revenue and Settlement is about to proceed to these districts in the course of a few days and he will make personal enquiries. I hope that I may be able to visit these districts before the end of the year. The first kist will fall due on the 10th January.

"The last speaker, Mr. Venkataramayya said that he was not in sympathy with the orders of the Government and that he intended to proceed with constitutional agitation against those orders. We have got no objection to any action on the part of the people taken with a

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view to place before us the actual facts and arguments. We want to know what the facts are regarding the condition of the people. We do not want mere abuse; that does not affect us one way or the other. I do not think that at the present time we can make up our minds fairly as to what we should do; for no one can tell just now, nor can any one have the courage to prophesy, what will take place during the next two months as regards the financial situation. I hope my remarks will have some effect in allaying suspicions regarding the attitude of Government in this matter."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I submit to the House, Sir, that the object of bringing this motion gained emphasis on account of its connexion with the severity of the enhanced settlement rates. Ordinarily, a conduct of the nature complained of might not attract much attention if it was not combined with the severity of the tax. Therefore, having regard to the larger interests involved in the matter, whether the explanation of the Government in regard to the conduct of the officer concerned is satisfactory or not to this House, and having regard to the fact that the hon. the Revenue Member is still in the process of thinking whether the levy of one anna rate should be imposed this year or not, I should rather like to give no reason to complain against the attitude of this House in coming to that decision favourable to the agriculturists. With the assurance that at any rate we shall not be the persons who would be made an excuse for the continuance of the levy of that enhanced rate, discretion prompts me to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

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

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

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List of officers with pay of Rs. 1,000 and above who pay rent to the Government for the Government buildings occupied by them—cont.

Designation of the officer.	Locality.	Monthly standard rent.
Superintendent, Government Mental Hospital	Kilpauk	180
Resident Medical Officer, New Hospital	Rayapuram	125
New Engineering College, G-I Professor	Guindy	114
Do. G-II Professor	Do.	115
Do. G-III Professor	Do.	135
Resident Medical Officer	Royapetta	88
Chief Engineer, Public Works Department	Madras	128
Adyar House, Adyar	Adyar	266
Brodie Castle	Do.	892
Bridge House	Do.	198
The Grange	Do.	348
Principal, Presidency College	Chepauk	84
Principal, Teachers' College, Saidapet	Saidapet	125
Guindy Park (Surgeon's Bungalow)	Guindy	137
Principal, New Engineering College	Do.	166
Guindy Park (Aide-de-Camp's Bungalow)	Do.	60
Director, King Institute	Do.	109
Executive Engineer, Vennar division	Tanjore	87
District Medical Officer	Do.	94
Executive Engineer, Cauvery division	Do.	65
District Judge	Do.	117
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	138
Sub-Collector, Kumbakonam	Kumbakonam	100
Sub-Collector	Negapatam	73
District Judge, East Tanjore	Do.	208
Executive Engineer	Cuddalore	89
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	79
District Medical Officer	Do.	91
District Judge	Do.	195
Sub-Collector	Tindivanam	60
Superintending Engineer	Trichinopoly	175
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	122
District Medical Officer	Do.	121
Executive Engineer	Do.	153
Collector	Do.	191
District Judge	Do.	199
Sub-Collector	Karur	86
Executive Engineer	Madura	89
Sub-Collector	Dindigul	66
Do	Ramnad	98
District Medical Officer	Do.	41
District Superintendent of Police	Madura	72
Collector of Ramnad	Do.	113
District Judge	Do.	204
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	132
District Medical Officer	Do.	112
Executive Engineer	Do.	115
Collector	Do.	229
District Superintendent of Police	Palamcottah	70
District Forest Officer	Do.	69
Executive Engineer	Do.	73
District Medical Officer	Do.	74
Revenue Divisional Officer	Shermadevi	89
Do.	Sivakasi	93
Sub-Collector	Tuticorin	73

NOTE.—This list shows the officers whose average salary is Rs. 1,000 and above who occupy Government buildings. The rent shown in each case is the standard rent of the residence as shown in the Capital and Revenue Accounts for Residences for 1929-30. The actual rent paid is the standard rent or 10 per cent of the officers' emoluments whichever is less.

B

List of officers with pay of Rs. 1,000 and above on whose behalf the Government pays rent.

Officer.	Amount of rent. RS.
1. Deputy Commissioner of Police, Crime Branch, Madras City	275
2. The Superintendent of Prisons, Madras	250
3. The Director, Pasteur Institute, Coonoor	200

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 373 asked by Rao Sahib P. Venkataramayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, page 219 supra.]

Statement showing the staff employed in the offices of the Chief Engineers and the language area to which the staff belongs.

	Andhra district.	Tamil.	Kanarese.	Malayalam.	Ceylon.
General, Buildings and Roads.					
Superintendents	1	4	1	..	..
Clerks	3	32	1	3	1
Typists (including temporary)	..	7	..	..	..
Supervisor	..	2	..	..	..
Draughtsmen (including one temporary)	..	17	1	..	..
Tracers	..	2	..	..	..
Attenders	2	6	..	..	..
Blueprinter (temporary)	..	1	..	..	..
Total	6	71	3	3	1

Irrigation.

Manager and Superintendents	..	4	..	..	..
Upper Division clerks	..	9	..	..	..
Lower do.	..	11	..	1	..
Typists	..	5	..	..	..
Attenders	1	4	..	..	..
Head Draughtsman	..	1	..	..	..
Draughtsmen, I grade	..	2	..	..	..
Do. II do.	..	6	..	..	..
Do. III do.	1	5	..	..	..
Tracers	..	4	..	..	..
Total	2	54	..	1	..

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 371 asked by Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, page 218 supra.]

A

List of officers with pay of Rs. 1,000 and above who pay rent to the Government for the Government buildings occupied by them.

Designation of the officer.	Locality.	Monthly standard rent.
Revenue Divisional Officer	Berhampur	92
Collector	Chatrapur	* 176
District Forest Officer	Do.	114
Special Forest Officer	Parlakimedi	122
Executive Engineer	Berhampur	44
District Judge	Do.	178
District Medical Officer	Do.	110
District Superintendent of Police	Chatrapur	63
Conservator of Forests	Waltair	104
Superintending Engineer	Do.	140
Executive Engineer	Do.	97
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	95
District Forest Officer	Do.	51
Revenue Divisional Officer	Parvatipuram	34
District Superintendent of Police	Koraput	60
Special Assistant Agent	Do.	61
Sub-Collector	Bhadrachalam	86
Executive Engineer (Quarter No. I)	Dowlaisheram	111
Do. (Quarter No. II)	Do.	101
Do. (Quarter No. III)	Do.	87
District Medical and Sanitary Officer	Cocanada	131
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	138
Executive Engineer	Chettipet	88
Sub-Collector	Bezawada	88
Executive Engineer (Kistna Central)	Do.	92
Superintending Engineer	Do.	143
Sub-Collector	Ongole	90
District Judge	Masulipatam	109
Collector	Do.	169
District Forest Officer	Guntur	125
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	98
District Medical and Sanitary Officer	Do.	97
Executive Engineer	Do.	93
District Judge	Do.	155
District Collector	Do.	140
District Superintendent of Police	Nellore	76
Collector	Do.	116
Civilian Divisional Officer	Gudur	97
Executive Engineer	Nellore	48
Sub-Collector	Tellicherry	40
Collector	Calicut	191
Executive Engineer	Do.	93
District Judge	Do.	126
Additional District Magistrate	Do.	81
District Medical Officer	Do.	173
Sub-Collector	Coondapoor	105
Social Assistant Collector	Malappuram	46
Sub-Collector	Pollachi	77
Imperial Officer's Quarters No. I	Coimbatore	63
Do. No. II	Do.	80
Do. No. III	Do.	77

* Remission of Rs. 18 allowed for the portion of the residence used as office.

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List of officers with pay of Rs. 1,000 and above who pay rent to the Government for the Government buildings occupied by them—*cont.*

Designation of the officer.	Locality.	Monthly standard rent.
Imperial Officer's Quarters No. IV	Coimbatore	77
Do. No. V	Do.	86
Do. No. VI	Do.	87
Do. No. VII	Do.	122
Do. No. VIII	Do.	122
Madras Forest College (Principal)	Do.	122
Imperial Instructor No. I	Do.	97
Do. No. II	Do.	92
Superintending Engineer	Do.	89
Executive Engineer	Do.	71
Conservator of Forests	Do.	100
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	86
District Forest Officer, South	Do.	77
Do. North	Do.	84
District Medical Officer	Do.	80
District Judge	Do.	279
Deputy Inspector-General of Police	Do.	255
Collector of the Nilgiris	Ootacamund	164
District Medical Officer, the Nilgiris	Do.	135
Conservator of Forests	Salem	377
District Forest Officer, South Salem	Do.	91
District Forest Officer, Central Salem	Do.	111
District Forest Officer	Tiruppattur	57
Do.	Kollegal	51
Collector of Salem	Salem	199
Sub-Collector	Hosur	55
District Judge	Salem	139
Executive Engineer	Do.	38
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	93
District Medical Officer	Do.	99
District Forest Officer, North Salem	Hosur	56
Sub-Collector	Tiruppattur	54
Collector	Vellore	137
Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Central Range	Do.	114
Executive Engineer	Do.	88
District Judge	Do.	111
Sub-Collector	Nandyal	109
Collector	Chittoor	104
Revenue Divisional Officer	Chandragiri	81
Executive Engineer	Madanapalle	43
District Superintendent of Police	Chittoor	27
Collector	Cuddapah	192
Revenue Divisional Officer	Rajampet	103
District Forest Officer	Cuddapah	69
District Judge	Do.	288
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	161
Collector	Bellary	194
District Judge	Do.	178
District Forest Officer	Anantapur	48
District Judge	Do.	103
District Superintendent of Police	Do.	99
Do.	Bellary	117
Conservator of Forests	Do.	180
Collector	Anantapur	159
Sub-Collector	Hospet	80
Principal, Police Recruit's School	Anantapur	69
District Superintendent of Police	St. Thomas' Mount	102
Sub-Collector	Chingleput	88
Resident Medical Officer, General Hospital	Madras	103
Superintendent, Government Maternity Hospital	Egmore	129
Surgeon, First District	Rayapuram	155

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 383 asked by Rao Sahib B. Venkata-ramayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, page 227 supra.]

Statement showing the staff employed in the Surgeon-General's office.

—	Tamil.	Telugu.	Malayalam.	Kanarese.
Manager and Superintendents (6)	5	..	..	1
Clerks (29)	20	4	5	..
Typists (5)	4	1	..	..
Attenders (2)	2	..	..	..
Daffadar, Peons and others	10	5	1	..

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 388 asked by Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, page 231 supra.]

*From the Collector of South Kanara, L. Dis. No. 7354-31,
dated 20th September 1931.*

Allowances—Tasdik—Stoppage—Legislative Council
Question No. 71.

Government Memo. No. 25992-1, L. & M., dated 23rd July 1931.

The tasdiks have been withheld mainly due to one or other of the following causes:—

- (1) Absence of moktessors.
- (2) Trustees not claiming tasdik.
- (3) For want of duly appointed trustees.
- (4) Dissension among trustees.
- (5) Institutions in disrepairs and services not performed regularly.

I enclose lists* in original, showing particulars asked in part (b) of the question.

* Placed in the Council library.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 416 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, page 250 supra.]

Extract from the Notification of the introduction of the new settlement rates into the South Kanara district.

Government having sanctioned the scheme for the revision of the land assessment of the South Kanara district, it is hereby notified that the revenue settlement will be introduced on the following general lines.

* * * *

7. *Dry land.*—Under this head is included all patta land not classed as “wet” or “garden”.

* * * *

9. *Classification.*—All culturable “wet” or “dry” land has been found to belong either to the “red ferruginous” or “arenaceous” series of soils. The “red ferruginous” series has been divided into three classes with five sorts in each, and “arenaceous” into three classes with three sorts in each. . . .

10. *Grouping.*—For “wet” and “dry” lands there will be three groups. In the first group will be placed those villages which have good means of communication with ports and markets, which are thickly populated and in which labour is plentiful. In the third or lowest group will be placed the villages situated in unhealthy jungly localities at the foot of the hills. The second group will comprise villages occupying an intermediate position between the first and third groups, which are not so well off as regards communications and labour as first group villages. But the coast villages north of the Chandragiri river will, in consideration of their special circumstances, be placed in a special group for purposes of wet assessment only, ranking above the first group.

* * * *

13. *Dry rates.*—These have been calculated in a manner similar to the wet rates, taking ragi as the standard crop. The standard out-turn per acre which has been adopted is 25 per cent lower than the average rates for the Presidency. The commutation rate has been

taken at Rs. 175 per garce of 3,200 Madras measures and a deduction of one-fifth has been made for vicissitudes of season and unprofitable areas. The money rates sanctioned are given in column 9 below:—

Taram.	Outturn per acre in Madras measures.	Grain value at Rs. 175 per garce of 3,200 Madras measures.	Deduct one-fifth for vicissitudes of season and unprofitable areas.	Remainder.	Deduct cultivation expenses.	Remainder or net value.	Half net value on account of Government share.	Sanctioned rates.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
I	240	RS. A. P. 13 2 0	RS. A. P. 2 10 0	RS. A. P. 10 8 0	RS. A. 6 0	RS. A. P. 4 8 0	RS. A. P. 2 4 0	RS. A. 2 0
II	220	12 0 6	2 6 6	9 10 0	5 0	3 10 0	1 13 0	1 8
III	200	10 15 0	2 3 0	8 12 0	5 8	3 4 0	1 10 0	1 4
IV	175	9 9 2	1 14 8	7 10 6	5 0	2 10 6	1 5 3	1 0
V	150	8 3 3	1 10 3	6 9 0	4 8	2 1 0	1 0 6	0 12
VI	120	6 9 0	1 5 0	5 4 0	4 0	1 4 0	0 10 0	0 8
VII	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 6
VIII	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0 4

These rates will be charged on all "occupied dry" lands except kumari, kumaki and bane lands and lands subject to hakkal cultivation, regarding which, separate orders will be issued hereafter.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 417 asked by Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, page 250 supra.]

Letter from M. K. Vellodi, Esq., I.C.S., Collector of North Arcot, dated 14th September 1931, R.O.C. No. E.5. 9670/31.

(1) There is a chain of tanks below Pudu Eri and Peria Eri in Alangayam village, Tiruppattur taluk. The names of the tanks are given below. All of them are in charge of the Revenue Department.

In Narasingapuram village.

1. Vitalappa Nayakan Eri.
2. Kolandaikavandan Kuttai.

In Alangayam village.

3. Jambu Eri.

In Narasingapuram village.

4. Palimaneri.
5. Vengadathan Eri.
6. Peria Eri or Pudu Eri.

In Marimanikuppam village.

7. Dasa Reddi upper tank.
8. Dasa Reddi lower tank.

In Irunapet village.

9. Yeguleri tank.

(2) All these tanks are only rain-fed tanks. They did not receive for the past few years sufficient water for purposes of irrigation owing to failure of rains.

(3) A statement showing the amount of remission granted for the past six years under the sources coming in the chain in Alangayam village is enclosed.

(4) A scheme for diverting the water of a jungle stream into the Alangayam Peria Eri was considered by me in May last. The scheme involved the acquisition of ryotwari lands in order to excavate a channel to a distance of about 7,000 feet. Excluding land compensation, the cost of scheme was roughly estimated at Rs. 5,300. The Sub-Collector suggested that if the ryots could make arrangements to acquire the ryotwari lands required for the channel by private negotiations, Government may undertake the excavation of the channel. I accordingly proposed to consider the scheme in detail, after the ryots get possession of the land required for the channel. The ryots of Alangayam village have also been informed of this. I have not yet heard from them.

Statement showing the ayakat, assessment and the amount of remission under the sources in Alangayam village, Tirupattur taluk.

Fasli.	Peria Eri.			Jambu Eri.			Pudu Eri or Buchu Chetti Kutai.			Vitalappa Naicken Eri (the tank has ayakat in Narasingapuram village also).		
	Ayakat.	Assessment.	Amount of remission.	Ayakat.	Assessment.	Amount of remission.	Ayakat.	Assessment.	Amount of remission.	Ayakat.	Assessment.	Amount of remission.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
1335	95.98	700 11	172 2	39.71	186 14	18 3	5.72	24 7	..	9.14	63 6	43 10
1336	..	..	139 5	..	..	12 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
1337	..	..	225 6	..	..	114 10	..	..	..	..	..	43 10
1338	..	..	105 2	..	..	120 6	..	..	..	..	..	43 10
1339	..	..	316 11	..	..	118 4	..	..	17 14	..	..	43 10
1340	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 427 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, page 259 supra.]

Statement.

North Salem Division—

Buffaloes	...	...	...	...	...	As. 12
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	" 8
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	" 4

Central Salem Division—

(1) Chitteri Range excluding Chitteri Plateau—

Buffaloes	...	...	...	...	...	Re 1—2—0
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	As. 9
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	" 4½

(2) Attur Range—

Buffaloes	...	...	...	...	...	Re. 1—2—0
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	As. 9
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	" 4½

(3) Cauvery Range—

(a) Arasankadai, Manjavadi and Kappathu

Reserves in South Shevaroy—

Buffaloes	...	...	...	...	...	Re. 1—2—0
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	As. 9
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	" 4½

(b) Other reserves in Shevaroy South—

Buffaloes	...	...	...	...	...	As. 12
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	" 8
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	" 3

(c) Lokur, Bommiyampatti Karaivaipudur

Reserve in Shevaroy North—

Buffaloes	...	...	...	...	...	As. 12
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	" 8
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	" 3

(d) Other reserves in Shevaroy North—

Buffaloes	...	...	...	...	...	Re. 1—2—0
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	As. 9
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	" 4½

South Salem Division—

Namakkal and Kollimalais—

Buffaloes	...	...	...	...	...	As. 12
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	" 6
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	" 3

Other reserves—

Buffaloe	...	...	...	...	...	Re. 1—2—0
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	As. 9
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	" 4½

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 436 asked by Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, page 264 supra.]

(True copy from Swarajya, dated 10th September.)

ADVICE TO VILLAGE OFFICERS.

Collector's circular.

Chittoor Again.

(From a correspondent.)

Chittoor, September 9.

The following is a copy of the emergent order issued on 22nd August to all village officers in the Chittoor district by the Collector and distributed in the Chendragiri taluk by the Tahsildar.

Emergent order to all village magistrates and the karnams:—

It is published in the newspapers that the pact between Gandhi and the Government is broken. You must hereafter consider that the Congressmen are the enemies of the Government. The District Collector has notified that every action of theirs, viz., meetings, processions, propaganda, etc., must be put down without being carried on in the least. Therefore, whenever Congressmen or any one connected with them carry on any meetings, processions or propaganda in your villages you must forthwith send reports through the village mudam (servant) in the report book to the police and to the Sub-Magistrate of Tirupati with full details and report that fact to us on ordinary paper. Severe action will be taken against the village officers who are negligent in this matter. The list herewith sent should be signed in token of the receipt of this notice and the list should be returned.

Very emergent.

APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to question No. 441 asked by Mr. M. Devadasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, page 267 supra.]

IN THE COURT OF THE SECOND-CLASS MAGISTRATE OF
TIRUVADANAI.

Dated 14th June 1931.

PRESENT:

M.R.Ry. A. PERIASAMY THEVAR,
Sub-Magistrate.

M.C. No. 4 of 1931.

Read—Report, dated 13th June 1931, from the Inspector of Police, Devakottai.

Order.

On a perusal of the report of the Circle Inspector of Police, Devakottai, and his sworn statement it is seen that A. S. John, President of the Adi-Dravida Mahajana Sabha, Ramnad district, is going to convene meetings at Eluvankottai and other places within the limits of Tiruvadanai taluk with the ostensible object of giving lectures about social evils, etc. From June 1930, the feelings between the Nattars (Kallars) on one side and Adi-Dravidas and Pallars on the other side in Eluvankottai and other villages of Tiruvadanai taluk have been strained and they resulted in rioting and public tranquillity and danger to human life. There have been social restrictions on the depressed members by intimidation, collection of fines and threats to persons and property and as such criminal proceedings under section 107, Criminal Procedure Code, were instituted against several Nattars in various villages of Thennalinalad and they have been bound over for a period of one year. These proceedings created bitter feelings among the parties.

Under the above circumstances I apprehend that a breach of the peace is likely to occur if A. S. John and other Adi-Dravidas convene public meetings at Eluvankottai on 14th June 1931 and elsewhere within the limits of Tiruvadanai taluk. I, therefore, consider that it is desirable in the interests of the peace and to avert a disturbance of public tranquillity in the locality that the meeting to be held on 14th June 1931 at Eluvankottai and subsequent meetings by the Adi-Dravidas should be prevented by an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code. As this is an emergent case I pass the following ex parte order.

A. PERIASAMY THEVAR,
Sub-Magistrate.

14th June 1931.

THE COURT OF THE SECOND-CLASS MAGISTRATE
TIRUVADANAI.

Dated 14th June 1931.

In Mis. Case No. 4 of 1931.

PRESENT:

M.R.Rx. A. PERIASAMY THEVAR,
Sub-Magistrate.

Order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code.

To

A. S. John, President, Adi-Dravida Mahajana Saba, Ramnad district.

Chellam Samban of Eluvankottai.

Karupiah Samban of Eluvankottai and all Adi-Dravidas and Pallars in the villages of Tiruvadanai taluk.

Whereas it has been made to appear to me that you A. S. John and others are about to convene a communal meeting at Eluvankottai with the ostensible object of lecturing about social evils, etc., on 14th June 1931 and that such a gathering is likely to lead to a breach of peace on account of the strained feelings existing between the Nattars (Kallars) on one side and Adi-Dravidas and Pallars on the other side, I do hereby prohibit you under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, from holding meetings and giving lectures, etc., at Eluvankottai and anywhere within the limits of Tiruvadanai taluk for such purposes for a period of two months from this date.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 14th day June 1931.

A. PERIASAMY THEVAR
Sub-Magis

June 1931.

31st October 1931]

APPENDIX X.

[Vide answer to question No. 445-A asked by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st October 1931, at page 270 supra.]

Note on the introduction of resettlement rates in the East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna districts.

To the ryots of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna districts.

It has come to the knowledge of Government that in spite of the clear orders issued by them about the resettlement in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna in G.O. No. 1486 (21-S), dated 11th July 1931 and the Press Communique, dated 4th September 1931 attempts are being made to misrepresent facts and belittle the concession sanctioned by them. This leaflet is issued to inform you of the true facts.

2. The summary of the resettlement proposals already published in the District Gazette and distributed to every village towards the end of 1928 shows very clearly how in spite of the rise in prices which justified a much larger increase of rates, Government were pleased to limit the enhancement to 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, so as to leave every possible margin for the development of a higher standard of living among the agricultural population.

3. You may also notice that on the eve of resettlement Government, in order to afford as much convenience to the ryots as lay in their power, accepted the resolution passed in the Legislative Council and appointed a non-official Committee to make enquiries into the economic condition of the ryots in the three districts and to examine the rates of enhancement proposed by the Settlement Officer. The Committee submitted its report on 30th January 1930. One of its recommendations was that the proposed increase of assessment should not be given effect to. Now, you may be told by some interested agitators that Government have flouted the opinion of this Committee and have ignored its findings. This is false. The Committee's report was examined paragraph by paragraph and Government were satisfied that the report contained many mis-statements and inaccuracies; it was only after the most careful consideration of the report that Government decided to reject the findings of the Committee and to sanction the enhancement proposed by the Special Settlement Officer and the Board of Revenue which was lenient and justified.

4. There is however one factor that has affected your prosperity during the current year. It is the world-wide economic depression and the fall in prices but Government have not been slow to recognize this. Realizing that the collection of the enhancement of annas three and annas two respectively in the rupee all at once in the current year would be a hardship to you, they have spread the collection of the increase over a period of three and four years respectively in the case of lands in

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which the enhancement is $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent and those on which it is $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Thus in the former case you will not have to pay an increase of more than one anna in the rupee in the current year and in the latter case an increase of more than six pies for each rupee. The following example will show the assessment which will be payable on a patta in respect of the several kinds of lands until the full resettlement rate is reached:—

Number and name of the holder.	R.S. Nos. of the lands in the patta.	Existing assessment.	Ultimate resettlement assessment.	Assessment payable in fasli.			
				1341	1342	1343	1344

Lands on which the enhancement is by $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
474	1 14 0	2 4 0					
476-1	3 4 0	3 13 0					
700-4	0 10 0	0 12 0					
	5 12 0	6 13 0	6 1 0	6 7 0	6 13 0	6 13 0	6 13 0

Lands on which the enhancement is by $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
8	9 15 0	11 3 0					
17	8 6 0	7 2 0					
34	21 12 0	24 8 0					
252-6	0 3 0	0 3 0					
283-4	15 10 0	17 7 0					
	53 14 0	60 7 0	55 6 0	57 1 0	58 12 0	60 7 0	60 7 0

Lands on which there has been no increase.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
15-2	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0	3 2 0

This concession has not been granted at the resettlement of any other tract and has been specially granted to you in view of the general financial difficulties of the current year.

5. This is not all. Considering that even this concession may not meet the situation if the downward tendency of prices continues Government have undertaken to examine the question whether the amount of the remission granted in each fasli might not be increased with reference to the economic situation prevailing at the time when kist collections are due to begin. Please remember this important assurance and do not listen to the advice of interested agitators who will incite you to unconstitutional courses of action.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Monday, the 2nd November 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.C.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. Alamelumanga Thayaramma, Mrs. K. Arasu, Mr. V. T. Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur. Basu Dev, Mr. C. Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P. Birley, Mr. F. Browning, Mr. W. M. Conran Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Devadasan, Mr. M. Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V. Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M. Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S. Foulkes, Mr. R. Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M. Indrayya, Mr. C. Jagannatham, Mr. H. M. James, Mr. F. E. Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C. Koti Reddi, Mr. K. Krishnan, Mr. C. Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J. Luker, Mr. F. G. Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R. Madhusoodhanan Tangal, Mr. P. 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. Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I. Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A. Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C. Nachiyappa Goundar, M. K. A. Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A. Narasa Reddi, Mr. T. Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V. Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P. Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C. Palat, Mr. R. M. Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G. Pattagar of Palayakottai, The Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B. Premayya, Mr. G. R. Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V. Raja of Kallikote, The Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K. Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala. Ramamurti, I.C.S., Mr. S. V. Raman Menon, Mr. K. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S. Sahajanandam, Swami A. S. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr. Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C. Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P. Shetty, Mr. A. B. Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K. Siva Raj, Mr. N. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S. Soundara Pandiyan, Mr. W. P. A. Sreshta, Mr. M. S. Sriramulu, Mr. G. Subbarayan, Dr. P. Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C. Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T. Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.

PRESENT—cont.

Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.	Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Tottenham, I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.	Winter, Mr. W. E.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.	Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.	
Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M.	Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.	Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The
Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.	Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Criminal Settlements

Transfer of the Kavali and Bitragunta criminal settlements to the Police department.

*451 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the advisability of handing over the Kavali and Bitragunta Criminal Settlements to the Police department as a measure of retrenchment; and

(b) if so, with what results?

A.—(a) & (b) The matter is under the consideration of Government.

Depressed Classes

Working of societies formed for the acquisition of house-sites for depressed classes.

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

(a) the societies formed up to date for the acquisition of house-sites for the benefit of the depressed classes, the total amount advanced to such societies and the amounts out of it written off, collected and overdue respectively; and

(b) the staff employed on this particular branch of work, their annual cost to Government and the average amount realized annually by the Government through their agency?

A.—(a) & (b) The statement below gives the information:—

(1) Number of Co-operative Societies formed up to 31st March 1931.	634
	RS.
(2) Total amount advanced	8,57,772
(3) Amount written off	10,030
(4) Amount collected	6,23,718
(5) Amount overdue	21,342

(6) Details of staff employed	* 28 Co-operative Inspectors.
	RS.
(7) Annual cost	33,791
(8) Average amount realized annually.	59,127

Labour

Transfer of Labour institutions to non-official bodies.

* 453 Q.—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the question of transferring the management of institutions now conducted by the Labour department to non-official bodies as a measure of retrenchment is before the Government; and, if so, what the decision of the Government is in the matter?

A.—No such question is under the consideration of Government as a measure of retrenchment. A proposal to transfer certain Labour department schools to the management of local boards is under consideration.

MR. A. B. SHETTY:—“ Sir, the answer says that there is a proposal to transfer certain Labour department schools to the management of the local boards. May I know in which district or districts this proposal will be given effect to ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
“ In all districts where the Labour department is working.”

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—“ May I know if this proposal originated from the Retrenchment Committee ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—“ I think, from the Commissioner of Labour.”

General

Circular by the Tahsildar of Chandragiri regarding Congress activities.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a circular (herewith annexed) was issued by the Tahsildar of Chandragiri to the karnams and village magistrates in Chittoor district;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said order was issued by the Tahsildar of Chandragiri, under the orders of the Collector, and if so, why;

(c) what are the facts on which the said order was issued;

* These Inspectors are also in charge of the other Co-operative Societies for the depressed classes in the area.

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(d) whether it is a fact that the circular was withdrawn by the Collector of Chittoor;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Government made an enquiry into the matter of the emergent order; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the said emergent order was cancelled and, if so, why and under what circumstances?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clauses (a), (b) & (c) of his question No. 436.

(d) The Tahsildar's circular was withdrawn under the instructions of the Collector.

(e) On the circular coming to their notice the Government called for a report of the circumstances in which it was issued.

(f) The circular ^a was withdrawn under the instructions of the Collector as being unauthorized, as soon as it came to his notice.

Alleged order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, by the District Magistrate, Chittoor, against certain vakils.

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

(a) whether it is a fact that an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, was passed on 12th July 1931, against certain vakils of Chittoor, for having started picketing in the Kattumanchi toddy shop;

(b) whether the District Collector passed an order under section 144, after issuing a notice to them;

(c) whether the Government will lay the text of the order on the table of the House;

(d) whether there were any instructions given by the District Magistrate to the vakils for picketing, and if so, what they are;

(e) whether the District Collector passed an order prohibiting all people from picketing within a radius of five miles from Chittoor, and if so, why; and

(f) whether there was an order passed by the District Magistrate or the Sub-Magistrate of Chittoor, at his direction?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (e) The hon. Member is referred to the order, dated 12th July 1931, which was passed by the Sub-Magistrate of Chittoor and not by the District Magistrate. A copy ^b of it is placed on the table.

(d) The Government have no information.

(f) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 449.

^a Printed as Appendix I on page 456 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix II on pages 456-457 infra.

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Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (d) of this question, may I know whether the Government made enquiries to ascertain whether such instructions were issued?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think the Government made any enquiries."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the fact that there was this question asking for information, may I know why the Government did not make enquiries?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It was not thought that any enquiry was needed."

Alleged ill-treatment of the Adi-Dravidas of the villages of Koothapal and Krishnasamudram by the caste Hindus.

* 456 Q.—Mr. H. M. JAGANNATHAM: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that in the last week of June 1931 an attempt was made by caste Hindus in the villages of Koothapal and Krishnasamudram, Trichinopoly district, to coerce the Adi-Dravidas of the places to sign a declaration to the effect that they would wear clothes only above the knee, use no vessels except those made of clay, abstain from sending their children to schools, and not wear any jewellery made of gold or silver;

(b) whether his attention has been drawn to the further fact that owing to the refusal of the Adi-Dravidas to sign the above declaration, the caste Hindus molested a large number of them, causing injuries to some, who had to be treated in the hospitals;

(c) what steps were taken by the local police authorities to bring the offenders to book and afford relief to the beaten Adi-Dravidas; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to appoint a court of enquiry to investigate this matter?

A.—(a) & (b) As the riot which occurred at Koothapal on the 17th June 1931, between caste Hindus and Adi-Dravidas is the subject of criminal case pending before the Sub-divisional Magistrate, Trichinopoly, the Government are unable to answer the question in detail at present.

(c) Thirty-eight persons have been charged by the police and the trial is proceeding.

(d) The matter is already under judicial enquiry.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know when the trial actually started in this case?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I must ask for notice of the question."

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Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I ask the hon. Member, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the Adi-Dravidas feel that there will be a certain amount of miscarriage of justice on account of the long delay in the matter? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The Government have absolutley no such apprehension."

Civil Justice

Construction of an overbridge to connect the Small Causes Court buildings with the High Court buildings.

* 457 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the original estimates for the new Small Causes Court buildings provided for any overbridge connecting the new buildings with the present High Court buildings;

(b) if not, why this was omitted from the estimates and who is responsible for the same;

(c) whether any representations have been made to the hon. the Law Member, officially as to the necessity of an overbridge connecting the said two buildings; and

(d) whether the Government have examined the question of the approximate cost of an overbridge connecting the present High Court buildings and the new Small Causes Court buildings?

A.—(a) No.

(b) It was not thought necessary to provide an overbridge.

(c) & (d) No.

Comparative statement of suits and appeals instituted in the High Court and the Subordinate Civil Courts.

* 458 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to call for a comparative statement of suits and appeals instituted in the High Court and in the Subordinate Civil Courts in the Presidency for two months after the summer recess during the years 1929, 1930 and 1931?

A.—A statement* is laid on the table.

Receipts and expenditure of the District Munsif's Court at Palamcottah.

* 459 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total receipt of income in the shape of Court-fees in each of the years 1928, 1929 and 1930 in the District Munsif's Court, Palamcottah;

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(b) what is the total expenditure of the court per year;

(c) what is the total income and expenditure of the court of the District Munsif, Ambasamudram, in 1930; and

(d) whether there has been any protest made against the abolition of the Palamcottah District Munsif's Court, both by the bar and the litigant public?

A.—(a)—

				RS.	A.	P.
1928	...	...	...	28,717	1	0
1929	...	...	...	26,105	4	0
1930	...	...	...	31,254	8	0

(b)—

1928	...	...	...	8,473	3	7
1929	...	...	...	9,355	4	2
1930	...	...	...	9,526	8	7

(c)—

Income				Expenditure.		
RS.	A.	P.		RS.	A.	P.
45,080	11	0		22,649	15	0

(d) Yes.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" May I know, Sir, in view of the fact that the income from the District Munsif's Court, Palamcottah, in 1930, was Rs. 31,254 and the expenditure during the period was only Rs. 9,256, whether the Government do not think that the Court should be allowed to continue? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No, Sir."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" May I ask whether the Government are aware that there was an increase of Rs. 5,000 in the income from court-fees in the year 1930? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Is it in addition to what is stated here? "

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Yes."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The Government are not aware of it."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Sir, my question is this: in 1929 the income of the Court was Rs. 26,105-4-0 and it rose in 1930 to Rs. 31,254-8-0. So there is an increase of Rs. 5,000 in the shape of court-fees."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" It is patent from the figures."

Expenditure and income of the Sub-Court at Chittoor.

* 460 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have scrutinized the statistics of pending work in the Sub-Court at Chittoor, and examined whether its existence is necessary; and

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Inclusion of the Sholinghur District Munsif's Court, under the appellate jurisdiction of the District Court, North Arcot.

* 463 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Sholinghur Munsif's Court was recently included in Chittoor District Court's jurisdiction;

(b) whether the revenue and criminal work of the area over which that court has jurisdiction is still within the jurisdiction of the North Arcot Collector and District Magistrate; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to include the Sholinghur Munsif's Court within the jurisdiction of the North Arcot District Court?

A.—(a) No.

(b) A portion of the area is within the jurisdiction of the Collector and District Magistrate of North Arcot.

(c) No.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether there is any parallel to this case where a certain territory is included for revenue purposes under one district and for judicial purposes under another district? "

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

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" May I know whether it is not the policy of the Government to proceed on linguistic lines as far as possible? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The determination of the jurisdiction of Munsifs' Courts is primarily the duty of the High Court."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Do the Government not think that it is an anomaly and that it should be remedied? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The Government do not think so."

Suits and appeals arising from the territorial jurisdiction of the Sholinghur District Munsif filed in the Court at Chittoor.

* 464 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that suits and appeals arising in North Arcot within the jurisdiction of the Sholinghur munsif are being filed in the Court at Chittoor;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to state how many such suits and appeals have been filed in the Chittoor courts after the opening of the Sub-Court and District Court at Vellore; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to state the reason why such an arrangement by which suits and appeals of one district are tried in another district is followed?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The Government have called for the information.

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Additional District Munsif's Courts for Kasaragod and Ongole.

* 465 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Additional District Munsifs' Courts were sanctioned for Kasaragod and Ongole;

(b) if so, why these courts have not been opened; and

(c) what is the pendency in these courts now?

A.—(a) & (b) No Additional District Munsif's Court was sanctioned either for Kasaragod or Ongole. But provision was made in the budget for the current year for the appointments of Additional District Munsifs to the District Munsifs' courts of Kasaragod and Ongole for six months each during the current year. The appointment of Additional District Munsif, Ongole, was sanctioned with effect from 1st July 1931 and that of Kasaragod was dropped in view of the present financial stringency. The Additional District Munsif, Ongole, is now working.

(c) The Government have no information.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" With reference to the answer to clause (c) of this question, may I know whether the Government will call for the information and satisfy themselves that the pendency is more in Kasaragod than in Ongole? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I shall call for the information."

Forests

Forest Kancha system in the Nellore district.

* 466 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Forest Kancha system is peculiar to Nellore district only;

(b) whether its working has been satisfactory; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a detailed report on this from the District Collector?

A.—(a) The system is largely followed only in that district.

(b) & (c) A report has been called for from the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Panchayat Courts

Supersession of the Panchayat Court of Purasai village, North Arcot district.

* 467 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Panchayat Court of Purasai village in the North Arcot district has been superseded;

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(b) what have been the cost of running the Sub-Court at Chittoor and the income derived by way of court-fees since 1st July last?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Government have not the information.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ May I know whether the Government will be pleased to call for the information when there is a proposal to abolish one of the courts either in Chittoor or in Vellore? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ There is no such proposal before the Government and therefore there is no need for any enquiry.”

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ Before the High Court? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I am not aware of it.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Will the Government be pleased to call for the information from the High Court? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ If the High Court have any such proposal, they will send it up to the Government.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Are we to understand that there is no such proposal before the High Court? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ We are not to understand anything.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know, Sir, whether any representation has been made to the hon. Member about the non-desirability of abolishing the Vellore District Court? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I received certain telegrams to the effect that the Vellore District Court should be retained and I told the persons concerned that there was no proposal before the Government to abolish the Vellore District Court.”

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ May I ask the hon. Member whether the statistics in Chittoor and Vellore will be thoroughly examined before any such proposal is entertained? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ I am sure the High Court will do it.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ After the matter has passed the stage of consideration by the High Court, will the Government consider the desirability of examining the relevant statistics before passing final orders? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ The High Court can be expected to do all that.”

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ May I ask whether the Government will accept the proposal because the High Court might be recommending it? ”

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ That will depend upon the strength of the recommendation of the High Court and the state of statistics.”

Expenditure and income of the District Court, Chittoor.

* 461 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have scrutinized the statistics of pending work in the District Judge's Court at Chittoor, and examined whether its existence is necessary; and

(b) what have been the cost of running the District Judge's Court at Chittoor and the income derived by way of court-fees since 1st July last?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Government have not the information.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask whether information regarding the cost of running the District Judge's Court at Chittoor, cannot be collected? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ As I stated, the High Court will forward all that information to the Government if and when they send their proposal.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ When information is desired by hon. Members of this House, will the Government not call for it? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“ There is no need for it now.”

Proposed abolition of either the District Court of Chittoor or North Arcot.

* 462 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal either with the Government or the High Court to abolish either the District Court of Chittoor or that of North Arcot;

(b) whether the respective District Judges were consulted in the matter; and

(c) whether statistics about the civil and criminal work in the respective District Courts were called for and examined?

A.—(a) There is no such proposal before the Government and they have no information whether any proposal of the kind is now before the High Court.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

(b) if so, who is administering the functions of the Panchayat Court; and

(c) whether representations have been made against his being so appointed on the ground of his being the leader of a faction?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The civil functions of the superseded Panchayat Court are exercised by the village munsif appointed under section 7 of the Madras Village Courts Act, 1888, and its criminal functions by the Sub-Magistrate, Cheyyar.

(c) No representations have been received by Government.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to clause (b) of the answer, may I ask whether the Government will not take steps to reconstitute the panchayat court under the Panchayat Act?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know the reason for not reconstituting it, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Because the District Magistrate has reported that, on account of the existence of factions there, the panchayat court is not working satisfactorily."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the hon. Member whether the Government cannot give the right to elect the members of the Panchayat Court to a faction which can command confidence?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Having regard to the District Magistrate's report, the answer is in the negative."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what the strength of the factions is?"

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

Forest Panchayats

Assignment of a portion of land forming the Ramampatti reserve to cultivating ryots.

* 463 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the people of Remenahalli, Budanatham, etc., villages in Harur taluk of Salem district have petitioned to Government requesting them to throw open the Ramampatti reserve forest under the control of the forest panchayat of that place, and assign the fertile portions of the land to the poor ryots;

(b) if so, what action the Government have taken and how the matter was finally disposed of;

(c) whether it is a fact that that forest area was once cultivable patta lands in or about the fasli 1281; and

(d) if so, what objections there exist to assigning the land now?

A.—(a) & (b) A petition from ryots of Remenahalli and other villages, dated 4th November 1929, containing a request for the disreservation and assignment of 1,500 acres of land in Mekalnayakanahalli village, under the management of Remenahalli Forest Panchayat was transferred to the Board of Revenue for disposal.

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

Alleged refusal of grazing facilities by the Kallapadi Forest Panchayat, North Arcot district.

* 469 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that the Kallapadi Forest Panchayat in the North Arcot district has neither been permitting the neighbouring villagers of Pasumathur, Vepur, Kavanur, Amanan Kuppam from taking their usual supply of leaf manure from the forest range nor allowing their cattle to graze there;

(b) whether there is any other forest range of a like nature available to the peasants of the said villages; and

(c) what steps he proposes to take to remedy these grievances?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have not the information. They have called for it.

(c) This question will be considered when the information is received.

Irrigation

Extent of the ayacut under the Kannambadi dam.

* 470 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total of ayacut irrigated under the Kannambadi dam in the British territory;

(b) how is this total extent distributed among the districts of Tanjore, South Arcot and Trichinopoly;

(c) what is the area that is fixed for each of the said districts and when it was fixed;

(d) whether there is any understanding or agreement between this Government and the Mysore State with regard to the total extent of British land to be irrigated under the Kannambadi dam apart from the award of 1929; and

(e) if so whether a copy of such agreement will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(a) There is no ayacut irrigated under the Kannambadi dam in British territory.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

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Return of the public records connected with the arbitration of the Kannambadi dam.

* 471 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has made enquiries as to the return of the public records sent to the Chief Engineer's office by the Superintending Engineer's office of Tanjore as promised in answer to question No. 142 on 5th August 1931; and

(b) if so, whether orders have been issued for return of the said public records and whether the said public records have been actually returned?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) All the records obtained from the subordinate offices for the purpose of the Arbitration of 1929 have been returned to them.

Estimate for the construction of a syphon over the Morattu channel, Chidambaram taluk.

* 472 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) when the estimate for the construction of the syphon over the Morattu channel, Vayalamur village, Chidambaram taluk, South Arcot district, was sanctioned and what is the estimated cost;

(b) whether tenders have been called for the construction of the said syphon and whether the same have been approved by the Government;

(c) when the construction will be commenced and completed;

(d) whether the ryots who waited on the Collector of South Arcot on deputation on 7th September 1931, complained against the delay in the carrying out of the syphon work; and

(e) what the reason for the delay is and what action the Government propose to take to avoid further delay and loss to the ryots?

A.—(a) In January 1931; Rs. 2,550.

(b) The Government have no information whether tenders were called for; such tenders do not require the approval of Government.

(c) & (e) The work has been postponed owing to the present financial stringency.

(d) The Government have no information.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, in view of the fact that the estimated cost of the work is only Rs. 2,550 and in view of the admitted fact that the lands are submerged in that area for want of this work, whether the Government cannot sanction the carrying out of the work now? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I am afraid we cannot sanction it. We have no money."

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Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Not even an estimate for Rs. 2,550."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" No, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" When you collect revenue from lands, is it not your duty to find money for giving them the necessary protection?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" We cannot do it now."

Resolutions passed by the Sethiathope Mirasidars' Association and the Chidambaram Taluk Mirasidars' Association.

* 473 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed by the Sethiathope Ancient Mirasidars' Association held on 26th August 1931 and of the Chidambaram Taluk Mirasidars' Association on 26th September 1931; and

(b) if so, what action the Government have taken or propose to take with reference to the said resolutions and representations of the mirasidars to redress their grievances?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Associations have been informed that the Government will receive a deputation from the Associations.

Report from the Chief Engineer on special duty, Vellar Investigating Party.

* 474 Q.—MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether a copy of G.O. No. 944 I., dated 1st September 1906, will be placed on the table and also a copy of the appendices referred to in the report No. 377, dated 12th April 1905, from the Chief Engineer on special duty, Vellar Investigating Party, to the Chief Engineer, Madras, and particularly referred to but not printed in the said Government Order, viz., No. 944 I., dated 1st September 1906?

A.—The Government see no reason to place the report on the table.

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether this Government Order and the report, etc., referred to therein come under the Official Secrets Act and so cannot be placed on the table of the House? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" That is not the reason for not placing them on the table of the House."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know then the reason why this Government Order and the connected papers could not be placed on the table of the House? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"It is ancient history and is a long one. Its appendices cover more than 57 printed pages and the enclosures referred to in this question probably cover many more pages. The cost of re-printing the Government Order and printing the enclosures would be high."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether a copy will be supplied to the Member who requires it?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"If any hon. Member wants information which is contained in the report, I shall be glad to give it to him."

Alleged damage to wet cultivation by the retention of the Railway Bridge at the Godavari station.

* 475 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government that, on account of the Railway Bridge at the Godavari station, the irrigation in the districts of East and West Godavari is greatly suffering and that unless this be demolished and a new bridge be constructed near the Kadium station below the anicut, the wet cultivation would not be saved; and

(b) what orders the Government have issued thereon?

A.—(a) A suggestion akin to that in the first part of the question was made in a question in the Legislative Council (No. 1747) on 1st April 1930. A copy^a of the question and answer delivered is annexed. A report from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the question was placed on the table of the House in 1929, and is printed in the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, Volume XLVI, pages 637-638.

(b) No orders were issued.

Proposals, if any, by the Irrigation Development Board regarding schemes in the Nellore district.

* 476 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Irrigation Development Board submitted any proposals to the Government regarding the schemes in Nellore district; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay the same on the table?

A.—(a) The Irrigation Development Board has submitted its views on some schemes in Nellore district.

(b) The Government do not propose to place these reports upon the table.

^a Printed as Appendix IV on pages 458-459 infra.

Negotiations with the Nizam's Government for the site of the Sangameswaram project.

* 477 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any negotiations were started recently by the Government with the Nizam's Government regarding the sites for the Tungabhadra-Kistna (Sangameswaram) project; and

(b) if so, whether they will be pleased to lay the correspondence on the table?

A.—(a) Negotiations have been started regarding the Tungabhadra-Kistna project.

(b) No.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask, Sir, about the negotiations that are going on, whether they are merely concerned with the acquisition of lands or whether they are concerned with the appointment of the available water?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"They cover both questions."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Nizam's Government have put up any definite demand for a share of the water?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"At the conference I had at Hyderabad they did put up certain claims; but the whole matter is under negotiation."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Was the claim so exorbitant or unreasonable that it requires so much time for settlement? In view of the fact that there is large volume of water available, you can deal with the Nizam's Government more liberally."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"The case is not as simple as the hon. Member seems to think. Alternative schemes are under consideration."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Government of the Nizam have presented any alternative scheme?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Not at present; the whole matter is under negotiation; we hope to come to some arrangement."

Minor Irrigation

Permits for the lay-out of water-pipes from Courtallam falls.

* 478 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of permits for the lay-out of water-pipes from the waterfalls with their specifications and special water-supply that have been granted to the residents in and near Courtallam (Tinnevely district);

(b) whether the concessions are special and limited for a specific period and what have been the merits taken into consideration for the sanction of the same;

(c) whether the use of water has been so allowed for agriculture, public and temple uses alone or whether it has been sanctioned for the private use of individuals and bungalows also;

(d) whether the water right, irrigation and revenue aspects of the question have been taken into consideration and whether any revenue collections are being made out of such special privileges;

(e) how many and what protests have been made against the grant of such special privileges and what action has been taken regarding them; and

(f) whether any rules, regulations or standing orders have been passed or are about to be passed governing the grant of such privileges?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) Four licences for the diversion of water for domestic purposes have so far been issued to residents of Courtallam and its neighbourhood. The details are given below:—

Serial number.	To whom granted.	Diameter of pipe.	Remarks.
1 and 2.	His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore.	Two inches.	Two bungalows served by one pipe.
3	M. R. Ry. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiayar	Do.	Do.
4	Avargal. Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiayar.	One inch.	From the two inches pipe of No. 3.

The licences are not for any fixed period but are liable to be revoked at will by Government. They are subject to the payment of a fee of Rs. 25 per annum. The Government have also authorized the issue of a separate licence to Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiayar for the generation of electricity by means of the supply already licensed for use for domestic purposes. This licence is for a period of 25 years and is subject to an additional payment of Rs. 25 a year.

(d) The interests of irrigation and other rights and interests were considered before the issue of the licences was ordered. A fee of Rs. 25 is levied in each case.

(e) No such protests have been received. The licences do not involve the grant of any special privileges.

(f) The hon. Member is referred to the rules contained in paragraph 13 of Board's Standing Order No. 4, and Board's Standing Order No. 11-A.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the licence issued to Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiayar for his 'domestic purposes,' may I ask whether it is intended only for his own house or for supply to other houses also?"

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

Failure of crops on the lands under Elundrakondan Periakulam.

* 479 Q.—Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there has been failure of crops on both wet and water-rate lands under Elundrakondan Periakulam during three out of the last five faslis;

(b) whether there is no plan-marked channel for irrigation of dry lands S. Nos. 39, 48, 52, 55, 56 and 57 and whether irregular irrigation is resorted to for these lands; and

(c) whether the grant of water-rate permission in fasli 1340 was warranted by the rules on the subject?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

Repairs to 'Chinnakasam' and 'Periakasam' of Perumudu village, Vellore taluk.

* 480 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been made by the villagers of Perumudu village, No. 113, in the Vellore taluk, North Arcot district, to the District Collector of North Arcot and to the Government with regard to the grave and neglected condition of 'Chinnakasam' and 'Periakasam';

(b) when were repairs last executed to these kasams; and

(c) what is the present condition of these sources of irrigation?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) No representations on the subject have been received by the Government. As regards the other points raised in the question, the Government have no information.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to clause (a), may I know whether any enquiries were made of the District Collector, North Arcot, whether representations were received by him?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know the reason why no enquiries were made when a specific question was put on that point?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"It is not within my personal knowledge and I did not think it necessary to enquire. If such representations have been made to the Collector, he will deal with them. If the petitioners are not satisfied with his disposal, they may appeal to the Board of Revenue."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether information will be called for from the Collector as to whether he has disposed of the representation made?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"These matters are within the competence of the Collector and the Board of Revenue; but as the hon. Member presses for the information I will obtain it for him."

Land Revenue Administration

Distribution of lands in Vavveru reserve, Nellore district, to the depressed classes.

* 481 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the distribution of land in Vavveru reserve, in Nellore district, to the depressed classes is;

(b) whether the Government are contemplating to sell those lands in public auction; and

(c) at what stage the proposal to provide irrigation facilities to that area is?

A.—(a) & (b) The land will be sold to members of the depressed classes at its market value after the excavation of the Vavveru channel and branches from the Kanigiri reservoir and the purchase price will be recovered in ten equal annual instalments without interest.

(c) The Government have approved an estimate amounting to Rs. 41,300 for the work and the provision of funds for it will be considered in framing the Budget for 1932–33.

Publication of the proposals of the Committee appointed to frame amendments to the Madras Estates Land Act.

* 482 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether committees consisting of members of the Legislative Council and others appointed to propose amendments in 1922 and 1924 to the Madras Estates Land Act, submitted any reports or made any proposals;

(b) who were the members of the two committees;

(c) how long the committees worked;

(d) the expenditure incurred in connexion with the committees;

(e) whether the Government made use of the reports or proposals of the committees in drafting Bill No. 12 of 1931;

(f) whether the reports or the proposals were published; and

(g) if not, whether the Government will publish the reports or proposals of the committees?

A.—(a) No report was submitted by either of the committees. But their discussions and final decisions on the several amendments to the Estates Land Act are contained in the minutes of their meetings held from time to time. The decisions of the Committee of 1922 have not been separately abstracted; but those of the Committee of 1924 have been abstracted and tabulated.

(b) The Committee of 1922 was an informal one convened by the then Law Member, the late Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar. The following took part in the deliberations of the Committee:—

1. The hon. Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar, Law Member (President).

2. The Zamindar of Pudur.

3. M.R.Ry. V. Ramadoss Pantulu Garu.

4. The Raja of Parlakimedi. Later, on his withdrawal from the Committee, M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib G. Venkataranga Rao Garu, Secretary, Madras Landholders' Association, took his place.

5. M.R.Ry. (now the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur) B. Muniswami Nayudu Garu, M.L.C.

The Committee constituted in 1924, as it finally stood in 1927, consisted of the following:—

1. The hon. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E. (the then Law Member), *Chairman*.

2. P. L. Moore, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.

3. M.R.Ry. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriyar Avargal, C.I.E. (the then Advocate-General, Madras).

4. Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo, M.L.C.

5. M.R.Ry. A. Krishnaswami Ayyar Avargal, High Court Vakil, Mylapore (present Advocate-General).

6. M.R.Ry. K. Jagannatha Ayyar Avargal, High Court Vakil, Madras.

7. M.R.Ry. P. Venkataramana Rao Avargal, High Court Vakil, Madras.

8. M.R.Ry. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar Avargal, M.L.C., High Court Vakil.

9. The Raja of Parlakimedi.

10. J. M. Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor, Nellore.

11. M.R.Ry. S. Raja Rajeswara Setupati Avargal, Raja of Ramnad.

12. The Secretary, Madras Landholders' Association.

13. M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib K. A. Vedanayaga Tevar Avargal, President, Usilampatti Taluk Board, Madura.

14. M.R.Ry. V. Raghunatha Reddi of Tsadum, Punganur division, Chittoor.

15. M.R.Ry. M. Narasimham Pantulu, Deputy Collector.

16. M.R.Ry. N. Koilpillai Avargal, Assistant Secretary, Board of Revenue.

17. The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, M.L.C.

18. M.R.Ry. T. M. Krishnaswami Ayyar Avargal, High Court Vakil, Madras.

19. M.R.Ry. B. Satyanarayana Pantulu Garu, High Court Vakil, Madras.

20. M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur T. Raghavayya Pantulu Garu, C.S.I., Secretary to the Committee.

(c) The informal Committee of 1922 held in all nine meetings in October 1922. The Committee constituted in June 1924 concluded its labours in May 1927.

(d) The only item of expenditure incurred on account of the committees was the travelling allowance paid to the non-official members from the mufassal who attended the meetings of committees. The information required is not available as travelling allowance bills are retained only for a period of three years.

(e) The views of the committees on the several amendments to the Act were made use of in drafting the Bill.

(f) & (g) As already stated in answer to clause (a), no reports were submitted to the Government by either of the committees; and the Government do not consider it necessary to publish the proceedings of the committees.

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"With reference to clause (f) of the answer, may I ask the hon. Member to state why the report of the Committee cannot be published?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"The hon. Member refers to a report which does not exist. The question whether a summary of the decisions of the Committee and the recommendations that it would probably have made should be laid before the Select Committee will receive the consideration of Government."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, with reference to (d), whether the information will not be available from the Account Books with the Government?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I am afraid, not."

Modification of the rules regarding grant of permission to take water for second crop irrigation in Bhimavaram Revenue division.

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

(a) the principles hitherto in force in regard to the grant of permission to take water for a second crop also in the case of single crop wet lands of Bhimavaram Revenue division, West Godavari district; and

(b) whether they were modified and if so, in what way and under what authority and whether such modification had any reference to the alleged satyagraha movement in the division?

A.—(a) & (b) Until fasli 1338 the distribution of water for the cultivation of a second crop on single crop wet lands in the Godavari Western delta, which includes the Bhimavaram Revenue division, was settled each year at a conference held by the officers of the Public Works and Revenue Departments with the ryots. As this arrangement had not been satisfactory, the Government in February 1926 sanctioned a special staff for the localization of the second crop ayacut. The special staff after detailed investigation formed three zones, viz., (1) a permanent zone, consisting of lands which could be supplied with water for a second crop every year, (2) a rotation zone, consisting of lands which could be supplied with water for a second crop once in four, three or two years according to the rotation fixed, and (3) an exclusion zone, consisting of lands which could not be supplied with water for a second crop in any year. This scheme was given effect to with effect from fasli 1338 under the orders of Government. The relevant papers connected with the scheme were placed on the table of the Legislative Council on 6th August 1929 and 6th November 1930. Detailed lists of the lands included in the rotation and permanent zones, however, have not yet been published. They are being prepared, in terms of the resurvey. Meanwhile a notification is being published every year in the District Gazette showing the area for which water for a second crop can be supplied in that year. An extent of 1,187.05 acres of land in the rotation zone and 87.50 acres of land in the permanent zone in the Bhimavaram division were temporarily excluded from the notification relating to fasli 1340 for the reason that the owners of those lands took an active and prominent part in the civil disobedience movement. In view of the subsequent political settlement, however, the Board of Revenue, under instructions from Government, issued orders in April 1931 directing that the enhanced water-cess levied for the irrigation of the lands which had been excluded from the second crop zone in fasli 1340 should be remitted if the parties applied for such remission.

Collection of land revenue in South Kanara district.

* 484 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what is the extent of arrears of land revenue in South Kanara district and in Kasaragod taluk and whether it was due to economic distress;

(b) how many cases of attachment of movable and immovable properties respectively there were;

(c) how many immovable properties had to be sold; and

(d) in how many cases the assessment was recovered before confirmation of the sale both in South Kanara and in the Kasaragod taluk respectively?

A.—(a) The land revenue arrears at the end of August 1931 amounted to Rs. 41,985 in South Kanara. The Government have no separate information as regards the Kasaragod taluk. They are not aware that the arrears were due to economic distress.

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

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"With reference to answers to clauses (b), (c) and (d), will Government be pleased to call for the information and satisfy themselves that the arrears there are due to economic distress?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"The reports that we receive from the Board of Revenue will show whether there was an excessive number of processes issued for the recovery of land revenue. We will then consider whether it is necessary to take any special action."

Destruction of rice and sugarcane crops by floods in South Kanara.

* 485 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received or called for any report regarding the damage caused by floods last month to rice and sugarcane crop in South Kanara; and

(b) whether the Government propose to grant any remission in assessment to fields adjoining rivers where the first rice crop has been entirely destroyed by floods?

A.—(a) & (b) A report has been called for.

Appointment of the Huzur Sarishtadar of Kurnool.

* 486 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) on what grounds may a person be appointed as Huzur Sarishtadar though he has not put in a service of two years as Tahsildar, and retained in that office though he has served three years in it;

(b) whether these grounds exist, for instance, in the case of Mr. Jaganayakulu Nayudu, Huzur Sarishtadar of Kurnool; and

(c) what steps the Government have taken to ensure compliance with the rules made by them?

A.—(a) The matter is governed by Board's Standing Order No. 137.

(b) The Government have not the information.

(c) Normally, the Government presume that their orders will be obeyed.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether they have made enquiries if in this case the Government Order has been obeyed?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"All orders are presumed to be obeyed."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Have the Government made enquiries?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I have already answered in the negative."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the Government make enquiries?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"As the hon. Member makes himself responsible for the statement that the order has not been obeyed, I will enquire."

Proposed abolition of the Atmakur Revenue division.

* 487 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Atmakur Revenue division in Nellore district is going to be abolished as a measure of retrenchment; and

(b) if so, from what date; and how the redistribution of the Revenue divisions in the district will be made?

A.—(a) Yes, orders to that effect have been issued.

(b) The date has not been fixed. On the abolition of the Atmakur division, the Udayagiri taluk will be added to the Kavali division and the Atmakur taluk to the Nellore division.

Resurvey in South Kanara.

* 488 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have come to any decision regarding the question of resurvey in South Kanara?

A.—The Government have decided that owing to the present financial stringency the resurvey operations in the South Kanara district should be suspended immediately.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know, Sir, whether the question of resurvey in South Kanara district will be re-opened after the present financial stringency has passed off?" 11.15 a.m.

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"That is a matter for decision by the Government at that time."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know for what period the Survey Party was working in South Kanara district?"

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

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Is it not a waste of expenditure for the Government if they stop re-survey operations in the middle?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"In certain cases it may be necessary to complete the operations that are going on and then stop further work."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether resurvey has been given up in other districts also?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"It has been also suspended in Salem. I am not sure of other districts. I must ask for notice of that question."

Public Service

Increments to unpassed clerks in the Registration Department.

* 489 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether unpassed men serving as clerks in the Registration Department were allowed certain increments in their pay;

(b) whether the Inspector-General of Registration was authorized to exempt unpassed men and allow them to draw increments up to Rs. 50 in G.O. No. 722, Education, dated 13th June 1922;

(c) whether such exemptions and increments are now being objected to by the Accountant-General; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to regularize their own Government Order and help the poor clerks?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes; but provided that *bona fide* efforts had been made without success to get suitable qualified men for the posts. This power was, however, subsequently withdrawn in 1926.

(c) Objection was taken only in respect—

(i) of clerks who were not specifically exempted by the Inspector-General in respect of the time-scale of pay;

(ii) of clerks who were exempted by the Inspector-General after the power of exemption had been withdrawn from heads of departments; and

(iii) of clerks who had been permitted to draw increments irregularly from a date prior to that on which they were exempted.

(d) Orders have been passed in all the cases brought to notice. A copy* of the orders is placed on the table.

Applications received by the Madras Services Commission from the members of the depressed classes for appointments, etc.

* 490 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received by the Public Services Commission from the depressed classes either applying for new posts or for appearing for the various examinations held by the Commission during the years 1929 and 1930;

(b) how many of these candidates passed the competitive examinations and how many of them were able to get employed; and

(c) a list of candidates of depressed classes that are in the reserve and eligible for posts that may either fall vacant or may be created in the Government service?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is apparently referring to the Madras Services Commission. This has been in existence since the 3rd January 1930. The selections made during the first three months of that year as shown in Appendix C to the report of the Commission for 1929–30 which has already been placed on the table. For information as to the rest of the year, the hon. Member is requested to await publication of the report of the Commission for 1930–31.

(b) No competitive examination was held in 1930.

(c) Waiting lists were drawn up by the Commission only in respect of the following classes:—

(1) Clerks and typists;

(2) School Assistants and Assistant Lecturers; and

(3) Sub-Assistant Inspectresses and School Assistants.

The lists in respect of the first two classes have already been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and in the list in respect of the third class, all candidates but one, who does not belong to a depressed class, have been appointed.

Madras Services Commission and the production of medical certificates by candidates.

* 491 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) why the Madras Services Commission wants applicants for jobs to produce medical certificates from officers of the rank of civil surgeons; and

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(b) whether any representations have been made to the Government to the effect that certificates got from any registered medical practitioner may be treated as sufficient for the purpose of at least the preliminary selection?

A.—(a) Under subsidiary rule 2 to Fundamental Rule 10, the certificate required before any person, except a military pensioner, may be appointed (otherwise than as a menial paid from contingencies) to a permanent post under Government must ordinarily be signed by a Commissioned Medical Officer or a Civil Medical Officer of rank not lower than a Civil Surgeon or a District Medical Officer.

(b) No.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will consider the desirability of issuing instructions to the Public Services Commission that certificates from Commissioned Medical Officers or Civil Surgeons may be dispensed with in the case of candidates who apply for jobs, and that certificates from Registered Medical Practitioners are sufficient for the purpose? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" One of the qualifications for selection for Government service is medical fitness. If the hon. Member's suggestion were accepted a selected candidate would have to get a second medical certificate with reference to Subsidiary Rule 2 to Fundamental Rule 10 before he could be actually appointed. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether, in view of the fact that the question under reference merely refers to applicants who apply for jobs and not to persons who are going to hold the posts permanently, the Government will consider the advisability of dispensing with the production of such certificates from Commissioned Medical Officers? The selection of these candidates does not mean their immediate appointment to any posts. "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" The answer that I gave to Mr. Shetty's supplemental question also applies to this. "

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" In view of the fact that a certificate from a Commissioned Medical Officer under Fundamental Rule 10 (2) is required only in the case of those people who are appointed to any permanent post, may I ask the Government to issue instructions to the Public Services Commission to suspend the production of such certificates in the case of those people who apply for jobs to the Public Services Commission and also tell them that it is enough if they produce certificates from Registered Medical Practitioners? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I am not prepared to do that. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if all the applicants that apply for posts are appointed? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" No, Sir. "

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" In view of that answer, does not the Government realize that it is merely waste of money to the poor candidates if all of them are asked to produce certificates of fitness? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" One of the qualifications required for selection of candidates is that they should be medically fit. It is for that reason that the Madras Services Commission requires a medical opinion on each candidate. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the medical certificate given by any other Registered Medical Practitioner is not enough for that purpose? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" No, Sir, for the reason I have already given. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it not a fact that after once they are selected, they are asked to undergo another medical examination? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" Not in the case of most appointments. It may be necessary in the case of certain higher appointments. "

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" May I know whether Government will amend the rules so as to insist on the production of these certificates only for the final selection? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I am afraid I do not understand what the hon. Member means by ' final selection '. "

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" A number of candidates apply, say about 300 or 400, for the preliminary selection. Only about 200 or 300 come for final selection, and others are thrown out. My question is whether the production of certificates cannot be insisted on only in the case of those who are retained after the final selection. "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" The production of a medical certificate is insisted upon at the very beginning and not before the final selection. In fact, one of the reasons for the rejection of an application may be medical unfitness. "

Finance

Submission of the complete retrenchment proposals to the Legislative Council.

* 492 Q.—Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) when he expects he would be able to lay before the House the complete retrenchment proposals of the Government;

(b) whether he will give the Council an idea of how the new retrenchment proposals will affect the budget; and

(c) whether he will introduce a revised budget?

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A.—(a) & (b) It will be several months before the complete retrenchment proposals of the Government can be formulated. Meanwhile in reply to question No. 345-A I have already laid before the House the Completest possible information of the progress so far made both by the Retrenchment Committee and by Government in the matter of retrenchment.

(c) The Government do not consider it necessary to introduce a revised budget.

Financial position of the Province as affected by the economic depression.

* 493 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) how and to what extent the financial position of the Presidency has been affected by the economic depression; and

(b) whether he intends to introduce any supplementary or additional estimates which would give the House an opportunity of expressing an opinion on the measures taken to counteract the deficit in the Budget?

A.—(a) A fall in revenue by about Rs. 132 lakhs is anticipated in the current year chiefly under Excise. It is not possible to say what portion of the fall is due solely to economic depression.

(b) It is not proposed to introduce any supplementary or additional estimates except to move demands for supplementary grants for specific items of expenditure for which the vote of the Council is necessary.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ In view of the answer given by the hon. the Finance Member, may I know what is the procedure that is going to be adopted by the Retrenchment Committee? May I know whether the hon. Member proposes to place before the Retrenchment Committee only proposals for normal standard of expenditure which would be sufficiently covered by normal revenues so as to leave an opening balance, or a wider procedure is going to be followed? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ A wider procedure will be followed. ”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know if the hon. the Finance Member will kindly give a little more information than is available from the communique that is placed before the House regarding retrenchment proposals? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ I should be very happy to expand the communique if the hon. Member considers it necessary. I do not understand in what direction the hon. Member wants information. ”

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Communication of the retrenchment proposals to the Members of the Council.

* 494 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the desirability of communicating to all the Members of the Council the retrenchment proposals which are sent to Members of the Retrenchment Committee for consideration before they meet and decide about them; and

(b) how many times the Retrenchment Committee has so far met and when it is expected to finish its work?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply to question No. 345-A. Government do not consider that it would be desirable to follow the suggestion made by the hon. Member. If the intention is that no measure of retrenchment should be introduced by Government without the concurrence of this House, it is only necessary to point out that it would be physically impossible for all hon. Members to consider all the numerous proposals that are made; and the result in practice would be that the object in view would be defeated.

(b) The Committee have hitherto held 24 meetings. It is impossible to say when their labours will be finished, but every effort will be made to conclude them before the end of the financial year.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ Will the hon. the Finance Member be pleased to place before this House a statement showing as to what are the retrenchment proposals that Government have before them and also the proposals they have already given effect to, and also give this House an opportunity of discussing all the retrenchment proposals? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ I do not think it will be possible for the Government to place every question of retrenchment on the table of this House for the discussion of hon. Members. The fullest possible information has been given in answer to question No. 345-A and a communiqué concerning the retrenchment proposals has already been placed on the table of the House. ”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask what is the anticipated figure of revenue to which the Government are adjusting their retrenchment proposals? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—“ It may be roughly about 16 crores. ”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ Arising out of the answer given by the hon. the Finance Member, may I ask whether hon. Members of this House are unfit to discuss the question of retrenchment? ”

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"No, not at all. What I said was that, if every item of retrenchment were to be placed before this House and discussed by them, there would not be time to effect a single measure of retrenchment."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if the Government are going to give effect to the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee or are they going to make any changes?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I have already said that in tables A and B appended to question No. 345-A, I have given a statement showing the financial effect of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee. I cannot give an undertaking that Government will give effect to all those recommendations."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know if there are certain cases in which the Government have not given effect to the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"In many instances the Government have given effect to the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee. I believe there are some cases in which the Government have not accepted their recommendations, and some which are still under consideration."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer given to this question, may I ask whether the hon. Member will not be pleased to give an opportunity to this House to express its opinion on specific items of expenditure which are recommended to be cut by the Retrenchment Committee?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I do not think it will be possible to give an opportunity to the House to discuss every single item that comes before the Retrenchment Committee. I presume when the Retrenchment Committee's report is placed on the table of the House, there will be ample opportunity for hon. Members to express their views."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will it be possible for the Government to say now whether they could balance the budget?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I wish I could say so."

Relative percentage of cuts in the salaries of the services.

* 495 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what the percentage is of cut in salaries recommended by the Retrenchment Committee and accepted by Government in the case of (1) Menial services, (2) Subordinate services, (3) Gazetted services and (4) Special posts;

(b) how this cut works out ultimately in the case of gazetted officers drawing Rs. 1,000 and above as compared with the non-gazetted officers; and

(c) how the Government propose to remove the inequality, if any, in the actual working out of the general cut in salaries?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The whole matter is under the consideration of Government and they are not in a position to make any announcement at present. An announcement will be made as soon as final decisions are reached.

Proposals regarding retrenchment.

* 496 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) when the Retrenchment Committee is expected to conclude their sittings and finish their labours;

(b) what the probable amount will be that can be saved after effecting these retrenchments;

(c) whether there is any proposal to cut the salaries of officers; and

(d) if so, on what scale, and in what order?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (b) of Question No. 494.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to Question No. 345-A.

(c) & (d) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to Question No. 495.

Recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee.

* 497 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will place before the Council the recommendations of the Retrenchment Officer and the Retrenchment Committee and the decisions of the Government thereon before the same are given effect to; and

(b) what is the procedure the Government propose to follow in this matter?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply to Question No. 345-A in which full answer has been given.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I ask the Government whether all the retrenchment proposals will be placed before the Members of this House to enable them to make their suggestions to the Members of the Retrenchment Committee before the latter meet to consider them?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I have already said that the suggested procedure would practically mean that we have to place every item before this House. That is not practical. If that is to be done, we will never get the retrenchment proposals completed in time."

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Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" May. I know what proportion this fall of Rs. 95 lakhs in excise revenue bears to the budgeted income? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" The budgeted income at the beginning of the year was about 5 crores of rupees. Ninety-five lakhs of rupees roughly works out at one-fifth.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know what this deficit in Excise revenue is due to? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Mostly owing to economic pressure and partly owing to agitation."

Savings on account of revision of salaries.

* 499 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of saving effected or expected to be effected by the revision of scales of salary in the gazetted and non-gazetted ranks; and

(b) what the respective posts are for which revision of scales of salary has been proposed?

A.—(a) & (b) The Retrenchment Committee are examining the question of revising the scales of pay for future entrants to all Provincial, Subordinate and Specialist services and it is understood that they have not yet completed their examination. No proposals have yet been received and it will probably be some time before final recommendations are made.

Saving effected by the introduction of fixed travelling allowance.

* 500 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have examined the extent of saving that might be effected by the introduction of fixed travelling allowance; and

(b) if so, what are the results of their investigation, and the reasons for their decision?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No; but the possibility of effecting savings in the manner indicated was referred to the Retrenchment Committee for consideration and they have recently recommended that Government should examine further the possibility, without involving increased expenditure, of extending the system of fixed travelling allowance to suitable classes of officers who have a fixed amount of touring to do within a limited area. Most officers in this category already receive fixed travelling allowance.

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Annual expenditure of Government towards the payment of the various allowances.

* 501 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the total expenditure incurred by Government annually in the payment of (i) duty allowance, (ii) presidency allowance, (iii) house rent or rent for free quarters, (iv) conveyance allowance, (v) special allowance and (vi) special pay to gazetted and non-gazetted servants, respectively, during the last five years in the City of Madras; and

(b) what is the amount incurred similarly in the case of gazetted and non-gazetted servants of the Government employed in the mufassal?

A.—(a) & (b) The statistics required by the hon. Member are not available and their collection for a period of five years would involve an expenditure of time and labour which would not be commensurate with the result. The following is, however, the analysis of the total expenditure for which provision was made in the Budget Estimate for 1931–32 on the special pays and compensatory allowances of gazetted and non-gazetted officers:—

Nature of allowances.	Gazetted officers.	Non-gazetted officers.	Total.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
(1) Special pay (added responsibility, arduous nature, and specific addition to work) ..	3.87	5.41	9.28
(2) Special pay (unhealthy localities) ..	.21	3.19	3.40
(3) Presidency allowances and house rent	1.44	1.06	2.50
(4) Conveyance allowances	.18	.69	.87
(5) Other allowances (uniform, ration, dhobi, horse and saddlery, etc.)	.36	7.55	7.91
Total ..	6.06	17.90	23.96

Standard of living among the working and middle classes.

* 502 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether they have appointed any officer of the Government to investigate into the standards of living of average families among the working and middle classes with a view to fixing their salaries;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal before them to reduce the pay of their servants drawing salaries of Rs. 40 a month and upwards; and

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know from the hon. Member in what time it will be possible for him to decide on the question of percentage cut ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" The matter is not for the Retrenchment Committee. It is for the Government to decide. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know how long it will take for the Government to decide ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" I cannot prophesy. "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether this 10 per cent cut that was announced the other day by His Excellency the Governor does not affect the lower officers ? Is it not a real hardship to those who are drawing less than Rs. 200 or 300, because those who draw more will have to undergo a surrender or only 3 or 4 per cent of their salaries roughly, excluding the income-tax ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" I must ask for notice of that question. I am not aware whether His Excellency referred to a general 10 per cent cut. The 10 per cent cut that he referred to was with reference to his own salary, and that of Members of the Government. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know if the question of percentage cuts of salaries was discussed by the Retrenchment Committee ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" It was discussed by the Retrenchment Committee. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Was any recommendation made by them ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Yes, Sir. "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know what is the percentage suggested by them ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" The Retrenchment Committee made general suggestions that there should be cuts ranging from 1 to 7 per cent. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Does the hon. Member think that 10 per cent cut is sufficient ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Quite sufficient. "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Is it inclusive or exclusive of income-tax ? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" I must ask for notice. "

Budget deficit during the current year.

*498 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount of deficit likely to arise in the budget estimates for the whole of the current year, and how it is distributed under each head of revenue;

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(b) what the total amount of saving effected by the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee is;

(c) to what extent have the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee been accepted and in what manner;

(d) what saving is effected by retrenchment in each of the departments under (1) Reserved and (2) Transferred respectively;

(e) what the extent is of the saving effected by (1) the reduction or the abolition of allowances, (2) the reduction of salaries, (3) the abolition of posts, (4) the retirement of officers and servants and (5) the abolition of departments of service; and

(f) what the posts are that have been hitherto abolished and contemplated to be abolished under the scheme of retrenchment in the gazetted ranks in each department under Reserved and Transferred respectively ?

A.—(a) A total fall in revenue amounting to about Rs. 132 lakhs, as detailed below, is at present anticipated, as compared with the budget:—

	RS.
	LAKHS.
Excise	95
Stamps	19
Forest	14
Net effect of anticipated increases and decreases under other heads	4
	132

(b), (c), (e) & (f) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 354-A which gives the fullest information at present possible regarding the progress of retrenchment.

(d) Out of the Rs. 63 lakhs savings recommended by the Retrenchment Committee nearly Rs. 29 lakhs represent savings on Civil Works and Allowances of all kinds, the expenditure on which is common to all departments. Of the balance of Rs. 34 lakhs about Rs. 30 lakhs appertain to the Transferred, and about Rs. 4 lakhs to the Reserved departments so far examined.

Of the Rs. 88 lakhs savings secured so far by Government during the current year, about Rs. 26½ lakhs represent savings on Civil Works and allowances which are common to all departments, and of the balance of Rs. 61½ lakhs, Rs. 30 lakhs come from Reserved departments and Rs. 31½ lakhs from the Transferred departments.

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(c) if the answers to the above two clauses are in the affirmative, whether the Government will be pleased to postpone the proposed reduction pending the report of the officer referred to in clause (a)?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Will the Government be pleased to institute an enquiry into these matters?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"The Government do not think it necessary."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Are the Government aware that in Bombay at least the Labour offices have been instructed to submit their report regarding the family budget of working and middle class families?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"I am aware of that."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of instructing the Labour Commissioner in Madras to report about their condition?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Does the Government consider it not important?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"It is important, but not possible."

Railways

Halting of the Mail train at Kasaragod.

* 503 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state why the Mail train does not stop as usual 10 minutes for watering at Kasaragod?

A.—The Government have no information.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Will the Government kindly ascertain whether this practice is not causing much inconvenience to the public?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"It is a matter for the Government of India, to whom representations may be made."

Local Self-Government

Amount of motor vehicles tax collected during the last and the present quarter.

* 504 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount of motor vehicles taxation collected in each district in the last quarter and in the present quarter also;

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(b) the amount paid out of this taxation to the local bodies in each district in each of these two quarters; and

(c) whether the sums collected by the Government and the amounts paid to the local bodies have exceeded or fallen short of the estimates made at the time the Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill was under consideration?

A.—(a) A statement^a is laid on the table of the House.

(b) Three-sixteenths of the amounts shown in the appendix to G.O. No. 1081, L. & M., dated 28th March 1931 (copy^a placed on the table of the House) was paid to the local bodies for each of the two quarters.

(c) The sums collected so far have fallen considerably short of the estimates made at the time when the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill was under consideration.

The amounts paid to local bodies for the first two quarters have been calculated on the basis of the original estimates, but local bodies have been warned to expect less in future.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHIETTI:—"In view of the considerable shortage of collections, will the Government consider the desirability of repealing the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Does the Government expect to collect the full estimated amount before the end of the year?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"It is not possible to say now what will be the total amount collected before the end of the year."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"By how much has the collection fallen short of the estimate now?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"By about 50 per cent."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Will the Government investigate the reasons why the collections have been so small?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether the number of buses is not much larger in areas where the licence fees levied by local boards are not heavy?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I have no information."

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"Will the hon. Minister please collect the necessary information and consider possible plans whereby this grossly heavy burden upon the motor industry may be alleviated?"

^a Printed as Appendix VI on pages 463—471 infra.

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Representations have been made to Government by parties interested in this question. Government have called for information as to the income derived by local bodies from licence fees both last year and in the first half of the present year. After the information is collected, Government will examine it and find out to what extent the alleged heavy licence fees levied by district boards are responsible for reducing the number of buses and whether any relief can be given."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Is the hon. Minister aware that there are still a large number of buses which have not taken out the motor licence?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am not aware of it, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"When the collections have fallen down by fifty per cent., how do the Government propose to pay the local bodies?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The amount collected will be distributed *pro rata* among the local bodies. The fall is due not to the heaviness of the tax but to various other economic factors."

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the collection of the tax under the Motor Vehicles Act is being evaded owing to certain regulations under the Act? If so, will he tell the House what he proposes to do to examine the regulations with a view to removing those obstacles?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Here also various representations have been made to Government with regard to the hardship caused by certain regulations under the Act. The whole matter is under consideration by the Government. Some of the representatives of persons who are interested in the question will also be invited to put their views before the Government."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Will the Government be pleased to compensate the local bodies for the loss caused to them by the abolition of the tolls and by the payment of only a portion of what they were expecting from the motor taxation?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"There is no question of paying compensation as the Act provides that the amount collected under the Act should be distributed *pro rata* among the local bodies concerned."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Have not the local bodies begun to clamour for their due share?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Not yet; I am sure they realize the difficult situation."

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Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"If Government do not pay the local bodies what they have been expecting all along, how do they expect them to balance their budget?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The local bodies are only in the same position as the Local Government."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Do the Government realize that they have over-estimated the receipts at the time the Bill was passed?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not think Government over-estimated the income from this taxation. The difficulty is that they never expected this financial crisis when the Bill was framed."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the fact that the amount to be realized is not going to reach the anticipated figure and that the losses to the local bodies are due to the passing of this Act and the abolition of the tolls, what do the Government propose to do to help the local bodies to balance their budgets?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Local bodies are taking their own action—retrenchment of expenditure and so on."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Does the hon. Minister hold that the anticipated revenue has not been realized on account of the general depression or on account of certain defects in the Act itself?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I have already answered that question."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Having regard to the fact that this depression began as early as 1929, how can that be a reason for the motor tax collections falling short of the estimates which were framed only recently?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I don't admit that the depression began in 1929."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Considering that the Act has proved so disastrous, will the Government take steps to repeal it?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Act has not proved disastrous. On the other hand, it has proved beneficial to agriculturists."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"As the local bodies are not able to balance their budgets, will the Government be pleased to reduce the amounts of the opening and closing balances of local bodies?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"It is the business of local bodies to look to that."

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Sanitary arrangements in Courtallam.

* 505 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any and what facilities have been provided in Courtallam (Tinnevely district) for the sanitary convenience and cleanliness for the large floating population that go over there seasonally and for religious festivals;

(b) whether any scheme of town-planning has been adopted for the residential area to prevent overcrowding; and

(c) whether suitable areas and gardens have been reserved and declared so for the use of the public?

A.—(a) A special committee consisting of the President, District Board, Tinnevely, President, Taluk Board, Tinnevely, and the President, Panchayat Board, Tenkasi, the District Health Officer, Tinnevely, and the Trustees of the Courtallam temple has resolved to carry out the following improvements:—

(i) Construction of new latrines and urinals near the Falls, Temple, Local Fund choultries and other important places;

(ii) appointment of additional scavengers; and

(iii) introduction of private scavenging system throughout the area.

(b) The provisions of the Madras Town-Planning Act, 1920, were extended to Courtallam in 1926 and the Tenkasi Panchayat Board has been requested to take action for the preparation of a Town-Planning Scheme in respect of the area in Courtallam and submit the scheme to the Government for sanction. The Board proposes to take action shortly.

(c) No suitable area or gardens have been reserved for the use of the public.

Repairs to the cart-track running along battai poramboke in Keelanoor village.

* 506 Q.—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Adi-Dravidas of Perathur cheri have been praying for the last ten years to repair and put into cartable condition for their egress and ingress, the cart-track running along battai porambokes of Keelanoor village, No. 116, Tiruvallur taluk, Chingleput district, connecting the cheris of Perathur and Vishnuvakkam villages with the Red Hills-Tiruvallur road, at the southern end of the causeway constructed across Kattangal in R.S. No. 462 of Keelanoor village;

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(b) whether it is a fact that the said cart-track has been encroached upon by the adjacent wet land cultivator by fencing it with prickly-pears and that he was prosecuted by the Revenue Department and ordered to remove the prickly-pear growth before June 1929;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Tiruvallur Taluk Board sanctioned a sum of Rs. 600 for the renewal of the said cart-track known as Perathur or Vishnuvakkam cart-track;

(d) whether it is a fact that the District Munsif of Tiruvallur has issued an injunction in July 1930, that neither a footpath nor a cart-track can be created across Kattangal other than the one that exists as a causeway in R.S. No. 462 of Keelanoor village;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Tiruvallur Taluk Board is contemplating to open a new road in R.S. Nos. 96 and 98 of Vishnuvakkam village abandoning the one in existence; and

(f) what action it is proposed to take for putting into a cartable condition the cart-track?

A.—(a) to (f) Government have no information. The persons aggrieved should move the local boards concerned.

Medical

Retention on the active list of the Second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital.

* 507 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Second Surgeon of the Madras General Hospital has been awarded damages by the Madras High Court for injuries sustained in a railway compartment and consequent incapacity to do certain kinds of important surgical operations; and

(b) if so, why that Surgeon is still being kept on the active list, and has not been invalidated?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The incapacity was only temporary.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ May I ask the hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that this Surgeon has been permanently incapacitated for doing certain kinds of important operations? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ No, Sir.”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ Did not the High Court in their judgment say that he has been permanently incapacitated for doing certain kinds of important operations? Will the hon. Minister place a copy of the judgment on the table of the House? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ I don't think they said so, Sir. The hon. Member may obtain a copy of the judgment if he likes.”

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*Collection of consultation fees by doctors working in the
King George's Hospital, Vizagapatam.*

* 508 Q.—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the X-ray specialist attached to the King George's Hospital, Vizagapatam, is collecting higher fees from patients attending the hospital and crediting a lower sum to the Government account;

(b) whether it is a fact that complaints were made against him, and if so, what action was taken by the Government on the complaints;

(c) whether it is a fact that the doctors working in the said hospital have consulting rooms at home and whether patients seeking admission into the hospital are invariably subjected to payment of consultation fees to the various doctors; and

(d) whether it is a fact that patients admitted into the hospital are made to pay the cost of medicines and also for the diets supplied to them?

A.—(a) & (b) Certain allegations have been made against the Radiologist in the matter and an enquiry has been ordered into them.

(c) No.

(d) According to the rules relating to the levy of fees for medical treatment in Government Medical institutions patients whose income is Rs. 50 a month or more are charged for accommodation, medical advice, nursing and diet. Patients entitled to free medical attendance are charged for accommodation and diet only.

Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA:—“ May I know the nature of the allegations and the result of the enquiry? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ I am afraid I cannot at present disclose the nature of the allegations which are under enquiry.”

Public Health

Free distribution of quinine in South Kanara district.

* 509 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether free distribution of quinine has given satisfactory results in controlling malaria in Puttur and Karkal taluks in South Kanara;

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(b) whether representations have been made to him during his visit to the district to extend the benefit of this system to the rest of the taluks also; and

(c) what action Government have taken in this matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The question of extending the experimental scheme of free distribution of quinine to the other taluks in the district is under consideration.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—“ May I know if Government have got a sufficient supply of quinine and whether there is any other difficulty in extending the free supply of quinine to the rest of the taluks also? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ It is not a question of Government not having a sufficient supply of quinine. The question is the cost of free distribution of the substance.”

Water-supply scheme of the Tuticorin Municipality.

* 510 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tuticorin Municipality has been collecting a heavy tax from the year 1915 for a protected scheme of water-supply to the town;

(b) whether the works pertaining to the scheme finally sanctioned by the Government in 1926 are still pending completion;

(c) whether the Government have investigated into the delay in the execution of the works and what steps have been or are proposed to be taken to complete the works without further delay; and

(d) when the Government expect the works to be completed and handed over to the municipality?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 529.

Agriculture

Correspondence with the Secretary of State for sanction to appoint an I.C.S. officer as Director of Agriculture.

* 511 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have addressed the Central Government and the Secretary of State for India for permission to appoint a civilian as permanent Director of Agriculture; and

(b) if so, the reasons that impelled the Government to overlook the claims of the men in the Agricultural department?

A.—(a) & (b) The question of a permanent successor to Mr. Hilson is still under the consideration of Government.

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Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know from the hon. the Second Minister the special reasons for the delay in filling up the appointment? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" The matter is still under consideration. The reply is there on the paper."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Has the Government addressed the Government of India or the Secretary of State for permission to appoint a civilian to the post of Director of Agriculture? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I am not in a position to say more than what is put on the paper."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Is not the hon. Minister in a position to say whether or not he has addressed any such communication to the Government of India or the Secretary of State? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I have already replied to it."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" What is his reply to the question whether a communication to that effect has or has not been sent to the Government of India or the Secretary of State? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I am not in a position to reply to the question."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Is the information confidential? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Yes, until orders are passed. The matter is now under consideration."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" With reference to the question on the same subject put by me on the 5th August last, the Council Secretary to my hon. Friend asked for notice. Now that notice has been given, I should like to know whether any such communication has been sent or not? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I am not aware of any notice having been given."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask whether the hon. Minister denies that any such communication was sent to the Government of India or the Secretary of State? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I have already answered that, Sir."

Delay in filling the post of the Director of Agriculture.

* 512 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state why there is delay in the appointment of a permanent successor to Mr. Hilson, the late Director of Agriculture?

A.—Because the Government are considering the question.

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Restrictions on the promotion of agricultural graduates holding the B.Sc. degree.

* 513 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to shut out agricultural graduates holding the B.Sc. degree from the gazetted rank in the Science section of the department, unless they are Honours B.A.'s or M.A.'s?

A.—No.

Education

Preparatory class in the Widows' Home, Triplicane.

* 514 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was a preparatory class attached to the Widows' Home, Triplicane, under Government management and control with a tutor sanctioned for the class;

(b) when the class and the post of tutor were abolished and why they were abolished;

(c) whether Sister R. S. Subbulakshmi Ammal, Superintendent of the Widows' Home, continued this class under her management and control and also threw it open to day scholars;

(d) whether she had the sanction of Government for managing these classes and holding them in the Widows' Home;

(e) whether it is a fact that Government scholarships were sanctioned for the pupils of these classes and if so, how many of each kind were sanctioned during each of these years;

(f) whether it is a fact that Government scholarships are not tenable in unrecognized schools or classes and, if so, how and why such scholarships were sanctioned for pupils reading in these classes;

(g) who is responsible for this irregularity and what is the total amount expended on this account till now;

(h) whether any applications for Government scholarships on behalf of these pupils have been received and whether it is proposed to sanction them this year too;

(i) whether there is any proposal to accord official sanction for conducting these classes privately this year and taking them over under Government management from next year;

(j) whether the reasons that led to the abolition of these classes and their teacher before have now ceased to operate and, if so, in what manner; and

(k) how many of the girls who studied in these classes in 1930-31 were admitted into the College this year and how many were refused admission?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The post of tutor was abolished on 1st March 1925 as it was considered unnecessary. The class continued.

(c) Yes. Day scholars were occasionally admitted.

(d) No.

(e) Yes; figures for the last three years are given below:—

	Widow scholarships.	Residential scholarships for unmarried non-Brahman Hindu girls.
1928-29	...	4
1929-30	...	10
1930-31	...	4

(f) Any poor inmates of the Ice House Hostel were eligible for the scholarships in question.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) Yes; the applications are under consideration.

(i) & (j) The question is under consideration.

(k) Eighteen girls who received private tuition were admitted into the Secondary school attached to the College and none were refused admission.

Selection grade for college assistant professors in the Subordinate Educational Service.

* 515 Q.—Mr. K. SINGAM AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether college assistant professors in the Subordinate Educational Service have a selection grade of only 5 per cent, whereas school assistants have it to the extent of 25 per cent of their cadre;

(b) whether the starting pay of the two sets of officers is the same and also their qualifications; and

(c) if not, what is the object of having the same maximum pay for both?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Neither the starting pay nor the qualifications prescribed for appointment are the same.

(c) The assumption that the maximum pay is the same in both cadres is not correct.

Proposed shifting of the Government Training School for Muhammadan Mistresses, Guntur.

* 516 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government Training School for Muhammadan Mistresses, Guntur, is proposed to be shifted from its present premises to another building and if so, for what reasons; and

(b) whether the inspecting authorities have received representations to the effect that the present premises being situated in the heart of Muhammadan quarters is admirably suited for the school, and that the transference thereof to another place will impair the usefulness and popularity of the institution and seriously affect the strength and attendance in the Model section?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government do not propose to transfer the school from its present premises.

Excise

Declaration of policy by the Government to introduce total prohibition in twenty years.

* 517 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have declared to bring about total prohibition in this Presidency within a period of twenty years, and if so, from what date; and

(b) whether this declaration had been kept in view by the Government in their excise policy, and if so, whether the Government will furnish a statement of the endeavours they have made till now to fulfil their pledge to carry out their declared policy towards total prohibition in twenty years?

A.—(a) & (b) While the Government have accepted prohibition as an ideal to work up to, they have not laid down any definite period for the achievement of such a goal. The Government are in pursuance of this policy restricting facilities for obtaining drink, such as reducing the number of shops, reducing the limit of private possession, raising the duties on liquor, restricting the hours of sale, and so on and are introducing schemes of partial prohibition in selected areas. Such partial prohibition has been introduced in selected areas in Tanjore, Tinnevely, Ramnad, Salem and Nilgiri districts.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask whether the Government expect that the steps that they are taking will result in total prohibition of liquor in 20 years? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ The Legislative Council have passed the resolution and Government are trying to carry it out as far as possible. Nobody can say what will happen in the next 20 years.”

Deputation to the Collector of Anantapur to introduce prohibition in certain areas.

* 518 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether more than 800 people representing the Tarimala group of villages waited on deputation on the Collector of Anantapur, Rai Bahadur N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, to request him to enquire and recommend their villages for prohibition;

(b) whether the Collector of Anantapur after enquiry closed the arrack shops with the sanction of the Excise Commissioner from 1st April 1931;

(c) whether the Collector recommended the closure of the toddy shops also within the area from 1st October after the expiry of their lease term on the 30th September;

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(d) whether the Excise Commissioner accepted the recommendation; and

(e) when the proposal for declaring the Tarimala group of villages for 'prohibition' reached the Government?

A.—(a) It is reported that a deputation waited on the Collector in the matter.

(b) The two arrack shops in the Tarimala area were closed temporarily from 1st April 1931.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Commissioner did not object to the Collector's proposal being accepted.

(e) On 6th July 1931.

Deputation from the Tarimala group of villages to the Excise Minister for the introduction of prohibition.

* 519 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether deputations from the Tarimala group of villages and Peddavadugur group waited upon him on the 26th June when he visited Anantapur and represented their respective cases for prohibition; and

(b) whether the hon. Minister, in consultation with the Collector, promised favourable consideration of their prayers?

A.—(a) Yes, but the date appears to have been the 20th or 21st June.

(b) The best consideration was promised.

Postponement of the auction-sale of toddy and arrack shops in the Gooty and Anantapur taluks.

* 520 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the auction-sales of the toddy shops in Gooty and Anantapur taluks were postponed from July to an indefinite date, pending the orders of Government on the recommendation of the District Officers and the Revenue Board;

(b) whether a District Gazette notification was issued fixing the dates of auction of the toddy shops of these two taluks to August;

(c) whether the present Collector Sriman D. Mahanti Mahasaya issued a District Gazette notification, dated 20th September, that the sales of the toddy shops in Gooty and Anantapur taluks would be held on the 5th and 7th October respectively, excepting the shops in Peddavadugur and Tarimala areas;

(d) whether the Collector issued cyclostyled circulars of the above notification to all the village officers also;

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(e) whether a telegraph order of Government was sent to the Collector on 30th September 1931, intimating that the Government had rejected the recommendations for closing the shops in the said two taluks and ordered their sales also; and

(f) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table the order of the Government and all the connected papers?

A.—(a) The auction sales were postponed pending the orders of Government regarding the closure of toddy shops in certain areas of the Gooty and Anantapur taluks.

(b) The Collector fixed the auction of toddy shops in the Gooty taluk for 27th July 1931 and that of the toddy shops in Anantapur taluk for 3rd August 1931.

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

(e) No telegraphic order was sent to the Collector by the Government on the subject.

(f) The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing the papers on the table of the House.

Estimated fall in the Excise revenue of the Nellore district.

* 521 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) to what extent the toddy and arrack sales in Nellore district have been successful; and

(b) what the fall in the Excise revenue of the district will be during the current year?

A.—(a) & (b) The rentals realized by the sale of arrack shops in the Nellore district for the lease year which commenced on 1st April 1931 showed a fall of 41.4 per cent as compared with the rentals for 1930-31. The Government have called for a report in respect of the other points.

Fisheries

Aid to fishermen associations engaged in socio-economic work.

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

(a) whether there are any associations of fishermen on the West Coast engaged in socio-economic work;

(b) whether the Fisheries department is giving grants for them;

(c) whether the Sree Gnanodaya Samaj, Mangalore, at any time applied for grant and if so, what the orders of Government are; and

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(d) whether Government have under consideration proposals to encourage indigenous organizations engaged in uplift work among fishermen by making grants as is done by the Labour department?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The Sree Gnanodaya Samaj was paid a total sum of Rs. 2,345 (Rs. 750 in 1917-18 and Rs. 1,595 in 1920-21) for the construction of a Temperance Hall.

(d) No.

Industries

Definition of 'Cottage industries.'

* 523 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether the Government have amended the definition of the term 'Cottage industries' and if so, how?

A.—No.

Government Industrial School, Bellary.

* 524 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) when the Government Industrial School was actually started in Bellary;

(b) the number of pupils and the strength of the clerical and the teaching establishment in the first year of its working and the number of classes that had then to be attended to; and

(c) the present strength of the school and the number of classes requiring attention now and if there has been increase in both whether the clerical and teaching establishment has been adequately strengthened to cope with the additional work and if so, the additions made to the respective establishments and if not, why not?

A.—(a) Started regular work from 8th July 1929.

(b) Number of pupils admitted 27

Number of pupils at the end of the year 22

The following staff was sanctioned for the school:—

One Superintendent on Rs. 200—20—500.

One cabinet-making instructor on Rs. 40—2½—60.

One smithy instructor on Rs. 40—2½—60.

One clerk—Storekeeper on Rs. 35—60.

The number of classes to be attended to were two, one in cabinet-making and the other in smithy work.

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(c) Number of pupils at the end of 1930-31 was 42. The number of classes requiring attention was five, first and second year classes in cabinet-making, first and second year classes in smithy and a motor car driving and mechanism course started in 1930.

The following staff was sanctioned to cope with the additional work.

One lecturer in motor work on Rs. 125—7—175 and one storekeeper on Rs. 35—60.

Reduction in the rate of stipends to pupil teachers.

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

(a) whether Government have ordered with retrospective effect a reduction in the rates of stipends and stipendiary grants to women and men teachers under training in the current year;

(b) if so, what amount per month the Secondary Grade, Higher and Lower Elementary Grade pupil teachers will get from this month onwards;

(c) how the modified rate of stipends compares with the former rates;

(d) whether any representation has been made to the Government to the effect that the second year students may be given stipends at the usual rates till December and discharged that month and that their final examination may be held in January; and

(e) whether the Government have considered any other way of giving relief to poor pupil teachers who are entirely depending on the stipends they get?

A.—(a) Yes. A reduction of 25 per cent.

(b) & (c) A statement* showing the rates of stipends in force till the end of last year and the rates at which the stipends are granted from October 1931 is placed on the table.

(d) No.

(e) No.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Are the Government aware that many of these pupil teachers depend entirely on their stipends and the effect of this reduction with retrospective effect will be to compel many of them to give up their training course and go home?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I am not sure that will be the result. But national emergency justifies such a course."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Will the Government consider whether they cannot, at least in the case of the second year students, give the usual stipends till December and then discharge them at once and hold their final examination in January?"

* Printed as Appendix VII on page 472 infra.

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Orders have already been issued and stipends are being paid at 75 per cent of the old rates. I do not think it is possible to revise the orders now."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it a fact that the national finances have come to such a low level that it is necessary to close all the educational institutions?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"We have not come to such a stage as to be under the necessity of closing all educational institutions."

Irrigation

Stoppage of irrigation facilities for lands under the Red Hills.

* 524-B Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received a petition from the ryots under the Red Hills Tank, dated 14th October 1931 and also a letter from the President, Red Hills Tank P.R.R. Association, dated 27th idem complaining against the stoppage of water for irrigation of the samba crop from the 15th October 1931 and requesting the withdrawal of the order stopping the supply of water;

(b) whether water in the Red Hills Tank had attained the full tank level (44.67 feet) on the 15th October 1931 and whether the surplus water received from the supply channels is now being allowed to waste down the anicut;

(c) why under the above circumstances the supply of water for irrigation of the samba crop under the Red Hills Tank ayacut was cut off on the 15th October by the P.W.D. Overseer of the tank though water for irrigation of the samba crop was issued from the 1st September up to 14th October;

(d) whether it is the intention of the Government to cut off all supplies for irrigation of the samba crop in succession for two months from the 15th October to 15th December and if so, what provision has been made to enable the ryots to raise the samba crop especially in view of the failure of the North-East Monsoon this year;

(e) whether the Government propose to compensate the ryots for the loss to be incurred by them by the failure of the samba crop;

(f) whether the temporary rules for the regulation of water supply from the Red Hills and Cholavaram tanks issued by Government in G.O. No. 2047-I., dated the 22nd August 1928 were passed by the Government in the interest of the Madras City water supply or to enable the execution of the works in connection with the improvements to Tamarapauk Anicut Head sluice and upper supply channel;

(g) whether it is a fact that last year water was allowed for irrigation from the 15th October to 15th December as water in the Red Hills Tank had reached the full tank level and why the same procedure was not adopted this year as well; and

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(h) why, if it was the intention of Government to stop this year all supplies for irrigation for two months in succession for the samba crop, the ryots were not warned in due time and prevented from cultivating the crop?"

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The level on 14th October 1931 was 44.67 feet but the Government have no information whether water was being wasted over the anicut.

(c) The issue of water for irrigation was stopped under the rules in force.

(d) Orders have been issued authorizing the issue of water for irrigation from 28th October.

(e) No.

(f) The order regulated the issue of water with regard to the interests both of the City water supply and of irrigation.

(g) Last year water was allowed for irrigation from 31st October. This year it has been allowed from 28th October.

(h) The ryots are aware of the rules and the risk involved.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know whether the rules contemplate the stoppage of water even when the tank has reached the full tank level? Why was water stopped between the 14th and 28th of October when it was ordered to be issued again for irrigation purposes?"

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

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of supplying water for irrigation purposes invariably after the full tank level is reached?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government will consider the suggestion, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether it is right on the part of the Government to allow the ryots to sow the samba crop and then stop the water?"

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

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know why Government have not called for the information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Because Government did not think it necessary to call for the information."

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UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Legislative Council***Appointment of Council Secretaries.*

525 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

- (a) when the present Council Secretaries were appointed;
- (b) what is the nature of the work they have so far done; and
- (c) the sums they have each drawn for each month on account of travelling allowance since their appointment?

A.—(a) Messrs. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu, M.L.C., and R. Madanagopal Nayudu, M.L.C., assumed charge of the office of Council Secretary on the afternoon of the 12th January 1931, and Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib, M.L.C., assumed charge on the afternoon of the 16th January 1931.

- (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to page 138 of Volume II of the Madras Legislative Council Manual which gives the duties of the Council Secretaries.
- (c) The Government have no information but will call for it.

Prisons*Viswabrahman convicts and facilities to preserve their orthodox.*

526 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the Viswabrahman community as a class does not take food and water from anybody's hands except cooked by themselves;
- (b) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government that a separate kitchen including brass vessels for eating and drinking purposes may be supplied to the Viswabrahman convicts as is done to Brahman prisoners; and
- (c) the orders of the Government regarding this request?

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

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Economic Condition*Economic condition of the ryots of the districts of Kistna, Godavari East and Godavari West.*

527 Q.—Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHODARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government have called for reports from the district authorities of Kistna, West and East Godavari on the present economic condition of the ryots of these districts;

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- (b) whether they propose to collect the enhanced taxes in these districts in 1932; and

(c) what steps they have taken or propose to take to give relief to ryots in distress on account of the economic depression?

A.—(a) Yes.

- (b) & (c) The questions will be considered on receipt of the reports called for.

Public Health*Water-supply scheme for Tuticorin municipality.*

528 Q.—Mr. A. P. L. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) when the question of water-supply scheme for the Tuticorin municipality was taken up for consideration by Government;

(b) when the plans and estimates were prepared and when they were sanctioned by the Government; and

- (c) if the scheme has not yet been completed, what the reasons are for the delay?

A.—(a) The question of a water-supply scheme for Tuticorin has been engaging the attention of the Government for over half a century.

- (b) Plans and estimates for a complete water-supply scheme were prepared in the year 1915 and sanctioned in the year 1918. A revised estimate amounting to Rs. 27.83 lakhs was prepared and sanctioned in the year 1926.

(c) New engines indented for have to be erected; the elevated reinforced concrete reservoir is under construction; re-testing and re-joining the mains of the distribution system and some other subsidiary work have to be done. All these are expected to be completed by about June 1932.

Delay in the execution of the water-supply scheme for Tuticorin municipality.

529 Q.—Mr. DANIEL THOMAS: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Tuticorin municipality has been collecting a heavy tax from the year 1915 for a protected scheme of water-supply to the town;

(b) whether the works pertaining to the scheme finally sanctioned by the Government in 1926 are still pending completion;

(c) whether the Government have investigated into the delay in the execution of the works and what steps have been or proposed to be taken to complete the works without further delay; and

- (d) when the Government expect the works will be completed and handed over to the municipality?

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A.—(a) The Tuticorin Municipal Council was levying water-supply and drainage tax at the rate of 8 to 9 per cent per annum between the years 1915 and 1924. The tax was suspended in the year 1924–25. The Municipal Council has since been levying the tax at the rate of 5½ per cent per annum.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. The Chief Engineer has been asked to see that the remaining works are carried out expeditiously and that no avoidable delays are allowed to occur.

(d) About June 1932.

Education

Alleged running of certain classes for the Sarada Vidyalaya in the Widows' Home.

530 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Sister Subbalakshmi Ammal has been running a certain number of classes in the Widows' Home under her own private management and control;

(b) whether she has obtained the previous permission of Government for running these classes in addition to her work for Sarada Vidyalaya, Mylapore, for which she has been honorary correspondent; and

(c) whether the sanction of Government has been obtained for holding these classes in the Home and if so, what rent is paid by her therefor?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) No. No rent has ever been collected.

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

NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

II.—BILLS.

(1) THE NAMBUDIRI BILL.

11-45 * The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now resume consideration of the motion on the Nambudiri Bill."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, with reference to this Bill, as in the case of my Friend, Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar's Bill, I have given notice of an exactly similar amendment, namely, that this Bill No. 14 of 1931 of Mr. Madhusoodhanan Thangal be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon. I move that amendment.

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"As I said, with reference to the Bill of my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar, this Bill also deals with social legislation. My hon. Friend, Mr. Madhusoodhanan Thangal, proposes to introduce, by his Bill, some drastic changes in the customs that now govern the community. For instance, in this community of the Nambudiri, as in the case of people following the Marumakkattayam Law, the Law of partition does not obtain. One of the chapters included in the Bill of my hon. Friend, Mr. Madhusoodhanan Thangal, enables individual members of the family to claim a partition in the family property. As I said with reference to the Bill of my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar, with regard to this Bill also, the Government do not wish to say anything about the desirability or otherwise of introducing this measure. The Government want to have the opinions of the members of the community. I am not referring to all the changes that my hon. Friend wants to introduce by the Bill. My hon. Friend, Mr. Madhusoodhanan Thangal, wants to introduce, in certain respects, the Mithakshara Law of Inheritance among these classes of people who are now not governed by that Law. With reference to that point also, the Government wish to have information. For these and other reasons, I move my amendment. With reference to this amendment also as in the case of my amendment to the Bill of my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar, I can give this undertaking on behalf of the Government, viz., that we shall get the information as early as possible, in any case, before the 10th January 1932. In view of these observations of mine, I hope the hon. Member will not press his amendment."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"I second this amendment."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I beg to move the following amendment—

'that the Nambudiri Bill (Bill No. 14 of 1931) of Mr. P. Madhusoodhanan Thangal be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon and that such opinion be obtained and placed on the table of the House before the next meeting of the Council.'

"The hon. the Law Member has, of course, given us the assurance that he will have the Bill circulated and get the opinions before the 10th January next. But I do not know whether the Legislative Council Office or the Secretariat department is going to get the reports from the Collectors and other people. In order to give a direction to the Legislative Department to place the opinion on the table of the House before the next meeting, this motion is absolutely necessary. With that object I move this motion."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I second this motion."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I may assure my hon. Friend that the Council Office and the Government Secretariat are working in co-operation in matters like these. But if my hon. Friend is very particular about this amendment being passed, I have no objection. The amendment wants that the opinion must be obtained and placed on the table of the House before the next meeting. Opinions can certainly be obtained by that time and the Government

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will make an earnest attempt to place them on the table of the House. But the date of the next meeting has not yet been definitely settled and there may be some difficulty."

The motion of the hon. the Law Member was by leave withdrawn.

The motion of Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan was put and carried.

(2) THE TIRUMALAI-TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS BILL.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move that the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill (Bill No. 15 of 1931), and move that it be referred to the same Select Committee as the one to which the Bill of Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar has been referred."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" I second the motion."

The motion was put and carried.

(3) THE MARUMAKKATTAYAM BILL.

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the Marumakkattayam Bill* (Bill No. 20 of 1931) be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members:—

- (1) The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
- (2) The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
- (3) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
- (4) Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
- (5) Mr. C. Krishnan.
- (6) Mr. P. Madhusoodhanan Thangal.
- (7) Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib.
- (8) B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
- (9) Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
- (10) Mr. A. B. Shetty.
- (11) Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
- (12) Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
- (13) Mr. F. E. James.
- (14) Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapaty Mudaliyar.
- (15) Mover.

"As has already been mentioned in this Council last Saturday, this is not the first time that a Bill to alter the Marumakkattayam Law has been before the House. Marumakkattayam Law is the system of law by which rights to property are governed by and solely by relationships traced through females. The essence of inheritance in this system is descent from a female as distinct from descent from a male.

"The late Mr. Justice Muthuswami Ayyar in his memorandum as President of the Malabar Marriage Commission of 1890 describes the Marumakkattayam family or tarwad as follows:—

'It consists of several mothers and children and their descendants in the female line all tracing their descent from a common female ancestor and living

* Published in the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 18th August 1931.

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together as a joint family in subjection to the power and under the guidance and control of the senior male for the time being as its head or representative. The link of relationship is descent from a common female ancestor and the bond of family union is subject to a common karnavan. The notion of tarwad property is that the entire family is the owner and that it is impartible except by common consent and that each individual member is entitled to be maintained in his or her tarwad home and to the fruits of joint beneficial enjoyment. The joint family is called a tarwad and each of the mothers and her children and descendants in the female line constituting the tarwad is called a Taivali or the line of a single mother. It is noteworthy that the relation of husband and wife or father and child is not inherent in the conception of a Marumakkattayam family.'

"This is the system of law followed by the ancient ruling families in Malabar, whether Nayars or not, by the leading Mappilla and Thiyya families and their allied castes and by certain Nambudiri Brahmans. This present Bill is confined to certain sections of the non-Brahman Hindus in Malabar and South Kanara. I need not trouble this House with any attempt to show how or why this system became the law among the dominant castes in Malabar and South Kanara. Suffice it to say that whatever the origin of the system, reasons no longer exist for its continuance in its present stage.

"The usage has long ago departed from it except in the tarwads of the ancient chieftains, and a few others with similar pretensions. We see in Sir Muthuswami Ayyar's memorandum:—

'It is noteworthy that the relation of husband and wife or father and child is not inherent in the conception of a Marumakkattayam family,'

while in practice this relationship has become inherent in the people. This is not compatible with the principles of Marumakkattayam. Again, it is not, as Mr. Justice Muthuswami Ayyar says, the descendants of a common female ancestor with subordinate branches or tavazhis of that female and her children who now live together; but the family now more often consists of a father or husband, wife and children living separate from the tarwad. The senior male is not now, as the Judge says, the real head as the females do not live with him but with the husband and the father. The members often do not live under his control and guidance, as he himself often lives away from the tarwad with his wife and children and the other junior male members follow this practice or bring their wives into the tarwad house and the women also live apart with their husbands. They are not therefore maintained in the tarwad home. The learned Judge says, they are entitled to joint beneficial enjoyment. They can generally get it only by litigation.

"Mr. Mayne stated as follows in the preface to his book on Hindu Law:—

'Even in Malabar I have witnessed continued efforts on the part of the natives to cast off their own customs and to deal with their property by partition, alienation, and devise as if it were governed by the ordinary Hindu Law. These efforts were constantly successful in the provincial courts but were invariably foiled on appeal to the Sudder Court at Madras, the objection being frequently taken for the first time by an English Barrister. It so happened that, during the whole time of this silent revolt, the Sudder Court possessed one or more Judges, who were thoroughly acquainted with Malabar customs, and by whom cases from that district were invariably heard. Had the Court been without such special experience, the process would probably have gone on with such rapidity that, by this time, every Malabar tarwad would have been broken up. The revolt would have been a revolution.'

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"This was in 1878. Even by then, Marumakkattayam had begun to be unsatisfactory and it was the English courts that, against the wish of the people, crystallized the then existing customs. I do not blame the courts because it was their duty to administer the law as it stood and not to legislate. Quarrels among the tavazhis and between the karnavan and the members have become incessant and life made unbearable to such an extent that, except from a few karnavans, there is an insistent and strong demand for immediate partition.

12 noon. "The Malabar Marriage Commission of 1890 states the position thus:—

'It (meaning the tarwad) huddles together as a family, a number of distant relatives not necessarily drawn to each other by any bond or affection. It makes home life in the best sense of the word impossible, for the father is a casual visitor and the mother and children are but units in a heterogenous flock dependent on a practically irresponsible guardian who from the mere accident of his being the eldest of the flock is expected to be able to regard every member with an impartial love and to prefer their interests to those of the wife of his bosom and the children of his loins. While attempting to maintain the impartibility of family property, it has been unable to prevent such property from being encumbered in every possible way and the effort to get rid of the encumbrances demoralizes the people to such an extent that Malabar has become notorious for forgery, perjury and reckless litigation. The rule which vests the management of the tarwad property in the eldest male, raises a man to power when he is in his dotage and creates a constant conflict between duty and interest, and by way of climax to the many temptations which invite him to provide for his wife and children by malversation and breach of trust offers him the assurance that he cannot be called to account. Finally, by declaring the right of every member to receive maintenance from the tarwad, from the womb to the grave, junior members are encouraged to pass useless lives in sloth and idleness without effort to better their condition.'

"Such is the picture of the tarwad, as drawn by the Malabar Marriage Commission.

"The conflict between interest and duty arising from the growth of these sentiments and usage cannot be better set forth than in the passage I have already read out. It is now sought to remedy this state of affairs by legislation. In Cochin and Travancore the change in the custom has been recognized and a National Legislature has given effect to it. This Bill follows that legislation. It is a measure of very moderate reform. It enables members of a family to partition from their tarwad subject to this proviso that no member could partition from his branch of the family, during the lifetime of the common ancestress of that branch except with the consent of such ancestress. I have introduced this clause following the precedent existing in Cochin and formerly in Travancore where I understand the law has since been changed and individual partition allowed. In advocating taivali partition in preference to individual partition, I have also been influenced by the pronouncement of Mr. Strange in his Hindu Law that taivali partition was the original basis of partition. The general demand in Malabar goes further than my Bill and demands individual partition as, witness the articles which have been appearing in such Malayalam papers as the *Manorama* and the *Mathrubhumi*, but here besides the example of the Native States, I have acted on the principle that half a loaf is better than no loaf and adopted this expedient to placate the opinion among the elders and to proceed along the line of least

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resistance. Again, not to antagonise a certain section of public opinion, I have, on the Cochin and Travancore precedents, exempted certain specific families, such as the Malikhana holders and a few others from the operation of this Bill.

"Although this motive and the Travancore and Cochin example have influenced me in exempting these families, still the chief reason that has guided me in exempting them is that among them the ladies still live in their tarwad houses and are visited by their husbands and that they have not yet begun to live with or visit their husband's homes. Therefore, since the idea of the paternal family is still undeveloped among them, there is neither so much discontent nor demand for reform among them as among the general body of the followers of Marumakkattayam Law.

"This Bill differs from Nambiyar's Bill in that I exclude from the operation of my Bill these families and that I do not deal with marriage. I was glad to note yesterday that Mr. Nambiyar is willing to meet me on the first point. I believe that every Member of this Council either from Malabar or South Kanara, whose community is affected by this Bill is in favour of the changes proposed, and I trust, therefore, that the House would see that no obstacles are placed in the way and that this greatly needed reform is quickly passed into law. In taking this course, the House would merely be following its usual custom of letting through such legislation as is demanded by the community concerned."

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—"I second it, Sir."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, I move the amendment which stands in my name, viz:—

'that the Marumakkattayam Bill (Bill No. 20 of 1931) of Mr. R. M. Palat be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon'.

"My reasons are the same as those which I gave in connexion with my Friend, Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar's Bill. Practically the most important portion of my Friend Mr. Palat's Bill is that which relates to partition, and that is one of the subjects dealt with in Mr. Nambiyar's Bill. So, for the same reasons which I gave at the time when Mr. Nambiyar moved his Bill, I move this amendment."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I second it, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I move the amendment that stands in my name, that—

'the Marumakkattayam Bill (Bill No. 20 of 1931) of Mr. R. M. Palat be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon and that such opinion be obtained and placed on the table of the House before the next meeting of the Council'."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I second it."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I accept that amendment, Sir, and withdraw mine."

The hon. the Law Member's amendment was by leave withdrawn.

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I shall now put the amendment of Mr. Hameed Khan to the vote of the House. The question is:—

'that the Marumakkattayam Bill (Bill No. 20 of 1931) of Mr. R. M. Palat be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon and that such opinion be obtained and placed on the table of the House before the next meeting of the Council'."

The motion was carried.

(4) THE TIRUMALAI-TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS BILL.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move that the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill* (Bill No. 18 of 1931) be referred to the same Select Committee that was appointed for Bill No. 17 of 1931 of my Friend Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I second it."

The question was put to the House and carried and the Bill was referred to the same Select Committee.

(5) A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, 1920, AND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920.

Mr. F. BIRLEY:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I second the motion."

The motion was put and carried.

Mr. F. BIRLEY:—"Mr. President, I beg to introduce the Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

THE VISWAKARMAN CHILDREN'S BILL.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Pandit Ganala Ramamurti."

(The hon. Member was not in his place.)

A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL ACT, 1919.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar."

(The hon. Member was not in his place.)

(6) A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, 1920, AND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920.

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

Mr. P. C. MOSES:—"I second it."

* The motion was put and carried.

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—"I now introduce the Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

* Published in the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 18th August 1931.

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A BILL TO AMEND THE ANDHRA UNIVERSITY ACT, 1925, AS AMENDED BY ACT VI OF 1929.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig."

(The hon. Member was not in his place.)

(7) A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, 1920, AND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920;

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"Mr. President, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

(8) A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, 1920, AND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I now introduce the Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920."

(9) A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS CHILDREN ACT, 1920.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Mr. President, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras Children Act, 1920."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Sir, I now introduce the Bill to amend the Madras Children Act, 1920."

III.—RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

(1) POSTPONEMENT OF THE PROPOSAL FOR ENHANCEMENT OF ASSESSMENT IN MALABAR.

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—"Sir, I move the following resolution:—

'This Council recommends to the Government that the consideration of the proposal of the Special Settlement Officer as approved by the Board of Revenue for enhancement of assessment in Malabar be postponed until normal conditions are restored'.

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"Sir, I have brought forward this resolution as it is iniquitous in the present state of the country that Malabar should be subject to any fresh enhancement of revenue.

"We see the Royal Commission on Decentralization in 1909 recommending that the general principles of assessment should be embodied in legislation instead of being left to executive discretion. Then we have the minute of dissent by the Indian Member of the Government of India in 1919, advocating the substitution of legislation for executive order in cases of enhancement of land revenue and the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Indian Reforms in 1919 in its Report strongly advocates the same course. Attempts were made by various Provincial Governments to carry out this suggestion. So far as I know, only the United Provinces Government has succeeded in this. In Madras, the proposals were so unsatisfactory that this Council rejected the Bill on the 24th March 1924.

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p.m.

"The Council was perfectly justified in doing so as the Bill which the then Revenue Member, Sir Arthur Knapp, tried to introduce in this Council omitted certain vital provisions which had been approved of by a committee consisting of, among others, his predecessor in office, Sir Muhammad Habib-ul-lah, and such experienced revenue officials as Mr. Macmichael. Sir, this Bill merely sought to codify the existing Revenue Board rules and gave the Council no control over this method of taxation and so was in spirit opposed to the recommendations made by the Joint Parliamentary Committee, that those who are taxed must have a voice in their taxation. Sir, land revenue is the largest head of revenue in this province and this Council is allowed no voice whatever in either its imposition or its regulation. According to the Government's own confession it takes 50 per cent of the landlord's share, a share which the Government would never dream of taking from a merchant. My first argument therefore is that before the legislature carries out the intentions of the Joint Parliamentary Committee as accepted by the Government, there should be no resettlement. Resettlement operations in Malabar should not be given effect to. This is an argument which applies not only to Malabar but to all the districts in this Presidency.

"My second argument is that Malabar is so poor that there should be no resettlement now. Sir, I understand that persons like the Zamorin Maharaja and others have sent up petitions to His Excellency the Governor and protested their inability to pay the enhanced assessment. If the Zamorin Maharaja himself is so hard hit, what then is the position of the ordinary ryot? Sir, we see that the Government theory is that it is no concern of the Government to enquire as to how much remains to the ryot after he pays the assessment. This, I see, has been set down in the speech of the then Revenue Member in November, 1928. Sir, the idea seems to be that the joy that the poor ryot has in maintaining the establishment and in paying the allowances and pay of the services should be a sufficient reward to him, and that nothing else is necessary to be done for him. I am glad to say, however, that there seems to be some slight change in this attitude. I am referring to the

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note circulated last Saturday explaining the Government's intentions with regard to the Kistna and Godavari resettlement. The Government have expressed therein their willingness to spread over a number of years the proposed enhancement. I claim at least the same consideration for Malabar also as that district is equally hard hit by the prevailing economic depression. Sir, we see Lord Salisbury when he was Secretary of State for India, writing: 'It is not a thrifty policy to draw the mass of the revenue from the rural districts where capital is scarce . . . as India must be bled, the lancet should be directed to the parts where blood is congested or at least sufficient, not to those who are already feeble from want of it'. Sir, the least that the Government could do is to appoint another committee to enquire into the economic condition of Malabar before proceeding any further. If Kistna and Godavari districts can be granted a committee, why not Malabar or any other district where a resettlement is going on or threatened?

"Thirdly, Sir, I submit that both the theory, the pitch, the rates, the method and the time chosen are all wrong. Sir, this 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent is, I believe, based on the analogy of what is laid down in the Estates Land Act, where, if I am right, the zamindar is allowed to raise his rent by 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent every 20 years. But, Sir, this can only be done with the consent of the courts. Courts have got power to pronounce on the point whether the increase is justified, whether the landlord is justified in increasing his rent. But in the case of the ordinary ryot, who holds directly under the Government, there is no third party. And it is wrong to treat land in Malabar as Government land, as this is one district perhaps in the whole of India where land has always been acknowledged to be private property. In Malabar land has always been treated as private janmam or private property and not Government land. The Government in following its present system have been collecting rent and therefore denying to the janni the ownership of land, an ownership always acknowledged. The Government are entitled to collect only a tax and not rent. And again, Sir, in calculating the average for the last thirty years, an elementary sense of justice would have excluded the war years as being in the same category as famine years, and to show the absolutely mechanical character of the administration there can be no better argument than the time they have chosen to introduce their new rates. The Government should not have taken the prices prevailing in those war years and come to its conclusion as to the prosperity of the district. Sir, His Excellency the Governor has in his opening speech in this Council stressed the depression prevailing in this country. But the departments of the Government concerned with the enhancement of the revenue do not yet seem to be aware that there is any depression existing at all.

"My next argument is that the Government are not justified in imposing any resettlement at all. The people of Malabar had always understood that the last settlement was permanent. I asked a question on this subject in the Council on the 29th January, about Mr. Warden's proclamation of the 21st of July 1895. The reply merely referred me to the Settlement Officer's report of this year. The circumstances in

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which the proclamation was made prove my contention. Sir Thomas Munro and Col. Read, the authors of the Ryotwari Settlement in this Presidency, have clearly stated that they intended that a settlement should be permanent. We see Sir Thomas Munro stating before the House of Commons 1813: 'The assessment is permanent . . . (the ryot) holds it for ever without any additional assessment'. And again, comparing the Bengal permanent settlement and the Ryotwari settlement, he said, 'With respect to permanency there is no difference, but ryotwari leaves the Government an increasing revenue arising from the waste in proportion to its cultivation'. Again, we see the Board of Revenue saying in 1857: 'A Madras ryot is able to retain his land perpetually without any increase in assessment'. And again in 1862, the Government of Madras wrote to the Government of India, 'There can be no question that one fundamental principle of the ryotwari system is that the Government demand on land is fixed for ever'. That this view was approved and that the Government wanted to introduce permanent settlement is proved by a number of despatches ending with that of the 23rd March 1867 from the then Secretary of State which re-affirms this decision of Her Majesty's Government. It is only as late as 1883 that the Secretary of State in his Despatch No. 24 of 28th March of that year rejects the policy of permanent settlement which had been recommended by two Viceroy's of India, Lords Canning and Lawrence, and accepted by two Secretaries of State. Therefore in the light of these, I submit that the interpretation put on the proclamation of 21st July 1805 by the people of Malabar was right, and that the correct view is that the settlement when carried out under the proclamation was a permanent one and that the demand then fixed was unalterable. Again, Sir, in direct violation of the proclamation of the 8th January 1828 by Mr. Sheffield, the Principal Collector of Malabar made with the authority of the Governor in Council which said that 'people may be relieved of all fears on the subject of the reimposition of the tax upon the pepper vine,' we have the present Settlement Officer's statement that pepper gardens are now assessed. Although I have little hope that a Government which has conveniently forgotten its promises and successfully evaded for more than ten years the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee, would accept this resolution, still I bring this resolution forward in the hope that the House would pass it. With these few words, Sir, I commend this resolution for the acceptance of the House."

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—"Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution that has been moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Palat. I shall at once come to grips with the Settlement Officer's report and not deal with the ancient history of the settlement of Malabar. Sir, the Special Officer was appointed to consider the question of resettlement in Malabar and Government Order has been issued and circulated to us, and that is G.O. No. 1367, dated 26th June 1931. And in this connection what the Settlement Officer says is as to why assessments can be enhanced in Malabar to the extent of 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. The reasons and arguments are contained in various portions of his report and it may be summarised

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as follows. First of all, he says at page 48 of his report, that the deductions have always been favourable to the ryot. Secondly, he says that the prices have in the case of paddy run up to 135 per cent. This is contained at pages 31 and 59 of his report. He says that the prices of coconuts have run up by 71 per cent, and this is contained at page 32 of the report. And the third reason given by him, which is contained at page 48, is this: he has compared the land there with some of the best lands in the Trichinopoly district, Lalgudi taluk, and says that his assistant who compared the lands was of opinion that lands in Malabar, the first-class lands there, are as good as the lands that were found in the Lalgudi taluk. Those were the three main reasons given by the Settlement Officer for saying that Malabar can stand enhancement.

"Dealing with the last reason first, that is, that the lands in Malabar are as good as the lands in the Trichinopoly district, I shall at once say that as a matter of fact there can be no comparison, no historical basis for comparing, of the assessments in Malabar with those in other districts. It would be seen elsewhere from the Settlement Officer's report that land revenue was not one of the systems of revenue that is levied by the ancient Kings of Malabar.

"We were bound to render very little service. We were not bound to pay any land tax at all. We were bound to pay a certain portion and that is the way in which the ancient Kings ruled Malabar. Therefore comparing the taluks of the east coast with that of Malabar is wrong. It has to be seen that all land elsewhere in the Madras Presidency is at the disposal of the Government and belongs to Government, whereas in Malabar it is not so. The lands there are at the disposal of private individuals and not at the disposal of the Government. So that the rate must be necessarily less to the extent that the ownership of land does not vest with the Government. Then the Government Order has considered that the land is as good as any other land in any other district. Does the land belong to Government or the private individual? If the land belongs to Government, you can raise as much taxation as you can, subject to economic conditions. But here in Malabar you cannot raise it to the same extent. Therefore, comparing one district outside Malabar with Malabar is absolutely and fundamentally wrong and the Settlement Officer should not have come to the conclusion he has come to in regard to Malabar. Further I wish to question the statement of the Settlement Officer with regard to the fertility of lands in Malabar. Dealing with the lands in South Kanara he says that the lands higher are not taxed as much as the lands below. He himself says that excessive rains wash out all fertility from the soil and therefore lands are poor in their yield. That is also another aspect that has got to be considered. I am sceptical that lands in Malabar are equal to the lands in Trichinopoly or any other district in the Presidency.

"Then, coming to the other reason given by the Settlement Officer, the Settlement Officer says that prices since the last settlement have gone up, so far as paddy is concerned, 135 per cent. No doubt

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he is quite correct when he says so. Does the Government not consider that the prices have shown a steady fall? They have gone down 135 per cent. I myself am a small landholder to a certain extent and I remember the days immediately after the settlement when they were selling a cart load from 25 to 30 rupees. After the war for some years paddy was being sold from 80 to 90 rupees. In some cases it went up to Rs. 100. It now has gone down to 25 and 24 rupees and just before I came away from Malabar I had a letter from one of my land agents that the price of paddy is 32. It has come to the 1889 level and I am afraid it will go down lower still because I had information from various parties that prices are going down to 25. If the enhancement of price is a reason for the enhancement of tax at the present time it is quite clear that the enhancement of price is not a safe reason to enhance tax. For, as a matter of fact, we know there is considerable economic depression and nobody can assure anyone else that the depression will come to an end. Therefore, Sir, it is no reason to enhance the rates.

"Coming to coconuts I very well remember that coconut was selling about the time of the previous settlement at 20 rupees per thousand. Prices did go up by 70 to 80 per cent during the war period. Last year it went down to my own knowledge to Rs. 15 per thousand. Now temporarily for the last two months it has gone up to Rs. 32. Last year it was Rs. 20 per thousand. Therefore the reason given with regard to coconut is not sound and that cannot be the reason for raising the tax where lands are planted with coconut gardens. These are the chief sources of income in Malabar. I submit, Sir, therefore there is no valid reason for the enhancement of rates in Malabar.

"Then again the Settlement Officer says that all deductions have been very favourable to the ryots at the previous settlement. We know that the rate of assessment was raised by 77 per cent over the previous rates. A man who paid Rs. 100 was called upon to pay Rs. 177. That was the state of things then. The wonder is probably the spirit that animated our ancestors in 1805 had died down by that time and that was the reason for the increase of rates perhaps in Malabar. The previous attempt was given up on account of the open rebellion in Malabar. Therefore probably in 1902 there was no danger of that recrudescence of crime in Malabar. At page 47, this is what the Settlement Officer says:

'This procedure was the natural course to adopt in the circumstances, and it would call for no comment if Government's demand on these excellent southern lands had represented anything like the share that Government could fairly claim. But in fact Government took only a modest part of the share that they could have claimed. It must be remembered that the Malabar settlement succeeded a long period of revenue administration during which the revenue demand was based on recorded extents that bore no resemblance to the actual enjoyment of the ryot; the survey resulted in a proper mapping of the occupation, and Government, faced with a new set of accounts that meant a very large increase in the total beriz of the district, adopted estimates and figures that were at every point most lenient to the ryots; at the request of the Government of India the introduction of the increased demand was only gradually carried out; the result was the heavy concessions under increment remissions to which I have drawn attention in paragraph 25 above.'

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"Then again he observes: 'I think it is necessary to look at the old settlement calculations in some detail.' He deals with the same question at page 57, where he says:

'The proclamation laid down an allowance equal to the seed to cover cultivation expenses; the Malabar Tenancy Committee, which endeavoured to fix a general allowance for expenses that would apply to the district, recommended two and a half times the seed, although they made it clear that this is only an average and cannot be taken as applying to every type of land. In the cases given below I have allowed four times the seed. . .

"So that the Settlement Officer himself is prepared to allow four times the seed. Then he takes up particular instances and shows that the Government could have claimed 14 rupees, but the Government was claiming only Rs. 4. This is what he mentioned:

'In Kunisseri, one of the Palghat desams put by Mr. Stuart in the second group, a flat of 7-2 land, at Rs. 4 an acre for single crop, is admitted to produce 80 paras an acre for first crop. According to Mr. Warden's formula, we would have to deduct six paras of seed and, as noted above, I am allowing four times the seed as expenses—total 30 paras, leaving a residue of 50 paras. Deducting 16½ paras as the kudvan's share we get a balance of 33½ paras six-tenths of which is Government's share—20 paras: at a value in the village during the ryots' colling months of 14 edangazhis to the rupee (one para contains 10 edangazhis), this is worth over Rs. 14, three and a half times what Government now claims.'

"That is what the Settlement Officer says. We have seen from that that it is based upon the figure of the selling price at Rs. 14 per para. But I have already shown that as a matter of fact the price now is very much below the prices mentioned by the Settlement Officer. As a matter of fact, on the basis of Rs. 30 per cart load, Government could claim Rs. 5 and the Government is claiming that. According to the Special Settlement Officer's report we are entitled to four times the seed, due cultivation expenses and we are entitled to 15 per cent on account of merchant's expenses. Taking those figures and working upon them, you will find that the tax that can be levied upon that land taking that the price is Rs. 25, would be Rs. 5 and not more. I do not want to tire you, Sir, by working those figures, but I will convince the hon. Revenue Member that as a matter of fact it will not come to more than Rs. 5. So that, the Government is now taking Rs. 4 and after all there is a slight difference and for that we have to consider the vicissitudes of season which the Settlement Officer himself has considered necessary. As it now stands, it is quite clear that the tax that is being levied on the land is ample, and that we are not in a position to pay more tax is seen from the report. The reasons given by the Settlement Officer, it will thus be seen, are not proper reasons. Prices are so low that people are suffering from want of cash not only in our district, but also elsewhere. This is a most inopportune time for the Government to say that the tax should be paid. Generally officers have to find out some way to recommend the enhancement of tax. In this connexion, Sir, have the Government considered what necessarily would be the deductions that would have to be made for the sustenance of the people living on the land? Is there any opportunity of getting a living wage for the husband, wife and children? Unless and until I find that a certain amount of deduction is made for every man, woman and child in every district as a living wage from the total

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p.m. yield of the land, Government should not collect the rates. Let us take the living wage, whether rich or poor alike, and deduct that first and then strike the balance. From that calculate what is the amount that is due to the Government and convince us that we are liable to pay more, and we will be perfectly willing to pay more. Unless you do that, you cannot merely say that the district can bear an enhancement of 18½ per cent; simply because we were lenient in paying enhanced tax in the past, we cannot be asked to bear a further increase, and we may not be willing to be so lenient in the future. So, that ought not to be the reason for enhancing the tax so far as my district is concerned. At page 38 of his report, the Settlement Officer says:

‘These statistics do not seem to me to point to any fair conclusion; it is open to anyone to argue for Malabar as for the Presidency as a whole, that the increase in litigation is a sign of increasing prosperity; it is equally open to anyone else to assert that this increase is simply a regrettable result of the expansion of education.’

“He goes on to observe that as a matter of fact the people are now prosperous and that there is very little of land being sold for payment of arrears of land revenue. I believe, Sir, that the aim of Government is to keep the people prosperous. I believe also, Sir, that the aim of Government is not to drain the last pie of the people. I again believe, Sir, that it is also the aim of Government that the people should not sell away lands to pay land revenue. If you want the people not to sell away lands, if you want to have a contented people, then do not impose further tax, and see that at least the present conditions are maintained. So far as the last assessment was concerned, it was itself a heavy increase, and we bore it patiently for the last thirty years, and in that case the Government were pleased to raise it by easy increments. Added to that, there was also a lucky chance so to say. The big War intervened and sent up the prices very much which eased the situation considerably so far as the selling capacity of the produce was concerned. That is how we tided over the last resettlement. Now, prices are steadily falling, and as a matter of fact there is no possibility of meeting the ordinary demands of the Government, and it will be highly regrettable if the Government does not stay its hands at least for the present. We do not want to condemn out and out the policy of the Government in enhancing the tax. Certainly, we, like every other people in the Presidency, are bound to contribute for the upkeep of the Government. You must also remember that we do not get a single pie back from the Government in the shape of irrigation as compared to other districts. You will be pleased to remember that as a matter of fact when Malabar contributes its revenue it gets nothing in return except good Government. That fact also has to be considered in raising the tax in Malabar. At the present moment, it is very unfortunate to raise the tax in Malabar, and I request the Government through you, Sir, to see if possible not to meddle with the present state of things that are now going on in the district and also to see that the matter is again more fully considered.”

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* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, I rise to give my fullest support to the resolution that has been so ably moved and seconded. Because the House is so anxious to reach other important resolutions, I do not wish to add anything more to the sound arguments that have been advanced by the hon. Members who preceded me. I only request the hon. the Revenue Member to recognize the soundness of the arguments that have been put forward.”

* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“Mr. President, Sir, the mover of this resolution referred first of all to the recommendation of the Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament that legislation should be introduced regarding the methods of carrying out resettlements of land revenue in this province, and the fact that so far such legislation has not been passed. That, Sir, is a matter which has been referred to on previous occasions in this House, and the House is well aware of the fact that the efforts which were made to introduce legislation which would be acceptable to the Government as well as to the non-official Members of this House have proved infructuous, and it is useless for us—it will be merely a waste of the time of this House—to attempt to introduce further Bills with that object in view. But, Sir, it does not follow from that fact that we should at once abandon our present Policy and cease to deal with resettlement of land revenue in the various districts in turn. The object of the resettlement is to see that as far as possible the incidence of taxation in respect of land is fairly distributed over the various districts of the province. We cannot have a resettlement every year in every district and so we have to carry out resettlement of one district after another so that it comes to the turn of each district once in thirty years or thereabouts, and now that it has come to the turn of Malabar, there is no reason why we should not proceed in the usual manner.

“We have received a report from the Special Settlement Officer, and that report was published in the District Gazette last January, and criticisms of it were invited. It was stated that if representations were sent in within three months they could be considered by the Government. As a matter of fact, we received no objections whatever within the period mentioned. There have been one or two memorials received since, and I have also received a deputation—of which the hon. Mover was a member—consisting of some janmis of Malabar. I suggested to them that they should put their objections in writing and that they would receive the consideration of Government. So far as I know, we have not received anything in writing from them. The resettlement report was placed on the table of this House last August with a view to giving the Members of this House an opportunity of discussing the Resettlement Officer's proposals, and this resolution is the natural and anticipated outcome of the action of the Government. The Government have not made up their minds as to what action should be taken on the Settlement Officer's report. I can however assure this House that the remarks made by the hon. Members will be very carefully considered by the Government, but I cannot at the present moment make any definite promise as the Government have not

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arrived at any definite decision. At the same time, we shall consider the present economic situation in Malabar as elsewhere, and we will in particular consider the suggestion made by the hon. Mover that in view of the present economic situation we should, if we do decide to enhance the rates of land revenue, introduce the enhancement by increments as has been sanctioned in the case of Godavari and Kistna districts. I do not propose to deal in detail with the criticisms of hon. Members and answer them now, but I may say that we will give them very careful consideration."

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—"Sir, there is just one point I wish to add to what I have already said, and that is, that the revenue rules lay down that second crop could be assessed only if the Government supplies the irrigation water for it. So far as Malabar is concerned, no irrigation water is supplied by the Government except in a very small part of the Palghat taluk, which is practically insignificant and not material to the present case; and again the improvements made by the ryot are assessed in Malabar. The revenue rules say that no improvements should be taxed, unless such improvements are made by the help of the Government. Now suppose single crop land is converted into double crop land, then unless this is due to help by the Government, double crop assessment should not be levied. But that is not what is done in Malabar and when the ryot converts the land without Government help into double crop land, it is assessed for double crop. These are also violations of the rules that I want to expose."

"As to the deputation we led to the hon. the Revenue Member, I may say the main question we were concerned with then was the tenancy question, as also the incidence of taxation and methods of collection; and whether taxation should in the first instance fall on the tenant or the janmi was also touched upon. A general memorandum on the subject is being prepared by the Janmi Association for presentation to Government. I press my resolution, Sir."

The resolution was put and carried.

(2) COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO MOTOR VEHICLES TAXATION

Mr. F. BIRLEY:—"Mr. President, I beg to move, under Standing Order 33, that items 2 to 15 on the Agenda paper be postponed and that item 16 be taken up immediately."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

Mr. F. BIRLEY:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the resolution which stands in my name:—

'This Council recommends to the Government that a Committee be appointed to study the whole question of the taxation of motor vehicles in the Presidency, with special reference to—

(a) the incidence of the tax under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931;

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(b) the licence fees levied by local boards and district municipalities;

and further, that the Committee be instructed to submit its report before February the 1st, 1932.'

"Mr. President, Sir, I do not propose at this juncture to speak at any length on the subject of my resolution. But I know there are many other speakers who are anxious to speak on it. There has been sufficient evidence before this House of the unsatisfactory incidence of the taxes levied under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, and the licence fees levied on motor vehicles by local boards and district municipalities in many instances are so heavy as to restrict the healthy growth of mechanical transport as a means of communication in this Presidency. With these few words, I beg to move my resolution."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, I rise to second the motion moved by Mr. Birley. In doing so, I do not wish to take any length of time, but shall confine myself to one or two aspects of the resolution that has been moved. Left to myself I would add another clause (c), to include the incidence of tax under the Motor Vehicles Act itself; but now that has been under the present resolution ruled out. So I would only confine myself to the two aspects that have been specified in the resolution. The incidence of tax under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act has been, to say the least, very heavy ever since the Act came into effect. At the time the legislation was being considered it was expected that this would not be a heavy burden on the owners of motor vehicles. It was the view of the then Secretary for Local Self-Government that this would be a great relief to at least one section of motor owners—namely the owners of private cars. Even the private owners to-day are groaning under the incidence of this new tax. The result, if a searching enquiry were made, would be very obvious, I hope, to the Minister, who has assured us this morning, that he will place before the House information that he is going to get from the various authorities and officers concerned with regard to the licence fee and the other particulars of this motor vehicles taxation. That I think will be done in due course. But before that, with a view to concentrate the attention of the Minister on the aspects on which we want an enquiry should be instituted, this resolution has been moved. It cannot be denied that hundreds of motor vehicles have been withdrawn from the road. The one reason is that the tax levied under the new Act has been heavy and unbearable. The poor owners of motor lorries and motor buses cannot bear the burden of paying this heavy tax, and that, in spite of the fact that the tax may be paid in four instalments. Formerly, before the tolls were abolished, the motor bus owner or the lorry owner used to pay one or two rupees at the toll gates from day to day out of his earnings and he did not feel any great difficulty then. He did not feel that the tolls were so exacting before as the tax under this Motor Vehicles Taxation Act. The idea then was,—I think many of my hon. Friends in the European group will concur with me—that a great impetus would be given by the passing of this Act to the speedy spread of mechanical

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transport throughout the length and breadth of the Presidency. But a short experience has shown that instead of there being further development in mechanical transport, there has been a great check. And if the taxation is to remain as it is to-day, I do not know what will happen to this public utility service and then it will be too late for anyone to rectify things, as they are going on at present.

“Sir, it has become necessary on account of the experience within these two quarters of the working of this Act, that an early enquiry should be instituted as to where exactly the defect lies. The hon. Minister did not quite admit this morning that there was any defect in the provisions of the Act or the rules of the Act, although he promised that he would examine the question. But surely there must be some reason for the difficulty that has been felt by the owners of buses and lorries.

“The other point that is raised in this resolution is the enormous licence fee that is levied by the district boards on these motor lorries and buses. The motor bus traffic has been very nearly killed on account of the exorbitant licence fee that has been levied by the district boards, ranging up to Rs. 3,000 in certain districts and not less than Rs. 500 in certain other districts. If you would consider the section of the Local Boards Act which enables the local boards to levy a licence fee, you will see that it does not contemplate the levy of any high fee as is done at present. And so, it is contended in some quarters that the licence fee is not to be a tax and that a tax of such an exacting nature. Licence fee as such, it has been ruled by a decision of the High Court, should be only such as to cover the necessary expense of exercising control over the trade. But under the Local Boards Act it looks as though this has been made a definite source of income to the local authorities. That, Sir, is very reprehensible. Whatever may be the scheme of the Act, it seems to require certain amendments in this direction and, this morning two Bills have been introduced to remedy that state of affairs. But so far as that is concerned, the Government ought to come to the relief of the motor bus owners and lorry owners and even the private car owners if you please. The licence fee has very nearly ruined many of those poor people who have been carrying on trade in conveyance by motor buses and consequently the inconvenience created to the passengers is incalculable. Many of the motor buses have been withdrawn from the road and the overcrowding in buses is very great and people have to wait for hours at bus stands for a seat in one of these buses. Now, Sir, instead of adding further to the conveniences of the public, who largely use these conveyances, the working of the new Act and of the section of the Local Boards Act is a great check on the facilities and convenience already enjoyed by the public. I therefore hope, Sir, that the Minister will agree to appoint a committee to study how exactly the Local Boards Act is working so far as the levy of licence fee is concerned and how the new Motor Vehicles Taxation Act is working so far as the incidence of tax is concerned. I do not think there will be any two opinions

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about the unsatisfactory working of these Acts. It is hoped that the resolution will be accepted and the Committee will be instructed, as provided in the resolution, to submit its report before 1st February 1932. I do not think the Minister will stand on any convention and say, ‘I am doing it, so let us wait’ or say, ‘the officers have been asked to do this, so let us wait’. I have no doubt that the appointment of a Committee will strengthen the hands of the Minister and also of those people to whom he has delegated the function of working the Acts. The Committee is intended to help in finding out remedies to allay the great discontent that is prevailing amongst the public, particularly amongst those who are engaged in plying motor buses and lorries. I therefore have great pleasure in seconding this resolution.”

* MR. YAKUB HASAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, when we were passing this Bill in the month of March I made a remark that I did not see any reason for congratulating the Chief Minister in having piloted this Bill and having had it passed in this Council. I stressed that on the other hand I anticipated that this Act would prove very much injurious to the motor transport; and I find that within only seven months the injury that I had anticipated has actually taken place, and as was pointed out by other friends, many motor buses have been driven off the road on account of this heavy burden that they were called upon to bear. The Chief Minister said this morning that this Act itself is not so much responsible for it, but there are other causes, such as trade depression, which have operated also in bringing about this result. Sir, I am convinced that though trade depression must have played some part in this matter, still this Act itself is responsible to a large extent for this bad result. In my speech on the Bill, I had also referred to licence fees that are paid to the district boards which ranged from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,800 a year, and the Bill did not make any change in that respect, nor were the district boards called upon to make any changes. Now, I find that what I had anticipated has come to pass, and this resolution lays down that an enquiry should be made in respect of the licence fees paid to the district boards. This Committee is very necessary and I hope the Chief Minister will not put any obstacle in the way of its being formed. For one thing, it will go into the question thoroughly and show, if any relief is necessary, in what way it can be given. Let it not be thought that because a notice of this resolution has been given by an European gentleman this matter has only to be dealt with from the point of view of the motor trade. I am not at all concerned with the people engaged in the motor trade who suffer on account of the sales of motor cars having been reduced. But what I am concerned with is that transport facilities have been interfered with.

“By doing away with the toll-gates we have provided some convenience to those travelling members of the public who use private motors in going about largely. But on the other hand we have seen that the revenue that was expected by this taxation has been considerably reduced. The reduction of the revenue is mainly due to the reduction in the number of motor cars, motor buses specially. So, I would

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beg of the hon. the Chief Minister to let this resolution be accepted and a committee be appointed which will go thoroughly into this question and make recommendations to this Council."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI.—" Mr. President, Sir, when the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act was passed, all the people dealing in motors and also the local bodies were under the impression that their affairs would go on well. Experience, however, has shown that it has not only injuriously affected those people who are dealing in motors, but also local boards, Sir, there are no standard rates prevailing in the district boards regarding the taxing of motor vehicles. This hits hard people who keep motor lorries and buses and hire out in the Nilgiris. People in the Nilgiris who have to go to Coimbatore for purposes of trade very often suffer greatly on account of this new taxation. They are obliged to pay tax not only to the Nilgiris District Board but also to the Coimbatore District Board. Again, Sir, great hardship is caused to people who hire out motor cars. This morning, in answer to a question the hon. the Chief Minister said that though the Government were not able to pay the anticipated amount to the local boards, he was doubtful whether they were hard hit. I know, Sir, that most of the district boards and municipalities have to recast their budgets, because they are not getting their due share from this source of income. For instance, in the Ootacamund Municipal Council, though the Registrar-General of Local Boards promised to give Rs. 3,000 after some consultation, he fixed only Rs. 2,000. This is much less than their due share. I fear that this would reflect on the condition of the roads in the municipalities. So, I would request the hon. Minister to very carefully consider this resolution for the appointment of a committee thoroughly to investigate the question and accept it."

Mr. F. G. LUKER.—" Mr. President, Sir, I need not speak at any length on this resolution because it seems to me that it would be obviously impossible for any hon. Member of this House to oppose the appointment of the committee contemplated by it. I believe, Sir, the difficulties to be faced are many. They are not entirely difficulties of the motor trade which has been referred to. They are not entirely the difficulties of motor transport owners or of users. The difficulties concern the people who ride in buses and who use trucks. The difficulties also concern the district boards. Therefore Sir, it seems to me, the appointment of such a committee is one of extreme urgency. The matter has to be thoroughly examined in the light of the Bill which was passed some months ago. I am glad, Sir, that the scope of the suggested committee is fairly wide and that the problem can be considered from all points of view."

" I believe, Sir, the facts of the case, as far as the transport owners are concerned, are well known and it is not necessary at this stage to go into them at any length. I will therefore refrain from discussing the question that has been raised of licence fees. In conclusion I say that the matter is one of urgency not only for the trade but also for the district boards."

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* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. President, Sir, when this Bill was introduced in the Council, Member after Member welcomed it (A voice: No). Many Members, at any rate, welcomed it as a very necessary measure which will help them in getting rid of the nuisance of toll-gates. And when the Bill was actually passed in the Council, several Members got up in their seats and congratulated the hon. Minister as well as his Secretary on having got through the Council such a piece of legislation. I ventured to differ, Sir, and said, ' the time has not come for us to congratulate the hon. Minister on this piece of legislation. We shall wait and see what the consequences are going to be. Let the hon. Minister take stock of the situation at the end of the year and find out what the effect of the Bill has been on motor transport and trade.' We find, Sir, to-day that people have come to realize that the fears entertained by some of us have come true to a large extent. The Government have not been able to realize the revenue they anticipated from this source. They have not been able to give back to the local bodies the income which they were getting from the toll-gate collections. And, be it noted this was a growing source of income to the district boards all over the Presidency. A great many motor buses, taxis and lorries have already been withdrawn from the road. I understand that, in my own district of South Kanara, about 30 per cent of the buses and taxis have gone off the road and that about 35 ' G ' permits have been recently suspended. People who have taken to motor transport business, the bus and taxi owners, are being ruined. I am told that the C.P.C. Company—the biggest bus company that we have, not only in South Kanara, but in the whole of Southern India—is losing about Rs. 2,500 every month and that two other bus companies in South Kanara are incurring a loss of Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 every month. Many of the bus service companies will very soon have to wind up their business and people will be deprived of the convenience afforded by the motor transport. Not only that, the trade and development of the country will also suffer a great deal. We must have, Sir, one consolidated tax and not a number of different taxes on these motor vehicles. We must standardize the licence fees which are now levied at various rates according to various systems. Some district boards charge at so much per mile while others charge at so much per seat. All these must be carefully considered before it is too late. I trust that the hon. Minister will see his way to accept this resolution for the appointment of a committee to consider this matter."

* Mr. F. E. JAMES:—" Sir, I wanted to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the actual terms of the resolution. The resolution requests the Government to appoint a committee to study the whole question of motor vehicles taxation in this Presidency with particular reference to the incidence of taxation under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act. A word or two about that will explain why it has been made one of the terms of reference. In the first place it is suggested that some of the figures in regard to heavy lorries are far too high. In the second place, under the Act as it stands at present, the tax is leviable on all cars, lorries, buses, whether or not they use public roads. I will give instances to emphasize this point. Take the case,

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for example, of a large mill like the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills in the city or the Coimbatore Mills which employ lorries to take goods from one part of the mill to another inside the mill area. These lorries do not venture to travel on public roads. And yet, under the Act as it stands at present, they are subject to exactly the same incidence of tax as lorries which are using public roads. Another example, and a case in which I am particularly interested, is the case of lorries in the estates. Lorries are used in estates where there are no public roads. The only time they use public roads is when they are taken straight to the estate from the dealer. Thereafter they live on the estate, move about only on estate roads and do not use public roads. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: State roads?) Estate roads. These lorries are asked to pay exactly the same amount as lorries which use public roads. This is a question which needs examination.

"Then take the case of the private car owner under the Act. Supposing the owner of a private car goes away to England, say, for a Round Table Conference, and leaves his car for six months or probably two years—Round Table Conference might probably last as long!—during the whole of that period, though the car does not use public roads, he has to pay exactly the same amount of tax that is paid by the person who is always using the road unless of course he has taken the trouble to damage his car beforehand and hand it over to a repairer where it can stay all the time by paying repairing charges if necessary. These things I venture to say were not carefully considered at the time of the passing of the Act.

"There are other matters in connexion with the administration of the Act which I have not touched upon. The Government are at present complaining that they are only getting about 50 per cent of the revenue. I venture to suggest that one reason is this: In the method of collection of the tax great difficulty is occasioned. I have complaints from persons, both Indian and European, living in different parts of the mufassal, pointing out the extreme difficulty of paying their licence fees. They are driven from pillar to post, and in some cases it takes three or four hours to complete the transaction. It seems as though Government is reluctant to collect the tax—a most unusual state of mind for any Government! If the regulation for collection were altered in the direction of making it easier to obtain licences, I am sure Government will obtain a far larger revenue.

"The other part of the resolution deals with the licence fees levied by local boards and district municipalities. I want to say here very definitely that those of us who are concerned with this question are not in the least desirous either of putting any blame on the local boards or of injuring their ordinary revenues. What we say is this: when the present Act was passed, this question was not taken fully into consideration. In the second place, when this Act was passed, we did not foresee the tremendous economic slump that was coming. In the third place, we could not foresee the enhanced import duties upon motor vehicles and all accessories which came into being as a result of Government of India's Supplementary Budget. Therefore what we

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say now is, that both the motor buses and lorries are subject to taxation by the Provincial Government and the Central Government and the licence fees levied by district or the local boards. They cannot bear this. It is a matter for consideration as to whether the Bills which have to-day been introduced into the House restricting the levy of licence fees should be passed. On an examination of the figures which we have collected this House will find that it puts it beyond all shadow of doubt that as far as the buses and lorries are concerned, the position in many districts is very deplorable and it is quite impossible for many owners of buses and lorries to carry on their business under existing conditions. Therefore we suggest that this is a matter which needs the urgent consideration of this House. Of course we cannot consider it without collecting figures. But since we have collected the necessary figures, we suggest to the Government that they should appoint a Committee as requested by us in the resolution. No Member of the House has a right to oppose this resolution because 'we are all in the same boat.' The district board is losing its revenue; the Government are losing their revenues; the individual owners of cars and buses are penalized; and the public are losing those facilities of transport to which they are recently accustomed, and to which they have a right. When I mention that more than 700 buses have been withdrawn from public circulation in seventeen districts—we have not got figures for other districts—surely it points to the fact that the public are suffering individually because of the withdrawal of the means of transport.

"There is one more thing that I wish to touch upon before I resume my seat. I can quite understand the feelings of those who say. 'You are simply appointing another Committee and there are large number of Members who will have to be appointed as Members of that Committee and that means more expenditure on this account.' I may say at once that we do not specify any Member of this House should be on that Committee. I may say that this resolution is a conservative resolution, because it gives sole power to the Government to appoint the Committee. They need not appoint anyone from this House. We hope that they will appoint only those who possess knowledge from the public point of view, or from the Government point of view, or from the trade point of view. I venture to suggest that the smaller the Committee, the better. I may also suggest to the hon. Minister that 1st February is not too short a date by which the Committee should submit its report. The reason for allowing such a period of time is that they must have some time to make any necessary adjustment between the Government and the district boards with regard to their finances, and that this should take place before the budget next year. If you leave it till the end of the next March, then you will be tempted to postpone it till 1933. It is only fair that the district boards and the Government should know where they are. I therefore do hope that the hon. Minister will accept this resolution as it stands. It commits him to nothing; it commits the House to nothing. Owing to nobody's fault—we cannot blame any single person, either the Minister

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or anybody else—this situation has arisen in regard to one of the most important industries in this Presidency. That ought to be remedied as soon as possible. This resolution suggests the effective means of remedying such a situation, and I hope the House will accept it.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Further discussion on this resolution will be resumed after lunch.”

IV.—THE TIRUMALAI-TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS BILL—APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I nominate Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar as the Chairman of the Select Committee regarding the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill.”

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

III.—RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST—cont.

(2) COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO MOTOR VEHICLES TAXATION—cont.

Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—“I beg to move—

‘that in clause (b) for the words “before February the 1st 1932” the words “before the end of the financial year 1931-32, if possible” be substituted.’

“Sir, my object in moving the amendment is this. I do not want to fetter the hands of the Committee or the Government and ask them to submit their report before 1st February 1932. It may not be possible for them to finish their work before that time which is very short. The object of the Mover of the resolution is that adjustments should be made only in the next financial year. I think it is quite sufficient if we have the report before the end of this financial year. By chance even that may not be possible and that is why I have added the words, ‘if possible’ at the end of my amendment. Anyhow I hope that the Committee to be appointed will be able to deliver their report before the end of this financial year.”

Mr. D. V. NARASIMHASWAMI:—“I second it.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The resolution as well as the amendment are for the consideration of the House.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Sir, I move that the words ‘if possible’ be omitted from the amendment of my Friend, Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar. Is it the object of the Mover of the amendment to shelve this question? If he was really serious about it, he would have tried to see that the report was made ready before the end of the financial year, so that we may consider the question and make suitable arrangements for the next. The House will remember that when the Bill was under consideration some of us were hypnotized into the belief that it would usher in a millennium and that the moment it was passed and tolls were abolished motorists could easily move from one end of the Presidency to another without any let or hindrance.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I take it that the hon. Member is speaking on the main resolution also.”

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“Yes, Sir. Some hon. Members did not see eye to eye with the hon. Minister and his talented Secretary, Mr. Brown, when they did their best to see this Bill through in the shortest time possible and achieve an object which appeared to them to be a noble one. Also, hon. Members from the mufassal did not realize how the Bill would work in practice. But now that the Bill has been in operation for six or seven months it is clear to everybody what great inconvenience and hardship it has caused not only to the owners of motor vehicles but also to their users. Of course we see that the Bill has realized the other object, namely, that of helping the agriculturists to some extent; but even in their case, many of the agriculturists who have to use motor buses and lorries have been put to much inconvenience as a large number of buses and lorries have gone off the road, being unable to pay the heavy taxes. I hope, now that the working of the Act has proved its defects, hon. Members who voted against us last time will vote with us now and have a Committee appointed to go into the whole question. In this connection let me say that it is not the object of the Mover or any one of us here to put a tax on agriculturists. We cannot say what the Committee will find. But it is clear that the incidence of taxation on motor vehicles is very high and the Bill has failed to achieve the objects which it intended to achieve.”

“It may be said that some of my hon. Friends who are interested in the motor trade are responsible for this motion. But it is not they alone who are interested in the matter. We have to consider the fate of many poor people who have lost a lot of money in maintaining motor buses for the service of the public. As Mr. James pointed out, over 700 buses and lorries have gone off the road as they were unable to pay this heavy taxation. There is also the point that as a result of the working of the Act during the first two quarters of the financial year they have not been able to realize even 50 per cent of their anticipated revenue, notwithstanding the extraordinary pains that the officers concerned have taken to see that all the owners of vehicles paid the tax. The low realization is due to the heaviness of the tax. I hope the Government will not put forward the excuse of financial stringency and refuse to accept the resolution. Whatever sum is spent on the Committee to be appointed will be well spent, as they will be able to show the Government ways and means for realizing more revenue under this head. Therefore I have great pleasure in moving my amendment to Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar’s amendment.”

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—“Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion. Sir, the Government must have by this time realized the awkward situation in which they have placed themselves, the district boards, the owners of vehicles and everyone concerned with this matter. But let me say this in fairness to the hon. Minister that he really is not the author of this Bill; he took it up half-heartedly and had to pilot it in the Council as the representative of Government. He had, against his will, to ride a coach and four against all opposition, however reasonable it appeared to him to be. It would have

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been much better and much of this difficulty would have been avoided if my hon. Friends, the representatives of the Trades Association, the Chambers of Commerce and the European Members had co-operated with us in opposing the Bill then. All these difficulties now pointed out by Messrs. James and Birley were pointed out by us both in the Select Committee and afterwards when the Bill was considered in the Council.

2-45 P.M. "I may remind the hon. Minister of his promise to the Council that he would persuade the local bodies to regulate their levy of licence fees in such manner as not to restrict the bus traffic that is going on. Evidently he did not take any steps in that direction. When that statement was made by the hon. Minister, we suggested to him that the present Act might be postponed till he was able to persuade the presidents of local bodies to agree to levy licence fees on some recognized and permanent basis. Evidently he has not been able to do so; nor can I conceive of a time when he would be able to do so. As this is a matter affecting the resources of the local bodies, I am sure that the presidents of these bodies will raise a hue and cry if any encroachment is made upon their revenues. I can conceive of no other way than that of repealing the Act and of restoring the old state of affairs. But when the old state of affairs is restored, it might be considered that the levy of tolls on motor vehicles is a continuous nuisance. If only some workable arrangement could be entered into with local bodies, it is possible that they would be satisfied with a slight increase in the taxation of motor vehicles. But I do not know whether they would be prepared to levy these rates upon carts and incur the displeasure of their immediate electors. Naturally, they would turn their attention towards motor vehicles, because they think that the owner of a motor car or a bus ought to be in a position to pay any amount of taxes. It is quite clear from the figures that have been collected by my hon. Friend, Mr. Luker, that not only private vehicles but also lorries and buses cannot bear this taxation. It would be a piece of great achievement if the Committee that is proposed to be appointed, would be able to suggest some method by which we could reduce the incidence of taxation on motor vehicles, without repealing the Act. I personally do not think that it can be done. But the Government should have no objection to accept this resolution because it helps them to get out of the awkward position in which they have placed themselves. They might as well throw the blame on the Committee if it is not in a position to suggest any course of action for the hon. Minister. People would be satisfied if a study of this question in all its lights is made and if any remedies are suggested to reduce the incidence of heavy taxation on motor vehicles. With these observations I have great pleasure to associate myself with the amendment moved by my hon. Friend."

Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—"I accept the amendment."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"Sir, the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act has not been in force for more than half a year. Now proposals are made to appoint a Committee to examine the working

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of the Act. I think that hardly any time has elapsed to see how it has worked. Therefore it is too soon to appoint a Committee for this purpose. There are many steps that have not yet been taken. From what my hon. Friend, Mr. James, and others said, I see that rules had not been framed under section 11 of the Act. If that had been done, there would have been, I think, no complaints on their part. Mr. James said that certain motor vehicles which work within an estate and never use public roads are taxed, because, under the Act, keeping the motor vehicle is taxable. The hon. Minister promised that he would frame rules exempting such vehicles under section 11 but unfortunately, no such rules have been framed. Without appointing any Committee, we can see what the grievances of the people are, and we can trust the hon. Minister to issue these rules at once so that all these grievances might easily be redressed. That is one point."

"The second point is this; the real crux of the question seems to be that there has been a fall in the income of not only all the local bodies, but also traders and manufacturers."

"The local bodies have to spend much larger sums on roads used by the motor vehicles. Before these heavy motor vehicles were on the road, so much money as is spent now, was not spent at all. I know that several wooden culverts have now to be converted, by local bodies, into stronger bridges; thus they have to spend larger sums than they were doing before. No local body would be affected if the number of vehicles using the roads is reduced. Therefore there ought to be no complaint at all from the local bodies. They were forced to agree to arrangements made under the Act. That Act was intended to see that the income of the boards from the tolls did not increase. That Act was passed, I think, at the instance of the European Members. They wanted to see that the total income of local boards did not rise. Before the Act was passed, the district boards were in a position to have any number of toll-gates they pleased. To the great discomfiture of my European friends, they see that their object failed and that their income has gone down. They see that their profits have decreased; that cannot be helped. Fortunately when this Act was passed, we exempted the agriculturists from this tax. I do not know whether this exemption will continue, because the Government may, at any time, instruct the panchayats and local boards to levy some tax on carts used by agriculturists; we cannot trust Government. My European friends come forward now with great anxiety and solicitude for the local boards. I think the boards will belittle this attempt, because, as I have pointed out, they will not be affected at all."

"There is also another point. The local boards would be opposed to this resolution because their right and discretion are going to be curtailed; they have the right to impose as much licence fee as they like, subject to such control as is prescribed in the Local Boards Act. Why should their discretion be fettered by any legislation and for whose sake is it sought to be done? The number of buses that are using the roads is going down; the local bodies know that their income would be reduced. Why should the Legislature or the Government dictate

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to them about the reduction of the licence fee? They are the people of the locality and they are the representatives of the people; they have the sense and the wisdom to know for themselves whether the licence fee should be as high as it is now or whether it should be reduced. We have got different rates for different localities, because people use their discretion taking into consideration the circumstances of the locality. In these circumstances I do not think that the Legislature would be justified in fettering the discretion of the local bodies in this matter. I hope that every Member who represents local bodies will come forward and oppose this resolution.

"Another ground that was urged for this resolution is that the licence fee should be a nominal fee. The fee may be nominal if there be no work to be carried out. As we all know, much damage is caused to the roads by the heavy traffic. There is no reason why the local bodies should not take this fact into consideration in fixing the licence fee. The local bodies should be compensated. If the number of vehicles using the roads goes down, the boards may reduce the licence fee. If they hope to get larger income by reducing the fee, they will do so.

"Great solicitude is felt for the people. My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, said that people have to wait for a long time for motor buses, because the number of the buses is reduced. We must be glad of it, because poor people cannot afford to pay the fares. If there are very many buses, people will be tempted to get into them. Why should a coolie earning about 4 annas a day, get into a bus for short distances, when time is not very much valuable to him? By travelling in buses, they part with a portion of their poor income. The fare should always be a little higher, so that poor people might avoid the temptation of getting into buses. If a large number of people take to providing bus service, there would be competition by which the bus-owners themselves would be injuriously affected. Some hon. Members say that, at present, a large number of bus-owners suffer on account of the high tax. I think that, even if the licence fee is reduced, they will suffer on account of unhealthy competition. They reduce the fares so low as to tempt people to get into buses. I know that in Ganjam, people are taken from Berhampur to Russelkonda a distance of 50 miles, for 4 annas, because there are a large number of buses. The licence fee they pay, is Rs. 1,600. On account of their own fault of unhealthy competition, they ruin themselves. If a limited number of buses ply, they will not suffer. I therefore think that the cheapening of the licence or the reduction of the tax would not really benefit bus-owners. You must honestly induce poor people not to travel in buses for short distances; otherwise, this evil is not worse than toddy-drinking itself."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has reached his time-limit."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"There are several people here, I believe, who advocate the use of khaddar. Why should they do so?—Because, they say, in view of the economic condition of the

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people, they advocate the use of khaddar. Well, Sir, what do we find here? If you take into consideration the present economic condition of the people, should you encourage the use of buses? I think nearly 95 per cent of the money collected by way of fares goes to foreign countries from India. Suppose a man raises Rs. 100 by way of fares, nearly Rs. 95 goes to foreign countries. If that is so, is that to be encouraged? I think it should not be encouraged. Therefore, those who advocate the use of khaddar should, on principle, not plead for the use of these buses. (An hon. Member: 'Is it logical?') If you can think logically and speak logically, you must not spread the use of these motor buses. So, I think the resolution should be opposed."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Mr. President, Sir, reference has been made to the chorus of welcome with which this Act was placed on the Statute Book. I am afraid that, at that time, the full effect of the Act was not realized. The Bill was then in the nature of a sugar-coated pill. When the sugar wore away, it was realized that the effect of the Bill was not so salutary as was expected. The sugar was the abolition of the toll-gates and the abolition of the toll-gates was welcomed by every one. It was not realized that the loss of income which followed from the abolition of toll-gates could not be easily made good. I am not, I believe, committing an offence against party loyalty by speaking in favour of the appointment of a Committee. As has been already said, this Bill was not the child of the present Government. It was a legacy and unfortunately, as in similar cases, the value of the legacy was not realized. Perhaps the Government thought the legacy was a very valuable one, and that it was desirable to make full use of that legacy at once. I happened to say, Sir, on the floor of the House at the time, that there was indecent haste in ushering the Bill through; but I found that I was in a very small minority. There was a chorus of welcome, and the only wise people were the Members for the City of Madras like my friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed and Mr. Hameed Khan, and we, Members from the South Kanara district. We said then that the Bill was a very undesirable one; that in any case it should be sufficiently considered before it was passed into law. However, our voices were cries in the wilderness and the Bill has been passed into an Act. But now, instead of there being a chorus of praise all over the country, there is a chorus of disapproval. I do not think it is necessary for me to reiterate all the arguments in favour of the appointment of a Committee. I think the best argument in favour of the appointment of a Committee consists in the facts placed before this House. This Act has not found favour with anybody, the Government, local bodies or the public. The sooner remedies are adopted for getting over the abnoxious provisions of the Act, the better for the country (hear, hear). I think the ordinary principles of taxation were not considered when the Act was passed into law. One of the principles of taxation is that the cost of collection should not be disproportionately heavy. But the cost of collecting this tax is very heavy. A very huge machinery has to be brought into existence to collect this tax. Now, what has the result been? Because such a huge machinery does not exist now, the tax has

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not been fully collected, and it is not possible to collect the tax fully without spending a good deal more than is at present done on supervision and similar matters. I think we ought to devise some sort of tax to make good the income which has been lost. Another principle of taxation is that we should give the minimum of annoyance to the taxpayer; but the amount of annoyance that this tax has caused to the taxpayer is enormous. One main cause for the non-collection of taxes is the amount of annoyance caused to taxpayer. I think, therefore, the case has been sufficiently and strongly put before the House to justify the immediate appointment of a Committee. That Committee should consider fully all the aspects of the case, and within the scope of the Committee's powers should be the suggestion of some remedial measures and the suggestion of some other form of taxation to make good the loss which would be incurred if this present Act is not to be continued. At the time the Act was passed, as I said, its full effect was not realised. I am afraid even the bus-owners did not realise, nor did the traders in motor vehicles and accessories, that this would be a great blow to the bus industry and motor trade. I do not propose to speak about the primitive arguments of the gentleman who just spoke before me. I do not think those primitive arguments will appeal to anybody here; I think we know the old fable of killing the goose that laid the golden eggs. This Act, in my opinion, has done a lot of harm to the people, and at this time of depression, at this time when all trades are undergoing great suffering, it is necessary that early steps should be taken to correct the mistake that has been made."

Mr. F. BIRLEY:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to state that I accept the amendment proposed by Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I did expect, on this resolution, a certain amount of criticism of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act; because I know that even before the Act has been in force for six months, circumstances arose which were bound to confuse the main issue. The feeling then that tolls should go was one that was shared by a very large section, and if after I moved the Bill last year, I was encouraged to proceed with it and to give effect to it this year, it was, Sir, because of the feeling that actuated a large section of the House and also of the Members of the Select Committee that the Act ought to be given effect to on the 1st April 1931. But unfortunately, after the Act came into force, circumstances intervened which have created the present situation."

"One point, however, that I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Members of this Council and of those who spoke about the undesirability or otherwise of this Act is that they have forgotten what effect the present economic distress has had on the bus-trade itself. Sir, I can claim to have some experience and some knowledge of the working of this trade itself; as president of a district board, I have had occasions to deal with the question of giving licences to a number of buses. During a period of nearly seven years, I have watched how the number of buses slowly rose and I have also watched how the licence

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fees also slowly rose year after year. What was the result? In normal years when money was available and people could command credit, the actual number of buses on the roads slowly rose. I may also inform the House that at one stage when a reference was made by a district board to restrict the number of motor buses running on the roads, objection was taken that they should not restrict the number and it was also said that the law did not permit such restriction. The result was that a number of buses had been put on the road, even though the district boards did not like it and there has been so much of competition between them that while they paid large licence fees, they also underbid between themselves and charged very low rates. This year, when they could not keep their credit, the result has been perceptible in two ways. While every year some buses would be condemned and go off the road, there would always be new buses coming in to the road by new purchases made. Unfortunately, this year—I am sure the committee which will go into this matter will certainly find it—the coming in of buses had ceased while the going out of the buses is there; and more buses have gone this year, because the people could not find the necessary credit to meet their charges and liabilities. Therefore, Sir, I say it is too early now to say really whether the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act has led to this effect—as some say—or whether it is only one of the contributory causes and whether therefore when normal conditions return, the Act would not still receive the approbation which it had once received. I may say, Sir, that whatever the opinion of the House may be at the present time, when they really go into the facts, they will be able to find that this Act is not solely responsible for the present situation."

"Apart from that, Sir, there is another point that is urged; that the licence fees levied by the district boards were heavy, that the general complaint was that they were excessive in certain cases and that the fees should be reduced or standardized as one hon. Member put it. That was of course a specific case put forward when the Bill was on the anvil, and I made it clear then that that could not be tackled immediately but that it should be left to adjust for itself. I expect, Sir, the district boards to be businessmen as every businessman is. The Act has been enforced; within six months they have had their own experience and they should be able to decide for themselves to what extent their licence fees need be reduced. I may inform the House that the amount of licensing fees which the district boards got last year was about Rs. 22 lakhs—not a small sum—and if really as we put it here, the district boards are suffering as a result of driving all these motor buses off the road, the natural effect will be for the district boards themselves to reconsider the position and see to what extent they can reduce their own licence fees—to see that they did not kill the hen that laid the golden eggs. Sir, I do not object to a Committee going into the question and doing the work on their behalf; but I am anxious to make it quite clear that whatever may be your anxiety to see that the licence fees are reduced and more motor buses come in, your anxiety should also be to see that the

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district boards are in a position to find the money wherewith to discharge their legitimate duty of maintaining the roads in good condition. I must state here, that taking the year 1926-27, taking second-class roads alone—over which most of the buses are running—the expenditure on the second-class roads by all the district boards put together was Rs. 50 lakhs; in 1928-29, it went up to Rs. 54 lakhs and in 1930-31 it had reached Rs. 64 lakhs. It will be seen clearly that the district boards have, while receiving income from bus licences, not stinted to spend that money on the roads and make them what they are to-day. If the effect of any Committee's recommendations should be not to take also the interests of the district boards into consideration, but merely to think of putting in more buses on the road by reducing the licence fees, it will be a disastrous thing; and I am sure district boards can have no other way open to them to make up for the loss of income, but to cut down their present expenditure on road maintenance. On the other hand, if it should be necessary to encourage more buses coming on the road, it will, to that extent, be all the more necessary on the part of the district boards to increase their expenditure on the roads, in order to keep them in a fit condition for such increased number of buses. Therefore, Sir, the mere fact that 700 buses have gone off the road cannot be a ground to say that the Act requires revision. After all, it may be a case where owners of buses put on the roads were managing them in an uneconomical manner. I find, Sir, that roughly about 6,000 buses, according to the census of last year, have been licensed to run for hire, and if 700 have gone off the road, we could not say definitely that it is due to this licence fee or tax. It may be due . . .

3:15 Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"May I point out that this figure of 700 relates only to 17 districts?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"May be.

"It may be due to the fact that a large number of people who had been quite ready to purchase buses on the hire-purchase system not realizing their responsibility and the fact that they have to repay the whole debt, have become unable to pay; and as a result, many buses have gone out of the road, and those who have been doing the business on the most uneconomical lines have found themselves to be losers. But, whatever it may be, in view of the strong feeling in this House, I am prepared to agree to a Committee being appointed to go into this matter. Some of my friends stated that it was the duty of the Government to bring forward a resolution of this sort, but I may say that the Government have always been conscious of this difficulty; they have taken note of the representations made by various bodies, and they have already moved in that direction. It was intended to collect the whole information for the presidency as quickly as possible and examine the whole question thoroughly. But if you think that the appointment of a Committee is a better remedy, I have no objection, because the Government would have an opportunity to examine the pros and cons of the question and also the Committee's report. And I am glad also that

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the Mover has accepted the amendment for the submission of the report before the end of the financial year, 1931-32; I take it that this amendment has been put forward so that the necessary financial re-adjustments may be made. I do not know what ultimately are going to be the recommendations of the Committee, but, whoever may be on the Committee and whatever may be their personal interests or otherwise in seeing that a particular trade is promoted, I would appeal to them, just as they said that Government should not kill the goose that lays the golden eggs, that they on their part should not kill the hen that lays the golden eggs. Because I say you cannot afford to restrict the activities of the district boards and cripple their finances with which alone they can manage their affairs in a satisfactory manner. I hope that the Committee will consider not only the aspect that the import of buses should not be restricted, but also the desirability of seeing that the district boards get as much money as possible consistently with the running of the buses in the most economical manner. I have therefore no objection to this Committee being appointed."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put the second amendment to the vote of the House. The question is—

that the words 'if possible' occurring at the end of the first amendment be deleted."

The amendment was carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will put the first amendment to the vote of the House. The question is—

'that in clause (b) of the resolution for the words "before February the 1st 1932", the words "before the end of the financial year, 1931-32" be substituted."

The amendment was carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put the resolution as amended to the vote of the House.

"The question is that

'This Council recommends to the Government that a Committee be appointed to study the whole question of the taxation of motor vehicles in the Presidency, with special reference to—

(a) the incidence of the tax under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931;

(b) the licence fees levied by local boards and district municipalities; and

further that the Committee be instructed to submit its report before the end of the financial year, 1931-32."

The motion was carried.

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(3) COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE IN SIX EQUAL INSTALMENTS.

Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—"Sir, under Standing Order 33, I beg to move that the consideration of resolutions Nos. 2 to 7 on the agenda be postponed until resolution No. 8 is disposed of."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—"I second it."

The motion was carried and the consideration of resolutions Nos. 2 to 7 was accordingly postponed.

Resolution No. 8 on the agenda was then taken up.

* Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the resolution which stands in my name and which runs thus:

'This Council recommends to the Government that the collection of land revenue be extended over six instalments of equal amounts.'

"Sir, this resolution has become necessary on account of the continued and serious economic depression among the agriculturists for the last two years. A great catastrophe has come upon the people from finance or from the complicated system of credit and currency which in its relation to credit has become dislocated to an alarming extent. A few financiers sitting in New York, London and Paris pursuing their own ends and looking after their own interests have managed to wreck the economic fabric of the whole world, to destroy the fruits of good harvests and the productive accomplishments of human agency. As a result, Sir, prices fall, insecurity spreads and the world goes down steadily into darkest depression. That the ryots of this province are passing through critical times to-day none can dispute. Even last year, Sir, we felt that the depression was so keen that it had reached its lowest level. We felt, Sir, that it could not go lower still. We expected that thereafter the march was bound to be only upwards. But to-day we find that all our calculations, all our expectations are frustrated, baffled. To-day we find, Sir, that the condition of the ryot is becoming worse day by day. The economic position of the ryot is becoming more and more a matter for anxiety. Even during normal times when Mr. Holdsworth thought that he could take Rs. 6 or Rs. 6-4-0 as the permanent average price of a bag of paddy, I, as one who can testify to the position of agriculturists in the country, can say, Sir, that agriculture was not a paying proposition. Agriculture has not even been a self-supporting profession and, if I may say so, agriculture has been a positively losing concern. Now, Sir, it may be asked, if agriculture has really been not paying, why then should so many thousands of people keep to the land? The answer to the question is not far to seek. Ours is an essentially agricultural country. We have no factories; we have no workshops; we have no political freedom to enable us to acquire livings in other countries and to benefit by trade with other countries. Now, that is the secret of the psychology of the Indian ryot. Now, Sir, as I was saying, the ryot of this province has never been a happy being. He is half-fed; he is ill-clad; he can never afford a decent, full meal; he

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can never afford a full covering for his body. Now, Sir, when that is the position of the agriculturist who pays the revenue to keep the administration going, is it not the duty of the Government to get alarmed at the danger of its manhood, of its very man power perishing. I would therefore appeal to the Government in the interests of its own self-preservation, if not out of altruistic considerations, to rise to the occasion, to come to the rescue of the ryot and to do something to give him relief. The condition of the ryot to-day is something like the condition of the man on his death-bed. It is the duty of the Government to render every possible help to give him relief. There are several ways in which the Government can come to the rescue of the ryot. The method suggested in my resolution is the least that can be expected of any responsible Government. There are other ways in which the Government are bound to come to the rescue of the ryots in a situation like this. In fact, Sir, I have given notice of a resolution recommending to the Government remission of 50 per cent of the land revenue. Now, Sir, the condition of the ryot is so bad that I can very easily make out a case for remission of land revenue by 50 per cent. But unfortunately my resolution did not come up in the ballot. Miss Ballot was unfavourable to me. She preferred the hand of the rich Government and rejected the hand of the poor ryot. Well, Sir, if last year the ryot was able to pay the taxes, it was not because he had money available; it was not because he had ready cash at his disposal. It was with the greatest difficulty that the ryots could pay their taxes last year. I know of cases where the ryots were compelled to lay their hands upon the jewels of their ladies, pledge them or sell them to meet the demand for land revenue. Now, Sir, these jewels are exhausted. That source is closed now, and there is nothing left on the person of the ladies of the family of an average ryot except their *tali*. Now, Sir, if the Government should insist upon the payment of land revenue as in normal conditions, it will mean a great hardship to the ryots. The demand for the payment of cesses is made from the month of January. January and February are months, Sir, when the ryot gathers his produce from the field. It is just the time when the produce comes to his hand, and if the Government insists upon the payment of land revenue in those same months as in normal conditions, the Government will be compelling the ryots to bring their produce all at once to the markets. That is just the season when every ryot gets his produce. And if every ryot is compelled to bring his produce to the market, then the law of supply and demand comes into operation with all its vigour. There is more supply than demand, and therefore the ryots get very low prices for their produce. The result of the Government insisting upon the payment of land revenue as in normal conditions would be to compel the ryot to borrow, for his produce at that time would fetch a very very low price only. The consequence of it would be that after paying Government revenue there will be nothing left for the ryot to enable him to live until the next crop becomes available for him. Now, Sir, I would make an appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member not to judge the wealth of the people by the scale of

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the receptions that he is accustomed to in his tours, by the scale of the tea parties that he is accustomed to in his tours. I would appeal to him to go into the spirit of the whole matter, and to take this assurance from me that, after all, things are not so prosperous as they are made to appear to him when he goes about touring in the country parts. The way in which the Revenue subordinates get up these functions, get up these shows makes it impossible for even the hon. the Revenue Member, however well intentioned he may be, to know the real condition of the ryot. This is true of even the District Collectors. The District Collectors also are handicapped in the same way. Now, Sir, these tea parties and grand functions are arranged at the cost of the ryot and the result of it is that these tea parties create the false impression upon the Members of the Government that the people are really rolling in wealth. Now, Sir, this is an unfortunate position for the ryot. By these tea parties and grand receptions that are being arranged at his cost, the ryot is actually made to commit suicide in this way. I would respectfully appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member not to go away with the impression that even in the delta areas there is prosperity. In fact, if I am not revealing a secret, last year when I was talking to the hon. the Revenue Member in company with some other Members of this House in connexion with some question, he said that he was surprised that a deputation should wait on him for giving this concession to the ryot of the delta areas.

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“He further said that he was under the impression—I do not know, Sir, whether he would remember it, I remember it distinctly—that he was under the impression that it is honey and milk that flowed in the rivers of the deltaic taluks. That he should have carried that impression is an unfortunate thing for the ryot. I could understand how that impression was formed by the hon. the Revenue Member. Our interview with him was about Guntur and Kistna and Godavari districts; I know the grand scale on which he was received and the grand parties that were given to him when he visited those places last year. Probably that was the reason for the impression created on him. I would put my appeal on another basis. It is not safe for the Government to live in the midst of hungry mouths. It is not part of wisdom to allow hungry mouths to grow in large numbers. History tells us what happened when hungry mouths grew in numbers. History tells us that the first thing these hungry mouths do is to devour the Government. Are we not to take lessons from history and guard ourselves against such a danger? This is what is happening in England, in Spain and in Russia. This is what happened in France.

“Now, Sir, I would just mention another matter. We the representatives of the people sitting here have always been anxious and willing to judge the hon. Members on the Treasury Bench on their merits. We have always appreciated their good acts. If the hon. Members sitting on the Treasury Bench expect ungrudging and unstinted support from the representatives of the people sitting here

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in the matter of the administration of the country we have also got a right, Sir, to expect the hon. Members to respond in a sympathetic manner to the appeals that we make on behalf of the people. Constitutionally and temperamentally Indian is an emotional being and his memory is very short. He forgets past wrongs very easily. If any hon. Member sitting on the Treasury Bench thinks that he is unable to command the confidence of the House, is it fair that the entire blame for the responsibility should be laid at the door of the Members of this House? I would just remind the hon. the Revenue Member, Sir, that the charge or the impression that seems to prevail in the Government circles that we are not giving our support to the Government or that we are supporting the Transferred Half to a greater extent than the Reserved Half is not well-founded. I would refer the hon. the Revenue Member to the case of the hon. the Law Member when he was before us in this House with his demands at the budget time last year. Sir, the House felt that the hon. the Law Member was always ready to respond, that he always tried to meet us half-way; and that was the reason why he was able to carry his demands with less difficulty and more ease than the other hon. Members (Laughter). That is an instance which disproves the charge that we have been following a policy of obstructionist tactics. To quote another instance to disprove the charge, Sir, that we are partial to the Transferred Half.”

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“I wish the hon. Member returns to the question of the six instalments.”

MR. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—“Now, Sir, I am coming to the point. I am making an appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member to review what our attitude has been to see how we have been appreciating good acts on the part of the Government so that we may assure him that if he is prepared to accept my resolution and help the ryot, he will not be forgotten at the time when he appears before this House at the time of the next budget comes on.

“Just one word more with regard to the charge that we have been partial to the Transferred Half. Take the case of the Education Minister. When he was before the House with his Excise Demands, everyone of us criticised him. That shows that we, the representatives of the people here, are always anxious to appreciate anything good done by the Government and to give praise where it is due and criticise when hon. Members deserve it. Therefore I would appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member to earn our gratitude and the gratitude of the people by his rising to the occasion and by viewing this resolution in a spirit of sympathy and by doing something to save the ryots from complete annihilation.”

* MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“I rise to second this resolution moved by my Friend the hon. Member from Guntur. I do so with a full sense of responsibility of what is proper for the Government to do. I hold that the resolution is an innocuous one from the

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point of view of Government also. By accepting the resolution the Government do not lose any portion of the revenue that they are entitled to expect from the land. To some of us—because I know the House is not constituted entirely of elected representatives—to whom it is given to more with the people it seems to be our duty to bring before this House the gravity of the situation, the great economic difficulties under which the peasants of our country and our Presidency in particular are labouring under at present. Suffice it to say that, on account of the precipitous fall in the price of produce, persons who have been hit hardest have been the unfortunate ryots. Even last year the effect of the fall in price of food stuffs has been such as to compel the ryot to have recourse to the pledging of jewels of his family and in most cases of the lands, for purposes of paying the kist. Sir, I could speak with first hand knowledge of these conditions, because I happen to represent in this House a rural constituency and I would urge upon the consideration of the Government the necessity for giving the peasant a chance to live. The only way in which the Government can do this, without any inconvenience, is to receive the kist amount which is due to the Government in easy instalments. I do not propose to refer at any great length to the chronic indebtedness for which the Indian peasant is so notorious. It is a fact which is within the competence of the Government to realize and coupled with that there is the other fact that the Indian peasant has no economic reserve whatsoever and that it is impossible for him to put by any money. Nay, it is even difficult for him to continue to keep his body and soul together from and out of the produce of his land. These facts when taken into consideration along with the other fact that even at present there is no certainty of what the prices are going to be—and a study of the index figures does not disclose which way the prices are moving in the coming two months—I think it is necessary that a resolution of this sort whereby certain concessions are given to the ryot enabling him to pay the kists in six instalments instead of four is absolutely necessary and it is our duty, Sir, to bring this fact home to the notice of the Government so that they can extend at least this concession. In this connection it should be remembered that the incidence of land revenue was originally based on a certain proportion of the actual produce raised on the land; it will be easy if to-day that original basis of land taxation is remembered and, should the Government choose to collect taxation *in kind* and not in money every agriculturist in our Presidency would welcome that mode of payment of the tax. But to revert to that form of taxation may be difficult, and, because the Government has fixed as tax, a certain proportion of the expected profit, without any relation to the actual cost of production prevailing at present, the resolution gains further force. I do not think any further argument is necessary because I am sure most of the hon. Members realize the importance of the resolution and certain other hon. Members may be very anxious to express their opinion on the point. I have therefore great pleasure in seconding the resolution moved by my hon. Friend."

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* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, at the present time in most districts land revenue is collected in four instalments. In some cases it is collected in three and in a very small area in two. Certain definite principles have been laid down to be borne in mind when fixing the kistbandi and one of the important principles is that no instalment should be collected before the ordinary time of harvest of the tract concerned and before the ryots have had a chance of selling their produce. The kistbandi is re-examined on every occasion when the re-settlement of the district takes place by the Settlement Officer who listens to and reports on any representations that may be made to him in that connexion and the Government re-consider the kistbandi then in force. Now, Sir, I am somewhat disappointed in the speech of the hon. Mover as I expected to hear from him some reasons why it is preferable to have six instalments rather than four. He gave a description of the condition of the ryot which seemed to me somewhat exaggerated and as unduly pessimistic. The more instalments we have the more trouble there is in connexion with the collection of the land revenue not only to the Government officers but also to those who have to pay. It means that they are worried six times by the village officers instead of four times in regard to their payment of the land revenue. Further, once the ryot has sold his produce, there is no reason why he should not pay the Government dues and, if the payment is postponed, there is a danger of his spending his money in other ways such as on marriage ceremonies, etc. Well, Sir, these are matters which have to be considered. It was suggested by the Mover of the resolution, I believe, that by collecting the revenue in four kists the prices are necessarily lowered because too much produce is forced on the market. During the last season when the economic depression became evident I ordered that this particular matter should be specially watched. We watched the prices at the principal markets.

"Those prices are determined by world conditions. Now, if the price in the district bears a constant relation to that world price making due allowance for distance from the district to the exporting centres and any other matters that should be allowed for such as merchant's profits, etc., if that price in the district bears a constant relation to the world market price, then obviously we are not forcing upon the market more produce than it can absorb. That is to say, that amount of produce would be sold whether we were demanding the revenue or not. In one case, on the recommendation of the Collector, the kists were postponed in the hope that prices would rise. As a matter of fact, the prices fell. So, far from being beneficial to the ryot, the action taken had the contrary effect, because the ryot was not able to get as much money for his produce which he would have got at the time when the kist was really due. So, Sir, it does not necessarily follow that because we increase the number of kist instalments we should be benefiting the ryot. It is a matter of speculation whether the price will go up or not. On the other hand, there is the disadvantage that the ryot will be worried on more occasions for his revenue.

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"Now, Sir, the Economic Enquiry Committee which the Government appointed in the early part of this year made a recommendation to the following effect:—

'In consideration of the fact that generally the harvest time is the time when it is least advantageous for a ryot to sell his crops, although we are aware that to some extent the crops are the security for the payment of kists, and unless the Government collect it then, there is some slight risk that the ryot will sell his crop to pay his other debts and neglect to pay his kists rendering its recovery more difficult, we recommend that the proposal to defer the kist dates until some little time after the harvest should receive the careful consideration of the Government.'

"As I have already said it is one of our standing principles that the first kist should be demanded only after the usual harvest. But, Sir, on this recommendation of the committee we referred the whole question to the Board of Revenue and have asked it to consider and report whether the kistbandi requires revision in any district or in any portion of a district. It is therefore open to hon. Members of this House or to anyone else to make representations to the Collector of the district or to the Board of Revenue to make an alteration of the kistbandi."

The resolution was put and carried.

(4) HALF-FEE CONCESSION TO STUDENTS OF MUSLIM, BACKWARD AND DEPRESSED COMMUNITIES

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, I beg the leave of the House to move Resolution No. 2 regarding half-fee concession to Muslim students, etc., which stands in the name of Mr. S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib, on the agenda."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"I move under Standing Order 33 that the consideration of Resolutions Nos. 2 to 7 be held over and that precedence be given to Resolution No. 9, which deals with the Madras Co-operative Milk Supply Union."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"I am afraid, Sir, there are far too many requests to change the order of business, so that those gentlemen in whose names the other resolutions are ballotted are put at a severe handicap. As a matter of fact, I expected that my resolution with regard to the constitution of a committee to investigate into jail conditions would be given preference. Having regard to the fact that one hon. Member had already been given a chance to go against the order in the agenda, I do not think it is prudent for me to press my request."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"Under Standing Order 33, I move that Resolution No. 7 regarding the grant of loans to the ryot population be taken up immediately."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am afraid there have been too many deviations from the agenda. At this rate, I should like to go on with the agenda as it is. I take it that Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan has got the leave of the House to move Resolution No. 2 standing in the name of Mr. Beyabani Sahib."

The House signified its consent.

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'This Council recommends to the Government that the present Government orders pertaining to half-fee concession may be revised, and pupils and students belonging to Muslim, Oriya and backward and depressed communities, in all schools and colleges, Government, local bodies or aided, shall be given half-fee concession as a rule, that poverty certificate shall be required to be produced only in case of doubt and that the certificate of poverty produced from recognized persons shall in all cases be accepted by the heads of the institutions.'

"Sir, I do not wish to take up much time of the House. But I hope the House is already aware of the hardship that is experienced by the members of the various communities to whom half-fee concession was given previous to the decision of one of the Ministers in charge of Education to take away that concession from each of those communities. What the resolution seeks to do is not a thing which will involve the Government financially very much. Half-fee concession is there in one form or other. Half-fee concession is given to a number of pupils and students who get certificates of poverty from recognized persons. Sir, this poverty certificate is a thing which if properly exercised will be of real benefit in distinguishing between persons who deserve the half-fee concession from those who do not. But as a matter of fact, what happens is when a certificate is needed from a certain pupil or student, it is only such students who have got any influence, or who really are students belonging to an influential section of the community, find it possible to reach a recognized person or authority and get that certificate in order to secure the half-fee concession. It becomes difficult for headmasters and principals of schools and colleges to distinguish between a person that does deserve that concession and one that does not. What happens is that people who really do not deserve the concession get it and people deserving it do not get it. In order to remove that difficulty, this resolution is brought before this House. What is sought to be done by this resolution is to prevent people who really can pay full fees from getting the half-fee concession. It is with that object this clause is inserted in the resolution, 'that poverty certificate shall be required to be produced only in case of doubt.' If the headmaster or principal in charge of the institution doubts the poverty of the pupil who has been paying half-fee and he thinks that the boy can pay full fees, then he can ask that boy to get a certificate to testify to his real poverty. But, on the other hand, what is being done now is to force poor boys who cannot pay full fees to bring a certificate, and it is very difficult for them to bring a certificate and on that account they are unable to continue the studies.

"The other thing which I wish to say in this connexion is that the hon. Minister may of course come forward and say that the Muslim Education Committee is sitting and that that Committee will be considering this question also. But, Sir, I do not know when that Committee will be able to finish its work and when it will submit its report to the Government. In the meantime, this little difficulty that

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exists in this matter can be removed by the hon. Minister himself, and I am sure that if that Committee comes to any decision with regard to this particular point, the hon. Minister can consider that also. But, meanwhile, what we would request the hon. Minister to do is to just remove this defect in order to enable the really deserving poor students to prosecute their studies without any hindrance."

* B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, in rising to second this resolution, I am fully aware of the policy of retrenchment that both the Government and the Members of this Council are concerned about at this moment. So far as this resolution as it stands is concerned, I do not think that there is any additional financial charge intended to be imposed upon the Government. Because, what it seeks to do is only to set the whole thing in order, so that the poor students may not be obstructed in the matter of prosecuting their studies. As the hon. Mover has said, what happens really is that when a Muslim boy or a boy of a backward class seeks admission, he is asked to produce a poverty certificate and it is a condition that the certificate must be from certain local officials or presidents of taluk boards or district boards or chairmen of municipalities. We know in these days, it is only the rich and the more influential people that can ever have access to the tahsildar of the locality or the district board or taluk board president and such other personages. What really happens is—I know that such things have happened in many cases—that in the case of the very poor students the tahsildar cannot be expected to know them, nor have the parents any facilities to approach the tahsildar. At times it becomes very difficult to approach the district board or taluk board president, perhaps because in the previous election this poor parent might not have helped the particular president he should approach, or he might have helped his opponent. For this reason, he may be unable to approach the particular president. As a matter of fact, even though the boy is really poor he is very often deprived of the benefit of the half-fee concession for reason of not being able to obtain the necessary poverty certificate from a recognized gentleman. The result is that many parents are very often prevented from educating their boys. I know actual instances in which students have had to stop their education on account of the fact that they were not in a position to produce the poverty certificate which they are required to produce under the rules. It may be in certain cases that on account of the influence wielded by rich and influential gentlemen they are able to get a poverty certificate even though they do not deserve any help. What the resolution seeks to do is to vest the discretion in the heads of institutions who will be quite familiar with the affairs of the locality, and only if the headmaster or principal feels any doubt about the poverty of the boy, he should demand a poverty certificate. The resolution has been put in a very modest form, and I do not see any reason why the hon. Minister should not accept it. I have great pleasure in seconding this resolution."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Mr. President, I thought that the resolution would not be taken up; but since some members in whose names

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the resolution stood moved for precedence being given to this motion, I am glad that this has been taken now up for the consideration of the House. The House knows that education is an important thing for the backward communities, and representing, as I do, the depressed classes, I must say that without education the depressed classes cannot attain to any social status, because it is only education that gives them the idea of independence, self-respect and equality. The depressed classes are still backward and still poor. Because these people are very poor, this concession is necessary for them. I must say the depressed classes are much poorer than the Muslims or Oriyas or other backward classes. So I feel it my duty to support this resolution.

" There has been difficulty experienced in the matter of getting poverty certificates. The parent has to approach the village headman or karnam, and it takes a long time for these people to accede to the request of the parent. Moreover, he has to propitiate these demi gods in order to obtain the certificate. If the application goes to the tahsildar, he sleeps over it for months and the result is that the poor student is sent out of the school. So these difficulties stand in the way of the education of the poor boys. It will not be out of place for me to say that in the State of Travancore which is second to none in point of education, a more liberal concession is allowed in favour of the depressed classes. It gives free education up to the school final class to pupils of the depressed classes, whether Hindu or Christian, and they are not required to produce poverty certificates either from the headman or the tahsildar. The moment a pupil says to the headmaster of a school that he belongs to a depressed class, he is allowed free. If that is the state of things in a Native State which is orthodox, I do not see why our Government should not make a similar concession, without asking for poverty certificates. I appeal to the hon. Minister as well as to the other Members of the House to accord their support to this resolution and give effect to it without delay. With these few remarks, I support the resolution."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasaya:—" Sir, this resolution has reference to Rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules, and the classes mentioned in the resolution are found mentioned in that rule also. But there are certain defects which have to be remedied. The first thing is that the rule does not make any provision for any appeal being preferred against the decision of the management of a school. There ought to be some appeal provided. Especially with regard to schools under public management there is some difficulty. The Government grant a lump sum to a municipal school or board school, say, Rs. 3,000. Now the managers of these schools or the local bodies are expected to meet out of this sum the loss of fee income, whereas in regard to private schools under private management, the Government will have to make good the loss of fee income. That is what the rule provides. In regard to the schools under public management, the managers of schools under public management do not view with favour the applications made for half-fee concessions. The affected party becomes the judge and the judge decides the case in his own favour. That is the state of things, and unless the Government remedy that defect, there will be always this difficulty standing in

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the way of these poor pupils of depressed classes and backward communities. The real difficulty lies this way. If you take a certificate to the municipal chairman who is the manager of the high school, he says 'I won't respect it', and no record is maintained in any school as to the applications made and how they were disposed of. The rule says in cases of doubt certificates may be produced. But whose doubt? That is not mentioned. Is it the doubt of the headmaster of the school or the manager of the school? If it is the doubt of the headmaster of the school, I think he will view the matter more generously than the chairman of the municipality, because the latter is naturally concerned with saving more money. There are also other defects to be remedied. I have given a draft amendment to the hon. the Minister as to how the rule may be amended. We need not fear that the Retrenchment Committee will apply its axe to the concession granted under that rule. If my proposal as to the amendment of Rule 92 is accepted, then there will be no difficulty."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAIH—"Sir, thanks to Government, municipalities and local boards that have been extending the grant of half-fee concessions to the depressed classes. But there is difficulty at times in the way of these pupils getting them in time. Taking the case of the students studying in the colleges, as soon as the college year opens, the principals of these colleges insist on the students of the depressed classes to remit the full fees, and it takes not one or two months, but sometimes five to six months before the students come to know that they are allowed half-fee concession. In the case of high schools, recently I was told that students who had not taken 60 per cent in English would not be eligible for the half-fee concession. As a matter of fact, I know that some of the students due to the hardship in paying full fees at the beginning of the term had to discontinue their studies. Though Rule 92 of the Education Manual gives power to the members of municipalities and district boards to grant certificates, such certificates are not taken into consideration by the chairmen of municipal councils or the presidents of district boards. The question arises whether the member who gives such certificates belongs to the chairman's party or the opposition. If he belongs to the chairman's party, the poverty certificate is given effect to. If otherwise, it is not valued. The only remedy for these difficulties would be to admit all Adi-Dravidas on half-fee concession straightaway. The Government have already realized that the depressed classes, Oriyas and Mussalmans are backward in their education, and ought to get a certain amount of encouragement. If they really want to help these people, I would suggest to them to accept my proposal. With these few remarks, I heartily support this resolution."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that all words after the word "rule" be omitted.'

"Sir, when half-fee concession is to be given to Muslims, Oriyas and backward and depressed communities as a rule, the question of poverty certificate does not arise at all. So the words after the word 'rule' are

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unnecessary. There cannot be any doubt as to whether a particular pupil belongs to the Oriya or Muslim or a backward community. When half-fee concessions are to be granted to members of these backward classes, the question of poverty certificate does not arise. Therefore, I move that all these words be omitted."

AHMED MIRAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I second it."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, I rise to speak in regard to the motion before the House, not on the amendment. I wish to mention one point to the hon. the Minister. So far as the managers of these private institutions are concerned, they are always willing to give half-fee concessions to Muhammadans and other depressed class members, because Government have really promised to compensate them for their loss of fee income. The complaint of the managers of these private institutions is that, though they get a promise in the beginning, in practice they are not convinced that it really is compensation for the fee income which they forego by awarding half-fee concessions; because the Government make only an award of a lump sum, and they do not inform the management how that amount was arrived at, so that they are practically in the dark as to what proportion of the full amount of grant represents their contribution to the net cost of management and what proportion represents these backward-classes concessions. It is sometimes easier to find out the basis of a levy of income-tax, but not the process by which these grants are made by the Director of Public Instruction's office. I would make an appeal to the hon. the Minister to see that the managers of these institutions get a proportion of the grants really representing the loss of fee income by way of half-fee concessions. If only these managements are assured that they are really getting what they have foregone by these fee concessions, they will be only too ready to help the Muslims and depressed class communities."

Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—"I am reliably informed that prior to 4-15
1920, Muhammadans were given concession whether they were rich p.m.
or poor. I suppose the reason for that must have been the fact that the Government wanted to encourage education among Muslims. I do not know what transpired afterwards which made this change necessary. I am aware, Sir, that there is a rule in the Education Department Code that half-fee concession must be given to certain classes as a rule and that in cases of doubt, poverty certificates must be called for. The only difficulty is that it has been interpreted by different institutions in different ways. According to my interpretation, as soon as a student belonging to any one of these communities applies for admission to a college or school, he must straightaway be admitted on half-fee concession and only in cases of doubt should the heads of institutions have power to require the student to produce a poverty certificate. That is my reading and interpretation of this rule. But what is actually happening in the colleges and schools is different. When students belonging to these communities go to a school, they are asked to pay full fee and, if they say that they belong to the poorer communities, they are asked to produce poverty certificates. There is no question

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of admitting them on half-fee as a rule and asking for the production of poverty certificates in cases of doubt. They have reversed the process of this rule. Many such cases have been brought to my notice. In the Maharaja's College at Cocanada and in a certain school at Chica-cole, the students belonging to the Muslim community and the depressed classes mentioned in the rule are not given half-fee concession at all. Under these circumstances, my submission is that the Government must make it clear to these institutions that the interpretation of this rule is this, that is, that they should straightaway admit the students belonging to these communities on half-fee and that only in cases of doubt they should ask for the production of poverty certificates.

"Sir, it may be asked, where is the difficulty for the production of this certificate. As the House is aware, the parents of the students belonging to these communities are ignorant. In the first place they do not know the real procedure. If they are asked to produce a certificate, they go to a Magistrate or other authority mentioned in the rule. This authority asks them to go to the village munsif for the purpose. Sir, cases have been brought to my notice in which the village munsifs have not ordinarily granted these certificates. Then, Sir, as stated by the previous speaker, it is only persons with some influence in the locality or members of local bodies that generally get these certificates. When this happens, the really needy persons do not get the concession. That is the reason why the resolution says that students and pupils belonging to these communities must in the first instance be admitted at half-fee rates. We are all aware that the heads of these institutions generally know whether the parents of the boys seeking admission are or are not poor. In such cases, there is no necessity for the production of this certificate at all. It is only in cases of doubt that students should be asked to produce poverty certificates.

"The second part of this resolution says that when poverty certificates are produced from the authorities mentioned in the rule, they must be accepted. That has not been the case in several instances. In spite of the fact that certificates have been produced, no such concessions have been given. There would have been no necessity for a resolution of this kind if really the rule as it stands had been correctly interpreted and applied by the private schools and schools managed by local bodies. There is a real grievance now and I appeal to the hon. the Minister for Education to take early steps in this matter and do the needful to see that the local boards and private aided institutions conform to the provisions of this rule and not deviate from them for any reason whatever."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I hope, Sir, the House will pardon me if I venture to say that the real issue has been missed so far. Sir, the policy of the Government until a few years ago was that as the Muslim community was behind other communities in the matter of modern education. English education, as the community was not taking to English education as easily as the other communities in this Presidency and as this community deserved encouragement to enable

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it to take to English education — the community had great reluctance towards European education, modern education or Christian education as they then conceived of it — the members of the community should be allowed to enter and be admitted in colleges and schools and in all educational institutions, public or private, at half-fee concession. Up to a certain stage, this policy did work very well; but later on, suddenly, without any facts and without any statistics before them to justify their action, the Government changed their policy and presumed that the Muslim community had come up to the level of the other communities and that they did not require this concession any more. They therefore changed the rule. I contend, Sir, that the Government were not the least justified in changing this rule which enabled Muslim students to be admitted on half-fees. The fact still remains — I do not know what the hon. Minister is going to say — that the Muslim community has not progressed to any appreciable extent in the matter of English education. There are still large sections of the community who are averse to modern education. They still think only of religious instruction and religious education alone. If the Government have any interest in the Muslim community progressing in education, then I say that the rule which they unwarrantedly changed ought to be restored. The half-fee concession allowed on condition of the production of poverty certificate has no doubt worked very many difficulties in the case of the really deserving students. People with influence, people with a certain amount of acquaintance with the revenue authorities, have been able easily to produce poverty certificates and have sought admission and have been admitted into the educational institutions without difficulty. The poor people could not do it. That is so. I am not oblivious of what the hon. Minister is going to say, namely, that there cannot be any reason why the rich people in the Muslim community should not pay. That argument is no doubt very difficult to meet, if we have in view the standpoint that poverty alone is standing in the way of the Muslim community taking to modern education. I assert that the Muslim community is not behind the other communities in education solely on account of poverty. It is behind other communities in this matter on account of its deep-rooted attitude towards modern education and on account of its distaste for English education. Their aversion to English education persists still, although the late Sir Syed Ahmed Khan succeeded in getting rid of it to a large extent. And when this aversion persists, the question of poverty or no poverty does not arise. I do not say that the rich among the Muslim community ought not to pay for the education of their children. Far from that, the real position is that the Muslim community has not yet realized the advantages of modern education and seen its way to come up to the level of the other communities in the matter of English education and yet the Government have withdrawn the concession. On the contrary, the Government should have continued it. Therefore, I say, Sir, that the change was neither authorized nor warranted.

"Now, what the Government have to do if the Muslim community should take to education just as the other communities, is to take away

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that rule and bring about the old status to prevail. I entirely agree with Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti when he says that the reason why the private aided and the local board schools are not granting half-fee concessions to Muslim and depressed class students is that the Government are not now making special grants to such institutions, and these institutions are not sure that they will be compensated for the loss of fee income. I would therefore suggest that the hon. Minister should revert back to the old policy which was introduced in 1920 inasmuch as the Muslim community has not made any appreciable progress in the field of education and thereby assure the aided institutions that the loss of fee income would be paid to them if they admitted Muslim pupils."

Khan Bahadur T. M. MOIDOO SAHIB Bahadur:—"Coming as I do from Malabar which is a very backward district (Voices: 'No') backward so far as Muslim education is concerned, I must say a word on behalf of this resolution. The Mappillas as a rule are very backward in education and it was with great difficulty that they were induced to take advantage of this half-fee concession. With the relaxation of this rule granting half-fee concession there has been a set back in the education of the Mappillas. Recently, the Malabar District Board passed a resolution restoring the half-fee concession to the Mappilla students of Ernad and Walluvanad, the two taluks of the Malabar district where illiteracy predominates. Somehow or other, though the board was willing to give that concession, the Government in their Education department did not see eye to eye with the board. So much so, this resolution was not put into operation.

4-30 P.m. "On more than one occasion, the unanimous verdict of the board was in favour of giving half-fee concession. At the present time when there is a move on the part of the Government to investigate into the question of Muhammadan education in this Presidency and do something, I think it will not be out of order if this House gives a unanimous vote in favour of this resolution. The Mappillas as a rule are very poor, especially in the Ernad and Walluvanad taluks, though in other portions of the district they are very rich. As some previous speakers said, they do not know the value of education. They may spend Rs. 200 on fire-works during the marriages of their children. But they will never pay annas 10 as school fees when it comes to that. It is only ignorance that is the cause of this state of things and this has been the cause of some trouble all over the country, especially in Malabar. To get over such difficulties, it is wise on the part of Government to spend some money on the education of these Mappillas rather than on jails and other things. I therefore humbly request this House to adopt this resolution as framed by the mover, considering the present difficulties under which we are labouring."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, the object of the motion, as I understood from both the Mover and the Seconder, is to make a recommendation to the Government that the present rules with regard to half-fee concession be revised and poverty certificates be insisted upon only in cases of

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doubt. So far as that point is concerned, the existing rule No. 92 lays down exactly what my hon. Friends do desire to have now. Rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules says that students of the classes mentioned there should be charged only one-half of the rates actually in force in the institution, provided the guardian or the parent concerned is so poor that a grant of this concession is necessary to enable the student to continue his studies. The production of the poverty certificate should be required only in cases of doubt. That is what is exactly provided for in the rule which has already been framed by the Government. So far as the obligation on the part of the management to grant this concession is concerned, the rule makes that also clear; because the rule says that in the case of those pupils whose parents are poor, the management *shall* levy only half rates. It gives them no option to levy a higher rate. Therefore, on both the points on which the hon. the Mover, the Seconder and some other hon. Friends have spoken, there is already ample provision in the rule as it exists at present. With regard to the actual working of the rule, the question was investigated some years ago and the Director of Public Instruction reporting on the working of this rule said that the initial responsibility with regard to the working of this rule rested upon the head-masters and the managers concerned. If the head-master is of opinion that the parents of a student of a backward class are poor and that the grant of this beneficial concession is necessary, such student shall have the half-fee concession without any further consideration and in cases of doubt, the poverty certificate prescribed is called for. That is how the rule has been worked according to the report of the Director of Public Instruction. My hon. Friends have now said that difficulties are experienced. No such difficulties till now have been brought to the notice of Government. The rule is clear: if any difficulty has arisen, it must be with regard to the actual working of the rule. In view of the observations that have been made on the floor of this House, I am prepared to communicate a copy of this discussion to the Director of Public Instruction and in the light of these discussions to issue necessary instructions to see that the rule which has been framed by the Government is observed in practice; and I think, if this is done, it must satisfy hon. Members."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"What about other points with regard to management? Will you give us an assurance?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The rules do provide that in addition to the grant otherwise payable to a school, the management will also be paid a grant equal to the loss in fee income owing to the award of fee-concessions. If instances of violation of the rule are brought to the notice of the Government, I shall certainly examine them and see that such further action as may be necessary is taken.

"With regard to all the other points raised by hon. Members, provision on the lines which they require has already been made in the

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rules by the Government. With regard to the working of those rules, information so far available to the Government is that they have been worked properly. But if in the light of the discussion any further enquiry is needed and further instructions called for, I shall see that such instructions are issued. If it is urged that any further concessions ought to be granted at this time of financial stringency, I do not think it is possible to give any such undertaking. I may remind hon. Members of the House that of the several points that have been specifically referred to the Muslim Education Committee, of which several hon. Members of this House are already Members, this point, viz., whether further concession ought to be given to Muslims, is one. On their recommendation what further action will have to be taken will have to be decided. The points referred to by my hon. Friends, Messrs. Patnaik and Devadasan, are points which are not covered by the resolution of which notice has been given. Those are matters which require independent consideration, but they are certainly not relevant to the resolution which is now before us. So far as this resolution is concerned, all that I can undertake to do is, to communicate a copy of the discussion that has taken place and also issue any instructions, if necessary, to the Director of Public Instruction, to see that the rules are observed in toto."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the assurance given by the hon. Minister, I beg leave to withdraw my resolution."

The resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

(5) SUPPLY OF WATER TO SALEM TOWN FROM METTUR RESERVOIR

Diwan Bahadur S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"I beg to move the resolution that stands in my name which runs as follows:—

'This Council recommends to the Government that steps should be taken to supply water to Salem town from Mettur Reservoir for drinking purposes at an early date.'

"Sir, in moving this resolution, I do not propose to advance the same arguments that were made in support of a similar resolution moved by me on 29th January 1930. It is a well-known fact that Salem town is in need of good and sufficient drinking water. It is also admitted that Government have completely failed to satisfy the needs of the people in the past. The Government have refused to supply water from Mettur dam even for drinking purposes, if not for irrigation purposes. His Excellency the Governor has seen the place very carefully and realized the difficulties which the poor inhabitants of Salem were undergoing for getting drinking water. So I think it is not necessary for me to say much in order to impress upon the mind of the hon. the Chief Minister the urgent necessity of supplying drinking water to the people of Salem. When I moved a resolution on the

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same subject, the then Minister for Public Health in accepting my resolution said as follows:—

'Government will accept this resolution to the extent that Government will take all possible steps to try and persuade the Municipal Council to provide water-supply to the town of Salem.'

"They also said that the matter was under investigation and it was possible to supply water to Salem from Mettur dam. In reply to an interpellation of mine regarding the supply of water from Mettur dam, it was said that investigation was completed and the Government were examining the financial aspect of the whole question.

"Sir, Government are sympathetic but they are always confronted with financial stringency. I am afraid there will be no salvation for the people of Salem if the Government are going to repeat the same reply, viz., financial stringency every time. It is very long since this reply was given and I am strongly of opinion that the Government should at once come forward to rescue the people of Salem by sanctioning two-thirds of the cost, the balance to be met by the Salem Municipal Council. Instead of doing this, if Government were to expect the major portion from the Municipal Council the financial position of which is very poor, there will be no solution of this problem. If Government were to do like this, it would mean that the Government want to shelve the whole thing, and go back on the assurance which they gave on 30th January 1930 on the floor of this House, viz., that Government would take all possible steps and try to provide the Municipality with water supply. So, in view of that assurance, the hon. the Minister in charge will be kind enough to accept my resolution. My chief object in moving this resolution is to request the hon. the Chief Minister to give us a statement as to how the financial question between the Government and the Municipal Council stands and make him persuade the hon. the Finance Member to provide some funds for this purpose at least in the coming budget for beginning the preliminaries of the scheme and also to see that the scheme is given a start at an early date without the same being postponed on the plea of financial stringency.

"With these few words, I move the resolution."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I second the resolution which has been moved by my hon. Friend from Salem. With regard to water supply to Salem, this matter has been investigated for a long time and as far as I know, the difficulty seems to be the cost of pumping that will have to be carried out at Mettur if water is to be brought to Salem from Mettur. The contention of the municipality seems to be that this pumping operation costs them about Rs. 60,000 a year and that they will not be able to pay from their taxation. One of the chief concessions that the municipality wanted from the hon. Minister was that this should be done free of cost. I believe the Minister said that he would consider the matter favourably and that he would also place this matter before His Excellency. His Excellency also during his recent visit after

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seeing the state of water-supply in Salem and after inspecting the spot, was very sympathetic to the proposal but he also pleaded financial stringency. If this question of financial stringency is to stand in the way there will be no solution. I would also like to mention in this connexion that already the people of Salem have been taxed with regard to a water-supply scheme that has failed. Government thought that the Panamarathupatti scheme would give all the supply of water that is needed for the town of Salem but that scheme has failed, and all the money that the municipality spent on it has become a waste. But that could not be anticipated at that time. Both the municipality and the Government thought at that time that this scheme could give a constant supply of water to Salem town. This having failed and the people of Salem having willingly taxed themselves for this, it will be hard on them if they should be asked to pay once more for another scheme. I submit that they should not be asked to pay Rs. 60,000 or so which has been estimated to be the cost of raising water at Mettur. I hope the hon. Minister will consider the case of Salem favourably and see what he can do to help it."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—"Sir, this question has been engaging the attention both of the Salem Municipal Council and the Government for a sufficiently long time, but no substantial benefit has resulted till now. Recently His Excellency the Governor also graced our district with a visit and he was personally convinced that the present water-supply is quite inadequate for Salem. Having got personal knowledge of the real situation through the head of the Province and the Members of his Cabinet, I hope the Government will not now put forward the plea of financial stringency in the case of such an urgent need as this, but manage to take up the scheme on hand at once and get it finished bit by bit at least in the course of some years, if not all at once."

"The hon. the Leader of the Opposition referred to the question of pumping operation to be done at Mettur. I understand that the Government are going to put up an electric installation for the purpose of working the dam line at Mettur and so I venture to suggest that it can be conveniently spared free of charge for pumping operations, thereby reducing the maintenance cost to be met by the municipality year by year. I understand the Government will lose nothing by allowing the installation to be used for this purpose in order to save for the municipality an unbearable annual recurring charge."

"In fine, I once again request the Government in all humility to consider the urgent need of Salem for an adequate supply of drinking water and accept this resolution and to take immediate steps to give all possible aid to the municipality for the early commencement of the work."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I am rather in a difficulty as to what exactly is the attitude that I should take on this question. We are not in possession of complete information with regard to the scheme for supplying Salem with water from Mettur."

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I had something to do with the question of supplying Mettur water for Salem some time ago and I believe some investigations have been made I believe, if I am right, they estimated that it would cost Rs. 28,00,000 to supply Salem with water from Mettur.

"Apart from the Mettur scheme, the possibility of supplying Salem with water from other sources has not been completely investigated. I made a suggestion that investigation should be made as to the possibility of diverting the whole of the Panamarathupatti stream into the tank. At present only a small supply channel is taken from it and the bulk of the water is allowed to go down. It was stated at the time that irrigation rights under the main stream would have to be acquired if the whole stream had to be diverted. But considering that the Mettur scheme would cost about Rs. 28,00,000 it is highly desirable that we should exhaust all other possibilities before we take up the Mettur scheme."

"In this connexion, I may remark that most of our sanitary schemes—water-supply schemes—are exceedingly costly. I have been insisting, whenever I had the power to do so, that the cost should be made as low as possible. I had suggested that instead of using cast iron and steel pipes, we should consider the possibility of using masonry conduits and things like that by carrying channels on a contour instead of having pressure pipes. I must say that experts have always been against considering the question I have raised. They have always insisted on using cast iron and steel pipes. If this expert opinion should prevail for all time, I am afraid it would be many many years and even centuries before all the cities in this Presidency are supplied with a protected water-supply. I want to know whether, in connexion with the scheme for supplying water to Salem from Mettur, the possibility of taking the water along contour line instead of crossing valleys necessitating pressure pipes, has been considered. Have they considered the possibility of using masonry conduits which can be done at a very small cost as compared with cast iron and steel pipes? If it was not possible to find any other source of supply except Mettur, we have to fall back on Mettur alone. Then of course other questions will arise. I believe the contention of the municipality was that Government should supply electric power free of cost, because it was developed at Mettur. I believe the estimated cost of power supply was somewhere about Rs. 60,000 a year. Even if Government agreed to grant this power free of cost, I am afraid the cost of the pipe line will be a very serious item indeed. I certainly am second to none in saying that Salem should be supplied with protected water-supply, but we ought to put a limit somewhere. I do not think, if we went on sanctioning schemes so costly as for example the Coimbatore Water-supply Scheme costing Rs. 42,00,000, we would ever make any progress in the way of giving a protected water-supply to all the cities in the Presidency. Unless sanitary experts are in a position to put forward cheaper schemes, the problem of providing protected water-supply to the whole of the Presidency will never be solved. I would therefore hesitate very much before I recommend the very costly scheme of supplying water to Salem from Mettur unless all other alternatives were exhausted, and secondly unless Government gave an assurance

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that they would try to make the scheme as cheap as possible by using cheap materials and adopting other devices to reduce the cost of the scheme.

"I know that Salem is very badly off for water and it is the duty of the Government to do all that is possible to give the town a protected water-supply. I believe some years ago a supplementary scheme was sanctioned for an infiltration gallery below the tank. I do not know what the result of the scheme is. Possibly it was thought at that time that it would lead to some improvement. But later on it might not have met the requirements of an increasing population. Of course it is the duty of the Government to do something to improve the water-supply of Salem, but I hope that before they undertook the very costly Mettur scheme they would consider other possible alternatives and do all that is possible to reduce the heavy estimated cost of the scheme."

* Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPAH Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, the question of a protected water-supply scheme for Salem has been under consideration since 1927. Many high officials of Government, Members and Ministers, and even His Excellency the Governor who visited Salem have been impressed with the urgency of the problem in Salem. A resolution was also passed in this Council, but nothing substantial has been done till now. The municipality which is suffering from chronic poverty has not got sufficient funds to finance the scheme and they have been approaching Government to help them with funds to the extent of two-thirds of the cost, while they themselves would bear the remaining one-third. His Excellency the Governor also laid stress on the financial stringency of the province and the consequent inability of Government to finance the scheme at present. But the sad plight of over a lakh of people in the town has to be considered. Recently although there was 2 inches of rain in Salem, the Panamarathupatti tank got only 6 inches of water. Salem is an industrial centre and most of the people are weavers who require a large supply of water. One result of this insufficient supply is the periodical visit of epidemic diseases. The people of Salem have spent over 9 lakhs of rupees for the Panamarathupatti tank scheme which has been a failure. We cannot, in fairness to them, ask them to pay more. The taxes are already too high. I hope that Government will do something at once to come to the aid of the people of Salem and before long give them a protected water-supply."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, the subject of a protected water-supply for Salem has come before this Council more than once. The investigation of this scheme was ordered only in April 1930. The Sanitary Engineer submitted a scheme shortly afterwards. The scheme had to be re-examined with reference to the possibility of substituting electric power to work the pumps instead of water power. A conference was held at Ootacamund on the 11th May 1931 and as a result of the decisions then taken, the experts of the department were asked to submit fresh proposals. The Sanitary Engineer submitted four proposals—really two batches of proposals—one for the purpose of supplying Salem town alone and the other for the purpose of supplying Salem town and all the villages along the pipe line also.

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The one that is cheaper according to him, costs Rs. 21,43,000 and will supply Salem town alone; the other which will supply the villages also on the pipe line will cost Rs. 22,54,000. The working charges will come to Rs. 74,000 for the one scheme and Rs. 94,000 for the other scheme. The Municipal Council has been addressed on the 21st October last asking which of the two schemes it would take up and how it proposed to finance it.

"No doubt in the order it has been stated that they must be prepared to bear the major portion of the expenditure. They were asked to state definitely to what extent they can finance the scheme. The Government have not yet received their reply on these points, and after the reply is received, the Government will consider it as anxiously as possible. I can only say this: that Salem requires decent water-supply is recognized by all. Recently in reply to an address from the Salem people, when His Excellency visited that place, he said to the following effect: 'I feel sure that you will understand that, in these circumstances, it is somewhat premature for the Government to commit themselves as to the exact proportion of the amount of loan they will be able to give or as to the terms under which electric power can be supplied. You may however rest assured that I feel that there is imperative need for good water-supply and will do as much to help you.' I cannot add anything more to that. As to the suggestions made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, I shall certainly forward them to the Sanitary Engineer and ask him what remarks he has to offer on them."

Diwan Bahadur S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"In view of the assurance given by the hon. Minister that he will expedite the scheme, I withdraw my motion."

The resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

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

V.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. ^a *Press Communiqués issued in connection with the meetings of the Retrenchment Committee held on the 21st to 24th and 26th October 1931.*

2. ^b *G.O. No. 2496 W., dated 3rd October 1931, issuing rules for the use of, and regulation of traffic on, the Nilambur-Kalikavu-Karuvarakundu Road.*

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

^a Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 473-476 infra.

^b Published in the Fort St. George Gazette.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 454 asked by Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1931, page 346 supra.]

(True copy from "Swarajya", dated 10th September 1931.)

ADVICE TO VILLAGE OFFICERS.

Collector's circular.

CHITTOOR AGAIN!

(From a correspondent.)

CHITTOOR, September 9.

The following is a copy of the emergent order issued on 22nd August to all village officers in the Chittoor district by the Collector, and distributed in the Chandragiri taluk by the Tahsildar:

Emergent order to all village magistrates and the karnams.

It is published in the newspapers that the pact between Gandhi and the Government is broken. You must hereafter consider that the Congressmen are the enemies of the Government. The District Collector has notified that every action of theirs, viz., meetings, processions, propaganda, etc., must be put down without being carried on in the least. Therefore, whenever Congressmen or any one connected with them carry on any meetings, processions or propaganda in your villages, you must forthwith send reports through the village mudam (servant) in the report book to the police and to the Sub-Magistrate of Tirupati, with full details and report that fact to us on ordinary paper. Severe action will be taken against the village officers who are negligent in this matter. The list herewith sent should be signed in token of the receipt of this notice and the list should be returned. Very emergent.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 455 asked by Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1931, page 346 supra.]

*Proceedings of the Stationary Sub-Magistrate, Chittoor,
dated the 12th July 1931.*

Read—the following:—

(1) Report of the Circle Inspector of Police, Chittoor, dated the 12th July 1931.

(2) Sworn statement recorded from the above.

Cr. Misc. P. No. 1 of 1931.

Order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code.

Whereas information has been laid before me by the Circle Inspector of Police, Chittoor, that some of the members of the Congress Committee,

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Chittoor, headed by Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar, B.A., B.L., Advocate, Chittoor, started picketing at Chittoor on 11th July 1931,

that the picketers trespassed into the licensed premises of the Kattamanchi toddy shop and refused to leave the same even though requested to do so by the renter and in consequence of which feeling ran high between the renter and the Congress picketers, which led to bandying of threatening words at each other,

that the picketing started yesterday was obviously a vindictive measure directed against the toddy shop renter who persisted in bidding at the sale and taking the lease of the toddy shop in spite of being warned by Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar to desist from bidding at the sales,

that the picketing far from being peaceful, caused a nuisance to the law abiding citizens, by causing obstruction to the traffic,

that certain rowdy elements caused a breach of the peace by throwing stones and toddy bowls at the people on account of which an Excise peon got injured and one Mr. Seetharama Ayyar sustained slight injury and one Nabhikhan Sahib narrowly escaped being hit by a bowl,

that the picketers who were stationed at the entrances to the toddy shop on the west were also pelted with stones,

that the persons who were (sic) resorted to the toddy shop to drink took up an offensive attitude by jeering at the picketers and rebuking them which would have led to a breach of the peace but for the presence of the Police on the spot;

whereas it has been made to appear to me that the further picketing of toddy shops if resorted to at present would lead to a breach of the peace and cause danger to the personal safety of the people including the picketers;

and as I am also satisfied that there is sufficient ground for proceeding under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, and as this is a matter of urgency which does not admit the services of notices on the persons to whom this order is directed, I, M.R.Ry. M. M. Chinna Dorai, B.A., Stationary Second-class Magistrate, Chittoor, hereby direct you (1) M.R.Ry. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar Avargal, B.A., B.L., Advocate, Chittoor, (2) M.R.Ry. M. Ananthaseyanam Ayyangar, B.A., B.L., Pleader, Chittoor, (3) M.R.Ry. K. Varadachariar, B.A., B.L., Pleader, Chittoor, and (4) M.R.Ry. C. G. Jayaram Ayyar, B.A., Pleader, Chittoor, in particular and the law abiding public in general to abstain from picketing liquor shops in Chittoor and within a radius of 5 miles from Chittoor for a period of one month from this date.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court, this the 12th day of July 1931.

M. M. CHINNA DORAI,
Stationary Sub-Magistrate.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 458 asked by Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1931, page 348 supra.]

Comparative statement of suits and appeals in the High Court and Subordinate Civil Courts in the Presidency.

HIGH COURT.

Suits.			Appeals.		
1929.	1930.	1931.	1929.	1930.	1931.
154	169	185	920	966	871

SUBORDINATE CIVIL COURTS.

Suits.

1929.		1930.		1931.	
O.S.	S.C.	O.S.	S.C.	O.S.	S.C.
28,370	48,359	25,876	48,756	22,261	59,906
Appeals.					
O.S.	C.M. As.	O.S.	C.M. As.	O.S.	C.M. As.
2,986	36	2,871	34	2,489	39

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 475 asked by Pandit Ganala Ramamurti at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1931, page 358 supra.]

* 1747 Q.—MR. A. HARISCHANDRUDU NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the loss of revenue incurred by the Government every year during the last five years on account of the silting up of the bed of the Godavari river in the neighbourhood of the Godavari railway bridge;

(b) whether any attempts have been made to remove the sand thus deposited; and, if so, when and with what result; and

(c) whether there is any correspondence between this Government and the Government of India regarding the Godavari railway bridge and its effect on the irrigation of the delta; and, if so, whether a copy of it can be placed on the table of the House?

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A.—(a) The Government are not aware that there has been any loss of revenue on this account.

(b) Steps have been taken to wash away as far as possible the sand shoals above the railway bridge at Rajahmundry and estimates for Rs. 10,200 and Rs. 4,350 have recently been executed. Nanal and other growth is being uprooted in the various shoals up to the anicut and the soil loosened to encourage the scouring action of flood water.

(c) There has been no such correspondence recently.

MR. A. HARISCHANDRUDU NAYUDU:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether there was any correspondence at any time, and, if so, whether he will be pleased to place it on the table of the House?"

THE HON. MR. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I believe there was some discussion at the time when the railway bridge was being constructed, but I do not remember to have seen any correspondence about it. The hon. Member will find considerable information in a note on this subject which was placed on the table of the House in answer to a question about the 1st of February 1929."

MR. A. HARISCHANDRUDU NAYUDU:—"May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether Government do not apprehend danger to irrigation by the continual silting up due to the existence of the railway bridge at the present place?"

THE HON. MR. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I cannot say it is due to that. The silting up is probably due more to the anicut than to the railway bridge."

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 489 asked by Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1931, page 369 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 852, Public, dated 18th August 1931.

In Memorandum No. 3598/25-3, Public, dated 31st January 1927, the following classes of unpassed clerks in the Registration department were brought under paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 949, Public, dated 5th November 1926:—

Class I.—Four hundred and eighty-seven clerks appointed before 1st March 1921, who were exempted up to specified limits of pay in the old graded scale of pay, seventeen by the Government and the rest by the Inspector-General of Registration.

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Class II.—One hundred and seventy-three clerks also appointed before 1st March 1921, and not exempted in the old graded scale, but specifically exempted by the Inspector-General in the time-scale of pay with reference to paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925.

Class III.—Thirty-eight clerks confirmed on or after 1st March 1921, of whom twenty-three were specifically exempted by the Inspector-General.

2. The following irregularities have been committed in respect of the above classes of clerks:—

(a) *Class I clerks.*—With reference to G.O. No. 722, Law (Education), dated 13th June 1922, the Inspector-General did not specifically exempt any of these 487 clerks in the time-scale of pay, but issued general instructions enabling them to draw increments in the time-scale, quoting G.O. No. 1525, Law (Education), dated 8th December 1922. As they had been exempted only up to specified limits in the graded scale of pay, they could draw in the time-scale of pay only the pay represented by the limit of exemption plus the temporary increase in pay. They were, however, irregularly granted increments with effect from 1st March 1921.

(b) *Class II clerks.*—The Inspector-General exempted all these 173 clerks between the 14th and 27th May 1926, i.e., after the issue of G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 3rd May 1926, which withdrew the power of exemption from the heads of departments.

(c) *Class III clerks.*—Of the twenty-three clerks who were specifically exempted by the Inspector-General, twenty were allowed to count service for increments from or after the dates of their exemption, but the three remaining clerks, viz., S. Padmanabha Rao, C. N. Raghavendra Rao, and K. Annayya Acharya, serving in Coimbatore district, were allowed irregularly to count service for increments from 1st March 1921 instead of from 17th March 1921, the date of their exemption, by the Inspector-General.

3. The Government have perused the explanation offered by the Inspector-General and the remarks of the Accountant-General for these irregularities and are pleased to issue the following orders:—

(1) The eleven clerks belonging to class I, shown in Annexure A to these proceedings who had been originally exempted by the Government up to specified limits in the old graded scale of pay will be allowed to draw their present rates of pay and rise in the time-scale of Rs. 35—60 up to the bar. There will be no reduction of pay or recovery in their cases.

(2) As regards the other six clerks belonging to class I shown in Annexure B who had also been exempted by the Government up to specified limits in the old graded scale of pay, the pay of No. 1 has already been fixed at Rs. 50 per mensem in G.O. No. 94, Public, dated 31st January 1927, and Nos. 2 to 6 inclusive have been permitted in

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G.O. No. 772, Public, dated 23rd August 1927, to cross the bar in the scale of Rs. 35—60. No question, therefore, arises in these cases of any reduction of pay or recovery of overpayments.

(3) The other 470 clerks in class I, shown in Annexure C, will remain on their present rates of pay until they reach that pay by normal rises in the ordinary scale on the assumption that they have started on the minimum pay and counted service for increments from 31st January 1927, the date on which they were brought under paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 949, Public, dated 5th November 1926. Thereafter they may draw increments up to the bar.

(4) Clerks C. N. Raghavendra Rao and K. Annayya Acharya included in class III will remain in their present rates of pay until they reach that pay by normal rises in the ordinary scale assuming that they had started on the minimum pay and counted service for increments from 17th March 1921, the date of their exemption by the Inspector-General. Thereafter they may draw increments up to the bar.

Clerk S. Padmanabha Rao who was also irregularly allowed to draw increments from 1st March 1921 instead of from 17th March 1921, having since died, the question of refixation of his pay does not arise; the recovery of the amount overdrawn by him is waived.

(5) As regards the amounts overdrawn by the clerks mentioned in Annexure C and by clerks, C. N. Raghavendra Rao and K. Annayya Acharya, the Government direct that wherever it is established that the parties have not contributed by any act or omission to the incorrect drawal of excess amounts, the recovery of such amounts outstanding on the date of these proceedings shall be waived. Recoveries effected up to the date of these proceedings will not however be refunded.

(6) In regard to the exemption of the 173 clerks belonging to class II, the Inspector-General has explained that he exempted them prior to the receipt by him of a copy of G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 3rd May 1926, i.e., under the *bona fide* belief that he had the power to do so. The Government accept this explanation and ratify the exemptions granted by the Inspector-General. As these 173 clerks were allowed to count service for increments only from the dates of their exemption by the Inspector-General there is no question of recovery of overpayments in their cases.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

C. F. V. WILLIAMS,
Under Secretary to Government in charge
of the Chief Secretariat.

To the Inspector-General of Registration, with reference to the correspondence ending with his letter No. E. 18, dated 17th June 1931.

„ Accountant-General, through the Finance Department, with reference to his letter No. Reg. 1-171, dated 15th May 1931 (T.A.D. Regn. III).

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ANNEXURES.

A.

Ganjam.

1. G. Gopalam.

Vizagapatam.

2. A. Parvatism.

Kistna.

3. P. Lakshminarayana.

Nellore.

4. Md. Ghose Mohiuddin.

Kurnool.

5. G. Venkatasubbiah.

6. H. Subba Rao.

Anantapur.

7. T. Hassan Khan.

Chittoor.

8. Md. Khasim Sahib.

Coimbatore.

9. T. S. Srinivasa Rao.

Madras-Chingleput.

10. Muhammad Nawajuddin.

Madura.

11. V. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar.

B.

1. K. Venugopala Rao.

2. P. Peddaperi Sastri.

3. A. Kasipathi.

4. S. Ramacharlu.

5. D. Raghavendra Rao.

6. M. S. Appadurai Mudaliyar.

C.

Ganjam.

1. Nityananda Patnaik.

2. S. Veeresalingam.

3. B. Chiranjivi.

4. K. Venkataratnam.

5. Haricharan Patnaik.

6. T. Ramakrishnayya.

7. A. Mallikarjuna Rao.

Ganjam—cont.

8. Narayana Chowdhari.

9. Saibo Behara.

10. Y. Veeranna.

11. Y. Appalanarasimham.

12. N. Ramamurti.

Vizagapatam.

13. S. V. Sudarsanam.

14. V. Suryanarayana.

15. A. Mallapparaju.

16. S. Audinarayana.

17. R. Venkateswarlu.

18. Ch. Viraraju.

19. M. Venkatanarasayya.

20. M. Viswanadham.

21. P. Viraraju.

East Godavari.

22. Ch. V. Subbayya.

23. Tanikella Seshayya.

24. N. Kodandaramaiah.

25. K. Sriramulu.

26. S. Hanumantha Rao.

27. D. V. Subba Rao.

28. K. Venkateswarulu.

29. Md. Salar.

30. Ch. Venkata Rao.

31. T. Kameswara Rao.

32. G. Balakrishna Rao.

33. G. Bhadrachalam.

34. W. Sanyasiraju.

35. A. Ramanujayya.

36. S. L. Narasimha Rao.

37. K. Mallapuraju.

West Godavari.

38. T. Raja Rao.

39. A. V. Seshagiri Rao.

40. T. Suryaprakasa Rao.

41. P. Bhashyakarulu.

42. C. V. Ramanayya.

43. Abdul Khader.

44. S. Somayajulu.

45. Ch. Venkiah.

46. J. Venkatareddi.

47. K. Gopalam.

48. A. Narayana Rao.

49. N. Atchutaramiah.

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Kistna.

50. P. Raghunadha Rao.

51. A. Venkata Rao.

52. P. Ranganayakulu.

53. D. Rama Rao.

54. A. Jagannadha Rao.

55. V. V. Subba Rao.

56. P. V. Narasimha Rao.

57. K. Krishna Rao.

58. Ch. Narasimha Rao.

59. S. Kameswara Rao.

60. L. Jagannadha Rao.

61. M. L. Narasimha Rao.

62. P. Sriramulu.

63. S. Anantaramayya.

Guntur.

64. M. Venkateswarulu.

65. V. Krishna Rao.

66. P. Narasimha Rao.

67. D. Ramayya.

68. Md. Abdul Aziz Sahib.

69. K. Venkataramayya.

70. K. Venkatasubba Rao.

71. V. Venkata Achari.

72. G. Sitaramayya.

73. Ch. V. Gopala Rao.

74. V. Mukunda Rao.

75. Y. L. Narasimham.

76. B. S. S. Dikshitulu.

77. Md. Jamaluddin.

78. K. Kotiswara Rao.

79. Y. Nagabhushana Rao.

80. G. Kameswara Rao.

81. P. Sriramulu.

82. R. V. Raghava Sarma.

Nellore.

83. Panani Narasinga Rao.

84. Varanasi Suryanarayanayya.

85. Nandanavanam Kondayya.

86. Polavarapu Narayana Rao.

87. Kesanapalli Venkata Rao.

88. Y. V. Seshagiri Rao.

89. Saiyid Hayath Badsha Sahib.

Cuddapah.

90. P. Madhava Nayudu.

91. B. Hanumantha Rao.

Kurnool.

92. Syed Badruddin.

93. K. Venkoba Acharya.

94. P. Narasimha Sastri.

95. Shaikh Babji Sahib.

Bellary.

96. N. Rama Rao.

97. K. Subrahmanya Sastri.

98. H. Hanumanthachar.

99. T. Venkoba Rao.

Anantapur.

100. S. Narayana Rao.

101. Y. Nagesa Rao.

Chittoor.

102. C. Sivasankara Mudaliyar.

103. C. Hanumantha Rao.

104. K. Narasimbachari.

105. S. Dathu Rao.

106. B. Sitaramayya.

107. K. Venkoba Rao.

108. R. Purushothama Nayudu.

109. V. Subbiah.

110. C. N. Krishna Rao.

111. T. Ramachandra Rao.

112. A. V. Margam Ayyar.

113. V. Seshacharya.

114. P. Ramachandra Ayyar.

North Arcot.

115. A. M. Krishnaswami Ayyar.

116. A. Nadamuni Nayudu.

117. N. Bojjayya Chetti.

118. G. Srihari Sastri.

119. M. Samanna Ayyar.

120. N. Murugesha Nayakar.

121. R. Rajam Nayudu.

122. M. Krishnaswami Mudaliyar.

123. P. R. Raju Pillai.

124. K. Krishna Pillai.

125. K. S. Venkatasubrahmanya

Sarma.

126. P. Rama Rao.

127. P. Krishna Rao.

128. T. Kumaraswami Thambiran.

129. C. Venkatakrishnayya.

130. W. Venkataswami Nayakar.

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North Arcot—cont.

131. S. Seshagiri Rao.
132. E. Subba Acharya.
133. S. K. Varadarajulu Chetti.

Salem.

134. P. S. Chelva Rao.
135. B. R. Appanniah.
136. K. S. Thrivikramachakravarthi.
137. M. Arumugam Pillai.
138. T. S. Swaminatha Ayyar.
139. V. Lakshmana Ayyar.
140. D. R. Ramasesha Ayyar.
141. D. N. Venkataramana Ayyar.
142. S. Ramasesha Ayyar.
143. S. Subbaraya Ayyar.
144. N. A. Abdul Gaffoor Sahib.
145. R. Venkata Rao.
146. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
147. T. A. Ramakrishna Ayyar.
148. A. Raghavendra Rao.
149. T. C. Sessa Ayyar.
150. V. S. Ramanatha Ayyar.
151. H. Ragothama Rao.
152. S. R. Srikantha Ayyar.
153. S. Venkataramana Ayyar.
154. K. C. Krishna Rao.
155. S. K. Subrahmanya Mudaliyar.
156. P. R. Hari Rao.
157. N. Viraswami Ayyangar.
158. R. Krishna Chetti.
159. K. Radhakrishna Mudaliyar.
160. P. A. Subba Rao.
161. A. Hayath Batcha Sahib.
162. S. Angamuthu Pillai.
163. V. Rangaswami Nayudu.

Erode.

164. A. S. Venkatasubrahmanya Ayyar.
165. V. Narayana Ayyar.
166. V. Guruswami Ayyar.
167. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
168. C. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
169. D. V. Bhima Rao.
170. C. V. Kuppanarasa Ayyar.
171. P. V. Subrahmanya Ayyar.

Erode—cont.

172. S. K. Rama Ayyar.
173. G. Venkatakuppa Ayyar.

Coimbatore.

174. V. V. Lakshmana Ayyar.
175. C. V. Ramaswami Ayyar.
176. P. J. Ebenezer.
177. T. R. Narayana Ayyar.
178. P. R. Venkatarama Pillai.
179. U. C. Marimuthu Boyan.
180. J. Sakkahari Rao.
181. P. V. Rama Rao.
182. C. K. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
183. N. Sankara Rao.
184. B. Venkoba Rao.
185. C. S. Dhondhu Rao.
186. T. S. Ganapathi Sastri.
187. V. Gopalakrishna Ayyar.
188. K. Subba Rao.
189. S. Suriya Pillai.
190. L. Venkatakrishna Ayyar.
191. Y. Venkataramana Ayyar.
192. N. B. Madhava Rao.

Palghat.

193. P. Rahiman Sheriff.
194. A. K. Abdul Khadir.
195. C. K. Sivaramakrishna Ayyar.
196. P. K. Anantanarayana Ayyar.
197. K. Sankunni Nayar.
198. V. K. Sankunni Nayar.
199. K. Achutha Ezhuthesan.
200. U. Govindan Nayar.
201. T. Chinkunni Taravanar.
202. K. S. Narayana Ayyar.
203. T. V. Govinda Ayyar.
204. P. S. Sessa Ayyar.
205. S. Sankaranarayana Sarma.
206. T. N. Kunhi Kuttan.
207. K. V. Ezhuthara Variyar.

Calicut.

208. S. A. Ahmed Hussain.
209. T. Krishna Menon.
210. C. Kunhikoya.
211. T. Mamoo.

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Calicut—cont.

212. K. Zainuddin Kutty.
213. V. Pokker.
214. A. Sankunni Nayar.
215. K. Damodara Menon.
216. U. Narayana Ayyar.
217. K. P. Velayudhan Nayar.
218. K. N. Kunhi Moideen.
219. N. A. Govindan Nayar.
220. K. E. Chakravunni Nayar.
221. P. V. K. Kunhi Kannan.
222. I. N. Sankunni Menon.
223. T. P. Karunakara Kurup.
224. K. P. Narayanan Nayar.
225. E. Kumaran.
226. M. Gopalan.
227. V. Gopala Menon.

Tellicherry.

228. K. N. Unni Nambiyar.
229. M. Gopalan Nambiyar.
230. M. Ummerkutty.
231. V. K. Narayanan.
232. M. Raman.
233. T. K. Raman Nambiyar.
234. Ch. Koman Nayar.
235. E. Raman Nayar.
236. C. V. Rama Ayyar.
237. K. Achyuthan.
238. K. Kanara Kurup.
239. V. Kammara Menon.
240. P. Krishna Kurup.
241. K. C. Anandan Nayar.
242. T. Kanna Kurup.
243. P. Rama Kurup.
244. P. Govindan.
245. Ch. K. Achuthan.
246. P. Ryrn Nambiyar.
247. V. Govindan.
248. P. K. Govindan.
249. M. Sannavalla Mohajir.
250. K. Sankaran Nayar.
251. M. Damodaram.
252. G. K. Babjan.
253. K. Narayana Menon.
254. K. Narayanan Nambiyar.
255. C. V. Venkatarama Ayyar.
256. K. Krishnan Nayar.
257. C. Appu Nayar.

Tellicherry—cont.

258. K. K. Gopalan Nambiyar.
259. V. K. Govindan Nayar.
260. N. Muhammad Kutty.
261. M. K. Komappan Nambiyar.
262. P. Kunhappa.

South Kanara.

263. M. Venkata Rao.
264. P. Koragappa.
265. K. Rama Rao.
266. B. Janardhan Rao.
267. M. Subrayaprabhu.
268. P. Raman Nayar.
269. P. Appu.
270. A. Sunder Rao.
271. E. Padmanabhayya.
272. B. Achuta Pai.

Madras—Chingleput.

273. M. Arumuga Mudaliyar.
274. M. Thangavelu Mudaliyar.
275. S. M. Srinivasa Raghava Acharya.
276. Md. Abdul Gaffoor.
277. D. Ratnavelu Mudaliyar.
278. M. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
279. K. Tiruvankata Mudaliyar.
280. S. Kuppuswami Mudaliyar.
281. S. Gundacharya.
282. A. Narayanaswami Ayyar.
283. G. Lakshmiipathi Nayudu.
284. C. M. Sundara Udayar.
285. C. Rajagopala Tambiran.
286. M. Satagopacharya.
287. P. M. Chandrasekhara Mudaliyar.
288. C. S. Ramanatha Pillai.
289. S. Govindaraja Pillai.
290. V. Hanumantha Rao.
291. V. Rajamannar Chetti.
292. N. Devarajulu Nayudu.
293. C. A. Krishnaswami Ayyangar.
294. M. Ramakrishna Ayyar.
295. M. N. Loganatha Mudaliyar.

Villupuram.

296. T. S. Krishnamurthi Ayyar.
297. K. Hyderkhan.

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Villupuram—cont.

298. B. Venugopala Pillai.
 299. P. V. Narayanaswami Raju.
 300. R. Muhammad Baig.
 301. K. Rajamanikkam Pillai.
 302. B. S. Rajagopala Pillai.
 303. M. Ramanujam Nayudu.
 304. V. Sarangapani Mudaliyar.

Cuddalore.

305. K. Md. Raza Khan.
 306. D. Subrahmanya Ayya.
 307. K. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
 308. S. Natesa Ayyar.
 309. R. Palamalai Pillai.
 310. A. K. Balasubrahmanya
 Mudaliyar.
 311. C. S. Ramaswami Sastri.
 312. V. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
 313. T. R. Muthuswami Ayyar.
 314. K. Sirdar Khan.

Tanjore.

315. D. V. Chinnakrishnaswami
 Raja.
 316. D. Ranga Raja.
 317. T. P. Chandrasekhara Ayyar.
 318. P. Nataraja Pillai.
 319. T. R. Appuswami Rao.
 320. N. Nagaraja Rao.
 321. V. Krishnaswami Ayyangar.
 322. N. Venkatarama Ayyar.
 323. M. Adaikkalaswami Pillai.
 324. T. K. Radhakrishna Nayudu.
 325. D. Kolandavelu Pillai.

Negapatam.

326. D. Sundaram Ayyar.
 327. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
 328. S. Venkatachari.
 329. A. Thiruvengadam Pillai.
 330. S. Bhuvarahachari.
 331. V. S. Venkatarama Ayyar.
 332. R. Nagaraja Rao.
 333. R. Govindarajulu Nayudu.
 334. V. Ratnasami Ayyar.
 335. T. Ramanatha Mudaliyar.
 336. K. Aravamudu Ayyangar.
 337. S. Venkatasubrahmanya
 Ayyar.

Trichinopoly.

338. T. S. Duraiswami Mudaliyar.
 339. T. C. Parthasarathi Nayudu.
 340. P. S. Venkatesa Ayyar.
 341. S. Krishna Rao.
 342. R. Srinivasa Rao.
 343. A. V. Venkatesa Ayyar.
 344. V. Subba Rao.
 345. C. M. Vasudeva Singh.
 346. A. Bhadrachalam Mudaliyar.
 347. T. R. Narayana Ayyar.
 348. T. A. Subbaya Pillai.
 349. L. R. Rajagopala Ayyar.
 350. I. Ibrahim Sheriff.
 351. K. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
 352. V. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
 353. V. Alagiriswami Raja.
 354. S. Viswanatha Ayyar.
 355. M. Sundaram Ayyar.
 356. C. K. Varadaraja.
 357. M. Sivasubrahmanya Pillai.
 358. V. Umamaheswara Ayyar.
 359. P. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
 360. P. T. Krishnaswami Ayyan-
 gar.
 361. K. Rama Rao.
 362. S. Kuppuswami Ayyangar.
 363. M. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
 364. M. Venkatarama Deikshithar.
 365. N. Rajagopala Ayyangar.
 366. T. A. Sessa Ayyar.
 367. T. R. Muthukrishna Nayudu.
 368. M. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
 369. R. Kannappa Pillai.
 370. P. K. Kasturiranga Acharya.
 371. S. Venkata Rao.
 372. R. Raju Nayudu.
 373. B. Lakshminarasimha Nayu-
 du.
 374. N. Krishnamacharya.
 375. Saiyid Badsha Mohiuddin.
 376. P. Palaniyandi Pillai.
 377. C. Ranga Raja.
 378. S. Venkataswami Raja.
Madura.
 379. V. Sankaralingam Mudali.
 380. R. V. Kothandarama Ayyar.
 381. G. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
 382. C. R. Sundaram Ayyar.

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Madura—cont.

383. S. Veeraswami Ayyar.
 384. P. Govinda Raja.
 385. K. Jamaluddin Ravuttar.
 386. R. Govindaswami Raja.
 387. M. Subrahmanya Ayyar.
 388. R. C. Srinivasa Ayyar.
 389. S. Palaniappa Pillai.
 390. M. Guruswami Pillai.
 391. T. S. Satyamoorti Ayyar.
 392. B. Srinivasa Rao.
 393. N. Natesa Ayyar.
 394. T. B. Subbuswami Rao.
 395. C. Thiruvambalam Pillai.
 396. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
 397. M. S. Abdul Rahman Sahib.
 398. A. Rama Rao.
 399. A. Ayyaswami Ayyar.
 400. R. Desikachari.
 401. L. Sundararaja Ayyangar.
 402. L. Gopalakrishna Rao.
 403. S. G. Govindaswami Nayudu.
 404. S. Ramaswami Ayyangar.
 405. James Daivanayagam.
 406. N. Ramasubba Mudaliyar.
 407. K. A. Sundaram Pillai.
 408. A. Muthuswami Nayudu.
 409. T. N. Lakshmana Rao.

Ramnad.

410. A. Balakrishna Pillai.
 411. V. Ramaswami Ayyar.
 412. V. N. Venkatasubrahmanya
 Ayyar.
 413. E. Sundaram Pillai.
 414. G. Rangaswami Ayyangar.
 415. S. Sadasiva Ayyar.
 416. V. Krishna Rao.
 417. K. Raghunatha Rao.
 418. M. A. Ramachandram Pillai.
 419. G. Surappa Ayyar.
 420. R. Nagaratnam Asari.
 421. D. Muthuswami Ayyangar.
 422. R. Ranga Ayyangar.
 423. S. Ramaswami Ayyangar.
 424. K. Kulatturasami Pillai.
 425. S. Muthayya Ayyar.
 426. N. Zynulabdin Sahib.
 427. H. Krishna Ayyar.

Ramnad—cont.

428. M. S. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
 429. I. Sikkander Mohiddin.
 430. R. Vaikuntam Ayyar.
 431. S. Sankara Ayyar.
 432. R. A. Ramaswami Pillai.
 433. N. Muthuswami Ayyar.
 434. R. A. Appala Acharya.
 435. N. Lakshmana Ayyar.
 436. K. Mohiuddin Batcha Sahib.
 437. K. Shanmugasundara Mudali.
 438. T. V. Rama Rao.
 439. R. Apatharana Ayyar.
 440. N. Pethayya Pillai.
 441. K. P. Subrahmanya Pillai.

Palamcottah.

442. V. Subbaya Nayudu.
 443. M. Muthayya Kone.
 444. D. Thiruvengkadatha Ayyan-
 gar.
 445. S. Ramalingam Pillai.
 446. P. S. Arunachalam Pillai.
 447. C. Abdul Razakhan Sarvani.
 448. K. Sankaranarayana Pillai.
 449. T. S. Ulaganatha Pillai.
 450. T. S. Vallinayagam Pillai.
 451. V. P. Subbaya Pillai.
 452. U. Mukka Pillai.
 453. S. Munruiyugamkondan Asari.
 454. T. S. Manimuthu Pillai.
 455. S. Muhammad Yacub Sahib.
 456. K. S. Pichumani Ayyar.
 457. D. Anantarama Ayyar.
 458. N. S. Srinivasa Rao.

Tinnevelly.

459. T. K. Chidambaram Pillai.
 460. T. Sivasaila Mudaliyar.
 461. K. Ramaswami Ayyangar.
 462. V. Vittal Rao.
 463. R. Kulattu Ayyar.
 464. K. A. Alagappa Pillai.
 465. S. Saravanaperumal Pillai.
 466. K. Sankaralingam Pillai.
 467. K. Narayana Rao.
 468. U. Kandasami Asari.
 469. T. V. Subbaya Ayyar.
 470. R. A. Ramaswami Nayudu.

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APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 504 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1931, page 381 supra.]

(1)

Statement of collections in first quarter and second quarter districtwar up to and ending with 30th September 1931.

Name of district.	In first quarter.		In second quarter.	
	RS.	A.	RS.	A.
Ganjam	11,315	8	11,065	0
Vizagapatam	27,947	8	24,850	0
East Godavari	18,567	8	17,147	8
West Godavari	7,822	8	8,897	8
Kistna	11,987	8	27,115	0
Guntur	15,625	0	14,802	8
Nellore	12,245	0	10,220	0
Cuddapah	6,177	8	6,047	8
Anantapur	8,927	8	8,945	0
Bellary	20,200	0	18,607	8
Kurnool	7,912	8	14,412	8
Chingleput	17,785	0	13,847	8
Chittoor	13,417	8	9,907	8
North Arcot	19,922	8	13,692	8
South Arcot	10,800	0	12,812	8
Tanjore	28,215	0	34,015	0
Trichinopoly	25,380	0	28,382	8
Madura	56,805	0	52,400	0
Ramnad	46,762	8	45,972	8
Tinnevely	31,267	8	30,740	0
Coimbatore	72,942	8	66,635	0
Nilgiris	56,897	8	44,265	0
Salem	36,767	8	35,942	8
South Kanara	33,305	0	33,602	8
Malabar	36,802	8	32,350	0
Madras City	1,72,455	0	1,57,210	0
Total	8,08,203	0	7,72,985	0

(2)

G.O. No. 1081, L. & M., dated 28th March 1931.

In pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 10 of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, the Board of Revenue, the Inspector-General of Police, the Commissioner of Police, the Superintendent, Government Press, and the Superintendent of Stationery are requested to submit to Government on the 15th April each year, a statement showing the expenses in connexion with the working of the above Act.

2. The method of annual payment to each local body from the proceeds of the tax will be as follows. The total sum due to local bodies

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has in the first instance been determined tentatively and for immediate purposes at 66 lakhs on the basis of the average gross revenue from tolls and vehicle tax on motor vehicles for three years ending 1929-30. The amount payable on this basis to each participating local body is shown in the appendix to this order. A detailed and more accurate adjustment of the compensation amounts is being worked out with reference to section 10 (2) (a), (b) and (c) and to the substitution of 1931 for 1930 in clause 10 (1). Any discrepancies in the amounts due to local bodies as a result of the rough and ready calculation adopted in the first instance will be adjusted later when the amount finally due to each local body is ascertained.

3. The sum of 66 lakhs as above will be taken as the basic amount for purposes of distribution in 1931-32. On 15th April 1931, three-sixteenths of the amount or 12 $\frac{3}{8}$ lakhs will be disbursed. On 15th July 1931 another three-sixteenths of the amount or 12 $\frac{3}{8}$ lakhs will be disbursed. On 15th October 1931 a further three-sixteenths of the amount or 12 $\frac{3}{8}$ lakhs will be disbursed. On 15th January 1932 a further three-sixteenths of the amount or 12 $\frac{3}{8}$ lakhs will be disbursed. Thus three-quarters of the amount due in 1931-32 will be paid within the year. The remaining quarter or such portion thereof as the proceeds of the tax will meet will be disbursed as soon as the net proceeds excluding charges of collection and the amount to be credited to Government under section 10 (1) (b) or 10 (3) can be ascertained definitely from the accounts. At the close of the year, that is to say, on the 31st March 1932, a rough estimate of the proceeds actually taken during the year will be made and if this new figure is less than 66 lakhs it will be substituted for the original 66 lakhs as the basic amount for distribution during 1932-33. Distribution for 1932-33 will then be made in the same in the same manner as above. The procedure for 1932-33 will be repeated for subsequent years.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

HILTON BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

To the Inspector-General of Police.
 „ the Commissioner of Police.
 „ the Board of Revenue.
 „ the Superintendent, Government Press.
 „ the Superintendent of Stationery.
 „ all Presidents of District Boards.
 „ all Chairmen, Municipal Councils.
 „ all Collectors.
 „ the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
 „ the Surgeon-General.
 „ the Director of Public Health.
 „ the Director of Public Instruction.
 „ the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
 „ the Accountant-General, through Finance.
 „ the Finance Department.
 „ the Law (Legislative), (Drafting) and (General) Departments.
 „ the Revenue Department.
 „ the Public (Police) Department.
 „ the Public Works and Labour Department.

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Appendix.

(1) Madras Corporation.

	In thousands. RS.
Tolls	1,00
Vehicle taxation	2,75
Total	3,75 or 3,75,000

(2) District Boards.

	In thousands. RS.		In thousands. RS.
Anantapur	53	Madura	3,82
North Arcot	1,39	Malabar	2,30
South „	1,72	Nellore	48
Bellary	48	Nilgiris	1,31
Chingleput	1,48	Ramnad	2,84
Chittoor	60	Salem	2,73
Coimbatore	3,22	Tanjore	2,09
Cuddapah	64	Tinnevelly	2,34
Ganjam	98	Trichinopoly	2,03
East Godavari	1,55	Vizagapatam	1,65
West „	71		
Guntur	87		
South Kanara	66		
Kistna	97		
Kurnool	93		

Total ...	38,32
	or
	38,32,000

(3) Municipal Councils.

	In thousands. RS.		In thousands. RS.
Anantapur	7	Adoni	19
Hindupur	18	Bellary	20
Tadpatri	13	Hospet	11
Gudiyattam	14	Chingleput	22
Tiruppattur	16	Conjeeveram	33
Tiruvannamalai	27	Saidapet	17
Vaniyambadi	10	Chittoor	21
Vellore	46	Tirupati	7
Wallajapet	17	Coimbatore	90
Chidambaram	28	Dharapuram	39
Cuddalore	36	Erode	50
Villupuram	14	Pollachi	1,02

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(3) Municipal Councils—cont.

	In thousands. RS.		In thousands. RS.
Tiruppur	55	Palghat	14
Udamalpet	46	Tellicherry	11
Cuddapah	14	Nellore	27
Proddatur	18	Coonoor	6
Berhampur	33	Ootacamund	20
Chicacole	15	Karaikudi	67
Parlakimedi	9	Sivakasi	13
Cocanada	35	Srivilliputtur	18
Peddapuram	15	Virudhunagar	29
Rajahmundry	32	Salem	95
Chirala	13	Kumbakonam	60
Guntur	50	Mannargudi	25
Narasaraopet	15	Mayavaram	22
Ongole	6	Negapatam	23
Tenali	23	Tanjore	96
Mangalore	15	Tiruvarur	23
Bezwada	32	Palamcottah	34
Ellore	36	Tinnevelly	28
Masulipatam	23	Tuticorin	34
Palacole	30	Srirangam	11
Kurnool	23	Karur	34
Nandyal	36	Trichinopoly	58
Bodinayakkanur	15	Anakapalle	23
Dindigul	51	Bimlipatam	8
Kodaikanal	7	Vizagapatam	22
Madura	1,37	Vizianagram	43
Palni	27		
Periyakulam	27	Total	23,93 or 23,93,000
Calicut	22		
Cannanore	7		
Cochin	5		

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APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 524-A asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 2nd November 1931, page 395 supra].

Rates of stipends and stipendiary grants.

Grade and department.	Rates in force till the end of 1930-31.	Modified rates at which stipends and stipendiary grants should be drawn from October 1931.
I. ORDINARY RATES.		
	RS.	RS. A. P.
(a) Collegiate department (L.Ts.)	15	9 6 0
(b) Secondary department (S.S.L.C. Juniors)	12	7 3 0
Do. Intermediate Seniors	12	7 6 0
Do. S.S.L.C. (other Seniors)	12	5 4 0
(c) Elementary department, Juniors	8½	5 1 0
Do. Seniors	8½	3 12 0
II. SPECIAL RATES.		
(a) College department—		
Masters of Arts	20	12 8 0
Europeans and Masters	35	21 14 0
Anglo-Indians (Mistresses)	25	15 10 0
Muhammadans, Hindu Mistresses, Depressed classes	20	12 8 0
(b) Secondary department—Europeans and Anglo-Indians—		
Masters.		
S.S.L.C. Juniors	30	18 0 0
Intermediate Seniors	30	18 8 0
Other Seniors, S.S.L.Cs.	30	13 3 0
Mistresses.		
S.S.L.C. Juniors	20	12 0 0
Intermediate (Seniors)	20	12 5 0
Other Seniors, S.S.L.C.	20	8 13 0
Hindu and Muhammadan Mistresses.		
S.S.L.C. Juniors and Physical Training Students at the Lady Willingdon Training College	14	8 6 0
Intermediate (Seniors)	14	8 10 0
Other seniors (S.S.L.Cs.)	14	6 2 0
(c) Elementary department—		
Higher Elementary Stipendiaries, Muhammadans, Hindu Mistresses, Depressed classes, Juniors. Do. do. Seniors	10½	6 4 0
Europeans and Anglo-Indians—		
Masters { Juniors	25	15 0 0
Seniors	25	11 0 0
Mistresses { Juniors	15	9 0 0
Seniors	15	6 9 0
(d) Enhanced rates for mistresses other than European and Anglo-Indian mistresses, who undergo training elsewhere than in their places of residence.	In force till the end of 1931-32.	Modified rates.
	RS.	RS. A. P.
Elementary Grade Juniors	14	8 6 0
Secondary Grade S.S.L.C. Juniors	14	6 2 0
Intermediate Seniors	17½	10 8 0
Other Seniors, S.S.L.Cs.	17½	10 12 0
		7 11 0

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APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide Item V "Papers laid on the table of the House" at page 455 supra.]

MEETINGS OF THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE CABINET CHAMBER IN THE SECRETARIAT, FORT ST. GEORGE, ON THE 21ST TO 24TH AND 26TH OCTOBER 1931.

I. Press Communiqué, dated the 21st October 1931.

The Retrenchment Committee resumed their meetings this morning and made recommendations regarding the allowances in one or two departments, the details of which had not been received in time for inclusion at their last meeting in September.

2. The Committee then examined various subsidiary points that had arisen in the course of their previous discussions, including the question of extending the system of fixed travelling allowances and the distribution of fees for X-ray work between Government and the members of the staff. On the latter point they came to the conclusion that a larger proportion of fees should be credited to Government than is the case at present.

3. In the afternoon the Committee commenced a detailed examination of the large question of revising the rates of pay for future entrants to the various Provincial Services. Their examination on this subject will take several days to complete, and they will not be in a position to publish details until they come to final conclusions.

II. Press Communiqué, dated the 22nd October 1931.

The Retrenchment Committee this morning interviewed Major Webb, the Director of Public Health, as regards the possibility of amalgamating the posts of Public Analyst and Chemical Examiner. After hearing his views they decided that amalgamation would be impossible and that no immediate retrenchment could be secured in this way. On the other hand they expressed the view that local men should be trained to take the place eventually of the highly paid officers who perform the duties of these posts at present.

2. They then took up the question of the number of Assistant District Health Officers and Health Inspectors and, after hearing the views of the Director, decided to recommend that the former should be reduced by 6 and the latter by 10.

3. The Committee then examined Mr. Souter, Member of the Board of Revenue, regarding the question of jamabandi allowances. After hearing his views they came to the conclusion that economies of nearly Rs. 1,00,000 could be secured by restricting the number of village menials required to attend jamabandi camps and slightly reducing their allowance.

4. In the afternoon the Committee resumed their investigation of the rates of pay of future entrants to the Provincial Services.

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III. Press Communiqué, dated the 23rd October 1931.

After some further discussion on the question of the revision of pay of future entrants to the Provincial Services, the Committee decided to ask for certain revised proposals to be worked out and to defer further consideration of the question until they had completed the more urgent work of examining the expenditure in a number of important departments with a view to effecting immediate economies.

2. In pursuance of this decision the Committee took up the expenditure of the Excise department. Their discussion had not been concluded by the end of the day.

IV. Press Communiqué, dated the 24th October 1931.

The Committee this morning interviewed Major Howard, the Chief Engineer, Hydro-Electric Development, regarding the scale of expenditure at present incurred on the investigation of hydro-electric projects. They agreed with him that the five-year programme which will end next year should be worked out in full. They understand that when this has been done the Government will be equipped with a number of complete schemes which can be taken up for execution as funds permit and that further expenditure on investigation will be limited to the work on hydro-metric survey which will be necessary for some years to come.

2. The Committee also understand that Government are engaged in working out a scheme for amalgamating under a single head all the electrical activities now performed by the Hydro-Electric Department, the Electrical Inspector and the Electrical Engineer. The Committee agreed that such a scheme should be pursued with the object of co-ordinating the activities of Government and reducing expenditure by the amalgamation of staffs and the carrying out of routine inspections by less expensive agencies than those employed at present. Pending the formulation of a scheme on these lines, which should be expedited as much as possible, they recommended no further measure of retrenchment, except that the appointment of Junior Electrical Inspector to Government, which is now vacant, should continue to be held in abeyance.

3. The Committee also decided to call for a report from the Electrical Inspector showing the extent to which and the scale on which fees are at present levied for consultative work and for carrying out inspections under the Electricity Act, together with proposals for enhancing fees with the object of making the department more self-supporting than it is at present.

4. The Committee concluded their examination of the expenditure of the Excise department. They decided to recommend that the number of Deputy Commissioners should be reduced from 2 to 1, that the number of Assistant Commissioners should be reduced from 10 to 6 and that the experiment, which the Commissioner is now making, of reducing the number of Inspectors in charge of circles and forming sub-circles in charge of Assistant Inspectors, should be extended with the object of limiting the number of Inspectors as soon as possible to the number of

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districts. This proposal would entail a reduction of about 40 Inspectors with a corresponding increase in the number of Assistant Inspectors and would result in considerable savings. The Committee also recommended certain reductions in the gazetted staff of the Commissioner's office. So far as the subordinate establishments are concerned, the Committee asked for further information as to the possibility of reducing the temporary staff of Sub-Inspectors, clerks and peons. Under the heading of 'Contingencies,' the Committee considered that a reduction of about 15 per cent might be made in the provision for rewards, clothing and equipment; and expressed the view that rewards should be given with reference to the quality rather than the quantity of the work done, and that they should not be given to the members of the department except in the most important cases. The Committee also considered that Government might examine the question whether it would not be cheaper to give Excise peons a small fixed travelling allowance instead of ordinary travelling allowances. As regards increase of revenue it was suggested that the system of charging fixed fees for petty hotel licences might be exchanged for a system of sale by tender. The Committee further recommended that the distillery selling price of arrack should be examined with reference to the fall in the cost of manufacture with a view to increasing the duty. The Committee also agreed that the system of granting remissions to the renters of shops to compensate them for alleged loss of revenue during the currency of their leases should be stopped.

V. Press communiqué, dated the 26th October 1931.

The Committee took up the expenditure of the Veterinary Department and examined the Director of Veterinary Services. While recommending no decrease in the number of officers in the department the Committee thought that some justifiable economy might be secured by a readjustment of the rates of pay between more important and less important posts.

2. As to establishments the Committee considered that Government should not spend any further money at present on building and opening new dispensaries and that those dispensaries which were not justifying the money that was being spent on them should be closed. New dispensaries in future should be paid for by the local bodies who require them and the question of inviting contributions from local bodies in aid of the existing institutions should also be considered.

3. The expansion of the activities of the department, when this again becomes possible, should be in the direction of appointing more touring assistants, but about one-quarter of the total number employed should be on a temporary footing so that the establishment may be capable of variation with the incidence of cattle disease.

4. Expenditure on the Veterinary College should be reduced by abolishing stipends and creating in their place a limited number of scholarships for students of depressed and backward communities. The ordinary students should also be required to pay fees. As a further means of securing revenue the Committee expressed the opinion that a

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small fee should be levied wherever possible for inoculations performed and recommended that Government should examine this question in consultation with the Director. The main possibility of retrenchment in this department lies in the manufacture of anti-rinderpest serum in Madras instead of buying it from the Government of India. The Committee understood that recent experiments had proved the practicability of this economy and they recommended for the urgent consideration of Government that the manufacture of serum in Madras should be started at the earliest possible date. The Committee are advised that the saving would amount to about Rs. 2 lakhs a year.

5. In the afternoon the Committee examined the Registrar of Co-operative Societies regarding the expenditure of his department. They eventually decided to recommend that the number of Deputy Registrars should be reduced by two and that the grade of Sub-Deputy Registrars should be abolished and replaced by a superior grade of Inspectors. The Committee further agreed that the subsidies now given to District Federations and the Provincial Co-operative Union should be withdrawn, and that three of the six training institutes should cease to receive Government assistance. They also considered that there might be some increase in the number of societies from whom audit fees are collected. Finally they decided to recommend that the Deputy Director of Agriculture who has recently been appointed to work in the Co-operative department should be withdrawn with effect from the beginning of the next financial year and that the present post of Joint Registrar should be abolished.

FORT. ST. GEORGE,
29th October 1931.

G. R. F. TOTTENHAM,
Retrenchment Secretary.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Tuesday, the 3rd November 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.	Nanjappah Bahadur, Subadar-Major
Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	S.A.
Krishnan Nayar, <i>Kt.</i> , The hon. Diwan	Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
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> ,	Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
<i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon. Mr. A. Y. G.	Narayanawami Pillai, Rao Bahadur
Stokes, <i>c.s.i.</i> , <i>c.i.e.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , The hon.	T. M.
Mr. H. G.	Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan	Palat, Mr. R. M.
Bahadur B.	Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.	Pattagar of Palayakottai, The
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon.	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Diwan Bahadur S.	Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.	Raja of Kallikote, The
Alamelumanga Thayaramma, Mrs. K.	Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.	T. A.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Baha-	Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
dur R. N.	Ramamurti, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. S. V.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.	Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.	Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Birley, Mr. F.	Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Browning, Mr. W. M.	Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Conran Smith, <i>c.i.e.</i> , <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. E.	Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan
Davis, <i>M.B.E.</i> , Mr. J. A.	Bahadur, C. S.
Devadason, Mr. M.	Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Duraishwami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.	Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Foulkes, Mr. R.	Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Hood, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. H. M.	Simhachalam, Mr. Gade.
Indraiah, Mr. C.	Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Jagaunatham, Mr. H. M.	Siva Raj, Mr. N.
James, Mr. F. E.	Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.	Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Krishnan, Mr. C.	Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.	Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Luker, Mr. F. G.	Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.	Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.	Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur,	Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan
Khan Bahadur.	Sahib.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.	Thorne, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. J. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur,	Tottenham, <i>I.C.S.</i> , Mr. G. R. F.
T. M.	Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Moses, Mr. P. C.	Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	Venkatachala Reddiyar, Mr. K. C. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.	Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.	Venkataramayya, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Nachiyappa Goundar, Mr. K. A.	

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PRESENT :—cont.

Winter, Mr. W. E.
 Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur, The
 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur,
 Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The
 Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Qualifications of the Lecturer in Kindergarten, Lady Willingdon Training College, Madras.

* 531 Q.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether Miss B. Amirtammal possesses the qualifications prescribed for the post of Kindergarten Lecturer in Lady Willingdon Training College, Madras;

(b) whether she possesses the qualifications prescribed for a post in the Collegiate branch of the Madras Educational Service;

(c) whether she is qualified to teach child education to the L.T. class and why the Child Education section was temporarily closed in the College last year;

(d) whether there are any other women officers in the department who possess the qualifications prescribed for the post of Kindergarten Lecturer in the Lady Willingdon Training College; and

(e) if the answer to clause (d) is in the affirmative, why Miss B. Amirtammal was appointed to the post?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) The answer to the first portion is in the negative; the Child Education Section was closed last year for want of qualified lecturers to teach the subject.

(d) None except Miss M. W. Barrie and Miss C. Gordon, the permanent holders of the two posts of lecturer in kindergarten.

(e) Does not arise.

Applications from Adi-Dravida girls for admission into the hostels attached to the Lady Willingdon Training College, Madras.

* 532 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the number of applications received from the city and mufassal Adi-Dravida girls for admission into hostels maintained under the management of the Lady Willingdon Training College during the years 1929, 1930 and 1931 and how many were admitted each year;

(b) what are the rules relating to admission of girls to the several hostels attached to the above College; and

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(c) whether there is any advisory committee of men or women or both to assist the Principal for the selection of girls?

A.—(a)

	1929.	1930.	1931.
Ice-House Hostel—			
Number applied	..	..	..
Number admitted	..	..	..
Non-Brahman Hindu Hostel and Indian Christian Hostel—			
Number applied	..	..	..
Number admitted	..	..	..

(b) A copy of the rules is placed on the table.

(c) No.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to appoint a committee of selection for this College?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“I shall examine the question.”

Stipends to Indian Christians in the Lower Elementary Training School at Mangalore.

* 533 Q.—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) why the number of stipends given to Indian Christians this year for a course in the Lower Elementary Training School, Mangalore, are about 66 per cent less than last year, whereas the number of stipends available is about 15 per cent less;

(b) whether the hon. the Minister will be pleased to have the deficiency rectified; and

(c) whether he will be pleased to place on the table the rules governing the distribution of stipends?

A.—(a) & (b) The actual figures relating to admissions to the Lower Elementary Training class of the Government Training School for Masters, Mangalore, are as given below:—

Year.	Total number of provincial stipendiaries.	Number of Indian Christian stipendiaries.
1930-31	34	2
1931-32	30	...

It is the policy of the Government gradually to eliminate the lower elementary grade teachers and admissions into the lower elementary training classes are accordingly restricted to teachers belonging to the backward (including the depressed) classes and the Muhammadan community. Indian Christians who are converts from the depressed classes are eligible for admission.

(c) The hon. Member is referred to the rules in Chapter IX of the Madras Educational Rules, particularly Rule No. 118.

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Agriculture

Application of article 1 of the Public Service Notification to agricultural officers.

* 534 Q.—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether any agricultural officers holding the L.Ag. qualification have been debarred from promotion to the gazetted rank on the ground that they are unpassed men according to Article 1 of the Public Service Notification; and

(b) if so, how many such cases there are?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Fourteen, in the cadre of upper subordinates.

MR. A. B. SHETTY:—“ May I ask whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to consider the cases of officers who have been debarred from promotion?”

The hon. MR. P. T. RAJAN:—“ I shall consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend.”

Proposed closure of the Chintaladevi Cattle Farm.

* 535 Q.—KHAN BAHADUR YAHYA ALI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chintaladevi Cattle Farm is going to be closed as a measure of retrenchment, and if so, from what date;

(b) whether it is a fact that the available cattle in the farm are sold in public auction; and if so, whether such auction has been duly advertised;

(c) what the Government propose to do with the buildings and the land belonging to the farm; and

(d) whether the Government have considered the desirability of allowing the said farm to be run by a private agency, if forthcoming?

A.—(a) The Government have not yet decided on the question.

(b), (c) & (d) Do not arise at this stage.

Local Self-Government

Proposal to build a bridge across the Tungabhadra river.

* 536 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad have consulted the Government of Madras regarding a proposal to build a bridge across the Tungabhadra river, on Adoni and Raichur road and if so, what the terms of the proposal are and whether the Madras Government propose to share the cost of the bridge with His Exalted Highness' Government.

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A.—Yes. The Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad have suggested that the total cost of the bridge, viz., Rs. 6.6 lakhs, may be shared equally by them and this Government. The proposal is under the consideration of this Government.

Heavy licence fees on buses plying for hire.

* 537 Q.—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been made to the Government regarding the heavy rate of licence fees charged by any of the district boards on buses plying for hire and, if so, from which districts such complaints have been received; and

(b) whether any action has been taken by the Government to prevent local bodies from charging excessive licence fees?

A.—(a) Yes, in respect of the rates of licence fees levied by the following district boards—

(1) Ganjam, (2) Vizagapatam, (3) West Godavari, (4) Kistna, (5) Guntur, (6) Malabar, (7) East Godavari, (8) Kurnool and (9) South Kanara.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Inclusion of a portion of the Saidapet Municipality into the limits of the Corporation of Madras.

* 538 Q.—MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Chairman of the Saidapet Municipality has addressed the Government that the residents of the portion of Mambalam now in the Saidapet Municipality desire to be included in the Madras municipal limits; if so, whether any reason has been adduced for it; and

(b) what steps the Government propose to take?

A.—(a) The Saidapet Municipal Council some time ago submitted proposals for the exclusion of the area in question from the limits of the municipality.

(b) The proposals are being examined by the Collector of Chingleput and will be considered by Government on receipt of his remarks.

MR. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I know whether the Collector of Chingleput has since submitted his report?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ Not yet.”

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Medical

Transfers consequent on G.O. No. 1283, P.H., dated the 16th July 1931.

* 539 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received any representation to the effect that G.O. No. 1283, P.H., dated the 16th July 1931, has given rise to many transfers and much expenditure;

(b) what steps he proposes to take to avoid the transfers necessitated by that G.O. in this financial stringency; and

(c) whether he is aware of the transfer of R. Mangaraju, head clerk, Guntur District Medical Officer's office, to Chittoor?

A.—(a) No transfers have been made with reference to the Government Order.

(b) A copy* of G.O. No. 1122 P.H., dated 22nd June 1931, placing certain restrictions on the transfer of clerks attached to the offices of District Medical Officers is placed on the table. The restrictions in this Government Order apply equally to transfers of the clerks employed in hospitals at divisional centres.

(c) Yes.

Alleged private undertakings by Dr. Oommen, Deputy Superintendent of the Mental Hospital, Calicut.

* 540 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 about 54 respectable residents of Calicut made an application, dated 5th March 1931, to the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, making serious allegations against Dr. Oommen, the late Deputy Superintendent of Mental Hospital, Calicut, that he was running a kuri with bogus personages and that he was running a bogus bank ostensibly in the name of another lad and bringing to the notice of the Government Dr. Oommen's conduct against Public Servants' Conduct Rules; and

(b) whether any enquiry was made into the same; if so, what is the result of the said enquiry and what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) A petition, dated the 1st March 1931, on the subject was received by the Surgeon-General.

(b) The Government have ordered an enquiry into the allegations made against Dr. Oommen.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“ May I ask whether any enquiry was made by the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital at the instance of the Surgeon-General?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ Yes, Sir.”

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 583-584 infra.

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Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—“ May I know what is the nature of the allegations?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ They are confidential.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask when the enquiry is likely to be completed in view of the fact that the petition was received on 1st March 1931?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ The Government have ordered an enquiry into the matter; a Special Officer has been deputed for this purpose and it is hoped that the enquiry will be completed soon.”

Alleged irregularities in the Mental Hospital, Calicut.

* 541 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 wife of the late store-keeper Govindan filed a suit against Dr. Oommen, late Deputy Superintendent, Mental Hospital, Calicut, in the Munsif's Court, Calicut, for amounts due to her husband in connexion with the kuri fund;

(b) whether it is a fact that Dr. Oommen when he was in the Mental Hospital, Calicut, was making the patients of the hospital go to his private estate and work there;

(c) whether it is a fact that the food prepared for the patients of the Hospital or intended for them was used for the coolies working in the estate of Dr. Oommen when he was Deputy Superintendent; and

(d) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) No.

(d) The officer has been transferred from the Mental Hospital and Government have ordered an enquiry into certain allegations made against Dr. Oommen.

Alleged petition against Dr. Oommen, Deputy Superintendent of the Calicut Mental Hospital.

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

(a) whether the Superintendent of the Calicut Mental Hospital enquired into a petition presented against Dr. Oommen by the ward attendants and totis of the hospital making allegations against him regarding a prize kuri; if so, what is the result of the said enquiry and whether the same has been reported to the Government; and

(b) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government have ordered an enquiry into the allegations made against Dr. Oommen who has already been transferred from Calicut.

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Religious Endowments

Opinions of the District Judges and the District Magistrates on the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill.

* 543 Q.—Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have called for opinions from any District Judges, District Magistrates, and other officers of Government, regarding the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place them on the table of the House?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The matter will be considered.

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—“ May I know whether these papers will be placed before the Select Committee?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ The suggestion will be considered.”

Irrigation

Agreement, dated the 18th February 1924, between the Government of Madras and the Mysore State.

* 544 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether copy of the agreement between the Madras Government and the Mysore State, dated 18th February 1924, referred to in the agreement published on page 1424 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 23rd September 1930, is available with the Government; and

(b) whether a copy of the said agreement will be placed on the table for reference?

A.—(a) & (b) The agreement was published on pages 776—788 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 8th July 1924. Copies of G.O. No. 228 I., dated 3rd July 1924, containing the agreement are available in the Council Library.

The Toludur Project.

* 545 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) when the Toludur Project was completed and what the area cultivated by the said project is;

(b) what the cost of the Toludur project and Pelandorai anicut was and what the percentage of return from both these projects is; and

(c) whether copies of the Government Order relating to the Toludur project and Pelandorai anicut will be placed on the Table of the House?

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A.—(a) The project was completed in 1923. The area irrigated in 1929–30 was 16,043 acres first crop and 2,987 acres second crop.

(b) The cost of the Toludur project was Rs. 25.86 lakhs and of the Pelandorai anicut project Rs. 6.92 lakhs. The return from the Toludur project was 2.43 per cent on the sum at charge in 1929–30. The Pelandorai anicut system yielded a return of 2.52 per cent on the sum at charge in 1929–30.

(c) It is not clear to what orders the hon. Member refers. If he will specify the information he requires, it will be supplied to him, if possible.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know from the hon. Member what portion of the area irrigated under the Toludur Project lies in the district of South Arcot?”

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

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask whether the anticipated ayacut under the project has been brought fully under cultivation?”

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

Action taken on the report of the Palar Irrigation Committee.

* 546 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what steps have been taken on the report of the Palar Irrigation Committee appointed by Government;

(b) whether further information was called for from the Mysore Government as suggested by the report of the Palar Irrigation Committee; and

(c) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to lay it on the table with other connected correspondence?

A.—(a) The Government have prohibited all extensions of irrigation in the Palar basin and the granting of loans for sinking new wells or installing pumps in the area.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Government will consider the publication of the results of the correspondence in due course.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ May I know whether any steps are being taken to increase the flow of water in the river?”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ I am afraid it is not possible for us to do that.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask whether the unanimous recommendation of the Committee was acted upon, or the official recommendation?”

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The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"If the hon. Member informs me what particular information he wants, I shall furnish it to him."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to answer (a), may I know whether that action was taken on the recommendation of the non-official Members of the Palar Committee or at the instance of the Government themselves?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I do not remember, Sir; I must ask for notice of the question."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask what steps the Government propose to take to improve the condition of irrigation under the Palar anicut?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"The anicut is being repaired this year. Certain measures have been taken to endeavour to keep the channel from silting up; we are doing what we can."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"It was found that the water flowing in the river was found inadequate; that is why the Committee was appointed. I would like to know from the Government what steps they propose to take in this matter?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"We cannot improve the supply of water in the river; it is a question of rainfall. Clause (a) shows what action has been taken by the Government. As far as Government is concerned, they have prohibited all extensions of irrigation. We cannot prohibit people from digging wells within their private lands; but we can refrain from giving them assistance to do so. That we have done. Certain information has been called for from the Mysore Government to assist us in determining what are the causes of the deficiency of water-supply; as soon as it is received, we propose to consider what could be done further."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I am referring to the complaint of the ryots of the Palar anicut about what has been done by the Mysore Government. With reference to that point, I wish to know if the Government have come to any decision with regard to the improvement of water-supply?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"That is a matter which is under correspondence with the Mysore Government. We have asked for certain information and we hope to receive it in due course."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I know why the recommendation of the non-official Members of the Committee that an officer of the Madras Government may be sent to get the information from the Mysore Government has not been acted upon?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"That suggestion will be considered, if necessary."

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Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"With reference to answer (b), may I ask whether the information was called for, on the recommendation of the non-official Members of the Committee?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"If the Mysore Government give us the information, it may not be necessary to depute an officer, but we should require the concurrence of the Mysore Government; the whole matter is under correspondence with that Government. It is quite possible that we may subsequently accept that recommendation."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether an officer of this Government will be deputed to collect the information or to obtain the concurrence of the Mysore Government?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I must ask for notice of the question; I have not got the file here."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether serious allegations have been made that the Mysore Government have been taking water from the Bothamangalam tank, far in excess of the agreement between that Government and this Government?"

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

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the hon. Member to take steps to ascertain how much quantity of water is being utilized for the purpose of the Mysore Government from the Butthamangalam tank?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I have informed my hon. Friend that the whole matter is under correspondence with the Mysore Government."

Progress in the construction of the Kattalai high level channel.

* 547 Q.—Mr. K. SINGAM AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage the construction of the Kattalai high level channel is;

(b) whether estimates are ready and whether the work will be commenced this year; if so, when; if not, in what year the work will be taken up; and

(c) whether the construction of the high level channel is to be done along with the construction of the bed-regulator?

A.—(a) & (b) Estimates are ready. Construction has been stopped because Government have been unable to provide funds for it. The work will proceed as soon as funds can be provided.

(c) This depends upon the provision of funds for the high level channel.

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*Expenditure on the Minor Irrigation Works in the
Nellore district.*

* 548 Q.—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how much money has been spent on minor irrigation works in Nellore district during the past three years and what amount has been allotted for the current year;

(b) what amount has been spent on major irrigation works excluding Nellore river canal system and Kanigiri reservoir system during the last five years; and

(c) whether the Government have approved of the scheme to improve the Gundemadakala tank; if so, what the estimated amount is?

	RS.
A.—(a) 1928-29	67,629
1929-30	60,846
1930-31	40,920
1931-32 (allotment)	46,000
(b) 1926-27	65,821
1927-28	60,902
1928-29	76,499
1929-30	73,336
1930-31	54,789

(c) No. A report from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) is awaited.

Diversion of the Upper Kottai Konar into the Big Amani tank.

* 549 Q.—Mr. YAKUB HASAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the pattadars of the wet lands under the Big Amani tank, Koratti village, Tiruppattur taluk, North Arcot district, had been memorializing the Government for a long time to divert the Upper Kottai Konar into their tank and to rectify the defect in the sluices;

(b) whether there has been a continual failure of crops under the ayacut since 1917 for want of sufficient supply of water; and

(c) what steps, if any, have been taken or are proposed to be taken to meet the situation?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have not the information but will call for a report.

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Land Revenue Administration

*Proposal for the abolition of certain revenue and taluk divisions in
Salem district.*

* 550 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—“ Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any proposals for the abolition of some revenue divisions and taluks in the Salem district owing to retrenchment; and

(b) if so, what they are?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The proposals are—

- (1) to convert the Rasipur taluk into a sub-taluk attached to Namakkal taluk;
- (2) to place the Mettur taluk in charge of an Independent Deputy Tahsildar; and
- (3) to abolish the Denkanikotta sub-taluk.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—“ May I know whether there is any proposal to abolish the Sankari division? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ I do not think there is.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ What will be the savings effected by these proposals? ”

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I ask whether these proposals are carried out with a view to effect retrenchment only or for administrative reasons? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ Retrenchment is the primary cause.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ What is the secondary cause? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ We have got to save money where we can. We are able to do so in this particular district.”

Pay and prospects of the Copyist Establishment.

* 551 Q.—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: With reference to the answer given to my questions No. 449, dated 27th February 1931 and No. 645, dated the 18th March 1931, and the statement laid on the table of the House on the 4th August 1931, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was any year in which the expenditure incurred on account of the copyists and copyist examiners was not covered by the receipts;

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(b) if the receipts have exceeded the expenditure, the average surplus per year; and

(c) whether they propose to make the copyists and copyist examiners permanent?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information other than that contained in the statement which was laid on the table on 4th August 1931.

(c) No.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“ In view of the fact that the receipts of the Copyist establishment have always exceeded the expenditure, as seen from the statement laid on the table of the House on the 4th August, and in view of the fact that there has always been a surplus, may I know whether the Government will be pleased to distribute the surplus of each office to the copyist of that office? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ I do not think we can consider proposals of that sort for further expenditure in the present financial stringency.”

Number of Sardars, Naiks and Paiks in the Ghumsur division.

* 552 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the total number of (i) Sardars, (ii) Naiks and (iii) Paiks in the Ghumsur division of the Ganjam district is;

(b) what the duties performed by the Sardars, the Naiks and the Paiks of Ghumsur division in Ganjam, respectively, are;

(c) whether the said functionaries discharge their duties invariably in person or whether they are allowed to make money contributions so as to enable the Tahsildars to employ substitutes;

(d) the period for which a Paik, a Naik or a Sardar is required to render service during a year;

(e) how many of them render personal service and how many of them are allowed to contribute ‘ Pali ’ money;

(f) why or in what circumstances permission to pay ‘ Pali ’ money is granted; and

(g) whether the Government ever sanctioned the receipt of ‘ Pali ’ money and the employment of substitutes for Paiks or Naiks or Sardars?

A.—(a) & (b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to page 6 of the Ganjam District Manual. The services of the Paiks are now generally utilized by the officers of the Forest, Revenue, Public Works and Police departments in carrying tapal and messages, guarding camps, escorting carts, and so forth. The Paiks also generally escort Government officers on tour. The Government have no other information.

(c) to (g) The Government have no information.

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Duties of Paiks.

* 553 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any record is maintained of the Paiks rendering escort duty or of guarding camps and carrying tapals and messages;

(b) how many Paiks are employed on such duty during a year;

(c) the earliest period from which Samastanam Paiks are employed on escort duty and in carrying tapals under officers of various departments;

(d) whether any Paiks are deputed to escort Deputy Inspectors of Schools who visit schools almost in every village of the division or to carry their tapals;

(e) whether there are Samastanam Paiks, Naiks and Sardars in all the Agency tracts of the Ganjam district;

(f) whether officers of the several departments require any escorts in Agency tracts where there are no Samastanam Paiks;

(g) whether Samastanam Paiks escort postal runners in the Ghumsur division or in the Agency tracts;

(h) whether it is the practice for village servants to carry urgent tapals from their own village to the next village and the village servants of that village to the next and so on until the tapals reach their destination and to escort public officers in the same manner from village to village whenever and wherever escort is necessary;

(i) whether any Paiks service inams in the Pandakhol Agency were resumed;

(j) if so, how the officers are escorted in the Pandakhol Agency;

(k) whether the Samastanam Paiks or their substitutes render any personal service to the Tahsildar and his staff at the Taluk stations in the Ghumsur division;

(l) whether it is a fact that Sardars, Naiks and Paiks are paid daily batta when on service; and

(m) the amount of batta so paid per day and what the annual expenditure incurred on that account is?

A.—(a) to (h) & (j) to (m) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 552. The Government have no other information.

(i) The ‘ Paik ’ service inams in the Pondakhole Mutta, Surada taluk, Ganjam district, except those situated in the villages of Soroponko and Jatrama, were resumed and fully assessed.

Duties of Samastanam Paiks, Naiks and Sardars.

* 554 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that formerly Samastanam Paiks, Naiks and Sardars of Ghumsur division were deputed to serve as guards at salt factories during the manufacturing season;

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(b) for how many years they were so employed and when such deputation was terminated and why;

(c) whether Samastanam Paiks, Naiks and Sardars are employed as treasury guards in the Ghumsur division in addition to or in lieu of the ordinary police; and

(d) whether there is any necessity for placing additional guards at Government treasuries in the Ghumsur division?

A.—(a) to (d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 552. The Government have no other information.

Resumption of service inams held by the Sardars, Naiks and Paiks of the Ghumsur division.

* 555 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Inam Commissioner in 1862 or thereabouts ordered the resumption of service inams held by the Sardars, Naiks and Paiks of Ghumsur division as well as the doratanams of the Parlakimedi taluk, but that by G.O. No. 1110, dated 13th July 1867, Government directed that they should be left untouched and that by G.O. No. 1425, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1927, the doratanam inams in Parlakimedi taluk were ordered to be resumed and fully assessed?

A.—In G.O. No. 1110, dated 13th July 1867, the Government ordered that no change should then be made in the condition of the Paiks. At the same time the Government stated that they would give their deliberate consideration to this question later. In G.O. No. 1425, Revenue, dated 22nd July 1927, the Government directed that the doratanam inams in the Parlakimedi estate should be resumed and fully assessed.

Procedure in regard to the levy of 'Theerva Jasthi' and 'Pasal Jasthi'.

* 556 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what is the procedure now adopted in order to let the villagers know of the levy of the excess water-cess by way of 'Theervai Jasthi' and 'Pasal Jasthi'?

A.—When a patta is delivered to a ryot at jamabandi it contains particulars of these charges. In cases where it is proposed to levy enhanced water cess for the irregular use of Government water, intimation of the proposal is given to the ryots, a reasonable interval being allowed for the submission of objections. It is left to the Collectors, subject to the control of the Board of Revenue, to decide whether this intimation should take the form of an individual notice to each ryot or a collective notice posted up from time to time in the village chivadi or other public place.

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Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether intimation of the enhanced cess is given before the excess of water is used or after it is used?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"After the water is used."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Is it not a fact that any evidence to prove the contrary would vanish, if intimation is given long after the water is used?"

(No reply.)

Extent of dry lands in Repalle taluk, prior to the introduction of the increased shutters to the Kistna anicut.

* 557 Q.—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the extent of dry lands was in the year immediately preceding the introduction of the increased shutters to the Kistna anicut, held by the ryots in the Repalle taluk, Guntur district, which were unfit for dry cultivation and useless to those ryots unless brought under irrigation;

(b) how much of that extent has been sanctioned for irrigation since then;

(c) how much of it is still lying waste;

(d) what the reason for not extending the benefit of irrigation to those lands is; and

(e) whether the Government are aware that most of these lands are lands situated at the tail-ends of irrigation canals, and can easily be irrigated with much less water than elsewhere and with no additional cost to them?

A.—(a) to (e) The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—"May I ask whether the hon. Member has any objection to place the report on the table of the House when it is received?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I shall consider the question when the report is received."

Minor Irrigation

Restoration of the Panjamthangi tank, Ramnad district.

* 558 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Elundrakondan Periyakulam and Panjamthangi tank in Elundrakondan, Srivilliputtur taluk, Ramnad district, serve one and the same ayacut;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Panjamthangi tank is in an abandoned state and the question of its restoration is now engaging the attention of the Government;

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(c) whether it is a fact that consequent on the abandoned state of the Panjamthangi tank, the 155 acres of mamul wet lands lying below suffer much in the matter of their irrigation ordinarily;

(d) whether it is a fact that the above wet lands get their supply from the Periyakulam through the surplus vents, sluices I and II and the Panjamthangi tank;

(e) whether it is a fact that some dry lands to the north of sluice II are to be transferred to wet;

(f) what is the extra revenue the Government will get by transferring these lands to wet; and

(g) whether the Government will be pleased to direct that the transfer of the dry lands to the north of sluice II be postponed till the Panjamthangi tank is restored?

A.—(a) to (g) The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

Issue of permits for water-rate cultivation in the Elundrakondan village.

* 559 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the officers responsible for the grant of permission for water-rate cultivation in Elundrakondan village satisfied themselves when issuing permits in fasli 1340 that there would be sufficient supply for the mamul wet lands;

(b) how many acres of mamul wet lands mainly depend on the Panjamthangi tank for their irrigation after they cease to receive supply from the Elundrakondan Periyakulam;

(c) what is the capacity of the Panjamthangi tank and how many days' supply does it hold for the wet lands under it and whether the capacity is sufficient to give 40 days' supply to the lands east of it;

(d) whether it is proposed to transfer some dry lands to the east of the Panjamthangi tank to wet; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the wet lands east of the Panjamthangi and those fed by the surplus odai suffer from want of adequate supply when the water in the Periyakulam goes below the sill of the surplus vents?

A.—(a) to (e) The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

Dry cultivation under Elundrakondan Periyakulam.

* 560 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what is the source of irrigation for dry lands S. Nos. 39, 48, 52, 55, 56 and 57 under Elundrakondan Periyakulam now proposed for transfer to wet;

(b) how long these lands have been under water-rate cultivation;

(c) whether there is any plan marked channel to irrigate these lands;

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(d) whether these lands were not lowered and brought under water-rate cultivation in or about 1925;

(e) how many acres of mamul wet lands lie below these dry lands;

(f) whether it is a fact that the lower down mamul wet lands will be seriously prejudiced by allowing wet cultivation on these lands with tank water;

(g) whether it is a fact that wet lands irrigated by the surplus odai will get only 80 out of 120 days' supply in the Elundrakondan Periyakulam and for the rest of the period they have to depend on the Panjamthangi tank and even this tank is in an abandoned state and could not hold even rain water owing to the various acts of the dry land-owner;

(h) whether it is a fact that these lands are being irrigated by putting up a cross dam, across the surplus odai making new openings in the Panjamthangi tank-bund and excavating new channels in the rear slope of the Panjamthangi bund unauthorizedly;

(i) whether it is a fact that the owner of the above dry lands cut open the Panjamthangi tank-bund and was irrigating his dry lands above mentioned by inserting pipes and the ryots objected to the unauthorized irrigation in 1925-26;

(j) whether the Sub-Collector or any officer of the Public Works Department inspected these lands and the unauthorized acts of damage done to the Panjamthangi tank-bund by the owner of the dry lands in or about 1925; and

(k) whether the hon. Member will be pleased to lay on the table of the House the reports of the Sub-Collector and of the Executive Engineer, if any, on the objection petitions of the ryots and the orders of the Collector thereon, if any?

A.—(a) to (k) The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

Water-rate cultivation under Elundrakondan Periyakulam.

* 561 Q.—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that water-rate cultivation is permitted for a very large area under Elundrakondan Periyakulam;

(b) whether the Executive Engineer gave any opinion with regard to water-rate cultivation under this tank, and if so, what is his opinion;

(c) what is the extent of wet and water-rate lands that got below 12 annas yield during faslis 1336 to 1340 and what was the cause for the low yield, if any; and

(d) the ayacut under the tank at the old settlement;
the ayacut at the resettlement;
the extent of dry lands transferred to wet last fasli;
the extent of double crop wet lands under the tank;
the extent of dry lands now proposed to be transferred to wet?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

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Particulars regarding the ayan tanks in Mudivanangan group.

* 562 Q.—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the Council table a comparative statement in respect of the ayan tanks in Mudivanangan group, viz., Chettiarpatti, Thondamankulam, Maruthuvaneri and Elundrakondan Periakulam tanks, showing—

(i) the ayacut under the tanks, and the quantity of water stored per acre of wet land;

(ii) the number of days' supply the tanks received during faslis 1336 to 1340 and the dates on which such supplies were received; and

(iii) the extent of water-rate cultivation allowed under the tanks in faslis 1336 to 1340?

A.—The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

Particulars regarding the ayan tanks in Mudivanangan group.

* 563 Q.—Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the Council table a comparative statement in respect of the ayan tanks in Mudivanangan group, viz., Thondamankulam, Chettiarpatti, Maruthuvaneri and Elundrakondan Periakulam showing—

(a) the capacity of the above tanks;

(b) the ayacut under the tanks;

(c) water stored per acre of irrigation of wet lands; and

(d) the extent of water-rate cultivation permitted under the above tanks during the preceding five faslis?

A.—The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

Extracts of No. 20 account for faslis 1337 to 1340 in respect of the tanks in Koonankulam group.

* 564 Q.—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(i) to lay on the Council table extracts of No. 20 account for faslis 1337 to 1340 in respect of Kollankondon, Kulasekaraperi, Teivetti and Koonankulam tanks of the Koonankulam group; and

(ii) to state the extent of water-rate cultivation allowed under Elundrakondan Periakulam in fasli 1340, the dates on which permits were issued and the state of supply in the tank on the respective dates when permission was given?

A.—The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

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Supply received by the Elundrakondan Periakulam tank during the last five faslis.

* 565 Q.—Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the number of days' supply the Elundrakondan Periakulam tank received during the last five faslis, the amount of remission granted and the extent of water-rate cultivation under the tank during the last five faslis?

A.—The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

Public Service

Exemption from Article 1 of the Public Service Notification.

* 566 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of G.O. No. 1084, Public, dated 24th October 1929, regarding the grant of exemptions to unpassed clerks from Article 1 of the Public Service Notification;

(b) whether any exemptions have been granted to unpassed clerks in the Revenue Department in South Kanara since October 1929 and, if so, on what specified grounds they have been granted; and

(c) whether there are any instances in which such exemptions have been refused by the Government in the year 1930 in spite of the recommendation of the District Collector of South Kanara and, if so, on what grounds?

A.—(a) The Government Order* is placed on the table of the House.

(b) Yes. In five cases exemption has been granted on the following grounds for each applicant:—

Case (1) This was a case of further exemption of a clerk who had already been exempted in the scale of Rs. 35—60 to enable him to draw pay in the scale of Rs. 60—4—80;

(i) The clerk's work was well reported upon;

(ii) he had passed all the tests required for a Tahsildar and completed the Revenue Inspector's course and was fully equipped for promotion to the grade of Rs. 60—4—80; and

(iii) there were already a fairly large number of non-Brahmans in the grade of Rs. 60—4—80 and two Brahmins had just then been promoted to that grade. The Collector therefore wanted to give the next vacancy in that grade to a Christian.

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Case (2) This was a case of permitting an exempted clerk to cross the efficiency bar at Rs. 50 in the scale of Rs. 35—60;

- (i) The clerk had already reached a pay of Rs. 50 per mensem in the scale of Rs. 35—60 and had remained at that pay for over three years;
- (ii) his work was reported to be very satisfactory; and
- (iii) he belonged to a community which was poorly represented in the superior service of the Revenue Department in the South Kanara district.

Case (3) This was a case of further exemption of a clerk who had already been exempted to draw a pay of Rs. 35 per mensem in the scale of Rs. 35—60 to enable him to draw increments in that scale;

- (i) The clerk was reported to be of good average ability;
- (ii) he had pre-armistice war service to his credit; and
- (iii) he had already put in six years service in the Revenue Department and had all along remained on the same pay as when he joined the Department.

Case (4) This was a case of exemption of a permanent typist to hold the post of clerk on Rs. 35—50;

- (i) Except in Elementary Mathematics the clerk had secured high marks in all other subjects at the S.S.L.C. examination;
- (ii) his work as typist was reported to be very satisfactory; and
- (iii) he belonged to a community which had not been represented in the clerical service of the Government in the South Kanara district.

Case (5) This was a case of temporary exemption to hold the post of a clerk on Rs. 35 per mensem for four months under the Monegar of the Amin-Divi Islands;

- (i) The services of a passed man willing to go to the Islands and knowing Kanarese, Malayalam and Arabic Malayalam, could not be obtained.

(c) Only one case of refusal has been traced. Exemption was refused on the grounds that

- (i) the applicant's only claim was that he belonged to a community which was poorly represented in the Revenue Department; and
- (ii) the Board of Revenue reported that there was no difficulty in getting qualified men for appointment as clerks in the district.

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Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"With reference to answer (c), may I know on what grounds the District Collector recommended that particular clerk?"

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

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I ask whether the hon. Member would be pleased to call for the connected papers and find out whether any injustice has been done to this poor clerk in this matter?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I shall look into the papers again."

Cinchona

Personnel of the staff of the Government Cinchona plantations.

* 567 Q.—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of European and Indian staff in the Government Cinchona plantations both in the Anamalais and Nilgiris respectively;

(b) how many coolies are employed in each of these plantations and what are the monthly salaries for permanent coolies and daily wages for temporary coolies;

(c) how many coolie lines were built during the years 1928, 1929 and 1930 giving the number of rooms in each line, dimensions of each room and the number of families that could live in each line; and

(d) whether it is a fact that Kule and Labour maistris are given contract work?

A.—(a) European ... Nil.
Indians ... 15

(b) Nilgiris and Anamalais about 350 each.

Unskilled labour, permanent or temporary, is divided into six classes according to the sex, age and the coolie's capacity for work and is paid daily wages according to its classification as follows:—

Class	I	...	...	...	...	8 to 7 annas
"	II	...	...	...	...	7 to 6 "
"	III	...	...	...	...	6 to 5 "
"	IV	...	...	...	...	5 to 4 "
"	V	...	...	...	...	4 to 3 "
"	VI	...	...	...	...	3 to 2 "

subject to an addition of one anna for work of an arduous nature.

Skilled labour employed on daily wages is paid wages not exceeding Rs. 3 per diem, and that on monthly rates of pay is paid Rs. 15, which can only be exceeded subject to the sanction of the Government.

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(c) *Anamalais*.—During 1928–29, 12 rooms each 12 feet × 10 feet with latrines and verandah, were built, each room being designed for a family of about five or six persons. During 1929–30, 12 such rooms were built.

(d) Not for ordinary plantation work, except when it is cheaper or convenient, e.g., felling work, for which a rate per acre is fixed or revetment work for which a cubic content rate is fixed.

Civil Justice

Proposal, if any, to reduce the strength of the High Court Bench.

* 568 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is a proposal with the Government to reduce the number of High Court Judges for the sake of retrenchment; and

(b) if so, what is the number to be reduced?

A.—(a) & (b) No such proposal is at present under the consideration of Government.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“In view of the fact that retrenchment is effected in other departments of the Government, may I know whether the Government do not consider it advisable to reduce the number of High Court Judges also?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“It is not practicable, having regard to the state of arrears in the High Court.”

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“May I ask if the hon. Member is aware that, after the number of Judges was increased, the arrears also began to increase?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“I am not aware of it.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Is there any proposal to reduce the pay of the High Court Judges?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“No, Sir.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether there has been any voluntary cut on the part of the High Court Judges?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“If my hon. Friend had been here when His Excellency addressed this Council, he would have had the information from his speech.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“As I was not here then, will the hon. Member be pleased to give the information?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“My hon. Friend can have it from the newspapers.”

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“May I ask whether the Government or the hon. the Law Member has since received the proposal of the High Court Judges with regard to retrenchment in their salaries?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“No, Sir.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I ask whether the arrears in the High Court are being satisfactorily reduced?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“Attempts are made in that direction.”

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“May I know what steps the Government propose to take in order to lessen the arrears?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“The Judges are devoting their full attention to this question.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“Will the hon. Member be pleased to state what retrenchment has been effected in the High Court establishment?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“It is left to the discretion of the Chief Justice under the Letters Patent.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“May I ask if the hon. Member is aware that since the Master of the High Court has been appointed, the work of the Judges has been considerably reduced, as the Master has taken over a good deal of work?”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—“Not with reference to the important portion of the work of the Judges.”

Transfer of Sarishtadars of District Courts.

* 569 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether any representation has been made in the current year by the Bar Associations in the Presidency to the Government of Madras on the subject of transfer of District Court Sarishtadars who have served for more than three years at a station and what action has been taken thereon?

A.—No such representation has been received. Under the Madras Civil Courts Act, III of 1873, the transfer of Sarishtadars of District Courts is a matter within the discretion of the High Court.

Electricity

Electrification of Salem and Erode.

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

(a) at what stage the electrification of Salem and Erode is;

(b) when will the work be actually finished;

(c) when the electric power from Pykara will be introduced into these towns;

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(d) if electric power from Pykara is brought in, what will be the rate for each unit; and

(e) whether there is any feasibility to develop electricity from Mettur dam when it is completed?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government lines have already been laid. The licensees expect to supply electricity to Salem by December 1931. It cannot be said at present when the supply to Erode will commence.

(c) It is expected that power from Pykara will be supplied in April 1933.

(d) Such rates as may from time to time be fixed, with the approval of the Government, subject to the maximum rates specified in clause 27 of the Fourth Annexure to the Salem-Erode Electric Licence, 1931, published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 6th January 1931.

(e) Yes.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal to develop electricity at Mettur? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" There is some such idea."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Has the Octavius Steel Company applied for extending their licence to various other parts than those for which they have already taken the licence? "

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

Prisons

Alleged complaints against Mr. Howe, Superintendent of the Vizagapatam Jail.

* 571 Q.—Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when Mr. Howe was transferred to Vizagapatam Jail;

(b) the number and class of jail offences and nature of punishments awarded from the date of his assumption of duties till the 15th July 1931;

(c) the number of complaints, signed, anonymous and pseudonymous, received by the Government and Inspector-General of Prisons about the affairs of Vizagapatam Jail from the said date;

(d) what are, in general, the complaints narrated therein;

(e) what action the Inspector-General of Prisons or the Government have taken on them; and

(f) how many times the Inspector-General visited the jail during the period?

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A.—(a) He joined duty as Superintendent of the Central Jail, Vizagapatam, on 9th March 1931.

(b) Twelve major offences were committed during the period. The punishments awarded were handcuffs, bar fetters, cross bar fetters, reduction of grade and reduction of remission.

(c) Four signed petitions were received by the Government and one by the Inspector-General of Prisons.

(d) It was represented in the petitions that prisoner Sri Hari Rao went on hunger strike because he was treated like an ordinary prisoner and supplied with unwholesome food. It was suggested that he might be released and that his friends might be allowed to interview him.

(e) On receipt of the petition by the Inspector-General of Prisons, it was immediately referred to the Superintendent who reported that the prisoner had stopped hunger strike. Messrs. V. L. Sastri and Kaleswara Rao were allowed by the Superintendent to interview the prisoner. The question of release was considered by the Government and was decided against. The hon. Member is also referred to the answers to clauses (a) and (b) of question No. 430. There is no truth in the allegation that the prisoner was given unwholesome food.

(f) The jail was not inspected by the Inspector-General during the period.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I ask whether the hon. the Law Member has noticed that, wherever Mr. Howe went, he was followed by complaints? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not aware of that."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I ask whether the hon. the Law Member is aware that, so long as he was in Madras Penitentiary, there were some complaints against him? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" There were some complaints in this Council regarding what he is alleged to have done."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know if the hon. the Law Member did not make any enquiry into those allegations? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Enquiries were made and answers were given here."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know whether the other complaints in regard to the Vizagapatam Jail are in the nature of the complaints which were received while Mr. Howe was in Madras? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Complaints of a different kind altogether."

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know if, after Mr. Howe was transferred to the Vizagapatam Jail, there has been a cessation of complaints from the Madras Penitentiary? "

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

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Has the Government received any complaints, Sir? "

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the hon. the Law Member will enquire as to why these complaints come wherever Mr. Howe goes? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I do not admit the correctness of the premises of my friend's question."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Sir, the hon. the Law Member just now admitted that, when Mr. Howe was here, there were many complaints and that when he went to Vizagapatam, there have been complaints there also. Does he mean to say that there are no complaints against him at all? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I meant nothing of the kind. As a matter of fact, the answer says that there have been complaints and the Inspector-General enquired into those complaints."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Were there complaints in Vizagapatam before Mr. Howe went there? "

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

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Sir, is the hon. the Law Member aware that Mr. Sri Hari Rao was on hunger-strike for 66 days and yet it was not thought necessary either by the Inspector-General of Prisons or even by the hon. the Law Member himself to go and visit the jail? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" There was no need for me to go there."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I want to know whether he did not consider it such an important and serious matter as to necessitate his going and seeing the jail himself? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No; in fact a Member of Government is not expected to inspect any place for reasons like this."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the Inspector-General of Prisons visited the place? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" He did enquire into the complaint."

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Then he did not go there personally? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Why? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Because it was not necessary."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Did he realize then that this was not a serious matter—a man being on death-bed? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" In the first place he was not on death-bed; in the second place, the Inspector-General made enquiries."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Did the Inspector-General know that it was customary for Mr. Howe to have such complaints received against him wherever he went? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I refuse to answer a question pitched in that key, Sir."

Supply of food to the civil prisoners in the Central Jail at Vellore.

* 572 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the civil prisoners in the Central Jail at Vellore are supplied with food prepared by convicts and served to convicts in the Central Jail; and

(b) on whose initiative and for what reasons the food intended for convicts is given to civil debtors in the Central Jail?

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

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Will the Government be pleased to call for the information as there is much discontent over this matter? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I have called for the information and the answer states that. I do not know why the hon. Member puts a supplementary question without reading the answer already on the paper."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Sir, is the hon. the Law Member right in making such remarks against questions put by hon. Members of the House? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member of Government is quite entitled to call the attention of the hon. Member who is putting the supplementary question to the answer already on paper."

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Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, the allegation made in the question is a fact; so, when the information is received, will the hon. Member be pleased to see that this state of affairs is put an end to?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Yes, if necessary."

Depressed Classes

Aid to the Adi-Dravidas in Vishnuvakkam village.

* 573 Q.—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is true that the dwelling houses in the Cheri of Vishnuvakkam village No. 115 of Tiruvallur taluk are submerged in water every year in the rainy season; and

(b) what action the Government propose to take to safeguard the lives and huts of the Adi-Dravidas living there?

A.—(a) No. On occasions when the tank near the cheri surpluses, some water gets into the streets of the cheri.

(b) The Government are informed that the lives of the Adi-Dravidas are in no danger; but the Commissioner of Labour will be asked to see if arrangements can be made to improve the conditions.

Factories

Report by the Commissioner of Labour on the condition of labour prevailing in the beedi factories of Madras.

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

(a) whether the late Commissioner of Labour, Mr. Grey, has submitted to Government a report on labour conditions in the beedi factories in the city of Madras; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place it on the table of the House?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government are unable to place the report on the table of the House.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I should like to know from the hon. the Home Member why the Government consider this report confidential?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Government will have to consider this report along with the Report of the Whitley Commission and until they do so, it is not possible for the Government to place the former on the table of the House."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"In view of the fact that notice has been given of a Bill to regulate the conditions of labour in beedi factories, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place this report on the table?"

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (b) of the question, may I know whether the inability to place the report on the table is due to physical reason or to sentiment?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"As I have already said, this report has to be considered along with the Whitley Commission Report, and I may say that my hon. Friend Mr. Arasu's Bill is causing a lot of uneasiness to Muhammadan beedi merchants who came and saw me last week and made representations to the effect that the Bill would bring a lot of starvation among the poor Muhammadans. Therefore, I must take some time and consider the question carefully before I can place the report on the table of the House."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Is it on account of the representations made to the hon. the Home Member that he finds it unable to publish this report?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir; I have already answered this question."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Are we to understand, Sir, that the hon. the Home Member does not agree with the conclusions and the observations of the Royal Commission on this question of labourers in the beedi factories?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have said no such thing. All that I said was that I would have to look into both sides of the question carefully."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know what reasons led the Government to institute this enquiry?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I think the 29 Madras Youth League brought certain matters to the notice of the Government and we then called for a report from the Labour Commissioner. That report is confidential, and we thought that we might consider it along with the Whitley Commission Report."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether any opportunity will be given to the 29 Madras Youth League to support or controvert the remarks made in that report of Mr. Grey?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Was not Mr. Grey directed to submit a report to the Government on the working of the beedi factories as a reply to the allegations made in the report of the 29 Madras Youth League?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have already answered that."

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I know if the report contains very damaging statements about the working of these beedi factories? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I cannot answer that question off-hand."

General

Order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, against the Secretaries of the Zamindari Ryots' Conference.

* 575 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that prohibitory orders were issued on the Secretaries of the Reception Committee of the Zamindari Ryots' Conference (District and Provincial) that was held at Venkatagiri in Nellore district on the 8th and 9th September 1931;

(b) whether he will place on the table a copy of the order of the Sub-Collector as also a written statement filed in reply to the prohibitory orders;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Reception Committee, Mr. Perumal Naidu, an ex-M.L.A., as also Mr. Biswanath Das, an ex-M.L.C., interviewed the Sub-Collector and Magistrate of Gudur regarding prohibitory orders issued under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code;

(d) whether it is a fact that admission to this Conference was regulated by tickets both for the delegates and visitors; and

(e) whether the Government have ascertained from the Police and the Sub-Collector the reasons for their apprehension of a breach of peace?

A.—(a) An order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, was served on K. Kalyana Rao and K. Venkatarama Rao of whom the former was advertised to be the Secretary of the Reception Committee of the Zamindari Ryots' Conference proposed to be held on the 8th and 9th September 1931.

(b) Copies of the order of the Joint Magistrate, Gudur, and the petition filed by the parties concerned in reply to it are placed on the table.

(c) Yes.

(d) It is understood that it was proposed to regulate admission for delegates and visitors by ticket.

(e) The reasons for the apprehension of a breach of the peace are explained in the order of the Joint Magistrate, Gudur.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" May I ask the hon. the Home Member whether it is the intention of the Government to prevent meetings wherein it might be anticipated that some speeches might be resented by the persons concerned in holding the meeting? "

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

" No, Sir; it is not the intention of the Government. I quite realize it as a very extreme step to stop a conference. It would naturally give an impression to the public that the authorities are siding with one party or another. Government have gone very carefully into this question in the present case, and they think the reasons given by the authorities in this case hold good. I hope there will be no repetition of such a thing again."

Alleged issue of a circular by the District Superintendent of Police, regarding picketing in Chittoor district.

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

(a) whether the District Superintendent of Police, Chittoor, issued any circular that police should attend every shop where picketing is going on;

(b) if not, why did the sub-inspector of police and Circle Inspector and the Excise sub-inspector go on the 12th of July to the Kattamanchi toddy shop even before the picketing began at Chittoor; and

(c) whether the hon. the Home Member had prepared and sent any instructions to the district officers in the mufassal in the matter of picketing and in the observing of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact; if not, why not?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Because they received information that the shop was going to be picketed in such a manner as was likely to provoke a breach of the peace.

(c) The Hon'ble Member is referred to the answer to clause (h) of his question No. 450.

Interference by the District Superintendent of Police, Chittoor, in the matter of picketing of toddy shops in Kuppam.

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

(a) whether in or about August last, the District Superintendent of Police of Chittoor ordered that the number of picketers at toddy shops at Kuppam should not exceed four or five even though there may be any number of approaches to the toddy shops; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the District Superintendent of Police also issued an order under section 30 (2) of the Indian Police Act that picketing volunteers should not march in the streets of Kuppam in procession?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answers to clause (b) and (c) of question No. 580.

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Police*Alleged parade of a number of reserve police in Kuppam.*

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

(a) whether in or about August last, the District Superintendent of Police of Chittoor brought down a number of police reserve to Kuppam; if so, how long did they stay there, and why; and

(b) whether he paraded them through the streets of Kuppam; if so, for how many days, and why?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 328.

(b) The reserve party was marched through the streets to their training ground in the ordinary course of duty.

Arrest and prosecution of toddy shop picketers in Kuppam under section 107, Criminal Procedure Code.

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

(a) whether Mr. Radhakrishna Chetti was threatened by the police to take away his employees from picketing;

(b) whether toddy shop picketers at Kuppam were arrested and put up under section 107 of the Criminal Procedure Code for not having stopped picketing; and

(c) whether the traders in Kuppam were threatened by the police with loss to their business, if they did not stop their picketing?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Ten persons against whom there is evidence of intimidation in connexion with picketing have been proceeded against under section 107, Criminal Procedure Code.

(c) No.

[For further list of starred questions, please see page 511 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**General***Picketing of liquor shops in Kuppam, Chittoor district.*

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

(a) when the picketing of liquor shops commenced in Kuppam, Chittoor district, and whether, and, if so, when it was considered objectionable by the Police or the Magistracy and on what grounds;

(b) whether the District Superintendent of Police issued an order that not more than five persons should picket the entrances to the toddy shops in Kuppam, and if so, when, why and under what authority;

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(c) whether the Superintendent further issued an order prohibiting all processions of volunteers to and from toddy shops and, if so, why and under what authority; and

(d) whether any toddy shops in Kuppam were burnt and, if so, by whom they were suspected by the Government to have been burnt and on what grounds?

A.—(a) As criminal cases arising out of certain incidents at Kuppam are still pending, the Government are not prepared to answer the question at present.

(b) Yes, on the 14th August 1931, on his own authority but with the approval of the District Magistrate, in the interests of the public peace.

(c) The District Superintendent of Police issued an order under section 30 (2) of the Police Act V of 1861, prohibiting processions without a licence obtained from him. It was issued because the situation in Kuppam was such that there was a danger of a breach of the peace.

(d) One toddy shop was burnt. The Government have no information as to the person or persons responsible. No charge has been laid.

Alleged obstruction to bridal processions of the Viswabrahmans in the Ongole taluk.

581 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in some villages of the taluk of Ongole in Guntur district, caste Hindus are obstructing Viswabrahmans from enjoying the elementary rights of carrying the bridal pairs in processions in palanquins through the streets of villages at the time of marriage and other ceremonial occasions; and

(b) if the information is not available whether the Government would be pleased to call for a report from the Tahsildar and lay it on the table?

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

[For further list of unstarred questions, please see page 524 infra.]

STARRED QUESTIONS**Local Self-Government***Superstructures built in the prohibited zone of Hospet municipality since the promulgation of the prohibitory order.*

* 582 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of buildings, huts and other structures respectively that have been built in the prohibited zone of Hospet municipal limits, after the promulgation of the order barring the construction of dwelling houses thereon;

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(b) whether it is a fact that most of the dwelling huts are built close to the Raya channel, that the owners have stored manure on the land sloping towards the channel and that the rains wash down the filth and dirt on the slopes into the Raya channel;

(c) whether the washermen of Hospet are using the land near the prohibited zone as a dhoby-khana and wash their dirty clothes in the channel; and

(d) whether there is any proposal before the Government to remove the ban on building construction and improve the sanitation of the area in question?

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

(d) No.

Medical

Number of cases operated by the First and Second Surgeons in the Madras General Hospital.

* 583 Q.—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases that were operated on by (1) the First Surgeon, and (2) the Second Surgeon, in the Madras General Hospital during the months of January, February, March and April 1931;

(b) the number of cases that healed on first intention out of their respective operations; and

(c) the number of cases that went septic out of their respective operations?

A.—(a) The number of cases operated on by the First and Second Surgeons in the Government General Hospital, Madras, during the months of January, February, March and April 1931, is as follows:—

		First Surgeon.	Second Surgeon.
January 1931	...	141	97
February	„	130	84
March	„	139	92
April	„	105	92

(b) & (c) Of the operations performed by the First and Second Surgeons during the months of January to March 1931, 474 cases healed by the first intention and 82 by the second. The cases referred to here are those operated on and discharged during the three months. Information about other cases and those for April 1931 are not at present available. Government do not consider it desirable to furnish information showing the result of the operations performed by each of the Surgeons separately.

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Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ May I know from the hon. the Chief Minister whether it is the practice of the Surgeons of the General Hospital to leave the operations in the hands of their raw assistants? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ Notice, Sir.”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ Is the hon. the Chief Minister aware that such things are more common in the ward of the Second Surgeon than in any other wards? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ I do not know.”

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—“ Is not the hon. Member pursuing a personal vendetta against the Second Surgeon of the General Hospital? ”

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ That is not a supplementary question. Order, order.”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ Will the hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to call for information on the matter, in view of the reports that sepsis and deaths are more common in the wards of the Second Surgeon than in the wards of the other Surgeons? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ I do not think it is necessary to call for papers, because there is nothing at all to show that the information of the hon. Member is correct.”

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—“ Is it a fact, Sir, that there is much professional jealousy against the Second Surgeon of the General Hospital? ”

(No reply.)

Motor Vehicles Taxation

Measures for the relief of the burden of taxation on motor vehicles.

* 584 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state what action do the Government propose to take to lessen the burden of taxation on motor buses and taxis?

A.—The matter is engaging the attention of Government.

Agency Tracts

Introduction of new Oriya books in the elementary schools in the Agency tracts.

* 585 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware of the proposed purchase of new Oriya books for the elementary schools in the Agency of Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts during this year;

(b) whether he is aware of the fact that about a year back, new books for elementary classes and specially Sahityankura and Sarasikhya were introduced;

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(c) the reason why new books were introduced this year in spite of retrenchment;

(d) whether he has consulted private managers of elementary schools or at least the Missions, their opinion and also the financial strain such changes entail;

(e) whether all the proposed books are approved and published; and

(f) whether the respective District Educational Officers and the Director of Public Instruction were consulted before the change?

A.—(a) to (f) The Government have not the information. It has been called for.

Economic Condition

Closure of rubber estates in Ernad taluk and consequent unemployment.

* 586 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Collector of Malabar reported to Government regarding the existence of acute distress among the workers who owing to the closure of some rubber estates in Ernad taluk, in Malabar, have been placed out of employment;

(b) what action Government have taken or propose to take to alleviate distress;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House the report of the Collector of Malabar and the Board of Revenue on the matter; and

(d) whether Government are aware of similar conditions prevailing in the areas where tea estates exist?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) As a result of his visit to the locality, the Commissioner of Land Revenue and Settlement recommended that the work of repairing and improving the Kalikavu-Wandur road should be put in hand so as to give work for the distressed families. The proposal was sanctioned by the Government.

(c) No. The Government do not think that any useful purpose would be served by doing so.

(d) The Government are not aware that the fact is as stated.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know if the Government have formulated any policy to deal with the question of unemployment in the country? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ As far as I know, they have not formulated any policy.”

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—“ May I know whether the proposed Kalikavu-Wandur road will give sufficient work to the distressed people in the locality? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ Yes; there are no reasons to indicate that it will not be sufficient.”

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Forest Panchayats

Powers of forest panchayats to compound forest offences.

* 587 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many forest panchayats in the Presidency have power to compound forest offences;

(b) how many forest panchayats have not the power to compound forest offences; and

(c) whether there is a proposal before Government to empower all the forest panchayats to compound forest offences?

A.—(a) 29.

(b) 965.

(c) No.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“ May I know, with reference to the answer to clause (b), for what reasons certain panchayats are not empowered to compound offences? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ The panchayats are empowered to compound offences, only when the local officers consider that it is safe to entrust those powers to them; and that in turn depends on the manner in which those panchayats discharge their duties.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know whether it is a fact that the Government are considering a proposal to abolish the Forest Panchayat Officer? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ Notice, Sir.”

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“ May I know what saving they are going to effect by means of retrenchment in the Forest Panchayat department? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ I must ask for notice of the question. I do not know how that question arises under this question.”

Irrigation

The Palar Committee.

* 588 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the information called for by the Palar Committee has been received and if so, when it is proposed to resume the work of the Committee?

A.—The information has not yet been received.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Is it proposed to resume the work of the Palar Committee in the near future, Sir? ”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ That we will consider when we get the information that has been called for.”

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Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Is it not a fact that the Palar Irrigation Committee could not come to any conclusion on the information placed before them and therefore they thought it necessary to call for further information?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I think it is likely. The question will be considered when the information is received."

Minor Irrigation

Supply of water to Elundrakondan Periyakulam, Srivilliputtur taluk.

* 589 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the reports called for by the Government to interpellations 97 and 104 to 107 answered in the Council on the 5th August 1931 are now available and if so, whether the hon. Member will be pleased to place them on the table of the House?

A.—Interpellations Nos. 104 to 107.—Copies ^a of the reports received with reference to these interpellations are attached.

Interpellation No. 97.—The report has not yet been received.

Irrigation of lands east of the Telugan tank, conversion of dry lands under the Elundrakondan Periyakulam into wet, etc.

* 590 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table of the House the reports promised to be called for when answering questions Nos. 104 to 107 given at the meeting of the Council held on 5th August 1931?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 589.

Stoppage of minor irrigation works in the Anantapur district.

* 591 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) the amount sanctioned for expenditure on minor irrigation works in the Anantapur district for the current year;
- (b) the amount already spent;
- (c) whether it is a fact that they have stopped all further expenditure on minor irrigation;
- (d) if so, from what date; and
- (e) the amount so saved by the stoppage of the works?

A.—(a) Rupees 65,000 for works in charge of the Revenue Department and Rs. 26,325 for works in charge of the Public Works Department.

(b) Rupees 15,654 up to the end of September 1931 on works in charge of the Public Works Department. The Government have no information regarding the amount spent on works in charge of the Revenue Department.

^a Printed as Appendix V on pages 588—591 infra.

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- (c) & (d) The Government have issued no such orders.
- (e) A sum of Rs. 4,350 has been surrendered from the allotment for works in charge of the Public Works Department as a measure of retrenchment. There have been no other surrenders.

Land Revenue Administration

Orders of Government on the representations made to His Excellency the Governor regarding takavi loans and wells for irrigation.

* 592 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what orders have been passed by the Government, on the representations made to His Excellency in July last when he toured in Anantapur district, in respect of—

- (1) more wells for irrigation purposes; and
- (2) concession rates of interest on takavi loans and especially those taken for digging wells?

A.—The following questions were raised in the representations made to His Excellency the Governor in July 1931, when he toured in the Anantapur district:—

- (1) whether money could not be advanced at a lower rate of interest for the purpose of digging wells; and
- (2) whether it would be possible to make such a concession retrospective.

The Revised Loan Rules (contained in the Takavi Manual) now in force permit the grant of loans for digging wells at special rates of interest or without interest. For the grant of such a concession, special justification is required in each case. The concessions cannot be granted in any general terms.

The question whether any concession, if granted, should be made retrospective would be decided on the merits of the particular case. No specific order was issued on the above subject as the rules already contain the necessary provision.

Assessment on lands converted into 'wet' or 'garden' by the ryots' labour.

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

- (a) whether dry lands which have been converted into wet or garden lands by the ryots in South Kanara are being reclassified now and if so, in which parts of the district, this work has so far been done;
- (b) whether the Government propose to impose on such lands wet or garden rates of assessment;

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(c) whether Government are aware that the conversion of dry lands into wet or garden lands has been done by the ryots' labour and at their own expense; and

(d) whether it is not against the declared policy of the Government to tax ryots' improvements?

A.—(a) The following proposals were tentatively approved by the Government to enable the Special Settlement Officer to prepare his scheme for the South Kanara district:—

- (i) that dry lands converted into wet should be reclassified at the resettlement and that appropriate rates of wet assessment should be imposed on them, and
- (ii) that dry lands which have been converted into garden should be reclassified as garden.

The Government have no information as to the part of the district in which this work has been done.

(c) & (d) The Settlement Notification issued in 1902 for South Kanara expressly reserved to the Government the right to introduce at the end of the period of settlement such changes in the classification and assessment of 'wet', 'dry' and 'garden' lands as might then seem proper. The reclassification proposed is based on the same principles as those on which the classification now in force was based, and cannot in the circumstances be held to be in violation of the concession made in favour of ryots' improvements. In South Kanara, as elsewhere, the assessment has been, and will hereafter be, based on the commuted value of a share of the net produce of the land. The value of that share will obviously vary according to the capacity of the land to produce dry, wet or garden crops.

(b) The Government have not yet considered the matter. Owing to the present financial stringency they have directed that the resettlement of the taluks of the district in which resettlement is due before 1934–35 should be postponed to that year.

Public Service

Fall in the abkari revenue during the current year.

* 594 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether there has been a fall in the abkari revenue during the current year; if so, by how much;

(b) what the deficit of abkari revenue that is anticipated during the coming year is; and

(c) whether there is any proposal before the Government for effecting retrenchment in the Excise department by applying 'the axe' to the posts of the Deputy Commissioners and in other directions?

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A.—(a) On the basis of a comparison of the actual collection during the first six months of the three previous years with the total collection in those years, the Excise revenue anticipated in the first half of 1931–32, in consideration of the revenue anticipated for the whole year, is Rs. 241.51 lakhs. The actual revenue collected is Rs. 206.49 lakhs. There is thus a fall of Rs. 35.02 lakhs.

(b) On the information available at present, it is anticipated that the Excise revenue in 1932–33 will be less than the revenue for 1931–32 by about Rs. 26 lakhs.

(c) Proposals for effecting retrenchments in the Excise Department are under consideration. There is no proposal at present to abolish the posts of Deputy Commissioners.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c) of the question, is it not a fact that the Retrenchment Committee has recommended the abolition of four posts of Assistant Commissioners and one post of Deputy Commissioner?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"We have not yet received the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"When the recommendations do come, will the Government consider the desirability of giving effect to the recommendations?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I am not a prophet to say that."

Civil Justice

Employment of ex-service men in the District Court, Tinnevely.

* 595 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many ex-military men have been employed in the District Court of Tinnevely, as clerks and copyists;

(b) whether G.O. No. 319, Public, dated 8th April and G.O. No. 415, dated 26th March 1930, enjoining preferential treatment of the claims of ex-military men were communicated to the District Judge, Tinnevely;

(c) whether notices of the existence of vacancies have been duly published by the District Judge, Tinnevely, in accordance with G.O. No. 415, Public, dated 26th March 1930, so as to enable ex-military men to apply for the same in time;

(d) whether applications were received from ex-military men by the District Judge for the vacancies in the post of clerks on Rs. 35 for the last five years;

(e) if so, whether the applications were dealt with in accordance with the Government Orders;

(f) how many of the applications were rejected; and

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(g) whether the Government have received any information in cases of rejection of the application in conformity with rule 2 of the said Government Order, viz., No. 415, dated 26th March 1930?

A.—(a) Two ex-military men are now employed, one as a clerk and the other as an examiner of copies.

(b) Yes.

(c) Vacancies of the kind referred to in G.O. No. 415, Public, dated the 26th March 1930, not having arisen since the date of issue of that order, occasion for publishing notices did not arise.

(d) The Government have no information.

(e) & (f) Do not arise.

(g) No applications have been rejected.

Criminal Justice

Public Prosecutor and Assistant Public Prosecutor of Coimbatore.

* 596 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the last appointments of Public Prosecutor and Assistant Public Prosecutor for Coimbatore were made and who are the present incumbents of the offices;

(b) whether at the time of the said appointments the District Judge and District Collector were consulted and if so, who were recommended by them;

(c) whether before the Collector and the District Judge sent in their recommendations, the consent of the then incumbent was obtained for his continuing in the office for a further term as Public Prosecutor;

(d) why the person recommended by both these authorities was not appointed to the office of Public Prosecutorship;

(e) what was the standing of the ex-Public Prosecutor for Coimbatore at the bar and what is the standing of the two present incumbents; and

(f) for how many years did the ex-Public Prosecutor of Coimbatore hold the office as such Public Prosecutor and why was he thought not fit to hold the office for a further term?

A.—(a) & (b) M.R.Ry. K. Raghavendra Rao Avargal is now the Public Prosecutor of Coimbatore and M.R.Ry. K. G. Gopal Pillai Avargal is the Public Prosecutor in respect of cases coming before the Court of the Additional Sessions Judge, Coimbatore. They were appointed in June 1931 in consultation with the District Magistrate and District Judge and on their recommendation.

(c) The District Magistrate stated that the then incumbent was willing to serve for another term.

(d) Because he was over 60 years of age.

(e) The Government have no information.

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(f) The ex-Public Prosecutor, M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur N. Ramaswami Ayyar Avargal, held that office for four terms, viz., twelve years.

The answer to the second part of the question is because he was over 60 years of age.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether there is a Government Order which says that a member of the bar over sixty years should not be employed as a Public Prosecutor?"

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

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether that applies to the mufassal as well?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It applies certainly to the mufassal, but I do not know whether it applies to the City of Madras."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know why, if it applies to the mufassal, the Public Prosecutor of Tellicherry was reappointed when he was over sixty years?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"That Government Order was not brought to the attention of the authorities at that time."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Was it not a fact that once before the predecessor of the present Law Member said that there was a Government Order and that it would be applied at the time that appointment was made?"

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

Forests

Disafforestation in Salem district.

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

(a) what the reserve forests are which are now under disafforestation in Salem district; and

(b) what the forests are which are to be taken up for disafforestation in the near future in the same district?

A.—(a) & (b) The Mallapuram Reserved Forest and a portion of its extension have recently been disafforested. Proposals for the disafforestation of the remaining extent of 265 acres in the extension are awaited from the Chief Conservator. There are no proposals for the disreservation of any further areas at present.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"To a question of mine, the answer was given that petitions have been received from the residents

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of Hosur taluk, with regard to the disafforestation of certain areas, and that they are under consideration. Will the matter be taken up in the near future?"

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

Courtallam waterfalls.

11-30 * 598 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many waterfalls there are in and near Courtallam (Tinnevely district) that are used now or can be made use of by the public for bathing purposes;

(b) how many are reserved by the Government, for whose use and why;

(c) how many permits have been issued so far for (1) men, (2) women and (3) children, for the use of the Chitrani falls in Courtallam and what have been the considerations and merits that have weighed for the grant of such special privileges;

(d) whether any fees and conditions have been prescribed for the use of the waterfalls that are reserved, what is the sum, if any, so realized and for what purposes they have been earmarked, if any;

(e) what sums the Government have spent during the last five years to improve the amenity by way of easy approach to the falls, provision of safety railings and non-slip concrete paths near the waterfalls and their approaches; and

(f) whether the Government have under consideration any scheme for assuring the safety and ease of approach in the case of the waterfalls in Courtallam?

A.—(a) There are five which can be used for bathing; but the right to bathe was admitted at the time of settlement only in one which is nearest the temple, generally known as 'Courtallam waterfalls.'

(b) None; but, as stated above, the public have an admitted right of usage only in respect of one.

(c) There is no fall by the name 'Chitrani falls'. If the reference is to the Chittaruvi fall, situated behind the Forest Rest House, the answer is that no permits have been issued for bathing in it.

(d) The question does not arise, as no falls have been reserved by Government.

(e) Rupees 823-15-0 in March 1928.

(f) An Advisory Committee has been formed for the management of the falls with the Collector of Tinnevely as the President. The main object of this Committee is to improve the bathing facilities and amenities of the falls. There is no scheme now under consideration by the Government for the purposes mentioned.

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Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why the public are not allowed to bathe at the other falls and at the Chittaruvi fall?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Because they are all in the interior of the reserve forests and damage may be done to these reserve forests if free access is given to the public, i.e., the bathers."

General

Alleged arrest of young boys at Madanapalle for collecting subscriptions to picketing.

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

(a) whether several young boys were charged before the Joint Magistrate of Madanapalle about August 1931 for obtaining subscriptions for picketing;

(b) whether a vakil of the Madanapalle Bar was also charged before the Joint Magistrate of Madanapalle as an abettor along with them for having issued an appeal on their behalf to help them;

(c) whether a similar set of volunteers at Piler was charged under section 420, I.P.C., for having collected subscriptions in Piler for picketing;

(d) whether a local contractor of Piler was also charged under sections 109 and 420, I.P.C., for having issued an appeal on their behalf;

(e) whether any person complained to any of the authorities of having been cheated;

(f) if not, who charge-sheeted the young boys and had them remanded to custody and for what ostensible reason;

(g) whether the District Magistrate sanctioned the prosecution;

(h) whether circulars were issued to treat picketing as political offences by the District authorities or by anybody else;

(i) whether the cases were thrown out by the Joint Magistrate of Madanapalle in September 1931; and

(j) whether the Government will be pleased to give the reason why they were kept in custody by the police especially when the boys were quite young?

A.—The Government have no detailed information and have called for it.

Legislative Council

Eligibility of the Deputy President of the Legislative Council to draw daily allowance.

* 600 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Deputy Presidents of the Legislative Council in former years have been drawing daily allowance for the sittings of the Council; and

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(b) if the answer is in the negative, whether it is a fact that the present-Deputy President has been allowed to draw daily allowance?

A.—(a) M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai Avargal, C.I.E., drew daily allowance for attending the meetings of the Legislative Council while he was Deputy President of the first and second Legislative Councils. Mrs. S. Muthulakshmi Reddi did not draw daily allowance while she was Deputy President.

(b) The present Deputy President has been permitted to draw daily allowance.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the hon. the Deputy President sent up a bill for drawing an allowance?"

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

"The case was brought to the notice of the Government by the Secretary of the Legislative Council."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know, Sir, having regard to the retrenchment that is going on, whether it is necessary that the hon. the Deputy President should be allowed daily allowance along with his pay?"

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

"The Government have very recently decided the question, Sir, and no further action is needed."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know whether this matter is receiving the attention of the hon. the Finance Member?"

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

"I think the hon. the Finance Member has also seen the case."

[For further list of starred questions, please see page 525 infra.]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Industries

Scholarships awarded for study in the Bombay Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute.

601 Q.—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) if any scholarships have been recently awarded for study in the Bombay Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute;

(b) if so, how many of these scholarships were granted and to what communities the scholarship-holders belong; and

(c) whether there are any Viswabrahmanas in that list?

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A.—(a) & (b) 28, from 1926 to 1930 both years inclusive. The awardees are—

Non-Brahman Hindus	...	...	13
Muhammadans	...	...	3
Brahmans	...	...	7
Indian Christians	...	...	3
Depressed classes	...	...	2

No scholarships were granted this year owing to financial stringency.

(c) Not as far as could be ascertained.

Forest Panchayats

Legislation to secure legal status for forest panchayats.

602 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state when the Government propose to legislate for conferring legal status on forest panchayats?

A.—The Government see no need to undertake such legislation at present.

[For further list of unstarred questions, please see page 535 infra.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Excise

Closure of the toddy and arrack shops in Konganapuram, Salem district.

* 603 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Commissioner of Excise has received a mahazar from the people of Konganapuram of Tiruchengode taluk of Salem district requesting the closure of the toddy and arrack shops in their place;

(b) what action the Commissioner of Excise has taken over the matter;

(c) whether the Government have received representations that the toddy shop in the said place is situated on the public local fund road, and is a hindrance and danger to the travelling public; and

(d) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) to (d) A copy of a mahazar, dated 17th August 1931, addressed by the people of Konganapuram mitta to the Commissioner of Excise with an unsigned endorsement, and a letter, dated 22nd September and a telegram dated 26th September from the hon. Member on the subject of the closure of the arrack and toddy shops at Konganapuram, were received by the Government. The letter and the telegram were sent to the Commissioner of Excise. The Commissioner is being asked to report what action he took in the matter.

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Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Commissioner has since written to the Government as to the action he has taken?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"No, Sir. We have called for a report. We have not received it yet."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know why so much delay is caused when the people of the taluk ask for the closure of the toddy shop?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"There are other considerations also to be examined, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"What are the other considerations, Sir? Is it not the policy of the Government that if the people want the closure of certain toddy shops, they should be closed?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Even then, a petition from a handful of people does not mean that all the people in the locality want the closure. It is a matter which requires examination."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Is the hon. Minister aware that the Member representing the people concerned has endorsed that petition?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"That has been referred to in the answer, that there was an unsigned endorsement."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—"May I know whether the Government is aware that the toddy shop in the said place is located on the local fund road?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—"May I know whether the rules permit of such location?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I must look into the rules, Sir. I want notice."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know what action the hon. the Minister proposes to take with regard to the abolition of that shop?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"That depends on the report that we are awaiting."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know, Sir, if the report is against the closure, the hon. the Minister will say 'Don't close it'?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The report is not the last word, whichever it may be."

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Local Self-Government

Report of the Inspector of Local Boards on the administration of the Madura Municipality.

* 604 Q.—Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether he will be pleased to lay on the table the report of the Inspector of Local Boards on the administration of the Madura municipality; and

(b) whether the Inspector of Local Boards specifically recommended that the Council should be superseded?

A.—(a) The relevant extracts from the report of the Inspector have already been placed at the disposal of the Press and hon. Members would have received copies.

(b) No.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know, Sir, if the whole report of the Inspector cannot be published?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"No, Sir."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Is it because it is too voluminous?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That contains certain information and recommendations which the Government consider not in the public interest to lay on the table?"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know, if the Inspector of Local Boards did not specifically recommend that the Council should be superseded, what alternative suggestions he has made?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am sorry I cannot give that information."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Did he say anything against the supersession?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I have answered that question already, Sir."

Mahazars for proclaiming as 'prohibition areas' certain villages in the Anantapur district.

* 605 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that deputations representing the people of Tarimala and the adjoining 24 villages in Anantapur taluk, and of Peddavadugur and the adjoining 33 villages in Gooty taluk presented mahazars to him at Gooty on 8th February last when he visited the Anantapur district, praying that their villages might be declared as 'prohibition areas' by closing all the toddy and arrack shops in their respective areas; and

(b) whether he went on inspection to some of the villages on that date?

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4.—(a) An address was presented on behalf of the District Propaganda Committee at Gooty.

(b) No.

Medical

Savings consequent on the appointment of honorary officers to Government hospitals.

* 606 Q.—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether as a result of the appointment of honorary officers to Government hospitals there has been any saving in expenditure on the department; and

(b) how many paid officers in the department have been replaced by honorary officers?

A.—(a) & (b) Honorary medical officers are generally appointed as supernumerary to the paid staff. One assistant surgeon has been temporarily replaced by an honorary medical officer assisted by a sub-assistant surgeon. This has resulted in a small saving to Government. Further proposals for the replacement of paid medical staff by honorary staff are under consideration by Government.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know from the hon. Minister if the Government have not found that this system of replacing paid men by honorary agency has been financially sound and beneficial? Cannot the Government therefore take the step of replacing paid officers by honorary staff to a larger extent? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ The system has been under trial and salaried officers are being replaced gradually by honorary men.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ Have any senior salaried officers been made to retire in order to give place to these honorary surgeons? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ I have no other information, Sir, except what is contained in the answer.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Is there any obstacle for the replacing of paid officers by honorary surgeons? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ As I said, Sir, the question requires consideration. The services of the salaried officers cannot be dispensed with merely because there are honorary officers available to do the work. Honorary officers are appointed as supernumerary to the paid staff; and when a suitable opportunity occurs, they will replace the paid officers. One assistant surgeon has already been replaced temporarily, and there are other proposals under consideration.”

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Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ From the experience that has been gained, will the hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether honorary officers are not capable of running an institution by themselves without the aid of these paid men? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ They are capable, but the question is whether the salaried officers can be replaced at once by honorary men.”

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ Is it not a fact that the Committee appointed to go into this question has favourably recommended the system of the association of honorary officers gradually? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ The report was published already and the public are aware of the recommendations.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ May I know if this assistant surgeon has been replaced by a surgeon himself or only by an assistant? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ Notice.”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ When honorary men are capable of running an institution by themselves without the aid of the paid men, as has been admitted by the hon. the Chief Minister, may I know whether there is any objection on the part of the Government to entirely man the institutions by honorary men? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ Honorary men can run institutions of their own; they are capable of doing so. But whether they can replace paid men in State hospitals is the question under consideration now.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ Is not the Government anxious to retrench expenditure in that direction? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ They are.”

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—“ If that is so, why do they not accept this policy when they find that the honorary men are capable of managing the institutions? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ The Government accept the policy. When they find really capable men to replace the salaried officers, they will certainly consider the matter.”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ Is it the considered opinion of the hon. the Chief Minister that honorary men are not capable of running an institution with equal efficiency? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ I did not go to that extent.”

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—“ Then, what is the opinion of the hon. the Chief Minister? ”

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—“ I have already stated it.”

[3rd November 1931]

Extension of the scheme of honorary service in Government medical institutions.

* 607 Q.—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government contemplate any extension of the scheme of honorary service in Government medical institutions and whether they have appointed any committee to make recommendations as to the desirability of such extension;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has sent any recommendations and whether the Government will place them on the table of the House; and

(c) whether the Government have received and are still receiving complaints of indifference against the medical officers of the Government in charge of hospitals?

A.—(a) & (b) A Committee was appointed by the Government to consider the question of revising the rules relating to the appointment of honorary medical officers in Government medical institutions and to make any other recommendations concerning these honorary appointments not involving extra expenditure. The Committee has submitted its report and it has been published for general information in G.O. No. 1705, P.H., dated 11th September 1931, placed on the table.

(c) No.

Termination of the services of probationary assistant surgeons as a measure of retrenchment.

* 608 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether as a measure of retrenchment the services of any probationary assistant surgeons have recently been terminated, and, if so, of how many; and

(b) how many assistant surgeons and District Medical officers who have put in 25 or more years of service are now under Government employment?

A.—(a) Yes. Thirteen of the most junior probationary assistant surgeons have been discharged.

(b) Ten civil assistant surgeons and eleven civil surgeons.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government is aware that as a matter of retrenchment the Government would have effected much larger saving by discharging the civil surgeons and assistant surgeons who have put in 25 years' service or more instead of discharging these probationers? "

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I do not think that the retiring of men with 25 years' service would necessarily result in larger savings. But that question is also under consideration."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I know, whether the Government will consider it? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is being examined."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know, Sir, whether among the thirteen of the most junior probationary assistant surgeons that have been discharged, there are any Mussalmans? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I do not know, I must enquire. Probably there is one."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister considered the rule that retrenchment should not be to the detriment of the principle of communal rotation in the services? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" That is a question now under the consideration of the Government."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know, Sir, whether these junior probationary assistant surgeons will be absorbed in the ten civil assistant surgeons and eleven civil surgeons who may be retired? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" That is also a question which will be considered."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether, as and when vacancies arise in the cadre of assistant surgeons, these people will be absorbed in the service, and that they will be given the benefit of first refusal? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Yes, Sir. The suggestion will be considered."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Is it not the policy of the Government to stop recruitment hereafter? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" No, Sir, not necessarily."

Religious Endowments

Number of seats allotted to the North Arcot District Temple Committee.

* 609 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what the number of seats allotted to the North Arcot District Temple Committee is;

(b) how the seats were distributed to the various taluk boards in the district to be chosen by them;

(c) when was the final order of Government passed on such distribution;

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(d) whether the said order was recently altered by increasing the number or otherwise; and

(e) if so, what was the necessity for the change?

A.—(a) Eleven seats were originally allotted.

(b) Cheyyar Taluk Board	...	...	...	...	...	2
Polur Taluk Board	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ranipet Taluk Board	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tiruppattur Taluk Board	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tiruvannamalai Taluk Board	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vellore Taluk Board	...	...	...	...	...	1

(The remaining seat was allotted to the Vellore Municipal Council.)

(c) In June 1931.

(d) The order was altered in July 1931 increasing the number of seats allotted to the Tiruvannamalai Taluk Board by one.

(e) The principle adopted in fixing the strength of the Committee is to allot one seat for each revenue taluk or Deputy Tahsildar's division comprised in a taluk board area. On this principle an additional seat had to be allotted to the Tiruvannamalai Taluk Board as the taluk board area comprises two revenue taluks.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"In view of the answer to clause (b), may I know why three seats are allotted to the Tiruppattur Taluk Board and only one seat to the Polur Taluk Board?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Polur Taluk Board has got only one Revenue taluk within its area, whereas Tiruppattur Taluk Board comprises three Revenue taluks."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I know what those three taluks are?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Notice."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know from the hon. Minister whether elections in this area have not been completed?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Notice."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"When and how are these elections to take place?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Under the constitution."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"What is the constitution? I thought the election itself would be held under the Act. Is there going to be a separate constitution?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The taluk boards recommend and the Government appoint the members of the committee."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the taluk boards have completed the elections in the matter of committees?"

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The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Not in all cases."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I am referring to the district of North Arcot?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Notice, Sir."

Pensioners

Certificate by pensioners of the non-receipt of any remuneration by them from local funds.

* 610 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government pensioners are at present required to append a certificate to their monthly pension bill declaring that they have not received any remuneration for serving in any capacity under a local fund;

(b) whether there is any necessity for this rule at present or whether it is only a relic of the past when the local funds were incorporated with the Government funds; and

(c) if the latter, whether there is any proposal before the Government to get the rule or the form amended?

A.—(a) A certificate of non-employment has to be signed to the effect that no remuneration has been received for serving in any capacity either in a Government establishment or in an establishment paid from a local fund.

(b) The rules in the Civil Service Regulations regarding re-employment apply to service under all local funds. The certificate referred to in clause (a) is necessary as long as these rules are in force.

(c) No.

Forest Panchayats

Expenses incurred by Forest Panchayats in connexion with the Panchayats' Conference.

* 611 Q.—Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR: With reference to the answer to question No. 122, dated the 5th August 1931, regarding expenses incurred by Paranalur and other Forest Panchayats in connexion with the Panchayats' Conference, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Board of Revenue has passed any orders;

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place those orders on the table together with the reasons which made the Board to issue such orders; and

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to call for a report?

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A.—(a) & (c) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

(b) The suggestion will be considered when the report called for is received.

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—" May I know what the policy of the Government with regard to these conferences of Forest Panchayats is? Does the Government like to encourage these conferences? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I do not know that we have got any special policy. If we want to have a conference of panchayats, we could call it ourselves."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—" May I know whether, if the panchayatdars themselves call for a conference, the Government does not think that it is a good thing, as they do it themselves? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" No, Sir."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—" May I know, Sir, if the Collectors have issued any orders prohibiting the expenditure of money of the Forest Panchayats on such conferences? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" We have called for a report on this subject."

Prisons

Release of Mappilla prisoners.

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

(a) what steps the Government have taken by way of considering the question of the release of Mappillas undergoing punishment in consequence of conviction for offences connected with the Malabar Rebellion of 1921 as well as the Mappilla State prisoners confined under the Mappilla Outrages Act and State Prisoners Regulation;

(b) whether the Government have come to any conclusion with reference to their release; and

(c) what the reason is for the delay in decision?

A.—(a) to (c) The hon. Member is referred to the Press Communiqué, dated the 24th October 1931, a copy of which was placed on the table of the House with reference to clause (d) of question No. 251 answered on the 30th October 1931.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know what the hon. the Law Member proposes to do with the Mappilla State prisoners? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I had made a statement with reference to that on Saturday. Their cases also are being examined. They number roughly between 190 and 200.

[For further list of starred questions, please see page 536 infra.]

[3rd November 1931]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Excise

Use of motor lorries for transport of toddy.

613 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the number of motor lorries used by the Abkari renters in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary, Cuddapah and Kurnool for transporting toddy from tapping areas for sale at their licensed shops;

(b) the number of motor lorries owned by the renters themselves and number of motor lorries hired by them for transporting toddy;

(c) the number of toddy shops in the Bellary district with the names of the places where they are located, which get daily supply of toddy by motor lorries from Anantapur and Kurnool districts respectively; and

(d) the longest distance from which toddy is now transported by renters by motor lorries for the daily consumption of their customers?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government have not the information.

Spread of the drink-evil by the use of motor lorries.

614 Q.—Mr. P. BAYAPPA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) the year in which motor lorries had come to play, in this Presidency, a part in transporting toddy from the tapping places to the toddy shops;

(b) the income till then derived from toddy (fermented liquor) and the income derived from the same source in subsequent years up to the end of September 1931;

(c) whether there have been complaints from public bodies and others that the facilities given for transporting toddy by motor lorries to places where toddy was not available, was spreading the drink-evil;

(d) whether the Government have been pleased to consider such complaints; and

(e) if not, whether the Government will be pleased now to consider the question of restricting the motor transport facilities they are now giving to the renters?

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

(b) The excise administration reports which are published annually contain information as to the revenue derived from toddy every year.

(c) A few district propaganda committees passed resolutions to this effect.

(d) Yes.

(e) The Government do not provide motor transport facilities for toddy renters.

[3rd November 1931]

Forest Panchayats*Cost of maintenance of class IV forests.*

615 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the total extent of the class IV minor forests, or local or ryots' forests, as they are called, in the Presidency and in the North Arcot district in particular; and

(b) what is the annual cost to Government of maintaining and controlling the above class of forests?

A.—(a) Local or ryots' forests are class III forests. The total extent of such forests is 2,179,169 acres for the whole Presidency and 176,942 acres in the North Arcot district.

(b) The cost during 1929–30 was Rs. 92,660.

STARRED QUESTIONS**Industries***Cashew-nut Industry in South Kanara.*

* 616 Q.—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased—

(i) to give figures to show the development and present magnitude of the cashew-nut industry in South Kanara, the number of labourers to whom this industry gives occupation, the amount distributed to them as wages and the amount of foreign wealth drawn to India by the sale of cashew kernels; and to state—

(ii) (a) if the information is not at present available, will the Government be pleased to collect it and table it for the information of the Council;

(b) whether the Government have received representations to the effect that this industry is suffering a heavy handicap by reason of the imposition of import duty on cashew-nuts imported from Africa to be converted into kernels for export and that there is a risk of the transfer of the industry to Goa where no import duty is imposed;

(c) whether the Government are taking measures to remove this handicap; and

(d) if so, what measures are being taken?

A.—(i) The Indian Food Products Company of Mangalore supplied about 1,200,000 lb. of kernels of cashew-nut last year to the Franklin Banker Company of New York. It has been represented to Government that about four to five thousand labourers are engaged in this industry. The Government have no information regarding the amount distributed to them as wages or as regards the value of the cashew-nut exported from South Kanara.

(ii) (a) A report has been called for from the Director of Industries.

(b) Yes.

(c) & (d) This Government have addressed the Government of India on the subject.

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Local Self-Government

Mention in Administration Reports of works of public utility carried out by public-spirited men.

* 617 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it was the practice in the pre-reform days for the District Collectors to make mention in the Annual Administration reports of the district boards and municipalities of a list of works of public utility carried out by public-spirited persons in each district or municipality; and

(b) whether that practice is being continued; and if not, why not?

A.—(a) & (b) In pre-reform days presidents of district boards were making mention of works of the kind referred to in their administration reports. No such practice was observed by chairmen of municipal councils, who submitted administration reports of municipal councils. Administration reports now received do not always contain such information.

Public Service

Raising the age-limit of the members of the Depressed Classes for entry into public service.

* 618 Q.—Mr. P. V. RAJAGOPALA PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to State—

(a) whether the proceedings of the Madras Provincial Depressed Classes Federation, dated 29th July 1931, requesting Government to raise the age-limit of the depressed classes from 25 to 30 years for entry into Government service has been received by Government;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what action has been taken thereon;

(c) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the proceedings of the Bombay Legislative Council of 3rd October 1931 increasing the age-limit to 30 years;

(d) if the reply to (c) is in the affirmative, whether the Madras Government have considered the possibility of granting a similar concession in this Presidency?

A.—(a) No.

(b) —

(c) The Government have seen a newspaper report of the proceedings.

(d) The question is under consideration.

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

II.—DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

GRANT XX—PUBLIC HEALTH

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" 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 XX—Public Health.'

" Sir, the object of this demand is explained in the explanatory note circulated to the Members. In 1922 the Government sanctioned a scale of pay to the deputy inspectors of vaccination and sanitary inspectors attached to cholera parties as detailed therein. Their general scale was Rs. 60—5—120 per mensem, and there was a selection grade of Rs. 125—5—150 per mensem. Later on in 1923, as a result of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, these scales were reduced and in the Government Order which the Government issued, these latter scales were applied even to those who were employed under the previous scales, and the question whether persons who were already in the higher scale could retain that higher scale under Fundamental Rule 23 was not examined, and the Government Order issued then sanctioning the lower scale applied to these men also. Various representations have subsequently been made by the officers concerned that the Government Order should be revised, but on the merits the Government did not find any need to do so. But in December 1929 objection was taken to the validity of the order itself that it contravened the provisions of Fundamental Rule 23. The question has since been examined by the Government and the Government now propose to revise the order by giving effect to that contention and also to sanction their salaries for 1930 on that basis. The expenditure that the Government will have to incur on this account is Rs. 18,000. These salaries will also entail a future expenditure of Rs. 7,800 for 1932-33, but the amount will gradually disappear as the people entitled to the higher amount go out. I therefore move this demand."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—" I second it."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Government admitted that they committed a mistake in passing an obscure order, as their statement says, and making the affected officers understand that they were not entitled to exercise an option given to them under the rules. Having admitted the mistake I want to know the *raison d'être* for saying that they will allow only from April 1930 instead of paying them the salaries which they have earned from 1923. I do not see why the Government should refrain from making good the full salaries of those affected. Why should there be a stipulation for payment only from 1930? Further, I would like to know how it was possible, in spite of the Secretariat staff, to draft a rule which deprived the option the officers had under the Fundamental Rule. If, in spite of their efficient service, they committed this mistake,

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why should the officers be made to suffer on account of their mistake? Why should you not extend to them the privilege which they are rightly entitled to from 1923?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Sir, it is stated in the explanatory note that there was evidently an obvious mistake in the original order. So far as the services are concerned, they knew the rules and they would have to take objection. It is open to Government now after six years to treat the officers as having waived their option. They have thought it right to give them the benefit from the date of order. The objection was taken in December 1929 and it was given effect to from 1st April 1930."

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GRANT XXIX—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100.'

" This token demand provides for payment to the contractor of the Tuberculosis Hospital, Spur tank site, consequent on the abandonment of the site. In 1928 Government proposed a scheme for the construction of a Tuberculosis Headquarter Hospital on the Spur tank site. Out of a provision of Rs. 68,000 only a very small sum was spent. In 1929-30 a sum of one lakh was provided for but was not utilized. Owing to the objection raised by the Corporation of Madras and the public of Madras, the construction had to be stopped. The contractor had put in a claim for Rs. 97,000. As a result of the compromise arrived at in consultation with the Government Solicitor it was arranged that he should be paid Rs. 48,000 in complete satisfaction as explained in the explanatory note. The sum had to be paid in September; otherwise Government would have to pay him a big sum by way of interest. This token demand is therefore for the approval of the Council. I hope the Council will be pleased to approve it."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—" I second it."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am not at all satisfied with the case made out for this grant. I should like to have further enlightenment on the subject before I could give my assent. The site was considered by the Government of the time and was considered a fit place. Subsequently there was some objection by the Corporation and some residents of the locality. I think Government should consider whether it is not possible to go back to the Spur tank without wasting this money. Every time there is a change in the personnel of the experts in the Medical department, there is a fresh opinion. It seems to me one expert gives one opinion and when he goes away another expert gives another opinion. If Government were to change their opinion with every change of the expert, I should not be surprised at the waste of public money involved. I would advise the Minister to examine the matter once again why money should be

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wasted. I do not see any reason why the Tuberculosis Hospital should not be in the Spur tank site. As a matter of fact the Tuberculosis Institute is already there. The area of the site is about 180 acres. In the view of the Government expert, a hospital at Royapetta will not be a source of danger to the health of the people there. If that is so, why should it be a source of danger at the Spur tank? If the Government take expert opinion they may go back to the Spur tank. It is certainly a very good site and I do not think there is any danger at all. The public were confusing two things. Hospital and sanatorium were two different things. A hospital in Madras is necessary and I do not think you can find a better site anywhere in Madras. It will be a great convenience for people coming to Madras for treatment. I should think that if the Ministry were to change its opinion every time there is a change of expert in the Medical department, there would be a considerable waste of public money."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Sir, I should like to say that the Government have been pursuing a weak-kneed policy not on account of the pressure brought by the Corporation alone but by the agitation created by one or two members of the party to which the Minister belongs. I do not know whether the Government have examined the question and found out that they alone are responsible for the huge waste of public money. I do not know whether the Government have also examined the question that the same contractor may be asked to take the construction of the proposed hospital wherever the Government propose to construct it as early as possible. Why should the contractor expect the Government to make good the loss? Why should he not wait till a better site is secured? Why should the contractor insist on compensation? I am sure Government have negotiated with him and if he is assured that the contract of the fresh building will be given to him, he will certainly not force the Government to pay it this month. I am sure if the various details are examined, Government will come to realize that the claim must be due to the collection of the material which may be useful for some other place or to charges incurred in putting up the basement for the previous building. Further, I am sure Government have come to a decision with regard to the locality where this hospital is to be constructed. There may be an agitation that this should not be constructed in the precincts of the city limits. I do not know if that agitation is on wrong lines and whether expert opinion does not support that statement. Government should not only look to the convenience of the citizens of Madras but of the whole province. So, the proposed hospital should be located within city limits but at the same time not in a locality thickly populated. If you reconsider the question of the construction of the hospital on the Spur tank site, I am sure there will be no objection. After all, the houses near the Spur tank are not so near and I understand that expert medical opinion is not against locating the hospital in an area like the Spur tank which is very extensive. The houses are mostly far away from this place. These are points which I wish the Minister knows before he calls upon us to vote for such a large sum of money which I am afraid is a waste."

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* B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"This question involves a policy of Government which is a rather strange policy in certain matters. The question of prestige which presses them from above does not come into play here. It is admitted that after due consideration,—and Government do not decide anything without due consideration,—it was decided that the Tuberculosis Hospital should be constructed in the Spur tank. What is the reason that has made Government deviate from this decision? It is said that the Corporation and some other respectable citizens made representations. But what have the Government been doing with reference to the whole country? Have they yielded to the agitation of the whole country in matters of much greater magnitude? In this particular instance, what is it that made the Government deviate from their plan?"

"Let us see what the state of affairs is now? The in-patient department of the Tuberculosis Hospital is situated in Royapetta in the very centre of the town, all round which are residents of all kinds. There is the Madras Club near by, a college on one side and shops and residential quarters on other sides and thus it is surrounded by people of all ranks. It is very strange that the Government now think that the Spur tank is not a fit place for locating the in-patient department of the Tuberculosis Institute. Is it, I ask, Sir, in the interests of public health, that this institution should be allowed to continue for years together in the heart of the city, in Royapetta? I do not know whether it is on expert advice that the Government are having this institution in that thickly populated and central part of the city.

"Then, as regards the question of a proper site for the location of the Tuberculosis Hospital, when the Spur tank site has once been decided upon, I do not see why the Government should have deviated from that decision. I understand that there was a proposal that the sanatorium constructed by Dr. Muthu, an expert on Tuberculosis of world-wide reputation, should be taken over by the Government. I fail to see, Sir, why the Government did not consider that proposal fully or why they have given up the plan of choosing the Spur tank site. Except the pretext that the Corporation objected to it or some other respectable citizens objected to it, the Government have not come forward with any other reasons for abandoning that site. The Government do not say even now that expert opinion is against it. If expert opinion is against it, they should consider whether it is not suitable to locate it at the Tambaram Institute on which the Government have also spent some money. It is atrocious on the part of the Government to allow the in-patient department of the Tuberculosis Institute to continue in Royapetta, the very heart of the city.

"Now, so far as this particular grant is concerned, it has been said in the explanatory note that a sum of Rs. 48,000 has been agreed upon as compensation between the Government Solicitor and the contractor. I do not know on what basis this amount was arrived at. If the Government gave the contract and then resiled from it, they might have to pay some damages. But how was this amount of compensation arrived at? Did they appoint an independent arbitrator on the matter, or

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have they ascertained the amount the contractor will be entitled to as damages if he goes to a court of law? What is the actual loss incurred by the contractor? Without going into these matters, did the Government agree to pay compensation simply because the Government Solicitor passed it and the contractor agreed to it? Is it a reason why the Government should agree to pay such a large amount of public money without a proper investigation by an independent arbitrator who could go into the matter thoroughly and who could report as to the exact position in which the Government would be put if the contractor went to a court of law? So, I say that without going into these questions, it is not proper on the part of the Government to have agreed to pay such a large sum of money."

* **MR. F. E. JAMES:**—"I only want to say two things on this question. In the first place, there appears to be no alternative to the vote we are asked to pass in this House. It appears that the contractor in question forced the Government to pay up this compensation. I do however hope that Government will not commit themselves in future to giving any other contract to this particular gentleman in question who has treated the Government in this manner in this deal.

"The other thing I wish to say is this, that it is true there is strong feeling against the establishment of this Tuberculosis Hospital on the Spur tank site. That feeling has been expressed in the Corporation, and it would be foolish of anybody to disregard the presence of that feeling. On the other hand, there is also the opinion of those who are qualified to judge on these matters that the Spur tank site is the best possible site, once you feel it is necessary to have a hospital in the city. I would point out that all the concerned interests are agreed about the necessity of a tuberculosis hospital. I am not speaking of a sanatorium which is a different thing from a hospital—being accessible to the people who use it. What I want to suggest is that Government should not close the door to a reconsideration of this matter. I understand from the statement of the hon. the Minister that the question of site for the hospital is still under consideration. When the Corporation debated this matter on the last occasion, the voting was by no means unanimous. I therefore suggest that Government call a further conference of the representatives of the Corporation, the Surgeon-General and some representatives of the public who are affected, with a view to arriving at a solution of the difficulty. I know it was argued in the Corporation that a conference had previously been held, which was infructuous, but they did not pass the resolution unanimously. That shows that there is no bar to a further conference with a view to arriving at a final settlement. I know the Surgeon-General, who at present is on leave, is only too anxious to consider the feelings of the people. Even after the debate in the Corporation that was held with reference to this question, he wished to have a further conference. I, therefore, hope that the hon. Minister will not bolt the door on any possibility of coming to a final settlement. I am one of those, and there are many others, who feel that it is possible to have a hospital

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of this kind in a place which is easily accessible from the point of view of those who desire to use it. To move it outside the city entirely would be a great mistake from a medical point of view. I suggest that there should be one more attempt to arrive at a settlement in accordance with the principles of modern science and, as far as possible, with the citizens' wishes."

* **MR. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:**—"I rise to support the motion for this grant. The Government committed a blunder in the earlier stages by trying to locate the hospital in the Spur tank site, and I am glad they abandoned it in response to the wishes of the Corporation and the public, and it is very fair that the contractor should be compensated. The question of the location of the Tuberculosis Hospital has been a long-standing question, ten years old. The Government have been saying that the present place, Temple Gardens, is only temporary. There has been an agitation against the hospital being located within the city. Especially after hearing my hon. Friend, Mr. James, about the discussion in the Corporation on this matter, I would say that where medical opinion differs laymen's opinion should prevail. On a question like this, it is the city fathers who should decide where the hospital should be located. Sir, we are told that in Western cities they are having hospitals in the midst of populous centres. I do not think we can compare such a state of things with our cities where sanitation is not perfect. It is said that a hospital is a different thing from a sanatorium. I can agree that a Tuberculosis Institute is different from a sanatorium but I believe there is very little difference between a hospital and a sanatorium in the case of the treatment of a disease like tuberculosis. So far as tuberculosis is concerned, eminent medical men have said that patients should be isolated from each other and should be kept separate, and that they must have the hospital in a large compound. How can you secure a very large compound within the city? If you want it, you will have to rob the people of Porsawalkam, Vepery and Egmore of the playgrounds now used by hundreds of school children. I am a resident of this place for twenty years, and I remember as a little fellow to have played games in the open spaces in Egmore. I do not want young children being deprived of that fine place for play and games. I have no objection to the Institute being continued there, but the hospital should be situated somewhere in the suburbs of Madras, and in these days of fast communications it would not be very difficult for people to reach the hospital. As a matter of fact, the Tuberculosis Hospital will be used not only by the citizens of Madras but by people from all places in the Presidency. When a patient comes from the mufassal, generally three or four relations come with him and invariably one or two of them will get the disease and thus increase the number of persons affected by tuberculosis. I do not want hundreds of persons to come into the city and pollute the health of the city. It is true that the number of persons suffering from tuberculosis in the city itself is large. I should also like that they should go out of the city to suburban places and get treated in a place like Tambaram, Guindy, Saidapet or Pallavaram which are said to be very good places by medical men for

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the treatment of this disease. I should say that so far as tuberculosis patients are concerned, they have no need to go to the hospital every day, as once they are admitted into the hospital they have to stay a month or two for treatment. Only the relations of the patient will have to go to the hospital now and then and they can travel by the electric trains easily. I do not think there can be any difficulty in choosing a place outside the Madras city. As my hon. Friend, Mr. James, suggested, the Government should not agree to any place which is opposed by the public, and I hope the hon. Minister would not agree to have it in the Spur tank or any other place in the city."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, I have to say that this is a just demand which has been made by the Government. The Government entered into a contract for a certain building being built on the Spur tank site, and then they yielded to the agitation of the Corporation and of the citizens of this city to abandon that site. And it is a good turn they are doing to the contractor by paying him compensation. There is a strong body of opinion in the Madras Corporation that the location of this hospital within the city is a great danger to the citizens of the city. There is a great body of opinion among the Councillors of the Corporation and the residents of the localities round about the Spur tank against that site and the agitation against it has been very very strong. I should think, if my recollection is correct, that when Dr. T. M. Nayar was alive, he pitched upon a site somewhere near Aminjikarai."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"On a point of order, Sir, may I ask whether the hon. Member is right in referring to all those matters when the question is only payment of compensation to the contractor?"

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU:—"Sir, I am saying that this payment to the contractor is perfectly justified as the Government themselves abandoned the site, and I also feel that before they enter into a contract for a similar purpose they should definitely come to a conclusion on this matter of site. In so doing, we suggest that they should consider the objections of the citizens of Madras. I know that there are some in Madras who have no objection to the hospital being built in a locality within the city which is not congested. But I think that if the hospital is situated very near Madras, as we have now got quick methods of locomotion, it will not be difficult for the people who want to go to that hospital to reach it."

12-15 p.m. "There is no objection on the part of the people to have an in-patient or out-patient hospital within the city, but the idea of a Tuberculosis Institute within the city is not liked by them. So, as I said, it was right that the Government gave up the idea of locating the hospital on the Spur tank site."

"It was said that there has been a mystery as to the methods by which this amount was arrived at. The note itself says that the Government Solicitor arrived at this amount after taking into consideration all the circumstances connected with this case. It was only after going

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through the various facts and figures that he arrived at this decision. It is not as if some laymen met together and arrived at the conclusion, that Rs. 48,000 and odd should be paid to the contractor. Therefore I see no reason to oppose this demand."

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Mr. President, this is the most unbusiness-like proposition that was ever placed before this Council. The whole estimate for the building of the hospital was about 7 lakhs, and here the contractor has claimed nearly one lakh. If the whole work had been done and finished, his profit might not have perhaps exceeded the Rs. 97,000 that he claims. Is it his claim that if the whole work that was given to him was executed he would have made 97 thousands but now that the contract has been cancelled he should be given that 97,000 which he would otherwise have made? If the proposition came in that form, then of course it would have to be considered in a particular way. But if he says that he had collected materials to a large extent and by selling them away he has incurred loss, that also cannot be believed; because the materials are not, as a rule, collected all at once as it would take a long time, two or three years, for the building to be completed; so it cannot be said that he lost so heavily on the resale of the materials. So, what he can claim is expenses connected with bringing the materials and making other preparations for this building. We have no details to show how this figure of Rs. 48,000 was arrived at as the amount of compensation to be given to him. To give away Rs. 48,000 for simply cancelling a contract is preposterous."

"There is also another point to be considered. If the Government had by this time decided about the site for the building and asked the contractor to shift his materials to the new site, then he would have been entitled only to the cost incurred in shifting the materials. After two years the case has come up before us; for it was in June 1929 that the contractor made the claim and in June 1931 it was decided to give away this amount of Rs. 48,000 as compensation, and now in November 1931 the Government come to us for a token demand. This is a most unbusinesslike procedure. I would ask the House to reject it and ask the Minister in charge to reconsider this proposition anew."

"In the meantime, we shall have to decide about the site. I cannot understand why the Government have taken such a long time over this question of selection of the site? If they had taken up this matter before now and taken steps to come to a decision earlier, a very large portion of this amount could have been saved by giving the contract to the same person. I do not want to go into the question of the site, because, as was pointed out, that question is not at all before us now. But since reference has been made to it, I am constrained to observe that Government have come to a hasty conclusion in deciding not to build on the Spur tank. There was some agitation, no doubt, but the strength of the agitation was exaggerated. Simply because the Corporation has passed a resolution against the proposed site, that does not mean that the Corporation does accurately represent public opinion in this case. I am not aware that there has been very strong feeling against the location of this hospital on the Spur tank. I feel that the question should be

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reopened and public opinion invited on this question; and until public opinion has asserted itself and Government are in a position to decide, this matter should remain in abeyance. If it is decided to build on the Spur tank only, then there is no question of compensation. But if it is decided that it should be built elsewhere, then the same contractor may be asked to tender for it, and then some compensation may be paid to him for the loss incurred by him on account of the change of site. So, I suggest that this matter should be sent back to the Ministry for reconsideration."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, I am in agreement with the views of my Friend, Mr. James, with regard to the two points adverted to by him. With regard to the compensation that has to be given to the contractor, I am afraid that the Government should reimburse the contractor the loss incurred, for after all the Government is like any private individual bound to honour its contract. If any damage is sustained by the contractor, it is bound to reimburse him the loss sustained. One wishes however that the amount were smaller, for one cannot understand how such a large amount as half a lakh could be given as compensation, merely because the contractor took pains to store certain materials on the site; but in any case the Government having come to the conclusion after consultation with the Government Solicitor and other responsible officers, I take it, it is not right that the Members of this House should ask the Government to go back. So far as the question of site is concerned, as my Friend, Mr. James, observed, there have been divergent opinion expressed in the debates at the Corporation meetings. There is one view that the Tuberculosis hospital should not find a place within the city itself. Another is that it should be within the city itself though not at the particular site proposed. Persons who favour the latter view have got the support of medical opinion which says that tuberculosis is not such a dreadful disease that the people suffering from it need to be isolated and treated worse than lepers. We know, Sir, equally contagious and infectious diseases are treated in our hospitals. There cannot be a greater infectious disease than enteric. We know that enteric patients are treated in the hospitals, and treated also in their own homes, and no objection is raised. But at the sight of tuberculosis patients, people are scared away and they are averse to treat them even as members of society, merely because it is a wasting disease and very difficult to cure. I think it is a most dangerous view that can be taken by the members of a society who owe a duty to each other. Formerly even cholera patients were left alone, and at one time when superstition about cholera prevailed, it used to be said that the cholera patient was left alone with a pot of water and if the person outlived the disease then the other persons would approach him. Society has progressed very much since those days, and now we realize we owe a duty to all members of the society. We know that Corporation maintains isolation hospitals, one at Tondiarpet and another at Krishnampet. The latter is in the midst of a highly congested locality. We know cholera, plague and smallpox cases are treated there. Still the Corporation looks askance at the Tuberculosis hospital, and some of the members of the Corporation expressed the opinion that a Tuberculosis hospital in the city would be

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a very dangerous thing. I submit that it is not the right view to take. If a tuberculosis patient is to be sent outside, what is to become of his relations who would like to see him often? My Friend, Mr. Muthiah Chettiyar, referred to the fact that when once a patient gets into the hospital, he has to stay there till he is cured. I do not know whether he means, till he dies. Will there not be anxiety on the part of his relations to visit him often? In the case of poor people, and many of the residents in Madras are really poor, is it possible for them to visit the patient if he is sent away to places outside Madras? Much confusion has been created by this fact that a hospital is confounded with a sanatorium. It may be well to have a sanatorium somewhere in Mambalam or Tambaram or Madanapalle, but it is not for all, because all cannot go to it. An ideal sanatorium is perhaps in Switzerland. How many people can afford to go there? So, it is the duty of the Corporation to run a hospital for tuberculosis and for all diseases that afflict the people in the city. The objection seems to be to the dispensary for tuberculosis. But the dispensary is a very necessary thing. It is feared that infection may spread if such a dispensary is within the city, but in the case of a hospital, patients get in there and are taken care of, and even chances of infection are so remote because of the precautions taken by the medical authorities.

"That is the view of one of the hon. Members. At the same time, Sir, I am aware that there is a great public feeling against the location of the hospital on the Spur tank site. It is not that the hospital should not be there, but that the place should be spared for use as playground. I agree with that view; I am at one with those who think that the hospital should not be located in Spur tank. But there are other places in Madras. Why should you not select other sites? Why should you say that 'if it is a question of Tuberculosis hospital take it away outside the city'? I cannot but think that people who suggest this believe in the saying, 'out of sight, out of mind.'

"If you are going to have the hospital, Sir, I think the constitution of a committee or a conference of people interested in the subject would really solve the problem. Between these two schools of thought what really happens is that the thing that we want to prevent is going on. The idea at the back of their minds when people did not want to have this hospital at the Spur tank was that it should not be located in the City of Madras. The other school of thought is that it should be within the city. As between these two schools of thought, the hospital remains at Royapettah and the Government do not want to make a move but prefer to let things as they are. So it is high time that the Government take steps to consult medical men and laymen interested in the matter and come to a definite conclusion regarding the location of this hospital. The present building of the hospital in Royapettah is in a dilapidated condition. It is in a very unsatisfactory condition and therefore the problem deserves better treatment at our hands. And for that purpose, I agree with the hon. Member, Mr. James, that the formation of a conference or committee is very necessary."

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MR. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, I feel compelled to thank the Government for having decided to stop the construction of the Tuberculosis Hospital in Spur tank. In the first place, it is very unusual for the Government to accede to reasonable requests made by the people. In this case, whether on account of the support to this representation from influential members of the Justice party or otherwise, I am glad that the Government have lapsed into a very right conclusion.

"Sir, the Corporation and its councillors were sending representation after representation to the Government objecting to the continuance of the Tuberculosis Hospital in Temple Gardens, Royapetta. The reason for their objection was that the continuance of the Tuberculosis Hospital in a locality like that would spread that disease even among those who were not affected by it. The Government continue to turn their deaf ear to those representations and the objection therefore continues. I hope, Sir, that with the change of policy in the Government in listening to the representation of the people, they will go one step further and remove the Tuberculosis Hospital from the Temple Gardens. There is, no doubt, difference of opinion regarding the infectious nature of this disease. Whatever that may be, there is not perhaps one Indian family which has not to mourn at least for one tuberculosis patient among its members, latent or patent. Therefore, the need for a hospital not only for the city of Madras but also for the rest of the Presidency, is very keen.

"Sir, the objection raised to the location of the hospital on the Spur tank site was based on the fact that that area is congested. That same objection will hold good in any area in the city of Madras. For, I cannot conceive of any area in the city which cannot be said to be congested. The city population during the last decade has increased by 25 per cent from 5½ lakhs. The city therefore is certainly very congested. That being the case, it is very necessary to locate the Tuberculosis Hospital outside the municipal limits of Madras. But it should not be far away from the city. Of course people who have the wherewithal to meet the expenditure, suffering from this disease, may go to Pallavaram or to Aminjikarai for a cure. The conditions obtaining in the City of Madras are not conducive to the cure of this disease. It is very necessary that these unfortunate persons in whom the germs of this wasting disease are detected, should at the earliest possible moment leave the City of Madras and they should be helped to do so both in the interests of the health of the city and in the interests of the patients themselves. The site at Aminjikarai was suggested for the location of the hospital, but it was purchased by the Corporation for locating the Infectious Diseases Hospital. The present medical opinion also seems to be against constructing the Tuberculosis Hospital at Aminjikarai. From the layman's point of view, I also agree with this view, because the surroundings in that area are anything but satisfactory for the location of the hospital. The best site therefore that I can possibly think of is some place between Saidapet, Guindy and Pallavaram. There is a vast area there and the place is accessible not only from the city but also

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from the mufassal. There is already a hospital in Thambram. I know several people are going there although the cost of living there is prohibitive and not within the reach of the middle-class people. If the Government construct a hospital there, it will confer a very great blessing to people all over the Presidency. Moreover, there is a complaint from the representatives of the mufassal that too much money is spent on the city of Madras. I do not want that the Corporation should share that blame by having the Tuberculosis Hospital in the city. Let it be outside the municipal limits by all means.

"So far as the award of damage to the contractor is concerned, I find that the figure of the award, Rs. 48,773 has frightened hon. Members. I may say, Sir, that this award works out at 7 per cent of the cost of the works contracted for. I suppose the contractor must have lost the profits he would have derived if the work had been proceeded with. In my opinion he is justly entitled to claim this percentage. Generally we do not expect large amounts being paid by the Government in such cases, but that is no reason why this should be objected to. I hope the hon. Minister while selecting a site in the locality I mentioned, will soon remove the hospital from the Temple Gardens as it is likely to spread infection in the locality."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I am glad that there have been various views expressed in this House on the question of the site for the Tuberculosis Hospital. My friends who spoke on the subject ought to know what really happened in the year 1929 when this scheme was abandoned. There was a unanimous resolution of the Corporation of Madras and protests from various residents in the neighbourhood of the Spur Tank site for the abandonment of the proposed construction. The scheme itself was sanctioned in 1928 and in 1929 the contract was given and the work was taken up. Immediately there were certain interpellations put in this House and also a motion for adjournment of the House given notice of by Dr. Mallayya on the matter. The hon. Minister said this: 'It has been decided to construct on the Spur Tank a comprehensive building for a Tuberculosis Hospital at an early date at a cost of 6.96 lakhs and the work is about to be started.' In reply to a question whether the proposal to construct a Tuberculosis Hospital on the Spur Tank has been abandoned, put by Mr. Basheer Ahmed, one of the prominent members of the Corporation, the hon. Minister said that it has not been abandoned. The following questions also were then put and answered:—

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister is aware that the Corporation passed a unanimous resolution protesting against the construction of the hospital on that site?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Yes."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I know what has happened to that?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"The matter is being looked into."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Do the Government propose to go on with the work while the consideration is going on, or suspend work?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"The work has been suspended two weeks ago and until final decision is come to, it will not be proceeded with."

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"Now, Sir, when the Corporation passed this resolution unanimously, it was the duty of both these members who were of the Corporation to have differed from that decision of the Corporation. Having kept quiet then, it does not look well that they should now come before the Council and say that they did not want that resolution to be passed. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: I differed on the last resolution of the Corporation.) Differed on the last resolution, but not on the resolution of 1929. My friend, Mr. Pocker, is not tired of saying that for all and sundry the party now in power is responsible. He has been in this Council only for less than a year. I am sure he will hereafter take care to read the proceedings before he makes incorrect remarks. In 1929 we were not in office. We are not therefore responsible for what happened then. On the other hand, the Leader of the Opposition, under whose banner he is now functioning, was responsible for it.

"Sir, objection was taken to this grant on the ground that the claims of the contractor might have been met by giving him the contract for the new hospital that may be built. On that point the Government have been considering various alternatives. At one time it was decided to have it located at Aminjikarai just outside the municipal limits; but later on it was found that that was not a suitable site. Other alternatives proposed were considered. The present Surgeon-General is clearly of opinion that the construction of the Tuberculosis Hospital must be as near as possible to the General Hospital, because the hospital has to serve not only the patients but also the students reading in the college. So, he is of opinion that it must be, as far as possible, within the city limits. It was for these reasons that possible alternative sites had to be examined. When the resolution protesting against the construction of the Tuberculosis Hospital in Royapetta was before the Corporation, not one of the ten hon. Members here who are also members of the Corporation opposed it. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti wants that for all time to come no Tuberculosis Hospital should be constructed within the Madras City itself. I am glad to see at least now he recognizes that Madras has got more than its due share in the matter of expenditure as far as conveniences are concerned. Whatever may be the reason for his supporting the resolution which was sponsored and passed by the city fathers, the fact remains that it was accepted by the Government and the Government should not be blamed if they were wrong in accepting the recommendation of the Corporation.

"As regards the reason for arriving at the sum of Rs. 48,000 odd as award for the contractor, I may inform hon. Members that various proposals put forward by the contractor's counsel were examined by Government and this award was considered to be the best and the most favourable to the Government.

"Then there was the appeal by Mr. James that the question of having the hospital constructed in the Madras City should not be given up. I may say that nobody is anxious to give up such a useful institution as this. But whatever may be the ultimate decision of the Government, I think, Sir, that in the present financial circumstances,

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it will not be possible to take up the question of building a Tuberculosis Hospital costing about 7 lakhs of rupees. The sum that we have got on hand for the purpose is only Rs. 2½ lakhs. I do hope that there will be some kind of unanimity among those who represent the town as to where it should be located."

The hon Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, I will only deal with the portion 12-4 which relates to the figures. The following are the claims put in by the contractor:—

		RS.
Items 1 to 5	... Erection of thatched sheds, erection of latrines and establishment charges.	1,150
Item 6	... Advance to Ubbaravas for earthwork.	500
Item 7	... Penalty for 59½ lakhs of bricks at Rs. 5 per 1,000	29,750
Item 8	... Advance for 12,000 c.ft. of brick jelly at Rs. 6 per c.ft.	600

(Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Penalty?) Yes, because the contract was entered into between the department and the contractor and the work was proceeded with. The contractor had to advance money to several men for bringing in materials. Then, Sir,

		RS.
Item 9	... Damages for 31,000 c.ft. of pit jelly at Rs. 10 per 100 c.ft.	1,860
Item 10	... Penalty for 20,000 c.ft. of baby jelly at Rs. 10 per 100 c.ft.	2,000
Item 11	... Claim for casuarina posts	1,000
	Compensation for loss of crops on kiln areas	500
	Half the cost of materials at site	3,380
	For loss of profit on Rs. 4,85,000 being value of contract at 10 per cent	48,500

Additional claims.

Interest on security deposit at 12 per cent	1,150
Interest on the sum claimed in January 1929 at 12 per cent.	7,323
Total	97,713

"Of course the whole question has been gone into by the Government experts, the Chief Engineer and others. We had also the benefit of advice of the Government Solicitor who said that we might compromise the case by giving the contractor Rs. 48,000. . ."

(A voice:—Was the Advocate-General consulted?)

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The Government Solicitor was consulted.

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“Sir, the payment of Rs. 48,000 was agreed to for the simple reason that by this compromise Government would be the gainer. In view of that, I do hope that the Council will approve of the payment of the above sum to the contractor.”

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

III.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT, 1920.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“I beg to present the Report^a of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920 (Bill No. 24 of 1931) and move that the Bill, as amended by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—“I second it.”

The motion was put and carried.

Clauses 1 to 9 were put and carried.

Clause 10.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—“Let the hon. Member Mr. Nachiyappa Goundar move only the amendment to sub-clause (2).”

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDAR:—“I beg to move the amendment that stands in my name as follows:—

‘For the proposed sub-section (2) of section 47 and the proviso thereto, substitute the following, viz.,

(2) No fees shall be levied from any such child at any other elementary school situated in the said area:

Provided that the loss of fee income calculated at standard rates as prescribed shall be paid to such school by the local authority or panchayat concerned by way of compensation from its elementary education fund.’

“In moving this amendment I should like to say only a few words. In areas where compulsion is introduced the local bodies also are levying education cess and collecting the same from the poor parents. Every parent is compelled to send his children to any public school that may be situated in his locality (not necessarily a school established by the local body) and if he fails to do this, he is punishable under the Act. If there is no public school run by a local body in a place, the parent has perforce to send his children to the aided institution which is situated close by. According to the clause as it stands in the Bill, fees may be levied by aided institutions. The parents pay education cess to the local boards and in return for that they must get some benefit. If there are no schools maintained by local boards, the poor parents will have to send their children to aided institutions. In this way these poor persons are taxed in both the ways, i.e., they will have to pay education cess

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and also fees to the aided schools. If the aided institutions were to begin levying fees from pupils, naturally they will seek admission in schools run by local authorities. If that happens, the aided institutions will have to end their days. In such a case the local bodies will have to increase the number of schools to meet the demand and they will have to spend a good lot of money. What I propose in my amendment is that instead of spending a good lot of money over these schools, I think the question may be amicably settled by giving a little compensation to the aided managers and forcing them not to levy fees in any aided institutions. So in order to save the funds of the local bodies and in order that the benefit of compulsory education may be enjoyed by all the people and in order that all the aided institutions may also survive, I propose this amendment.”

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“I second the amendment.”

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—“An important question is involved in this amendment. The point is what should be the ideal for the Corporation or the local bodies whether they should have schools started and run by them or schools aided by them. That is the most important question. If it is the idea that only schools started and run by local bodies should come into existence, and that these aided schools are only make-shifts, then I think this amendment should be rejected. But if it is thought that these aided schools can take the place of schools run by local bodies permanently, then this amendment may be accepted by the Government. I think the policy of the Government is that only schools started and run by local bodies should come into existence, gradually replacing the aided schools. If that is so, the elementary education funds cannot be utilized for giving aid to these make-shift aided schools. That is my idea. Of course, if this amendment is accepted the local bodies can easily close their schools and then have a number of aided schools and the cost of maintaining such schools will be much lower than it would otherwise be. No doubt about that. No doubt the ideal is compulsory education should be free. But can that ideal be reached now? Even the framers of the Act did not contemplate that they would be able to achieve that ideal immediately. It is therefore that they provided that in cases where they could not start schools where education could not be made free, there should be no compulsion. Here also the same thing is done. The amendment runs counter to such a proposal. There is another thing in the amendment. There is an assumption that rich pupils only gather in free schools and poor pupils in aided schools. That may not be the case. A rich parent may find to his gain to send his children to these aided schools where better attention may be had from persons who receive some remuneration for that.

“The teacher in a Corporation school who has no personal gain to 1 p.m. look for will not take so much interest and pay so much attention. It is only human nature and it is idle to expect the teachers of the city of Madras to do otherwise. They must be really super-human beings if such a thing was to be expected from them. I therefore oppose this amendment.”

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Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Sir, the most important provision of this Bill is that relating to the levy of fees in aided institutions. This provision has met with considerable opposition. The hon. Minister is taking a thoroughly retrograde step of going back on the long accepted policy of Government to impart free and compulsory elementary education to children in this Presidency. I am sure this Bill will be a big debit item in the record of this ministry. I am sure the House is familiar with the popular demand for a system of free and compulsory education in this country from the time of the late Mr. Gokhale and the strong reasons which have induced governments in this country to accept that principle. Those reasons—I do not want to weary the House by repeating them here—hold good now quite as much as they did at the time when the principle was accepted by the Government. But the hon. Minister here in a very light-hearted way wants to go back several years and upset the whole achievement of the Government and the public. I am sorry that in this retrograde step he is taking he wants to make the Corporation and the managers of aided schools in the city his scapegoats. The truth of the matter is this: the Government are not in a position to finance the local bodies who are willing to levy an education cess and make education free and compulsory in their areas. If the hon. Minister says so, this Council will sympathise with him and agree to suspend the Act for the time being. But on the other hand if he wants to throw the blame on the Corporation and the managers of aided institutions I must strongly protest against it.

"The object of constituting the Elementary Education Fund is to enable the local body concerned to impart free and compulsory primary education in the area of the local body. Wherever education is made compulsory, it should also be free; otherwise it would work as a great hardship on the parents of poor children, like those who come from the depressed classes. Even now in certain areas where compulsion has been introduced, the local authority has to give the midday meal to poor children, so that the poor parents may not feel the education of their children a burden. Without this inducement the local authority finds it difficult to compel the poor people to send their children to school. The hon. Minister wants to ask the aided institutions which are now serving the needs of two-thirds of the school-going children to levy fees. It is no doubt due to the agitation of the managers of these institutions in a way. They were not satisfied with the somewhat indefinite and uncertain payments of compensation by the Corporation. They wanted to be sure of their income and with that object in view they asked for permission to levy fees from their pupils. Evidently the hon. Minister thought it was a good opportunity to kill two birds at a stroke; he would be granting the request of the managers of these aided schools and at the same time he would be satisfying his colleague, the Finance Member, by seeing that the Government money in the Education Fund was not diverted for the purpose of aiding these institutions. But I am afraid both these objects will not be achieved in the way in which the hon. Minister expects.

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"The Education Fund is composed of the amount which the local authority was spending on education before the introduction of compulsion, the proceeds of the levy of the education cess and an equivalent amount contributed by Government. Out of this fund the local authority has to pay for the maintenance of not only its own schools but also for the schools run by private management. So long as the aided institutions are efficient as shown by the fact that they receive recognition year after year from the Education Department, they should be considered quite useful institutions. There is no meaning in killing aided institutions because they are only aided institutions. If a local authority runs its own school, it must be only to point out the right lines on which a school should be run and set a model for other private institutions. If aided schools are not encouraged, then private enterprise in this wide field of education will be killed and the local authority will be unable to discharge its responsibility of educating all the children in the area. It is with this end in view that the Madras Corporation allowed aided schools to continue, although in the beginning Government framed rules saying that they would be aided only for five years and later on revised the rules saying that compensation might be paid indefinitely so long as the schools continued to be efficient. What would happen if these aided schools were closed? The Corporation would be compelled to open new schools. It costs $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as much as the compensation paid to an aided school to maintain a Corporation school. It is a very uneconomical policy. I do not see why Government should object to the Corporation paying this compensation out of the Elementary Education Fund. It looks as though the Government is afraid that other local authorities, not only the Madras Corporation, will introduce compulsory education, levy the education cess and compel the Government to pay an equivalent amount. If that is the fear of the Government, let them say so openly and admit that our finances will not permit the introduction of compulsory education. Then the local authorities will withdraw their proclamations regarding compulsion. So far as the Madras Corporation is concerned, they cannot continue to impose this compulsion without at the same time making due provision for additional schools in the place of the aided schools which will be displaced now. Naturally they will have to levy more education cess or ask the Government to help them. If education cess is levied the public will ask what return they get for the cess they pay. Surely you cannot levy the education cess and still ask the parents to pay fees for their children. Unless you made education free, what is the reasonableness of your levying an education cess? If a man is able to pay for the education of his children, why should he be asked to pay not merely the fees but also the education cess for the sake of other children? That will be a double hardship upon these so-called rich people. Why should rich men be taxed not only for their luxuries but also for something else for which they are not responsible? I therefore beg of the hon. Minister not to heed the clamour of these aided school managers to permit them to levy fees. I understand that later on these managers have revised their views and come to see that after all it is far better and easier to get a cheque from Government or the local

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authority than to take all the trouble of collecting fees from students and wait till the end of the month. Moreover for the last five or six years the public of Madras have been accustomed to free education and if we now introduced the levy of fees how many children would continue in school? You would also be dislocating the programme of schools managed by trusts. They have all along been relying on the compensation paid by the local authority and when that compensation is no longer forthcoming, they will have to alter their budgets accordingly. Again, there are many excellent aided schools near the Corporation schools. If the aided schools were to get no compensation and consequently had to levy fees, how would children go there when they have a free Corporation school near by? Therefore the result of this Bill will be that you will not merely be killing some inefficient aided schools (the hon. Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar: So much the better)—I agree so far—but you will also be obliterating from the education map of the city many efficient and well managed schools which are very well serving a real need. You will force the hands of the Madras Corporation to open new schools of their own at a much higher cost.

“I would not be surprised if the experience of the working of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act repeats itself in a similar way with regard to this Act. I have no doubt that three months afterwards my hon. Friend, Mr. James, will come forward in this Council and ask for the repeal of the Bill, unless it be that he stands on prestige and refuses to do it. The Corporation would be put to the necessity of either withdrawing compulsion or opening more of their own schools. If we withdrew compulsion, we would be putting back the clock of progress in the matter of elementary education and cause keen disappointment to the people who have all along been expecting the Government to pursue steadfastly a programme of free and compulsory elementary education.”

1-15 p.m. * Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, I am sure that the hon. Minister is as anxious as any one of us, that no obstacle should be placed in the spread of elementary education. But the present Bill is calculated to create great difficulties in the way of the spread of elementary education. Having started on the principle that elementary education should be compulsory as well as free, any departure from that principle will launch us in great difficulties indeed. I have no objection to fees being levied in certain schools where the education imparted is of better kind than what is obtained in schools that are maintained by the Corporation and by public bodies, which impart education of a most elementary kind. People who require better education would not send their children to the schools maintained by the Corporation and other public bodies.

“There should be, at the same time, other schools where better education is imparted; in that case people would be willing to pay for the education of their children in those schools. In a locality where there is no public school where free education is given but there is a private school and the latter school is availed of to provide education in that area, in that case, that school should impart education free

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and no fees should be levied. If on the other hand that school is allowed to levy fees, difficulty will arise about the number of free seats that are to be provided in that school. I am sure the local authorities would be put to great difficulty in this matter. There may be need for more free seats than the school may be willing to provide. For example, suppose there is accommodation for 100 boys in a school; but the children in that area of the school-going age are more than 100 whose education is to be provided for. In that case what proportion would be fixed for free seats in that school?

“Besides, when education is to be compulsory as well as free, no boys should be asked to pay fees especially in a school where there are other boys who are not paying fees; otherwise, there would be distinction between the various boys in the school. In a free school, no boy should be asked to pay fees, though there may be boys in that school, whose parents are rich enough to pay. In a school, the distinction of some boys paying fees and other boys not paying fees, should not be made at all. If a school provides only an elementary type of education, why should the people who send their children to that school, be required to pay for the education which is not at all better than that provided in another school in that locality? There should be no fee in schools which are brought into existence or pressed into service under the provisions of this Act. But there may be schools where fees may be levied, provided there are within one mile other schools where fees are not levied. On this principle itself, I oppose this amendment to the Act. If the Council passes this Bill, it will be greatly detrimental to the spread of elementary education to the extent we want.”

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Sir, I propose to move the following amendment:—

‘Omit the following words “calculated at standard rates as prescribed” in the proviso given notice of and moved by Mr. Nachiappa Goundar.’

“This amendment raises issues of a very fundamental nature regarding the policy that is pursued by this Government in the matter of education. I shall reserve my remarks on this point, when I come to another amendment which has been given notice of. For the present I would confine my remarks to the necessity of my amendment to that of my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiappa Goundar. The history of the definition of the term ‘standard rate’ is a very antiquated one; the standard rate was prescribed years ago under the Madras Education Rules, without any relation whatsoever to the rates that were being levied by various aided schools in this presidency, and the anomaly came to the forefront when the question of payment of compensation by local authorities introducing compulsory education in the area took concrete shape. To illustrate this point, I invite the attention of the House to the fact when the Madras Corporation was faced with the question of the payment of compensation to aided schools under the Elementary Education Act, the Corporation was permitted only to pay

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compensation to the extent of one and one-fifth of the standard rate. The standard rate was fixed by the Government with reference to their own schools, viz., schools under public management and not with reference to any private school. Taking that rate into consideration, the amount that the Madras Corporation was allowed to pay by the Government, was not sufficient even to meet one-fourth of the actual cost that was being incurred by aided institutions in running their schools. Thanks to the very reasonable attitude taken by the Madras Corporation, enquires were made in the matter and a responsible body like that came to the conclusion that the payment of compensation permissible under the Elementary Education Act would not meet the justice of the case and, from time to time, the Madras Corporation has been pleased to pay enhanced compensation to aided institutions. The compensation that was paid by them was sometimes four times the standard rate and at other times three times the rate. I think it is my duty, as one connected with an aided institution, to point out to the Members of this House that no private or aided institution can carry on the work of running a school if compensation is paid at the standard rate. I therefore think that my amendment is necessary, because it will be impossible to carry on the work of aided institutions at the standard rate prescribed under the Act. That is the reason why I am compelled to move this amendment to that of Mr. Nachiyappa Goundar."

Mr. V. T. Arasu seconded the amendment.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, if either the original amendment of my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Goundar, or the amendment in its present amended form is accepted, I must say that that will defeat the very object with which this Bill has been introduced.

"In the existing Act, the provision is that no school, whether it be under public management or under private management, shall levy any fees. There is also the provision that the managers of private schools shall be compensated by the local authority for the loss of income consequent upon this non-levy of fees. In the City of Madras and in a number of municipalities in the mufassal, about 25 in number, compulsion has been introduced, as a result of which no fees are to be levied in these areas in private schools, and the local authorities have to compensate the private schools. Experience has shown that the present system has been quite unworkable. It has led to a number of difficulties and also has resulted in considerable abuse. Particularly in the City of Madras have these difficulties been more marked than in the mufassal municipalities. It is as a result of what we have found by actual experience in working out these sections that the Government have felt the need for amending the existing provisions. In this respect, the Corporation and most of the private managements in the City of Madras have been pressing upon the Government that the existing provisions of the Act are unworkable and that they have to

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be amended, and it is in pursuance of the request of both these bodies of people that the present Bill has been introduced. And if, therefore, the amendment now moved is accepted, namely, that fees are not to be levied in private schools and the old system of compensation must continue, I do not see any further purpose in enacting this amending Bill at all.

"I may point out, Sir, that a statutory prohibition of the levy of fees in private schools appears to be a thing unknown in any other province in this country. Enactments similar to our Elementary Education Act are found in many of the other provinces. I have examined most of them; a prohibition is found in them against public bodies like municipalities and taluk boards levying fees in schools under their management. But there is no provision that private schools ought not to levy fees at all—not even in a compulsory area. I would say that in the larger interests of primary education in this country, it is necessary that private schools should be enabled to levy fees. If the parent of a child prepared to pay for the education of the child wants in return for the payment that he makes a better kind of education than the common free schools are prepared to give, the existing provision of the Act would not make it possible for him to get that kind of education. There is a statutory prohibition against the private manager levying any fee. If he does so in spite of the provisions of the Act, he makes himself liable to the penalties attaching to a violation of the sections of this Act. I may also say that the result of making all schools free will be to reduce the educational institutions in this country to a type-design of a very inferior sort. If you stifle private enterprise and kill all endeavours to impart a better kind of education, education on the lines that we find in the educationally advanced countries of the West, I ask my hon. Friends in this House to say if that is a thing which they ought to advocate in the interests of education in this country. Of course, if education is made compulsory in any particular area, it is necessary to provide free schools. But the principle which this Bill embodies is that private managers ought not to be prohibited from levying fees, ought not to be prohibited from running a better kind of institution than the common school which the public management is prepared to provide and where no fees are levied at all. That is the object of this Bill, Sir.

"Then, Sir, my Friend asked me whether even in compulsory areas private schools are in a position to levy fees. I said in all other enactments even where compulsion has been introduced by the local authority with the sanction of the Government, there is no such embargo on private managements against levying fees. I may also, with your leave, Sir, point out to hon. Members of this House that the object of enacting the Elementary Education Act of 1920 was not to introduce at once universal compulsory education throughout the province. If that was the object and if the provisions of that Act aimed at introducing such compulsory education throughout the province which was also free, I can certainly be charged with going back on the provisions of the Act and with having taken a retrograde

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step. But it would be clear from the Preamble to the Act itself that that was not the object of enacting this legislative provision at all. As the Preamble expressly says, the object was only to make better provision for elementary education in this province, and that this is the object is also made clearer by some of the sections in the Act itself. When a local authority makes an application to the Government to introduce compulsion in the whole or any portion of its area, the Government need not examine whether adequate free places have been provided throughout the area in which compulsion is sought to be introduced; they must be only satisfied that there is a reasonable prospect of the local authority providing an adequate number of free places; and there is also another provision which makes this position quite clear. If universal compulsion was intended by the Act—as my hon. Friends seem to think—the parent of any child who does not send his child of school-going age to a school would be liable to criminal prosecution. But that is not what it has provided for. Compulsion is not to be enforced except where there are adequate educational facilities within a mile of the residence of the child or within such other distance as the District Educational Council may fix. All these provisions, Sir, I submit, go to show that it was intended to introduce compulsion only so far as the existing state of things would permit; and not to introduce universal compulsion throughout the jurisdiction of any local authority seeking to start compulsion. So, in this view, Sir, I must say that I have not in the least made myself liable to the charge of changing in any manner the policy which has been laid down in the Elementary Education Act of 1920. Well, Sir, under the existing Act, as I said, local authorities have to compensate private schools. The local authorities have come forward and told the Government—the Corporation has said that and at least one municipality in the mufassal has said that—‘we refuse to pay the compensation which the Act has prescribed’ and it is not possible for the Government to enforce the payment of the compensation though the Act has provided for it, because we find that their budgets already show a deficit. When it is absolutely impossible for them to pay the compensation and when private schools are anxious that they should be continued, I ask my hon. Friends here to say what is the remedy that they would suggest. The only remedy is to restore the state of things which existed before this Act was passed. I may say, if you permit me, Sir, it was a mistake to have introduced the provision in the Act of 1920 itself, to place a permanent embargo on private schools levying fees, to compel parents, however unwilling they may be to do so, to send their children to private schools, and to provide for the payment of a compensation which—as experience has shown—is liable to abuse in many directions. The only alternative, as I said, Sir, left to the Government was to restore the *status quo ante* and that is what is sought to be done by the provisions of this Bill. The private schools can levy fees as they were doing before this Act came into force; and local authorities need not pay any compensation just as they were not bound to pay before this Act of 1920 was passed. I would

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request hon. Members to view this question not in the interests of private managements or of any other vested interests that have accrued as a result of the Act of 1920, but in the larger interests of the advancement of elementary education and the development of elementary education on healthy and proper lines in this country; and when so viewed, there is no alternative left, but to accept the provisions of the amending Bill and to reject this amendment.”

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—“Mr. President, Sir, a correct appreciation of the amendment of Mr. Nachiappa Goundar will show that the whole Bill is quite unnecessary and need not be accepted by this House at all. The present Act, as it is now working is what exactly is meant by my Friend’s amendment. No fees are levied in areas where compulsion is introduced. Then, Sir, we are, under the Act, bound to pay and we are paying the local authorities and the Corporation of Madras—the statutory compensation provided in the Act. Now, the question is when once compulsion is introduced in an area, the local authority has, I think, rightly conceived it that it is its duty to provide education for all the boys of school-going age in that area. But the local authority does not find it possible to maintain the required number of schools and bear the burden of a large number of schools required for a particular area. Since they are unable to do so, they seek the aid of private institutions which are existing in the particular area and come to an agreement with them saying ‘since you are not levying any fees, and on account of your not levying any fees, you are likely to incur a loss, and since you are supplementing our task of education we shall pay you a certain amount to compensate you for the loss of income’. Well, Sir, the rules made under the Act provide for only one and one-fifth for the City of Madras and one for the mufassal area. The Corporation, since it thinks it is its duty to provide educational facilities for all the boys and girls within its area, has necessarily to seek the aid of other institutions to make up the deficiency which the Corporation is not itself able to make up. The view of the Corporation is that the privately managed schools are the agencies of the Corporation in the absence of itself being able to provide for all the boys in a particular area. With regard to this, Sir, the question arose as to whether the Corporation should pay the full fee compensation out of the Elementary Education Fund or out of the general revenues of the Corporation. The contention of the Corporation is that inasmuch as they are subsidizing to the spread of elementary education, they are entitled to pay out of the Elementary Education Fund; but the Government, for reasons which have not yet been divulged, say: ‘No, we cannot allow that to be paid out of the Elementary Education Fund’.

“We are yet to know, Sir, from the Finance Department and from the hon. the Minister as to what exactly are the reasons why the Corporation or the local authority is not empowered to pay out of the Elementary Education Fund the full-fee compensation. The full-fee compensation has to be paid because the private managed schools have

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lost the income which they were deriving before the introduction of compulsion in their particular area and because of the abolition of the levy of fees. The Corporation contends that the private managed schools are supplementing the activities of the Corporation in the spread of elementary education. It is only elementary education that is being imparted by these private schools instead of the Corporation. Why not then pay out of the Elementary Education Fund, for which a cess is raised and a certain proportion of the money is contributed by the Corporation while another portion is contributed by the Government? Now, Sir, if the Government were to accept the contention of the Corporation that the money that may be paid to these private aided schools is a necessary expenditure for the spread of elementary education and a legitimate expenditure, then the Government must say, 'Pay it out of the Elementary Education Fund'. But apparently, the Finance Department of the Government think differently, for in its Government Order, the Government say that any money paid out of the Elementary Education Fund is not authorized or legitimate, but any money paid out of the general revenues for this purpose would be regular and legitimate. Now, Sir, I submit the Finance Department of the Government should correct their notions and think that any sum paid to these private aided institutions, whether out of the Elementary Education Fund or out of the general revenues, is necessary and legitimate. Then, Sir, the difficulty will be set at rest. Instead of doing so, the hon. the Minister has come forward with this amending Bill. The Corporation is ready to pay the one and one-fifth statutory rate provided for under the rules (The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—It is not). It is prepared to pay; it has been paying. The Corporation is ready to pay the one and one-fifth provided for under the Act or the rules under it. But it is not able to pay the full fee income. If it is able to pay the full fee income, then the Government would say: 'If you pay it out of the general revenues, we have no objection; but if you pay it out of the Elementary Education Fund, we have objection'. I want to know how the payment to these aided institutions out of the general revenues could be considered as valid or necessary or legitimate and how if the payment is made out of the Elementary Education Fund it is invalid, unnecessary and illegitimate. That is the position which I want the hon. Minister to make clear. Now, Sir, the net result of all these difficulties comes to this, that either the private aided institutions have to satisfy themselves with receiving only one and one-fifth of the statutory rate, or these aided institutions should close; and then the Corporation will have to take up the responsibility of providing elementary education for all boys and girls in those particular areas served at present by these aided schools. Obviously the Corporation is not able to take it up at the present day and it may not be possible until the education cess is raised to meet the extra expenditure that they will have to incur in maintaining schools in order to provide further educational facilities for all the boys and girls in a particular area. Now, Sir, the amendment of my hon. Friend from Salem only points to this fact that the

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amending Bill is unnecessary and private aided institutions ought to be told that they are not entitled to get more than the statutory compensation provided for in the rules and that the Corporation or any local authority need not pay more. If the Corporation or the local authority makes up its mind, as the Corporation has already made up its mind not to pay anything more than the statutory compensation payable under the rules, then, Sir, the question becomes very simple and easily solved. Then the Government should come to the rescue of the aided institutions by allowing them to levy fees. The result is, although the Minister may not agree, that the quality of compulsion is greatly affected by the introduction of the principle of the levy of fees. How is the Corporation or the local authority going to enforce compulsion the moment you allow the levy of fees in some schools while is not able to provide the area with more schools? The poor boys cannot go to the aided institutions where fees are levied, and these poor boys will have to look up to the Corporation or the local authority for providing facilities for their education, and the Corporation or the local authority is not in a position financially to provide for all the boys, as it is bound to provide for if compulsion is to be effectively carried out. I submit the hon. Minister is thoroughly wrong when he says that the element of compulsion is not in the least affected; the whole element of compulsion is affected. Compulsion cannot be enforced if the levy of fees is to be brought into existence and if the required number of schools are not there; otherwise the compulsion will only be in name. The hon. the Minister referred to the preamble of the Act. I would invite his attention to the latter clauses which impose a penalty if the parent does not send his boy or girl of a certain age to school. Why is that provision put in there if compulsion is not to be really effective and real and if it is not to be enforced? If in the view of the hon. Minister, it is merely to be 'namke-vastey' why then do you retain these clauses? Why do you say, if certain conditions are satisfied, compulsion will be introduced and parents will be penalized for non-observance of the rule and a penalty of Rs. 50 will be levied? I think the hon. Minister should also remove those sections which penalize the parents. The net result is that the whole object of the long agitation started from the days of the late Mr. Gopala Krishna Ghokale is defeated the moment you introduce the levy of fees in areas where compulsion is introduced and particularly when it is not possible to provide for the required number of schools. I would suggest to the hon. the Minister that he should strongly impress on the private aided institutions and tell them that they should be satisfied with one and one-fifth of the statutory rate in the case of the Corporation and the single statutory rate in the case of the local authorities; the Corporation, the municipalities and local bodies should be told that they ought not to pay anything more than that. If the Corporation, the municipalities and local bodies are prepared and make up their mind and say 'No', then, Sir, the way is easy, and we do not require this Act. If the Corporation and the municipalities have to give effect to the great idea of compulsion with

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a view to spread education and have to provide for such education, how else could they provide for it unless they are enabled to pay out of the Elementary Education Fund? A necessary element of compulsion, if it is to be effective, is that education should be given free, that all opportunities and facilities should be afforded so that boys and girls may get themselves educated without paying for it. Under these circumstances, if the amendment of my hon. Friend from Salem is to be accepted, then we would be going back to the position that the Corporation is well within its rights in refusing to pay the full fee compensation to private managers, who must be satisfied with accepting merely the one and one-fifth standard rate provided for under the rules made under the Act, and do not bother the Minister and the Members with this Amending Bill."

Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—"I move that the question be now put."

The motion was put and carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put the amendment of Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar to the vote of the House. The question is—

'that the words 'calculated at standard rates as prescribed' be deleted from the proviso in the amendment moved by Mr. Nachiyappa Goundar.'

The amendment was declared lost. A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

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| 1. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 10. Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar. |
| 2. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 11. Mr. A. B. Shetty. |
| 3. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 12. Mr. G. Simhachalam. |
| 4. Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 13. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. |
| 5. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar. | 14. K. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur. |
| 6. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 15. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar. |
| 7. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur. | 16. The Pattagar of Palayakottai. |
| 8. Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 17. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| 9. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. | 18. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| | 19. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |
| | 20. Mr. V. T. Arasu. |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 7. The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. |
| 2. " Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 8. Mrs. K. Alamelumanga Thayaramma. |
| 3. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 9. Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham. |
| 4. " Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 10. Mr. J. A. Thorne. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 11. Mr. H. M. Hood. |
| 6. " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 12. Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. |
| | 13. Mr. S. V. Ramamurti. |
| | 14. Mr. E. Conran Smith. |

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Noes—cont.

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| 15. Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 36. Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder. |
| 16. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. | 37. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 17. Mr. K. C. M. Venkatachela Reddiyar. | 38. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanya Chetti. |
| 18. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 39. The Zamindar of Kirlampudi. |
| 19. Mr. M. Devadasan. | 40. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. |
| 20. Mr. N. Siva Raj. | 41. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami. |
| 21. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 42. Rao Sahib Badeti Venkataramayya. |
| 22. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. | 43. Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo. |
| 23. Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar. | 44. Mr. W. M. Browning. |
| 24. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi. | 45. Mr. F. Birley. |
| 25. Mr. M. S. Sreshta. | 46. Mr. R. Foulkes. |
| 26. Mr. P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. | 47. Mr. W. E. Winter. |
| 27. Mr. V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. | 48. Mr. F. E. James. |
| 28. Mr. C. Indrayya. | 49. Mr. J. Kuppuswami. |
| 29. Mr. P. Bayappa Reddi. | 50. Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| 30. Mr. T. Narasa Reddi. | 51. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi. |
| 31. Mr. R. M. Palat. | 52. Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur. |
| 32. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. | 53. Mr. G. Sriramulu. |
| 33. The Zamindar of Mirjapuram. | 54. Mr. H. M. Jagannatham. |
| 34. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. | 55. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |
| 35. Mr. J. A. Davis. | 56. Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur. |
| | 57. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |

Neutral.

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| 1. Mr. P. C. Moses. | 4. Mr. K. M. Duraiswami Reddiyar. |
| 2. Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar. | 5. Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| 3. Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. | |

Ayes 20. Noes 57. Neutral 5.

The amendment was lost.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will now put the amendment of Mr. Nachiyappa Goundar to the vote of the House. The question is—

'For the proposed sub-section (2) of section 47 and the proviso thereto, substitute the following, viz.:—

"(2) No fees shall be levied from any such child at any other elementary school situated in the said area:

Provided that the loss of fee income calculated at standard rates as prescribed shall be paid to such school by the local authority or panchayat concerned by way of compensation from its elementary education fund.'

The amendment was lost.

The House then adjourned for lunch to meet again at 3 p.m.

After Lunch (3 p.m.)

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

'In sub-section (2) add the following at the end: "except where such area is the City of Madras or is in the City of Madras".'

"Sir, I am sorry I am compelled to move this amendment because I know the intention of the hon. Minister when he brought this measure. If this Bill be passed without any alteration instead of mending the Elementary Education Act it will end the compulsory education in the

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [3rd November 1931]

city. When this Bill was sent to the Select Committee, I thought it would come out in the most acceptable form. But the most disputed clause 10 came out without any alteration, in spite of the protests made by my colleagues in the Corporation, who were on the committee. If this Bill becomes an Act compulsion will be withdrawn, rather must be withdrawn in the city. About 30,000 children are being educated in these aided schools. They are doing so at a very cheap rate to the Corporation. The Corporation is spending now about six lakhs but it will have to spend 12 lakhs hereafter. Children now reading in schools will flock to the Corporation schools. But who are the children that will be most affected? It is the depressed classes children. A number of the depressed classes children who were seeking appointments on one rupee and two rupees are going to these schools. As it at present stands they will do so till their 11th year. If this Bill is passed into law about 20,000 children of the City of Madras will go without education. Sir, if the hon. Minister had accepted the amendment that was moved this morning, it would have been at least a compromise. It was a very moderate one and as hon. Member Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed said it might be a compromise which will be accepted by the Corporation. Then I would not have had the necessity to move this amendment. Now I am compelled to move this amendment. If this is not accepted there will be an end to compulsion in Madras. Sir, moreover, there is so much strong opinion against this Bill that the hon. Minister must not force it through. At a meeting of the teacher-managers held yesterday which was presided over by their representative in the District Educational Council, they protested against passing of this Bill. When the Corporation is collecting the education cess how can people pay more money as fee for these children. I agree with my Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti in his protest except when he said why should rich man pay for the poor. From ancient times it has been the rich man that has been paying the poor. I am extremely thankful to my colleagues in the Corporation who are on the Council and the hon. Members representing the city for putting up such a strong fight. If the Bill is passed without any consideration for the representatives of the City of Madras, of course the hon. Minister will be responsible for the consequences. So, Sir, I have no option except to move this amendment. There are some people who ask why the Council of the Corporation did not side with me. In the Corporation we represent 1/30 of the city. Here we represent the whole city. As we do not represent the Corporation but the city we may express our independent views in safeguarding the interest of the city. There is Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti representing the city, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan representing the city, myself representing the city, and Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar representing the intelligentia not only of the city but of the whole Presidency. We are all against the Bill. As to Mr. Madanagopal and Mr. Sundara Rao Nayudu they cannot oppose the Bill. Government brings the Bill; they are part and parcel of the Government. So they are to be excused. So, Sir, I request the hon. Minister to accept the amendment and make compulsion a permanent thing in Madras."

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* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Mr. President, Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the amendment moved by my Friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar who, I may incidentally point out, is the first and foremost citizen of Madras. Therefore I am sure that this House will take it that he is voicing the views of Madras as a whole, and refuse to accept this Bill. As has been rightly pointed out by Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, if this Bill is passed into law it will put an end to compulsion altogether. Instead of passing such a Bill, we can as well repeal the Elementary Education Act of 1920. In Madras City and several other municipalities in the districts compulsion has not been enforced on account of the fact that there are not enough schools. It is on account of this fact that several children, as pointed out by Mr. Natesa Mudaliyar, have sought employment in some of these small and minor factories on wages ranging between one to two annas a day and these children are now going without any education. If this Bill is passed, even the children who are now in schools would abandon education, as they cannot possibly pay fees which aided schools will hereafter have to ask of them. The effects of this Bill are far reaching, and I would therefore request the hon. the third Minister to withdraw this Bill from this House or at least to accept the amendment moved by my hon. Friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I cannot accept this amendment. As the Mover himself pointed out the need for this amendment is felt more in the City of Madras than any other part of the Presidency. I do not think the provisions of this Bill are in any way going to really prejudice the state of things so far as the city is concerned. When there is no school within a distance of one mile compulsion cannot be enforced. I do not think there is any division in which there is no free school within one mile. I could not certainly follow my hon. Friend when he frightened the House by saying that the children of the depressed and backward classes will be turned adrift. It is a most unfounded apprehension. Concessions which under the existing rules the pupils of the depressed classes are enjoying will certainly not be affected by the amendment. Concession with regard to the midday meal is one that is given by the Corporation itself. It is not done by private schools. There is no reason why the Corporation should not continue the same concession after this Bill is passed into law. I therefore submit there is absolutely no reason why the City of Madras should be excluded. It is in this city that compulsion was first introduced: and it is here that the difficulties of the present system are felt more than in any other part of the Presidency. Therefore the sooner the present system is done away with the better for education and compulsion in the City of Madras."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" It is really unfortunate that this Government—I must rather say this Ministry—should take upon itself the odium of having passed this very restricted measure so far as elementary education is concerned. The hon. the Minister in his former speeches on this measure tried his utmost to remove that apprehension from the minds of the Members of this House. I must admit that he

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p.m.

has failed to clear the ground. Nobody who is interested in the advancement of elementary education either in the City or in the mufassal will agree with the hon. Minister or those who agree with him that this measure is going to help or advance elementary education in any area where compulsion is introduced. So far as the City is concerned it may be that the Corporation has found very many difficulties in administering this Act so far as compulsion is concerned with regard to the compensation to be paid to the teacher-managers of aided schools. The difficulty arises with regard to the rates that have to be paid. If it is possible in the metropolis for the Corporation to pay at the standard rate the Corporation would not have found any difficulty. It would have easily paid from the education fund. But in the city where things are different to what are found in the mufassal, it is impossible for any teacher-manager of an aided school to carry on his school without sufficient compensation being paid by the Corporation which has introduced compulsion. My hon. Friend, Mr. James, who is also a member of the Corporation, is of opinion that if they cannot carry on a school without sufficient compensation from the Corporation, the only alternative for them should be to close down their schools. Of course, it is very easily done. It is more easily said also. I do not know if it is really the object of the hon. Minister and whether he agrees with Mr. James that all the aided schools should be closed. Then, there must be the other alternative, that the Corporation itself which has introduced compulsion in the city should establish more schools instead of those aided schools. As to whether it will be possible for the Corporation to open more schools, Sir, facts and figures have been given in this House that if the Corporation should replace the existing aided schools by its own schools it has to incur a very high expenditure, at least to the extent of twice the amount that it will have to pay as compensation for the aided schools. (Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo: What is the basis for compensation?) Sir, it is impossible to establish a principle. Because, we know that various amounts of money are spent in various schools. It will be possible for a teacher-manager school managed by an Indian with a teacher or two in a particular locality to run a school at a cheap cost, but certainly it is not possible for a missionary institution to conduct a school at the same rate. The amount of loss that is incurred in running a school by these various bodies varies, and therefore it is not possible to answer my hon. Friend and say that a certain rate can be established and it will be possible to pay compensation at that fixed rate. (Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo: The Act does not provide for arbitrary compensation.) Sir, in order to enable the Corporation to pay the necessary amount of compensation, in order to enable those aided teacher-managers to conduct their schools without any loss, it should have been necessary for the hon. Minister to have come forward with a Bill which could enable the Corporation to pay the compensation from its education fund. It is only when the Corporation is called upon to pay a certain amount of the compensation from its general funds that the trouble

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comes. If the Corporation is enabled to pay the entire amount that is necessary to make up the loss that is incurred by the aided manager from the education funds, that trouble will be over. But the remedy that is sought to be given to cure the disease which has been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister is certainly not a remedy but it is worse than the disease which is sought to be cured by it. The number of schools in the area of the city will be considerably decreased. All the aided managers who have been able to carry on their schools with the help of the Corporation in the shape of compensation will be compelled to close down their schools, and the result will be, as I said on a former occasion, the talk of compulsion in the city of Madras will be a farce. It will certainly be not compulsion. There would not be sufficient number of schools for all the school-going children. On the other hand, what will happen is influential people, people who have got influence with the teachers of the Corporation schools in their locality or with the Councillors of the division will find it easy to get their children admitted into Corporation schools, and they will be rich people. The people who will suffer will be the poorer people and they may not have the opportunity to get their children admitted into these Corporation schools.

"The finances of the Corporation, as the Government may be aware, are certainly not good. It is estimated that the Corporation will incur a deficit of three or four lakhs. With such depleted finances it will not be possible for the Corporation to increase the number of schools. It has already found it difficult to run the large number of schools that are existing at present with the finances at the disposal of the Corporation. The only remedy, if it is the honest intention of the Ministry to advance elementary education not only in the city of Madras but throughout the province, if it is the honest intention of the Government to see that elementary education is not muzzled, is to enable the local bodies to pay the full fee compensation from the education fund. Unless they do not, they will certainly be giving elementary education a set back, and they will be responsible for passing this retrograde measure which will certainly bring a stigma on the name of the Ministry that is in power just now."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"Sir, under section 47 of the Elementary Education Act, it was intended that this compensation for loss of fee income should be given only for such period and in such manner as may be prescribed. Well, of course, in every year it has to be taken into consideration how much loss there would be in the income of those aided schools, and the compensation should be based upon that calculation. Now, we find that from a particular year after giving notice to these aided managers this compensation is to be stopped. Where is the injustice I cannot see. It was never contemplated under the Act that these people should permanently get a second grant-in-aid beside the grant-in-aid they are getting through the District Educational Council. It was intended that only some compensation should be given and that only for such period and in such manner as may be found necessary. There is absolutely no reason why the city people should

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complain of injustice when the working of the Act is according to its spirit facilitated by the amending Bill. All that this measure seeks to do is to restore the *status quo ante*. But as the Act puts an embargo on charging fees, that embargo is now being removed. I do not see what injustice is being done by this bill. If the aided schools were till now getting a very large sum, far above the standard rates, they must thank the Government as well as the Corporation for having got all that income. They cannot be paid this large sum by way of compensation for all time.

"There is a threat that these schools will be closed. But I think that these schools will never be closed as they are getting large sums of money by way of grants-in-aid. So long as they are paid the grants-in-aid and also allowed to charge fees, I do not think we are doing any injustice to them or retarding the spread of elementary education in this province."

Mr. R. MADANAGOPAL NAYUDU:—"President, Sir, I was unfortunately not here when some remarks were made about one or two of us here as muzzled though we are members of the Corporation. I for one should like to say that there is nothing in the position in which I find myself placed. Because, at the time compulsion was sought to be introduced in the city, I had expressed myself clearly that I was in favour of compulsion but not in favour of making elementary education free because the finances of the Corporation would not permit it. That is the position which I took ten years back, and that is the same position which I take to-day. Sir, it is not on account of changed circumstances in which I am placed to-day that I hold that view. Therefore, I wanted to say that I was already in favour of a position like the one in the present Bill.

"As regards the poor children who might be compelled to attend schools, I was of opinion that some sort of vocational training side by side with education in the three R's would compensate the parent who lost the earning capacity of the children whom he was compelled to send to these schools. That is always the position I hold on this matter. So, I am glad that we are coming to days when we will have compulsion, at the same time education not being free.

"Well, Sir, it has been said that a number of aided schools is likely to be closed at least in the city immediately this Bill is passed into law. I feel, Sir, that it will not be so at all, and that the schools at present functioning would in my opinion continue to function in future. My opinion is that the majority of the teacher-managers at least are anxious that we should pass this provision (Voices: Question, question). There may be one section of them who are opposed to this measure. But I have reason to feel convinced that a large majority of teacher-managers of private aided schools in the city of Madras is in favour of this measure being passed. (A Voice: Despair!) It is not a question of despair. My opinion is that they are in favour because it is much more advantageous to them if we pass this provision of law, and it will probably enable them to get more income. The sort of difficulty which Mr. Hameed Khan felt is likely to be experienced by the poor

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people is not in my opinion a good reason for going back and cancelling a provision of this kind in the Bill to charge fees. I have been a Councillor of the Corporation for three years and I have never had any occasion when I was approached by anybody for recommendation for admission into the Corporation school. Of course, a number of people who can afford to pay fees will always be willing to send their children to schools charging fees, and it is generally the children of poor people that will go to the Corporation schools, and that will not at all lead to any sort of recommendation becoming necessary for admission into these schools. Therefore, I think that the 142 schools, the Corporation is running to-day are likely to be filled by the children of poor people, and yet a number of children that can afford to pay the fees to be charged by the private managers will be found to fill the aided schools. And I do not think that much difficulty will be found by them to get boys. That is the position I wanted to make clear now, and I have been of that opinion not only to-day but for a number of years past."

The amendment was put and declared lost.

Mr. V. T. Arasu demanded a poll and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

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| 1. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. | 5. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar. |
| 2. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. | 6. Mr. V. T. Arasu. |
| 3. Mr. K. M. Duraiswami Reddiyar. | 7. Mr. H. M. Jagannatham. |
| 4. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. | |

Noes.

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| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahmud Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 25. Mr. P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. | 3-30
p.m. |
| 2. " Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 26. Mr. V. G. Vasudera Pillai. | |
| 3. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 27. The Zamindar of Kirlampudi. | |
| 4. " Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 28. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. | |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 29. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami. | |
| 6. " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 30. Mr. C. Indrayya. | |
| 7. " Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 31. Mr. P. Bayappa Reddi. | |
| 8. Mrs. K. Alamelumanga Thayaramma. | 32. Mr. T. Narasa Reddi. | |
| 9. Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham. | 33. Mr. R. M. Palat. | |
| 10. Mr. J. A. Thorne. | 34. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. | |
| 11. Mr. H. M. Hood. | 35. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya. | |
| 12. Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 36. Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo. | |
| 13. Mr. S. V. Ramamurti. | 37. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. | |
| 14. Mr. E. Conran Smith. | 38. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanya Chetti. | |
| 15. Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu. | 39. Mr. J. A. Davis. | |
| 16. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. | 40. The Raja of Kallikote. | |
| 17. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 41. Mr. F. G. Luker. | |
| 18. Mr. M. Devadasan. | 42. Mr. W. M. Browning. | |
| 19. Mr. N. Siva Raj. | 43. Mr. F. Birley. | |
| 20. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappah Bahadur. | 44. Mr. R. Foulkes. | |
| 21. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. | 45. Mr. W. E. Winter. | |
| 22. Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar. | 46. Mr. F. E. James. | |
| 23. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi. | 47. Mr. J. Kuppuswami Choudari. | |
| 24. Mr. M. S. Sreshtha. | 48. Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari. | |
| | 49. Mr. C. Basu Dev. | |
| | 50. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi. | |
| | 51. Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur. | |
| | 52. Mr. G. Sriramulu. | |
| | 53. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. | |
| | 54. Mr. W. P. A. Soundara Pandiyan. | |
| | 55. Mr. G. R. Premayya. | |
| | 56. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. | |

[3rd November 1931]

Neutral.

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| 1. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 8. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 9. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 3. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 10. Mr. A. B. Shetty. |
| 4. Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 11. Mr. G. Simbachalam. |
| 5. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar. | 12. Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. |
| 6. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 13. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur. |
| 7. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur. | 14. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar. |
| | 15. The Pattagar of Palayakottai. |
| | 16. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |

Ayes 7. Noes 56. Neutral 16.

The amendment was lost.

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I move the amendment which stands in my name, viz.—

'Add as new sub-section (3) the following:—

"That in any case where school fees levied under sub-section (2) should fall short of the compensation that is now being paid to such aided school, such difference shall be made good for a period of first three years by an enhanced grant from the Government or by the local authority."

"Sir, I rise to move this amendment governed by the same feelings that a man might entertain when asking for small mercies of a triumphant conqueror. At the outset I must say that this is a compromise amendment. However much my view may be different from that which has been expressed by a majority of this House, on the question whether compulsory education should be free or should not be free, I shall accept the effect that would be produced by this Bill as an inevitable evil. And it is that reason that has prompted me to come forward with this amendment, because I am aware of the special difficulties which will entail for some time at least on the aided and private institutions, not only in the city but also in the mufassal. Sir, after the very graceful compliment that has been paid by the hon. Minister in charge of Education to the contribution that private and aided institutions have made towards the expansion of elementary education in this Presidency, it is unnecessary for me to dilate on the effect this Bill would have on such aided institutions or to point out how they would be crippled from making a similar contribution in future to the cause of education. Sir, I may just invite the attention of the hon. Members of the House to the fact that not only the Corporation of Madras but also the officers of the Government have invoked the aid of private aided institutions in this city without which no complete programme of compulsory education can be undertaken and much less executed. In this connexion I would invite the attention of the hon. Members to a statement made by Mr. Statham, M.A., I.E.S., Special Officer for Elementary Education, in his report that illiteracy can be successfully removed through the aided agencies and mainly with the help of aided agencies.

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The Corporation appointed a special councillor to examine the whole question, and he states in his report 'the Corporation must of course seek the co-operation of well-conducted aided schools to secure the successful working of the compulsory scheme.' While, therefore, this is an admitted fact, that without the help of aided institutions no real progress in elementary education can be made, it seems to me very hard that even this small mercy for which we are pleading should not be extended to these institutions by the hon. Minister in charge of this portfolio. Sir, I shall briefly explain to the hon. Members the special hardships that may entail on aided institutions. I am aware that even among private aided institutions there are two sets of opinions; some schools are for the levy of fees, while others desire full fee compensation. I belong to that set of schools which has given me a mandate that if the levy of fees is an accomplished fact, it will accept that fact and make sincere efforts to work the Act. Some observation has been made by a previous speaker that inefficient schools are most clamorous for the continuance of the system of payment of fee compensation. That observation is utterly unfounded. There are no doubt some schools which honestly feel that in the present situation the system of fee levy would be absolutely unworkable. Sir, I do not want to hold a brief for those institutions which in face of competition are bound to be wiped out. But there are certain schools which represent indigenous effort, which are actuated by a spirit of public work and public service and which have stood the competition of time and have been carrying on the torch of knowledge. These institutions are placed in a position of jeopardy by reason of this Bill from which they cannot escape. I shall illustrate what I mean. There are several private aided institutions which have been doing efficient work and against which even the most unkind critic cannot raise his little finger. I represent one of such institutions, known as the Hindu Union Committee School; and perhaps this will be an example which will illustrate the proposition that I wish to bring to the notice of this House. What is the position of the school now after the starting of free compulsory education in the Madras city? Round about our institution, the Corporation has started several other institutions in which no fee is levied. The result is that in the particular locality, within a radius of less than two furlongs, there is a ring of schools. The result that would follow by reason of the levy of fees in this private aided institution, while the Corporation schools are free, would be, human tendency being what it is, that students from this school would be driven away into the Corporation schools because education there is free. There is no use of shutting our eyes to the actual psychological processes. My Friend Mr. Patnaick observed that private institutions are not going to suffer any loss by this Bill. If they are fully attended, if they get an income sufficient for the running of schools we shall be doubly glad, glad because we stand on our own legs and glad that we are not compelled to go and beg for small mercies from the Corporation and the Government. But I am afraid that is not going to be. The strength of our school would be considerably affected, and the result will be that an

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institution built up with such great effort will in the course of a few months be wiped off. That is why I have come forward with this amendment. In my amendment I have put three years, but I am prepared to accept a lesser period even. I plead that special aid should be given to private institutions of this kind by way of enhanced grant or subsidy from the local authority.

3-45
p.m.

" I am stating that during the transitory period, these institutions should receive certain extra help or enhanced grant. In doing so, Sir, it is very necessary for us to remember one other fact. Especially in the city of Madras we have embarked upon the policy of compulsory and universal elementary education. Now, Sir, it is admitted by hon. Members who are also members of the Corporation of Madras that so far as the Corporation is concerned, for some time to come, they cannot undertake any programme of expansion of elementary education. Their finances will not permit new schools being built or opened. Therefore the result of this would be that many of the private institutions being obliged to curtail their activities, the Corporation in its turn not expanding their activities, a number of school-going children will be left adrift without any school to go to. They will have no schooling. That is not the idea underlying the introduction of compulsory elementary education in the city of Madras. Now, I ask whether any serious action can be contemplated if a parent does not send his child to school, because, so far as the parent is concerned, the number of schools in the city of Madras manned by the Corporation cannot accommodate his child also. A poor parent may not be in a position to send his child even to a private aided school even if it is willing to take his boy. The result will be that, under the Act, he is liable to be punished by being asked or compelled to send his child to a school within one mile of his house. Now, I ask, has this situation been taken into consideration in attempting to make an important change of the nature proposed in the Bill? Sir, as I was saying, a poor parent will now have to look to the Corporation schools for the education of his child. The Corporation says: We have got 134 schools now and all our schools are full and there is no room for any more. The result will be that the boy will be compelled to fall back upon private agency and the private agency will not take him unless he pays school fees. Sir, that is the position and it was not contemplated when it was decided to impart elementary education compulsorily.

" Sir, in this connexion the question arises, and it is a fundamental question, whether compulsory education should be free or should not be free. But my only object at present is, to make a special appeal to the hon. Minister, to give special help to the aided institutions during the transitory period when this Act is going to come into force. The reason why this help is necessary for a brief period has been explained in this House over and over again. One reason is that, so far as the city of Madras is concerned, we have been accustomed to free schooling

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for the past five or six years and any sudden change now would upset all our calculations. The parents will find it extremely difficult to adjust themselves to the new order of things.

" In the second place, if this Act is to come into force, so far as the city of Madras concerned, it should be from the 1st January 1932. And the reason is this: The Corporation has stated that it is not going to pay any compensation from 1st January 1932, so that, aided institutions, if they have to go on at all, must levy fees from that date. Now, in the middle of the school year if a parent is suddenly asked to make provision for the payment of fees for his children, it will be extremely difficult for him to find the money. Even middle class people will find it difficult to find this money in their budgets.

" Now, Sir, there is another aspect of the question so far as the city of Madras is concerned an aspect which will cut the tangle—and it is this: why should the Government not consent to the payment of fee compensation to these aided schools from the education fund? Sir, several responsible members of the Corporation of Madras, who are also members of this House have stated that if the Corporation is *permitted* to pay compensation from its elementary education fund, they would have no objection whatsoever to that course. The hon. Minister has very cleverly evaded that question put to him, viz., why the Corporation should not be permitted to pay compensation to the aided institutions in the city from and out of this fund and why they should be compelled to pay compensation from their general revenues. In answer to this question, so far as I am aware—and I have been following the debate on this Bill rather closely—no answer has been vouchsafed to us and the House has not been taken into confidence on that point. Sir, the effect of this Bill will be that the activities of several aided institutions will be curtailed and some will be closed down.

" Sir, the suggestion has been made by some Members on the Treasury Bench and by my hon. Friend Mr. Madanagopal Nayudu that the real effect of this Bill will be that all those who can afford to pay school fee will go to the institutions which levy fees and all those who cannot afford to pay the fees will crowd into the Corporation school. There will be reduced strength in the aided schools. I do not know how this conclusion was arrived at. So far as I am concerned, I have got accurate data on that point. He knows the spirit which is actuating me to move in this matter. He knows the school to which I am referring. I sincerely desire that all schools should be placed on the same footing in the matter of affording reasonable facilities. Sir, if in order to wipe out these elementary schools this Bill has been introduced, it will have the effect of dragging along even the aided institutions. This action will be tantamount to the proverbial cutting of the nose to spite the face. My amendment makes provision only for a transitory period and it will not throw any great burden on the exchequer either of the Government or of the local authorities. With these few observations I have great pleasure in placing this motion before the House. I would appeal to

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the hon. Minister to accept the amendment. I would appeal to the hon. Members also to accept this amendment in view of the work which these aided institutions have been doing in the matter of education."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I second the amendment."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIAR:—"I regret, Sir, I am constrained to oppose this motion. As an argument on behalf of the aided institutions, the speech made by the hon. Member is a very excellent one and perhaps cannot be surpassed; but in its application to the local authorities concerned, it assumes a different aspect. I can understand these aided institutions being allowed to levy fees or the local authorities being enabled to pay compensation. They cannot have it both ways. The amendment enables these educational institutions to levy fees from the children attending them and also to get money to be paid to them by the local authorities. If the local authorities are in a position to pay full compensation from not out of the education fund, but out of the general revenues, there is no reason why the amendment to the Bill should be introduced at all by the hon. Minister. I should therefore oppose this amendment."

"In this connexion, Sir, it would be very important for the House to know what the hon. Mr. Davidson said when he piloted the Elementary Education Bill in the year 1920. These words of his will throw a flood of light on what our present Minister for Education has been saying. This is what Mr. Davidson said:

"It is conceded that aided schools are entitled to full compensation for loss of fees in consequence of the introduction of compulsion and its corollary, the abolition of fees. And the question is whether the loss, which is roughly estimated between 7 and 8 lakhs, should be made good by the Government or by the local authority. I have shown that the local authority will benefit by the special cess and the contribution from Government to the extent of some 42 lakhs; that is to say, something like five times the loss falling on the school managers. And it is probable that this multiple will be higher, since it is likely that the Government contribution will be in excess of the sum actually raised by taxation. There is one way in which the Government may perhaps satisfy those who support the amendment, that is by accepting the proposal and at the same time making a secret resolve to reduce the provincial contribution given to local authorities in excess of the statutory limit by the amount which Government would have to pay in order to compensate school managers for loss of fees."

"Therefore the principle of free education as a corollary to compulsory education was admitted by the hon. Member Mr. Davidson and also the payment of full compensation for such fee income that was lost by these institutions. On these two important principles my hon. Friend Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar is going behind. The only way of frustrating this retrograde object of the hon. Minister will be to throw out this Bill without any ceremony."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"I support the amendment, Sir. It is a compromise. I request the hon. Minister to accept it. Sir, if we decide to levy fees in aided schools, all the poor boys will go away from the aided schools and crowd into the Corporation schools and the result will be that the Corporation schools might become inefficient. Then there will be a reaction. Parents will like to send their

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children to a school where the teacher will be responsible for the education of the child. Aided schools might once more flourish. This amendment wants provision for help during the interval. Otherwise aided schools may vanish. I would request the hon. Minister to accept the amendment and save all the compulsory educational agencies in the city and in the mufassal from being wiped off once for all."

"As my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chettiar said, many 4 p.m. veteran gentlemen such as Sir Lionel Davidson and also Mr. Statham were enthusiastic supporters of the cause of free and compulsory education. Is it the policy of the hon. Minister to give a go-bye to all the solemn promises that he gave in favour of free and compulsory education? Moreover, if this Bill is passed all the rich people will be completely separated from the poor. It may affect the depressed classes. The depressed classes will not only go without any education, they will be completely separated from the richer folks and the separation of the rich from the poor is not conducive to the healthy growth of the nation. Even in ancient days the King's son and the village children were educated together in a Rishi's Asramam. I therefore request the hon. the Minister for Education to come to our rescue and save the city and this Presidency. Let him not stand on prestige. My hon. Friend Mr. Madanagopal Nayudu said he was against free and compulsory education from the beginning. When the scheme of compulsory education was contemplated the whole Corporation plunged into it. Where it was hesitating to spend one or two lakhs, it is now spending 8 lakhs of rupees. If the hon. Minister is not willing to concede this much the Corporation will have to spend about 12 lakhs of rupees out of about 60 lakhs of revenue. I finally appeal to the hon. Minister to come to the rescue of the city by accepting this amendment. This is the last straw which the drowning people are trying to catch at. I once more appeal to the Minister to accept the amendment and save the city and the Presidency."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I must say that I am strongly opposed to any amendment which will impose as its effect a statutory obligation on any local body to pay compensation. If my hon. Friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar had made his eloquent appeal to the Corporation instead of to the Government, I think it would have been more appropriate."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"You are misrepresenting the whole thing."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The Corporation has definitely passed a resolution whether from out of the elementary education fund or from their general revenues, they are not prepared to pay a pie to these private schools. To-day their Elementary Education Fund shows a deficit of many thousands of rupees. I do not know how the Legislature will be justified in imposing upon the Corporation or any other local bodies a statutory obligation to pay any compensation to schools. I cannot as a Member of the Government nor can the hon. the Chief Minister as the Minister in charge of Local

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Self-Government undertake to enforce this obligation if the local authorities are unwilling. My hon. Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti when he put forward his case asked us to look at the question from the private manager's point of view. I beg this House not to look at the question from the narrow point of view of private managers. I am constrained to observe that some at least who spoke on this motion looked at the question from that narrow point of view and not from the point of view of the local bodies, and whether the local bodies are able to pay any compensation from out of their funds. These are questions which should be considered. In the existing state of things I am bound to say that it is impossible to enforce any obligation that may be imposed on local bodies to pay any compensation to schools. For that reason I am bound to oppose. If my hon. Colleagues of this Council who are also Members of the Corporation had made an appeal to the Corporation to make provision for giving compensation to the teacher-managers and other schools and succeeded, I would not have stood in their way; but now when the Corporation have declined to do so and have also communicated a copy of their resolution to the Government, I cannot see how I can accept any provision in this Bill compelling the Corporation to make a payment beyond their means."

The amendment was put to vote and lost.

Clause 10 was put and carried.

Clauses 11 and 12 were put and carried.

Clause 13 was put and carried.

The Schedule was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I beg to move—

'that the Bill be now passed into law.'

"In moving this motion, I wish just to say a word or two. I must say that I do not share with several hon. Members of this House the feeling that this is a retrograde measure. If I had the slightest apprehension that this measure will in any manner arrest the progress which elementary education in this Province would otherwise have made under the existing Act, I should certainly not have piloted this Bill at all. I must say on the other hand that this measure will help the spread of elementary education and will facilitate the introduction of compulsion in areas where under the present Act difficulties are being experienced in regard to introduction of compulsion. From what I gather, what has stood in the way of several mufassal municipalities intending to introduce compulsion is the fear that the compensation that they would be called upon to pay to private schools under the provisions of this Act would be such a heavy drain upon the poor resources of the local bodies that they could not possibly undertake the introduction of compulsion in their areas. When that liability to pay compensation is removed by enabling

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private schools to levy fees, the local bodies and municipalities in the mufassal areas will be in a better position to introduce compulsion in their respective jurisdiction. I am supported in this view by several of the hon. Members who are connected with district boards and municipalities. They have all told me not only privately but in the course of the discussion of the Bill in the Select Committee and at earlier stages that this Bill will help the introduction of compulsory elementary education. So I may, in reply to those hon. Members who have expressed the view that this is a retrograde step, say that this step, instead of retarding the progress will help the spread of elementary education in this Province, and will facilitate the introduction of compulsory elementary education in some of the mufassal areas. So far as the city is concerned, I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that the better kind of private schools will continue to exist and will even prosper under the provisions of the amended Act. There is no fear whatever that they will disappear. Of course inefficient schools as Mr. Chettiyar observed may go out of existence. That is a matter for which we need not feel, in the least, sorry. For these reasons I beg to move that this Bill be passed into law."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I second it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The motion is that the Bill be passed into law."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, Sir, I feel constrained to oppose the motion made by the hon. the Minister, for, I am positively certain that this Bill, if passed into law, is virtually going to put an end to compulsory education. The hon. the Minister in moving the motion said, with reference to the city of Madras, that this Bill is going to help the spread of elementary education. I can inform the hon. the Minister, Sir, that he is entirely wrong in thinking so. I may even go further and say—for I have some claim to speak on behalf of the citizens of Madras—that the citizens of Madras without any exception feel that this Bill is going to kill elementary education in the city."

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"You are a nominated Member?"

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"My hon. Friend, Mr. James, reminds me that I am a nominated Member. Under ordinary circumstances I should not have cared to answer that question. But since it has given me an opportunity to explain my position in regard to this Bill, I would inform Mr. James that the city of Madras would stand by me at all times. I would even go further and say that, if he has any doubts about that, I am prepared to demonstrate the same to his satisfaction. All that Mr. James, who is the un-official spokesman of the Ministers, has to do is to persuade one of his friends who at present happen to represent Madras, and who are sitting opposite to me, to resign his membership of the Council. In that case I am prepared to resign too and contest the seat. Mr. James will then come to know whether I have any claim to speak on behalf of the citizens of Madras, or not."

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"Sir, coming to the Bill before the House, I was saying how it is going to adversely affect compulsory elementary education in the city of Madras. Mr. President, I have been a member of the Attendance Committee of the 24th Municipal Division of Madras, and for some time its president too; and in that capacity I have had opportunities of working compulsory elementary education. From the experience gained in that capacity, I may inform this House that even when education was free we were not able to drive all the children of school-going age into the schools. Now, Sir, when fees are going to be levied, how can we expect the poor parent not only to forego the one or two annas which the boy would earn if he entered a workshop, but also pay out of his small earning a fee of about eight annas a month for the education of the boy? My Friend, Mr. Madanagopal Nayudu, said that the poor boys would go into the Corporation schools and the richer ones into the private schools. Sir, it is impossible to think of such a position as long as human nature remains what it is. Every one, whether of the middle or the poor class, would prefer to send his child to the free school. Therefore, what is going to happen if this Bill is passed into law is this: All the children who are now reading in aided schools would leave those schools, and flock to the Corporation schools. It has been repeatedly pointed out on the floor of this House that there are only 140 Corporation schools, and that the maximum number that can be admitted into these schools is about 30,000. The total number of children of school-going age has been stated to be about 60,000. If these aided schools go out of existence—I am sure they will—where are these 30,000 children who are now in those schools to go? They will go without any education. And that would mean that compulsion has been put an end to. When that is going to be the result, why not take the more straightforward course of repealing the Act of 1920, and say that there is no compulsion?"

4-15 p.m. "For these reasons, Sir, I oppose the motion of the hon. the Minister for Education."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I have carefully listened to the various reasons advanced by the hon. Minister for Education for hoping that this measure would quicken the spread of elementary education in the Presidency, but I am not convinced that it would be so. This Bill is nothing but driving the thin end of the wedge in an attempt to deprive the depressed classes of the various facilities they have been enjoying under local boards and Government in the matter of educating their children. Hitherto the aided agencies have been getting some aid from the local boards and if that aid was stopped now they would naturally begin to levy fees. Once they begin to levy fees, the spread of mass education will be severely checked. From the point of view of the spread of education among the poor and the depressed classes, this measure is most unwelcome. I therefore oppose the Bill."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—
'that the Bill be passed into law.'"

3rd November 1931]

The motion was declared carried. A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

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| 1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahmud Usman Sahib Bahadur. | 24. Mr. V. G. Vasudeva Pillai. |
| 2. " Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar. | 25. Mr. P. Bayappa Reddi. |
| 3. " Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell. | 26. Mr. T. Narasa Reddi. |
| 4. " Mr. H. G. Stokes. | 27. Mr. R. M. Palat. |
| 5. " Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar. | 28. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai. |
| 6. " Mr. P. T. Rajan. | 29. The Raja of Kallikote. |
| 7. " Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu. | 30. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram. |
| 8. Mrs. K. Alamelumanga Thayaramma. | 31. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar. |
| 9. Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham. | 32. Mr. J. A. Davis. |
| 10. Mr. J. A. Thorne. | 33. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti. |
| 11. Mr. H. M. Hood. | 34. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanya Chetti. |
| 12. Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu. | 35. The Zamindar of Kirlampudi. |
| 13. Mr. S. V. Ramamurti. | 36. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. |
| 14. Mr. E. Conran Smith. | 37. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami. |
| 15. Mr. T. Sundararao Nayudu. | 38. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya. |
| 16. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur. | 39. Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo. |
| 17. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi. | 40. Mr. F. G. Luker. |
| 18. Mr. M. Devadasan. | 41. Mr. W. M. Browning. |
| 19. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur. | 42. Mr. Frank Birley. |
| 20. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar. | 43. Mr. R. Foulkes. |
| 21. Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar. | 44. Mr. W. E. Winter. |
| 22. Mr. B. P. Sessa Reddi. | 45. Mr. F. E. James. |
| 23. Mr. P. V. Rajagopala Pillai. | 46. Mr. J. Kuppuswami Choudari. |
| | 47. Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari. |
| | 48. Mr. C. Basu Dev. |
| | 49. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi. |
| | 50. Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur. |
| | 51. Mr. G. Sriramulu. |
| | 52. Mr. H. M. Jagannatham. |
| | 53. Mr. G. R. Premayya. |

Noes.

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|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. | 10. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur. |
| 2. Dr. P. Subbarayan. | 11. Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar. |
| 3. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar. | 12. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar. |
| 4. Mr. Yakub Hasan. | 13. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. |
| 5. Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. | 14. Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed. |
| 6. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar. | 15. Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur. |
| 7. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti. | 16. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar. |
| 8. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schammad Sahib Bahadur. | 17. The Pattagar of Palayakottai. |
| 9. Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar. | 18. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt. |
| | 19. Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar. |
| | 20. Mr. V. T. Arasu. |
| | 21. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. |

Ayes 53, Noes 21.

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, the 26th January 1932."

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

[3rd November 1931]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 532 asked by Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 3rd November 1931, page 479 supra.]

Lady Willingdon Training College, Triplicane.

Rules of hostels.

1. The hostels are intended primarily for training students and scholarship holders.

2. Application for admission should be sent in before 15th July to the Superintendent. Preference is given to (a) Government Scholarship holders and training students, (b) Pupils or students who have no parents or relatives in Madras. Testimonials from two responsible people are required from each applicant on admission.

3. *Payments.*—On admission to the Ice House Hostel an advance of Rs. 15 must be paid by each member; this is refunded when the member finally leaves the hostel.

Boarding charges are collected in advance. An amount of Rs. 12 must be paid at the beginning of each month; the balance obtained by deducting total expenditure from total income at the end of the month is divided up amongst all the members and this is refunded to each member at the end of the month. Extras, such as coffee, milk, etc., in the evenings and at night must be paid for separately at the end of each month.

Members who have not submitted poverty certificates for scholarships, etc., are required to pay Rs. 2 extra for establishment charges.

4. *Equipment.*—Each member of the hostel is required to provide herself with the following articles:—

- (a) One plate and two cups.
- (b) Brass or bronze tumbler.
- (c) Simple bedding.
- (d) a box with a good lock and key.

Chairs, tables and book-shelves are provided.

5. *Jewellery and money.*—Costly jewels and other valuable articles are not allowed in the hostel and no responsibility is taken by the hostel authorities for loss of articles. Each member must keep an account book in which she notes her income and expenditure and which must be produced when required.

6. *Daily programme*—

6 a.m. Prayer.
6-30 a.m. Coffee.
6-30 a.m. to 9 a.m. Study.
9 a.m. Breakfast.
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. School.
4-15 p.m. Light refreshment.

4-30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Games.
7 p.m. to 7-30 p.m. Prayer.
7-30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Dinner.
8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Study.
10 p.m. Lights out.

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7. *Leave.*—Members of the hostel whose parents or guardian reside in Madras are allowed to go home once a month for one day only. They must sign in the leave register before going and returning, noting date and time in each case.

All members must attend college and school on re-opening and closing days of term. Scholarship-holders and stipendiary students will forfeit their scholarships and stipends if they fail to be present on these dates, except in cases of illness for which medical certificates must be produced. No member may go out of the hostel without obtaining the permission of the Superintendent.

8. Visitors are allowed on Saturdays and Sundays between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. only. All visitors must be signed for in the visitors' book.

9. *Letters.*—All letters must be addressed to the hostel and not to the College. All letters written by the members of the hostel must be placed in the hostel post-box and not posted elsewhere.

10. *Health.*—Each member must be examined by the college doctor on admission. Cases of sickness must be reported immediately to the Superintendent. Application for leave from college or school must be made by letter, the signature of the Superintendent obtained and it must be sent to the Headmistress (or tutor-in-charge in the case of students). The college doctor will visit the hostel at least once a week and will examine cases of sickness.

11. *Order.*—Neatness and cleanliness and order must prevail everywhere in the hostel. Members must abide by the special regulations laid down in each hostel regarding arrangements for baths, washing, cleaning, etc.

12. The discipline of the hostel is directly under the control of the Superintendent. Deliberate disobedience, dishonesty and other cause for expulsion will be dealt with by the Principal.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 539 asked by Mr. G. Simbachalam at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 3rd November 1931, page 482 supra.]

G.O. No. 1122, P.H., dated 22nd June 1931.

The Government are pleased to pass the following orders with regard to the transfer of clerks attached to the offices of District Medical Officers:—

(1) Permanent clerks on Rs. 35 to 60 grade attached to the offices of District Medical Officers should be kept in the same district and should not be transferred out of the district except on their own request or when the transfer is by mutual consent.

(2) If for purposes of promotion to Rs. 60 to Rs. 80 grade it is found necessary to transfer a clerk out of a district, he should be sent out only to the adjacent districts. Such transfers should be reported to the Government for information.

[3rd November 1931]

(3) If by way of punishment a clerk is to be transferred to a distant district the orders of the Government should be obtained before effecting such a transfer.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

M. C. B. KOMAN,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 566 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 3rd November 1931, page 497 supra.]

G. O. No. 1084, Public, dated 24th October 1929.

When passing orders on the list of unpassed clerks submitted by the Board of Revenue, Land Revenue and Settlement, with reference to paragraph 3 (iii) of G.O. No. 773, Law (Education), dated 3rd May 1926, the Government laid down that clerks exempted from Article 1 of the Public Service Notification by the Board under the powers delegated in G.O. No. 722, Law (Education), dated 13th June 1922, could count service for increment from the date of exemption by the Board and that those who had not been exempted before either by the Government or by the Board could count service for increment only from the date of the order admitting them to the lowest time-scale and up to the bar sanctioned in paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 949, Public, dated 5th November 1926.

2. Some unpassed clerks have however been permitted to draw increments irregularly from the date of introduction of the time-scale of pay; they fall under the following classes:—

(i) Clerks exempted for the first time by the Board after the introduction of the time-scale of pay; these should have been started only on the minimum pay in the time-scale on the date of exemption.

(ii) Clerks exempted up to specified limits of pay in the old graded scale and further exempted by the Board in the time-scale; these should have been started in the time scale on the date of such further exemption only on the pay represented by the limit of exemption plus the temporary increase in pay.

(iii) Clerks exempted as in (ii) but permitted to draw pay in the time-scale without further formal exemption; they count service for further increments from the date of the order of Government permitting them to draw pay up to the bar.

In other cases, the Accountant-General or the head of the department has fixed the pay of the unpassed clerks correctly with reference to G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925.

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3. The Board of Revenue has submitted several cases of unpassed clerks who have been thus drawing increments irregularly; in some of them the Government have directed that the unpassed clerks may remain on their present pay until starting from the pay they are strictly entitled to and counting service for increments from the date of exemption either by the Board or by the Government as the case may be, they reach the present figure by a normal rise in the scale; they may then draw further increments. Heads of departments seem to be under the impression that every case should be so treated irrespective of merit; e.g., a man whose increment is to be stopped for two years is put up as a fitting recipient of this concession. It was not the intention of Government that every case should be so treated automatically. The concession is not of general application but must be merited in each individual case. Only such clerks as deserve the concession by reason of long and satisfactory service and are fully competent to perform the work demanded of them should be recommended to Government for consideration. The Board must itself specifically recommend any cases it sees fit to forward. No clerk should be recommended for this concession whose pay has already been correctly fixed either by the Accountant-General or by the Board of Revenue with reference to G.O. No. 164, Law (Education), dated 4th February 1925, nor any clerk whose increment has been stopped or who has been otherwise punished for misconduct or inefficiency.

4. The Government also direct that the same principles should be observed in the case of unpassed clerks in a similar position in other departments.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

H. G. STOKES,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement).
" Accountant-General.

Copy to other Heads of Departments.
" the Departments of the Secretariat.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 575 asked by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 3rd November 1931, page 508 supra.]

Proceedings of the Joint Magistrate, Gudur, dated the 8th September 1931 (11 a.m.) at Venkatagiri.

Order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code.

Whereas the Circle Inspector of Police, Venkatagiri, has made an application before me for orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, against you Katikineni Kalyana Rao, Katikineni Venkatarama Rao and others, the conveners and supporters of the Zamin Ryots' Conference to be held at Venkatagiri on the 8th and 9th September

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1931 prohibiting you from holding the above Conference, or conducting any procession pertaining to it, and whereas for the following reasons appearing from his report and his statement, there seems to be in my opinion a likelihood of imminent breach of the public peace;

Reasons.—(1) In the Conference, it is likely that speeches which would be resented by the estate authorities and their sympathizers and hence attempts may be made by the supporters of the estate to interrupt or interfere with the proceedings of the Conference, and this might lead to a breach of the peace;

(2) In the last month, on 1st August 1931, an attempt to convene a similar meeting was made, and it ended in a fiasco, and a breach of peace was narrowly averted;

(3) There is a lot of opposition to this Conference in the villages, and there is information that supporters of the estate have come to Venkatagiri in large numbers with a view to oppose the activities of the conveners of the Zamindari Ryots' Conference;

(4) Even one of the sympathizers of the Conference expressed his fears that there might be trouble at the Conference;

(5) The issue of tickets is restricted to the supporters of the Conference and some people of the opposite party are desirous of entering into the pandal;

(6) Articles in local newspapers have appeared from both sides criticising each other's attitude;

(7) No licence has been so far obtained from the Union Board authorities for making use of the pandal for the public meeting, and I am informed that the meeting is to be held in defiance of the notice of the Union Board authorities prohibiting the use of the pandal for such a purpose;

(8) Venkatagiri is the headquarters of the Maharaja of Venkatagiri, the majority of the population are supporters of the Maharaja. The Arava Malas of Venkatagiri, I am informed, are a troublesome set of people who would be only too glad to exploit the situation. They are against the activities of the Conference, and there is information that they are mustering;

I do hereby prohibit you from convening the said Zamindari Ryots' Conference, or any other meeting at Venkatagiri in which such speeches as are likely to wound the feelings of the estate authorities or their sympathizers will be made, and I do hereby prohibit you from conducting any procession in which such songs or such speeches will be made.

As it is now 11-30 a.m. and the meeting is to be held at about 12 noon according to my information, there is no time to make further enquiries, emergent orders are solicited. Hence this order is passed *ex parte*.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court, this 8th day of September 1931.

(Camp) VENKATAGIRI,
8th September 1931.

(Signed) K. M. UNITHAN,
Joint Magistrate, Gudur.

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To

The Joint Magistrate, Gudur.

(Camp) Venkatagiri.

The petition of Messrs. Katikineni Venkatarama Rao and K. Kalyana Rao respectfully sheweth

(1) that they have been served an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, dated 8th September, and served after 2 p.m., prohibiting them from convening the Zamindari Ryots' Conference or any other meeting at Venkatagiri in which such speeches as are likely to wound the feelings of the Estate authorities or their sympathizers will be made;

(2) that the said order is unjustified and unnecessary and is unsupported by any evidence required to support the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code;

(3) that in the Conference or Conferences—two Conferences, Provincial as well as the District Zamindari Conferences—no speeches are likely to be made which will be resented by the Estate authorities and their sympathizers. Indeed, the Conferences have nothing to do with individual zamindars and therefore no attempts need be feared from the supporters of the estate to interrupt or interfere with the proceedings of the Conferences;

(4) that the Conferences have been summoned mainly for the purpose of discussing the provisions of the Bill to amend the Madras Estates Land Act, which will be before the Madras Legislative Council and to discuss the provisions of that draft Bill, which has been prepared by the Andhra Zamindari Ryots' Sub-Committee on the same matter. These two Bills touch the zamindari ryots of the province very intimately and it is in the highest public interest that their considered opinions on these two Bills should be made available to the Legislature and the Government of Madras;

(5) that the said Conferences are not in any way intended as against the Venkatagiri interest and delegates have come from various districts to attend the same;

(6) the ground on which the pandal has been erected for the Conferences is private property and no licence is required from the Union Board as the pandal is not to be used for purposes of public entertainment;

(7) the order of the Union Board authorities prohibiting the use of the pandal for the Conference is illegal;

(8) there is no truth in the statement that Arava Malas of Venkatagiri are assembling to give trouble. Even if that be true, it is the duty of the police and the Magistracy to protect the law-abiding citizens in the lawful pursuit of their legitimate activities and not to prohibit them, giving support impliedly to intending law-breakers.

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We and the organizers of the Conference will undertake to see that on our side there is no trouble or cause for trouble. We therefore pray that the ex parte order may be set aside and we permitted to hold the Conferences, which we consider, as the normal exercise of the undoubted rights of peaceful citizen.

(Sd.) K. KALYANA RAO.
K. VENKATARAMA RAO.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 589 asked by Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 3rd November 1931, page 516 supra.]

Question No. 104.

Letter from the Collector of Ramnad, No. L. Dis. 5090/31,
dated 26th August 1931.

The points raised in the Legislative Council Question No. 104 are answered as below:—

Clause (a).—The sources of irrigation to the mamul wet lands are Periyakulam and its auxiliary yendals, Panchamtangikulam and Telugankulam.

Clause (b).—When the water in the tank goes below the sill level of the vents, the fields are irrigated by sluices 1 and 2 situated in a lower level. The two yendals referred to above are usually filled in by the ryots before the water in the tank gets below the sill level. They serve as supplementary sources of irrigation.

Clause (c).—These lands received supply from the tank from November 1930 up to middle of February 1931.

Clause (d).—During the jamabandi of the village, 14 applications were presented to the Revenue Divisional Officer, the Jamabandi Officer. It was alleged therein that crops failed owing to indiscriminate grant of permits for irrigation of dry lands with the tank water. As the crops withered owing to late cultivation, there was no justification for granting remission and the applications were rejected, the tank having had its full supply during the season.

Clause (e).—Certain Naiks of Kommandapuram represented to the Tahsildar, during his visit to the village on 10th February 1931, that the water in the tank had gone down and that the condition of the crops was not encouraging. The Tahsildar immediately inspected the tanks and the standing crops and found their allegations not true. He found that the crops were in ear and that the season was good. He therefore saw no need to cancel the water-rate permits already issued. It is true that the Village Headman represented to the Tahsildar that a pattadar was attempting to tamper with sluice No. 2 on the pretext that the

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cistern was under repair. The Tahsildar sent for the man and warned him against the attempt; he also noticed that there was sufficient flow of water through the sluice then.

Question No. 105.

Letter from the Collector of Ramnad, R.O.C. No. A-4-3579/30,
dated the 3rd October 1931.

It is proposed to transfer S. Nos. 55, 56 and 57 of Elundiraikondan village from dry to wet along with some other lands. The matter has been referred to the Executive Engineer, Tinnevely, and is pending with him. These lands have been selected by the Tahsildar and the Public Works Department Overseer, after making joint inspection on their merits such as their advantageous position, nearness to the tank, facilities of irrigation, and the like. A few objection petitions were received in respect of S. Nos. 55, 56 and 57. The Tahsildar and the Sub-Collector, Sivakasi, have reported that the objections are frivolous and outcome of jealousy and do not deserve any consideration. It has been alleged that a registered landholder of the village is the author of these objection petitions. There seems to be no genuine objection to the transfer of these lands to wet.

Question No. 106.

Letter from the Collector of Ramnad, No. L. Dis. 5089/31,
dated 3rd September 1931.

I furnish below answers to the several points raised in Question No. 106:—

Clause (a).—There are no surplus vents for the Panchantangi and Telugan tanks. These tanks are not independent sources of irrigation, but are mere auxiliaries to the Periyakulam tank.

The extent of wet lands irrigated by the Periyakulam water is 580.39 acres.

Clause (b).—Extent of wet lands on which the yield was below normal is furnished below for the last five faslis:—

	ACRES.			
1336	...	...	...	338.04
1337	...	...	...	0.37
1338	...	...	...	83.11
1339	...	...	...	Nil.
1340	...	...	...	66.34

Extent left waste for want of water during the last five faslis:—

	ACRES.			
1336	...	...	...	174.78
1337 to 1340	...	...	...	Nil.

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Members—cont.

- (4) Dr. N. Venkataswami Chetti, M.B.C.M., District Medical Officer, Chingleput.
- (5) Dr. T. Krishna Menon, M.B.C.M., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
- (6) Dr. T. Satakopan, M.D.
- (7) Dr. U. Rama Rao, L.M.P., and
- (8) Dr. K. B. Bhujanga Rao, L.M.P.

Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar, L.M.S., M.L.C., was not present on either occasion.

In the interval between the two meetings of the Committee, the Conference of District Medical Officers was held, and this Conference discussed several points connected with the employment of honorary medical officers and made recommendations thereon. These recommendations were placed before the Committee on Honorary Medical Officers, who therefore had the advantage of knowing the opinions of a large body of senior medical officers from the mufassal.

It should be emphasized that though the present Committee on Honorary Medical Officers was representative of several interests, yet all its findings on the present occasion have been practically unanimous.

The following recommendations are made by the Committee:—

I. It was agreed that the designation 'honorary sub-assistant surgeon' should be discontinued, and that holders of the L.M.P. qualification should be eligible for appointments and for the same nomenclature as medical graduates.

II. No honorary medical officer shall serve in that capacity once he has completed his 55th year.

III. Nomenclature of the honorary medical officers should be considered separately as regards teaching and non-teaching institutions.

(a) NON-TEACHING INSTITUTIONS.

It is decided that there should be three grades of honorary medical officers—

- (1) Clinical assistants.
- (2) Honorary assistant surgeons or honorary assistant physicians.
- (3) Honorary physician or honorary surgeon.

Honorary medical officers appointed for a speciality, such as, ophthalmology, ear, nose and throat work, pathology, radiology, venerology, dermatology, including leprosy work will be appointed to one of the above three grades with further indication as to their speciality.

Ordinarily an honorary medical officer will start from the lowest grade and gradually work up; in exceptional cases and for special reasons the recommending authority may propose deviations from this course.

(1) *Clinical assistants.*—The minimum period that an honorary medical officer shall spend as a clinical assistant is two years. From this period the period spent as house surgeon or house physician in a Government hospital may be deducted.

The maximum period during which an honorary medical officer can remain as clinical assistant is five years.

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(2) *Honorary assistant surgeon or assistant physician.*—There should be no time-limit for the tenure of office of an honorary assistant surgeon or honorary assistant physician.

(3) *Honorary surgeon and honorary physician.*—Higher academic qualifications, although a recommendation, shall not be considered essential for these honorary surgeon or physician appointments. But the applicant should satisfy one or more of the following demands:—

(a) That the practitioner has held hospital or other appointments affording special opportunities for acquiring special skill and experience of the kind required for the performance of the service rendered, and has had actual recent practice in performing the service rendered or services of a similar character, or

(b) that he has had special academic or post-graduate study which comprises the service rendered; and has had actual recent practice as aforesaid, or

(c) that he is generally recognized by other practitioners in the area as having special proficiency and experience in a subject which comprises the service rendered.

(b) TEACHING INSTITUTIONS.

It is decided that there should be three grades of honorary medical officers—

- (1) Clinical assistants.
- (2) Honorary assistant surgeons or honorary assistant physicians.
- (3) Honorary physician or honorary surgeon.

Honorary medical officers appointed for a speciality such as ophthalmology, ear, nose and throat work, pathology, radiology, venerology, dermatology, including leprosy work will be appointed to one of the above three grades with further indication as to their speciality.

Ordinarily an honorary medical officer will start from the lowest grade and gradually work up; in exceptional cases and for special reasons the recommending authority may propose deviations from this course.

(1) *Clinical assistants.*—Clinical assistants in all teaching institutions must hold the degree of M.B.B.S. or its equivalent. The minimum period of appointment should be for two years and the maximum for five years.

If an honorary medical officer has served as house surgeon or house physician this shall be taken as a recommendation for his appointment and such a period as house surgeon or house physician may be allowed to shorten his period as a clinical assistant by a maximum of one year.

(2) *Honorary assistant surgeons and physicians.*—There should be no time-limit for the tenure of office of an honorary assistant surgeon or honorary assistant physician.

An honorary assistant surgeon or physician must have previously performed a minimum period of two years as a clinical assistant of which up to one year may be shortened by previous service as a house surgeon or house physician.

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Clause (c).—Dry cultivation on wet lands during pishanam:—

	ACRES.
1336	132.83
1337	1.04
1338	77.10
1339	1.67
1340	0.08

Clause (d).—There is no suffering.

Clause (e).—There is already adequate supply. However to ensure a greater supply the Executive Engineer, Tinnevely, said that the preliminary improvement to the Panjanthangi tank should be done by the Revenue Department at a cost of Rs. 3,000. The question of improving the auxiliary works is under investigation by the Minor Irrigation Supervisor.

Question No. 107.

Copy of letter from the Collector of Ramnad, R.O.C. A-4 No. 5091-31, dated the 17th September 1931.

I furnish below answers to the several clauses of question No. 107:—

(a) The Elundirakondan Periyakulam tank has a capacity of 120 days' supply to irrigate its wet ayacut. The maximum area irrigable by the tank given in the descriptive memoir of the tank is 663 acres. The extent of wet lands fixed at the time of settlement was only 586.94 acres and this is increased from time to time as the season is found to be favourable.

(b) The tank was full on the 20th November 1930, but there was rain and also supply to the tank as early as October 1930, when cultivation commenced. The tank received no supply afterwards.

(c) Permission was not granted for any dry land for the use of the water from the tank direct. As the season was favourable, permission was as usual granted for about 300 acres of dry lands only for the use of the drainage water of the wet fields, lest it should become waste subject to its cancellation when the irrigation happened to be detrimental to the wet fields.

The Revenue Inspector issued permits for old cases and the Tahsildar for new cases.

There was no diminution of usual water-supply to the wet lands as the irrigation of dry lands was confined only to the drainage of wet fields. There was no complaint from any wet land owner against dry land owners as having used tank water detrimental to wet ayacut.

(d) The last permit was granted by the Revenue Inspector on 29th December 1930 on the application received prior to that date. No further permits were issued save in two exceptional cases wherein

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applications originally made in November were found to be lost and permits had therefore to be granted during the Tahsildar's camp in the village in February 1931. By the end of December when the last permit was issued the tank had about three months' supply.

(e) & (f) No loss was sustained by the wet land owners for want of water. The area of wet lands on which the yield was below normal is 56.49 acres. The low yield was due to late cultivation by ryots' neglect.

(g) The extent of wet ayacut—595.01 acres.

Revenue collected on it—Rs. 3,978-1-5.

Extent of dry lands the irrigation of which was permitted—318.96 acres.

Revenue collected on it—Rs. 955-3-0.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 607 asked by Mr. C. Basu Dev at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 3rd November 1931, page 530 supra].

G.O. No. 1705, P.H., dated 11th September 1931.

The report of the Committee appointed by the Government to consider the question of revising the rules relating to honorary medical officers is published for general information.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

S. G. SENGODAIYAN,
Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General.
Press.

Appendix.

Proceedings of the Committee appointed in G.O. Ms No. 917, P.H., dated 16th May 1931, to consider the question of revising the rules relating to honorary medical officers and the terms of reference in the Government Order.

The Committee met on two occasions on July the 15th and on August the 8th, 1931 and on each occasion the following members were present:—

President.

- (1) Major-General C. A. Sprawson, C.I.E., V.H.S., I.M.S.

Members.

- (2) Lieut.-Col. R. G. G. Croly, I.M.S., Superintendent, Government General Hospital, Madras.
(3) Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, B.A., M.D.

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(3) *Honorary physicians and surgeons.*—One of the following academic qualifications shall be considered essential :—

M.D., M.S., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.C.O.G. or one of the special diplomas signifying skill in the speciality of his appointment.

IV. *House surgeons and house physicians.*—The qualifying period as house surgeon or house physician must be spent in a hospital approved for that purpose by the Surgeon-General.

Though a residential qualification in the hospital is not essential for a house surgeon or house physician it is considered preferable.

The service of a house surgeon or house physician is to be whole-time at the hospital he serves. He cannot engage in any sort of private practice during his service as house surgeon or house physician.

No period less than six months as a house surgeon or house physician is to be counted towards the deduction of the period to be spent as a clinical assistant.

V. For honorary appointments the recommending authority to Government should be as heretofore the Surgeon-General.

VI. The Committee considers that it is impossible at the present stage to specify exactly whether any more or how many paid Government medical officers may be replaced by honorary medical officers, but the number should certainly increase and the Surgeon-General will indicate so far as possible when and where this can be done.

VII. *Allocation of duties to honorary medical officers.*—In both teaching and non-teaching institutions the honorary officers of the third or highest grade (physician or surgeon) should always have a certain number of hospital beds in their charge. As regards officers of the other two grades the allocation of their duties either in the in-patient or out-patient department or in both will be done by the superintendent of the hospital in the Madras City or by the District Medical Officer in the mufassal, leaving the Surgeon-General as a possible source of appeal if necessary.

VIII. Medical officers desirous of honorary appointments in special subjects, but who have not had the special training necessary to give them proficiency in that subject, should be trained free of cost at one of the Government Medical Colleges or hospitals attached to a teaching institution for the period considered necessary by the Surgeon-General to give them proficiency, on condition that they execute a bond to the effect that they will serve Government as honorary medical officers in that speciality for a minimum period of two years at a place to be agreed to beforehand by the applicant and the Surgeon-General.

IX. *Times of attendance.*—(a) Honorary medical officers who have charge of hospital beds should attend the hospital daily except Sundays. Medical officers who have only out-patients in their charge may attend daily, but need not attend, after previous arrangement with the superintendent of the hospital and the district medical officer, more than three days a week.

(b) In non-teaching institutions honorary medical officers must make their hospital visits during the recognized hospital working hours.

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(c) In the case of teaching institutions the honorary officers shall be present at the respective hospitals on such days and at such hours as may be necessary for the proper instruction of the student—vide Rule 10 of G.O. No. 1373, P.H., dated 31st May 1929 :—

In the hospitals which form training grounds for medical students, the honorary officers will be responsible for imparting clinical instruction to students in connexion with the beds in their charge in accordance with such plans as may be laid down by the professor in charge of the medical or surgical unit or by the Superintendent of the hospital.

(d) In the case of clinical assistants, honorary assistant surgeons and honorary assistant physicians the hours of attendance at the hospital will be laid down by agreement with the honorary officer and the superintendent of the hospital after approval by the Surgeon-General.

X. *Reports on officers.*—There should be confidential reports on honorary medical officers submitted annually to the Surgeon-General in the same manner that confidential reports are submitted on Government officers. It will be advisable to devise a special and simpler form for the reports on honorary medical officers.

XI. *Leave.*—*Casual leave* up to 15 days in a year, as to Government medical officers, may be granted to honorary medical officers.

Ordinary leave may be granted up to one month in a year. More than one month cannot be given except in cases of sickness. The one month a year leave can be accumulated up to a maximum of three months at one time.

Sick leave can be given on an acceptable medical certificate.

Long leave.—Honorary medical officers should be considered available for long leave on the following terms :—

An honorary medical officer should be considered to have a lien on his appointment during the long leave if he has served at least one year and desires a period of study leave, or, if the leave desired does not include a period of study, then he should have served at least five years before being considered to have a lien on his appointment.

The period of lien may extend to two years' absence if the leave includes a period of study; but only to one year's absence if the leave does not include a period of study.

Substitutes for honorary medical officers during the period of their leave will be arranged by the superintendent of the hospital: honorary medical officers are expected to aid the superintendent so far as possible by giving as long notice as possible of their expected absence and by full appreciation of their responsibility towards their patients.

XII. *Termination of service.*—A notice of three months as already laid down is necessary on either side.

Re-employment.—If an honorary medical officer be re-employed after discharge, he will be re-accepted into his former rank.

XIII. *Transfer.*—Transfer of honorary medical officers from one hospital to another in Madras City will be effected by the Surgeon-General having regard to the needs of the hospital concerned and provided the transfer be agreeable to the honorary officer concerned.

[3rd November 1931]

XIV. Salary of paid appointments when filled by honorary medical officer :—

(1) Recognizing the limitation of the terms of reference of this Committee and without recommending any increase of expenditure, the Committee express the opinion that when an academic appointment is combined with honorary clinical work, the honorary medical officer holding these two appointments should receive a remuneration for the academic teaching.

(2) If an honorary medical officer be put in charge of a hospital or dispensary during the absence on leave of a Government medical officer, the honorary medical officer should be paid an honorarium not for professional work, but for the administration of Government affairs that he carries out during that period.

XV. *A special case.*—The Committee considers that graduates who have served as house-surgeons and house-physicians and have been selected or may be selected after the competitive examination for assistant surgeons in the year 1929 may be permitted to commence service in an honorary appointment in the grade of honorary assistant surgeon or physician.

C. A. SPRAWSON.
R. G. G. CROLY.
A. L. MUDALIYAR.
N. VENKATASWAMI.
T. KRISHNA MENON.
T. SATHKOPAN.
U. RAMA RAO.
K. B. BHUJANGA RAO.

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide Item III "A Bill to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920" at page 552 supra.]

BILL No. 24 OF 1931.

A Bill to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

WE, the undersigned members of the Select Committee appointed on the 30th of October 1931 to consider the Bill to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920 (Bill No. 24 of 1931), have the honour to submit the following report.

2. The Bill was published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* in English on the 20th October 1931.

[3rd November 1931]

3. We met on the 1st November 1931 and considered in detail the provisions of the Bill.

4. In clause 6, we have provided in sub-section (2) of the proposed section 36, that, where an education tax is levied in a panchayat area, the cost of collection at a prescribed percentage of the amount collected, shall be credited to the village fund of the panchayat concerned, and the balance only shall be credited to the Education Fund of the taluk board concerned.

5. In regard to clause 10 of the Bill, we have discussed various alternatives but have come to the conclusion that the provision contained in the Bill is the most satisfactory that could be made from the point of view of all the interests concerned. We have therefore resolved to retain it. But we have deleted sub-section (3) of the proposed section 47, as we expect that the number of free places reserved in a school will be taken into consideration by the District Educational Council in fixing the amount of grant payable to that school and recommend that Government should make suitable rules to that effect.

6. We have deleted sub-clause (iv) of clause 13 as necessary provision already exists in the Madras District Municipalities Act, the Madras Local Boards Act and the Madras City Municipal Act. We have also deleted sub-clauses (vi) and (ix) of clause 13 and also clause 14 as unnecessary. We have made one or two other minor alterations in the Bill but do not consider it necessary to refer to them in detail.

7. We do not think it necessary to republish the Bill.

BASHEER AHMED SAYEED.
S. KUMARASWAMI.

M. G. PATNAIK.

* R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR.

R. M. PALAT.

C. S. RATNASABAPATHI.

B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU.

R. MADANAGOPAL.

B. P. SETHA REDDI.

* S. VENKATACHALAM CHETTI.

* T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR.

F. E. JAMES.

* DR. P. SUBBARAYAN.

[3rd November 1931]

NOTE.

The amendment passed is in violation of the principle of free and compulsory education and throws a costlier responsibility on a local authority of providing more public schools in a compulsory area or withdraw compulsion. In any case, it seems to be a set-back to the scheme of free and compulsory elementary education in this presidency.

S. VENKATACHALAM CHETTI.

T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR.

R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR.

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN.

[NOTE.—Changes made by the Select Committee are printed in Clarendon type.]

BILL No. 24 OF 1931.

A Bill to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, for certain purposes.

(As amended by the Select Committee.)

WHEREAS it is expedient to amend the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Madras Elementary Education (Amendment) Act, 1931.

(2) It shall come into force on such day as the Local Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, appoint.

2. (1) In the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), for the words " Governor in Council " wherever they occur, the words " Local Government " shall be substituted.

(2) The provisions of the said Act specified in the first two columns of the annexed Schedule are hereby amended to the extent and in the manner specified in the third and fourth columns thereof.

3. In section 3 of the said Act.—

(i) for clause (ii), the following clause shall be substituted, namely :—

" (ii) ' Director of Public Instruction ', ' District Educational Officer ', and ' Inspectress of Girls' Schools ' mean such officer or officers as may be appointed

Director of Public Instruction, District Educational Officer and Inspectress of Girls' Schools.

Amendment of certain provisions of Madras Act VIII of 1920.

Short title and commencement.

Amendment of section 3, Madras Act VIII of 1920.

Madras Act VIII of 1920.

[3rd November 1931]

by the Local Government to perform the duties of Director of Public Instruction, District Educational Officer or Inspectress of Girls' Schools, as the case may be."

(ii) in clause (iv), for the figures " 1884 ", the figures " 1920 " shall be substituted;

(iii) after clause (x), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely :—

" (x-a) ' notification ' means notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*;

" (x-b) ' panchayat ' means a panchayat constituted under the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920; "

(iv) in clause (xi), after the words " prescribed by " the words " this Act or by " shall be inserted;

(v) in clause (xii), the words " in relation to an elementary school " shall be omitted, and for the word " Government " the words " Local Government " shall be substituted; and

(vi) in clause (xiv), for the figures " 1884 " the figures " 1920 " shall be substituted.

4. In sub-section (3) of section 5 of the said Act, for the words " inspector and assistant inspector of schools " the words " District Educational Officer " shall be substituted, and for the word " members " the words " a member " shall be substituted.

5. After section 27 of the said Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely :—

" 27-A. No act or proceeding of a district educational council or of a committee thereof or of any person acting as president, vice-president, chairman or member of such council or committee shall be deemed to be invalid by reason only of some defect in the establishment of such council or committee or on the ground that the president, vice-president, chairman or any member of such council or committee was not entitled to hold or continue in such office by reason of any disqualification or by reason of any irregularity or illegality in his election or appointment or by reason of such act having been done during the period of any vacancy in the office of the president, vice-president, chairman or member of such council or committee."

Amendment of section 5, Madras Act VIII of 1920.

Insertion of new section 27-A in Madras Act VIII of 1920.

Acts of District Educational Councils, etc., not to be invalidated by informality, etc.

[3rd November 1931]

Substitution
of new
section for
section 36 of
Madras Act
VIII of 1920.

6. For section 36 of the said Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely :—

Assessment
and realiza-
tion of taxes.

“ 36. (1) Every tax levied in any area under any head of taxation mentioned in section 34 shall be deemed to be an addition to a tax levied under the same head in such area under the law for the time being in force governing municipalities or local boards, as the case may be, and all the provisions of such law relating to the incidence, assessment or realization of such tax or in any manner connected therewith shall be applicable accordingly :

Provided that the Local Government may direct that the said provisions shall apply subject to such modifications and restrictions as may be prescribed.

(2) In particular, any such tax levied in a panchayat area under any head of taxation other than land-cess, shall be realized by the president of the panchayat as an addition to a tax levied under the same head under the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920. **Out of the proceeds of the tax so realized such percentage as may be prescribed shall be credited to the village fund of the Panchayat on account of the cost of collection and the balance shall be paid to the credit of the Elementary Education Fund under the control of the taluk board concerned.**”

Amendment
of section 40,
Madras Act
VIII of 1920.

7. In section 40 of the said Act, for the figures “ 1884 ” the figures “ 1920 ” and for the word “ chapter ” at the end, the word “ Act ” shall be substituted.

Amendment
of section 41,
Madras Act
VIII of 1920.

8. In sub-section (1) of section 41 of the said Act, after the words “ such school ” the words “ or a department of such school ” shall be inserted, and for the words “ through the inspector of schools ” the words “ through the District Educational Officer or the Inspectress of Girls’ Schools, as the case may be ” shall be substituted.

Amendment
of section 42,
Madras Act
VIII of 1920.

9. In sub-section (1) of section 42 of the said Act, for the words “ through the Inspector of Schools ” the words “ through the District Educational Officer or the Inspectress of Girls’ Schools as the case may be ” shall be substituted.

[3rd November 1931]

10. For section 47 of the said Act, the following sections shall be substituted, namely :—

Substitution
of new
section 47,
Madras Act
VIII of 1920.

“ 47 (1) No fees shall be levied at any elementary school under public or panchayat management situated in any area affected by a notification under section 46, from any child to whom such notification applies.

(2) Fees may be levied from any such child at any other elementary school situated in the said area.

No fee to be
levied at
elementary
schools under
public or
panchayat
management
in areas
notified
under section
46.

Provided that where within one mile of such school or such other distance therefrom as may be notified under the Explanation to sub-section (2) of section 45, there is no other elementary school at which fees are not levied, such number of free places as may be fixed by the District Educational Council **in consultation with the local authority concerned** shall be reserved in such school.”

11. In section 49 of the said Act, after the words “ every child of school-age resident in such area ” the words “ and affected by such notification ” shall be inserted.

Amendment
of section 49,
Madras Act
VIII of 1920.

12. In section 51 of the said Act, after the words “ local authority concerned ”, the words and figures “ or where under the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the taluk board has ceased to be responsible for elementary education in any area, the panchayat concerned ” shall be inserted.

Amendment
of section 51,
Madras Act
VIII of 1920.

13. In sub-section (2) of section 5 of the said Act—
(i) clause (a) shall be re-lettered as clause (aa) and the following shall be inserted as clause (a), namely :—

Amendment
of section 56,
Madras Act
VIII of 1920.

“ (a) with reference to all matters expressly required or allowed by this Act to be prescribed ”;

(ii) in clause (b), after the word “ schools ” the words “ or departments of schools ” shall be inserted, and after the word “ elementary ” at the end the word “ schools ” shall be added;

(iii) for clause (c), the following clause shall be substituted, namely :—

“ (c) with reference to all matters not expressly provided for in this Act relating to the election of presidents, vice-presidents or members of district educational councils ”;

[3rd November 1931]

(iv) in clause (f), after the words "by local authorities" the words "by panchayats" shall be inserted, and after the words "attendance committees" at the end, the words "and the time within which any statement, report, return, budget or other information shall be furnished" shall be added;

(v) clause (i) shall be omitted; and

(vi) in clause (j), the word "school" shall be omitted.

THE SCHEDULE

Section	Sub-section.	For the words.	Substitute the words.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
21	...	his opinion	their opinion.
22	(2)	he may fix	they may fix.
23	...	he may direct	they may direct.
30	(2)	he thinks fit	they think fit.
38	(2)	he thinks fit	they think fit.
45	(2) proviso	is satisfied	are satisfied.
	(b).		
56	(2)	he may make	they may make.

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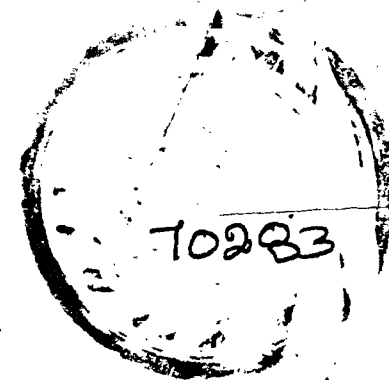
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