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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES

SIXTH SESSION OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1935.

1st, 6th to 8th, 10th, 11th, 22nd, 25th, 29th March and 3rd,
21st, 23rd and 25th April 1947.

Volume XIII (Nos. 1-13).

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THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 1st March 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 3 p.m., Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

House Surgeons and House Physicians in hospitals.

* 61 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) the number of House Surgeons and House Physicians in the Government Hospital for Women and Children and the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital;

(b) what facilities exist in these two hospitals for their residence there;

(c) whether all the places have been filled up;

(d) whether sufficient number of applications are not forthcoming for the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital;

(e) whether the selection and appointment of House Surgeons and House Physicians are made separately for each hospital or for all the hospitals together and then the selected candidates allotted to each hospital;

(f) whether the wishes of the selected candidates are taken into account in allotting them to various hospitals;

(g) whether the selection of these candidates is made by the Surgeon-General or by a Selection Committee; and

(h) whether the same procedure is adopted in regard to appointment of House Surgeons and House Physicians in the mufassal hospitals also?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(a) The number of posts in the Women and Children Hospital, Madras, is 9 and in the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital, Madras, 11.

“(b) Quarters are generally provided for paid House Surgeons and House Physicians only. Quarters are available for 9 persons in the Women and Children Hospital and for 8 in the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital.

“(c) One post of an unpaid House Surgeon in the Government Hospital for Women and Children has yet to be filled up.

“(d) The answer is in the affirmative so far as newly passed out women medical graduates are concerned.

“(e) Selection is made at the same time for all hospitals and candidates are allotted to each hospital.



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" (f) Yes, as far as possible subject to the availability of vacancies.

" (g) The selection is ordinarily made by the Surgeon-General. This year the Surgeon-General appointed a committee to make the selection.

" (h) The answer is in the affirmative."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"As the Hon. the Minister has found out that sufficient number is not forthcoming, I would like to know whether she has enquired into the fact why a sufficient number of applications are not forthcoming with regard to the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital?"

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Applications for appointment of House Surgeons and House Physicians were received for the General Hospital but no applications were received for the Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital."

Service conditions of House Surgeons and House Physicians.

* 62 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state with reference to the answer to the question No. 2 answered on 31st July 1946 whether any steps are proposed to be taken for the improvement of the service conditions of House Surgeons and House Physicians, and if so, what they are?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—"The matter is under consideration."

Fine imposed on Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores.

* 63 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Chingleput district imposed a fine of Rs. 250 on the Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores;

(b) whether it is a fact that on the remonstrance of the President of the Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores, the Collector has cancelled the fines; and

(c) the reason for the imposition of the fine, and the grounds on which the fine was cancelled?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—" (a) The Collector of Chingleput ordered the forfeiture of the Wholesale Co-operative Stores' security deposit of Rs. 250.

" (b) & (c) The circumstances under which the Collector ordered the forfeiture of the deposit and subsequently cancelled his orders are as follows: The Taluk Supply Officer, Conjeeveram, inspected the sub-depot of the Chingleput Co-operative Wholesale Stores on 23rd April 1946 and reported certain irregularities in the accounts relating to paddy stocks maintained by the depot. The Collector ordered the forfeiture

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of the security deposit after obtaining the explanation of the Joint Secretary of the stores. Subsequently when the President of the stores explained the discrepancy and promised to examine the matter in detail and see that such complaints do not recur the Collector cancelled his previous orders."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"Is it in the nature of a fine or in the nature of forfeiture?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"It is in the nature of a forfeiture, Sir."

Alleged petition against Sri Swetaranyam, Sub-Magistrate of Madurantakam.

* 64 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether Sri Swetaranyam was the Sub-Magistrate of Madurantakam till recently;

(b) whether petitions were received by the Collector of Chingleput district that he was corrupt and that he carried on his activities in the court premises which was also his residence;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Collector transferred him to Ponneri;

(d) whether the Government consider this transfer as sufficient action taken on the petitions received by the Collector; and

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

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Yes.

" (c) Yes.

" (d) & (e) The matter is under consideration."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"Are the Government aware that similar complaints were received by the Government against the same person when he was working at Ponneri?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I am not aware of that, Sir, but on the matter on hand, action is being taken."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government have not received complaints against the same person when he was posted to Ponneri?"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"I have not got the information, but I shall look into it."

Settlement of ex-army men in Gudapakam area.

* 65 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have ordered the construction of twenty dwelling houses, two drinking water wells, and fifteen irrigation wells in the denuded areas of the forest in Gudapakam;

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(b) whether it is intended to settle ex-army men in this area;

(c) the total estimate of these constructions;

(d) whether it is a fact that the subordinate officials in charge of the works have ordered the construction even before the Government's sanction was obtained;

(e) whether it is a fact that tenders were not called for and that written agreements were not entered into with the contractors before the work was started;

(f) whether it is the usual practice of the Government to order such a work involving more than a lakh of rupees without calling for any tenders, and without entering into any agreements;

(g) whether it is a fact that one Venkatarathnam Naidu, the Village Munsif of Gudapakkam was ordered to collect the necessary materials for the construction of all the works;

(h) whether subsequently the authorities have divided the fifteen houses to be constructed among three contractors at the rate of five for each;

(i) whether the constructions have been completed;

(j) whether the abovesaid Venkatarathnam Naidu is also one of the three contractors;

(k) whether, having completed the construction of five houses allotted to him, he gave registered notice to the Collector of Chingleput district, one by himself and the other through his lawyer for making good the losses sustained by him by collecting materials for all the constructions;

(l) whether these notices acknowledged by the Huzur Sarishtadar are missing in the office records;

(m) whether the Collector of Chingleput district has recommended to the Government to sanction the further construction of five buildings in order to make good the losses sustained by the abovesaid contractor; and

(n) whether the Government propose to make a thorough enquiry into this matter and make the officials responsible for it pay for the loss sustained by the contractors?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI (on behalf of the Prime Minister):—“(a) The Government have sanctioned the construction of 15 dwelling houses, 2 drinking-water wells and 13 irrigation wells in the area.

“(b) The reply is in the affirmative.

“(c) The total estimate of these constructions is Rs. 81,800 as detailed below:—

	RS.
15 houses	20,000
2 drinking-water wells —	5,000
13 irrigation wells	46,800
	81,800

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“(d) The matter was reported to the Board of Revenue at all stages and the works started after personal inspection and orders of the Collector.

“(e) Tenders were not called for in view of the urgency of the works. Written agreements were obtained for each of the 5 houses constructed by two out of the three contractors, while the third refused to execute an agreement claiming that the entire contract for all the works should be given to him.

“(f) The answer is in the negative. As these were urgent works, tenders were not called for to save time.

“(g) & (h) The Army Pioneer Units had agreed to carry out reclamation, construction of houses and other works free of cost and the contract for the supply of materials required for the construction of 20 houses and sinking 1 drinking-water well by the Army was given to the village munsif in question. But as the Army Units had to leave the works unfinished being under orders of transfer, and as materials had also been collected, the construction of 15 houses was taken up in the first instance and 3 contractors were entrusted with the work with a view to speed up the construction of the houses.

“(i) Fifteen houses, one drinking-water well and seven irrigation wells have been completed.

“(j) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(k) Two petitions were received, one dated 11th April 1946 requesting that he be given the contract for all the works and another dated 2nd September 1946 claiming compensation for loss alleged to have been sustained.

“(l) The dates of the notices are not mentioned, but the petitions referred to in the answer to clause (k) above are in the records.

“(m) The Collector has recommended the construction of three more houses for utilizing the gathered materials. It is not for the specific purpose of making good any loss alleged to have been incurred by Sri Venkatarathnam Nayudu. The question whether the three more houses should be constructed is under consideration.

“(n) The question is under investigation.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—“May I know whether it is the practice of Government to give contracts without calling for tenders?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“No, Sir.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—“Then, why in this case a tender was not called for.”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“As I said, it is on account of the speed with which the house had to be constructed. That is all the information I have got but if the hon. Member wants more details, I shall require notice.”

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SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Is it the practice to allow village munsifs to take contracts from Government? ”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“ It is not generally the case. But, I am prepared to go into this matter and inform the hon. Member.”

Steel tyres for bullock carts.

* 66 Q.—SRI K. NATARAJAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that single bullock carts for hire in Tanjore city have not been able to secure steel cart tyres for over six years past; and

(b) whether representations have been received from such cartmen's organization and what arrangements have been made to meet their requirements?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“ (a) Supplies of single bullock cart tyres for Tanjore were made during the several quarters commencing from period III/1944 (July to September). So far Tanjore has received 77 tons of this material and 35 tons have been allotted for the current quarter.

“ (b) A representation was recently received by the Government from Tanjore Cartmen's Union that they were not able to secure cart tyres for over four years. The Director of Agriculture has been asked to take necessary action on the representation.”

Prohibition scheme in the Province.

* 67 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments be pleased to place on the table of the House the scheme to enforce Prohibition including the provision of counter attractions and the staff provided for the same?

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ A note^a on the scheme to enforce Prohibition including the provision of counter attractions and the staff provided for the same is placed on the table of the House.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether the Government have issued orders prohibiting the tapping of sweet toddy? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Yes, only in certain cases but not in all cases. There are districts in which tapping of sweet toddy was prohibited. In Salem and Coimbatore, it was allowed under special conditions, viz., it was allowed in the case of organized co-operative societies. Now so far as tapping sweet toddy from coconut trees is concerned, it is prohibited throughout but it is not so in the case of palmyras and dates provided it is done by organized co-operative societies.”

^a Printed as Appendix I on pages 46—48 infra.

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Are there no co-operative societies organized in the Ceded Districts? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ They are being formed there.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Is it a fact that the staff employed in the Ceded Districts is not sufficient to cope up with the prohibition offences? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Well, there are certain cases of illicit distillation and we are considering how best to improve the efficiency and strength of the staff. It is necessary to recruit fresh men and they have to be trained, so that the number of prohibition staff may be increased.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know why the tapping of sweet toddy is prohibited especially in view of the fact that jaggery can be made from sweet toddy and I think that is the common practice in the mufassal? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ The main idea is to see that this practice is not abused. It is likely to be abused. As a matter of fact, last time in 1937, this was allowed in Salem, at first permits were given for tapping sweet toddy for preparation of jaggery as well as for drinking the concession was abused and then the practice had to be put an end to. Even this year in the beginning we did not contemplate to prohibit it but recently an investigation has been made as to whether it should be allowed or not. The reports received from collectors and prohibition officers were to the effect that sweet toddy if allowed for the manufacturing of jaggery was also fermented and used for drinking purposes and so, Government decided that so far as coconut tapping is concerned, it should not be allowed. In regard to palmyra and date trees, it will be allowed under certain conditions, viz., if co-operative societies are organized and if they apply for permission, it will be allowed.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Do Government think that prohibition is the only method of preventing this abuse? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Unless, we employ a large staff, it is not worthwhile allowing tapping, particularly in view of the high prices of coconuts. It will not affect the owners much. So, Government considered that so far as coconut trees are concerned, it should be absolutely prohibited.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know whether it will not result in a loss to owners of coconut trees if such tapping is prohibited? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ It may not. After all, they may get more income by selling coconuts, the price of which is fairly high.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Is it contended that if the coconut trees are not tapped, they will yield a larger income? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ I do not know whether it will yield a larger income, but there will be some income. Apart from that, that is not the only consideration. The main consideration is to enforce prohibition.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ You will get juice from the coconut.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ In view of the reply of the Hon. Minister that permission will be given to co-operative societies for tapping these trees, does Government think that all these hereditary tappers will go out of employment? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Sir, almost every measure of Government really involves some sacrifice on the part of somebody or other. In this case, Government are trying to find alternative employment for these people. After all, this should not be the main consideration for the Government but Government has to consider that it is likely to be abused if tapping of the trees is allowed.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Why should co-operative societies be given preference over these hereditary tappers. Is this the panacea for all evils? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Co-operative societies are organized for the purpose of helping men to manufacture jaggery under some special restrictions.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ To throw these people out of employment probably.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know what steps have been taken to form co-operative societies? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ A number of co-operative societies are being formed in some of the districts.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I am afraid we are going away from the main question.”

Mr. Manicka Naicker, Secretary of the Chingleput District Board.

* 68 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that one Mr. Manicka Naicker, who was Secretary of the Chingleput District Board till recently, has not had any qualifications to occupy the post of the Secretary;

(b) whether it is a fact that exemption had to be given to him to hold even the post of a clerk of the District Board;

(c) the reason why he was chosen for the secretary's post when there were more qualified and senior men in the district board service;

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(d) whether it is a fact that the Provident Fund accounts were overdrawn in the month of November 1946;

(e) whether it is a fact that on the order of the Special Officer, the cash book and other registers were tampered with and vouchers destroyed and false vouchers substituted;

(f) whether any charges were framed against him by the Special Officer;

(g) whether the date for enquiry was fixed for 16th January 1947;

(h) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Chingleput district who had to hand over charge on the 16th has advanced the date of enquiry to the 11th January 1947;

(i) whether it is a fact that the Collector reduced him from the secretaryship to an ordinary clerk;

(j) whether the Government consider that it is sufficient punishment for the charges framed against him; and

(k) whether the Government propose to order fresh enquiry and deal with the case properly?

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ (a) Sri R. C. Manicka Naicker continues to be the Secretary of the Chingleput District Board. He is qualified to hold the post of Secretary.

“ (b) In its Resolution No. IX, dated 26th February 1929, the Chingleput District Board exempted Sri R. C. Manicka Naicker from the qualification prescribed for clerks as he was not qualified for the post under the District Board's Service regulations then in force.

“ (c) Promotion to the post of Secretary which is a selection post is made on grounds of merit, seniority being considered only where the qualifications and merit are approximately equal. The promotion of Sri R. C. Manicka Naicker as Secretary was made on this basis.

“ (d) The amount to the credit of the Provident Fund Account of the Chingleput District Board was overdrawn to the extent of Rs. 20,485-3-11 in the month of November 1946.

“ (e) The answer is in the affirmative. The order of the Special Officer, the cash book, the posting register and bill register were tampered with and a paid voucher for Rupees 13,900 was destroyed and a fresh one for the same amount substituted.

“ (f) The answer is in the affirmative.

“ (g) & (h) Sri R. C. Manicka Naicker asked for a personal hearing when replying to the charges. The date of hearing was first fixed for 16th January 1947 and subsequently advanced to 11th January 1947 at the request of Sri R. C. Manicka Naicker.

“ (i) The answer is in the negative. Sri R. C. Manicka Naicker was punished with stoppage of increment for one year without effect on future increments.

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“(j) The Government consider that the punishment awarded is inadequate.

“(k) Yes.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know from the Minister what his educational qualifications were when he was appointed? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Notice, Sir.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether Hon. Minister is aware that Mr. M. C. Rajah who was one of the previous Presidents considered that he was not qualified even to hold the post of a clerk.”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Notice, Sir.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I ask who was responsible for the tampering of accounts and books? —whether it was Mr. Manicka Naicker or somebody else punished along with Manicka Naicker.”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Notice, Sir.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know whether any specific charges were framed against Mr. Manicka Naicker? From the reply given by the Hon. Minister, may I know whether the Collector held an enquiry, what was the finding of the enquiry and whether the Collector's enquiry revealed that it was Mr. Manicka Naicker who was responsible for the tampering of accounts and other books? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ I take the information from the hon. Member. I am sorry I have just had the file and I am not in a position to give more details.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ Will the Hon. Minister call for the papers and examine what the Collector's report was? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ Yes, Sir.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know what was the punishment awarded by the Collector to Mr. Manicka Naicker? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ It is in the answer given, i.e., stoppage of increment for one year.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ The Hon. Minister said just now that he has not seen the records. Without knowing what the real findings of the Collector are, how does the Hon. Minister consider that the punishment was not sufficient and on what basis he has been punished? ”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—“ The facts I have stated are enough to show that the stoppage of increment was absolutely inadequate.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member forgets that this Minister is not responsible for the answer.” (Laughter.)

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Sir, the Hon. Minister has not given the answer to my question. I asked whether it was Mr. Manicka Naicker who was responsible for the tampering of accounts and books and other documents. If that were not so, how did the Government consider that the punishment was not sufficient for him? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I do not think you need worry this Minister any further about this question. I am sure he has not gone into all the records.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether on the request of Mr. Manicka Naicker the Collector advanced the enquiry from 16th to 11th for the mere reason that the Collector was going to hand over charge on the 16th? Is it justifiable for a Collector to favour a certain person by advancing the enquiry and finishing the case? ”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Are we to understand that the present Ministry is not responsible for what had taken place and they will not be responsible for what takes place in future? ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ Certainly not.”

Assessment of sales tax by Assistant Commercial Tax officers.

* 69 Q.—SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the present Commercial Tax Officer, South Arcot, has instructed the Assistant Commercial Tax Officers that each of them should secure a fresh assessment each day and increase the tax of the present assessee and that consequently the Assistant Commercial Tax Officers are each day assessing to tax people who have no assessable turn-over and people are unnecessarily harassed?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“ The answer is in the negative.”

Power to grant poverty certificates to members of the Legislature.

* 70 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government propose to empower the members of the Legislature to grant poverty certificates to poor students who deserve concession in respect of school fees?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ This question was considered by Government before and they came to the conclusion that it is advisable to restrict the power to issue certificates to persons over whom the Government has official or departmental control.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Does the Hon. Minister think that gazetted officers are in a position to know the conditions of people with regard to poverty and riches and is it possible for ordinary people to approach these persons? ”

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THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ It must be possible for officers to get all the information either by themselves or from their subordinate officers. It is certainly always open to an individual to go to any officer.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Does not the Hon. Minister think that members of this Legislature are people who can be entrusted with this responsibility? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ I think it is better that this onerous task is not taken by the legislators themselves. This matter was considered and it was found advisable to restrict the power to officers over whom there is departmental or official control.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—“ On what grounds it was considered advisable? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ On a previous occasion in 1940, when the matter was considered it was found that there has been some abuse in the issue of certificates by non-officials—I do not want to give out the names—and so, later the Government ordered that only officers over whom the Government had control should be vested with such powers.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—“ Have not officers in other branches of administration abused their powers? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ Perhaps there have been some cases. I do not know of any. But it is certainly a great responsibility on non-officials and therefore it is better for them not to undertake the responsibility.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—“ Is it not advisable to make an exception in the rules? Simply because a few non-officials abuse their power and similarly some officers also have abused their powers, it is a common factor; is it the G.C.M. or L.C.M.? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ The common factor is not same. In the one case, the Department cannot proceed against the persons concerned while in the other case of Government servants, official action can be taken.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Does the Hon. the Minister for Law know that it is difficult for poor people to approach these gazetted officers and get poverty certificates? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ I do not think so. Under this Government, it ought not to be and it will not be.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Are not the members of the Legislature more approachable by the poor people with whom they come into contact? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ That is so.”

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ That being the case, why not hon. Members of the Legislature allowed to grant poverty certificates? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ I have already answered this question more than once.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—“ Does the Hon. Minister know that in this matter officers of the lowest rank are approached by the people? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ No, Sir. Certain qualifications are prescribed for these officers, for instance, they should be officers not lower than the officers of the rank of Deputy Tahsildars or Sub-Magistrates.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—“ Does not the Hon. Minister think that the Deputy Tahsildars' position is high enough for this purpose? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I am afraid the hon. Member has not properly understood the Minister. He says, he can punish him whereas he cannot punish you.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Sir, Government can punish anybody who abuses his power.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ If you like to get under this power, Government will have no objection.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—“ I wish to know whether Government have so far punished any official for having abused his powers? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ I have not been so long in office to answer this. If the hon. Member wants, I shall make an investigation.”

Alleged corruption in Textile department.

* 71 Q.—C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received copies of memoranda sent by the Trichinopoly Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Piecegoods Merchants' Association regarding the existence of corruption in Textile department and among merchant class; and

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

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“ (a) The Government have received a memorandum from the Madras Piecegoods Merchants' Association. No memorandum appears to have been received from the Trichy Chamber of Commerce.

“ (b) Some vague references were made in the memorandum regarding corruption in the Textile Control Department and among the merchant class. No action could be in the absence of definite allegations.”

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SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ It is not the duty of Government to put down corruption when specific cases have been brought to their notice?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“ Certainly. Not in this case but in other cases, it has always been the duty of Government to put down corruption.”

Allotment of houses under Rent Control Act.

* 72 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have prescribed any principles to govern priorities for the allotment of houses which came into their possession under section 3 of the Madras Rent Control Act;

(b) whether the question of ‘essentiality’ is a consideration in prescribing priorities and if so, how ‘essentiality’ has been defined;

(c) whether it is a fact that there have been complaints from their own officers that vacant houses are being allotted without any question of priority;

(d) whether it is a fact that many landlords do not intimate the fact of vacancy to the Collector and arrange to let in tenants by private arrangements;

(e) what steps are being taken to ensure the observance of law; and

(f) whether the Government propose to extend the scope of section 3 to all houses irrespective of rent paid and also include in priority for allotment all citizens on the lines of the Madras House Accommodation Order?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“(a) Yes. A copy of the rules is placed on the table of the House.

“(b) As the Act is intended to ensure accommodation for Government purposes and officers of Government the question ‘essentiality’ as amongst Government officers is governed by the principles laid down by the Government for the purpose.

“(c) No complaints of this nature have been received so far.

“(d) There have been six cases and the Collector of Madras is taking suitable action against the offenders.

“(e) Section 16 (1) of the Act provides for the punishment of the offenders under section 3 (1) of the Act. The Collectors have special revenue staff under them to check up vacancies of houses. Proposals to further amend the Act so as to ensure strict observance of law are under consideration, to provide for :—

(i) for prosecution of the landlord who even after intimating a vacancy, lets in someone else without the orders of the Government;

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(ii) similar provision, when tenancy is continued in the same name but the actual tenant leaves and some one else comes in; and

(iii) providing also for the Government entering and taking possession of such building.

“(f) This was considered when the Bill was framed and it was decided to drop this question because of administrative difficulties.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know with reference to the rules framed for the allotment of buildings for Government purposes whether there have been occasions when the control has been exercised by the Government? The rule reads: ‘Subject to the control of the Provincial Government allotments are made by the Controller or under his orders’?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ I cannot remember.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Have there been cases when the Provincial Government had to intervene as against the decision of the Controller?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ There have been no cases.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Have the Government interfered when these rules have been applied in the case of non-officials and obtained priority for them?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ I do not remember such cases.”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ Will the Hon. Minister say that under the Act when a house is reported as vacant and when that house is required for a non-official, what will be the position? Further, what is the position of a Legislator, is he styled an official or non-official? When he wants a house, should he apply to the Collector or to the Rent Controller?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ So far the Government have made provision only for Government servants and Government officials. Otherwise it will be too difficult to administer the Act.”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ What is the position of a Legislator?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ It cannot be exactly decided. It will depend upon the Government and so many other things. In the Government House there is some provision made for some Legislators. Regarding others, they must somehow manage for the time being.”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—“ What will be the position of a Legislator when he comes to Madras and wants to reside there with his family?”

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MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I do not see there is any provision in the Act for Legislators. So he need not pursue the question.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—“ Medical profession comes under Essential services, so will the Hon. Minister see his way to making suitable provision for procuring accommodation for doctors? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ This question was not considered while drafting the Bill for accommodation for Government officers. Anyhow, the question can be considered.”

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

II.—BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1947-48.

Introductory. * THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ Sir, I rise to present to this House the revised estimates for the current year, 1946-7, and the budget estimates for the next year, 1947-8.

“ Seven months only have elapsed since I presented the budget estimates for the current year under circumstances that necessitated the unusual procedure of introducing a budget nearly half-way through the year to which it related. We now return to the normal budgetary procedure of presenting the annual budget to the Legislature before the close of the previous year, and to the normal conditions under which the Government are fully responsible for the proposals embodied in the budget and for the policy underlying those proposals.

Political situation. “ 2. Before proceeding to discuss the finances of the Province, I take leave to make a brief reference to the general political situation in the country. As a result of the earnest work of the Cabinet Mission sent by the British Government to this country early in 1946, plans were made both for setting up an Interim Government at the Centre to function as far as possible as a National Government and for framing the future constitution of this country on an agreed basis. The Interim Government comprising leading members of the two major political parties in the country and also representatives of the minority communities, is now functioning. A Constituent Assembly has also been formed consisting of representatives elected by the various Provincial Legislatures. The Assembly has already completed two sittings and carried out much preliminary work. Sub-committees for various purposes have been constituted. We may hope that the framing of a Constitution for India by the Constituent Assembly may be completed in the course of the year 1948. Though the representatives of one of the two major political parties now taking part in the Interim Government and the representatives of the Indian States have not yet joined the Constituent Assembly, it is our earnest hope that these representatives also will join the Assembly before long and help in its deliberations, so that the Constitution finally framed may obtain the ready consent of the whole country and be brought into force without serious difficulties.

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“ I may also perhaps mention, with some feeling of satisfaction and pride, that this Province has been free from serious communal troubles of the kind that have occurred in Bengal and Bihar. It is true that some misguided sections of the public have indulged in anti-social activities here, but we hope that these will soon come to an end.

“ 3. Turning now to our financial affairs, I will first set out, as usual, the final results of the year 1945-46. The preliminary accounts for that year, which were incorporated in the Budget for 1946-7 as presented to the Legislature, showed a revenue surplus of Rs. 55 lakh after taking credit for Rs. 229.20 lakhs on account of State Trading Schemes and after transferring a sum of Rs. 1,750.00 lakhs to the Revenue Reserve Fund. As compared with the preliminary accounts, the final accounts for 1945-6 showed an increase of about Rs. 13 lakhs in Revenue and a saving of about Rs. 37 lakhs under Expenditure (excluding the net credit on account of State Trading Schemes and the transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund) owing to certain adjustments made in the final accounts. The net credit on account of State Trading Schemes according to the final accounts for 1945-6 was only Rs. 160.35 lakhs against Rs. 229.20 lakhs in the preliminary accounts. As a result of these variations, the transfer to the Revenue Reserve Fund has decreased from Rs. 1,750 lakhs to Rs. 1,731 lakhs. There were also some small variations in the Capital and Debt and Deposit sections. The closing balance of the year comprised Rs. 310.09 lakhs in cash, Rs. 2,965.10 lakhs in securities held in the Cash Balance Investment Account and Rs. 1,411.35 lakhs in securities held in the Revenue Reserve Fund. There were also earmarked securities belonging to the Sinking Fund Investment Account, the Famine Relief Fund, and Electricity Depreciation Reserve and Special Reserve Funds, which were purchased for Rs. 385.44 lakhs.

“ 4. I come now to the current year, 1946-7. In my last budget speech, I expressed the hope that the north-east monsoon of 1946 would be favourable like the south-west monsoon, and so cause an early improvement in the food situation in the Province. This hope has been largely realized. On the information available in July 1946, I said that the south-west monsoon was favourable. In August the rainfall was fairly widespread and was very heavy on the West Coast. The irrigation sources received good supplies. The Mettur reservoir became full on the 17th August and the restrictions on the supply of electric power from the Mettur Hydro-Electric Project were relaxed. The rainfall in the Ceded districts was also fair and helped the mungari and early hingari crops. On the whole, the south-west monsoon rains were satisfactory except in certain central districts. The north-east monsoon began late, but continued to be active even in December. The rainfall was satisfactory except in Kurnool, Chittoor, Cuddapah and Ramnad districts, where more rain was needed. The unusually heavy rains in December caused some

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damage to the crops in some districts, but the total production of foodgrains in the Province as a whole has not been seriously affected. There are good prospects of raising short-term crops over large areas even in the districts where the north-east monsoon was not quite satisfactory, with the aid of water-supply from tanks, wells and other irrigation sources.

Food
position

" 5. The food position was difficult when I presented the revised budget for 1946-7 at the end of July 1946. It deteriorated subsequently, and in August we had to reduce the rice ration to 8 ounces per adult per day out of a total ration of 12 ounces. Early in September it seemed likely that a further reduction in the ration would be necessary. But, thanks to the response of the producers to the appeal made by me to surrender a portion of the stocks retained by them for their own consumption, we were able to get through the most critical months without any further reduction in the ration. As a result of the response to my appeal and to the inducement in the form of bonus offered to producers, rice and millets were procured on an unprecedented scale. I may perhaps refer, with pardonable pride, to the appreciation of our efforts by Babu Rajendra Prasad, the Member of the Interim Government in charge of Food. 'Madras' he said, 'was able to procure something like 94 per cent of the surplus of individual cultivators and it is because of this policy of rigid procurement and distribution that the Province has so far been able to scrape through.' In December 1946, the rice portion of the ration was raised to 10 ounces per adult per day except in a few southern districts. From the first week of February it has been raised to 12 ounces in five districts and from the 23rd February in seven more districts. I hope that by the middle of March it will be raised to 12 ounces in all districts. Stocks are being built up as quickly as possible for this purpose.

" In view of the favourable seasonal conditions in 1946, we hope that the food position will be better this year and that we may be able to relax to some extent the austerity measures that we had to adopt in order to avert a famine.

New scheme
for the pro-
curement
and distribu-
tion of food-
grains (Pro-
ducer cum
Consumer
Co-operative
Societies).

" 6. As the Government considered it desirable to associate non-officials with the work of procurement and distribution of foodgrains and preventing profiteering and black-marketing, they have sanctioned a new scheme for the procurement and distribution of foodgrains through Producers cum Consumers Co-operative Societies in the place of wholesale merchants. It is open to all landowners and all producers and consumers of foodgrains in the area over which each of these societies has jurisdiction to become members of the society. The societies will procure the surplus foodgrains available with the producers in their jurisdiction and distribute to consumers both the locally procured and the imported foodgrains. They will also distribute other controlled articles such as kerosene and sugar. In order to ensure the proper working of the scheme in the initial stages, experienced officers of the Revenue Department and the Co-operative Department have

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been employed to manage the societies. The scheme was first introduced in Malabar district and is now in full working order there in spite of much opposition in the beginning. A co-operative society has been formed for each firka. The amount of share capital to be subscribed by each member has been fixed at rates varying from Rs. 5 to Rs. 100 for different classes of members. These societies have taken over the entire work relating to the procurement of foodgrains in the district. They are also running ration shops for the retail sale of foodgrains. With the help of the experience gained in Malabar, the scheme has been extended to the delta taluks of East Godavari, West Godavari, Guntur and Kistna districts. A co-operative society is being formed for each group of 7 to 10 villages having a procurement capacity of 5,000 tons of paddy a year. The intention is that each society should have a share capital of at least Rs. 4 lakhs, so as to enable the society to finance the procurement of 5,000 tons of paddy a year. The value of each share is Rs. 25 and the maximum share capital which any subscriber can hold is Rs. 2,500. For this purpose, each district is placed in the charge of a District Food Rationing Officer of the rank of a Deputy Collector with the necessary staff. Trained secretaries will also be appointed for the societies. There is no doubt vehement opposition to this scheme at the moment from vested interests, particularly the millers, but we expect that the opposition will soon subside in the other districts as it has already done in Malabar.

" The Government are fully aware of the criticism levelled against the scheme and have under preparation a comprehensive report which will explain the aims and objectives which the Government have in view. The main points of criticism have been—

- (a) The scheme is hastily conceived and not necessary, and
- (b) the scheme will affect established trade channels.

" The Government wish to observe that they carefully examined the development of the co-operative movement in this Presidency and came to the conclusion that even the agricultural credit structure, which was the highlight of the co-operative movement, had failed to achieve the aims and purposes in view. According to the latest Administration Report, the number of agricultural credit co-operative societies on the 30th June 1946 was 10,877 with 6;66 lakhs of members; but only 2;13 lakhs of members (hardly one-third) made use of the societies for their credit needs. Again 6,154 of these societies worked at a net profit of Rs. 6.62 lakhs, while 4,723 societies worked at a net loss of Rs. 12.72 lakhs for the year ended the 30th June 1946. In other words, the average profit earned by 'profit societies' was Rs. 108 per society, while the average loss sustained by 'loss societies' was Rs. 269 per society. Furthermore, about 7,000 societies have not borrowed from central banks for over five years and about 1,200 societies have not borrowed for three years and more. These features point to the lack of vitality and vigour in a big section of the rural co-operative system and the narrow range of its credit

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services, and with poor membership, low share capital and an equally poor turnover, these societies have not proved to be efficient economic credit units. The Government therefore decided to improve on this depressing record and are now trying to create something which embodies in it the best of modern scientific thought. It has been held that co-operative producers societies wherever independently constituted were in practice an imperfect adjunct of consumers societies. The Government are creating producers *cum* consumers societies based on the territorial principle, which alone will avoid overlapping rather than create some imperfect and limping adjuncts as in the past and in the West. The best of Indian thought embodied in the Vijayaraghavachari Report also pointed to the constitution of such multi-purpose societies. It is, in particular, a futile propaganda cry to say that long-established trade interests will be affected. If that argument were to be accepted, even the fight for freedom would lose its meaning inasmuch as it sought to replace something long established. The Government are convinced that wealth arising out of the bare necessities of people's life should go back to the people rather than to a mere handful of persons. This is the cardinal principle of their policy which the Government want to be understood.

"The rapid progress which the societies are making in actual working in Malabar and in the Circar districts has shown that this people's movement has in it the real vitality so lacking in the co-operative societies in the past, which, in spite of decades of existence in this country, have not touched even a fringe of the problem and have failed to make a mark on the life of this country. The Provincial Co-operative Bank and all the District Central Co-operative Banks have a total share capital of Rs. 78 lakhs only. In Malabar, about 108 societies of the new type with over Rs. 50 lakhs of share capital are now working. In the Circars, within the short space of two months, the progress in organization is as shown below:—

District. (1)	Number of societies registered. (2)	Share capital collected. (3)
		RS.
East Godavari	51	42,00,000
West Godavari	40	32,00,000
Guntur	25	22,00,000
Kistna	41	29,00,000
Total	157	1,50,00,000

"The business for one quarter done by these societies in Malabar showed that the societies were efficient business bodies and could make profits. The hon. Members must, however, remember that even large profits, if made by these broad-based societies with membership running even in the initial stage to 7,000 to 8,000 in

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some societies, will not enrich a few individuals but the entire community, which was the aim of the Government. It should also be noted that, under present restrictions, 6½ per cent is the maximum dividend that is admissible. The intention of the Government is that these societies should build up large reserve funds, so that in the post-control era they can compete with the middleman with confidence and prosper in the competitive market. The Government are convinced that, if co-operation is to be a real success, it must ultimately face competition and overcome it. The Government considered this placing of the societies on solid financial foundations vital and have every hope that in due course this experiment will receive the acknowledgment it deserves. To the Government this bold experiment is a new way of life—the Co-operative life—and it is in that hope and belief that the Government wish to give it all encouragement.

"7. Statutory rationing of foodgrains continues to be in force in all municipal towns and their suburbs, in the whole of Malabar district, in Kasaragod in South Kanara district and in Chirala and Perala villages in Guntur district. It has recently been extended to Guntakal panchayat area in Anantapur district. Non-statutory rationing continues to be in force in the remaining parts of the Province.

Rationing of
foodgrains
and fire-
wood.

"The Government have decided that the scheme of statutory rationing of firewood in Madras City should be continued for a further period of six months from the 1st April 1947 for the present. The question whether it should be extended beyond the 30th September 1947 will be examined in September next.

"8. In view of the acute shortage of mill cloth and the difficulties caused by blackmarketing practices, the Government have introduced a scheme for the rationing of mill cloth. Village, taluk, town and district committees have been constituted to assist in the distribution of mill cloth and yarn. In order to ensure the efficient working of the new scheme, the Textile Control department has been reorganized. Under the new arrangements, Collectors will be responsible in their respective districts for the general enforcement of textile control measures including the licensing of dealers and the distribution of cloth and yarn. The Provincial Textile Commissioner's functions will be limited to those matters, including the Khadi Scheme, which must necessarily be dealt with by a central authority for the Province as a whole. To assist Collectors to discharge their new duties in this connexion satisfactorily, Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners of the grade of Deputy Collectors have been appointed as Personal Assistants to Collectors in all districts except the Nilgiris. Authorized Controllers have been appointed in four mills to check black-marketing in cloth and yarn. The Government intend to make similar appointments also in all the other textile mills in the Province.

Textile
control and
rationing of
mill cloth.

"As the prices of handloom cloth had risen abnormally, a scheme of price control for these goods has also been introduced, restricting the margin of profit to producers and wholesale and retail dealers to reasonable limits.

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Prices.

" 9. The index number for the average wholesale prices of foodgrains in the Province in the half-year from the 1st July to the 31st December 1946 was 2 points above the corresponding figure for the second half of 1945 and 154 per cent above the pre-war figure. The index number for the average wholesale prices of commercial products in the second half of 1946 was 292 per cent above the pre-war figure. The working-class cost of living-index for Madras City for December 1946 was 249.0 against 224.1 for December 1945. The prices of some kinds of consumer goods have risen considerably since the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance and the Drugs Control Order ceased to be in force. We hope that the prices of these articles will come down to a more reasonable level as imports become more adequate to meet the demand.

Grow-More
Food
Campaign.

" 10. The Government have introduced various measures to increase the production of food such as schemes for the purchase and distribution of manure and seeds and iron and steel for agricultural implements, schemes for the multiplication of improved seed, schemes for poultry development and for the improvement of the stock of cattle, sheep and goats and the scheme for payment of subsidies to ryots for digging wells for the purpose of irrigation. Details regarding the well-subsidy scheme were given in my speech introducing the budget for 1946-7. We anticipate that a total expenditure of Rs. 277.44 lakhs will be incurred in the current year on these subsidies; half of this will be borne by this Government and half by the Central Government. The revised estimate for 1946-7 therefore includes Rs. 138.72 lakhs for the net expenditure by this Government on well subsidies.

" In view of the unsatisfactory supply position and the prevalence of blackmarketing in respect of groundnut cake, the Government have decided to acquire all the groundnut cake produced by all the power-driven groundnut oil mills and hand-presses in the Province instead of the 50 per cent acquired previously. The cake so acquired is distributed to ryots with the help of village, taluk and district committees. In order to supply ryots with improved varieties of seeds of paddy, millets, pulses and groundnut and of green manure, the Government have sanctioned a comprehensive scheme for all the districts for the multiplication and distribution of the improved varieties of seeds. We anticipate that this scheme will bring a further large area under cultivation with the improved strains within three years and so lead to a considerable increase in the production of the grains concerned.

" The Government have purchased from Army surpluses oil and petrol-driven engines, pumps, tractors, bulldozers and other agricultural machinery needed for accelerating food production and are selling or hiring them to the ryots."

4 p.m.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It seems to be the opinion of both sides of the House that the Hon. the Premier need not be compelled to read the whole speech. He has already gone through the whole speech in the other House and to repeat the same in this House

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[Mr. President]

will throw a very great strain on him. I suppose there will be no objection, if he refers to some of the important portions of the speech and the rest may be taken as having been read."

DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" As a matter of fact, the Budget speech has been handed over to us and I suggest that the Prime Minister may choose such of the portion to be read in the House. It will minimise the strain on him."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I too thought so. But in the other House, the Speaker thought that the whole thing should be gone through. I was not sure whether you would not be of the same opinion. I shall however go through a few more paragraphs."

" 11. The progress of demobilization of the Armed Forces and the cessation of war-time activities made it necessary to take Post-war development steps to prevent a slump in prices and employment. The Government of India therefore agreed to give "advance" grants to cover the entire expenditure on unproductive post-war development schemes in 1945-6 and 1946-7. In view of this we decided to take up for execution in the current year certain schemes included in the five-year plan of post-war development. The provision made in the current year's budget for this purpose was Rs. 11,33.41 lakhs, of which Rs. 7,82.60 lakhs was debitable to the Revenue Account. As the progress of expenditure on some of these schemes has been slower than was anticipated, the revised estimate for 1946-7 includes for this purpose only Rs. 5,86.56 lakhs, of which Rs. 3,91.22 lakhs relates to the Revenue Account.

" 12. When I presented the budget for the current year in July 1946, it was proposed to reintroduce Prohibition with effect from the 1st October 1946 in four districts. Subsequently, with reference to the views expressed by the Members of the Legislature, the Government decided to extend the scheme to four more districts from that date. Prohibition is thus in force now in eight districts, namely, Coimbatore, Salem, North Arcot, Chittoor, Kurnool, Cuddapah, Anantapur and Bellary. Besides, the Government have decided to close all abkari and opium shops in the districts where Prohibition has not yet been introduced. The total loss of revenue from these measures in a full year is about Rs. 5,81 lakhs.

" 13. In my speech introducing the current year's budget, I made a brief reference to the measures for village reconstruction and Harijan uplift which were under the consideration of the Government. Schemes of village reconstruction have since been drawn up in detail and are being put into effect. As the House is already aware, a special Fund has been constituted for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift and the current year's budget provides Rs. 4 crores for transfer to the Fund from current revenues. Out of this, one crore is intended for Harijan uplift and the remaining three crores are intended for financing general

†The Hon. the Prime Minister read out paragraphs 14, 15, 17, 34, 42 and 56 and the rest was taken as read.

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schemes of rural development including the schemes for Khadi production and cottage industries. Sums equal to the expenditure actually incurred on these schemes in each year will be transferred from the Fund to the Revenue Account at the end of the year and the unspent balance, if any, left in the Fund will be available for expenditure in subsequent years.

" In view of the importance of the village reconstruction scheme for the future prosperity of the country, I wish to give the House full details relating to it. To start with, measures will be undertaken with the object of making one firka in each district (except Madras City) self-sufficient in regard to food and clothing. Two firkas have been selected in the Vizagapatam district in view of its size, and also one firka in the Vizagapatam Agency and one in the Godavari Agency. Twenty-seven firkas in all have thus been selected for introduction of the rural reconstruction schemes. Each of these firkas has been placed in the charge of a Firka Development Officer of the rank of a Deputy Tahsildar. Under him there is a Village Development Officer of the rank of a Revenue Inspector for each of the four or five groups of villages into which each selected firka is divided. A survey of the villages in the selected firkas and their needs will be made by the Village and Firka Development Officers under the supervision of the Collectors concerned, to whom detailed instructions have been issued in the matter. This survey should be completed within a month. In the light of the information gathered, the needs of each village will be listed and arranged in order of urgency, and schemes will be drawn up to provide for these needs with or without financial assistance from the Government.

Khadi
Scheme.

" 14. As a fundamental and very important part of their comprehensive plan for the development of village economy, the Government have inaugurated a Khadi scheme with the co-operation of the All-India Spinners' Association. The Khadi scheme comprises two parts, the 'intensive' and the 'extensive'. The intensive part of the scheme, which aims at self-sufficiency in regard to cloth in terms of Khadi, will be confined at present to seven compact areas in which Khadi has already made substantial progress under the All-India Spinners' Association, and the work in these areas will be conducted on the direct responsibility of the Government. Of the seven areas, three are in Tamilnad, three in Andhra districts, and one on the West Coast. The 'extensive' part of the scheme will be applied in all the twenty-seven firkas selected for general rural reconstruction work. Free instruction in hand spinning and weaving together with the anterior processes will be provided in all educational institutions in these firkas. Basic education will be introduced in as many centres as possible and spinning and weaving schools for adults will also be organized. In consultation with the All-India Spinners' Association, the Government will also extend to institutions engaged in the development of Khadi in these firkas such assistance as it is in their power to give without committing themselves to additional expenditure (e.g., local manufacture of charkas and other Khadi implements and supply of wood and cotton against payment of full value, etc.). The 'extensive' part of the scheme has been so designed as to

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create a proper atmosphere for the extension of the 'intensive' part of the scheme to new areas in course of time. In the seven areas selected for 'intensive' Khadi work, the development of cottage industries and other items of work (to which I shall refer presently) included in the Government's village reconstruction plan will also be undertaken. Preparatory educational work on the same lines as in the 'extensive' areas will also be done. In order to work the 'intensive' part of the scheme effectively, the Government will take over the assets and liabilities of the All-India Spinners' Association in these seven areas. The scheme aims at securing in each of the 'intensive' areas the production of sufficient Khadi for supply to the entire population of the area at the rate of 20 yards per adult and 10 yards per child for each year. For each of the seven areas the Government will constitute a Centre Khadi Committee composed entirely of non-officials who are picked Khadi enthusiasts. In consultation with the Centre Khadi Committee, the Provincial Textile Commissioner will constitute for each village a Village Khadi Committee consisting of influential residents of the village. The 'intensive' scheme will be executed, under the instructions and guidance of the All-India Spinners' Association, by the Centre and Village Committees with the assistance of the Centre Khadi Officer and staff. The day-to-day administration of each centre will be conducted by the Centre Khadi Officer with the guidance of the local branch Secretaries of the All-India Spinners' Association, who will be Honorary Regional Khadi Officers. It is hoped that, by intensive propaganda, the Village and Centre Khadi Committees will succeed in realizing the objectives of the scheme, namely, that there should be at least as many charkas operating as there are families residing in the area, and that as far as possible the yarn spun in each village should be woven into cloth by weavers residing in that village. As an essential part of the scheme, arrangements will be made, with the assistance of the All-India Spinners' Association, for special courses of training in carding, slivering, spinning and weaving. As far as possible, the Government will give any assistance asked for by the local committees in regard to the supply of charkas and carding and slivering implements. The supply of these implements will be at cost price, but in the case of Harijans and other persons as to whose poverty the village committees satisfy the Centre Khadi Officers, the price will be recovered in not more than twelve monthly instalments. As an incentive to do their own carding, guts will be supplied to all spinners at one-third of the cost price. Every family will be encouraged to utilize the yarn spun by its members for the production of Khadi for its own use. All surplus yarn (i.e., yarn not utilized for weaving cloth for the family) will be purchased by Centre Khadi Officer or exchanged by the spinner for Khadi bought by him from the Centre Khadi Officer. All the yarn that thus comes into the hands of the Centre Khadi Officer will be got woven into cloth and made available for sale to families residing in the centre at prices to be fixed by the Provincial Textile Commissioner. A subsidy at a flat rate of four annas per square yard will be given to 'self-spinners' on the quantity of Khadi woven for the use of the spinner's family out of

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Famine relief.

" 19. At the time of framing the budget for 1946-7, it was anticipated that expenditure on famine relief to the extent of about Rs. 145 lakhs would be incurred in the current year. It was proposed to transfer a net sum of Rs. 39 lakhs from the Famine Relief Fund and to meet the balance of Rs. 106 lakhs from current revenues. Owing to a considerable improvement in seasonal conditions, the expenditure on famine relief measures in the current year is now estimated at only Rs. 19 lakhs. This amount will be met from current revenues and no drawal on the Famine Relief Fund is necessary.

Publicity Department.

" 20. As it is necessary to keep the public informed from time to time of the policies of the Government and to counteract the anti-Government propaganda in some districts, the Government have set up a new Department of Information and Publicity under a Director who is attached to the Chief Secretariat. The department publishes a fortnightly journal called 'Madras Information' explaining the activities of the various departments of the Government. It also attends to the issue of press notes, press communiques and pamphlets on food problems, rationing, labour disputes, prohibition, anti-corruption measures, etc.

Relief to Government servants including village establishments and pensioners.

" 21. In view of the great hardship caused by the high cost of living to low-paid Government servants and to pensioners drawing small pensions, the Government have sanctioned certain special measures of relief, namely:—

(a) 'interim relief' by way of temporary addition to pay with effect from the 1st August 1946 for Government servants drawing pay up to Rs. 200 a month, pending revision of the scales of pay,

(b) a lump-sum payment of one month's pay to all non-gazetted Government servants, work-charged establishments and menials paid from contingencies, subject to a minimum of Rs. 20 and a maximum of Rs. 150 per individual,

(c) further increase in the pay of all village establishments by Rs. 3 a month per head from the 1st August 1946, and

(d) further increase in small pensions, as a temporary measure, in respect of persons drawing pensions not exceeding Rs. 100 per month.

Subsequently, the Government have also sanctioned revised scales of pay and house rent allowance to Government servants of certain classes with effect from the 1st January 1947.

" Grants have also been sanctioned to enable local bodies and private managements to enhance the scales of pay of teachers in the schools under their control.

" The extra expenditure in the current year on account of the measures mentioned in this paragraph is estimated roughly at Rs. 114½ lakhs.

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" 22. Turning now to the figures of estimated revenue and expenditure to be met from current revenues in 1946-7, the position is as follows:—

	Budget Estimate, 1946-7.	Revised Estimate, 1946-7.	Variation Increase (+) or Decrease (—)
	RS.	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Revenue—			
Normal	48,48.92	51,71.52	+3,22.60
Transfer from the Revenue Reserve Fund	8,94.00	8,26.00	— 68.00
Total ..	57,42.92	59,97.52	+2,54.60
Expenditure on revenue account excluding expenditure on post-war development schemes and net outlay on State Trading Schemes	42,70.98	47,04.55	+4,33.57
Expenditure on post-war development schemes	7,82.60	3,91.22	— 3,91.38
Net outlay on State Trading Schemes ..	6,89.19	9,01.36	+2,12.17
Total ..	57,42.77	59,97.13	+2,54.36
Surplus ..	15	39	+ 24

" I need not trouble the House with details of the revenue and expenditure shown under the various heads in the Revenue Account, but will mention briefly the main reasons for the more important variations from the budget figures for the current year.

" Under Excise Revenue an increase of about Rs. 59 lakhs is anticipated mainly on account of larger receipts from tree tax and rentals of toddy shops in districts where Prohibition has not been introduced. The receipts under Stamps show an improvement of Rs. 94 lakhs, including about Rs. 88 lakhs under Non-Judicial Stamps as a result of larger business transactions and Rs. 6 lakhs under Court-fees. Under Forest, there is an increase of Rs. 54 lakhs on account of the sale of larger quantities of sandalwood, timber and other forest produce at higher prices than were anticipated. A large increase of about Rs. 122 lakhs is also anticipated under Other Taxes and Duties as a result of the increased turnover of assesseees to the General Sales Tax and improvement in the administration of the tax. Against the increases mentioned above, a decrease of about Rs. 79 lakhs is anticipated under Income-tax on the basis of the estimate received from the Government of India in December 1946. According to a subsequent estimate received from the Government of India in February 1947, an improvement of about Rs. 41 lakhs is expected under this head as compared with the previous estimate, but it was too late to alter our budget at that stage.

" As regards expenditure on Revenue Account, there is a large increase of Rs. 193 lakhs under General Administration on account of the grant of subsidies to ryots for sinking wells in pursuance of the Grow-More-Food campaign to which I have already referred, the revision of the pay of village establishments, the constitution

Revised Estimate 1946-7, Summary of total figures.

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of the Food Department as a new Department of the Secretariat, the employment of staff for rural recreation work in Prohibition districts, and the constitution of a new Publicity Department attached to the Chief Secretariat. Under Police, the reorganization of the District Armed Reserves, the Presidency General Reserve and the Special Emergency Forces, larger expenditure on clothing, arms and equipment mainly on account of the reorganization mentioned above and payment for military lorries and A.R.P. stores taken over by the Police Department, cause an increase of about Rs. 35 lakhs. There is an increase of Rs. 212 lakhs in the net outlay on State Trading Schemes, which is met from current revenues. This is due to the food crisis in the Province, which has necessitated the import of larger quantities of foodgrains from other parts of India and from overseas and consequently increased expenditure in subsidizing the sale of the imported foodgrains at reasonable prices. Against the above increases, there are large decreases in the expenditure under Civil Works (Rs. 110 lakhs) and Capital outlay on industrial development met from current revenues (Rs. 34 lakhs). One reason for these decreases is the Government's decision to transfer the expenditure on certain building schemes and on schemes of industrial development from the Revenue to the Capital section of the accounts. Under the rules framed by the Auditor-General of India, Capital outlay on a scheme that is not fully productive can be financed from non-revenue resources, if its cost exceeds Rs. 5 lakhs. In view of the large deficit anticipated in the current year due mainly to the heavy expenditure on food subsidies that had to be incurred in order to avert a famine, the Government decided to transfer from the Revenue Account to the Capital Section a sum of about Rs. 13 lakhs representing the provision in the current year for an unproductive irrigation work and for seven building schemes, each with a total estimated cost of over Rs. 5 lakhs, and another sum of about Rs. 28 lakhs representing the provision for investment in the shares of the fertilizer factory to be established by the Central Government at Sindri in Bihar (Rs. 25 lakhs) and for Capital expenditure on the hydrogenation factory at Calicut (Rs. 3 lakhs). Other important factors that contribute to the decrease under Civil Works are lapses anticipated in the provision for buildings owing to delay in the preparation of detailed plans and estimates and in land acquisition and lapses in the provision for the purchase of new tools and plant such as concrete mixers, road rollers, etc., by the Highways Department. The decrease under Capital outlay on industrial development met from the current revenues is also partly due to the fact that the budget provision for the working expenses of the hydrogenation factory at Calicut cannot be utilized as the factory has not yet begun to function, owing to delay in obtaining the necessary plant and machinery.

Revenue deficit and drawal from the Revenue Reserve Fund.

" 23. The net result of the variations under all heads in the Revenue Account is that the revised estimate for the current year anticipates that the revenue deficit will be reduced from Rs. 391 lakhs to Rs. 826 lakhs. The amount to be drawn from the Revenue Reserve Fund to cover the deficit will be correspondingly reduced.

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" 24. I shall not weary the House with a detailed analysis of the figures under Capital and Debt heads, but shall give only a broad explanation of the changes in the revised estimate as compared with the budget estimate for the current year. Capital outlay is expected to fall short of the budget provision by about Rs. 92 lakhs. A decrease in the outlay on the Tungabhadra Project is due to difficulty in getting tools and plant and other materials, to the longer time required for land acquisition and to the credit taken for a grant from the Government of India towards the wholly unproductive portion of the outlay on the project. Decreases are also anticipated in the outlay on certain Electricity Schemes. On the other hand, Rs. 3.99 lakhs has been newly provided in the revised estimate for the purchase of the motor vehicles required for starting a Government Bus Service in Madras City. The variations under Loans and Advances are small. Under the other Debt and Deposit heads, there is a decrease of Rs. 85.19 lakhs in the net receipts due to larger investments in Central treasury bills, partly offset by the proceeds of the new loan of Rs. 4,09.30 lakhs raised in the open market in September last, larger credits under Civil Deposits and smaller withdrawals from the fund for village reconstruction and Harijan uplift.

Capital and Debt heads. 1946-7.

Madras City Bus Service.

" 25. The year 1946-7 is expected to close with a balance of Rs. 55.73 lakhs in cash, Rs. 21,88.48 lakhs in securities held in the Cash Balance Investment Account, and Rs. 23,31.35 lakhs in securities held in the Revenue Reserve Fund. In addition to the above balances, the Government will also hold on the 31st March 1947 earmarked securities purchased for Rs. 4,09.76 lakhs in the Sinking Fund Investment Account, the Famine Relief Fund and the Electricity Depreciation and Special Reserve Funds.

Closing balance, 1946-7.

" 26. Before giving the figures for the estimated revenue and expenditure of the coming year, I shall explain some important special features of the budget.

Budget Estimates, 1947-8—Revenue Account.

" 27. The budget takes credit for an additional revenue of Rs. 1 crore from the proposed levy of a tax on agricultural income. In view of the heavy loss of revenue from the introduction of prohibition and the large expenditure to be incurred on post-war development schemes, grow-more-food projects and other important nation-building schemes, the Government consider it essential to augment the Provincial Revenues by additional taxation. They therefore propose to levy a tax on agricultural incomes, and will bring the necessary Legislation before the House during the course of the year. The rates of tax proposed are low and only individuals, etc., with a net annual income of over Rs. 5,000 each will be assessed to the tax. Adequate provision will be made for deduction of essential items of expenditure from the gross income in arriving at the net income to be taxed. The Government have also under consideration the question of fixing uniform and moderate rates of land revenue assessment. A Special Officer has been

New tax—measures—Agricultural Income-tax.

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appointed to investigate the land tenure systems in the Province and make proposals for land revenue reform, and his report is awaited.

Motor Spirit Tax.

" 28. The rates of tax under the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act have been raised with effect from the 1st February 1947 from one anna six pies to four annas per gallon in the case of petrol and from six pies to one anna six pies per gallon in the case of motor spirit other than petrol. Credit has been taken in the budget for an additional revenue of about Rs. 35 lakhs next year from this measure.

Entertainments Tax.

" 29. A proposal to fix the rates of tax under the Madras Entertainments Tax Act, 1939, at one-third of the cost of each ticket (in lieu of the varying rates now in force) is under consideration. The net proceeds of the tax, after deducting ten per cent for credit to the Government towards the cost of collection, will be paid to the local bodies in whose jurisdiction the tax is collected. The Board of Revenue has estimated the total proceeds from the proposed increase in the tax at about Rs. 42 lakhs a year. Out of this only about Rs. 4 lakhs will be credited to the Government towards collection charges. No credit is taken in the budget for this additional revenue, as the estimate was not available in time.

Betting Tax.

" 30. The Government propose to abolish the betting on horse races hitherto permitted in the race course enclosures at Madras and Ootacamund. On the assumption that this measure will be brought into force from the 1st April 1947, no credit is taken in the budget for revenue from the betting tax. The revenue to be foregone in 1947-8 under this proposal is estimated at Rs. 18.47 lakhs.

Prohibition.

" 31. Prohibition has already been introduced in eight districts and in the firkas selected for intensive rural development work, and the Budget for 1947-8 allows for a full year's loss of revenue on this account (Rs. 581 lakhs). The Budget also allows for a half year's loss of revenue (Rs. 168 lakhs) due to the decision of the Government to extend Prohibition to six more districts, namely, Guntur, Nellore, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura and the Nilgiris, from the 1st October 1947. After the Budget estimates were fixed, the Government decided to extend prohibition also to two more districts, Malabar and South Kanara, from the 1st October 1947. The further loss of revenue for a half-year in 1947-8 on account of this decision is Rs. 58 lakhs. When this decision was reached, it was too late to alter the Budget figures and documents in accordance with it. The loss of revenue in a full year on account of the extension of prohibition to eight further districts from the 1st October 1947 will be Rs. 452 lakhs.

Grow-More-Food Campaign.

" 32. The Central Government have decided to continue their scheme of grants to the Provinces towards the expenditure on grow-more food measures for a further period of five years from 1947-8 and they propose to fix a target for the additional quantity of food-grains to be produced by each Province during the five-year period. The target for this Province is expected to be the production of an additional 6.5 lakhs annual tons by the end of the five-year

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period. The Director of Agriculture has prepared a plan with reference to this target, involving an estimated cost of Rs. 7.85 crores spread over the next five years, which includes an expenditure in 1947-8 estimated at 1.16 crores. Some of the measures contemplated in the plan are greater use of artificial manures to increase the size of crops, improvements to irrigation sources, assisting cultivators with tractors and other agricultural machinery, increasing facilities for lifting water by animal and machine power and measures to control erosion. These measures are proposed in addition to the existing schemes, including the purchase and sale of manures, seeds and iron and steel with the aid of the permanent advance placed at the disposal of the Director of Agriculture. As the Government have not yet passed final orders on the plan submitted by the Director of Agriculture, provision has not been made for it in the next year's budget. Provision has however been made for the continuance of the existing Grow More Food schemes on the lines already in force.

" The Government have decided to continue the grant of subsidies to ryots for sinking irrigation wells and have prepared a modified scheme for the purpose to take effect in 1947-8. The amount of subsidy will be 50 per cent of the cost of the well, subject to a maximum of Rs. 500 per well in the Ceded districts and Rs. 300 per well in other districts. The aid will be given in the first instance as a loan, and it will be treated as a subsidy only on satisfactory completion of the well. The scheme will apply to all districts except the Nilgiris. The expenditure on the scheme in 1947-8 is estimated at Rs. 150 lakhs. Half of this has to be borne by this Government and the remaining half will be met from a Central grant. A net provision of Rs. 75 lakhs has been made in the Budget for this purpose.

" 33. From 1947-8, the Government of India will make a 'block' grant to each Provincial Government towards their expenditure on post-war development schemes. The total expenditure on post-war development schemes included in this Government's Budget for 1947-8 amounts to about Rs. 12.95 lakhs of which Rs. 7.21 lakhs is debitable to the Revenue Account. The Government of India have not yet finally decided the basis on which these block grants will be allocated to the Provinces. They deputed certain officers to visit Australia and study the system of federal grants to the States in that country and they intend to make final decisions in the matter after examining the report of these officers. Meanwhile, they have intimated that the amount that they propose to provide in the Central Budget for 1947-8 for grants to Madras for post-war development schemes, including grants for grow-more-food schemes, is Rs. 6.25 crores. As the terms and conditions attached to the grant and the amount intended for grants for grow-more-food schemes were not known at the time of fixing this Government's Budget, credit has been taken in the Budget for 1947-8 for Central grants equivalent to roughly 50 per cent of the estimated expenditure in 1947-8 on wholly unproductive schemes and 50 per cent of the unproductive portion of the outlay on partially productive schemes. It is anticipated

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that the total amount eventually received by way of Central grant for 1947-8 will not be appreciably different from the amount for which credit has been taken in the Budget.

" On making a rough financial forecast covering the next five years, the Government find that they are not likely to have any appreciable revenue resources of their own for use towards the expenditure on post-war development schemes and that the bulk of this expenditure will have to be met from the Central grants and from borrowings in the open market or from the Central Government. They are therefore considering the question of curtailing the five-year plan of post-war development previously drawn up.

Village Reconstruction and Harijan uplift.

" 34. I have already explained, in dealing with the revised estimate for 1946-7, the scope of the schemes to be financed from the fund for village reconstruction and Harijan uplift. Deducting the estimated expenditure of Rs. 60 lakhs in the current year, the balance in the fund available for expenditure next year will be about Rs. 340 lakhs. The amount to be drawn from the fund in 1947-8 will be fixed with reference to the progress of expenditure on the schemes in 1947-8. Any amount left undrawn in the fund at the end of 1947-8 will be available for expenditure in the subsequent year or years.

State Trading Schemes relating to foodgrains and other commodities.

" 35. Owing to the favourable seasonal conditions in the current year, the Government anticipate that the food situation will improve considerably and that an appreciable reduction may be possible in the imports of foodgrains from outside the Province. The budget estimate allows for a reduction in the anticipated net outlay in 1947-8 on wheat and wheat products by about Rs. 148 lakhs as compared with the revised estimate for 1946-7. Some further reduction in the net outlay on foodgrains and on firewood below the figures shown in the Budget may be found feasible next year. Final decisions have not yet been reached in these matters. The general questions of reducing the net outlay on State Trading Schemes relating to foodgrains and firewood by reducing the quantities to be imported or raising the prices, and of retrenchment in the staff for the procurement, rationing and price control of foodgrains and other commodities will be considered by the Reorganization Committee before the Government make their final decision on these matters.

" I may mention in this connexion that a milk-reconstituting plant has been installed at Saidapet at a cost of about Rs. 2.81 lakhs with a view to improving the supply of milk in Madras City, where it is at present very unsatisfactory. The plant is designed to produce about 2,500 measures daily of reconstituted milk, which is held to have the same nutritional value as fresh milk. After the requirements of Government institutions in Madras City have been met, the reconstituted milk will be sold to the public at 12 annas per measure on the basis of the actual cost of production.

Education.

" 36. Provision has been made in the budget estimate for 1947-8 for extending the scheme of compulsory primary education to some more villages in each district, so as to bring an additional one and a half lakhs of children under instruction. The

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estimated expenditure on the extension of the scheme in 1947-8 is Rs. 13½ lakhs. A sum of over Rs. 5 lakhs has been provided for training additional teachers required in connexion with the scheme for extension of compulsory primary education. Provision has also been made for a scheme for the establishment of Central libraries in the firkas selected for intensive rural reconstruction work with branch libraries in each of the villages at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.15 lakhs. The Budget also provides Rs. 34 lakhs for grants to local bodies and Rs. 103 lakhs for grants to private managements to enable them to pay dearness and cost of living allowances to teachers in primary schools. A further sum of Rs. 10 lakhs has been provided for grants to managements of private secondary and special schools and colleges to assist them in paying dearness and cost of living allowances at Government rates. Besides, additional provision has been made for special grants to local bodies for the revision of the pay of teachers in their primary schools and secondary schools (Rs. 15.40 lakhs) and to the managements of aided elementary schools for the revision of the pay of teachers in those schools (Rs. 25.60 lakhs). The Budget includes Rs. 14 lakhs on account of the increase in the rate of assessment of teaching grants to non-Government primary schools by Rs. 2 per month per teacher which was sanctioned during the current year. Provision has also been made for the study of language subjects under Part III of the B.A. course in the Government Arts Colleges at Rajahmundry, Anantapur, Kumbakonam and Palghat. Rupees 6 lakhs has been provided for the construction of a new building for the Government Arts College at Rajahmundry, and Rs. 75 lakh for additional buildings for the Government Arts College at Palghat.

" 37. Some important schemes relating to the Medical and Medical Public Health Departments included in the five-year plan of post-war development, such as the opening of medical and public health centres in villages and the reconstruction of and improvements to district and taluk headquarters hospitals, have not yet been formulated in a final form. The Budget provides for the conversion of the existing School of Indian Medicine into a College of Indian Medicine and for opening a research institute for Indian medicine in Madras. Other important new schemes of the Medical Department included in the Budget are the reorganization of the Barnard Institute of Radiology and the Skin department and the opening of a department of Pediatrics in the General Hospital, Madras, the reconstruction of the Queen Alexandra Hospital at Salem, the employment of additional teaching staff in the Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam, and additional nursing staff in certain medical institutions and the purchase of refrigerators for certain Government hospitals.

" 38. A comprehensive plan has been prepared covering water-supply and drainage schemes for the whole Province, and the schemes will be taken up in the order of urgency. The Budget includes provision for grants for water-supply schemes for Siruguppa (Bellary district), Arantangi (Tanjore district) and Tiruvallur

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(Chingleput district) and for the construction of an infiltration gallery and allied works for the improvement of the water-supply system of the Madura Municipality. As soon as the Military authorities release the water-works installations at Vizagapatam, action will be taken with a view to acquiring them for the Vizagapatam Municipality, the Government bearing half the cost and the municipality the other half. The Budget also includes provision for certain anti-malarial measures in Coimbatore, Malabar and Bellary districts and for the enhancement of the scale of grants of local bodies for the maintenance of maternity and child-welfare centres.

Irrigation.

" 39. The only big irrigation project now under execution is the Tungabhadra Project. The Government anticipate that Rs. 143 lakhs will be spent on the project in 1947-8 and after allowing for a credit of about Rs. 28 lakhs as grant from the Government of India, a net provision of Rs. 115 lakhs has been made in the Budget. The Budget provides about Rs. 15 lakhs for expenditure on irrigation works intended to effect an early increase in food production (including new works). Provision has also been made for drainage improvement works in the Kistna and Cauvery Deltas (Rs. 26.50 lakhs). A sum of Rs. 28 lakhs has been provided for a new project, namely, the Lower Bhavani Project. Though detailed estimates have not yet been prepared for this project and the revenue aspects of the project have not yet been examined, the Government have decided to include provision for it in the Budget, as the scheme has been under consideration for a long time and will benefit an area which badly needs irrigation facilities. The amount provided in the Budget will be treated as provisional and the execution of the project will not be started until the detailed estimates of cost and of additional revenue from the project have been examined by the Government and decisions reached. The Budget also provides for the continuance of the investigation of the Ramapadasagar Project. Expenditure will be incurred on surveying and levelling operations and on certain experiments suggested by Dr. Terzaghi, an American Engineer, who is one of the members of the Board of Consulting Engineers constituted to advise on the project.

Road works.

" 40. The original programme of road works under the post-war development scheme was estimated to cost about Rs. 28 crores over the five-year period. This has since been reduced to about Rs. 12 crores, including Rs. 2½ crores for National Highways. It is anticipated that the cost of the National Highways will be met in full by the Central Government. In that case the expenditure to be met from Provincial revenues under this scheme will be Rs. 9½ crores spread over a period of five years from 1947-8. A total provision of about Rs. 150 lakhs has been made in the Budget for 1947-8 for expenditure on the post-war development plan for roads, of which a sum of about Rs. 101 lakhs is intended for original works and the balance of about Rs. 49 lakhs for maintenance in order to restore to normal condition roads that deteriorated during the war period due to inadequate expenditure on repairs on account of scarcity of materials or other causes. Of the provision

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of Rs. 101 lakhs for original works under the post-war development plan, a sum of Rs. 8 lakhs is intended for works in progress and Rs. 93 lakhs for new works (Rs. 39 lakhs for National Highways and Rs. 54 lakhs for Provincial Highways and major district roads). For expenditure not connected with the post-war development plan, a provision of Rs. 35 lakhs has been made for original works in progress, and another provision of about Rs. 2 crores for maintenance of roads including those taken over by the Government from local bodies. The Budget provision for expenditure not connected with post-war development plan includes Rs. 47 lakhs (Rs. 4 lakhs for original works in progress and Rs. 43 lakhs for maintenance and repairs) for expenditure on National Highways. It has not been possible to take credit for the special Central grant likely to be received towards the expenditure on National Highways, as the Government of India have not yet passed final orders on the National Highways Scheme. As a new Highways Department has been constituted, the Government hope that good progress will be made next year with the road works provided for in the Budget. Thus the total provision in the Budget for direct expenditure by the Government on the roads of the Province is the large amount of Rs. 385 lakhs. In addition to the amounts already mentioned, the Budget provides Rs. 18 lakhs for grants to local bodies for new road works included in the post-war development programme and Rs. 10.53 lakhs for other grants to local bodies for road works.

" 41. The Government have sanctioned schemes for settling ex-service men in land colonies and for the formation of Labour Contract Societies of ex-service men on a co-operative basis, and also for starting co-operative workshops to be staffed by ex-service men. Forty-three land colonization schemes are under consideration, and co-operative societies have so far been formed for running twelve of them. The Central Government have agreed to bear a third of the cost of the schemes, subject to a maximum of Rs. 500 per colonist. This Government have fixed a maximum limit of Rs. 1,900 per colonist for the total cost including housing, provision of irrigation facilities, agricultural implements, etc., and this Government's share of the cost will be subject to a maximum of Rs. 200 per colonist for the cost of reclamation of land and Rs. 300 per colonist for provision of irrigation facilities. Ten Labour Contract Societies have been sanctioned and nine of these have already been established. The intention is to entrust these societies with the execution of Government works relating to buildings, irrigation and roads. The three societies in Madras City have been entrusted with the construction of three large building works. The opening of seventeen co-operative workshops has been sanctioned. They are to produce metal wares, furniture and other woodwork, bricks and tiles, etc. Twelve factories have already been organized and registered under the Co-operative Societies Act and the remaining five factories are expected to start work before the end of the current year. The capital outlay on these workshops is subject to a maximum of Rs. 800 per ex-service man and

Schemes for the benefit of ex-service men.

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the necessary funds will be found from Provincial revenues, contributions from the Post-war Services Reconstruction Fund and share capital subscribed by the members of the co-operative societies concerned. A total provision of Rs. 27.23 lakhs has been made in the Budget for the various schemes for the benefit of ex-service men, of which Rs. 25 lakhs represents capital outlay on the co-operative workshops.

Industrial Finance Corporation.

" 42. There has been a long-felt need in this Province for an Industrial Finance Corporation to make medium and long-term loans to industries. The management and control of a number of industrial concerns in this Province were taken over in the pre-war period by large companies with headquarters outside the Province and this was no doubt due, at least in part, to the absence of an Industrial Finance Corporation in the Province. The Government propose to start an Industrial Finance Corporation with a capital of Rs. 1 crore. The intention is that 51 per cent of the capital shall be subscribed by the Government, so that they may have the final power of control in the organization, and that the balance shall be raised from banks, insurance companies, investment corporations and big co-operative institutions. The question whether the Corporation should be a Joint Stock Company registered under the Indian Companies Act or whether it should be set up by special legislation as in the case of the Industrial Finance Corporation to be established by the Central Government is still under consideration. Various details relating to the working of the Corporation have also not yet been finally settled. The Government hope to reach final decisions on these matters soon and to take steps to set up the Corporation. The Budget provides Rs. 51 lakhs for the Government's subscription towards the share capital of the institution.

Nationalization of basic industries.

" 43. The Government are considering the question of nationalizing certain basic industries such as the cement industry and the soda ash industry. Final decisions have not yet been reached as to the industries that will be nationalized and the agency that will be employed to work them. The question whether the Government will take over the existing concerns in the industries to be nationalized has also not yet been decided. A proposal is under consideration for the establishment of an entirely State-owned Industrial Corporation for organizing and running the nationalized industries, but the matter requires further examination. Pending final decisions on these matters, a provision of Rs. 50 lakhs is included in the Budget for 1947-8 for the capital outlay likely to be required under this head.

Nationalization of motor bus transport.

" 44. A Sub-Committee of the Cabinet is examining the question of nationalizing motor bus transport. As a beginning, the Government have sanctioned the running of a Government Bus Service in Madras City with thirty buses to start with. The Budget provides Rs. 6.16 lakhs for the working expenses of this service. The receipts from it are estimated at Rs. 8.39 lakhs, which will more than cover the working expenses.

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" The question whether lorry transport should be nationalized is also under consideration.

" 45. Though the Government have arrived at decisions on the main principles of the scheme for the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive, the detailed scheme is not yet ready for sanction. Provision has, therefore, not been made for the scheme in the Budget Estimate for 1947-8, but the Government hope to be able to sanction the scheme soon and intend to propose provision for it in 1947-8 by means of a supplementary grant.

" 46. The Madras City Improvement Trust was constituted in October 1946. A Chairman has been appointed, and the Trust has begun to function. The Government hope that it will soon be able to formulate schemes for slum clearance, etc., in order to improve the health of the City generally.

" 47. Coming now to the figures for the estimated Revenue and Expenditure on Revenue Account in 1947-8, the position is as follows :—

	Revised Estimate, 1946-7.	Budget Estimate, 1947-8.	Variation, Increase (+) or decrease (—).	Budget Estimates, 1947-8 Summary total figure
	RS.	RS.	RS.	
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	
Revenue—				
Normal	51,71.52	48,24.38	— 3,47.14	
Transfer from the Revenue Reserve Fund.	8,26.00	1,49.00	— 6,77.00	
Total — Revenue	59,97.52	49,73.38	— 10,24.14	
Expenditure on Revenue Account—				
(1) Excluding expenditure on post-war development schemes and net outlay on State Trading Schemes.	47,04.55	36,44.99	— 10,59.56	
(2) Expenditure on post-war development schemes.	3,91.22	7,20.75	+ 3,29.53	
(3) Net outlay on State Trading Schemes.	9,01.36	6,07.07	— 2,94.29	
Total — Expenditure on Revenue account.	59,97.13	49,72.81	— 10,24.32	
Surplus	33	57	+ 24	

" I have explained already the important features of the coming year's Budget and it is not necessary now to give detailed explanations of the figures. I shall, however, mention briefly the reasons for the more important variations in Revenue and Expenditure between the Revised Estimate for 1946-7 and the Budget Estimate for 1947-8.

" Taking Revenue first, decreases occur mainly under Excise due to the extension of Prohibition, under Forest on account of the smaller quantities of timber, sandalwood and other forest produce expected to be sold and an anticipated fall in the price of sandalwood, under Interest due to the absence of the special credit for the premium on the loan floated in September 1946 and

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to the investment of smaller amounts from the cash balance, and under Extraordinary Receipts owing to the fact that the Central grant towards expenditure on Revenue Account on post-war development schemes for which credit is taken in 1947-8 is less than the corresponding credit taken in the revised estimate for 1946-7 (which includes the Central grant towards expenditure in 1945-6). On the other hand, a large increase is expected under 'Income-tax' on account of the proposed tax on agricultural income. Further, a larger assignment to Madras from the Central income-tax receipts is expected in 1947-8 than in 1946-7.

"Turning now to Expenditure, decreases occur under Irrigation due to smaller provision for expenditure on the investigation of the Ramapadasagar Project and on certain other minor schemes, for flood repairs and for works undertaken with a view to early increase in food production, under General Administration due to smaller expenditure on well subsidies and on printing electoral rolls and to the abolition of the schools for training village officers and presidents of panchayat boards, under Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt due to the absence of the special provision made in the revised estimate for 1946-7 for the repayment of loans given by the Government of India in connection with the Grow-More-Food campaign, under Public Health due to the absence of the provision included in the revised estimate for 1946-7 for the purchase of special drugs and medical equipment to prevent epidemic diseases likely to be caused by food scarcity, under Agriculture due to the absence of the expenditure incurred in the current year on the purchase of tractors and other agricultural machinery from Army Surplus Stores and on bonus to ryots for cultivation of short-term cereal crops, and under Miscellaneous due to the fact that no amount is to be contributed in 1947-8 to the Fund for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift. There is also a decrease under Extraordinary charges due to reduction in the net outlay on Grain Supply Schemes as a result of the improvement in seasonal conditions, to the absence of provision for the scheme for the free-distribution of milk to school children and other privileged consumers in the mufassal, and to the absence of provision for payment of bonus and rewards to village munsifs and karnams in connection with the schemes for the intensive procurement of foodgrains. Increases in expenditure occur mainly under Education and Civil Works. The increase under Education is due partly to a full year's provision for the new schemes sanctioned in the course of the current year and partly to larger provision for grants to local bodies in connection with the further extension of the scheme for compulsory primary education and for training additional teachers for the purpose of the scheme. The increase under Civil Works is due to larger provision for buildings and roads. The budget includes increased provision for new road works under the post-war development programme and also for the maintenance of roads.

"48. In explaining the salient features of the next year's budget, I have already mentioned the more important of the new

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schemes for which provision has been made in the budget, including those relating to the Education, Medical and Public Health Departments and to industrial development. Other new schemes for which provision is made in the budget include those for metalling certain forest roads in Malabar and Salem districts, for the revival of the Working Plans Circle in the Forest Department, for opening nine new sub-registry offices, for the appointment of Additional Subordinate Judges and District Munsifs temporarily for clearing off arrears of work, for the construction of a combined court-house for the Subordinate Judge and the District Munsif at Coimbatore, for the appointment of an Additional Presidency Magistrate in Madras City owing to the extension of the City limits, for opening dairies in certain central jails, for appointing nursing orderlies in the hospitals attached to jails and Borstal Schools, for the formation of six additional rear smoke squads in the Police department, for the purchase of more male breeding-stock for improvement of cattle, for the opening of a combined sheep and cattle farm in Bellary district, for the production of more fish, for the appointment of four additional Labour Officers to attend to labour disputes, for opening new Labour schools and for giving additional scholarships and boarding grants to students of the communities eligible for help by the Labour Department."

"49. The figures given above show that the Revenue Account is expected to close with a deficit of Rs. 149 lakhs in 1947-8. This will be met by drawal from the Revenue Reserve Fund. I may mention here that the provision for certain building schemes costing over Rs. 5 lakhs each (Rs. 47.19 lakhs) and for capital outlay on the Hydrogenation Factory at Calicut (Rs. 8.84 lakhs) has been made in the capital section, as in the revised estimate for 1946-7. But for this, the deficit would have been about Rs. 205 lakhs."

"50. The total provision for capital expenditure outside the Revenue Account (excluding the net outlay on State Trading Schemes and the expenditure on commutation of pensions, which will be met from current revenues) is Rs. 898 lakhs in the Budget for 1947-8 against Rs. 338 lakhs in the revised estimate for 1946-7. There is thus a total increase of Rs. 560 lakhs. Of this, Rs. 274 lakhs is due to large provision for Electricity Schemes such as the Mettur, Moyar and Machkund Hydro-electric Schemes. Rs. 101 lakhs is provided for the purchase of shares in the Industrial Finance Corporation proposed to be established and for capital outlay in connexion with the nationalization of basic industries, as already explained. Larger expenditure is also anticipated under Irrigation and Civil Works. The increase under Irrigation is due to provision for certain new works already mentioned and to larger provision for the Tungabhadra Project and the Romperu drain, while the increase under Civil Works is due to larger expenditure on certain new building schemes sanctioned in the current year and provision for two new schemes, namely, the construction of huts for the Armed Reserve Police in Ramnad and Madura North districts and the construction of new buildings for the Government Arts College, Rajahmundry."

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Purchase of
the Madras
Electric
Supply
Corporation.

" 51. The Government have decided to take over the Madras Electric Supply Corporation in August 1947. The amount to be paid to the Corporation for the undertaking has not yet been settled. A token provision of Rs. 100 has therefore been made for the purpose in the budget. After the amount to be paid has been settled, a supplementary grant will be obtained."

Loans and
Advances by
the Provincial
Government.

" 52. Under Loans and Advances the budget estimate takes credit for recoveries amounting to Rs. 116.07 lakhs and provides Rs. 188.51 lakhs for disbursements of loans and advances including Rs. 40 lakhs for short-term loans to the Madras Co-operative Central Land Mortgage Bank. The amount included for new loans to local bodies is Rs. 34.22 lakhs, which includes Rs. 27.32 lakhs for loans to the Madras Corporation for construction of roads, storm-water drains, etc."

Other Debt
and Deposit
heads.

" 53. The net receipts in the budget under Debt, Deposit, Advance and Remittance heads (other than Loans and Advances by the Provincial Government) are greater than those in the revised estimate for 1946-7 by Rs. 777.41 lakhs. This increase is the net effect mainly of smaller withdrawals from the Revenue Reserve Fund for investment and transfer to the Revenue Account, partly offset by larger outgoing from the Fund for Village Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift and the absence of credit for new loans to be raised in 1947-8."

New open
market loan,
1947.

" 54. The Government contemplate raising a loan in the open market next year to finance Capital outlay and new loans and advances. The Government of India have promised to help Provincial Governments by giving loans to assist them in financing post-war development schemes the expenditure on which can be met from non-revenue resources. The Government propose to take a loan from the Central Government in addition to any loan that may be raised in the open market. The total net disbursement under Capital and Debt heads in 1947-8 is estimated roughly at about Rs. 10 crores, excluding the amount that will be required for the purchase of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. The Government will decide in due course what amount will be raised by way of loan in the open market and what amount will be borrowed from the Central Government. The terms to be offered for the open market loan will also be settled in due course in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and the Central Government. Following the usual practice, no credit is taken in the budget for the proceeds of any new loans."

Closing
Balance,
1947-8.

" 55. After taking into account the opening cash balance of Rs. 55.73 lakhs and the estimated debits and credits under all heads, the year 1947-8 is expected to close with a balance of Rs. 54.87 lakhs in cash and Rs. 1,308.48 lakhs in securities in the Cash Balance Investment Account and Rs. 2,231.35 lakhs in securities in the Revenue Reserve Fund. It is anticipated that the Government will also hold on the 31st March 1948 earmarked securities purchased for Rs. 436.51 lakhs in the Sinking Fund Investment Account, the Famine Relief Fund and Electricity Depreciation Reserve and Special Reserve Funds."

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" 56. Owing to the large expenditure on subsidising the sale of food-grains and to the introduction of Prohibition and other ameliorative measures such as village reconstruction and Harijan uplift, the extension of compulsory primary education, etc., deficits on Revenue Account are anticipated in the current year and the budget year. These deficits have to be met by drawing on the Revenue Reserve Fund. The balance at the credit of this Fund on the 1st April 1948 is expected to be Rs. 22.31 crores. I am sure that the House will agree that it will not be wise to allow revenue deficits to recur regularly in subsequent years and rely merely on meeting them from the balance in the Revenue Reserve Fund, as that would result in a very difficult and unsatisfactory position as soon as that limited balance had been exhausted. Efforts will be made to augment the Provincial revenues by additional taxation and by other means. The Government hope also to effect some economy in expenditure as a result of the labours of the Reorganization Committee. So far, there has been no fall in the levels of prices and employment resulting in reduction in revenue. In the absence of any serious economic depression or any serious natural calamity such as famine or floods, we may reasonably hope that we shall be able to make progress towards balancing the budget in future years. No one regrets more than myself that there are many crying needs for which it has not been possible to provide adequate funds in this budget, for example, provision of medical and public health relief in villages, but I must impress on the House that it is necessary to regulate our expenditure with reference to our revenue if we are to maintain our financial credit unimpaired. I should like to quote at this point an observation by a French economist: "There are some sciences," he says, "so lofty and serene that they leave in peace those who are not concerned with them, but Finance is not one of those; it has a way of taking a terrible revenge upon nations and individuals who neglect or despise it." I submit that it is essential to regulate our progress with our ameliorative schemes according to our financial position and the resources available, and not land ourselves in a financial morass by attempting to press on too hurriedly with them before we have built up the necessary resources."

" I must not omit to thank the Finance Secretary, Dr. Dodwell, and his staff for the labour they have taken in preparing this budget so carefully and promptly."

" With these words, Sir, I commend to the acceptance of the House, the revised estimate for 1946-7 and the budget estimates for 1947-8."

III.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Before I adjourn the House, may I know from the Government what their plan is with regard to piloting the Public Order Bill through both the Houses?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I am unable to say what our plans are straightway regarding the Public Order Bill. The other House is going to sit again at 5-30 for the introduction of the Bill and proceed day after day with it."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"How long are you likely to take in the other House to finish this business."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Our original estimate was four or five days. We thought that on the sixth this House may sit for the Public Order Bill and still I am of the same opinion."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I will draw the attention of the Hon. Premier to the fact, that he will have to get the Bill passed in both the Houses by about the 8th. I would like at least some notice to hon. members, after the Bill has been passed in the other House. I would like to know from hon. members if they will be satisfied with at least a day's notice."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"I do not think, Sir, that a day's notice will be sufficient."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If a day's notice is insufficient, I am afraid we cannot get through the business. I raised this question so that hon. members may not be taken unawares."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Always, we are being pressed with urgent things and notice is denied to us."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am trying to get as much notice as is possible."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"This is a very important measure and naturally, we wish to devote more time and attention on it than the time allowed to us permits us."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have requested the other House through the Prime Minister to see if they could not get through this work by the evening of the 4th, in which case, I would give notice to hon. members on the 5th and 6th, take up the business on the 7th and 8th and finish the consideration of the Bill on the 8th. Will the Premier say if that will be possible?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"It may be possible to finish as observed by you, Sir. But everything depends upon the support which Government gets from members. If members request, as Dr. Syed Tajuddin does, more time saying that a day's notice will not be enough as the measure is a very important one, then we may not be able to finish the business in the time mentioned by you."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, regarding the Budget whether we are proceeding with the discussion. We have been hearing of some storm in the party. I was wondering whether the whole process will have to be gone through again."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Changes when they come, they must be gone through."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"We will go on with the work without concerning ourselves whether changes are going to come about or not. May I take it as finally settled that the Bill be passed in the other House by the 4th and we meet on the 6th?"

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DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"The Hon. Premier said '4th or 5th'."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I propose to adjourn to the 6th evening, so that if the Bill comes, we will go through it on the 6th. We do not sit for any other purpose on the 6th and we meet on the 7th, 8th, 10th and 11th for discussion of the Budget as these days are allotted for that purpose. If, for any reason, the Bill is not ready, we meet, do some questions and go. I hope the Premier will try to see that the Bill is brought through in time with the co-operation and support of the other House. If as suggested, the Bill is finished there on the 4th, the members will practically have, two days notice as we are meeting only on 6th evening."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The question of time is very very important as the measure is an important one."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have not yet come to any definite conclusion. I was only thinking aloud with you so far as the Bill is concerned and the notice required for it. We have to sit from eleven to five on the 7th, 8th, 10th and 11th. We have to take up the Bill after 5 p.m., and go on till 7-30 p.m. Otherwise, this Bill which is supposed to be very important for the country as a whole cannot be got through. I expect that both sides will co-operate and see that this work is got through. If that is taken to be understood, I will announce my final decision."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The other House is sitting up to five o'clock on the 6th also."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"We meet on the 6th at 5-30. The Bill may be ready and we will get through it if it comes."

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"It is better, that we have some questions so that in case the Bill is not ready, we may do them and disperse."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"We will know definitely about it on the 5th. My final conclusion is that we adjourn to the 6th at 5-30 p.m. On the 7th, 8th, 10th and 11th, we also sit at 5-30 and go on with the Public Order Bill till it is finished."

The House adjourned to meet again at 5-30 p.m. on the 6th March 1947.

IV.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

Press Note on the Cabinet Salaries Committee's Report, 1946.

[1st March 1947]

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 67 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 1st March 1947, page 6 supra.]

Note on the scheme to enforce prohibition including the provision of counter attractions and the staff provided for the same.

The enforcement of Prohibition in the four districts of Salem, Chittoor, Coimbatore and North Arcot has been entrusted to the Police Department and in the four districts of Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool and Cuddapah to officers and men of the Excise Department newly constituted into a Prohibition Department. The Excise officers selected for those districts have been vested with the necessary powers under the Madras Prohibition Act. The following special staff was employed in the four police and four Ceded Districts for enforcing prohibition :—

Police Districts.—Two Assistant Commissioners of Excise lent to the Police temporarily to advise them in methods of detecting and dealing with crimes, seven Deputy Superintendents of Police recruited from Excise Inspectors, seven Inspectors transferred from the ordinary police, 87 Sub-Inspectors recruited from the Excise Sub-Inspectors, 334 head constables transferred from the ordinary police and 874 constables of whom 494 were recruited from Excise peons.

Ceded Districts.—One Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition, four District Prohibition Officers on the pay of Deputy Superintendents of Police, two of whom were junior Assistant Commissioners of Excise and two senior Inspectors of Excise, eight Deputy Prohibition Officers who were junior Inspectors of Excise, each in charge of an old Excise circle, 15 Assistant Prohibition Officers chosen from among Assistant Inspectors of Excise, 95 prohibition guards chosen from among Excise peons and 107 posts of petty officers. Sanction was subsequently accorded to the employment of an additional Sub-Inspector and six prohibition guards for effective patrol of the borders of Bellary district.

With the introduction of prohibition in the eight districts, the liquor and drug shons in those districts have been closed and a restricted supply in the 10 miles belt area adjoining the prohibition districts has been enforced. Tapping of trees is not allowed in the prohibition districts except for sweet toddy under licence and the number of trees to be tapped in the belt areas has been restricted. Possession of toddy and arrack without a permit, outside the licensed premises of shons in the 10 miles belt area, has been prohibited. Sale of ganja and bhang has also been prohibited and the issue from taluk offices of opium has been restricted to confirmed addicts over 20 years of age who hold permits. The possession of foreign liquor except under a permit has also been penalized within the prohibition area. The possession and use of sacramental wine

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for Christian religious worship are allowed by a system of authorities issued by the Collectors of prohibition districts. The co-operation of the adjoining states has also been solicited in order to make prohibition a success.

The Excise Intelligence Bureau has been designated as the Excise and Prohibition Intelligence Bureau and they investigate cases of smuggling of ganja and opium. Direct propaganda against drink is eschewed as far as possible, as the intention is that conditions should be created in which former addicts would forget drink. It may, however, be found necessary to undertake direct anti-drink propaganda in certain areas and this will be done when necessary.

The following staff was sanctioned for ameliorative work including the provision of counter-attractions :—

A Deputy Commissioner of Prohibition (Amelioration) who is also a Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies to be in general charge of ameliorative work in the eight districts, eight special development officers, one in each district to be the Collector's Personal Assistant for ameliorative work, 31 Assistant Development Officers to be personal assistants to Revenue Divisional Officers for rural development work in the divisions, 77 Rural Recreation Officers, one in each taluk, 77 rural guides and 31 ballad singers.

Counter-attractions to drink.—Prohibition, properly enforced, involves changing the habits of the persons accustomed to drink which forms a fairly large section of the public. It is considered desirable to normal life to make the change over from the habit of drink as easy as possible by providing counter-attractions during the evening hours, which otherwise may be exceedingly dull in the average village and in many towns. The most obvious counter-attraction in the early stages of prohibition is to provide a temperance counterpart to the drink shon itself, either in the drink shons premises where addicts were wont to congregate in the evenings, or in some other convenient place in the village. At these centres such refreshments as tea, coffee, buttermilk, minerals, limesquash and snacks, particularly snacks made out of substitute foods such as maize, wheat and groundnuts are provided.

The original proposal was that these refreshment stalls should remain open for three months, by which time not only would the craving for drink have decreased, but private enterprise would be providing tea and coffee shons. The above refreshments were provided free to ex-addicts during the first month and at favourable rates during the second and third months.

By the end of December 1946 all Government stalls had been closed in the districts of Chittoor and Anantapur and in the rural parts of Kurnool district and many stalls had been closed in the remaining districts except Bellary. Some private stalls have sprung up in their places.

These tea and coffee shons were intended to provide a direct substitute for drink; but counter-attractions not connected in any

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way with drink have also been provided to enable the ex-addict to forget his old way of living and to prepare the way for a better village life.

Some of the most important of the other counter-attractions are—

(1) encouragement of rural sports and games, folk dances, kathaprasangams, kalakshepams and village dramas;

(2) extended use of community receiving sets which provide a combination of counter-attraction and agency for propaganda in the prohibition districts;

(3) tours by propaganda vans equipped with cinema outfit, radio, gramophone and microphone;

(4) entertainment by ballad singers well versed in popular songs, who accompany the van and sing through its microphone or attend propaganda meetings and tournaments and enliven the gathering with songs; and

(5) encouragement of travelling and permanent cinemas.

In addition to the counter-attractions referred to above ameliorative measures like the encouragement of the thrift movement and the provision of employment for ex-toddy tappers are also being undertaken.

Taluk and village committees are also formed in order to assist in the enforcement and ameliorative sides of prohibition.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 72 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 1st March 1947, page 14 supra.]

Rules for the allotment of building for Government purposes, Government institutions and Officers of Government.

1. Government purposes and institutions will take priority over officers of Government in respect of buildings suitable for Government purposes and institutions.

2. Priority amongst Government purposes and institutions will be decided by the Provincial Government in case of dispute.

3. In determining priority as among officers of the Provincial Government the Warrant of Precedence may as far as possible be applied and separately *inter se* as among officers of the Central Government. Between officers of the Provincial Government and officers of the Central Government, each case will be considered on its merits. As among officers included in a single item in the Warrant of Precedence and in cases to which the warrant is not applicable, priority will be determined on the basis of the pay (including officiating allowance but excluding other allowances) drawn by the officer and where such pay is equal by the date of entry into the present grade or category of service :

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Provided that the Provincial Government may accord any particular officer a higher or an over-riding priority.

4. Other things being equal, priority of application shall determine priority for allotment.

5. An applicant not already in occupation of a house or who is evicted from a house shall take priority over an applicant already in occupation of a house.

6. Applications may be offered a choice of houses and several applicants may be asked to see the same house simultaneously in order to avoid delay in allotment. Applicants will be required to give their replies within 24 hours.

7. Subject to the Control of the Provincial Government, allotments of buildings will be made by the Collector or under his orders.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 6th March 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 5-30 p.m., Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Medical institutions in receipt of grants from Government.

* 73 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement giving the names of Medical Institutions, Allopathic, Ayurvedic, Unani, etc., which are in receipt of grants from Government and the conditions governing such grants?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“ A statement* containing the particulars asked for in respect of private institutions is placed on the table of the House.”

Alleged complaints against Sri Manicka Nayakar, Secretary, Chingleput District Board.

* 74 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Manicka Nayakar, the Secretary of the Chingleput District Board, has auctioned the A.R.P. walls consisting of bricks worth about Rs. 500 and himself purchased the same for a paltry sum of Rs. 70 and built the compound walls in the site allotted to him by the District Board in Tambaram town-planning area;

(b) whether complaints were made that Sri Manicka Nayakar has purchased the bricks at a low rate and requests were made to re-auction the same;

(c) whether the Secretary has ignored their request and took away the bricks for his own use;

(d) whether it is a fact that the District Board's sanction was not even obtained for auctioning the bricks;

(e) whether it is a fact the bricks were removed before confirmation of the sale;

(f) whether it is a fact that the Secretary had utilized the free services of the peons, gardeners and other menials for sorting these bricks and carting them to Tambaram;

(g) whether it is a fact that the clerks of the District Board office were compelled to subscribe to the ' Dravida Nadu ' a party paper of ' self-respect ' view and the subscriptions were recovered from the salary of the clerks;

(h) whether it is a fact that the Secretary while travelling third class was claiming from District Board second-class travelling allowance and while travelling along with the President in the President's car was claiming motor car allowance; and

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(i) whether having regard to all these allegations the Government will institute a fresh enquiry into all the charges and deal with the matter suitably?

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“(a), (c) & (f) The bricks of the A.R.P. walls in Panagal Buildings, Saidapet, were auctioned by the Supervisor (District Board Works), Saidapet, in the presence of the Secretary Sri R. C. Manicka Naicker. The sale was knocked down by one Sri Aravamutham Nayudu, and there is nothing on record to show that the bricks were either purchased by the Secretary or utilized by him to build the compound walls in the site allotted to him by the District Board in Tambaram Town-Planning area.

“(b) A complaint was received by the District Board Assistant Engineer to the effect that the bricks had been sold in auction for a low price and that they would fetch more if a re-auction was conducted.

“(d) & (e) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(g) Enquiries show that some of the clerks of the District Board were asked to subscribe to the ‘Dravida Nadu’ and that the subscriptions were collected by the bill clerk of the District Board Office.

“(h) It is not possible to furnish the information as the allegation is too general and not easily verifiable except after detailed enquiry.

“(i) Yes.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister will cause an enquiry to be made against the Secretary with regard to the allegation that deductions were made from the salaries of clerks towards subscription to the paper and that the balance alone were given to them, as complained by the clerks themselves?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Yes, Sir, an enquiry will be held.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—“May I expect that the officer making the enquiry would call for the District Board servants to give evidence to ascertain the truth of the allegation?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Yes, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know whether the Secretary possesses a car to enable him to draw the motor car allowance?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“I have no information, Sir.”

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“May I know, Sir, whether the man who knocked down the auction was in any way related to the Secretary?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“I have no information, Sir, about it.”

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, what will be the enquiry that will be conducted?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Sir, there are so many allegations here and the enquiry will be conducted into those allegations.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“From the answer given by the Hon. Minister, it appears that the allegations are not correct. May I ask the Hon. Minister what is the ground for holding an enquiry?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Sir, various allegations have been made against the Secretary. It is said that the bricks were sold at a low price, that the auction was not properly conducted, that the sanction of the District Board was not obtained and that before confirmation by the district board of the auction, the bricks were removed. The answers given here are based upon the reports we had from the concerned authorities. That is why an enquiry will be held.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“How is the Secretary responsible for the conduct of auction?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“Sir, he was present at the auction. It was the supervisor who auctioned the bricks.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“Perhaps when the report of the enquiry comes out, it will show how far he is responsible for these things.”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“I don't know if we have got any more information to supply to the hon. Member than what is contained in the answer. That is why the matter will be enquired into.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Sir, from the answer given, we understand that the allegations are incorrect, because the auction was held by somebody else. Therefore, Sir, I should like to know on what specific allegations or charges against the Secretary that an enquiry will be held?”

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI:—“There are also other allegations against the Secretary, namely, that he was actually travelling in the third class and claiming second class from the District Board and that he drew motor car allowance while he was travelling along with the President in the President's car, etc. We may get more information on these points also from the enquiry.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“The Hon. Minister seems to have said that the allegations are too general and not capable of verification; if so, what is the purpose of the enquiry?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“Sir, the facts are there. Everybody can understand them. What is the good of

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stating that there is nothing for an enquiry. It has been stated as clearly as possible and the facts are there. What more is required? "

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" We are concerned with the reply given by the Hon. Minister on the floor of the House. From that reply, we understand that the allegations are not correct. How is it possible for anybody to say who is responsible but it is a surprise to hear the Hon. Premier say that the facts are there? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Sir, everything is very fair; what is the good of questioning about it again and again? The facts are there, and merely because all these answers are given in a particular form, it should not be taken that they are wrong."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether any clerk belonging to the District Board has complained to anybody that the Secretary has collected subscription for the ' Dravida Nadu ' paper or any other paper? "

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—" I have no information, Sir."

Irrigation schemes in South Arcot.

* 75 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of major and minor irrigation works in the South Arcot district;

(b) whether any major irrigation schemes have been investigated in the past years, and if so, what they are;

(c) whether any of them have been kept in abeyance or abandoned on the ground for want of adequate return;

(d) whether investigation for impounding the waters of the South Pennar was made in recent years, and if so, what the particulars of the scheme are; and

(e) whether the Government propose to undertake this scheme or any other scheme to provide more irrigation facilities in South Arcot district?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—" (a) There are seven irrigation systems classed as 'major' and six classed as 'minor' in the South Arcot district. In addition there are 404 minor works (tanks and channels) in charge of the Public Works Department.

(b) Yes. The following major irrigation schemes have been investigated in the past :—

(1) Kaliveli swamp reclamation;

(2) Thambipettai odai project;

(3) construction of reservoirs on the Mani nadhi, Muktha nadhi and Gomukhi;

(4) damming the South Pennar and diverting the waters into the Manimuktha nadhi;

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(5) Thennel project;

(6) Gidangal project;

(7) reservoir on Pennar in North Arcot limits to benefit portions of North Arcot and South Arcot;

(8) excavation of a right side channel from Vadakkanandal anicut on the Gomukhi (since carried out); and

(9) diversion dam across Mani nadhi for extension of irrigation.

" (c) All the schemes except item 8 were dropped previously not only on account of poor return but also owing to doubts as to availability of water supplies for the schemes.

" (d) A preliminary examination was made of a proposal same as item 7 of answer to clause (b) to impound the waters of the South Pennar involving the construction of a reservoir at Sathanur in Tiruvannamalai taluk for bringing under irrigation about 75,000 acres in the North Arcot and the South Arcot districts. The scheme was dropped as there was doubt about supply being available, after meeting the requirements of existing irrigation under the river.

" (e) With a view to take up the Sathanur scheme, if possible, the Government have called for a report from the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) who is re-examining it. He has promised to investigate the scheme in detail, if adequate supply is found available. The Chief Engineer's report is awaited. Besides the Sathanur scheme, the following schemes will also be undertaken if the result of their preliminary investigation which is proposed to be made, proves favourable :—

(1) Thambipettai odai project;

(2) reservoirs on the Mani nadhi, Muktha nadhi and Gomukhi; and

(3) reclamation of Kaliveli swamp in a modified form."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" What about the scheme for impounding the waters in the South Pennar? Has it been definitely abandoned? "

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—" As stated already a report has been called for in the matter."

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

II.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" Before going to the next item on the 5.40 agenda, I would like to take the House into confidence as to what I propose to do with regard to the general discussion on the Budget beginning from to-morrow. Hon. Members are aware that we have got four days this time and that means twenty hours. Ignoring four hours for question time, we have got only

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sixteen hours out of which, I think, the Leader of the Opposition may have one hour and the reply on behalf of Government may take one hour. That leaves us fourteen hours for all the four days. Last year, we had about 33 speakers on the Budget and this year, I mean to have at least 20 minutes for each member so that we may have at least 42 speakers and if so many are inclined to speak, I am prepared to allow. I would request those hon. Members who want to speak to give their names to the Secretary beforehand, so that I may know how many are willing to speak and whether I should allow anybody more than 20 minutes or curtail even the twenty minutes. I would also like to inform hon. Members that all those who wish to speak may begin straightaway. I would request them not to keep themselves reserved to the end until it gets crowded and some members may not get a chance. Please do not blame me afterwards if I bring down my hammer heavily on anyone. I request all members to be ready to speak on the Budget even from to-morrow."

III.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" As regards the business for to-day, I have to announce to the House that the following message, dated Fort St. George, the 5th March 1947, has been received by me from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly :—

'In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules I transmit a copy of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly on the 5th March 1947 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council."

IV.—THE MADRAS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER BILL, 1947 (AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY).

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Before I call upon the Hon. the Premier to move for consideration of the Bill, I would like to mention that since the Bill does not seem to have undergone much change in the other House, we can take up the consideration of the Bill to-day. I would request those members who would like to take part to inform me. I would like to finish the general consideration of the Bill to-day so that we may take up consideration clause by clause to-morrow. If I get the names, I will then be able to tell the Leader of the Opposition how long we have to sit."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I submit, Sir, one important matter. I have to bring to your notice that it has become almost a rule to throw such important Bills on us at such short notice. The rules require that we must have at least a day's time. Under extraordinary circumstances, extraordinary powers are taken. In this matter, Sir, the Opposition also agreed that Bill may be taken up to-day. But, Sir, I submit that we were not allowed even 24 hours time that is prescribed under the rules and we had only 18 hours. For such an important Bill as this, we should have at least a couple of days. You said, Sir, that the Bill has not undergone much change. It is true. But, we do not know what changes have been made in the other House. I crave you to protect the Opposition from such a hustle on the part of the Government members."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I bring to the notice of the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition what an amount of pressure I had to put on the Government to see that the business in the other House is finished soon so that hon. Members here may have an opportunity to study the Bill and discuss on it? I thought that as the Bill had been published long ago and a statement had also been made on the Ordinance by the Hon. the Premier, this House would be ready to discuss it to-day. I think there can be no objection to discuss at least the principle of the Bill. As regards discussion clause by clause, hon. Members have got nearly two days and so, I think Mr. Uppi Sahib's objection has been amply met. I can also assure the Leader of the Opposition that I have been very cautious in this matter that members should not be hustled in their discussion of this Bill."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I think I was not clearly understood. In this particular matter, Sir, it may be all right but hereafter, if such occasion arises when there is a hustle, we ask you to protect the Opposition."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I wish to inform hon. Member I have been at pains to protect their interests."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, till what time we can give notice of amendments? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Till to-morrow evening 5 o'clock."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Our amendments have very little chance of going through. So, we request that this House may be given sufficient time to discuss the principles of the Bill."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection to grant the request of the hon. Member but there are really a dozen amendments and if the hon. Members are prepared to withdraw their amendments, I am prepared to give any amount of time to discuss the principle of the Bill."

MR. V. K. JOHN :—" There may be speeches when moving amendments, Sir."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" To-day we may take up the general discussion and a part of to-morrow may also be taken up for that purpose and for the rest of to-morrow, we may have amendments."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That depends on the interest evinced in the business; if the House is anxious to have a general discussion tomorrow also, I may allow. The Hon. the Premier will now move his motion."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I move, Sir—
'that the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once.'"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I would very much appreciate if such of the members who want to speak inform me beforehand."

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* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Mr. President, Sir, without giving my name to you, I have taken the liberty of speaking. I would like to detain the House for a few minutes to discuss only the principles of the Bill. It is very difficult, Sir, while dealing with the principles of the Bill not to refer to certain important provisions. I may be excused, Sir, if I do so, and thereby perhaps indirectly violate one of the rules of this Council. My first complaint is about the failure of the Government to appoint a Joint Committee of both Houses to consider an important Bill of this kind. We have time and again, Sir, commended the suggestion to the Leader of the House that where such important measures are concerned, it will be advantageous both to the Legislature as well as to the Government to have a Joint Committee of **both Houses so that all the points may be thrashed out** and when the Bill comes before either of the Houses from the Committee, its passage may be ensured as quickly as possible. But, again, Sir, the same old course has been repeated in regard to this Bill also.

io n. " Then, Sir, I understand that this Bill must become law and obtain the sanction of the Governor-General before the 13th instant. The other Chamber is not sitting till the 12th instant. Practically, Sir, even if the Government see the wisdom of some of the suggestions made by this House, they cannot accept them, as the other House is not meeting till then. You remember, Sir, you were pleased to draw the attention of the Government to these facts in one of your closing remarks. Now, we are practically asked to register our consent to the Bill as it has emerged from the Assembly and so we will not have any part in moulding this legislation owing to the indifferent attitude of the Government towards this House. Sir, this is the only occasion when we can make complaints through you to the Government and it looks as if the Government are callous to any representation made by the members of this House and they are treating us, Sir, as though we are the fifth wheel to the coach. But, may I point out that even a fifth wheel serves a definite purpose in serving as a brake when legislation is rushed through at a break-neck speed as on the present occasion."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Or when one of the four wheels goes off." (Laughter.)

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Another thing is that some of us are laymen. We believe that the existing laws, laws that are already on the Statute Book, both Central and Provincial, are sufficient to deal with a situation of the kind which this Bill is meant to tackle. I wish the Advocate-General were here—of course, I do not wish to make any complaint—to enlighten such of us who doubt the wisdom of enacting a piece of legislation of this kind. But, I may be told, we have in the Hon. the Minister for Law, an eminent lawyer who is always ready to assist the House. I wish I could count on his assistance, but on this occasion, he is on the other side."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" If the hon. Member had informed me previously, I would have asked the Hon. the Premier to request

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the Advocate-General to be present here. When I was in the Assembly last, I used to see the Advocate-General sitting there almost every day. I hope the Government will take note of it."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Law who was once a redoubtable champion of civil liberties has become a meek party to the infringement of those liberties . . ."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Because probably he is occupying the Treasury Bench."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" Nothing of the kind."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, he seems to have given the go-bye to the principles of a life time by which he once swore. I hope, Sir, when he says 'nothing of the kind' perhaps he does not mean civil liberties. Let me make my point quite clear, Sir. I speak to-day on this Bill, which aims at the civil liberties of the people, as one not wedded to any particular ideology but as a common man to whom the liberties to be deprived of under the Bill are as dear as to those who occupy to-day the Treasury Bench and who have in the past raised their voice of protest against the infringement of civil liberties with perhaps greater vehemence than I am capable of. The fact seems to be they have changed their places now and they are in power. I thought, Sir, people in power, should all the more be wary not to infringe the civil liberties which they valued so much and I trust which they value even now. What has happened to these good friends who are sponsoring this piece of legislation now? Instead of trying to remove if there are any obnoxious pieces of legislation still lingering on the Statute Book, they are trying to add to the list. What is this transformation due to? Is it due to the overwhelming sense of responsibility for law and order, which they seem to have suddenly developed?

" Now, Sir, let us consider dispassionately whether the existing laws are not enough to meet a situation which they feel has arisen. What is the situation, Sir? I only attempt to paraphrase their words. A handful of people, certainly—comparatively a handful when compared to the legion in 1942—have made themselves a nuisance and workers who till now silently bore the ills of life, have been made to realize their rights, become conscious of their wretched lot and have been organized to demand better treatment. The change brought about may be termed as the quickening of social consciousness on all sides. When a movement of that kind is organized on a somewhat big scale—but this is particularly very small compared to the movement in 1942—some excesses are bound to occur. On that account, is it wise to suppress a movement altogether? In 1942, did not worse excesses take place, Sir? Did we on that account support the indiscriminate arrests, detentions and other forms of suppression of civil liberties? Every one raised his voice of protest and those who were not even votaries of the Congress were even louder in their protests. How many hon. Members who are here and who were victims then, felt and even now feel, they were rightly arrested and detained? They cannot

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pretend they were innocent—and are even now innocent—and that those who are continuing the work which they themselves supported or acquiesced in are rebels and should be punished. Change of place has effected a change in principles. Excesses likely to injure peace and order should be punished, whoever may be the party—congressmen, communists or the moderates. The existing laws are sufficiently wide in scope to bring such people under their provisions but to arm themselves with this draconian piece of legislation which suspends, in the words of a paper, indefinitely, the fundamental liberties of the citizen, such as the liberty of movement, right of association, freedom of speech, freedom from arrest and imprisonment without trial, is, I submit, Sir, a sign of defeatism and not of strength. It shows how weak the Government are to deal with excesses. Unless there are legitimate grievances, the seeds of discontent cannot be sown and even if they are sown they cannot sprout and thrive. What is necessary to counteract such propaganda? Are measures of the kind that are now introduced, measures calculated to remove the grievances? Sir, hon. Members of this House may remember that in reply to a question that I put regarding the relationship between the landlord and the tenant in the Tanjore district asking if one of the points of contention was the demand on the part of the cultivators to have a greater share of the produce, the hon. the Minister for Revenue agreed that it was one of the points of contention. Why not remove that point of contention? As hon. Members of this House are aware, the Government of Bengal has introduced a measure to accord two-thirds of the produce as the share of the cultivator and Mahatma Gandhi blessed that effort.

“ Instead of undertaking legislation of that kind why put down a movement of the ryots who combine themselves together in order to demand what they feel are just and legitimate rights? Sir, legislation of the kind that I have suggested would strengthen the hands of Government. Measures such as these will only drive discontent underground and when released will be beyond the capacity of any Government to control. Then, Sir, the danger will be more real than it is now. Nipping in the bud is only seen on the surface. Its effect will not be felt. Then Sir, I was anxious to know wherefrom all these sections that are put into this Bill were obtained. The wording was so good, so precise, sections are so well worded, so that anything unconsciously done could be brought under one section or the other. I say, Sir, I looked into the Defence of India Rules. I looked into the Defence of India Rules framed under the Defence of India Act. The sections are no more than a reproduction of the Defence of India Rules. There has not even been crossing of the t's and dotting of the i's. For the information of the House, Sir, I shall ask them to compare and see whether there is any difference. Take clause 2, it is Rule 26. Take clause 6, it is rule 56; clause 7, it is rule 58; clause 9, it is rule 41, clause 20, rule 75-A; clause 11, rule 59-A. These are only a few instances, Sir.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I suppose you had no hand in the drafting of this Bill.”

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* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ I do not think I would have drafted a Bill like this at all. It is known too well that these Defence of India Rules were framed to provide, to use the words of the preamble to the Defence of India Act. ‘ Special measures to ensure the public safety and interest created by an emergency’. That emergency arose out of the war. Does such an emergency exist now to menace the State to promulgate such Acts? I must, with due deference, say to the Hon. the Premier, that the statements which he has made in this House and those made in the other House which we have read from the newspapers do not indicate at all that the conditions are so bad that unruly elements cannot be dealt with under ordinary laws. It is pointed out, Sir, perhaps rightly, that legislation on similar lines has been enacted in other Provinces either in the shape of Ordinances or actual legislation. I grant that, Sir, but there the main causes are different and those causes do not exist in this Province. We are grateful to all communities who have exercised great restraint. We have been free from the virus of communal tension which has marred the reputation of many a province. The Hon. Prime Minister was perfectly justified to express a feeling of satisfaction and pride on the fact that our province was singularly free from serious communal troubles. We join with him and also take pride in the fact that this province has set a good example to all other Provinces. The Prime Minister's complaint was only about anti-social activities. To demand for the redress of grievances, Sir, is not an anti-social act. In that case every strike that takes place becomes an anti-social act. Anti-social elements such as black-marketers flourish. I say this Bill should deal with such anti-social elements. A Bill ought to have been framed, Sir, to bring such anti-social elements within its purview. In that case, I am sure the Hon. the Prime Minister would have had the support of every member of this House as well as the other House; but, Sir, these anti-social persons pass off as respectable persons of society while the poor and the oppressed when they demand their rights are dubbed as rebels and should be wiped out at any cost.

“ Sir, what are the provisions of this Bill? I feel they are too drastic. The disease, even if you take it as such, does not require such a drastic remedy. They will hurt not only the wicked, they will hurt the good as well as the bad. I shall not be surprised if the result is the lowering of public spirit to such an extent that our provincial autonomy will become a mere mockery. Repressive powers which will receive the *imprimatur* of the legislature will run unchecked under the appearance of a democratic Government. May I in this connexion venture to quote the words of my revered and departed leader, the Right Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri used on a similar occasion when what is known as the Rowlatt Act was on the anvil. They were used on 7th February 1919. They are as true to-day as they were then. I shall only read extracts apposite to the Bill under consideration. He said while speaking on the Rowlatt Bill,

‘ Well, we are all anxious to punish the wicked, none of us desires that wickedness should go unpunished, but at the same time I think it is one of the fundamental principles of criminal jurisprudence, in fact, one

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of the very foundations of a stable society, that even the wicked must be punished in certain ways. When Skiffington was shot, I remember the whole world was shocked. Roger Casement had an open trial. But, if Roger Casement, a wicked man as he was, a criminal as he was, and thought so by all reasonable people, had been shot as Skiffington was shot, I beg leave to say the world would have been shocked. Even Roger Casement had his rights. He must be tried in open court and he must be allowed an opportunity of clearing his character. Now, even in war, when all humanity throbs with excitement and peril, and when nobody thinks of anything except how to conquer the enemy, even then, Sir, there are the laws of war; you have got to play the game.'

Later on, Mr. Sastri said—

- 0 'There are laws not unknown to ancient chivalry illustrated by the
1. life of Bhishma, laws which even in war may not be violated without incurring the serious reprobation of history. When there are criminals abroad in a country, there are certain ways in which they ought to be brought to book. You ought not to lay them by heels and punish them in ways that will shock the sense of justice, in ways that will make the innocent feel that there is no law in the land, in ways that will make honest, virtuous and public-spirited work impossible. The price even for the extinction of wickedness that is demanded then is far too high. Much better—it seems an ungracious thing to say—much better that a few rascals should walk abroad than that the honest man should be obliged, for fear of the law of the land to remain shut up in the house, to refrain from the activities which it is his nature to indulge in, to abstain from all political and public work merely because there is a dreadful law in the land.'

I shall give one more quotation and I am not reading the whole matter :—

'The history of legislation, both social and political, is strewn with instances of miscarriages of excellent intentions. Laws intended to cure poverty have aggravated it, multiplied it, laws intended to suppress crime may run very well in the same unhappy direction and I take leave to say to the Hon. Sir William Vincent (who was the Home Member of the Government of India at the time) that the laws now placed before us, which are aimed at purifying politics may come dangerously near suppressing it. You cannot place on the statute book such drastic legislation without putting into the hands of over-enthusiastic executive officers what I consider short cuts to administrative peace. As I said before even, peace in administration valuable as it is, can be sought in wrong ways. You provide them with short cuts to administrative peace, and there is no administration that is able to resist the temptation to run across these short cuts, when the only royal road to peace is the right road and the righteous road.'

'Sir, these words were spoken when the Rowlatt Bill was considered in the Imperial Legislative Council. I am pained to say that this Bill we are now considering is a kind of an amended edition, a similar edition, or as suggested by my friend is a concentrated form of the Rowlatt Bill. I remember, Sir, that was the Bill which led to serious consequences. The agitation against that Bill it was which practically laid the foundations of active political life which the Congress took up in 1919.

'I will leave it at that so that any effect that the words of the Right Hon. Sastri may make upon those who have heard them, may not be spoilt by any comment on my part.

'I come to the Defence of India Rules. The Defence of India Rules were subject to modification from time to time and in fact they have been amended often by means of notification because they were rules only. But here, these rules become sections in a statute and they cannot be so amended. Amendments can be made only by bringing in an amending bill before the legislature

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and that Bill must pass through both the Houses of Legislature. Sometimes, the amendments to the Defence of India Rules were made to assuage the rigours of some provisions and sometimes they were made more stringent as the exigencies of the situation demanded. These rules, as I observed, have been included as sections in the statute and so they cannot be easily changed when the situation demands.

'I wanted to say that the existing laws are sufficient and I will illustrate my point. Let me take the imposition of collective fines. There is a law, I think, of which we from the Ceded districts are more aware than others, under which punitive police are stationed and the cost of maintaining it, is recovered from the inhabitants of the areas affected. I do not know why, when such a provision exists, if there is civil strife or disturbance in a certain place, enabling them to station punitive police, they have brought in this provision for the imposition of collective fines. I do not understand how it is necessary. Regarding control of processions and meetings, I think section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code is sufficiently wide and I find there is a precedent in the orders recently issued by the local Government extending them in the Mannargudi taluk. When such is the case, what is the need to insert that provision in this Bill? They were in the Defence of India Rules which were meant to be used for a particular purpose when the country was at war. Why should they find a place in the ordinary law of the land? Here is a notification issued by the local Government with reference to Mannargudi, containing almost the same words. Then why should there be a similar provision in the Bill? Then there is the provision regarding the control of essential services. I was reading rule 81 (a) which has been enacted with slight amendments under the Defence of India Rules. It is there that essential services are controlled to the extent necessary by that rule; no strike can take place; no lock-out can take place without previous intimation or notice. All these things are there to see that there is no dislocation of essential services all of a sudden affecting the interests of the community. Regarding requisitioning of property, under section 4 of Act XIV of 1946, you have got these powers; that is again introduced into the Bill. I do not know why when laws already exist and when provisions in other enactments are at the disposal of the Government to meet any situation that may arise, why they should be brought under this enactment and be repeated? With reference to clause 13 under which, be he, a constable or a Sub-Inspector, can arrest any person whom he considers to be guilty of any of the provisions of the Bill, I would like to say it is a dangerous provision. It is all the more necessary why we should object against such a provision in the Bill, as it is a very dangerous provision. Under rule 128 of the Defence of India Rules too a similar rule existed but that was circumscribed by a provision that a Police officer could arrest a person only if he committed certain acts or violated certain rules mentioned in the rules. There was no *carte blanche* given to police officers of any grade, even a constable, to deal as he liked with any person without compunction.

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"I have tried to make out that this measure is unnecessary. Let me close with a note of warning to those who are promoting this legislation. The powers with which you are investing the executive will very soon, sooner than later, be used against you. There is no use fretting and fuming as we all did in 1942. Sir, memories are short. A little introspection will convince the members on the Treasury Bench what dangerous weapons they are placing in the hands of the executive and they will be used when time comes even against them. Placed in power and clothed in authority, you may fail to realize the dangerous nature of the legislation you are sponsoring. Look at the Punjab. It was the Khizir Hayat Khan Tiwana Ministry that promulgated the ordinance. That Ministry became a care-taker Government and finally went out of office. I shall not be surprised if that very ordinance for the promulgation of which the Ministry is responsible is used against the very Ministers who were responsible for its promulgation. Let us be aware whither we are drifting and whether we are drifting in the wrong direction or in the right direction. Sir, I shall not take more time except to say regretfully that I am very pained that my hon. friends on the Treasury Bench should have thought it necessary and desirable to bring forward a piece of legislation of this kind. I am really sorry that the Hon. Minister for Law is a party to this bill. I expected him, more than any one else, having defended cases in which civil liberties were involved, in the highest court of this Province, to put his foot down and tell this Government that that was not the method of dealing with the disease. But instead of that he has acquiesced in this bill. I know, when amendments are moved and speeches are made, he will stand up and support every section that is in the bill. I pity, Sir, that that has become the lot of my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Law."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Sir, this House takes a very great responsibility in passing this Bill. This Bill is conclusive evidence of the fact that this Government has lost the confidence of the people. When they feel they have the responsibility but not the power, it is for them to follow the British method and quit and give way to another ministry who can command the confidence of the people. This Bill is in the nature of martial law, and in some respects worse than martial law, for the reason that in martial law there are courts constituted which will give some sort of trial to accused persons. In this Bill the Government want to exclude the jurisdiction of the courts altogether. This Bill deals with the liberties, lives and property of the people in a manner which is never known in any other democratic country. First it starts with the person. You can detain a person without trial. You can extern him and you can intern him. You can ask him to notify his movements. You can restrict the hours of his movements, his travel, his association, his communication and possession of any article by him. I wonder whether hon. Members of the House and the public have been able to read through this Bill very carefully. Then, Sir, this Bill provides for the execution of a bond

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which can be forfeited. It provides for collective fines, control of processions and meetings, and it puts its hand on employers and employees also. Under the provisions dealing with essential services, it can put any restriction on the employer or the employee and a most irksome provision is a person cannot abandon employment although he may be molested or intimidated or assaulted. He must choose between the two devils—one intimidation or assault and the other going to jail for a year. Clause 8, explanation 1 says 'Abandonment of employment or absence from duty by any person merely for fear of molestation, intimidation or assault by any person or class of persons shall not constitute a reasonable excuse within the meaning of clause (b).' Sir, this Bill does not leave the Press alone. Everybody thought that the Indian Press Emergency Powers Act was the limit. But this Bill goes still further. It gives three years to editors and it also seeks to confiscate the Press. While the Indian Press Emergency Powers Act, 1931, provides for an application to the High Court to be heard by three Judges, under the provisions of this Bill any order passed by the Government cannot be questioned at all. Then, Sir, it deals with movable properties. Government can take over any property and give any compensation they are pleased to the owners. The Bill provides also for search and seizure.

"One of the most objectionable provisions of this Bill is in clause 11, which says that a person who is asked to render assistance must give it; otherwise he will have to go to jail for a year. Then, Sir, there is the power to arrest without warrant and the delegation of powers down to a police constable. I ask, Sir, is there any more power, any greater power, that can be taken by the military into its hands when the military is in occupation of a country and proclaiming martial law? The jurisdiction of courts is excluded, and the Government are vested with power to decide whether or not an Act is prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public orders. When a foreign Government was in power it passed many enactments for preserving order. Is not the existing law sufficient to deal with an emergency which the Prime Minister said the other day has arisen in this Province? To-day he has treated this House with scant courtesy. He did not say why this Bill was introduced in this House. Perhaps he wants us to read the reports appearing in papers and elsewhere. I should have expected the Prime Minister . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I thought the statement made by the Hon. the Prime Minister last time was enough. That is why I did not ask him to again state that."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"I should have expected him to state facts which necessitated him to ask for extraordinary powers for the executive. The Legislature of any country should keep the balance evenly between the executive and the judiciary."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"You must be thankful to him. You will have more time."

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* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ I think that this Bill seems to have been conceived in a great panic. They want to pass this Bill in a great hurry. I do not see, Sir, the necessity . . . ”

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ If you go to Chirakkal taluk in Malabar, you will see the necessity.”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ When such great powers are asked, why should it be hurried through? Why should you not give the representatives elected to this House the opportunity to express what they feel about this Bill, whatever may be the final outcome of the Bill? There should not be any hurry in dealing with this Bill because this is a Bill which has gone beyond everything else. It is like a rocket that has been fired into the sky, and it covers every man, woman and child in this Presidency. I ask, whether the ordinary law, such as the Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Press Emergency Powers Act, the Police Act and the other various Acts that have been enforced by a foreign Government to keep order, is not sufficient to deal with the emergency that has arisen? And what is the emergency for this legislation? He said that a few persons calling themselves Communists have used violence and that the Executive wants these powers. I said, it is the duty of the Legislature to keep the balance between the Executive and Judiciary. Is this Bill intended to safeguard the liberty of the subject? If so, I ask, what is the reason for excluding the jurisdiction of the court of law? Why should not the court of law go into the propriety or otherwise of the order issued by the Executive. Why can't the Government satisfy the court of law about the orders they issue? Why should they so much distrust the court of law? The previous speaker asked why they are not utilizing the provisions of the existing law? The answer is, the existing law provides that the matter might be taken to a court of law; but the Premier and his colleagues do not want that, because they anticipate, and rightly so from their point of view, that the courts of law would not tolerate *mala fide* exercise of powers vested in the Government. I ask, when once you have arrested a person, when you have placed him behind iron bars, why not allow him to be brought before a regular court of law? Sir, I think this House and the other House owe a duty to their electorate to oppose this measure.

“ Sir, there is one other objectionable aspect to this Bill. This Bill is apparently intended against a political party in opposition to the Government. Every political party in opposition to the Government, whether Communists, Socialists or anybody else should be dealt with respectfully and not in a Draconian style. Government, I find here, in their discretion, can pass any order without assigning any reason why they pass such an order. Then, Sir, I find that an advisory body is to be set up consisting of three persons. They are to be appointed by Government and not by the Chief Justice or by the High Court. This advisory body is purely advisory in character, as its conclusions need not be accepted by Government.

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“ Sir, this is a bad piece of legislation. It is being introduced without caring for the security or the liberty of the person and property of the citizen. Instead of introducing this Bill the Government should have probed into the causes of the present unrest. Cannot they very easily see that the main cause for all this disturbance of peace and tranquillity in the Province is unemployment. This Government has not taken any trouble to find out how many are unemployed in this Province. The second reason is underpaid employment. Has this Government dealt with underpaid employment? The only way to deal with that is to encourage industry. Instead of encouraging industry, this Government is trying to suppress all industries, particularly textile industry, which provides employment to a very large number of people. And the third reason is dearth of consumer goods. The Government should attend to the industrialization and production. I say this Government has brought this measure in panic. Government feel, and I think they feel rightly, that they have lost the confidence of the people of this Province. Instead of resigning and giving place to others who have the confidence of the people they have resorted to this Draconian law without any reason whatsoever. I submit this House will take a very great responsibility in passing this Bill.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I do not wish to detain the House long. I expected a statement from the Premier when he moved the motion stating the immediate necessity for this measure. But he in a laconic way . . . ”

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ The incidents in your own taluk are patent.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I am coming to that. You and I hail from the same place. But the Premier simply moved the motion and sat down. I thought ‘ why not I stand up and say, ‘ I oppose the motion ’ and sit down ’.” (Laughter.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I have no objection.” (Laughter.)

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ You will be mightily glad if I did that. As I mentioned just now . . . ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ From what he had already told us the other day, I thought he has covered the ground more than once, and so I thought we might take that time to discuss the matter. So, you may go on with your observations.”

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I cannot condone the Premier. He was not long ago crying hoarse at such measures introduced by the previous Government. A gentleman who had been crying hoarse, who had been crying from house tops, who had suffered so much throughout his life for the liberty of person and property of all sorts of persons for such a man to sponsor such a Bill is indeed an irony of fate. Have the circumstances of this Province come to such a situation? I do not for a moment believe that things have come to such a state as my Friend from Malabar was asking me, ‘ what about Malabar? ’ I ask, ‘ what is the area, how many miles and how many villages are affected? ’ ‘ Can't you control that with ordinary law? Have you not the machinery

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for that? Are not the existing laws sufficient to prevent that or to put a stop to that? You have all sorts of agencies to put a stop to them.

6-40 p.m. "Instead of that you are now forging a machinery, a gigantic engine to crush freedom throughout the Presidency. You are asking us to declare a sort of martial law throughout the Presidency for one year and if necessary for two years. Under the Act which you are asking us to forge, what will be our position and also yours, Mr. President? The sword of Democles will be hanging over our heads for one or two years. Mr. President, I warn you, you too will not be free from the force of some individual police officer. As was so nicely, so eloquently and so reasonably put before us to-day by Mr. Suryanarayana Rao . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have no hand in the shaping of the Bill or the passing of it."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, there are so many millions of people who have no hand in it but to whom this Act will be applicable. It may be, Sir, to-day you are there. But we do not know what will be the state of affairs to-morrow or a year hence. Perhaps you will come down from that chair and will be coming under this Act; so also, Sir, I too will not be away from this Act. A year after we forge this Act . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I wish to impress upon the hon. member that if he is trying to catch my vote, I have none."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, as I said, if we pass this Act to-day we, all of us, will be at the mercy of some petty police officials. What will be our remedy to save ourselves from such men? Nothing, entirely nothing. The Government will have his report and arrest anybody and keep him. What is his remedy? The Government will constitute a council of their own choice. They are reluctant even to constitute a committee composed of experienced judges or men of judicial experience. They will compose a council of three or more persons of their own choice and that council will go into the papers which the Government may be pleased to put before them. The man who is affected has no remedy, he cannot plead, he cannot engage a lawyer. That is the position to which we are going to be reduced ourselves. I do not think that even the British Government has ever enacted such a legislation. Perhaps my hon. Friends may compare this with some of the provisions of the Defence of India Rules. Sir, they were made in an emergent time. It was a time when the empire was at war, a dangerous war. But are we having a war now? There may be internal political quarrels. 'The Communist party are doing havoc' it was said by the Hon. the Premier."

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Don't you know that?"

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What is the Communist party doing, Sir. Let me tell you what they are doing. In Malabar they are encroaching upon the lands of certain landlords, they are trying to cultivate it. In certain areas they sometimes carry

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away the crop that has been raised by jenmis and there was a tussle, there was quarrel between the landlord and some Communists. They were trying to encroach upon the rights of others. I ask, Sir, how were the present Congress Government acting before? The Communists also are taking the law into their own hands as the Congressmen did. On account of the present Government and the Acts which they have enacted and are proposing to enact, the landlord is uneasy, the middle class are becoming uncomfortable and life is becoming uncomfortable to the poor. You are going to wipe out the zamindari system and the zamindars are trembling. As soon as they came into power, what did the Government do in Malabar? One fine morning we were asked to enact a law in this House preventing the landlord from collecting whatever arrears were due to him from the tenants. He has no remedy. All cases pending in Courts have been kept in abeyance under an injunction order. No arrears of rent can be collected except for two years. If a recalcitrant tenant behaves badly and refuses to pay the rent the landlord has no remedy to recover the rent. Then take the position of the millowners. Day after day they are also becoming nervous. Then take the merchants. At least in Malabar all the wholesale grain merchants have been wiped out. Then in the villages also the retailers who were living on their petty business throughout their life have been wiped out. One fine morning they have been sent away from their businesses. Then what about the poor people. Here is the Act itself. Nobody knows when the Act comes into operation what will happen to him. So everybody is in a very very uneasy position. Sir, we are asked to subscribe to and endorse such an Act, such a shackle which will be on our own hands at a not great distance of time. On these principles, Sir, I oppose the Bill."

* RAO BAHADUR SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is very unfortunate that this Bill should be sponsored by a Government which calls itself national and popular. The 19 clauses of this Bill deprive completely the civil liberties of subjects. Not content with that, sub-clause (2) of clause 1 extends the scope of the Bill to the whole of the Province of Madras, but not to particular areas where a real emergency arises. I could have understood a moderate measure, restricted to specific areas under extraordinary conditions so that the Government responsible for the maintenance of law and order could devote themselves to it and put down any disobedience of law and order by means of the measure. On the other hand, by passing a legislation of this type and extending it to the whole of the Province, the liberty of the subject, the liberty of movement, liberty of association, liberty of speech and even personal liberties are sought to be dispensed with and place us under the tender mercies of the Government. The Hon. the Prime Minister the other day when he was mentioning the necessity for the Ordinance painted a very lurid picture of the activities of a section of the community, namely, a section of the citizens called the Communists. Sir, I am not a Communist, nor am I here to defend their ideology, their programmes or policies. I as a citizen along with other members

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of society feel keenly on this subject, namely, that the Communists are also human beings and they have got their own ideologies and they have got their own programmes. Let us consider by way of contrast what was the Congress doing when the bureaucracy was ruling this country. They were adopting the same tactics, the same methods of hartals and processions, of public meetings, of discussions and even of civil disobedience at various places in order to bring into force the programmes and policies which they believed to be necessary in the best interests of the country. Communism is a thing which has started in other parts of the world and is more or less the order of the day. They seek to introduce some radical rule with regard to the ownership of property, regulation of labour, etc., and with a view to convert the majority to their views on certain policies and programmes. Wherever they are found to be in conflict with the legitimate maintenance of law and order, then it may be quite necessary and proper to put down and maintain law and order in the best way possible. May I respectfully ask the Hon. the Prime Minister: "Does he find the ordinary law of the land as it exists to-day is inadequate to deal with the situation? What is it that has happened before the Ordinance was promulgated? In how many places was there bloodshed and murder? Even under Martial law the provisions of the 19 clauses of this Bill are not resorted to *en masse* and entire. Sir, it is an unfortunate view to take that by passing this legislation you will be able to put down the Communist movement. It may be, Sir, that five years hence, the members representing this particular school of thought advocating Communism to-day may be sitting on the Treasury Bench. I am not able to understand the emergency and the absolute necessity of making both the prosecutor and the judge combine in the executive and set at naught once and for all the fundamental principles of administration of justice legitimately due to an accused person. In any civilised country the accused should be given the absolute privilege of challenging the charges against him and making his position clear by producing evidence and inviting judgment on the facts presented by him. Even the worst murderer is given the privilege of challenging the charges against him. Murder is generally considered to be a very heinous crime involving moral turpitude but even the murderer is given the elementary right and some privileges under the common law. But, Sir, these privileges are denied to a particular section of political thought. Whatever be their ideals which they seek to achieve, they are all intended to better the society in which they are living. They say that every human being has got an equal right to enjoy the produce of the land. They, the Communists, challenge the system of distribution of things obtaining to-day. Whether their ideals are high or not, it is their method which is sought to be attacked. Attack it by all means whenever civil liberty is endangered. But I submit that a Bill of this type is a very highly retrograde and revolutionary measure. It is a bare-faced affront to civil liberty and ought not to be passed by a Government claiming to be national and popular. I know that this is a party measure brought forward in the confidence that the party has a

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majority in this House. But I warn you that as it has always been the case and also in the case of similar measures which preceded this—the Rowlatt Act, the Defence of India Act and so on—a day will come when the present legislators who have sponsored this piece of legislation will be held up to ridicule and will be considered as having done the greatest piece of disservice to the cause of civilization and civil liberty and the cause of humanity. Sir, you cannot stem the rising tide of Communism. It is a movement based on certain fundamental principles regarding ownership of property and the best way of providing food, cloth and shelter to every human being who has got an inherent right for these things the moment he is born in our land. Therefore, Sir, all attempts to stifle legitimate ventilation of grievances and seeking remedies for the redress of wrongs, by force of legislative authority are bound to fail as they have failed before in this country. The history of the Congress movement is a glaring instance of that truth. The Congress fought for liberty—freedom of expression and freedom of association—and they won it. Now another section of our countrymen are going a step further in their programmes and policies. Why should you object to this? Have legislation of this kind by all means, but let it be reasonable and fair and give opportunities to those who have been prosecuted to be tried in a Court of law before an independent judicial tribunal and let the tribunal pronounce its opinion whether the man is guilty or not. Sir, it should not be left to the sweet will and pleasure of a Government to punish those people who are against their views, and punish them in this Draconian fashion without giving them a right of appeal.

"Therefore, Sir, I oppose this Bill entirely. This is a comprehensive Bill aiming at the fundamental liberties of the citizens and it should therefore be opposed completely. I am sure the Hon. the Prime Minister himself would one day think that he has passed an enactment which is absolutely unnecessary and which is a slur on the fair name of the Congress movement itself. Sir, I oppose the Bill."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President. Sir, I wish to make a few observations on this Bill which raises very vast and fundamental questions. I really doubt whether this Bill has at all been discussed fully in the party or anywhere else in order to know its full implications. First of all, I would ask: 'Is this the Atlantic Charter of the Congress?' Did President Roosevelt fight this war in order to enable the Congress to bring forward a Bill like this? What are the four freedoms that he enunciated and that he fought for and what are the tyrannies which are sought to be incorporated in this Bill?"

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It has been said that the Atlantic Charter does not apply to Asiatic nations."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. Churchill said that Atlantic Charter did not apply to India and the Government here are following in his footsteps by saying that the Charter

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should not apply to the Madras Presidency. There is one fundamental question with regard to this Bill. I do not want to be carried away by any ideas of my own, but let us look at the matter squarely and say whether it is an honest and necessary legislation or whether it is a panicky legislation or party legislation. What is there that appeals to us to give our assent to this Bill. The important provisions are three in number. The first and the most important is clause 2, which says:

‘2. (1) The Provincial Government, if satisfied with respect to any particular person that he is acting or about to act in any manner prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order . . .’

The question is: What is public safety? It has not been defined. By passing this Act, what is it that the Government can do? The Provincial Government may make an order directing that the person be detained. The other things are subordinate to this provision. But the main question is this. The fundamental principle of every state which pretends to the title of a democratic state is that no man should be detained without a charge being framed against him and a conviction obtained therefor.

7 p.m. “That is a fundamental principle from the time of the Magna Carta. That is a principle which we have been asking the Government to maintain. You tell me I have done so and so. Arraign me before a court of law. Let me be tried by my peers. That is the spirit of the English constitution. But in India, as the law is administered, that part of the liberty of the subject that he should be condemned by his own countrymen has been taken away. The other part of it that he should be condemned by a court of law according to the rules of evidence remains. Then only you should be sent to prison or detained. That is the first principle. Every man has got the right to say anything and do anything, provided, of course, he does not offend the law. He must be charged, arraigned before a court of law and convicted by the court. Then only he can be taken to the prison. That is what is meant by individual liberty. The liberty of the subject is that he shall not be taken away and put into prison just as Charles I and the despotic kings did. ‘Take that man and put him in prison’ is the law of the tyrant. But the law of a free constitution must be to give the subject an opportunity to say before the court how he is not guilty, and only after conviction, he should be put in prison. This right is an elementary right. It is the foundation of all democratic governments. It cannot be interfered with. The only reason for interfering with it, so far as I know, is that the injury to the State warrants it. Where the safety of the realm and the safety of the country are involved, then you can take away that liberty. When war broke out in 1914 and 1939, defence regulations were enacted in England. The first question was against whom should be applied the right of detention. It should be applied only to alien enemies. There were in England hostile associations of alien people from Germany and other countries. There was in England also a body called the British Association of Fascists led by Oswald Mosley. They had their own drill and all those things. They did

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not apply this law to intern them. It was only after the evacuation of Dunkirk that they passed a law applicable to the enemies of the State within the country and said: ‘We can also intern persons of the home country without giving reasons.’ The reason is not far to seek. When a foreign enemy is at your gates, you cannot go and say: Sir Oswald Mosley is giving help to the enemies in such and such a manner. If you put it before a court, you must give evidence. You will have to say: Oswald Mosley or the British Association of Fascists have communicated to Germany or other enemy countries such and such information. That information cannot be disclosed. Therefore, the necessary consequence was that in order to defend that realm and the safety of the country, they had to seek the aid of law for putting these persons in prison without adducing evidence. But here, are we at war with any nation? What is the nation with which we are at war? How is the safety of the Madras Presidency threatened? Is the information through evidence that can be placed before a court of law of such a nature that it will be advantageous to the enemy? I challenge the Minister for Law, who knows everything, whether there had been British legislation on what may be called the suspension of the rule of individual liberty, the right to detain a person except on the occasion of war, and that too only when the enemy is at the gates and the security of the realm is involved. What will happen if you place the evidence before the Court? Therefore my first submission to you is that this is not at all warranted. If it is contended that it is aimed only at the Communists, then I say: It is a doubtful political bargain. It is a political drive against a section of the people which you have no right to make at all. You can take powers for the purpose of defeating a foreign enemy, but you cannot take powers for the purpose of putting down those who may be called your political rivals. Suppose I say, for instance, that the Brahmans of this country are the Jews of India and that they must be exterminated, will it be proper on your part to put them in jail, because I have made such a statement? The Communists also have a right to say that the mill men should not prosper at all and that we should pull down all the mills. Are you going to say ‘they are wrong’ and put them in jails? Why should you not disclose the information to the courts? Who is the enemy against you? Is the safety of your country threatened by Japan or China necessitating the curtailment of individual liberty? How will this disclosure imperil you in the prosecution of your object? Therefore my submission to you is this. This is not at all warranted. This is merely adopting what may be called Fascist methods in order to suppress all parties in the country. I know the Government do not hope to succeed. But they are determined to do it. I appeal to them: It is not right; don’t do it.

“Then there is another obnoxious section and I would ever say a pestilential section relating to the press. A free press is a fundamental need of every constitution. Section 9 says: The Provincial Government may, for the purpose of securing the public safety or the maintenance of public order, by order addressed to

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printer, publisher or editor, or to printers, publishers or editors generally require that all matter, or any matter relating to a particular subject or class of subjects, shall, before being published in any document or class of documents, be submitted for scrutiny to an authority specified in the order. Sir, I ask the Hon. Minister for Law or whoever has drafted this Bill: Does he know the law with regard to the publication of newspapers in England? Till the Long Parliament was there, the practice was that nobody could publish anything unless he got the consent of an authority. That was the practice in 1644. The Long Parliament had that ordinance. Then Milton wrote his famous pamphlet. Milton wrote in season and out of season: You cannot ask a man to submit to you whatever he wants to publish. In 1679 the Licensing Act was repealed. Afterwards, there has not been a single instance in England where they said: You must go and take authority from some person to publish any matter you like. So much as regards the liberty of the press. The liberty has been established in 1640. That liberty to print without permission, you want to take away. On what grounds? Is there a menace to the public safety or the safety of the realm? In 1914, the British Government first of all said by an Act that they could prosecute such offenders, but later on they said that they had got the power to close down the paper.

"People in England are accustomed to censorship sometimes. Editors of papers had to be told what is censored and what is not. A curious illustration of this occurred. A newspaper published the news in 1914 that Lord Kitchener had died; that was altogether false. It would have a very serious effect on the morale of the army, who were fighting in the front. If he died, people would lose heart and they would lose the war. The Government intimated to the paper that it was wrong to publish the news. It published it once, twice and thrice; thereupon it was suppressed. You can understand why that was done. It was because there was war going on. The Government said, 'No, you should not publish it.'

"For instance regarding the controversy about resignations a paper published that the Hon. Premier had received a communication from the High Command asking him to resign. It is contradicted in the papers to-day. Under this Bill the Hon. Prime Minister can send a communication to the paper 'don't' publish any correspondence or any matter regarding the ministerial squabbles. Is it a case of the safety of the realm? Is war going on? Is fighting going on?

"Do you want to have these powers? To whom are these powers going to be given? To the executive and to officers subordinate to the Government. I do not want to take up the time of the House. My submission to you is you must understand this fundamental matter.

"A curious thing, Sir, it is stated in the Bill 'saving His Majesty'. Where does the question of saving His Majesty arise in the case of the Provincial Government? It is copied from the British Acts. It is not at all correct.

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"Mr. Narayana Menon coming from Malabar said that the matter was very urgent and that legislation of this type was absolutely necessary. He tells us that no man is safe, no man's head is safe. He is a lawyer himself. My answer to him is this; if a certain man is interned, is it going to save people's lives? Is it not merely securing an advantage for the party? Mr. Narayana Rao has been interned. Is there peace in the district now? What is it? Ordinary law is there; the Police is there; the military is there. It is these things that are going to keep you there safe and not putting 2 or 3 men in jail unless you want to repress them. Suppose you put 2 or 3 persons in jail and detain them how will you save the situation? It is not meeting the situation at all. Don't encroach upon the freedom of the press or the liberty of the press in your interest.

"After all, my hon. Friend, the Prime Minister had his experience in Ellore in 1931. There was the owner of a printing press; he happened to own it. Mr. Prakasam went to Ellore. Then there was a movement. He was attending to some work in the printing press. Following him three other persons came. A fifth man was invited to dinner. Dinner was going on. It was declared an unlawful assembly. The printing press was seized and the papers were seized. The printing press was sold for Rs. 100. Being a lawyer, my hon. Friend lodged his complaint. This is the unfortunate record with regard to such laws. Are you going to repeat what may be called Hitler methods in order to perpetrate Congressraj in this Province or are you going to tolerate other parties in the Presidency? Are you going to allow what may be called political honesty to have its legitimate course?"

* SRI K. NATARAJAN:—"Sir, I thought that it might not require much of a speech on my part in support of this measure especially when all the circumstances have been definitely set out by the Hon. Premier in both his statements in the Legislative Assembly and in the Council here. As regards the foundation for this measure I do not think I can add anything more than what he has said in detail when he catalogued all incidents coming from West Godavari, from Ramnad, from Madura, Trichinopoly, Karur and from Tanjore. Although I am a lawyer with a great instinct for the liberty of the citizen, I feel preventing certain acts must be distinguished from pursuing remedies in criminal courts after the offences are committed. In Tanjore we have seen these things; (1) there were one or two murders; (2) taking away of paddy; (3) refusing to do duties; (4) interfering with other labourers coming to help the mirasdars. There were shouting of slogans also. What is it that they aimed at? They enunciated the principle that if a mirasdar owned more than 50 acres of wet land, the rest of his property above 50 acres will be the property of the State and any person who occupies it will be the owner of the property. I am repeating in substance the terms of a Bill which was attempted to be introduced in the Legislative Assembly by one of the distinguished members of the Communist Party. Three Hon. Ministers came to the locality to set things right. The Collector passed the

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arbitration proceedings increasing the wages by a certain percentage. When all these things have taken place and when the District Judge had passed his award, still paddy was taken away in Konerirajapuram. Procurement authorities were not able to procure paddy. Similar things happened in Mannargudi and other places . . .

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ You want to impose martial law throughout the Presidency.”

* SRI K. NATARAJAN :—“ What I am stressing is that prevention of offences is better than pursuing the process of law after offences are committed. Many of my hon. Friends know that persons who committed serious offences are not punished for want of evidence. Very often, murders are taking place but nobody is charged for want of evidence. There is no use pursuing the cases in courts after the offences have been committed. My hon. Friends say from the papers that things have very much improved. But for the ordinance, mirasdars could not have procured paddy for their own purposes.

“ I do not want to refer to everything that has appeared in the papers. From 1946 August, members of the Constituent Assembly, of the Madras Legislative Assembly and Council, mirasdars and all people high and low have been sending memorials and waiting on deputations on Hon. Ministers. I myself waited on deputation 2 or 3 times. Members of the Assembly are sending petitions to the Collector. I implored the Hon. Ministers to intervene in the matter. Some of my hon. Friends here say that the criminal courts can decide such cases. They are enunciating principles of law, principles of liberty, equality and fraternity. I ask them to go to these places and find out what is happening, how the mirasdars are faring in the proceedings in courts.

“ Sir, I do say that if they look at this Bill from this point of view, I am sure they will realise that this is a good measure for the purpose of ensuring peace and putting a check on the bad elements in society.

“ Then, Sir, what are the changes which are introduced in the Bill? The changes are worth noting. Provision has been made for Advisory Councils. There was no such provision in the Ordinance. Then, after all, any order against any person who comes under the provisions of this Bill will be in force only for six months and moreover this Bill will be in operation only for one year. By that time, the harvest season will also be over.

“ Sir, it may be that there are certain ideologies. Ideologies may be good or bad. It all depends upon how the majority of the people look at them and how they will affect them. But when these ideologies are put into the heads of people who are not able to understand their implications, there comes the trouble. People are being told, “ The property is yours; the lands are yours; you need not pay any rent to anybody; it is enough if you pay about 25 per cent of the produce to the mirasdar; the mirasdar has no right whatever in the land ” and so on. Sir, such propaganda directly affects the community and tends to create conflicts between

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the mirasdars and the cultivators. These ideologists interfere with the rights of individuals and with the peace among the people. Therefore, Sir, I think it is better to have a preventive measure like this, to check such propaganda. This is not, as one hon. Member put it, a case of war. I would call it anarchy. Is not anarchy worse than war? When there is anarchy, the Government must interfere. Sir, one hon. Member was pleased to call it as a Noakhali repeated here. To some extent, if things had been allowed, it might have been possible that a miniature Noakhali would have been repeated here also. A Government will not be called a Government if it cannot maintain law and order. The persons who have now gone underground were freely propagating anarchy and disruption of society. It was but right that their activities were restrained and but for this, the position would have worsened. We see that after the Ordinance and after these people have been outlawed for the time being, things are gradually getting to normality and there is apparent peace on the surface.

“ It was stated that this Bill interferes with individual rights and liberties and that the Government should not trespass upon them; and that, if necessary, the Government should bring the individual offender to book. If that is the only remedy that they could suggest, then I beg to differ from them. Sir, these offences are committed not by one or two individuals, but by thousands of people belonging to a separate group and it is impossible to deal with such people individually. This Bill proposes to put an end to all the troubles. I do not want to add more. I would only request hon. Members of the Opposition and members on this side of the House to unanimously vote for this Bill. But I know it is an extravagant claim I am making of them, especially after so many eminent members have spoken against it. Sir, there is a saying in Tamil : ‘ தலைவலியும் காய்ச்சலும் தனக்கு வந்தால்தான் தெரியும். ’ It is only the people who are actually affected that can understand the gravity of the mischief. Go to Tanjore, go to Trichinopoly, go to Malabar, to Guntur, to Karur and to any of the places where there had been this trouble, then you can realize the seriousness of the situation. Can you allow such things to go on? Should you not prevent it? If this is not the procedure that should be adopted by a responsible Government, then I ask what other methods can you suggest to quell this wholesale rebellion? After having had the bitter experience of Tanjore, I cannot think of any other way of dealing with it. Perhaps I may not be well balanced in my expressions, or my arguments in support of the Bill. It may not be so appealing after so many eminent gentlemen have spoken against it, but I only want them to realize the gravity of the situation and look at the Bill from that aspect. In normal times, it is all right that the liberties of individuals should not be interfered with, and people should not be punished without being given an opportunity to defend. But under present conditions, should not restrain these underground activities? Is it not the duty of the Government to prevent such lawless acts? That is all I want to say in support of this Bill.”

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* MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, after the eminent speeches and eloquent arguments that have been put forward on this side of the House and on the other side, I do not want to keep you too long. Sir, truth is nevertheless truth, howevermuch it is repeated or contradicted. But I do feel that this Bill has got a few points that might be emphasized still further with great effect. We have got before us a Bill that has got much thought put into it and I feel sure that the aims and the ideals that it propounds do credit to and go far to create the confidence that has been placed in the Ministers sitting on the Treasury Benches. Nevertheless, there are a few points in it which might be remedied. For instance, Sir, the action is so swift. The first clause gives the authority and the reasons for the measure and immediately the Bill gallops at breakneck speed right on to the end. I would detach two or three principles from it and that is all I want to bring before you. Much has been debated in this House about clause 3 and little remains to be said, except that in this clause no provision is made for the gentleman,—it does not say, ladies,—(laughter),—who is apprehended, to make an appeal against the order of the Government. The gentleman who is apprehended should have peace of mind and I feel that while there are various other means and methods provided in other similar Acts, for a right of appeal, no such provision has been made in this clause. He has no chance or a choice to appeal against the Government Order and that is the thing that is missing here.

“ As regards clause 11, it will be remembered that on January 31, we were electrified in this House by the revelations that were made. We were asking questions why these things had not been brought to our notice before and why newspapers had not published such acts, and why the knowledge of such disorders and unrest had been kept away from the people. Well, Sir, it seems to me that if section 11 goes through now, the people and the country will be kept in even darker and in greater ignorance than we were in January 31st. While we appreciate the fact that certain sections of the Press withheld publication of certain things which would have otherwise spread panic in the country, nevertheless the same feeling of panic is bound to be spread when the curtain is withdrawn and when the house is electrified, as I said before, by the earthquake of what has happened elsewhere. We, Sir, are citizens who can follow and can discriminate between news and news and we can discount a certain amount of fear that appears in the newspapers. We are expected to have a certain amount of commonsense and conscience in our reading of what is reported in the Press. It is likely, Sir, that as a House and as a Nation, we should not be troubled by too many reports from the Press and from people and we should not get perturbed, and I submit that it is time that the censorship of the Press goes. However, we know that the Bill and this clause will go through and I wish all success to the Government in this. But will these powers be exercised with great discrimination? I think these powers should be held back rather than used, and this matter, and this can be brought about if the newspapers alone should have the fullest freedom of expression.

6th March 1947] [Mrs. Mona Hensman]

“ With regard to molestation of private citizens, clause 8 has already been mentioned, but I will go no further except to say that if the situation is very bad and if a person wishes to stay at home simply for fear of being molested, his absence should not constitute an offence and he should be guarded against any such contingency.

“ Then, Sir, in clause 11 dealing with powers requiring the assistance of certain persons and here I may mention it is laid down that the people who have to give information should be males; I am glad there is no mention of women or of animal in that clause or in the sub-clause, can woman be meant”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ According to the law, man embraces woman, Sir.”

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—“ I bow to the hon. Member for his legal capacity for including the greater in the less or the less in the greater, but women though they are called men's better-halves cannot be called males and the clause definitely signifies that. Now, Sir, the point is whether in this clause you might not also be providing for espionage because man and woman who are a part of a family or in domestic service might be set to collect information by spying and this Bill might creep also into domestic circles, family circles and other social circles. I also feel that grave discrimination should be made in this matter. People who are approached to give information should not be asked to do it as a national service. That is the worst clause in the Bill expecting the worst from people, and the best is missing. This Bill is framed to give an opportunity to the worst elements, not the best. I leave it at that.

“ The hon. Member, Dr. John, mentioned that this unrest is all due to the economic problem that is facing the country to-day. Very often we have to modify or amend a Bill, to give some real work to these elements. It may be that these elements who are seeking justice of a certain kind and of their own persuasion may also be employed by the Government in very constructive work instead of setting them out to destroy the country and the nation. I have closely examined the Bill and I think that anything can be ordained under clause 16 of this Bill. Do we hope that anything that causes any danger to property or to the Provincial Government or to a person or officer-in-charge or anybody designated by the Government to carry out the full purpose and intention of this Bill, will be covered by this measure? I think anything can be called an honest purpose. The purpose and the intention may be honest and anything may be honest but the damage should be made good. We hope this clause will give aid in such cases; we know this Government will aim at making it so and we trust that the Bill will aim only at the objects for which it was framed.

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“ Surely, Sir, those who have spoken on the 31st of January and after and particularly the hon. Member on the other side, stuck a genuine note of warning. In my opinion this whole Bill will, if rigorously applied, keep the country in greater ignorance than in January 1947. There is no use in forging a weapon against

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one's self and there are boomerangs in this world. So, I will ask hon. the Members of the Treasury Bench to use this Bill if and when it is passed simply to suit their purpose for the time being and not let it dominate them and the nation as a whole."

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Mr. President, Sir, having undergone the miseries of detention for over four years, for a year in 1940 and for three years from 1942, it goes against my grain to support a Bill which contains all the provisions under which I myself have suffered. Though I cannot agree with some of the drastic provisions of this Bill, I am speaking only for the purpose of showing the necessity and the urgency of the matter. Hon. Members on the other side were asking, 'could not the ordinary law be put into force and where is the reason for this extraordinary legislation?' Sir, if only those hon. Friends have occasion even now to go to North Malabar, they would come back to the present Government and ask them to take powers to do something to relieve the sufferings of the people. Hon. Members, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao and Dr. John, were saying that we are encroaching upon the civil liberties of the people. Are we not entitled to civil liberties in those areas? That is what I ask. In those areas, Sir, there are practically no civil liberties. If only I can correctly picture some of the incidents that are taking place, you will not oppose this Bill, very bad though some of its clauses are.

"Sir, a landlord was taking away his paddy with due licence from the authorities concerned; the bandyman was stopped by certain people calling themselves Communists or people led by Communists. Though the landlord showed the permit for taking his paddy, they said, no, this paddy belongs to this village and it must be distributed here and you will not be allowed to take it out. The cartman resisted; actual fight took place; the Police came and there was a regular battle with the Police. Would you like men to be shot down by the Police in such fights or would you prevent such judicial murders?

"Sir, in another area, where the unrest is very bad, in a *firka* called Irukkulam in North Malabar, there was no Government for some time. Any person who possesses some paddy and any landlord who has got an acre of land were being attacked night and day and particularly during nights. Every village has its own quota of goondas who have become conveniently Communists. I heard a dissertation from one of my hon. Friends about Communism. Communism as such may be all right: but it is not that Communism that is being practised by them there. These goondas sitting in Calicut and Cannanore attack persons and property. It is unimaginable. Even the Prime Minister actually went there and there were volumes of evidence that these goondas are doing tremendous havoc. These goondas attack every person with some paddy at night and in the morning they disappear and they go high in the hills and no trace of them is possible. Instances are there that if any person dared to go and give any information to the Police, that person's head will not be seen the next day. Many, many murders have been committed."

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K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I ask how many have lost their heads in these areas? "

* SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Many, I am sorry that my hon. Friend, coming as he does from the very place, is putting that question. These goondas have not taken it into their heads to attack Muslim landlords there. I do not know why; I do not want to say but it is a fact that it is the non-Muslim landlords who are suffering there. Even two weeks ago, I read in the newspapers that a particular farmer gave information to the Police and the man was dead the next day. Sir, women returning from the factories in Cannanore were stripped naked in the streets. Unless somebody else gives them a piece of cloth, they have to walk naked to their homes. This is a common occurrence in Cannanore and places near about before the Ordinance was promulgated. I went to these areas, saw things for myself, went to the District Magistrate and the authorities concerned and asked them to post some more Malabar Special Police there, but this is not sufficient, Sir, to cure the trouble. There are certain goondas in every district and these goondas are being instigated. Unless you remove these goondas or check them, there will be no civil liberty for anybody in that area. The District Magistrate told me, well, Sir, give me the powers; under the existing law, I cannot do anything; under the Evidence Act, I cannot get any evidence though various offences are being committed every day. So, he said that it was not possible to act under the ordinary law. I asked him to have recourse to the Criminal Law Amendment Act. He said that also would not serve to do justice in the matter. So, Sir, I came back to Madras and told the Hon. the Prime Minister that unless powers are given to the district authorities to deal with the matter, there will be no civil liberty worth the name.

"Sir, it is easy to talk of civil liberty here, but if you go and live in those places—some of us are living there because we did not care for our lives for what they are worth, but it is not the case with the ordinary people in those areas—if you go and live in those places, then only you will realise how civil liberty is being practised there.

"Sir, I wish this Act had been restricted to certain areas. Since there is no war at present, some of the provisions seem drastic. But, as some action which cannot be taken under the ordinary law of the land is necessary, those provisions have to be put into force.

"It is for these reasons that the Ordinance was promulgated. Perhaps, in the Bill, as it is some of the provisions, such as the requisitioning of property, need not be there. But the fact is it has to be passed before the 12th instant. As soon as the necessity for this legislation is over, I hope proper amendments will be brought forward to bring it in conformity with the requirements of the situation and to maintain the civil liberties of the people. I only wanted to impress you, Sir, that there is at present absolute necessity for this Act, since the Ordinance will expire on the 12th instant."

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* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, we have to cry hoarse, as it has always been our fate in protesting against a lawless law of this nature. I call this, Sir, a lawless law because this term was often used by the Congress leaders when such laws were enacted by the British Government. The question arises, what is it that has not come under the purview of this Bill? There is nothing left, Sir, and therefore all the criminal laws of the land are altogether annulled, then this one Bill will be sufficient to coerce people and put all civil liberty in jeopardy. Sir, this is a Bill, on which I should have thought that at least the Hon. the Ministers would have resigned because it expresses want of confidence against themselves (the Hon. Sri T. Prakasam : ‘Hear, hear’), because 150 years of British rule has not brought into being a legislation of this nature. If people could have lived in peace, if law and order had been maintained during the last 150 years by the ordinary laws of the land that have been in practice up till now, it is a wonder that this Ministry is not able to carry on the administration with those laws and feels the necessity for placing on the Statute book a law of this nature. It is in fact a substitution of the Ordinance that was placed before this House some time back and if the Hon. the Premier was not justified in promulgating an Ordinance of this nature some time back, I feel he is not justified in bringing forward a measure of this kind before this House. The liberty of the press, of which of all the persons the Hon. the Prime Minister must have been the staunchest advocate, because he himself was the editor of a distinguished paper and he himself protested against the encroachment upon the liberties of the press when he was the editor and if a Bill of this kind is sponsored by his Ministry, I feel it does not redound to his credit—to say the least, it is a disgrace to any Government to bring forward a measure of this kind to suppress the liberties of the people. It is the Congress that advocated civil liberties when they went into the wilderness. Excuse me, Sir, if I say they had committed acts more objectionable than the acts that are attributed to the Communists of the present day. It is an ignoble effort on the part of this Ministry to suppress political opposition and it is nothing more than that. The Communists are their political opponents and they want to suppress the Communists and I feel this is not a method which can be said to be a noble attempt on the part of any Ministry to suppress political agitation of this kind. Therefore, Sir, we on this side of the House feel that a measure of this kind is not at all necessary. Sir, my hon. Friend on the other side said that things that are happening in Malabar are such as to require a legislation of this kind. If the situation is so very bad, then martial law can be applied and people can be told plainly that they are not living under ordinary circumstances and that they are living in a state of unusual turmoil in the country, but here we are having a Government which is called a National Government, a Government which is called a democratic Government and in the name of democracy if Acts of this kind are to be enacted, I feel, Sir, that a Government which calls itself democratic has no place in this

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House. If, Sir, the liberties of the people are suppressed, freedom of speech is gagged, freedom of association is prevented, the press is not allowed to express itself, I should rather say good-bye to all forms of democracy (K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur : hear, hear). If I may say so, Sir, even the British bureaucracy were more considerate, more democratic than the gentlemen who are occupying the ministerial benches to-day. Sir, this is something like an atom bomb on the liberty of the people. I read in a newspaper that when the German scientists invented the atom bomb and informed Hitler about it, he went and saw the establishment and said, I would rather go down than use it against humanity.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ It is news to us that Hitler knew the atom bomb.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ That is what the papers published. It is said that it was the Germans who first invented the atom bomb. Now, Sir, I would say, it would have been more graceful on the part of the Hon. the Prime Minister when the draftmen of the Government have drafted this Bill and brought it to him, he should have said, I do not want to encroach upon the liberties of the people; it is better I quit this office rather than use it against my own countrymen. Therefore, Sir, I feel that the hand of oppression of this ministry is stretched in all directions. Sir, the press is justified in publishing news which may perhaps be very inconvenient to the party in power. But, are we to gag the press, Sir, on account of that? I remember that in the House of Commons a question was raised to take action against the editor of the *Times* who published certain news which were calculated to bring about a misunderstanding between England and Russia, but the House of Commons refused to do it. If an Act of this kind is brought forward before the House of Commons, the members of the House of Commons will revolt against it and say, we do not want this ministry which is capable of bringing forward such measures. Unfortunately, Sir, we on this side of the House are, to say very frankly, helpless, but for which, we would have told the Prime Minister, the Law Minister and all other Ministers, take care: you cannot play with the liberties of the people; with the liberties of the press and with the liberty of the society as a whole in the manner in which you are trying to do.

“ Sir, I do not think that any freedom-loving citizen of this land, anybody who can appreciate freedom can for a single moment feel that there is the slightest justification for a measure of this kind to be passed into law. I am certain, Sir, that whatever may be the contingencies, whatever may be the necessities that have prompted the Premier, the Law Minister and other Ministers who are still occupying the Treasury Benches, to bring forward a measure of this kind, I feel they in their heart of hearts feel that they are not doing justice to the people. They are feeling, I know that. They may not express it. Anyhow, they are feeling that way, Sir.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ They say so.”

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* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" If they say so then they must give up this Bill. There is no use merely saying so. There must be action also according to what they are saying. They also feel that the party must cling to their present position. They are also feeling that if they are going to allow other people to have the upper hand then naturally in the next elections perhaps the latter will be occupying the places which the Hon'ble Congress members are now occupying."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I propose to rise at 8 p.m. I hope the hon. Member will finish his speech by then."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" That means another five minutes. That is more than sufficient for me, Sir."

" I am not a Communist, Sir. But as a Muslim I am a greater Communist than the Communists because I value the liberty of people. I have a great regard for the equality of mankind. Whatever the Communists might have done Sir they have done nothing more than what they have been taught by the Congress people, they are advocating the very principles which were adumbrated by the Congress leaders. If they say that the land does not belong to the landholders or the mirasdars what is wrong Sir? They say what you have taught them to say. You are going to pass the Zamindari Act according to which zamindars have no right and it is the agriculturists and the labourers that are the real proprietors and real owners of the land. What more do the Communists say? Why should you punish them for that? "

(At this stage there was some interruption by some hon. Members.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is better that the hon. Member is allowed to continue his speech."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sometimes it is good that I do not hear, sometimes it is good that I hear because I may know what they are saying. What is it that these Communists want, they simply want the right of the common man to be protected."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" I want to know whether the labourers working in the tanneries at Pallavaram are the proprietors of those shops, according to the hon. Member."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Certainly, Sir. If it comes to a question like that, Sir, I would rather say let the tanners admit the claims of the labourers than allow mirasdars and zamindars like my hon. Friend Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar to trample upon the liberties of the poor people."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" I am sorry I am not a zamindar."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" He has escaped the law. He may be a mirasdar or a man with a vested

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interest. Along with these people there are certain other people in whose hearts they the Communists have gained ground and to curb whose influence acts of this kind are being placed on the Statute book."

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" May I point out to the hon. Member, Sir, that the Communists wanted to distribute the paddy that they had not grown but the paddy which other people had grown. They wanted to do that, Sir."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I did not in the least refer to my hon. Friend. I did not have anything that he said in mind when I was speaking."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am not at all a Communist or am I in sympathy with them but I am referring to incident that took place. These people wanted that the paddy should be given to the Producer cum Consumer Co-operative Societies."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I was not referring to that at all. What I say is ambition is created in the minds of the poor people. Ambition has been created in the minds of the people and who was responsible for creating the ambition and now what are you going to do? Simply you are trying to prevent the causes. Mr. Natarajan said prevention is better than—(Voices 'cure'). No, he said something else. It is not cure. You are trying to put a stop to the causes, stop to the effects. You have yourselves created the causes. Ambition has been created, enlightenment has been created in the minds of the ordinary man. That has been to your credit. We are thankful to the Congress people for that. He has been made aware of his liberties and rights. After bringing home to his mind the fact that he has as a citizen certain liberties, privileges and rights, are you going to now curb those liberties? Are you going to stand in the way of the ventilation of those rights and liberties? I say, Sir, you are not justified in doing so. This act is aiming only at that and nothing else. Therefore, I feel, Sir, that an enactment of this kind should have no place on the Statute book and I therefore oppose this Bill."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" There are only two more speakers Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib and Dr. Tajuddin and after them, the Prime Minister. The consideration of the Bill will be taken up at 5 p.m. to-morrow. The House now stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow, for general discussion of the Budget proposals."

V.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1947) passed by the Assembly and received therefrom in the Council.

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APPENDIX I

[Vide answer to starred question No. 73 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th March 1947, page 51 supra.]

ANNEXURE I.

List of institutions receiving annual maintenance grants—Hospitals and dispensaries.

- 1 The Union Mission Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Madanapalle.
- 2 Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Visrantipuram.
- 3 Mission Dispensary, Kollimalais.
- 4 Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Perundurai.
- 5 Women and Children Hospital, Kandrumanikkam.
- 6 Victoria Hospital for Women and Children, Vizagapatam.
- 7 Maternity Home, Gudivada.
- 8 Danish Mission Hospital, Tirukkottur.
- 9 Do, Vridachalam.
- 10 St. Joseph's Maternity Hospital, Nellore.
- 11 St. Anne's Hospital, Kumbakonam.
- 12 St. Mary's Hospital, Bellary.
- 13 St. Anne's Hospital, Bozwada.
- 14 St. Theresa's Hospital, Kurnool.
- 15 St. Martin's Hospital, Ramnad.
- 16 The Ramakrishna Mission Dispensary, Perianaickenpalayam.

ANNEXURE II.

List of leprosy institutions receiving recurring grant.

- 1 Leprosy Asylum, Vadathorasalur.
- 2 The Dayapuram Hospital and Home for Lepers, Manamadurai.
- 3 The Leprosy Asylum, Chevayur.
- 4 The Leprosy Home and Hospital, Ramachandrapuram.
- 5 The Leprosy Hospital, Kesarapalli.
- 6 The St. Joseph's Leprosy Asylum, Kankanady.
- 7 The Leprosy Asylum, Vizianagram.
- 8 Do, Salur.
- 9 The Leprosy Hospital, Kumbakonam.
- 10 The Bethesda Leprosy Hospital, Narasapur.
- 11 The Salvation Leprosy Colony, Bapatla.
- 12 The O.E.L. Mission Leprosy Asylum, Kodur.
- 13 The Poor Homes Society Leprosy Home, Chevayur.

ANNEXURE III.

List of institutions receiving non-recurring grants—Buildings and equipment grants.

- 1 The Union Mission Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Madanapalle.
- 2 The London Mission Hospital, Kavuttalam, Bellary district.
- 3 The Victoria Hospital for Women and Children, Vizagapatam.
- 4 The Maternity Home, Gudivada.
- 5 The Missionary Medical College for Women, Vellore.
- 6 The London Mission Hospital, Erode.
- 7 The Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Perundurai.
- 8 The Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Visrantipuram.

ANNEXURE IV.

List of institution of Indian Medicine receiving Government grants.

- 1 Free Ayurvedic Dispensary, Mukkamala, West Godavari district.

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ANNEXURE V.

Terms and conditions under which Government grants are sanctioned to the institutions shown in Annexures I to III.

The main condition that governs the payment of grant in respect of institutions shown in Annexure I is that they are popular and are run in a satisfactory manner. The details of conditions sanctioning the grants are as follows:—

- (1) The management should maintain necessary registers and submit the reports and returns prescribed for a Hospital.
- (2) The institution should be open to periodical inspection by the District Medical Officer.
- (3) Patients should be admitted irrespective of caste or creed.
- (4) The management should employ only registered medical practitioners, nurses and midwives.
- (5) The management should maintain proper accounts and get them audited.

The accounts of institutions numbered (1), (2), (3) and (8) to (11) in Annexure I are audited by the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts. The grant in respect of institution No. (4) is based on the daily average number of patients on a per capita basis. In the remaining cases, the audit is done by private agencies.

The grant in regard to institutions included in Annexure II [except item (3)] is based on the daily average attendance and is disbursed every half year. The conditions governing the disbursement of capitation grants are given below:—

- (1) The institution should employ registered medical practitioners, nurses or midwives.
- (2) Admission should be made without reference to caste or creed.
- (3) The management should not interfere into the religious observances of inmates.
- (4) The inmates should not be encouraged to leave the institution without sufficient cause, nor should the asylum be made a comfortable sojourning place in the course of their undertakings.
- (5) Where necessary, a caste cook should be employed.
- (6) Cooked food or rations should be supplied to patients.
- (7) The asylum should be maintained in a manner approved by the Government and adequate provision to their satisfaction should be made for the medical treatment of the inmates.
- (8) The Collector and the District Medical Officer of the district should have full authority to inspect the institution and satisfy themselves that the conditions are being observed.

As regards building and equipment grants, shown in Annexure III, the applications for grants are admitted only when a real need is established. The amount of grant sanctioned represents in general, one half of the cost. The conditions relating to this grant are furnished below:—

- (1) that the building is solely used for the purpose for which the grant is sanctioned,
- (2) that the building is maintained properly,
- (3) that the management executes an agreement with the Government for the amount obtained from the Government, and
- (4) that the management agrees to refund the amount in full or in part in case of breach of any of the conditions, with reference to the period stipulated in the agreement and the amount of grant received.

ANNEXURE VI.

Terms and conditions under which Government grant is sanctioned to the institution shown in Annexure IV.

- (i) That it will be paid on the post-payment system in monthly instalments tentatively calculated on the basis of the actual expenditure incurred in the previous year, the final adjustment being made at the commencement of the succeeding year after the actual expenditure for the year is known,
- (ii) that it will be restricted to one half of the actual net cost of the institution not exceeding the amount allotted, and
- (iii) that the institution is maintained to the satisfaction of the Inspecting officers.

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APPENDIX II

[Vide item IV, page 57 supra]

L.A. BILL No. 8 OF 1947.

(As passed by the Assembly.)

A Bill to provide for preventive detention, imposition of collective fines, control of meetings and processions, control of essential services and certain other purposes.

WHEREAS, for the maintenance of public safety and to prevent and put down disorders involving menace to the peace and tranquillity of the Province, it is necessary to provide for preventive detention, imposition of collective fines, control of meetings and processions, control of services essential to the life of the community and certain other purposes : It is hereby enacted as follows :—

Short title, extent, commencement and duration.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947.

(2) It extends to the whole of the Province of Madras.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

(4) It shall remain in force for a period of one year ; but the Provincial Government may, from time to time by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, extend the continuance of this Act for a further period or periods not exceeding one year in the aggregate, if in their opinion it is expedient so to do. Upon the expiry of this Act, the provisions of section 8 of the Madras General Clauses Act, 1891, shall apply as if this Act had then been repealed by a Madras Act.

Madras Act I of 189..

2. (1) The Provincial Government, if satisfied with respect to any particular person that he is acting or about to act in any manner prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order and with a view to preventing him, it is necessary so to do, may make an order—

Power to make orders restricting the movements or actions of or detaining certain persons.

(a) directing that he be detained ;

(b) directing that, except in so far as he may be permitted by the provisions of the order, or by such authority or person as may be specified therein, he shall not be in any such area or place in the Province as may be specified in the order ;

(c) requiring him to reside or remain in such place or within such area in the Province as may be specified in the order and if he is not already there to proceed to that place or area within such time as may be specified in the order ;

(d) requiring him to notify his movements in such manner, at such times and to such authority or person, as may be specified in the order ;

(e) prohibiting him from being out of doors between such hours as may be specified in the order except under the authority of a written permit granted by such authority or person as may be specified therein ;

(f) prohibiting him from travelling except in accordance with the permission given to him by such authority or person as may be specified in the order ;

(g) imposing upon him such restrictions as may be specified in the order in respect of his employment or business, in respect of his association or communication with other persons, and in respect of his activities in relation to the dissemination of news or propagation of opinions ;

(h) prohibiting or restricting the possession or use by him of any such article or articles as may be specified in the order ;

(i) for such incidental and supplementary matters as may be necessary for the purpose of giving effect to any order under this sub-section.

(2) When any order is made under sub-section (1) by an officer or authority empowered under section 15, that officer or authority shall forthwith report the fact to the Provincial Government together with the grounds

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on which the order has been made and such other particulars as, in the opinion of such officer or authority, have a bearing on the necessity for or expediency of the order.

(3) An order made under sub-section (1) may require the person in respect of whom it is made to enter into a bond, with or without sureties, for the due performance of, or as an alternative to the enforcement of, such restrictions or conditions in the order as may be specified in the order.

(4) If any person is in any area or place in contravention of an order made under sub-section (1), or fails to leave any area or place in accordance with the requirements of such an order, then, without prejudice to the provisions of sub-section (6), he may be removed from such area or place by any police officer or by any person acting on behalf of the Provincial Government.

(5) So long as there is in force in respect of any person such an order as aforesaid directing that he be detained he shall be liable to be removed to and detained in such place and under such conditions, including conditions as to maintenance, discipline and the punishment of offences and breaches of discipline, as the Provincial Government may, from time to time by general or special order, specify.

(6) If the Provincial Government have reason to believe that a person in respect of whom such an order as aforesaid has been made directing that he be detained has absconded or is concealing himself so that the order cannot be executed, they may—

(a) make a report in writing of the fact to a Presidency Magistrate or Magistrate of the first class, as the case may be, having jurisdiction in the place where the said person ordinarily resides ; and thereupon the provisions of sections 87, 88 and 89 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, shall apply, in respect of the said person and his property, as if the order directing that he be detained were a warrant issued by the Magistrate ;

Central Act V of 1938

(b) by order notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and published in such other manner as they think fit, direct the said person to appear before such officer, at such place, and within such period as may be specified in the order ; and if the said person fails to comply with such direction he shall, unless he proves that it was not possible for him to comply therewith, and that he had, within the period specified in the order, informed the officer of the reason which rendered compliance therewith impossible and of his whereabouts, be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

(7) If any person contravenes any order made under this section, other than an order of the nature referred to in clause (b) of sub-section (6), he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both, and if such person has entered into a bond in pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (3), his bond shall be forfeited, and any person bound thereby shall pay the penalty thereof, or show cause to the satisfaction of the convicting Court why such penalty should not be paid.

3. (1) Where an order in respect of any person is made by the Provincial Government under sub-section (1) of section 2 or where any such order is made by any officer or authority subordinate to them, after receipt of the report specified in sub-section (2) of that section,

the Provincial Government shall communicate to the person affected by the order, so far as such communication can be made without disclosing the facts which they consider it would be against the public interest to disclose, the grounds on which the order has been made against him and such other particulars as are in their opinion sufficient to enable him to make, if he wishes, a representation against the order ; and such person may, within such

Grounds of order of detention to be disclosed to person affected and to be placed before the Advisory Council.

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time as may be specified by the Provincial Government, make a representation in writing to them against the order and it shall be the duty of the Provincial Government to inform such person of his right of making such representation and to afford him opportunity of doing so.

(2) After the receipt of the representation referred to in sub-section (1) or in case no representation is received, after the expiry of the time fixed therefor, the Provincial Government shall place before the Advisory Council constituted under sub-section (3), the grounds on which the order has been made and in case such order has been made by an authority or officer subordinate to them, the report made by him under sub-section (2) of section 2 and the representation if any made by the person concerned.

(3) The Provincial Government shall constitute an Advisory Council whenever necessary and it shall consist of not less than three members one of whom shall be its Chairman. The Chairman and the members of the Council shall be appointed by the Provincial Government.

(4) The Advisory Council shall, after considering the materials placed before it and if necessary after calling for such further information from the Provincial Government or from the person concerned, as it may deem necessary, submit its report to the Provincial Government.

(5) After considering the report of the Advisory Council, the Provincial Government may confirm, modify or cancel the order made under sub-section (1) of section 2.

4. (1) No order made under section 2 shall be in force for more than six months from the date on which it is confirmed or modified under sub-section (5) of section 3; but the Provincial Government may at any time before the expiry of that period cancel the order.

(2) If in the opinion of the Provincial Government it is necessary or expedient so to do, they may at any time before the expiry of the period of six months aforesaid and after giving an opportunity to the person concerned to make any representation in writing which he may desire to make and after referring the matter to the Advisory Council and considering its report, direct that the order shall continue in force and the order as so extended shall continue for a further period of six months from the date on which but for such direction it would have ceased to be in force and thereafter if and so often as it is again extended by a further similar direction made in the same manner.

(3) The revocation of any order made under sub-section (1) of section 2 shall not prevent the making under that sub-section of a fresh order to the same effect as the order revoked.

5. (1) If it appears to the Provincial Government that the inhabitants of any area are concerned in, or abetting the commission of, offences prejudicially affecting the public safety or the maintenance of public order, or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community or are harbouring persons concerned in the commission of such offences, or are failing to render all the assistance in their power to discover or apprehend the offender or offenders, or are suppressing material evidence of the commission of such offences, the Provincial Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and by publication in such other manner as they think fit, impose a collective fine on the inhabitants of that area:

Provided that an imposition of a collective fine by any officer or authority to whom the power may have been delegated under this Act may be made by publication of the order imposing the fine in such manner as such officer or authority may consider best calculated to bring the order to the notice of the inhabitants of the area concerned.

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(2) The Provincial Government or any officer empowered by them in this behalf may, by general or special order, exempt any person or class or section of such inhabitants from liability to pay any portion of such fine.

(3) The Chief Presidency Magistrate or the District Magistrate, as the case may be, after such inquiry as he may deem necessary, shall apportion such fine among the inhabitants who are liable collectively to pay it, and such apportionment shall be made according to the Magistrate's judgment of the respective means of such inhabitants.

(4) In any such apportionment, the Magistrate may direct a joint or undivided family as such to pay such portion of the fine as may be assigned to it.

(5) The portion of such fine payable by any person (including a joint or undivided family) may be recovered—

(a) in the manner provided by the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, for the recovery of fines imposed by a Court, as if such portion were a fine imposed by the Magistrate acting as a Court:

Provided that the Provincial Government may, in lieu of the rules referred to in sub-section (2) of section 386 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, make rules under this Act regulating the manner in which warrants under clause (a) of sub-section (1) of the said section of the said Code are to be executed, and for the summary determination of any claims made by any person other than the person liable to pay the fine in respect of any property attached in execution of the warrant; or

(b) as arrears of land revenue.

6. (1) The Provincial Government may, for the purpose of securing public safety, or the maintenance of public order or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community, by general or special order, prohibit, restrict or impose conditions upon the holding of processions, meetings, or assemblies by a class of persons or organizations whose activities, in the opinion of the Provincial Government, are subversive of law and order.

(2) If any person contravenes any order issued under the section, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

7. ((1) The Provincial Government may, in the interests of public security or maintenance of public order, by order, prohibit or impose such conditions as may be necessary on, the holding of camps or performance of drill or parade with or without arms, or any article, weapon or implement capable of being used as arms by any class of persons or organizations whose activities are in the opinion of the Provincial Government subversive of law and order.

(2) Any contravention of an order made under this section shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

8. (1) If the Provincial Government are of opinion that any employment under the Provincial Government or any employment or class of employment connected with matters falling within Lists II and III of the Seventh Schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935 (Provincial and Concurrent Legislative Lists), is essential for the purpose of securing public safety, the maintenance of public order or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community, they may, after notifying the employment or class of employment in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and publishing it in such other manner as they think fit, direct by general or special order that any person or persons engaged in such employment shall not depart out of such area or areas as may be specified in such order.

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(2) An order made under sub-section (1) shall be published in such manner as the Provincial Government or officer or authority making the order may consider best calculated to bring it to the notice of the persons affected by the order.

(3) Any person engaged in any employment or class of employment notified under sub-section (1) who—

(a) disobeys any lawful order given to him in the course of such employment, or

(b) without reasonable excuse abandons such employment or absents himself from work, or

(c) departs from any area specified in an order under sub-section (1) without the consent of the authority making that order,

and any employer of a person engaged in an employment or class of employment notified under sub-section (1) who without reasonable cause—

(i) discontinues the employment of such person, or

(ii) by closing an establishment in which such person is engaged, causes the discontinuance of his employment, shall be guilty of an offence under this section.

Explanation 1.—Abandonment of employment or absence from duty by any person merely for fear of molestation, intimidation or assault by any person or class of persons shall not constitute a reasonable excuse within the meaning of clause (b).

Explanation 2.—A person abandons his employment within the meaning of clause (b), who notwithstanding that it is an express or implied term of his contract of employment that he may terminate his employment on giving notice to his employer of his intention to do so, so terminates his employment without the previous consent of his employer.

Explanation 3.—An employer discontinues the employment of his employee within the meaning of clause (c) (i), who notwithstanding that it is an express or implied term of the contract of employment that he might terminate the employment on giving notice to the employee of his intention to do so, terminates the employment without the previous consent of the employee.

(4) Any person found guilty of an offence under this section shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

(5) If the person contravening any of the provisions of this section is a company or other body corporate, every director-in-charge, manager, secretary or other officer or agent thereof shall, unless he proves that the contravention took place without his knowledge or that he exercised all due diligence to prevent such contravention, be deemed to be guilty of such contravention.

9. (1) The Provincial Government may, for the purpose of securing the public safety or the maintenance of public order, by order addressed to a printer, publisher or editor, or to printers, publishers and editors generally—

(a) require that all matter, or any matter relating to a particular subject or class of subjects, shall before being published in any document or class of documents, be submitted for scrutiny to an authority specified in the order;

(b) prohibit or regulate the making or publishing of any document or class of documents, or of any matter relating to a particular subject or class of subjects, or the use of any press, as defined in the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931.

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(2) If any person contravenes any order made under sub-section (1), then, without prejudice to any other proceedings which may be taken against such person, the Provincial Government may declare to be forfeited to His Majesty every copy of any document published or made in contravention of such order and any press, as defined in the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, used in the making of such document.

(3) If any person contravenes any order made under this section, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

10. (1) If in the opinion of the Provincial Government it is necessary or expedient so to do for securing public safety or the maintenance of public order, or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community, they may, by order in writing, requisition any movable property and may make such further orders as appear to them to be necessary or expedient in connexion with the requisitioning.

(2) Where the Provincial Government have requisitioned any property under sub-section (1), they may use or deal with the property in such manner as may appear to them to be expedient.

(3) Whenever, in pursuance of sub-section (1), the Provincial Government requisition any property, the owner thereof shall be paid such compensation as they may determine:

Provided that, where immediately before the requisition, the property was by virtue of a hire-purchase agreement in the possession of a person other than the owner, the amount determined by the Provincial Government as the total compensation payable in respect of the requisition shall be apportioned between that person and the owner in such manner as they may agree upon, and in default of agreement in such manner as an arbitrator appointed by the Provincial Government in this behalf may decide to be just.

(4) The Provincial Government may, with a view to requisitioning any property under sub-section (1) or determining the compensation payable under sub-section (3), by order—

(a) require any person to furnish to such authority, as may be specified in the order, such information in his possession relating to the property as may be so specified;

(b) direct that the owner or person in possession of the property shall not, without the permission of the Provincial Government, dispose of it or remove it from the premises in which it is kept till the expiry of such period as may be specified in the order.

(5) Without prejudice to any powers otherwise conferred by this section, any person authorized in this behalf by the Provincial Government may enter any premises and inspect such premises and any property therein or thereon for the purpose of determining whether, and if so, in what manner, an order under this section should be made in relation to such property or with a view to securing compliance with any order made under this section.

(6) If any person contravenes any order made under this section, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine, or with both.

11. (1) Any officer of Government authorized in this behalf by general or special order of the Provincial Government may, within such area as may be specified in the order, require any male person in that area to assist in the maintenance or restoration of law and order or in the protection of property for such period and in such manner as the officer may direct.

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(2) If any person fails to comply with any lawful direction given to him under sub-section (1) he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine, or with both.

12. (1) The Provincial Government may, by general or special order, empower any officer to search any place, stop and search any vessel, vehicle or animal, and seize anything which he has reason to believe has been, is being, or is about to be, used for any purpose prejudicial to the public safety or the maintenance of public order.

(2) Any officer empowered under sub-section (1) shall forthwith report to the Provincial Government in detail, any seizure made by him and pending the receipt of their orders, may detain in custody anything so seized or take such other step for its safe custody as he may think proper.

(3) The Provincial Government may make such order as they think fit for the disposal of anything seized under sub-section (1), by destruction, confiscation or in such other manner as they may direct.

(4) An officer empowered under sub-section (1) may, subject to the control of the Provincial Government, authorize any officer subordinate to him to exercise any of the powers referred to in sub-section (1).

Explanation.—For the purpose of this section, 'place' includes a house, building, shed, enclosure and tent.

13. Any Police officer may arrest without warrant any person who is reasonably suspected of having committed an offence punishable under this Act.

14. Any person who attempts to contravene, or abets, or attempts to abet, or does any act preparatory to a contravention of, any of the provisions of this Act or of any order made thereunder, shall be deemed to have contravened that provision or, as the case may be, that order.

15. The Provincial Government may, by order, direct that any power or duty which is conferred or imposed on them shall, in such circumstances and under such conditions, if any, as may be specified in that direction, be exercised or discharged by any officer or authority subordinate to the Provincial Government.

16. (1) No order made in exercise of any power conferred by or under this Act or deemed to have been made under this Act by virtue of section 19 shall be called in question in any Court.

(2) If at the commencement of this Act, there is pending in any Court any proceeding in which the validity of any order made under section 2 of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance, 1947, is called in question, such proceeding shall not be continued and shall be discharged.

(3) Where any such order as is referred to in sub-section (1) purports to have been made and signed by any authority in exercise of any power conferred by or under this Act, a Court shall, within the meaning of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, presume that such order was so made by such authority.

17. (1) No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act.

(2) No suit, or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Provincial Government for any damage caused or likely to be caused by anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act.

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the provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other Act, Ordinance or Regulation for the time being in force.

The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance, 1947, is hereby repealed.

All orders made under the said Ordinance and in force immediately at the commencement of this Act shall continue in force and be deemed to have been made, and shall have effect as if they had been made, under

provided that in respect of all orders made under sub-section (1) of the said Ordinance and in force immediately before the commencement of this Act, the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 2 and of this Act shall, so far as may be, apply as if the orders were made under this Act.

Madras
Ordinance
I of
1947.

Central
Act I
of 1872.

Madras
Ordinance I
of 1947.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 7th March 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Inclusion of menial staff in regular establishments.

* 76 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: With reference to answer to Question No. 53 and supplementary questions and answers to it on the 11th September 1946, will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to include all the 'menial' staff employed in the hospitals in the regular establishment;

(b) whether the question of providing leave reserve for the menial staff is under consideration;

(c) whether all the menial staff employed in Government hospitals will be governed by leave rules applicable to other public servants; and

(d) whether the members of the menial staff who retire prematurely would be entitled to gratuity or proportionate pension?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(a), (c) & (d) The Cabinet Salaries Committee have made certain recommendations regarding the conversion of a portion of the contingent establishment and the grant of leave on pay and gratuity for such establishment. The Surgeon-General has been requested to submit proposals for giving effect to these recommendations.

“(b) A Committee constituted by the Surgeon-General to examine and report on the conditions of service of hospital workers has made certain suggestions in the matter, which are under consideration separately.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know whether the Cabinet Sub-Committee's Report has given reasons why only a portion of the menial staff is to be employed on a permanent basis.”

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“The Salaries Sub-Committee recommended that only such of those contingent labour as is required for the efficient conduct of each department should be made permanent and not the entire lot of contingent establishment.”

Distribution of mill cloth in Malabar.

* 77 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the distribution of mill cloth in Malabar district is to be entrusted exclusively to the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies;

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(b) whether it is proposed to extend this arrangement to areas where similar societies have been brought into existence or will be organized;

(c) whether there are sufficient number of producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies specially in Malabar to serve conveniently interior and remote villages;

(d) whether this policy of preference to producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies is to be adopted even where suitable existing co-operative organizations are willing to undertake the distribution of cloth or yarn;

(e) whether the Government have received complaints that this preference shown to producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies will practically drive the retailers in mill cloth from the field;

(f) whether it is a fact that the retail dealers in mill cloth hold licences under the Textile Control Order, having satisfied the conditions laid down therein;

(g) whether it is a fact that this policy amounts in the opinion of cloth-dealers to a breach of faith; and

(h) whether it is proposed to continue the new licensing policy only temporarily or for all time to come?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) & (d) While the intention of the Government is to utilize to the extent practicable the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies for the distribution of mill-made cloth, they do not propose to prohibit other suitable co-operative societies from undertaking the work. Each case will be decided on its merits, due regard being paid to local conditions.

“(c) There are 106 producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies in Malabar which are sufficient to serve conveniently the whole of the district including interior and remote villages except the Attapadi Valley, which is a special area. The question of making arrangements for the supply of cloth in that area is under consideration.

“(d) The question has been answered.

“(e) Yes.

“(f) Yes.

“(g) No.

“(h) The new licensing policy will be continued as long as control over the distribution of mill cloth and yarn exists and after if circumstances necessitate.

“In view of the representations made to Government that merchants who will be eliminated under the decision to distribute mill cloth in the Malabar district exclusively through the agency of the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies, should be given some time to enable them to adjust themselves to the changed conditions and as it will take some time for the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies to make adequate arrangements for the distribution of mill cloth, the

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Government have decided to postpone the introduction of the revised arrangements to 1st June 1947. For the same reasons, the Government have also decided to defer the decision to utilize the existing co-operative organizations and the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies for distribution of cloth in the district other than Malabar till the end of May 1947.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know what is the area of operations of each producers-cum-consumer's co-operative society?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“Each firka has got two or three societies and the whole district is included for distribution.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know whether there are two or three sub-depots under each society for the distribution of cloth and other necessities?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I take it is so.”

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“Is it not a fact, Sir, that these 106 societies have taken over the control of the entire 3,000 ration shops in the district?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“It is so, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know who is the deciding authority whether certain co-operative societies other than producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies can also be entrusted with this task of distributing cloth?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“The department concerned, Sir.”

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—“Will it not be possible to distribute through those shops which have been taken over by the co-operative societies?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“Yes, Sir.”

Issue of licences to merchants.

* 78 Q.—SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a fresh licence was issued to Messrs. Rukmani Stores, Royapetta High Road, Madras, while rejecting the applications of many other merchants during the basic period;

(b) if so, the reasons for such favoured treatment;

(c) what is the policy of the Government in issuing fresh licences;

(d) whether it is true that the estimated additional expenses for the transfer of the Textile department to the Collectorate is nearly seven lakhs of rupees per year;

(e) if so, the reason for such transfer at such an enormous expense;

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
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(d) whether the members of the menial staff who retire prematurely would be entitled to gratuity or proportionate pension?

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI:—“(a), (c) & (d) The Cabinet Salaries Committee have made certain recommendations regarding the conversion of a portion of the contingent establishment and the grant of leave on pay and gratuity for such establishment. The Surgeon-General has been requested to submit proposals for giving effect to these recommendations.

“(b) A Committee constituted by the Surgeon-General to examine and report on the conditions of service of hospital workers has made certain suggestions in the matter, which are under consideration separately.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know whether the Cabinet Sub-Committee's Report has given reasons why only a portion of the menial staff is to be employed on a permanent basis.”

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Distribution of mill cloth in Malabar.

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(a) whether the distribution of mill cloth in Malabar district is to be entrusted exclusively to the producers-cum-consumers' co-operative societies;

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(f) whether it is a fact that all the blackmarket cases of the Textile department have been transferred to the Police department; and if so, why;

(g) whether the Government propose to transfer this from the Police department; and

(h) whether it is a fact that Assistant Textile Commissioners are going to be appointed to each district to help the Collectors in the transaction of the textile business; and if so, whether fair distribution of these appointments according to the linguistic groups of districts will be made?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“(a) & (b) The Proprietor of Messrs. Rukmani Stores, Royapetta, Sri D. Krishnan and his brother were running a piecegoods shop at Chintadripet, Madras, under the name and style of “Rajam and Co.” till the year 1942 when due to the evacuation of the city their shop was closed down. One of the partners joined war service. In May 1946, when conditions improved, Sri D. Krishnan applied for licence to do business at Royapetta under the new name and style of “Rukmani Stores.” This was granted to him as he had done business in the years 1940, 1941 and 1942 and as the subsequent break in business was due to causes beyond his control.

“Persons who had done business during the basic period and were eligible for a licence under the rules were not refused a licence when they applied for it with sufficient proof. All applications for licences were disposed of on their merits.

“(c) The policy of the Government in regard to the issue of fresh licences is laid down in paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 4653, Development, dated 19th December 1946, copies of which were communicated to all the members of the Legislature.

“(d) & (e) In order to secure the efficient working of the new scheme of distribution of cloth and yarn with the assistance of local committees the Government considered that Collectors should be made fully responsible for all items of textile control work which could be done on a district basis. The Textile Control Department was reorganized accordingly. The annual cost of the reorganization is estimated at Rs. 1.44 lakhs based on the average salaries of the posts created. The actual cost is likely to be much less as most of the officers are paid only the minimum of the scales and as the estimate does not include the savings due to retrenchment in the office of the Provincial Textile Commissioner. The extra cost will be fully met by the receipts from licence fees collected by the Department.

“(f) It is not correct to say that all blackmarketing cases of the Textile Control Department have been transferred to the Police. The Government have only removed certain restrictions which were imposed on the Police in the enforcement of textile control measures in order to facilitate the drive against blackmarketing and hoarding of controlled articles like cloth and yarn.

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“(g) The answer is in the negative.

“(h) The Government have already appointed one Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner for each district in this Province. The appointments were made only on a linguistic basis, i.e., Telugu officers have been posted for Telugu districts and Tamil officers for Tamil districts, etc.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Have any qualifications been prescribed for the Assistant Inspecting Textile Commissioner?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“There are no special qualifications but certainly they are persons well entitled to hold office that has been given to them.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know how many of them are officials and how many are non-officials?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I shall be very glad to have notice; I gave this information to the other House yesterday and I shall give that information if notice is given.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know whether a knowledge of textiles is one of the qualifications prescribed?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“No, Sir. These are temporary appointments and as a matter of fact, the officers who have been appointed have acquitted themselves well and have run the department in a satisfactory and proper manner.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that one of the Assistant Textile Commissioners did not even know that the yarn has to go through certain process before it is put in the loom?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I take the information from the hon. Member.”

SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR:—“Textile Commissioner -க்கு பதிலாக முன்னால் பழையபடி இருந்தவர்களிடமே கொடுத்தால் நன்றாக இருக்காநா? என்று கேட்கிறேன்.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“He is asking why not revert to the old system of control?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“The Government have considered the original scheme and have come to this conclusion. Let us try that department for some time.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know if the Assistant Textile Commissioners are under the control and supervision of Collectors?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“Yes, Sir.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether most of the non-officials who have been appointed have had nothing to do either with spinning or weaving?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“I cannot say so.”

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SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ May I know whether for any of these temporary appointments any one from the Ceded Districts has been appointed? ”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“ I am not absolutely certain; but there must be one. I shall look into it.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ With reference to answer to (b) will the Hon. Minister say that there are no cases of favoured treatment in regard to granting of licences? ”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“ Certainly not, Sir.”

Varagu food poisoning cases.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Anybody authorized to put the question? ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ I have not been authorized; but if you permit, I shall put it.”

* 79 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Lt.-Col. K. R. Iyengar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) the number of varagu food poisoning cases that have been reported since January 1946;

(b) what investigations have been carried out in connexion with recent outbreak at different parts of this Province;

(c) the measures that have been adopted to ensure that the rice issued is free from poisonous effects; and

(d) whether the Government propose to institute an enquiry by experts so as to control or eradicate this menace?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ (a) Since January 1946 a few cases have been reported in respect of the districts of Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Chingleput, Ramnad and Salem, to which some varagu had been sent from the Tanjore district to meet millets scarcity. Even in 1944-45 the Collectors of Ramnad and South Arcot reported to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies that the varagu supplied to their districts was causing giddiness and vomiting to consumers.

“ (b) & (c) The Assistant Entomologist, Trichinopoly, and the Millets Specialist, Coimbatore, who examined the grain in 1945 suggested some methods for avoiding the toxic effects of the grain and these methods were circularized to the Collectors concerned for giving publicity. In spite of the wide publicity given, persons in the other districts have either not been adopting the methods or are finding it difficult to adopt them successfully.

“ (d) The Surgeon-General and the Director of Public Health have taken the matter on hand and are investigating. Pending receipt of a report from them the stocking and issue of varagu in ration shops have been prohibited. However, the issue of varagu outside the ration and its sale for use as starch and cattle feed have been permitted.”

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

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR
1947-48—cont,

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Sir, as you all know, the district that I represent is Bellary, a bi-lingual district. For the most part, it is predominantly a Kannada district and a portion of it is Andhra. Three taluks in the district are Telugu taluks. As it is a bi-lingual district, it is somehow neglected by the Ministry. My electorate always complain to me to represent this fact before this House so that the interests of the district might receive due recognition from the Ministry. This is quite manifest in the appointments that have recently been made. In the appointments of Assistant Textile Officers, I do not find any representative from Bellary district. In my district, there are several people who have got better qualifications, and some of these might have been appointed. But still their claims have not been recognized. I hear, Sir, that the qualifications taken note of were the sacrifices made from 1942-45 by the persons that have been appointed. There are B.A., B.Ls. and B.As. in Bellary district who have made such sacrifices and none of them has received recognition. They have asked me to represent this matter here. After all, it may be a very minor consideration, but still this causes dissatisfaction. Not only in this matter alone, but in every case of new appointments, my district is lost sight of. I do not want to multiply instances. I want to bring to the notice of the Ministry one important point in this connection. Bellary district has got all the disadvantages of a bi-lingual district. You know that an Engineering College is to be provided for the Rayalaseema districts. The college is now located temporarily at Cocanada or Guntur. Its permanent location has not yet been settled by the Ministry. Among the Rayalaseema districts, Bellary is the premier city which has got the largest population, and is the most commercial town. Besides, you have got a number of buildings there which had been occupied by the Pioneer Corps and which are now vacant. Also the Alipuram Jail premises are there, and now we have the Tungabhadra Project in operation. That being so, anybody would think that Bellary is the most convenient, and the fittest place for the location of the Engineering College. I find provision has been made in the budget for this. Somehow, Sir, other interests are at work, and on considerations that in the distant future when Karnataka Province is formed, Bellary may go into that Province, the college is not to be located in Bellary. I appeal to the Ministry to see that such considerations do not prevail. Let them take the map of Madras Province as it is at present, and give due recognition to my district. We lost the Government college, which is now in Anantapur. Every other college we are losing on account of these small considerations. I appeal to the Ministry to locate the Engineering College in Bellary alone.

“ Having said this much about my district, Sir. I now want to speak on the textile policy of the Government. It has received approbation from the highest quarters, including Mahatma Gandhi,

[Sri B. Bhima Rao] [7th March 1947]

and really I feel very nervous to broach upon this subject. But, I submit that Government should recognize facts as they exist at present and give some exemption or make some modifications in their textile policy with regard to the districts of Bellary and Anantapur. It might be within the recollection of the Hon. the Premier, when he was Revenue Minister in 1938, that he appointed a committee to enquire into the famine conditions prevailing in the Ceded districts. A report was published in which it was recommended that three spinning mills should be located in the Ceded districts. The reason for that was this. The districts of Bellary and Anantapur produce cotton, and annually one lakh of bales are exported from Bellary, Guntakal and Adoni to Ahmedabad, Bombay and other places. If cotton is utilised in our own districts, it will give employment to so many labourers and afterwards the yarn may be woven into cloth. That was the object with which the committee recommended that three spinning mills should be located in the Ceded districts. But subsequently the Ministry resigned, and no action could be taken on that. During the administration of the Advisers, this recommendation was taken note of. As a result, several applicants came forward to establish mills, and they were all granted spindles—in all about 50,000 and odd. The present Government now says 'we shall not receive these spindles and we shall not allow the erection of any mills. Sir, Rayalaseema is not industrialized. If these mills are not erected, there will be no employment for many a labourer. The Tungabhadra Project will only touch a fringe of the population, and hence there will be many without employment. By erecting these mills . . . (Sri K. Madhava Menon: 'Let them all spin.') My Hon. friend says—and also the Hon. Premier says—let them all spin. Sir, after this policy was announced by the Government I have gone to about 30 major villages where within a furlong of their homes, cotton is grown. I asked them 'why don't you spin cotton and produce yarn, and afterwards weave it into cloth.' They said that for so many years they had not been used to that work, and confessed their inability to do it now. I think this is not a case of riding two horses as the Premier puts it. I think both can go together. In the case of the Rayalaseema districts, some exemption should be made. This is the time, we thought, to establish the industry in the Rayalaseema districts. But we find this dispute going on between the Central Government and this Provincial Government with regard to the reception of spindles. This is causing injury to the interests of Rayalaseema. I hope the Ministry will take into consideration the recommendation of the Famine Code Revision Committee, a recommendation which the Hon. the Premier accepted before resigning office in 1939, and permit these spindles to be received by those to whom they have been assigned, and see that the mills are allowed to work. I say this in the general interests of the people of the Rayalaseema districts. Otherwise, they would be in the same poor, famished condition in which they are at present. They have asked me to voice forth this feeling of

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theirs in this House. That is why I have taken the courage to mention this in this House in spite of the proclaimed policy of the Government.

"The next question that I want to refer to is the question of commercial taxes. When the general sales tax was introduced in the year 1939, I believe a question was put to the then Hon. the Premier as to how much revenue was expected to be realized by this tax. He said that it would be somewhere in the neighbourhood of Rs. 50 lakhs. At that time instructions were given that certain items should not be subjected to the General Sales Tax Act. For several years, some items were not at all taxed. But, suddenly, I think by the end of 1945-46, in Bellary district, various items which were not taxed previously, were taxed. Appeals were preferred to the Commercial Tax Officers and subsequently to the Board of Revenue. The appeals to the Board of Revenue elicited the usual reply 'The Board declines to interfere.' I think the revenue from this commercial tax now is something in the neighbourhood of Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 crores. My submission—and that of the mercantile community—is that there should be a more independent judicial tribunal to determine these cases, especially when questions of law are involved, such as whether certain items are liable to taxation or not. When these questions are to be determined, I think it is better that a committee consisting of a judicial officer and two other retired administrative officers is constituted, instead of determining them by senior officers of the department. This will give some relief to the mercantile community. One thing more which I want to mention in connection with this commercial tax is that the department takes a long time to dispose of appeals, and before the appeals are disposed of, they start prosecutions against those who have not paid the tax. I think it is only fair that when a certain matter is under consideration on a point of law, no proceedings by way of prosecution should take place. I think it is a rule in Bellary district that these prosecutions are started with a view to the realization of the amount even before the question is disposed of on appeal. I think Government should issue instructions to see that such prosecutions are not launched before the determination of the appeals.

11-30
a.m.

"One more subject and I shall finish. It is the question of the salaries of the poor-paid elementary school teachers. The increases that have been given are still unsatisfactory. I think their salary should be increased to Rs. 30 per mensem, which, I think, is given in other provinces. And unless that is done I think there will be grave dissatisfaction. In the case of aided schools, though it is mentioned in the budget that some lakhs are given to private managements to enable them to pay dearness allowance to their teachers, I am informed that they have not yet received any substantial help. I think they must be given extra help besides that mentioned in the budget memorandum. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat."

*SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR:—"தலைவர் அவர்களே, போன வருஷ பட்ஜெட்டின்போது சில மாறுதல்களை நான் எடுத்துச் சொல்லியும் இப்பொழுது கவர்ன்மெண்டு servant attitude அப்படியேதான்

[Sri S. A. S. Rm. Ramanathan Chettiyar] [17th March 1947]

இருக்கிறது. Change பண்ணவே இல்லை. பழைய தோரணையில்தான் இருந்து வருகிறது, மாறவில்லை. பொது ஜனங்களிடத்தில் வரி வாங்கி Treasury ஐ நிறப்புகிறார்கள். அந்த பொது ஜனங்களால் பாஸ் பண்ணிப் பட்டுட்டைத் தான் நாம் அமுலுக்கு கொண்டுவரவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அந்தப்படி பாஸ் பண்ணிப் பட்டுட்டை பணத்தைத்தான் அதிகாரிகளுக்கு சம்பளம் கொடுக்கிறோம். அப்படி சம்பளம் வாங்கும் அதிகாரிகள் இன்னும் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கு செளகரியங்கள் செய்வதாக தெரியவில்லை. தவிர பொது மக்களிடமிருந்து வரி வசூலில் நாம் சம்பளம் வாங்குகிறோம் என்ற உணர்ச்சி கருகு அளவுகூட இல்லை.

“இப்பொழுது Sales tax போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். வரி போடுவதற்கு கணக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டுபோனால் 28-ம் தேதி வாய்தா என்று கொண்டு போனால் இப்பொழுது கணக்குப் பார்க்கமுடியாது போய் வா, 15 நாட்கள் கழித்துவா என்றும் சொல்லி அனுப்பிவிடுகிறார்கள். தங்களுக்கு வேலை இருக்கிறது என்று சொல்லியனுப்பிவிடுகிறார்கள். ரூபாய் 20 லட்சம் முதல் போட்டு வியாபாரம் செய்கிறவர்கள் கணக்குகள் ரசீது, பில் புலத்தகம் வகையாக கணக்கு வைத்திருப்பார்கள். அதை மோட்பாரிலும், லாரியிலும், train-லும் எடுத்துக்கொண்டு போய்விட்டு திரும்பிவருகிறார்கள். அடுத்த வாரம் வா என்று அதிகாரிகள் சொல்லி அனுப்பிவிடுகிறார்கள். அடுத்த வாரம் Meeting அப்பொழுது வா என்று சொல்லி யனுப்பிவிடுகிறார்கள். லட்சக் கணக்கில் வியாபாரம் செய்கிறவர்களை இந்த மாதிரி கணக்குப் பார்க்காமல் அனுப்புவது சரியல்ல. நமது கவர்ன்மெண்டார் இருக்கும் போது இவ்வளவு கஷ்டங்கள் எதற்கு. இதைப் பார்த்தால் அதிகாரிகள் வியாபாரிகளை அடியோடு நசுக்குவதாக இருக்கிறது. கவர்ன்மெண்டில் வியாபாரத்தை விட்டு விட்டு போகச் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். கோவாபரேடிவ் சொசைட்டி வைக்கப்போகிறார்களாம் இந்த கள்ள மார்க்கெட்டை ஒழிக்க. அது என்ன ஆகப்போகிறதோ, எப்படி நடக்கப்போகிறதோ தெரியவில்லை.

“போலீஸ்காரர்கள் பொது ஜனங்களிடத்தில் நன்றாக பழகவேண்டும் என்று பம்பாயில் உத்திரவு போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி இல்லாவிட்டால் Services action எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்படும் என்று உத்திரவு போட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அந்த மாதிரி நம்மாகாணத்திலும் இருக்கவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். போலீஸ்காரர்களுக்கு இன்னும் அதிகாரம் ஜாஸ்தி கொடுக்கிறதாக தெரிகிறது. முன்பு எல்லாம் Textile department-ல் கேஸ்கள் கண்டுபிடித்தால் Textile Commissioner prosecute செய்வதாக இருந்தது. இப்பொழுது அதுமாதிரி இல்லாமல் போலீஸ்காரர்கள் கையில் அந்த அதிகாரத்தை கொடுத்திருப்பதாக தெரிகிறது. இப்பொழுது சேலத்தில் கூட 2, 3 கேஸ்கள் நடக்கிறதாக கேள்வி. போலீஸ்காரர்கள் எவ்வளவு நம்பிக்கையாக இருப்பார்கள் என்று எல்லோருக்கும் தெரியும். அதைப்பற்றி சொல்ல வேலை இல்லை. அவர்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது இருக்கிற அதிகாரம் போதும் சட்டசபையில் கொண்டுவந்து பாஸ் பண்ணவேண்டியது இல்லை. ஏற்கனவே அவர்கள் கையில் நிறைய அதிகாரம் இருக்கிறது. ஏற்கனவே அவர்கள் ரோடில் அங்கே போ இங்கே போ என்று சொல்லுகிறார்கள். இன்னும் அதிக அதிகாரம் தேவை இல்லை. இதை பிரதமர் அவர்களிடம் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

“இரண்டாவதாக முக்கியமாக இந்த கவர்ன்மெண்டு ப்யூன்களுக்கு சம்பளம் போதாது. அவர்கள் அதிகம் இருக்கிறார்கள். நாமும் சாப்பிடுகிறோம். அவர்களும் சாப்பிடுகிறார்கள். சதாரணமாக அவர்களும் அரிசிதான் சாப்பிடுகிறார்கள். மற்றவர்களும் அரிசி சாப்பிடுகிறார்கள். ரூபாய் 4,000, 5,000 சம்பளம் வாங்குகிறவர்கள் சாப்பிடுவதும் இந்த ப்யூன்கள் சாப்பிடுவதும் ஒன்றுதான். அவர்கள் குழம்பு, ரசம், சாதம் முதலியவைகள் சாப்பிடுவார்கள், கூட பால் சாப்பிடுவார்கள். ஆனால் அரிசி எல்லோருக்கும் ஒன்றுதான். வேறு வித்யாசம் இல்லை. சாப்பாடு all the same ஒன்றுதான். அதுவும் பட்டுட்டில் வந்திருக்கிறது. ப்யூன்களுக்கு கொஞ்சம் ஜாஸ்தி கொடுக்க வேண்டும். அது ரொம்பவும் அவசியம். ரூபாய் 2,000, 5,000 என்று சம்பளம் வாங்குகிறவர்களிடம் 100, 200 குறைத்துவிடலாம். அதற்காக அதிகாரிகள் என்னை கோபிக்கமாட்டார்கள். அவர்களுடைய சம்பளத்தில் out பண்ணி இவர்களுக்கு செலவழிக்கலாம். அவர்களுக்கு (அதிகாரிகளுக்கு) மாதம் ரூபாய் 1,000 சம்பளம் வந்தால் போதும். அவர்

[Sri S. A. S. Rm. Ramanathan Chettiyar] [7th March 1947]

களுக்கு பணம் surplus இருக்கும். இதைப் பார்த்து ப்யூன்களுக்கு எப்படி பாவது செய்யவேண்டியது அவசியம். எவ்வளவு செய்யமுடியுமோ அவ்வளவு செய்யும்படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். ஒளவையார் ‘ஏழைகள் அமுத கண்ணீர் கூறிய வானொடு ஒக்கும்’ என்று சொல்லி இருக்கிறார்கள். அதையும் ஞாபகத்தில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு தக்கபடி கவனிக்கவேண்டும்.”

* SRI K. NATARAJAN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I presume budgets are prepared after a perusal of the discussions in both the chambers of the Legislature. And also interpellations in the two Houses are taken note of by the Ministers or the departments concerned, so that the suggestions contained therein may be adopted wherever possible. I presume that should be the practice especially as this House has no opportunity of moving any cut notions. I have been at some pains, after the budgets were received, to go through the proceedings of the Council and the Assembly during the last ten or twelve months to see what were the suggestions made therein and what were the interpellations made, and whether any of the suggestions contained therein have been carried out in the framing of the budget. I find, it must be aid to the credit of the Cabinet, that some suggestions have been incorporated. And I must certainly formally congratulate the Premier for that. I do not want to expatiate on the congratulation portion of the speech upon the introduction of Prohibition in eight more districts and on the abolition of the betting tax. I also congratulate the Ministry on bringing forward proposals for rationalization of industries. All the same I want to suggest certain points very briefly, as it were simply touching them for any further discussion later on.

“ I shall in the first place devote myself to law and order. More than one speaker in the Council and in the Assembly during the course of the previous debates expatiated on the necessity of retaining or abolishing civil courts in the province. So far as Tanjore district is concerned I may say there are two district courts here, one of which is in Tanjore and the other is at Negapatam. If course, there is not enough work for two courts. And it is a question of which district court should be abolished; is it the one at Negapatam or at Tanjore? I am a retiring practitioner and it is immaterial to me which district court is abolished. If I am to suggest the abolition of the district court at Negapatam perhaps may be found fault by the young practitioners there; and if I am to suggest the abolition of the district court at Tanjore I may be incurring the displeasure of lawyers at Tanjore. Anyhow the records will show what amount of work is there in the two courts. From the statistics the Ministers will certainly see that there is absolutely no justification for the retention of two district courts in that district. That is one thing I wanted to say.

“ The next point I want to deal with is with regard to the general policy of Government. So far as the ryots in estates are concerned they are governed mostly by the Estates Land Act, and their cases are now dealt with generally by the Deputy Collectors. And here I should not be misunderstood as though I am casting any personal aspersions on any of the Deputy Collectors. Many of them are well qualified and have sound grounding in law. But

[Sri K. Natarajan]

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owing to their frequent camping in remote places and due to their other work, there is inordinate delay in the disposal of cases. Considering the fact that there is very little work in civil courts I would suggest an amendment of the Estates Land Act for the transfer of jurisdiction of those cases to civil courts.

"Then coming to the revenue side of administration I would suggest, and in fact I have been anticipated by my revered friend, Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar, who questioned whether Government contemplate the abolition of the jamabandi system. It is always a recognized fact that very little work is transacted then; there is a lot of confusion prevalent; and it is better one pauses for a while and consider what is the work that is done during jamabandi. Transfer of pattas? When sale deeds are executed and registered, a communication is made then and there to the department concerned to effect that, upon which automatically pattas are transferred. Is it the net assessment that is fixed then? No. Even that is made beforehand. It is during jamabandi that chances for corruption are very many, and if it is abolished it will be a good act of retrenchment. Then there is the Revenue Board. As far as I can see, even from the answer of the Minister it is evident, that this body may, if not totally abolished, be very much curtailed; because it has outlived its usefulness.

"Then I come to two local grievances of Tanjore town. For example, as far as the local and municipal department is concerned, in Tanjore, the Tanjore drainage scheme has been kept in abeyance for about fifteen years to my knowledge.

11-45 a.m. "Sir, the Government were asked certain questions regarding drainage schemes in the Province and they gave a reply to the effect that some drainage schemes were given effect to in other districts. But so far as Tanjore and Kumbakonam are concerned the schemes have not been given effect to. It may be due to paucity of funds. But, Sir, Manambuchavadi in Tanjore is suffering very much for want of a proper drainage scheme and it is the cause for many diseases there.

"There is also one other thing which I should refer to with great trepidation so far as Ministerial tours are concerned. I beg the pardon of Hon. Ministers, Sir, I do not mean any particular Minister. It is a general impression amongst the population that at least 10 per cent of the expenditure on tours is unnecessary. I would only throw out a suggestion for suitable action to be taken by any Minister. It is not a reflection upon any particular Minister, either coming or going or now occupying the office here. Ministers are no doubt invited, cordially invited by people, so that they may have a very grand function. People more or less think that it is a demonstrative show. I think we need not give any encouragement for these ideas and many of these tours may very well be cut. Of course, these are all very small points and there may not be a large reduction in expenditure, but I am in duty bound to voice forth the impressions of the public, namely, that there are more Ministerial tours than are necessary in this Province.

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"Then, Sir, I shall refer to one other small matter. In Tanjore we have the Saraswathi Mahal which is something like an Oriental Institute. There we have been demanding some donation or grant from the Government for the running of the Saraswathi Mahal. About Rs. 1 lakh was set apart by the claimants to the Tanjore Palace Estate for the running of this Saraswathi Mahal. On account of a change of investment from one Government security to another we are in want of funds now. Memorials were sent to the concerned Minister and I request that they may also be favourably considered.

"As far as the question of agricultural income-tax is concerned that is a question on which I want the permission of the President to dwell for 4 or 5 minutes. It is the accredited policy of the Congress Party and nobody, at any rate on my side, can take exception to the imposition of agricultural income-tax. But at the same time we also plead for the introduction of this agricultural income-tax after the land revenue policy is settled. We are now going to have some settlement of the policy with regard to the zamindari, but we have not yet settled the land revenue policy so far as the ryotwari lands are concerned. We know that a Special Officer has been deputed to send questionnaires, receive answers and submit a report. I think we can very well wait for that report. Then a legislation will be required based on the report. Till then, Sir, the matter may be postponed. Sir, what is it that is expected from the agricultural income-tax? One crore of rupees is said to be expected. I think that is a very exaggerated estimate. Now if you fix the rate and the extent of land under the Agricultural Income-tax Act, what is there to prevent the partition of these big landed estates. In that case the agricultural income-tax will be reduced or it may have to be abolished altogether. You cannot at one strain bring a drastic legislation that partition should not be made as between two people.

"As was remarked in the Legislative Assembly it is a fiction to suppose that the mirasdars are rich. Even those who own 20, 30 or 100 velis of land, who presumably are looked upon as rich, come under the Agriculturists Debt Relief Act, and have received relief under the Act. In the report of the Government you will see that so many mirasdars throughout the Province have been given relief under the Agriculturists Debt Relief Act. Then especially in Tanjore there is agrarian trouble. I therefore say that the present is a very inopportune time to impose this excessive agricultural income-tax on these people. It may be introduced at least a year hence. When they are not at all satisfied, when they are facing so many difficulties with ryots on the one side and the Government taxing on the other, the present is not the opportune moment for the Government to impose an agricultural income-tax.

"If the agricultural income-tax has to be imposed at all I should like to make one suggestion by which the Government could curtail a large amount in expenditure. I want to make a suggestion about the system of appointing officers. Instead of asking the officers to enquire about a number of things, the income

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of a particular mirasidar, supervision of accounts, taking evidence, etc., you fix the revenue payable by him as the basis and then fix also his proportional income, taking the average for the last three years as a basis. This will involve less expenditure. This will be more satisfactory and then this will also avoid the necessity of the mirasdar having to go to the officers concerned with his accounts, etc., and taking other troubles. This will give satisfaction and there will be no necessity for any additional department. Once you begin a reform in any direction, just as in the Textile department, prohibition, etc., that will involve cost. If you adopt my suggestion, a suggestion which has emanated from many people,—and I understand that many memorials have been submitted to the Government upon this point—in regard to the agricultural income-tax, the expense will be lessened and it will benefit the mirasdar also at the present time.

“Then a lump sum of Rs. 5,000 has been fixed. I suggest that this should also be fixed at a higher level consistent with rise in prices, so that all this unnecessary expenditure may be taken away.

“Another thing is about the Textile policy. Sir, Mahatma Gandhi has blessed it and we are bound to support it. Everything is there. But in the working of the instructions of the Government there is a grievous defect which I have to point out. In the Tanjore district there has been considerable delay for nearly 2 months, goods have not been received in the market. Some 1,500 bales worth some lakhs of rupees are now with the wholesale merchants without instructions being given as regards their distribution to the retail dealers at considerable loss of interest to the wholesale dealers concerned. Representations have been made and copies of those representations are with me. No orders have yet been passed on the subject. The matter came up before the Textile Committee of the district in which I was present and we have appointed a sub-committee which will meet a month hence. The Government may take note of this thing as the matter is lying undisposed for so many months.

“Another question which I want to deal with is with regard to the separation of the judiciary from the executive. Sir, this question was raised when the Ministry came into power and an expert committee was also appointed. I understand that they have submitted their report. Afterwards it has not received any attention. A question was put to the Hon. the Minister for Law. He said that it has not been shelved. Any further delay in this will certainly be not to the credit of the Government. I therefore suggest that the scheme also may be expedited.”

* SRI COLLURU VEERABHADRA RAO:—“I take the occasion, Sir, to congratulate the Hon. Premier in bringing out a popular Ministry's budget, calculated to improve the condition of the masses of the province as a whole, and for the eradication of the exploitation of the many by a few, and for the economic soundness of the province, by the introduction of new schemes regarding food, cloth, rural development and co-operative societies.

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in spite of obvious obstructions from vested interests. Let me point out, Sir, the political situation of the province when these schemes were chalked out. There were labour strikes and lock-outs throughout the province and agrarian troubles, and riotings created by Communists in the South. The Ministry deserves warmest congratulations for having settled the labour disputes amicably and to the satisfaction of both the parties and for restoring law and order in the riot-affected areas in the South promptly and for having maintained the whole province in a calm and peaceful atmosphere while the whole country was infected with communal riotings. Now coming to the food situation, Sir, when the Ministry assumed charge of office the food position of this province was really disheartening and famine was hovering. Under such circumstances the Honourable Premier had himself taken charge of the helm and steered the country to safety. The Honourable Premier had instituted a scheme of subsidy to the producer and tempted him to part with his surplus paddy and thereby gave a fillip to procurement. Now, Sir, we are glad that the Government have increased the rice ration to 12 oz., but even this is quite insufficient for the normal nourishment of body and more so in the case of manual labourer who is now denied of his privilege so graciously extended before by sanctioning additional ration. We will be glad, Sir, if this ration is increased to 16 oz. during the forthcoming year. We welcome the Government's intention to encourage co-operation in this province, and thereby eradicate the social evils of blackmarketing and corruption prevalent in the merchant community and the exploitation of the many by a few. By the introduction of the producers' *cum* consumers co-operative societies, the society as a whole will thrive and reap the profits and this scheme is the long cherished dream of Mahatma Gandhi and which I am proud to say Sir, our popular Ministry is the first in materializing the idea and setting an example to the rest of the provinces. While appreciating the intention of the Government to introduce these co-operative societies in all the districts after finding the working of the experimental societies now established in four districts, it will be much appreciated if the Government beforehand eliminates the wholesale dealer in statutory rationed areas and undertake the distribution of all pulses, millets and dhalls, by the Government departmentally.

“I also welcome, Sir, the Government's proposal to introduce prohibition in eight more districts and congratulate the Ministry in taking such a bold step and advancing so rapidly by introducing prohibition in sixteen districts in so short a time. And further I expect the Government to introduce prohibition in the rest of the province by the end of next year and thereby eradicate the Drink-Demon in the province and ensure peaceful and prosperous living of the drink afflicted people.

“The Government were pleased to sanction four crores of rupees for Rural Reconstruction and Harijan Uplift schemes and 27 firkas were selected to experiment the scheme. Firka Development Officers were appointed in these selected firkas who were doing admirable work, but due to lack of official co-operation and

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understanding, the Firka Development Officers were unable to function efficiently. I am sorry to note, Sir, that in most of the cases the District Collectors were recalcitrant in one way or the other in the functioning of these schemes and I am afraid, Sir, if the outlook of these officers is not changed, the scheme cannot operate in the best interest of the people. In most of the firkas, the surveys were over and consolidated reports were submitted, but it is disheartening to note that none of the proposed developments in the firkas materialized. The people in the firkas were awaiting the fruition of these schemes and as time goes on they are becoming impatient and suspicious whether the proposed developments will ever materialize. Unless prompt action is taken to materialize the development schemes in the selected firkas, I am afraid, Sir, the enthusiasm and determination with which the schemes are planned will relapse.

"I am sorry to note, Sir, that even though a crore of rupees were sanctioned and set apart for Harijan Uplift, little or no money was spent under this scheme which requires immediate operation for banishing the social evil of untouchability, and for bettering the condition of Harijans in this province. I will be glad, Sir, if immediate arrangements are to be made for constructing Harijan colonies in the selected firkas in the first instance as a model village reconstruction and extended to the rest of the province also as more funds are available for this scheme in future.

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noon.

"The Government deserves warmest congratulations and commendation for giving effect to one of the principal items of the election manifesto, that of intensifying the production of khadi and thereby solve the cloth famine and the economic condition of the villagers. I am proud to tell you, Sir, that our popular Ministry under the leadership of our Honourable Premier is the first to materialize the long cherished desire of Mahatma Gandhi and the avowed wish of each and every Congressman, and again set an example to the rest of the provinces. I am glad, Sir, that the Government have set apart a lakh of rupees for establishing libraries in the selected firkas, but I wish to point out, Sir, that this grant is quite meagre and welcome further allotment of funds under this head. The Government should forthwith enforce compulsory elementary education to children of school-going age all over the province and banish illiteracy in the province. In this connexion let me point out, Sir, that the salaries of primary and elementary school teachers is quite inadequate and request the Government to consider their case also on a par with other establishments and raise the general standard of living of the teachers, who are the backbone of education and the imparters and trainers of our citizens of to-morrow. The condition of service in aided and private managed and committee managed schools is far worse and require immediate Government intervention and aid. In most of the aided and privately managed schools, the dearness allowance allowed is very low and insufficient and is not in accordance with the Government recommendation. The conditions of service and the rules governing retirement must

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strictly be extended and enforced to the privately managed and aided schools also. In these schools there are no rules and the teachers were left to the sweet will and pleasure of the managers, who are apt to encourage favourites. There is now a very big agitation in this respect and the teachers are quite discontented. The Government in the interests of the school-going population, should go through their grievances and banish their discontentment. Now Sir, coming to the subject of Public Health, I wish to point out Sir, that medical aid is very scarce in our Province and the Government should forthwith establish hospitals in important centres of the selected firkas in the first instance, and gradually establish such medical aid centres all over the Province and make medical aid available even to the remotest man free of cost or with least possible cost.

"Now Sir, let me point out the plight of the citizens of Vizagapatam whose population swelled to nearly one and half lakhs, with scarcity of water supply. Even in normal times Vizagapatam has the scarcity of water supply throughout the year and more during the summer season. Now with the influx of population from the suburban areas Vizagapatam is all the more worse with regard to water supply. The Government were pleased to consider the plight of the citizens of Vizagapatam and promised to purchase the military water works and hand it over to the Vizagapatam Municipality. That was seven months ago and now I hear that negotiations are still going on. I request the Government to act promptly and supplement the Vizagapatam water works with the military water works before the approaching summer or else the citizens of Vizagapatam will have to face another hard year.

"Next Sir, let me remind you that with the increased admissions to the Andhra Medical Collage, Vizagapatam, and the influx of students from all over the Province, the present hostel could not cope with the situation, added to this, the general influx of population from suburban areas into the town attracted by the military works and the employment therein, a scarcity of housing accommodation created and the poor medical college students were practically marooned. They have neither hostel accommodation nor accommodation available in the town. The authorities as a temporary measure requisitioned some buildings which were ill suited to be hostels and lodged them therein. Now Sir, I find that thirteen thousand rupees only were sanctioned for the construction of huts for additional hostel accommodation. By the above allotment, I gather, Sir, that the proposed huts to be built for additional hostel accommodation is only a temporary structure. I do not know Sir, what sort of huts the Government proposed to build but the allotment of such low funds evidently show that the proposed hostel accommodation to be built is not a permanent building. I request the Government to allot further funds of at least a lakh of rupees and reconsider their intention to build huts and sanction the building of a decent permanent hostel building.

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"Now Sir, coming to the point of scarcity of milk in Vizagapatam I wish to remind you Sir, that there is agitation in this respect and the Government was requested to purchase military dairy farm at Vizagapatam and enable the population to have a regular supply of milk which is so highly needed to cover up the food deficiency and for the nutrition of the body. But I am sorry to note Sir, that nothing had been done in this respect. I request the Government to take prompt action in this respect and take over the military dairy farm also together with the water works installation. Now coming to the point of anti-corruption drive, the Government were pleased to sanction a separate establishment of anti-corruption officers. I am sorry to note Sir, that these officers have not sufficiently justified their existence. Some cases of black-marketing and corruption were detected, but the way in which the cases were dealt and the inordinate delay in bringing the culprit to justice defeats the purpose. In most cases only fines were imposed and these fines were readily paid. Nothing short of a stiff sentence of imprisonment will justify these cases, so as to act as a deterrent on the black-marketeers.

"In conclusion Sir, I welcome all the rest of the Government schemes such as nationalization of motor transport, incorporation of industrial and finance corporation, separation of judiciary and executive and finally I congratulate the Government and the Hon. Premier in particular, for having chalked out these beneficial schemes for the betterment of the masses as a whole and to put an end to the exploitation of the many by a few."

MR. J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA :—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to take this opportunity for saying a few words on Education. I do not presume to speak on education generally, because there are more able and more qualified experts in education who can advise the Government in this matter. I only want to speak about adult education with which I happen to be associated for a long time. Sir, I request that the allotment made for adult education should not either be reduced or omitted. Since 1939, this movement has taken a turn in the right direction, because in 1939 we had the first conference under the auspices of the South Indian Adult Education Association. After that we have held five conferences in different places, two of which were held in Madras City itself. But our progress has not been very encouraging because we have had no support from the Government. During the previous Congress Government the question was raised by me, but owing to the pre-occupation of the Ministry and owing to the short time they were in office they were not able to give the matter that attention which it deserves. After the Congress Government went out of office and during the regime of the Advisers, this movement was practically blacked out, because the Advisers' Government took the view that the Adult Education Movement was encouraging the Communist Movement. They also went so far as to ban the conferences and classes held under the auspices of the Adult Education Association. These conditions continued for a fairly long time, until last year, when we were given again some

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recognition in Government quarters. At the present moment, the present Government is trying to take some interest, as can be seen from certain questions found in the questionnaire issued by the Education Minister. But from the way in which the questions have been asked, I am afraid there seems to be not sufficient interest evinced on the part of the Government. It is true that the Government have given us an assurance, at least the Education Minister in one of our interviews with him has given us an assurance that hereafter the adult education movement will be encouraged and that local bodies will be encouraged to open centres in their areas, and that help will be given by Government for the training of teachers and workers. But what I wish to stress to-day is that this is the proper time for the Government to give a lead in this matter, for when they are talking of adult franchise everywhere, it is but necessary that the adult should be properly educated. Of course, there are different views on this subject and I am not here to give you an idea of how it should be done. These matters can be represented to the Government on behalf of the Adult Education workers and their movement generally. But I wish to impress upon the attention of the Government at this moment that they should not ignore this important branch of education in their budget proposals and I hope they will take note of this and try to help the movement as much as possible. If I may quote an example from elsewhere, the Bombay Government during the time of the previous Congress regime, established a permanent committee with the Premier as Chairman of the Committee. You will be glad to learn that even during the time when the Congress Ministry was not in office, this committee was able to do some substantial work; with the result that now that the Congress Government has come back to office, they are able to continue their work. Judged from the reports received, Bombay among all the provinces has progressed greatly in this matter.

"Another matter on which I wish to offer some remarks is about industries. We have known from the discussion in the other House that the Government have proposals for nationalizing certain industries. Sir, I caution the Government that in nationalizing industries, especially basic industries, they will have to be guided by persons who know something about them. I wish to point out that the Government should not be guided merely by people who have a theoretical knowledge of industries and business in general, but that they should take into their confidence people who are associated with industries and commerce in coming to a decision on this point. After taking up office, this Government have been spending a lot of money on several good causes for the benefit of the people. It has not been possible for them to find enough money, as we find from the budget proposals that the Government are exploring new sources of income. Well, here is a source of income, provided they go in the proper way to revive or encourage industries through private enterprise. Government can co-operate with industries and render such help as may be required. I think the Government are not best fitted to run industrial concerns on a big scale, especially to the best advantage of the industry. The results produced by certain industries run under Government auspices are not encouraging, and I am sure the Government will take

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stock of the position before they commit themselves to any particular mode of action in this matter. Let not the Government take upon themselves this additional burden and responsibility which actually belong to industrial concerns. Private enterprise should be encouraged. As I have already said, Government can always co-operate with industries and render them all help, so that the country as a whole may be benefited, and at the same time Government need not take great risks in this matter.

"Coming next to the co-operative movement, I have just a few remarks to offer. The policy adopted by the Government regarding the co-operative movement is in the right direction. Of course, there is keen opposition from all sides regarding how it should be worked and how far the Government can extend the movement to different spheres of public utility. Having taken the step, I am sure that it will not be possible for the Government at this stage to go back upon what they have committed themselves to. There is no going back on the co-operative policy of the Government. At the same time, there may be some truth in the criticism of the merchants and the public against the movement. It is for the Government and the Co-operative Department to rectify the faults that may be found here and there. On the whole, I plead that Government should encourage co-operative organizations wherever possible and render them all possible help. The movement requires the help of Government especially in the matter of lending qualified officers from the department. I do not say that the co-operative organizations are always perfect and that there are no faults. If there are faults, it is for the Government and the Department to rectify them. On that account, the Government should not change their policy.

"With these words, I have great pleasure in supporting the budget."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I find most of the members are not anxious to speak to-day. They are anxious to speak only to-morrow. It looks as if there is practically no other work. If both sides of the House have no objection, I propose to take up the Bill at 3 o'clock. We will discuss the principle of the Bill till 5 o'clock and take up the amendments and the actual voting afterwards because I have adjourned the House to 5 o'clock for that purpose. I suppose the whole House is agreeable to this course."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I should like to make a few observations on the budget.

"(Noticing a feeling of surprise in the House.) As the Hon. President said that there were no speakers for to-day, I thought I could fill the vacuum."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member need not speak for my sake."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"It is not that way."

(At this stage the division bell was rung, and some members returned to their seats.)

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Just before the members came in, I was announcing to the House that the budget discussion could not go on to-day because most of the members were anxious to speak

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only to-morrow. I propose to take up the discussion of the Bill at 3 o'clock instead of wasting time. We will discuss the principle of the Bill from 3 to 5 and take up the amendments and voting after 5 o'clock. What is the objection?"

SRI B. BHIMA RAO:—"Some members may come at 5 o'clock thinking that the Bill would come up at that hour. This contingency, I want to bring to your notice."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If any member comes at five and wants to speak, he can speak."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"In any deliberative assembly, the speaker tries to persuade others to his views. If the discussion proceeds in the absence of some members, I do not think it is proper."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Yesterday the Hon. President ruled that the Bill be taken up at 5 o'clock. So, I do not know whether it will be in order to change that."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"That is why I am putting it to the House. If the House thinks it objectionable, I have no objection to have the Bill at 5 o'clock.

"Mr. Ranga Reddi will now speak."

* SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"Mr. President, I do not want to cover the whole ground that has been covered by the Hon. Premier, and I am not competent to speak on the various subjects that have been dealt with in the budget speech. I would like to confine most of my remarks to the district from which I come.

"First of all, I would like to make a few observations with regard to the food position in Cuddapah district. The Hon. Premier himself has said in his budget speech that the district has suffered from scanty rainfall and that crops have failed. That is one aspect of the problem. During the month of December, there was heavy rain and the two most important rivers in Rajampet taluk, the Kandleru and Cheyyar, came in such heavy floods that the lands on both the banks of the rivers were inundated, and a number of gardens were destroyed. The floods took a heavy toll of human life and property. Hon. Members of this House may be aware that through communication between Bombay and Madras was cut off for two weeks on account of railway lines having been washed away in Cuddapah district. I mention this only for the purpose of explaining the magnitude of the damage. I may submit that the taluk as a whole suffered loss to the extent of nearly a crore of rupees. The relief measures that have been taken so far are woefully inadequate. It is not only a question of immediate relief; it is a question of reconstructing the whole area that has been devastated by the floods. I have myself seen the area. The Hon. Sri Koti Reddi and the then Minister Sri Bakthavatsalam visited the flood-damaged area and saw with their own eyes the extent of damage caused by the floods. Thousands of acres have been destroyed, canals and irrigation sources have been damaged, and channels have been silted up. Therefore I submit that a lot of money will have to be set apart for reconstructing the area, and reclamation work also will have to be started. The work that has

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to be done cannot be undertaken by the ryots themselves, because the loss and the damage have been so great. Therefore I request the Government to take immediate steps for bringing the damaged lands back to cultivation, and also for repairing the tanks that have breached. Otherwise, there may be plenty of water in the taluk, but there will not be any land to cultivate and food to eat. This portion of the district suffered a very acute food shortage even in the previous year. Added to it, we have got this spectacle which I submit Sir, is very unbearable.

"Therefore I submit that more foodgrains should be imported into this district, or grains should be sent to this district on a larger scale.

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"The next point that I would like to submit to the consideration of this Hon. House is the position of the agriculturist himself. Hon. Members are aware that, by what is called the policy of procurement, whatever foodgrains are produced by the peasant agriculturist are taken away no doubt by giving credit to the requirements of his own consumption and that of his family. I submit that the policy of rationing and the policy of procurement has been intended or even worked only with a view to benefit the townsmen as against the villager. That has been my complaint from the very beginning of the introduction of the ration system. This rationing system was introduced during the time of the Advisers' regime and the very same principles which have been enunciated and worked out then are being continued to-day and being followed. It is not my complaint that anything that has been done by the Advisers' regime is not reasonable. I submit that some of the difficulties which are being experienced by the villagers should be lessened and remedied to a certain extent. I will give only one instance. Hon. Members of this House may be aware that people are divided into more than one class, rice-eaters, mixed eaters and millet eaters. I may submit there are some areas in the Cuddapah, Kurnool and Anantapur districts where rice is not grown and where people are rich and have been accustomed to eat rice for the last 25 or 30 years. Hon. Members also know what is statutory rationing and non-statutory rationing. Statutory rationing has been introduced in municipal areas and non-statutory rationing in almost all the villages. In non-statutory rationing areas they have all the disadvantages; advantages are all in statutory areas. I want to make out that in a statutory rationing area, where a person is classified as a rice-eater, he will get the quota he is entitled to get under the ration rules. In the case of a non-statutory rationing area, even if a person is classified as a rice-eater he will not get rice because the stocks of rice in the village ration shops are so scanty and all the available rice is being sent to the townsmen. This complaint has been made a number of times. I have made this complaint to the Hon. Minister. I have said that the Government themselves have classified these people as rice-eaters; you take all the grain by way of millets and you do not give them rice. If the Food Secretary was pleased to pass an order that the agriculturists who are accustomed to eat rice, could exchange their millets for rice, when this order was taken

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to the notice of the District Collector he says 'what can I do; how can such an exchange take place under the present rules and regulation?' Next time I make an application in the same form to the authorities concerned. I get one kind of order and the Collector gets another kind of order. The Collector says when the village gets its full quota, you are allowed to exchange rice for millets through the local procuring agent. The stock in the local ration shop is inadequate. Where can I get rice from. My submission is an order is passed by the Food Department. The order is observed more in its breach than in its observance. If an agriculturist is asked to exchange rice for millets, he can do so at the beginning and not after the stocks are depleted. Though I made this complaint and though I have been agitating for the last eight or nine months, my complaint has been a cry in the wilderness. Now, Sir, the paddy harvest is over. I do not think that even if permission is given, the villager or the ryot who is accustomed to eat rice, will be able to take advantage of the rule.

"The next point I want to submit is with regard to the position of agriculturist. Time and again I have pleaded for improving the position of the agriculturist. The position of the agriculturist is rather a difficult one. I do not want to embarrass this Government by saying anything against the policy of the Government. What I beg to submit is that the agriculturist has taken so much pains to produce his grains and some benefit ought to be shown to him when his foodgrains are taken by the Government. Of course I am one of those who want these controls to be imposed. I am one of those who want these controls in the interest of the poor man. When the control is imposed and when the foodgrains are procured by the Government, is it the poor man that is benefited by the control; the rich man benefits; he does not pay anything; he may pay differential rates. My suggestion regarding differential rates is not that it should be immediately accepted. I am only saying that the rich man should share this benefit along with the poor man and he has to pay something more.

"The second thing I want to say is that the agriculturist somehow or other is in an advantageous position now. This position has been brought about not by any one but by accident. It has been brought about by war and the circumstances that have been created by war are still continuing; therefore he is able to do something to improve his own position. I do not pretend for a moment, nor anybody in this House or outside this House believes that the same set of conditions would prevail for all time to come. We know that peace and prosperity was enjoyed by the agriculturist between the years 1917-18 to 1922; afterwards there was depression. Every agriculturist has gone to the Court of Insolvency; he has mortgaged his lands. I do not believe for a moment that the present prosperity will continue for a long time. The Government procured foodgrains from the agriculturist when he was in favourable position. I am saying that during times of depression the position of the agriculturist should be assured and that a minimum price should be assured to the agriculturist, so that he can eke

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out his existence. Otherwise he will continue to be in a bad position. No one has ever stated that the agriculturist has been pursuing or following a policy of profitable occupation. It is a hereditary one. Whether he is profited or not, he is bound to follow it, because no other avocation is open to him. Therefore he chooses to follow in the footsteps of his forefathers. I beg to submit that the position of the agriculturist should be improved.

"One more point is this; just as there is insurance on the lives of human beings, I should submit that this Government will be pleased to accept what is called Crop Insurance. There are both good and lean years. During lean years if the peasant suffers, let him have some sort of subsistence. Let him live. I suggest that some Crop Insurance legislation be inaugurated for the protection of agriculturist . . ."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"On a point of information; has the agriculturist to pay anything?"

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"He pays something like bonus."

"The next point that I beg to submit is with regard to the controlled articles that the agriculturist has been allowed to get, like groundnut cake, iron implements, etc. With regard to groundnut cake, the less said the better. No doubt all the cake is going underground."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"It is intended to go underground."

* SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"It is not in that sense that I mean it. It has been a source of constant complaints that the cake does not reach the agriculturist; either production is insufficient or a large number of acreage is brought under cultivation. If figures are looked into I do not believe for a moment that a large quantity of acreage is brought under cultivation so as to reduce the quantity of groundnut cake. People were using groundnut cake for one purpose for his land; now they are trading in it and selling it in the black-market. The person who is rightly entitled to get it, does not get it. In a village where there are 300 or 400 houses only one pair of iron tyres is issued every month. It is said later than all iron implements have been supplied to him. I submit that the supply of the iron implements and groundnut cake to the agriculturist is inadequate. It does not at all meet the needs of the agriculturist. He is suffering very much. The Government have been taking his foodgrains, by some legislation some benefits ought to be conferred on him."

"Now Sir, the next point that I beg to submit is with regard to the question of weavers in my district. I am not here entering into or participating in the controversy about the Textile policy of the Government. I am only submitting that my district is populated by a number of weavers. According to the census taken of looms the number accepted by the Government is about 24,000. After the price of handloom cloth has gone up, many more people have taken to this profession."

12.45 p.m. "Sir, you will be surprised to learn that weaving which is not considered as a very respectable occupation in India (The Hon.

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Sri T. Prakasam: 'Question') just as agriculture, is now being practised by some Brahmans in my district. The profession of weaving has become so attractive and the wages paid are so high that they do compare very favourably with those of any other wage-earners. It strikes me, Sir, that instead of becoming a Graduate of the Madras University and seeking for employment, it is much better to be a weaver.

"Now, Sir, as I said, the profession of weaving has become very attractive and therefore it needs very little argument on my part to urge that more yarn should be supplied, as more looms have come into being. I have addressed many meetings in my district and many weavers have attended those meetings. They say that the yarn supplied is quite inadequate. The Government themselves admit that the quantity of yarn supplied to the weavers would not engage them for more than 10 or 12 days in the month. They have therefore to be idle during the rest of the month. I therefore submit measures might be taken by the Government to supply the weavers with a larger quantity of yarn. I may also submit that the quantity and quality of yarn fixed for the districts is not supplied to the district. Rarely has the rule regarding quotas of yarn to be supplied been honoured. Either the quantity is less or the quality is less. In both these directions, these weavers have suffered and they have asked me to make a representation to the Government that their supply of yarn should not be reduced."

"Now, Sir, I should like to make one or two observations with regard to the educational facilities in my district. Even at the risk of being accused of being too parochial and too narrow, I want to ventilate my grievances and in doing that, I have at my back the support of all the people of my district. I submit, Sir, that Cuddapah and Kurnool districts are suffering for want of collegiate education. There is no Arts College either in Cuddapah or in Kurnool, and I do not think that there is any other district in the Presidency which has not got a college. Almost every district in the Presidency other than these two, is blessed with an institution, whether it is an Arts College, or a Law College or an Engineering College or a Medical College. But ours is a backward area and though many things are promised, few are being given effect to. Let me not be misunderstood when I say that. I am only asking that more educational facilities should be given to these backward areas; otherwise the injustice that has been done to these backward areas for no fault of theirs, will be perpetuated for all times to come. New principles have been enunciated and new standards have been fixed for saying that Cuddapah and Kurnool and some other backward areas are not fit to have colleges, but I submit, Sir, that unless outside help is given, we can never improve either mentally, physically or economically."

"Sir, with regard to the admission of students to the Medical and Engineering Colleges, I wish to say one thing, and that is that the principle of insisting that 20 per cent of seats should be reserved for students on merit, should be done away with. If that were so

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I would suggest that these seats should not be distributed on a linguistic basis. Now, roughly about 50 per cent is given to Tamilians, 40 per cent to the Telugus and the remaining 10 per cent is given to the West Coast pupils. Why should these seats be distributed on a linguistic basis and why not all these be reserved for the best men from whatever part of the Presidency they might come? The question of language will not stand in the way. Let us make it compulsory that students should also learn a second language just like the rule that some of the gazetted officers should know not only their own vernaculars, but also another language so that their services might be available for other areas. What I therefore submit is, that we should see that all other sections of people inhabiting this Presidency get their due share of seats in the colleges and not the best alone. A certain percentage of the seats in the Engineering and Medical Colleges should be reserved on the population basis. I think, Sir, that my request in this respect is very reasonable. Sir, if the principle of merit alone is to be adopted, then where is the chance for the boys of the Rayalaseema? It was only last year that a college was started in Bellary. Unless we get some seats in the Arts Colleges, our boys will have no chance of getting high marks. Boys from Rayalaseema, when they apply for seats in the Medical Colleges, are told that they have not got first-class marks and hence they would not get admission. Sir, I am not referring to Medical Colleges alone in respect of the difficulty of admission, but it is the case in other colleges also.

"Sir, doctors who practice in our parts cannot command any great fees. People from the south and north who take up to medical education, if they do not enter Government service, go and practice in their own districts. Therefore, our district is suffering from want of medical aid. Let me mention, Sir, that the number of medical institutions in our district is very small. We are not able to get doctors from other areas, as people there are very poor. Where there is poverty, there is sickness, and as we are poor, we are suffering. Therefore, Sir, I submit that by this policy of insisting first-class marks for admission to Medical Colleges, we are having very few doctors in our district and we are thus denied of medical aid. The Bhore Committee has also recommended that Medical Colleges should be started in either Anantapur or Bellary. If such a college is opened, there may not be any difficulty. But if the principle of a first-class is insisted before opening of the college then few boys from our district will have no chance of admission.

"Sir, let me submit that this is an appeal which is made not in the interests of the backward areas alone, but it is also in the interests of the Presidency as a whole. Otherwise, it will be a hindrance; it will be a drawback. There will be perpetual bickerings and perpetual conflicts between district and district. If you want to improve backward areas, then I submit, Sir, we must have some reservation of seats for our boys in the Arts colleges, so that they may have reasonable chances of getting seats in the Medical College.

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"Sir, let me now take up the question of Technical education. Technical education is very good and very important. I would rather have more Technical Colleges than Arts Colleges. Sir, if you simply multiply these Technical Colleges without providing them necessary equipments, then the efficiency of the colleges will suffer and the boys that are trained in such colleges may not be of much use. I have not inspected any of the Technical Colleges, but from the little experience that I have had of them and from the conversations that I had from some of the professors of those colleges, I can say that the general complaint is that they are being started without necessary equipments."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If the hon. Member is likely to finish his speech in another five or ten minutes, we can continue to sit till then. Otherwise, we may adjourn now."

SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"Sir, I shall try to finish in another 15 minutes."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch."

"I have to make this announcement to the House. Since the procedure of taking up the Bill at 3 p.m. is felt to be irregular, I do not want to take it at 3 p.m. But I should like to know whether there are any hon. Members who are prepared to speak between 3 and 5 p.m. If there are not many speakers, we shall adjourn till 5 p.m. to discuss the Bill.

(Voices of 'I propose to speak in the afternoon, Sir,' from some Members.)

"Then we shall meet again at 3 p.m. Mr. Ranga Reddi will continue his speech after lunch."

(After lunch—3 p.m.)

The Deputy President occupied the Chair.

* SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I was just mentioning about the futility of increasing the number of Technical Colleges without providing sufficient equipment for them. I would suggest another alternative for giving technical education to the students and it is this; there should not be any difficulty in working a three-shift system. There could possibly be three shifts, and if that is worked, I submit it will be equal to working three colleges. I do not know, Sir, whether this proposal has been considered; I believe it has been considered. No doubt objections may come from the administrative side; but I submit, Sir, those objections can be easily met.

"In this connection, Sir, I would like to refer to the salaries of the teachers. The Cabinet Sub-Committee has recently made its report in which the salaries of the teachers have been considered and revised. A number of meetings have been held throughout the Presidency protesting against the inadequate increase of the salaries of these teachers. These protests are quite reasonable. The one thing I would submit is that objections to the Salaries Committee report come not only from the teachers but

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also from various other persons whose salaries also have been increased or have not been sufficiently increased. The whole trouble arises this way: the committee has not gone into the question of analysing or grading these services. First of all, we have got the Central Government's services over which we have no power at all; then we have the Provincial Government's services, and then comes the Local and municipal services. Unfortunately, although these Governments are different the persons who are employed in these various services come very often from one and the same family or one and the same place. When they find that a person serving in the Central Government is getting more salary for doing the same work, naturally it creates heart-burning and discontent. Look at the salary of the postman for instance and of the railwayman, who probably do the same service as clerks in the Provincial and municipal services. They both do the same kind of service, but they are getting more pay. It is in this way that discontent and dissatisfaction increases among the service people. I submit that this question should once for all be considered by having a Pay Commission in which all these services, having regard to the kind of work they are doing, can be graded and their pay once for all fixed. Otherwise, this discontent is bound to continue.

"I would also like, Sir, to make a few observations with regard to the department of Highways. It is said, Sir, by many that the size of the earth is shrinking in size on account of the many inventions that have taken place; but so far as Cuddapah district is concerned, I submit, there is no shrinking at all. We remain as we were; our unbridged rivers still remain as they were and we are getting all the disadvantages without getting whatever advantages others are getting. There is the very big river Pennar that flows through the Cuddapah district, its waters are beneficial to other districts, but not to our district. When floods come, traffic is at a standstill for a number of days. This Pennar cuts right across and it makes traffic impossible during the rainy season for a number of days, and we are not able to cross the river. We have only a causeway now; some years ago, some engineering experts seem to have said that when gaugings were taken at some time and that under those conditions a bridge was not justifiable and it was not necessary. I submit these gaugings do sometimes give a wrong reading. I have myself known personally that it is impossible to cross the river for a week continuously, then it is possible to cross for about an hour or so and then again the flood increases. In this way the difficulty continues or has continued for more than a month and still the engineering department or whoever else may be responsible, feels that a bridge is not necessary. I do not know where else a bridge is necessary if it is not here. I submit, Sir, that a bridge at Chennai or at some other place convenient, for the Pennar is absolutely necessary to facilitate traffic.

"Now, I shall refer to the policy of the Government that is pursued with regard to irrigation. It is true that on account of the paucity of irrigation schemes or on account of some difficulties,

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the question of return has been removed or abolished so far as irrigation schemes in the Ceded Districts are concerned. During the last Congress Government, irrigation schemes which fetched about three per cent in the Ceded Districts were taken up and executed. The present Government have no doubt done away with the question of return and if any irrigation scheme in that district is likely to benefit a good number of people, it will certainly be taken up. But the whole trouble arises this way: if no return is fixed at all, it will be largely left to the discretion of the technical man or the Engineer or the Hon. Minister who presides over the Irrigation Department; it will be left to him either to accept the scheme or to reject it. Therefore, Sir, I suggest that when any scheme is taken up for consideration, the Hon. Minister should consult the local representatives of the district and then decide whether that scheme ought to be taken up or not. Otherwise, great injustice and hardship will be caused to the backward areas.

"Sir, I have taken much of the time of the House, but I should be pardoned, because mine is a backward district and unless some help comes forth from outside, it is impossible to improve or better the condition of the district. I submit, Sir, that some special facilities should be given to the people of my district for improving their conditions."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I am one of those who have a constitutional disability in speaking something which they do not feel to be true. Frankly speaking, Sir, I cannot congratulate the Hon. Premier on the Budget, although out of courtesy some people believe he should be congratulated on it.

"Sir, before I speak on the merits of this Budget, I should like to say, and I should like to express my regret it was not done—that the introduction of this Budget and the discussion on it could have been postponed to a date when the present tangle in the Ministry is solved, so that we might know who are the persons who would be responsible for carrying out the ideas and the policies contained in the Budget, and so that they might take note of the humble suggestions which members of this House may make. I now feel, Sir, we are asked to speak on this Budget not knowing who the Ministers would be when this discussion is finished.

"Sir, I am inclined to think that it would be advantageous to have a fixed time for the Ministers, so that they may, instead of spending very much time in the effort of keeping their posts, can spend their time more fully on administration and bring forward well-conceived measures before the House. Well, Sir, we have been asked to speak on the Budget, and we do. As I said, I cannot congratulate the Premier on this Budget. If the Premier is pursuing his policy of spending large sums of money on socio-political experiments and goes on drawing money from the Reserve built up for some other purpose. I am afraid this Province will soon go into bankruptcy. There are many socio-political experiments which consume large sums of money; one of them is the

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khadder policy. We are not all of us against khadder; I am not against the individual taste of a person who likes to wear khadder; who may spin himself; but at the same time, we must not forget this; that at a time when goods were dumped into this country from Lancashire and Manchester and other foreign countries, when our mills could not be encouraged and could not compete successfully with mills in other countries, Mahatma Gandhi and others thought it right to concentrate their attention on khadder and in a way, if it be possible to do so, to boycott foreign cloth. But to-day, Sir, we are going to be independent, if not already independent, and in an industry where machinery has come to stay, surely we cannot now go back hundreds of years to the time when machinery was not introduced. Sir, I need hardly say it is impossible to produce motor cars and aeroplanes by hand. We must take advantage of the inventions that have been made.

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"So, Sir, in the production of cloth, machinery has come to stay for the advantages of the public. You have to pay three times the value for khadder, which is not so durable nor so attractive. (Sri K. Madhava Menon: Question.) I am not questioning whether khadder is more durable than mill cloth or not; but, if you go to the market, you have only to pay for the mill cloth only one-third of what you have to pay for khadder. That is why machinery has come to stay. We have a popular Government in this country and should not we take advantage of the machinery for producing the cloth, instead of khadder for which we have to pay three times? Khadder, is not, in my opinion, Sir, as durable as the mill-made cloth. Certainly it is not as fine as the mill-made cloth. Sir, there is an objection that a few capitalists are producing the mill cloth and therefore, they should not be encouraged. Last time, Sir, I pleaded for village republics and to allow the persons in the industry to have the profit made in for producing cloth. Instead of that, crores and crores of rupees are being wasted—I say, deliberately wasted—on this socio-political idea of producing khadder. I say it is public waste of money which is contributed by both people who believe in khadder and who do not believe in khadder.

"Next, Sir, I come to the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. This policy, Sir, which is pursued by this Government surely enable them to find jobs for many dependents of theirs. It was said the other day in the Assembly—and I find the Hon. the Premier is in smiles to-day and he will not get angry, if I repeat it—that in four districts in Andhradesa, out of hundred secretaries appointed to these societies, ninety of them are Brahmans."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"It is wrong; it is not true."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"I take it, Sir, we have gone a very long way from the non-Brahman movement. I can assure you that I am against communalism in any shape or form. I hope and wish that the non-Brahman movement is not resuscitated again. Sir, the other day, a complaint was made in the other

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House on this and the Hon. the Premier, I understand, has given an assurance. I am very happy to hear it. But, Sir, I am told that the Public Service Commission are having a holiday to-day and that hundreds and thousands of posts have been created by the Government on account of the various policies adopted by them and one of them is the formation of these co-operative societies. Sir, jobs have been given to a large number of persons without any reference whatsoever to the Public Service Commission. I suggest that the Ministers, instead of concentrating their attention on the administration of matters like this, should leave to the Public Service Commission the work of filling up these appointments, whether they are temporary or not. It would be a very great advantage because it will concede the right of the Public Service Commission in the matter of appointments and, at the same time, it will give an opportunity to persons at the head of the administration to concentrate their attention on the administration.

"Sir, now I find the Transport Minister here, I may at once refer to the policy adopted by this Government in regard to the nationalization of transport. This is another policy on which this Government is spending a very large sum of money. I find, Sir, that Government are entering this business; Government servants are the last persons who ought to enter into business because they always lose. The members of the learned professions ought not also to take to this business. Government servants have not got the experience in the line, they have not got the business acumen which will make a commercial undertaking a success. Sir, I ask Government in taking up these commercial undertakings to go slow and they get the assistance, the knowledge, the experience and the wisdom of persons who have carried on the commercial undertakings. They should also associate such persons already in the business before leaping into the dark. Now, Sir, I see that the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport smiling here and all the Hon. Ministers are smiling and I am also smiling. . ."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—"Happy all round."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Now, Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Transport is keen in taking over the transport services. Before he did so, I want him to read the provisions in the Motor Transport Act of 1939. Sir, that Act invested the transport authorities who are a quasi-judicial bodies with power to exercise various powers and discretions on various matters under various sections of the Act. The Hon. the Minister is issuing instructions asking these transport authorities not to pay heed to the provisions of this Act but to carry out his orders. Though the transport authorities are quasi-judicial bodies, they can never carry out an order which says that permits should not be given except for a temporary period. Sir, section 62 of the Motor Transport Act of 1939 says that temporary permits may be given for temporary purposes such as marriages, etc. Section 58 of the Act says that every permit granted, except the temporary permits under section 62, must be tenable for three years. The Hon. the Minister

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for Motor Transport in the teeth of section 58 of the Motor Transport Act, has ordered that every permit should be temporary for a certain period and ought not to be valid for three years. This is an attempt to ride rough-shod over the mandatory provisions of the Act, and also, as I said yesterday, to get rid of the courts of law because they distrust the courts. I want the Government not to issue instructions to the Transport authorities because as a quasi-judicial body, they are entitled to exercise their discretion. They should also see that permits to run buses or other transport vehicles are given only to such persons who have the ability to run the business and manage it well. Sir, the real fact is that a number of people and I regret to say that a few of the members of the Legislature also are giving trouble to the Ministers. They ask that vehicles which are with their relations, should be run as transport vehicles so that they could make plenty of money. I may refer to one instance. In 1939, the Congress Ministry thought that the Kodaikanal Ghat Road—over which I pass very often and therefore interested—is not fit for competitive operation. There were fifteen operators on that road. The Government asked them by a letter to combine; and the Government gave an undertaking that they will not give a permit to anybody else. They combined but later on, the Government gave some temporary permits. In 1946 the Hon. Sri Prakasam went into the whole question and passed orders to the effect; that is the considered opinion of the Government that there should not be any competition on the cart road and nobody else should be given a permit. I have found that somebody related to an M.L.A. asked for a bus and a permit for a bus was given to him. I am simply saying this to show that Members of the Legislatures should not ask for any favour from the Government; they should know that they are the representatives of the people and that they should not embarrass the Ministers by asking for favours. Therefore, I say on the floor of this House that no Member of the Legislature should ever approach a Minister for a favour for himself or for anybody else; on the other hand, they should allow the Ministers a free hand and should allow them to use their judgments. When intimate friends put pressure on the Ministers, it becomes very difficult and it is embarrassing. I know something about this and so I am making this statement. I am not making any charge against any Minister. I say they are put in a very awkward position, a very embarrassing position, if members go and bring pressure upon them either for permits for transport services or for anything else. The representatives of the people elected to the Legislature should not exploit their position. They should be very careful in approaching Ministers and should not embarrass them. You must allow them to carry on the administration of the country. If this is done, Sir, hours and hours of the Ministers' time could be spared from interviews and they could devote this time to solving many administrative problems.

"Now, Sir, I say that this policy of nationalization of the transport services and encouraging commercial undertakings should be taken up slowly. I suggest to the Hon. Minister for

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Transport that there is one way of encouraging commercial undertakings and that is by associating people previously engaged in such undertakings. This method will enable the Government to get the experience of those people. I suggest that Government should enter into these commercial undertakings through companies incorporated under the Indian Companies Act. I know the Company Law fairly well and I say that nothing prevents for a provision in the Articles of Association of a Company that the majority of directors will be persons appointed by the Government themselves. Government may also hold one share; even if they do not hold any share, they can always control these companies. Government are always interested in the welfare of the public. I am satisfied that the Hon. Sri R. Raghava Menon has always at heart the welfare of the travelling public and their needs. He has told me that he is not interested in the capitalists who run the transport services but that he is interested in catering to the needs of the public and not in filling the pockets of a few.

"So, Sir, Government might incorporate these companies under the Indian Companies Act, and on the Board of Directors to be appointed by them, they should associate persons who have intimate knowledge and great experience in such commercial undertakings. Government must be able to do great service to the public and though they may not find the capital for it as there is plenty of capital in the country and even if the Government say that the dividend will not be more than 5 per cent, there will be people willing to invest money so that you will have plenty of capital from others. As a matter of fact, if investors find that Government are in it and if they find that people with experience in the line are also in it, surely they will take shares in the company. If at any time Government felt that this undertaking is better done by others, they can sell their shares and realize the money which they have invested in such companies. If they really want to engage themselves in any commercial undertaking, they should go slow, because I repeat that Government officers, whether they are retired people or in service, are least fitted to carry on, by their training, by their outlook, by their habits, any commercial undertaking.

"Now, Sir, I was on the various schemes which they propose undertaking according to the Budget speech of the Hon. the Prime Minister. I suggest that the best method of procedure is this. Lay down a plan for five years and let us have some principles which will be based on that plan and I suggest that we take steps to create a class-less and caste-less society. I am glad that Government is doing a good deal in that direction and let everything the Government does be directed towards the creation of a class-less and caste-less society and not to put any impediment on the creation of that society.

"Then, Sir, Government should plan, in my opinion, during these five years, to introduce compulsory secondary education. I do not say compulsory primary education, because after leaving primary school, a person often lapses into illiteracy. Therefore,

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Sir, we should have compulsory secondary education and I should say that Government should plan not only for compulsory secondary education but also for free university education.

" Now, Sir, it is atrocious that when we have a National Government, thousands and thousands of students should be at the doors of various colleges and cannot get admission. I do not see why we should have big buildings to accommodate the students reading in the schools and colleges. It may be in the open, it may be in sheds, but the primary need is that a man wanting to have higher education should be afforded facilities and most of us and I may say, almost every one of us has had the benefits of higher education feel that it would be atrocious and I think it is even criminal, that Government should send him away. Let not one boy or one girl wanting to go for higher studies be told that there is no room that I think is most atrocious; it is criminal. Let us therefore concentrate on a plan under which we have compulsory secondary education and university education free for every boy and every girl wanting to go up to the university stage.

" Then, Sir, we must also make provision for medical assistance for all. Beyond all this, Sir, it is the duty of the Government, of a National Government, to provide for the minimum of material comforts for every man born in society. Sir, this can be achieved only by a revolution in the economic structure of our society and by converting that economic structure from one of competition and exploitation as it is to-day to one of co-operation and service. It may take time, Sir, to create that economic structure of society, but I say, a plan must be prepared by Government for converting that economic structure of the society based on competition and exploitation into one of co-operation and service. I suggest to the Hon. the Premier, that he first gets compiled a list of unemployed persons in this province. Sir, in all civilized countries, Government wants to find out how many people are unemployed. Last time during the Budget discussion I requested the Hon. the Prime Minister to concentrate his attention on unemployment. Unemployment and under-paid employment are responsible for this economic unrest and there is no use saying that a certain number of persons are converting the labourers into the communist way of thought, that they are addicted to violence and therefore they must have to be controlled and a measure is now being considered by this Council. In following a policy of reconstructing the economic structure of the society, Government should first deal with the unemployment problem and when it deals with unemployment, the first thing is to find out, how many are unemployed. Then, Sir, after finding out, how many are unemployed, they should devise methods to get these men employed.

" Again, Sir, I come to the policy of the Government not to industrialize this country. Particularly against the great industry, the textile industry, they have put their face. I say, you cannot solve the problem of unemployment, unless you attend yourself to production and manufacture and the industrialization of this province, whether it is the textile industry or any other industry.

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This province must be ambitious of being the best industrialized country in the world, or part of the country in the world and we must have the ambition that Madras is the most industrialized of all the provinces in India. We must also have the ambition and we must compete with America and Britain. The Government should therefore plan and should promote the industries and if the Government cannot run such industries, they must encourage people who are engaged in industries, so that the unemployment problem may be solved. This Government must concentrate their attention on under-paid employment. In this matter the Government must first set an example. Let there not be one person employed by Government who does not draw a pay which will give him the minimum standard of life. I say, there should not be, in my opinion, one Government servant, even he be a coolie or a peon, who does not get at least Rs. 50 a month. So, Sir, Government must first set an example of solving the problem of under-paid employment. I say, Sir, if the Government does not set such an example, how can they ask the industrial concerns, commercial bodies and private persons that they must pay labour better. It is therefore, Sir, I say that Government should set an example by paying the employees of the Government a living wage and then ask others to pay their employees a similar living wage.

" Then, Sir, there is one criticism which I want to make against the Government's policy, which has been followed in the past and which apparently is being followed to-day and I am sure will be followed to-morrow also. The Government do not give sufficient encouragement to local bodies. In my opinion Government should give sources of revenue to local bodies. Some of the taxes which the Hon. the Prime Minister mentioned in his speech should go to local bodies. I may refer to the entertainment tax. I say the whole of the tax ought to go to the Corporation of Madras, and other local bodies. They are unable to do anything to-day either for the social amelioration or for any other thing for the people under their charge. I say, encourage the local bodies, give them sources of revenue and train them for local administration and see that they attend to the needs of the people within their jurisdiction. Every time the local bodies, municipal councils and even the Corporation of Madras, ask for loan and assistance from the Government, it is given with great reluctance and when 10 lakhs are asked for, only one lakh is given and that too not in time, with the result, these bodies have not got sufficient finance to attend to their schemes. I say, the Government is not assisting them with sufficient funds.

" Now, Sir, after having said this, I should refer to one other thing which is uppermost in my mind and that is why Government should tax the poor. I am not one of those who think that a person drinking some alcohol has committed a sin. I am a perfect teetotaler myself but I do not see why any person should not drink a little toddy or any other beverage. I do not, of course, support prohibition from that point of view, but I say, Sir, that it is a sin to collect large amounts from the poor. Sir, the average expenditure of this province in the past was 30 crores and the year

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before last we raised 16 crores from the abkari revenue. Now this 16 crores, or half the revenue which is intended for the expenditure of the province, is collected from the poor. From that point of view, prohibition should have been introduced in the whole province; not so much for prohibiting people from drink but prohibition should have been introduced for the purpose of not collecting any taxes from the poor wage-earner. A man earning 12 annas or a rupee per day is asked to pay a substantial portion of his wages to the Government in the shape of a tax which I say is sinful, because in carrying on the Government of the country, we are collecting from the poor, perhaps from 5 to 10 per cent of the population half the revenue of the Province. I say, Sir, from the point of view, whether it is clubbed with prohibition or not, we must not tax the poor. We should only tax the rich and not tax the poor as we are doing to-day. I regret to find that in introducing new taxes, there is no increment in the sales tax which the richer classes pay, except on petrol, most of which might go on the travelling public, because petrol is mostly consumed by transport services.

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p.m.

"Sir, the Prime Minister should have raised revenues from the rich and one of the ways to do it would have been to raise the rate of the Sales Tax which he has not done and one cannot understand why he did not do it, why he who has so much suffered as very few people have suffered in the cause of the freedom of this country and in the cause of the poor, should still collect a very large sum of money, a very substantial sum of money from the poor. Prohibition could have been introduced much earlier than now and whatever the loss on that account could have been made good by other taxes, particularly by the Sales Tax. Now, Sir, I ask the Government to have a definite policy laid down for five years and I ask them not to have that policy merely drawn up by their secretaries and taken to them in their Chambers. I ask that policy to be discussed in both the Houses, in this as well as the Lower House. Let us discuss the five-year policy, let us discuss which revenues are to be raised for the measures to be taken up in that five years and let the press discuss and the public discuss it and after discussing and the Government after getting all the suggestions decide finally what should be their policy and their programme, how to find the revenue and what schemes should be taken up. It does not appear we have any policy at all, except that large sums of moneys meant for post-war development schemes has been taken out and spent not for any post-war development but for carrying out schemes based on socio-political ideologies.

"Then, Sir, with regard to spending money for Harijans. I might state let that money not be spent for a particular class of people. Let the money be spent for the poor, to whatever class or community they may belong. It may be, Sir, that a poor Brahman would require help and let it not be denied because it is money paid by people to the State. Let us make no distinction between Harijans and non-Harijans. I say this because a large number of Harijans are converted, perhaps

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unwisely, to Christianity or to Mohammedanism. Now, Sir, as I said once before personally I am against this kind of proselytization. It may be a man is converted because he believes in a particular religion or he believes that some economic advantage will come to him. Now when we spend crores of money on Harijans, on people who belonged to Hinduism and Hindu society, we are doing injury to poor persons who out of ignorance might have been converted from that community and brought into another community. Sir, why should they suffer while their economic and social position is the same and why should not this fund be utilized for upliftment of poor as a whole? Therefore, I say that money which is spent for the upliftment of the so-called Harijans be money spent for the upliftment of the poor and perhaps 95 per cent of the persons who will be benefited by that money will be Harijans, will be Scheduled Castes or whatever you might call them, but Sir, let us not make any distinction between persons on the ground of religion or of community. I say this because I find great dissatisfaction among persons who have been converted to Christianity that they are not cared for by this Government and they feel that this is a Hindu Government and therefore they care more for Harijans proper, a section of the Hindu community and not for Christians who have been converted by somebody else from that community and they feel aggrieved. If we have to carry on the Government of this country peacefully and if we have to abolish communalism from public life, let us not discriminate a class of people from somebody else although the first class is in the same economic and the same social position. After all, it makes very little difference to give the benefit of the Harijan funds to Harijans who had been converted to Muslim or the Christian faith from the point of view of assistance but it does make a very great difference in creating an atmosphere of communal amity, a feeling that there is no discrimination against a man because he has changed his religion. Sir, religion is a matter for the individual. He might have changed his religion for some cause or the other. Do not make a discrimination on that score. I thank you very much for the patience with which you have heard me."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR D. KRISHNAMURTI :—"The Budget presented by the Hon. the Prime Minister is very unsatisfactory. It is very regrettable. It is a jugglery in facts and figures and nothing can be said about it in praise. A closing balance of 39 lakhs is shown by withdrawing from the Revenue Reserve Fund a sum of Rs. 205 lakhs. But for this there would have been deficit of about 245 lakhs. When this Government came into power about 7 months ago they had at their disposal a sum of Rs. 31,44,87,000 as assets of the fund including cash balance. This was reduced to Rs. 23,75,22,000. In the Revised Budget this year, it has further been reduced to Rs. 22,94,96,000. This closing balance is maintained on the calculation that the agricultural income-tax would yield a crore of rupees which is a doubtful fact. From incomes from other sources, namely, the motor spirits tax, entertainment tax and betting tax they are able to balance the Budget. By the introduction of a policy of prohibition Government have lost

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about Rs. 10,33,00,000. This huge loss has to be supplemented by some way or the other. There are two courses open to the Government either to levy fresh taxes or to raise fresh loans to balance the Budget. In addition to this they have got their favourite schemes of khadder and Harijan uplift which would consume about 4 crores of rupees. So, fortunately or unfortunately, the Government is in a very precarious position and as such they are obliged out of sheer necessity to not to pay much attention to nation-building enterprises and amenities connected with elementary fundamental necessities of the people. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru the other day when making a broadcast observed that food, clothing, public health and sanitation and education should always have first priorities in any scheme of Government. Now by resorting to the enforcement of a policy of total prohibition rightly or wrongly the Government have been obliged to lose a revenue of Rs. 10½ crores and therefore they are obliged to manipulate the figures and present a budget on paper showing a closing balance of Rs. 39 lakhs. It is neither an edifying picture nor honest statistics. Let me take item by item. Let me refer to the provision that has been made with regard to education. Free compulsory and primary education should be given to the people of this country. It has been the topic for years and years in Congress programme. The late lamented Gokhale first introduced a scheme of free compulsory primary education. Even when the popular Governments are in power the scheme is not implemented particularly when we have only 17 per cent males and 3 per cent females who are educated, in this Province. When we compare this figure with a sister Native State beyond the Western Ghats, the Travancore State, education of males is 41 per cent and of females 17 per cent. What has the Madras Government done to increase the percentage of education or put down illiteracy, in the current Budget."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"You should have to ask the bureaucratic Government for this."

SRI RAO BAHADUR D. KRISHNAMURTI:—"What steps have the present Government taken to increase the percentage of education? What steps are being taken to introduce free compulsory elementary education in this Province in the current Budget? Provision has been made in the Budget Estimate for 1947-48 for extending the scheme of compulsory primary education to some more villages in each district so as to bring additional 1½ lakhs of students under instruction. The estimated expenditure on this expansion scheme for 1947-48 is Rs. 13½ lakhs. We have got 23 districts and 13½ lakhs of rupees is the amount that has to be spent for free compulsory primary elementary education by a progressive Government calling themselves national. Then, Sir, the Prime Minister in order to balance the Budget has stopped giving mid-day meals for children in schools. It is stated in page 12 of the Budget Memorandum—

"The Government have decided that the provision of free midday meals contemplated in the scheme for extension of compulsory elementary education should be omitted and that such provision now allowed in areas where compulsory elementary education has already been introduced should also be discontinued not later than the beginning of the next financial year."

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"This is the progress which is being made by starving the poor children by cancelling the midday meal. The next item on the Budget to which I desire to draw the attention of the House is clothing. The Government have been wedded to a particular scheme, namely, promotion of khadi. They have been spending a large sum of money for the promotion and distribution of khadi. The Prime Minister is very enthusiastic over this and has placed before him an ideal to be attained by which he is going ultimately to supply about 20 yards per adult and 10 yards per child for each year.

"Well, Sir, if it were a free supply nobody will grudge; but the purchase is to be made by the consumer and he has to pay a price for it. It is a well-known fact that khadi is very costly, at least it is double the price of handloom cloth and treble the price of mill cloth. Has the Prime Minister taken any steps to increase the purchasing capacity of the people? Only the other day, I went to a khadder shop and purchased a pair of dhoties which I am still wearing; the price is twice that of the mill-made cloth and khadder costs three times the price of mill cloth. I wish to ask what is it that has been done by the Hon. Prime Minister to increase the purchasing power of the general consumer. I agree that khadi is very good; it is a very noble ideal to clothe everyone through hand-spun and hand-woven cloth. But there is an important matter to be borne in mind. When we are advocating that khadder should be worn, we must see that it is sold cheap so that it might be within the reach of the ordinary consumer and he might purchase it and wear it."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"Spin and you will get cheap khadder."

* SRI RAO BAHADUR D. KRISHNAMURTI:—"But there is the question of choice of enterprises from the standpoint of income. If a person is idle or has no occupation, spinning might be recommended to him as he would be able to earn a few annas. But I ask if it is prudent economy to induce a person who feels that for working the same number of hours, he can earn more, to take spinning. The earning that he derives by spinning can under no circumstances exceed eight to twelve annas a day. Do you think it is wise to enforce a policy and programme of this type and to set apart three crores of rupees for this purpose? I feel it is a desperate policy and a day will come when this Government will become bankrupt and the Prime Minister has already envisaged this contingency. He has stated in paragraph 54 that Government contemplate raising a loan in the open market next year to finance capital outlay and new loans and advances. The future is already visualized. The Government after consuming the amount of 20 and odd crores, now available under savings and if still they go on consuming savings on other items, Government will be obliged either to raise a loan or to borrow from the Central Government. They will be obliged to do so as they continue to disregard the important items of expenditure like education, sanitation, public health, industrialization, etc., which are the

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primary charges on the revenues of the state. Has the Government tried to solve the question of unemployment? They are introducing prohibition from district to district and a large number of tappers who were depending upon tapping for their livelihood are thrown out of work. What is the alternative programme that is placed before them for their employment? You are going on with the scheme of prohibition without providing adequate scope for employment for those who were mainly depending for their livelihood on tapping. All attempts at trying to solve this deadlock of unemployment are welcome. But there is no provision made for that in the Budget. The question is whether Government would adequately solve the problem for the people affected. The statement, that spinning would help them, I fear, has been made in order to satisfy a sentiment or a particular kind of feeling that khadder alone will save the country though it is the most uneconomic enterprise. This Government is rightly or wrongly opposed to industrialization. They forget that there are only two ways by which the national wealth of a country could be augmented. Either it should be by bringing under cultivation large tracts of land, by growing more food or by industrializing the Province and locating large-scale industries in areas which are found to be suitable for the growth of such industries. It is only then that we can increase the purchasing power of the people. Markets of Straits Settlements, Borneo, Java and other places are open to India on account of the collapse of Japan. As a matter of fact large quantities of textile goods and hand-woven cloth can be sent to those countries. I remember an important statesman in Northern India has observed that this is the most psychological and critical period for the textile industry to capture foreign markets by exporting large quantities of cloth so that in exchange we can have foodstuffs. Is this not the time and is it not the duty of the Government to take advantage of the situation created by the collapse of Japan and step into her place and supply cotton goods. This can only be done by industrializing the Province. Instead of that, the Government sticks on to a policy of khadder and khadder alone, and do not think of industrialization. Unless and until you increase the purchasing capacity of the people and increase the national wealth, it is not possible for the consumers to go in for goods and to pay large sums by way of taxes for the benefit of the State. I wish to ask, Sir, what is the provision made in the Budget for sanitation and public health. It may be remembered that last year my hon. friend Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar also made very emphatic appeal that the death-rate in the country is appalling, that the average life of a person in this country is about 27 as against 63 in England (Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar: I was not emphatic but only persuasive), that we have got one doctor for every eight thousand of the population and about 167 children per thousand die every year in infancy and that we have not got sufficient number of beds in hospitals. With regard to this, may I ask the Government to enlighten this House as to what is it that the Government are doing in the current year? What have they done to stem the tide of this appalling

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death-rate and to improve the national health? What is the amount that has been budgeted for in this year? How much do you intend to spend this year? The very healthy existence of the people depends upon the monies that you set apart for attending to their health. An argument is advanced that prohibition is introduced for improving the health of the people. It is primarily the concern of the Government because it is an immoral income and it affects the people; but I submit that it only affects a section of the people not the whole community but sanitation and medical relief is a question which affects all sections of the people and not any one particular section. Every mother knows and every father knows that the death-rate in the country is appalling and medical relief is inadequate and insufficient. I want to know what steps have been taken by the Government to remedy the evil and to arrest this growing menace of infant mortality and to preserve the vitality of the nation. I would not demur if the Government floated loans to propound a plan of improvement in the sanitation and public health of the Province but I would be surprised if they do it at all. They are not coming forward with any such scheme but they are enthusiastic only about their two schemes of prohibition and khadder. It is a pity prohibition is a sentimental affair and is confined to a section of the people but public health and education are universal and every citizen irrespective of race, creed, caste or colour will support unhesitatingly any proposals intended to improve the national health. It is the primary duty of the State to spend more and more money on these two important necessities, sanitation and public health of the citizens. For education, no adequate provision is made. No provision worth the name has been made in the budget. It is ridiculous to be satisfied with an expenditure of Rs. 13 lakhs. As I observed earlier that by some jugglery of figures a closing balance has been shown based on certain imaginary incomes that will accrue in the course of the year. Otherwise, it will surely be a deficit budget. Therefore, I have not much to appreciate or support in this budget. I submit that this budget will be the subject-matter for serious comment in the hands of the succeeding Government or any Government that is to come hereafter. I am sorry that we are asked to support a ruinous budget presented by the so-called National Government."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO : - "అదృష్టం! ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారు ఇప్పుడు 4-15

మన ఎదుట పెట్టిన బడ్జెటు విషయములో సంతోషంగా, హృదయపూర్వకంగా వారిని
అభినందించవలెననే ఉద్దేశముతో నేను నిలబడినాను. కాం. గె. సు. అదర్సములను
సరించి కాంగ్రెసు సంస్థ ఇంత కాలమునుంచి వివిధంగా దేశమును పునరుద్ధారణ
చేసే చక్కని కార్యక్రమాలను సూచించినదో ఆ ఆ విధానములను అన్నింటినీ
కూడా ధైర్యముగా, ఎంతమంది వ్యతిరేకాలు ఉన్నా అతి ఉత్సాహముతో నడుపుచు
న్నందుకు ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారికి నా అభినందనములను తెలియ చేస్తున్నాను. ప్రజలం
దయాకూడా వారి వినుకనే ఉన్నారని చెప్పడానికి ఎంతమాత్రము సందేహములేదు.
ఎందుచేతనంటే వారు ఈ మధ్య కొంత దేశములో పనిచేసిన చేసినపుడు వారికి
అనేక గ్రామ గ్రామాలలో మేరొద్ది జనులు వివరించుతారు అప్పుడూ వారి విధానము
లను అంగీకరించారు. ప్రోత్సహించారు కూడా.

[Sri M. Narayana Rao] [7th March 1947]

“ఇక ఖద్దరు విషయంలోను, co-operative సంఘాల విషయంలోను ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారి కార్యక్రమానికి ప్రజలందరూకూడా అనుకూలమై ఉన్నారని అనిపిస్తోంది. సందేహము లేదు. నేనుకూడా ఈమధ్య గ్రామాలందు పర్యటన చేసివచ్చాను. ఖద్దరు ఉద్యమముగురించి ప్రజలు చాలా ఉత్సాహముతో ఉన్నారు. గ్రహించగలిగినాను. ఎంతమాత్రం నిరుత్సాహముతో లేరని నేను చెప్పవచ్చును. కొంతమంది మామూలు ప్రజలు ఈ ఖాదీ విధానమును ఓప్పుకొనిడము లేదని చెప్పచున్నారు. అది ఎంతమాత్రము నిజము కాదు. పట్టణములలో ఉండి కొంతమంది భాగ్యవంతులు, ఈ గుడ్డల పరిశ్రమ వల్ల భావించుకుంటున్నారు, వాస్తావ్యముగా ప్రతికూల ప్రచారము చేస్తే చేస్తుండవచ్చునుగాని ప్రజలందరూ ఎందులో ముఖ్యంగా పల్లెటూళ్లలో ఉండి ప్రజలందరూ ఈ ఖాదీ విధానానికి అనుకూలంగా ఉన్నారు చెప్పటానికి సందేహం లేదు. ప్రతి మనిషికి వస్త్రము అవసరము రెండూ ముఖ్యమైనవిషయములు. వాటిగురించి ఏ ప్రభుత్వమైనను ముట్టమెడట తలపెట్టడము ధర్మము అంటే శ్రీ డి. కృష్ణమూర్తిగారు ప్రజలందరి కొనుగోలు శక్తి ఎక్కువ చేయాలని చెప్పారు. కాని ఎవరబట్ట వారు తయారు చేసుకొంటే కొనుగోలు శక్తి ఎందుకు. నేను 16, 17 సంవత్సరాలనుంచి ఖద్దరు గురించి ప్రచారము చేస్తున్నాను. D. Krishnamurthi గారు ఉద్యోగములో ఉన్నప్పుడు గాని ఇప్పుడుగాని వదులుకు వారికి అభ్యాసములేదు కనుక వారు అట్లు చెప్పటం అశాస్త్రీయము కాదు. కాని నా స్వానుభవమువల్ల పడకుటయు అంతకష్టమైన పని గాదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. కృష్ణమూర్తిగారు చెప్పినట్లుగా వడకడం కష్టమేలే వండుకోడం కూడ కష్టమే! లేకపోతే ప్రజలందరూ వస్త్రము వస్త్రము అని అల్లాడవలసి వస్తుంది. వంట చేసికొనుట ఎంత ముఖ్యమో నూలు వడకుటకూడ అంత ప్రధానమైన విషయము.”

SRI A. GOVINDACHARI :—“అన్నము పొరుగునంది తెప్పించుకుంటారు.”

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—“ఎవరో డబ్బున్నవారు మతిలేనివారు పొరుగునంది అన్నము తెప్పించుకుంటారుగాని ప్రజలందరూ అటులేయరు. వారి కార్యక్రమంపై తగినదానిని ప్రశంసింప తగినది కాదు. తన హద్దలో కొనిన కూరగాయలు వండుకుంటే ఎవరయినా ఉంటుందో తన దొడ్డిలో పడిన దూదితో తాను వడికిన నూలుతో ఒట్ట నేయించి కట్టుకుంటే అంత సంస్కృతిగా ఉంటుంది. నేను నామట్టుకు నూలు వదుక్కొని, ఒట్టనేయించుకొని కట్టుకుంటాను. గాంధీగారు గత 25, 26 సంవత్సరాలనుంచి ఈ విధంగా చేయమని చెప్పుచున్నారు. కృష్ణమూర్తిగారు ఈ విధానాన్ని అనుసరిస్తే ఇందులో ఉండే సంతోషము, సంతృప్తి మహత్తువారికి తెలుస్తుందనుటకు సందేహం లేదు. రాట్నముయొక్క నైతిక, సాంఘిక, ఆర్థిక ఉపయోగములను లోకోత్తర పురుషుడైన మహాత్మా గాంధీగారు ప్రపంచకాని తెలియచేశారు. అందు చేత ఎంతమంది ఘృతీరేకముగా అన్నపుటికి ఈ ఖాదీ విధానమును అమలు పరచుచున్నందుకు ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారిని అభినందించుచున్నాను.

“అహర సరఫరా విషయంలో మనకు ఉత్పత్తి కొనుగోలుదార్ల సహకార సంఘాలను ఏర్పాటు చేసివారు. అహర పదార్థాలు కొనేటప్పుడు మధ్యవర్తులు లేకుండా చేయటానికి, blackmarket లేకుండా చేయటానికి, సరి ఆయినటుంటి వస్తువులను సరఫరా చేయటానికి ఈ ఉత్పత్తి కొనుగోలుదార్ల సంఘాలను ఏర్పాటు చేసారని అనుకుంటున్నాను. కాని ఇప్పుడు ఉన్న co-operative store లు కొన్ని జయప్రదముగా లేవని వినుచున్నాము. కనుక ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఎప్పటికప్పుడు వీటి వ్యవహారాలను జాగ్రత్తగా పరిశీలిస్తూ ఉంటే ఈ co-operative society లు చాలాజయప్రదముగా పని చేయగలవని, ప్రజలకూ (ఉత్పత్తిదార్లకు, కొనుగోలు దార్లకు) చాలా ఉపయోగకరముగా ఉండగలవని నేను గట్టిగా నమ్ముచున్నాను.

[Sri M. Narayana Rao] [7th March 1947]

“తరువాత గ్రామ పునర్నిర్మాణ విషయంలో ప్రతి జిల్లాలోను ఒక్కొక్క ఫిర్కా లీసుకొని దానిలోని గ్రామములను స్వయంపోషకంగాను, స్వయోఘాతంగాను చేయాలని ప్రయత్నం చేస్తున్నారు. అదికూడా చాలా ప్రశంసనీయమైన విషయము. కాని పని అంత ఉత్సాహంగా జరగటంలేదని తెలుస్తుంది. ఇందు విషయమే ఒక సంగతి మనవిచేస్తాను. ప్రభుత్వంవారు తలపెట్టిన కార్యక్రమాలను చక్కగా ఉత్సాహంతో జయప్రదంగా జరపటానికి, వాటియందు ఉత్సాహమున్న ఉద్యోగులనే వేయాలగాని, ఉత్సాహంలేని, అభిలాష లేని I.C.S. ఉద్యోగులను వేసినయడం ఈ కార్యక్రమాలు అభివృద్ధి కావేమోనని అనుకుంటున్నాను.

“ఈ విషయంలో నా అనుభవం కొద్దీ ఒక విషయం చెబుతున్నాను. నేను 6 మాసాలనుండి కర్ర, దూది రాట్నాలకు కావలసిన ఇనుమును తెచ్చి అధికారులకు వ్రాస్తూ ఉన్నాను. వాటిని ఆ అధికారులు supply చేయలేదు. కనుక ఆ అధికారులకు సరియైన ఉత్తరువులు వ్రాసిన ఉత్తరాలకు జవాబులేదు. కనుక ఆ అధికారులకు సరియైన ఉత్తరువులు జారీచేసినట్లయితే ఈ ఖాదీ విధానము చాలా ప్రోత్సాహకరంగాను, జయప్రదంగాను జరుగుతుందని అనుకుంటున్నాను. Firka Development Officer లను, Village Development Officer లను కాంగ్రెసువారుగా ఉండేటటువంటివారిని, ఉత్సాహవంతులైనటువంటివారిని నియమించినారుగాని ప్రభుత్వ ఉద్యోగులు తగినంత శ్రద్ధ, ఉత్సాహము చూపిస్తేనేగాని ఈ కృషి పరిశ్రమలు అభివృద్ధికావు. అందు చేత ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ ఉద్యోగులకు అవసరమైన ఉత్తరువులు జారీచేయవలసినదని విన్నవిస్తున్నాను.

“భారీ పరిశ్రమల అభివృద్ధికిగాను ప్రభుత్వమువారు Industrial Corporation ను ఏర్పాటుచేయటానికి నిర్ణయించుకొనినారు. ఈ రెండింటికూడ వీక కాలంలో నడువవలసిన ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఉద్దేశమే ఉన్నది. ఈ భారీ పరిశ్రమ విషయంలో ఏ వీ పరిశ్రమలు ప్రభుత్వం నడుపవలె, ఏ వీ పరిశ్రమలను private enterprise ద్వారా నడపవలె, నిర్ణయించవలసిన మనవి చేయుచున్నాను.

“ప్రస్తుతం దేశంలో ఎక్కువగా blackmarket ఉన్నదని తమకందరికూ తెలిసిన విషయమే. ఈ మధ్య Babu Rajendra Prasad గారు ఈ blackmarket కు ముగ్గురు పార్టీలు ఉన్నారని అన్నారు. వారు (1) ఉత్పత్తిదారు, (2) వర్తకులు, (3) కొనుగోలుదార్లు. ఈ ముగ్గురు కలిస్తేనే blackmarket అని అన్నారుగాని నేను ప్రత్యేకముగా ఇందులో నాల్గవ పార్టీ ఒకరు ఉన్నారని అంటున్నాను. ఆ నాల్గవ పార్టీ corrupt Government officers. ప్రభుత్వ ఉద్యోగులూ ఈ లంచగొండితనముండవల్లనే ఈ blackmarket ఎక్కువగా ఉన్నది ఒక వర్తకలే ఈ blackmarket కు కారణం అని అనలేము. ప్రతివారు ఈ blackmarket చేస్తున్నారు. ఈ మధ్య రైతులకు bonus ఇచ్చారు. బోనస్ ఇస్తామని అనగానే రైతులు చాలామంది ధాన్యాన్ని అమ్మారు. అంతవరకు ఈ ధాన్యము ఎవరి వద్ద అమ్మడో తెలియదు. ఈ విధంగా రైతులకూడా blackmarket చేస్తున్నారు. అందువల్ల ఎవ్వరూ blackmarket చెయ్యకుండా ప్రభుత్వంవారు ప్రయత్నము చేయాలని మనవిచేస్తున్నాను. దీనికి ముఖ్యంగా ప్రభుత్వ ఉద్యోగులలో లంచగొండి తనము పోవాలి. అప్పుడుగాని ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ సత్ సంకల్పం సఫలీకృతముకాదు.

“ఇంచేకాకుండా భారీ పరిశ్రమల విషయంలో ఒక చిన్న విషయం మనవి చేయదలచుకున్నాను. ఈ మధ్య ప్రభుత్వంవారు రాష్ట్రంలో అన్న కాత పరిశ్రమను nationalize చేస్తారని వార్తా పత్రికలద్వారా తెలుసుకున్నాము. ఇప్పుడు

[Sri M. Narayana Rao] [7th March 1947]

రాజమండ్రిలో ఒక paper mill ఉన్నది. ఇప్పుడు దేశంలో కాగితం అవసరం చాలా జాస్తిగా ఉన్నది. అందుచేత ప్రభుత్వంవారు paper mill ను లీసుకొని నడిపినట్లుంటే దేశానికి చాలా ఉపయోగంగా ఉంటుంది, shareholder లకు కూడా నష్టం రాదు. ఈ paper mill చాలాకాలంనుంచి పనికిరాని పరిస్థితిలో ఉంది. నాకు కూడా దానితో సంబంధం ఉంది. ఇప్పుడు shareholder లకు నష్టం వస్తోంది. కనుక ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఈ paper mill ను లీసుకొని ఈ పరిస్థితిని అభివృద్ధి చేస్తారని విశ్వసిస్తున్నాను.

“ఇంకొక విషయం చెప్ప దలచుకున్నాను. మన ప్రధానిగారు గాంధీగారి కార్యక్రమాలను అమలు పరుస్తున్నారని ఇదివరకు చెప్పాను. కాని వారు ప్రకృతి వైద్యం విషయం మరిచిపోయారు. ప్రకృతి వైద్యము, ఆహారము, ఆహారము, ఆహారము, ఆహారము వైద్యములకన్న చాలా మంచిదని, స్వతసిద్ధమైనదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఈ విషయం ప్రధాన మంత్రిగారికి తెలిసిన విషయమే. ప్రకృతి మాతకంటూ వీడు చిరులవల్లనే వారు ఇంత ఆరోగ్యవంతంగా, రోజుకు 24 గంటలూ పనిచేయగలిగినంత శక్తివంతంగా ఉన్నారని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. ప్రకృతి వైద్యమువల్ల ఏ మనిషి కూడా ఒక దాక్టరువద్దకు వెళ్లనవసరం ఉండదు. తనకు తానే దాక్టరుగా ఉండగలడు. ఖర్చు లేకుండా చికిత్స చేసికొనగలడు. కనుక ఒక ప్రకృతి వైద్య కళాశాలకూడా ఏర్పాటుచేయవలసినదని మనవి చేయుచున్నాను. ప్రభుత్వంవారు గ్రామాభివృద్ధికి ఏర్పాటుచేసిన firkas లలో ప్రకృతి వైద్యశాలలను ఏర్పాటుచేసి ప్రోత్సహించవలెను.

“ఇంకొక విషయం మనవి చేస్తాను. ఈ మధ్య ఈ co-operative society లలోను ఇతర కొత్త స్కీములలోను బ్రాహ్మణులకు ఎక్కువ ఉద్యోగాలు లిచ్చారని కొంతమంది అంటున్నారు. ఈ ఉద్యోగాలు లిచ్చినవారు బ్రాహ్మణులు కాదు. వారు దేశంలోని తమ ధన, మాన ప్రాణాలను అర్పించిన త్యాగమూర్తులు. ఈ విధంగా దేశంలోని కష్ట, నష్టముల పాలైనవారందరూ ఒకే జాతి. వారిలో బ్రాహ్మణ, ఆర్య, కుల విభేదం కన్పించరాదు. యుద్ధములలో పాల్గొనిన సైనికులకు ప్రభుత్వం వారు ఉద్యోగాలును, భూములను ఇచ్చుచున్నారు. అదేవిధంగా స్వాతంత్ర్య సమరంలో పనిచేసిన ఈ త్యాగమూర్తులకు, ఈ దేశ సేవకులకు Congress ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఉద్యోగాలు ఇవ్వవలెను. ఈ విషయం ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆతి ధైర్యంతో, సాహసంతో చేయవలసిన మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఈ త్యాగమూర్తులు ఈ విధంగా దేశ సేవలో కాక ప్రభుత్వ ఉద్యోగాలలో ఉన్నట్లుంటే ఈ పాటికి ఏ High Court Judge లుగానో, ఏ జిల్లా కలెక్టర్లుగానో ఉండవలసినవారు ఎందరో యున్నారు. ఈ నాడు British ప్రభుత్వంవారు మీ దేశం మీకు వదిలి వెళ్లిపోతామంటే ఈ త్యాగమూర్తులే కారణమని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. కనుక వీరికి ఉద్యోగాలులిచ్చినను, భూముల నిచ్చినను ఎవరు ఆక్షేపించవలసిన విషయం కాదు. ప్రభుత్వంవారు ఆతి ధైర్యంతోను, సాహసంతోను వీరిందరికీ తగిన సహాయం చేయవలసినదని మనవి చేస్తున్నాను. ఇట్టి బాధ్యత ప్రభుత్వం వాటిమీద ఉన్నదనికూడా నేను అనుకొంటున్నాను.

“ఈ సలహాలను ప్రభుత్వంవారు తప్పకుండా గమనించి వాటిని అమలు ప సారని అనుకొంటూ ఈ అవకాశము ఇచ్చినందులకు మిమ్ములను అభినందించుచున్నాను.”

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—“We will now adjourn for half an hour for tea. We will meet again at 5 p.m. and take up the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1947.”

The House then adjourned till 5 p.m.

The House reassembled at 5 p.m.

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III.—THE MADRAS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER BILL, 1947 (AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY)—cont

MR. PRESIDENT:—“How many hon. Members wish to 5 p.m. speak on the Bill, may I know?”

K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur rose in his seat.

MR. PRESIDENT:—“Are you the only Member?”

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Myself and Dr. Tajuddin (who will come now) will speak.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“Ten minutes will be given to each Member.”

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“Hon. President, Sir, though it may not be necessary to criticize in detail the dangers of this hasty and harmful legislation, after the observations made by the hon. Members on this side, I would like to record my emphatic protest against a legislation of this nature.

“Even the Government from the fetters of which we are trying to free ourselves never dared to introduce such legislation which might have helped them to hold their grip longer. It surpasses one's understanding that at a time when the whole country is yearning for and is marching towards freedom, the present ministry should have thought of forging new fetters and crush the movement for freedom and independence.

“The present legislation is suicidal and will recoil on the framers themselves when they cease to hold office and when another party comes to power.

“The party now in power has cried hoarse against the ordinances introduced at the time of the global war when there was threat of invasion of our country and have condemned the same in all possible ways. The very law that was abhorred and condemned by the present party is now hugged and sought to be forced to be used against the innocent people who had been misled by men who till the other day were the prime movers of the party in power. A legislation of this kind will confer uncontrollable powers on irresponsible people of lower ranks and will be used as an engine of oppression for suppressing rival parties however noble and laudable their object might be. Such legislation will be used against the legitimate criticism and will drive the rivals to resort to undesirable ways which would finally lead to chaos and confusion.

“The present Government is taking a very serious responsibility in forcing a dangerous legislation relying on the mere strength of numbers without any regard to the future growth of the country and the glorious independence for which genuine Indians are working in their own humble way.

“Once again I would request the Government to think once, twice, and hundred times before venturing on a legislation which cuts at the very root of independence and freedom of the individual and the nation.

“Mr. President, Sir, I thank you for the opportunity you have given me to speak on this Bill.”

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SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—“ Sir, I shall be failing in my duty if I do not protest most strongly against the introduction of a legislation of this character. I am here, Sir, representing the cause of Labour. It is well-known that labour, which suffered terribly during the war on account of the various restrictions imposed and also on account of economic difficulties, is now slowly trying to get into its own. During the war, if there was any section of the community which suffered most it was labour. It is not only in our country but everywhere that all kinds of restrictions were imposed on labour. Strikes were prevented, while employers enjoyed freedom to deal with the labourers as they liked. Impossible restrictions were imposed on even ordinary trade union activities. I can quote any number of instances, but I do not propose to take much of the time of the House by quoting instances. There was a strike for one day on account of some sudden provocation. The workers struck. The next day they went back to work. The Secretary and Assistant Secretary were caught hold of after they had returned to work and they were convicted to undergo one year's rigorous imprisonment. The employer has practically crushed the trade union out of existence, and not even the present Congress Ministry, has been able to save that most constitutional trade union of most moderate minded workers—not Communists! Sir, in this country there has been no legislation for labour. Despite the presence of popular parties in the Central Legislature labour is to-day devoid of any protective legislation.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ May I ask the hon. Member how it is relevant to this Bill? May I request him to show how it affects labour? ”

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—“ I am just trying to point out. . . ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ You please go to the point.”

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—“ I am just trying to show how the legitimate activities of the labourers to better their economic condition and to secure their ordinary elementary rights will be considerably handicapped by the enactment of a legislation of this kind. It might be, Sir, that it is intended to check the activities of the Communist party. Even existing law has been exploited by police officers here and there to curb ordinary trade union activities and to suppress the most constitutional and moderate trade unions. Labour, Sir, is devoid of any protective legislation, and now faced by serious economic crisis workers have to strengthen their unions and even go on strike with a view to secure even a minimum living wage. I wish to point out, Sir, that even the Government of Madras is paying such a low wage as three annas a day for women workers at Mettur in the Public Works Department. I met the officer of the department there. But I was not able to convince him that three annas is not a sufficient wage. Workers have no legislation to assure them of a minimum living wage and to protect their elementary trade union rights. In the absence of such protective legislation workers have no other go

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except to organize themselves under their trade unions, and if necessary, go on strike. The enactment of a legislation of this kind will place immense powers in the hands of unscrupulous police officers. The other day there was a small strike in the Sayani Glass Works. An adjudication was ordered: the strike was called off; I took the men and women workers to the gates of the factory. But they were not taken back to work as required by Law. The adjudication has been in favour of the workers. To-day these men and women workers are starving in the streets of Madras and invading the residence of the Hon. Minister for Labour, and yet they have not secured redress. When a worker probably provoked by an unreasonable action of the employer goes on strike, he is convicted for one year's rigorous imprisonment. When he comes out of prison he is unable to secure an employment. Employers in this country, even big employers violate law with impunity and go scot-free. If these shackles and fetters in the present Bill are forged by you even day to day trade union activities of workers will be handicapped. During the war the workers were under restraint. They did not resort to strike; they did not think in terms of strike at all. The workers know that strikes hit them more than the employers. I was referring to a small strike. Some policemen made a report during the strike against some of the strikers. The poor women workers were not taken back; so they went and lived with their brothers and sisters. Some policemen dragged a woman from her brother's house to the police station and kept her in the cell and when I went to inquire in the Police station I was unable to find out what exactly was the charge against her. They resorted to peaceful picketing; and yet they were beaten by the Police. Some of them were injured; I took them to the hospital for treatment. I have made representations to the Government and am waiting to see what action Government will take. Even now I have made representations to the Government. My point is there is no necessity for a legislation of this kind. The existing law of the land is sufficient to put down misdeeds, and a new fetter of this kind is absolutely unnecessary. I wish to tell Mr. Madhava Menon who was painting in lurid colours the atrocities committed by Communists in Malabar, that I have had the privilege of working shoulder to shoulder as a humble trade union worker with the Communists for about twenty years. (Sri K. Madhava Menon: 'So have I!') The Minister for Labour knows that he has worked in the Trade Union movement. We fought serious battles with the Communists. We have survived in the movement in spite of the Communists; we have received their shocks; and even to-day we are striving to see that legitimate and bona fide trade union movement is protected not only from the Government and the employers but also from the Communists, and nobody exploits trade unions for party ends. Sir, I feel ordinary law of the land is sufficient to deal with any situation. One hon. Member talked about some people coming down from the hills and committing all sorts of atrocities in Malabar. I have also travelled, though not recently, all over Malabar, and I hope to go to Malabar at the end of this month; and perhaps Mr. Madhava Menon will be there then. I have gone through the

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whole presidency; I have gone through the whole Andhra country. I am connected with trade unions in Andhra area. I am connected with a large number of trade unions in the City and all over the province. I have received probably some of the biggest attacks from the Communists. I repeat, Sir, honest trade union movement will be considerably obstructed by enactment of a legislation of this kind. There is absolutely no necessity for it now. The existing common law of the land is sufficient to meet any situation. Any efficient Government—I do not say this Government is not efficient—any efficient Government should be able to protect liberty of person and property with the existing law. The trade union movement, which is striving to protect the common rights of the workers will stand by the Government and see that not only the Communists, but all disrupters, are kept out of it. I protest against the introduction of this legislation. I do not propose to go into the several clauses now. I only wish to say, Labour in this province condemns this Bill. They feel that it will interfere with their legitimate rights."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—
" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. While doing so, I am conscious that the Bill has been brought forward in this House in such a manner and in such circumstances that it will not be possible for us in this House to alter a comma of the provisions of this Bill. In similar circumstances on a former occasion we appealed to the Prime Minister and the Cabinet to give us opportunities to make our effective suggestions in regard to any Bill, and we thought that that would be the last occasion for such a thing to take place. Unfortunately again this Bill is brought forward before this House in such a manner as not to enable us to offer any suggestions. Now, Sir, it would be whipping a dead horse to make suggestions or to move amendments in these circumstances. The other House is closed and this Bill is to be rushed through so that it may get the assent of His Excellency the Governor and also His Excellency the Governor-General before the 13th of this month."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Anyway the suggestions made by the hon. Members will have due weight with the Government in the working of the Bill. Therefore you may make your suggestions."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I was about to say that myself, Sir. Anyhow, we consider it our duty to give expression to our views so that in the enforcement of this measure the rigours of the provisions may be tempered. I am glad, Sir, that the President has anticipated my suggestion regarding this matter. Now, Sir, when we oppose . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" At the same time, I would request the hon. Member to take not more than 15 minutes."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I think I will be able to finish before that time, Sir."

" When we oppose this Bill, Sir, let it not be understood that we ally ourselves with the Communists or in anyway approve of the activities of the Communists. Sir, the other day when the

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Hon. the Premier explained to this House the necessity for the promulgation of the Ordinance he emphasized the activities of the Communists and he justified the promulgation of the Ordinance by explaining the disruptive activities of the Communists. Therefore I wish to point out that while we are opposing the provisions of this Bill, it should not be understood that we in anyway approve of the activities of the Communists. We are one with the Government, I must assert, in opposing the activities of the Communists and this House knows that the Muslim League Party has assured the Hon. the Premier and the Cabinet, of its co-operation and help in all matters concerning the preservation of peace and the maintenance of law and order in this Province and also in connexion with the solution of all problems relating to food. The Hon. the Premier will concede that our party has always been co-operating with him in the maintenance of law, peace and order in this Province. In this connexion I must also emphasize, Sir, that the Hon. the Premier has been very earnest in his efforts to maintain peace and order in this Province and as he has pointed out in his budget speech it is a matter for satisfaction and pride that peace has been maintained in this Province unlike in other Provinces.

" I would however point out, Sir, that there is no occasion or justification for these sweeping and all comprehensive provisions of this Bill. This Bill is a direct infringement and curtailment of the civil liberties of the people. It is most unfortunate and surprising that those who have been fighting all their lives for the freedom of the people and for the restoration of the liberties of the people should have thought it fit to bring forward such a measure. The Hon. the Premier himself has stated while explaining the necessity for the introduction of the Ordinance the other day that it was very unfortunate that ' this Government should have been compelled by this Communist section to have recourse to a method which is not after their heart and which they never intended to apply.' . . . ' We feel so sorry that we with our own hands should have drafted this Ordinance and placed it before the Assembly and the Council.' Well, Sir, having said so much, I thought the Hon. the Premier would not have found it necessary to bring forward this measure because the ordinary law of the land is quite sufficient to meet the situation created by the activities of the Communists. He himself has confessed in his statement that to a certain extent it was possible to deal with these activities with the ordinary law of the land. He said, Sir, ' . . . it has been possible to a certain extent, to deal with these activities with the existing machinery of the law . . . ' Well, Sir, if the Government had taken measures to nip the activities in the bud, there would not have been any necessity for trying to arm themselves with such sweeping and all comprehensive provisions. Well, Sir, if you look into the Bill, you will find that almost all civil liberties which a man should have are being sought to be taken away. First of all a man can be detained without his being given an opportunity to prove his innocence before a Court of Law. True, the Bill provides for the constitution of an Advisory Council whenever

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necessary. Well, Sir, its constitution is, I would say, an eyewash. All the records need not be placed before this Advisory Council. Sir, clause 3 (4) of the Bill reads as follows :—

‘ The Advisory Council shall, after considering the materials placed before it and, if necessary, after calling for such further information from the Provincial Government or from the person concerned, . . . ’

This shows that the Government is not bound to place before the Advisory Council all the materials. It may even tell the Advisory Council that the disclosure of certain facts would be against public interests.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ A wrong interpretation.”

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Then, again any finding by the Advisory Council is not binding on the Government. The Advisory Council may with the limited material before it come to a certain conclusion in favour of the person concerned. Still the Government may not be satisfied with the finding of the Advisory Council. Therefore it is that I say, Sir, that the constitution of the Advisory Council is a mere eyewash. If a provision had been made for the constitution of a judicial tribunal whose findings would be binding on the Government it would have been something. But in the other House when such an attempt was made by the members of my party the Hon. the Premier was not prepared to accept those amendments.

“ Again, Sir, there are the freedom of movement, the freedom of association and the freedom of the press. There are provisions in the Bill for curtailing all these freedoms. When the Ordinance was being discussed in a meeting of the Congress Party, it was stated that strong criticisms were levelled against the provisions of the Ordinance and that the Hon. the Premier assured them that while bringing forward this Bill he would remove the obnoxious provisions of the Ordinance. I have been trying my best, Sir, to find out what obnoxious provisions of the Ordinance have been removed from this Bill. I find, Sir, that far from any obnoxious provisions being removed, there are some more stringent provisions. For example, we do not find in the Ordinance, the following clauses of the Bill, viz., clauses 2 (e), (f), (i) and sub-clause (2) of clause 2 and the provision regarding search, namely, clause 12 and Explanation 3 to clause 8 (3). We were told after the Ordinance was discussed in the Congress Party that its obnoxious provisions would be removed, but I find more obnoxious provisions have been added and they are more stringent. But still we find that the members belonging to the Congress Party have been welcoming this Bill and they have not said a word against the provisions of the Bill. Even that assurance given by the Hon. the Premier to them—if I can believe what I read in the press had not been . . . ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Obviously they are satisfied. There is nothing obnoxious so far as they are concerned.”

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Sir, that assurance has not been implemented. The Hon. the Premier

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said that the necessity for the promulgation of the Ordinance was the prevalence of a spirit of lawlessness spread by the Communists in some districts. But, Sir, what is the cause of the spirit of lawlessness and the revolutionary activities of the Communists. If the Hon. the Premier had taken care to check the spirit of lawlessness when it first showed itself in the Province, then these Communists would not have come forward and indulged in these activities.

“ Sir, I would recall to the mind of the Hon. the Premier what took place in this Province so far as the Muslims were concerned shortly after the last general election. As a result of political prejudice, caused by the last general election, Muslims in various parts of the Province, especially in the Tanjore district, were harassed by certain sections of the Hindus for political reasons. We appealed to the Hon. the Premier to nip it in the bud. Then came the incidents in Madura and Vaniyambadi. Again I appealed to the Hon. the Premier. I do not question the earnestness and sincerity of the Hon. the Premier in this matter, Sir, but because there were probably troubles in his party, he could not put down the spirit of lawlessness with an iron hand. In many places Congressmen went about saying that because there was a Congress Ministry in power they could do whatever they liked with impunity. In certain places they bullied the officials and the latter were afraid of Congressmen and did not come forward to do justice by those who were suffering at the hands of Congressmen.

“ Sir, some of the persons convicted for incidents in August 1942 were released and what did they do? They went about preaching defiance of authority publicly. During the last budget debate I drew the attention of the Hon. the Premier to the speeches made by some of the Congressmen who had been released from jail. I specially appealed to him to send for the shorthand reports of the speeches of these persons and see whether any action could be taken.

“ Again, Sir, the newspapers have been sedulously poisoning the minds of the Hindus against the Muslims. They were trying to use the Noakhali incidents as a lever for this purpose. Gandhiji has said recently, Sir, that the incidents in Bihar paled into insignificance before . . . (Laughter.) I mean, Sir, that Gandhiji before he departed for Bihar has said that the incidents in Noakhali and Tipperah paled into insignificance when compared with the incidents in Bihar. But here, Sir, very responsible and reputable papers began to report that thousands of people suffered in Noakhali owing to the atrocities of the Muslims while the actual figure was very low, only in the category of three figures.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ May I ask, Sir, how all this is relevant now? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ We had better forget Noakhali and Bihar for the present.”

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I myself have always wanted that we should forget other Provinces. That has been my concern. The Hon. the Premier will bear me

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out that times without number we have appealed to him to take action against those who used the Noakhali incidents as a lever for injecting the poison into the minds of Hindus. Though the Hon. the Premier has been requested to take action against these people, he did not take any action. I sent him cutting of editorials from newspapers in the Province and requested him in person to take action against those people and warn them against such poisonous activities and also check those Congressmen who were indulging in such violent activities against Muslims. As I said, probably on account of the trouble in his own party he was not able to do anything."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" That has nothing to do with this."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does not the hon. Member feel that he is only strengthening the hands of the Government by his arguments? "

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am stating the facts, Sir. There is no strength needed for their hands. The whole thing has been predetermined. We are only seeking to express our views, but the fate of the Bill has been predetermined. We cannot alter even a comma in it."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I am only anxious to avoid Hon. Members sitting late day after day if they can co-operate with me."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" What I am driving at is that the situation created by the activities of the Communists is a situation that has been created by the Government itself. If the Government had taken steps to check the spirit of lawlessness when it first appeared in the Province after the last general elections, that spirit would not have spread at all. But in spite of our entreaties and requests, the Government did not take effective steps to check that spirit with the result that the contagion spread and the Communists began to indulge in greater and more intense activities against the civil liberties of people in the Province."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is never too late to mend."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Even then there is no necessity for this."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That is the point which the hon. Member wants to make."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" That is my point. It is why I say that if the Government had taken early steps to check the spirit of lawlessness which first appeared among Communists, the necessity for a Bill of this kind would not have occurred. Even now, this spirit of lawlessness among Communists can be dealt with effectively by the ordinary law of the land as the Hon. the Premier himself said that it was possible to use the machinery of existing law. The incidents narrated by my hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon could very well have been dealt

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with under the ordinary law of the land and it is not necessary for that purpose to deprive the people of their civil liberties in every direction.

" Again, Sir, whatever may be the intentions of the Government after all, these provisions are to be put in force by the subordinate officials. To entrust subordinate officials with such sweeping and comprehensive powers would be gambling with the liberties and lives of human beings. That is why we oppose all the provisions of this Bill. Even now, Sir, we find some discrimination is being made in regard to the enforcing of the Ordinance. Some members of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee and All-India Congress Committee were arrested under the Ordinance, but the other day one member of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee was released."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member object to it? I thought he wanted nobody to be arrested! "

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I want to point out how the Ordinance is being enforced in practice. Again you find that three members of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee or the All-India Congress Committee have been released. (Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu : ' They are Kisan Congress people. ') No, they are all members of All-India Congress Committee. That is a pointer to the way in which the Act may be worked. It may be used as a political weapon, if necessary. We do not find any Communists being released. We only find that members of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee whom the local authorities thought fit to arrest have been released. What does it point to? I will leave it to the House to draw the necessary inference. Therefore we say that the provisions of this Bill constitute an engine of oppression which may at any time be used against any political party to its great detriment. It is why I oppose this Bill."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—" Mr. President, Sir, I regard this Bill as a double-edged sword. The hon. Friend who spoke a little while back said that this Bill would be suicidal. I would go further and say that it would be not only suicidal, but also homicidal." (Laughter.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Which part of it does the hon. Member object to : suicidal or homicidal? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI—" Fratricidal."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—" I will have to wait and see.

" I warn the Hon. Premier and his colleagues about the far-reaching consequences in the shape of a boomerang. The whole thing may recoil on the heads of the Ministers who, perhaps with the best of intentions, are perpetrating a great wrong to the public at large."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Does the hon. Member suggest that the Members of Government will be the first victims? " (Laughter.)

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DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"I do not know, Sir. Laws are not made for any sections of people; they are made for all people. But I am afraid this particular measure is directed against a single section of the population of this province. I do not know what this Government have in view with regard to some other sections of the population. Probably now it is intended against the Communists. Later on it may be used against some other sections of the population. (Interruption.) I do not know. The Hon. Premier and his colleagues know about these things better.

"In the last few days, we were hearing much about the Ordinance. But in the notice put in our hands, I find a milder name, the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill. I do not know what difference there is between this name and that. Probably the word 'Ordinance' has got a scare about it, too strong for this Council or for the other House."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The difference is that that is an Ordinance; and this is a Bill. This cannot be called an Ordinance."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"But this has got all the force of an Ordinance. Therefore I say it is a distinction without a difference. Call it an Ordinance or by whatever name you like. If you call a thing rose, it does not become a rose; it smells obnoxiously and would be dangerous in effect.

"I am afraid this measure does not belong to modern times. It is out and out a mediæval measure, and there is no doubt about it. Many of us have read the History of England and there we see the difference between an Ordinance and a statute. Out of royal prerogative, Ordinances are issued; the Parliament can enact only a statute and cannot promulgate an Ordinance. During the reigns of Henry III and Edward I, such measures were very common. At certain periods they were, I may say, almost every day occurrence."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am sorry to interrupt. May I request the hon. Member to discuss the principle of the Bill? He may take it that all the members know the historic difference between an Ordinance and a Bill."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"My object in giving the historical aspect is to impress upon this House that such measures have become obsolete altogether. Even as early as 1389, the measure became very unpopular. (Mr. President: 'Does the hon. Member mean the Ordinance?'). Such repressive measures, call it Ordinance or by whatever name you like. It only wears a mild mask now. Whatever mask this Government are pleased to give, it wears.

"Burke has once said that law has got two and only two foundations: equity and utility. I am afraid there is neither equity nor utility in this. (Interruption.) Utility there is, probably from the point of view of the Congress Party. But from a larger point of view, there is no utility. (Dr. V. K. John:

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'Don't forget they are in this hall.') I cannot forget it, Sir. (Laughter.) (Mr. President: 'I am sorry I was not in it.') (Mr. K. O. Anthoni: 'All the better, Sir.') The same great Burke has said that, if laws are very repressive, the laws become enemies of men and men become the enemies of law. I wish this Government take a leaf from the book of Burke and from the experience of great political leaders in other countries.

"With regard to a man's trial, this measure does not give any opportunity to him to present his case. Seneca, a great Grecian Philosopher, in similar circumstances, once said that in deciding a case without allowing the other party to present his case it might be decided justly but it might not be just. It is not just to decide a man's fate in his absence. That is the most cruel section of the Bill. I am not a lawyer. Layman as I am, I can easily understand the cruel nature of some sections. I do not wish to weigh and consider section after section of this Bill, for the reason that I am totally against all the provisions of the Bill. I am convinced that if this Bill emerges out of the Legislatures—it is going to emerge in a few hours' time—it will become a great hydra-headed monster capable of doing untold misery and suffering to many people of this Province. As such, I would be the last man to give any support to this measure. The ordinary provisions of the law are there to deal with. Heavens have not fallen on our heads because this Bill was not there all these days. Some hon. Members of this House pointed out certain instances of lawlessness in certain quarters. I do not want to deny that there are a few plague spots here and there, in two or three or four districts of this vast Province. Why should not this Government take into its head to have a special measure to combat such a situation with regard to those few plague spots? Why should the docile districts of the Province where we have no trouble till now, be subject to such a measure which is pregnant with such dire consequences and possibilities? I do not see any reason why it should be made a general measure for the whole Province. I do not wish to take up the time of the House any longer. I cannot conclude without expressing my deepest disapproval and my strongest protest against this measure as a whole."

* MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I did not intend to take part in the preliminary discussion of this Bill. But having listened to the speeches that have already been made from both sides of the House, I thought that there are one or two points on which I would like to offer a few comments. In common with several other Members I deplore the circumstances under which this Bill has come to this House. Sufficient stress has already been laid and I do not want to detain the House any further dealing with that aspect of the question. As a democrat by instinct, by association, by training and by conviction my heart rebels against this measure which seeks to deprive the individual of his civil liberties . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Was the hon. Member convicted at any time?" (Laughter.)

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MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“ No, Sir. The other day I read a definition of the word ‘ politician.’ A politician is described as a human machine which goes on wagging its tongue. I have not developed into a politician of that type. I have got a few convictions which I would like to lay before you. As a democrat I am opposed to this measure, to the fundamental principles on which it is based.

“ There are one or two other considerations also which deserve our attention. We know that our country is passing through a critical stage. The country is passing through the pangs of a rebirth. Various ideologies, political and social, are struggling for mastery. At this critical juncture in our history, are we going to maintain law and order in this country or are we going to allow chaos and confusion to arise in the country? That is the question that we should address ourselves to.

“ This is a time when mass conversions to ideologies are taking place. I have heard a criticism of mass conversion alleged to have been made by Christians. Personally I do not believe in mass conversions. But whatever allegations might have been made against the mass conversions to Christianity, no one has said that these conversions were accompanied by riots. Mass conversions to ideologies, I regret to say, are accompanied by violence. That is an aspect of the question which we have seriously to consider in connexion with this Bill. It seems to me, Sir, that there is something fundamentally wrong with our training for democratic citizenship. I regret to have to remark that throughout the country there is a spirit of indiscipline. Everyone speaks of his rights and not of his responsibilities. Everyone speaks of his liberties and not of those of his neighbours. Civil liberties we all want; we praise them; but no individual is allowed to exercise civil liberties at the cost of his neighbour, at the cost of the community. So, there are certain liberties which we should concede to others while we talk of our own individual civil liberties. Let me also remark that there is a tendency in our country unfortunately to mistake liberty for licence.

6 p.m. “ It is in this perspective that I view this measure. That is why I say that it is unfortunate that while some of us can see the necessity for an extraordinary measure to cope with an extraordinary situation, we are not given the privilege of amending this Bill so as to meet the requirements of the present situation. The question resolves itself to this : how to reconcile the maintenance of civil liberty of the individual with the maintenance of law and order in this country? Both are precious, and I think serious consideration should be given to the demands of both these principles in considering this Bill. While, therefore, I could understand the Hon. Premier’s anxiety to maintain law and order in the present circumstances of the country, I must also remark that there are certain features of the Bill which, as a democrat, I should certainly not like to see incorporated in this measure.

“ But before dealing with them, let me deal with the question that has been raised by several hon. Members in the House,

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namely, whether the ordinary law of the land should not suffice to deal with the situation. Having had firsthand knowledge of what has been happening in certain parts of the country and in some of the Native States in the neighbourhood of our Province, I regret I cannot agree that the ordinary law, in which proof has to be given and witnesses have to be brought in cannot cope with the situation. Situation may arise, which will make it practically impossible to cope with them under the ordinary law. And so I feel that there is necessity for a measure of this kind. Some of the objectionable features that I mentioned have already been referred to by hon. Members of this House, and I shall mention a few categorically.

“ Firstly, Sir, the application of this measure to the whole of this Province does not appear to be correct. Only certain parts of it have been affected and it would have been much better if the provisions of this Act are applied to those parts first and extended later on, as and when necessary to other parts of the Province.

“ Secondly, Sir, I have always been one who felt that if there is one thing in the British Administration that we have to admire, it is the provision for an independent judiciary. We have always been accustomed to the rule of law and not to the rule of the thumb. And so, I should have certainly been glad to see a provision made in this Bill for an ultimate appeal for a judicial review. These Advisory Councils, as my hon. Friend Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim remarked, are only an eyewash. I suppose, that is parliamentary language.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Even an eyewash is necessary for a weeping eye.”

* MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“ Whatever it be, Sir, these Advisory Councils can never take the place of a judicial review and it is indeed regrettable that no provision has been made for such a judicial review as a last recourse. Whoever be the aggrieved party, if he was given that right, and one of the obnoxious features of this Bill could have been done away with.

“ The third objectionable feature is the gagging of the Press. It is provided for in section 9. Sir, I suppose, that after all, speaking by and large, the Press in this Province has been reasonably tolerant and reasonably liberal-minded. They have offered criticisms and probably some of them have used violent language, but I do not think that we could complain too much about the attitude of the Press towards this Government or any other party. And so, I wish that that provision was not included in the Bill in the form in which it has been done.

“ The only other provision that I would object to, is this. Power has been given to any police officer to do anything with life. It would have been much better if police officers over and above a certain rank, say the Sub-Inspector, were invested with this power. As it is, I feel that the life of the citizens may not be safe in the hands of these petty limbs of law, who we know

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are easily carried away by all sorts of considerations. With my hon. Lady Friend Mrs. Hensman, I hope that this measure will be administered with due circumspection. I sincerely think that the Hon. Premier has not brought in this measure to victimize his political opponents, be they the Muslim Leaguers or Communists or anybody else. It is my hope that he has brought in this extraordinary measure first to cope with an extraordinary situation and no more."

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support this measure and in that if I err, I err in the good company of my hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon. Sir, he has been for the past 25 years the victim of ordinances and Criminal Law Amendment Acts of the imperialist Government, and when he supports such a measure, I have no qualms to support it. The hon. Mr. P. R. K. Sarma, the labour leader, must have found fault with Mr. Madhava Menon for supporting it, but Mr. Madhava Menon's sufferings under the ordinances are much greater than those of our friend Mr. Sarma.

" Sir, I need not argue at length after Mr. Anthoni has spoken. He has plainly said that the ordinary law was not enough to meet the extraordinary situation and that a special law like this is needed. My sincere opinion is that a measure of this kind, though not with all its rigours, ought to have been passed long ago, even in the last session. I was of opinion that the people's Government functioning in this Province has not been prompt in this respect. Sir, mention was made about the breaking of heads, the burning of grains and stocks in the Tanjore district; mention was also made that Kisans have killed people belonging to the mirasdars on the advice of the Communist friends and that similar things have happened in Malabar and in some of the Andhra districts. Of course, some of our friends have said that such things happened only in three or four districts and for that the Government need not have come forward with this measure for the whole of the Province. But I should like to mention, Sir, that our friends who incite the goondas and Kisans may go into the borders of those districts where this law would not be in operation and then incite the people.

" Again, Sir, I may remind this House what happened in the Madras City itself. On the advice of our Communist friends, the labourers came to the Secretariat premises and threw stones at the Premier himself in the Secretariat veranda opposite to this room. Meetings were addressed and on public platforms, some people advised the labourers to drag the Premier by his hair and beat him. Then, when shop windows were broken by throwing stones at them, when passengers in buses and in trams were attacked with stones, what was the position? The police no doubt were going behind this procession of labourers, but they were all silent witnesses to what all was happening, the breaking of shop windows, the attack on tram cars and buses; they did not also take any steps when the labourers came to the Secretariat and threw stones

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K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I ask for want of a provision in existing laws, they were not able to take any steps? "

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" I am not here to answer the hon. Member, Sir, the Premier will answer him. We saw the police silently watching these stone-throwings; but when some of us asked them why they stood quiet, they said they had no power. I felt even then that such a legislation as this, even though in a modified form, should have been passed. But of course, the Ministers, congressmen as they are, were reluctant to bring in such a measure. That is why they delayed it; at least now when the situation has become more serious, they have brought it forward; and yet we find hon. Members opposing it, just for the sake of opposing the Government; that is their purpose. What is the position as regards this legislation? Members on the opposite side pointed to some objectionable features; but the Ministers have assured us that the objectionable provisions will not be used, and that in course of time, with the gaining of experience, amendments might be brought in. Sir, I have been hearing speeches from the opposite side about freedom and independence, liberty of the subject and all such things. Who fought for freedom and independence in this land? It is the Congressmen, i.e., the people in the Government which is now functioning. They are the real fighters for freedom and independence; they have suffered under the bureaucratic ordinances. And on the analogy of the condemnation of those ordinances of the past by Congressmen, our friends are now condemning this ordinance and this legislation. But they must not forget two points. The ordinance promulgated by the imperialistic Government was against the people of this land to suppress the freedom movement; but the ordinance or this special legislation now before the House is to maintain law and order in the proper manner. Liberty of the subject was spoken of more often than any other term; but what is liberty? our friends mentioned 'liberty' and 'licence.' Is it the liberty to cut heads, is it liberty to destroy grains, is it liberty to throw stones at shop windows and at people travelling in buses and trams? "

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" We are not at cross purposes."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it liberty to throw stones at windows; are not the merchants and the shopkeepers and the tram and bus travellers entitled to the same right of liberty of the subject as against the aberrations of these labourers? Are not the mirasdars of Tanjore to have the right to expect support from Government as against the aberrations of these Kisans and their secret advisers? No doubt, Sir, liberty of the subject is good, but licence is not at all desirable. Liberty, no doubt, for all people there must be, but not for one section of the people who take the law into their own hands and make the others victims to the violence which is being carried on, even when a people's Government is functioning. My opinion, Sir, is that there is no need for this violent agitation. The one remedy that is left to people who are not of the Government is to educate the electorate and defeat this Government in the next elections—not by

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throwing stones, not by taking away the grains when there is not enough grain in the country for our people . . . (interruption from Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu)."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" No cross-arguments, please."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" We really carried on the freedom movement, not by quarrelling amongst ourselves. So, Sir, I strongly support this measure; whatever its defects, whatever its shortcomings, I am willing to support it."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Sir, I must thank the hon. Members who opposed this measure for the very lenient manner in which they have dealt with us. They have no doubt been very vehement, but in their heart of hearts, they knew what the country has been, how people, the general public, the civil population, men and women, have been suffering at the hands of particular sections or parties, whatever you may call them. They all knew that, but when the question of liberty comes, they feel just as we felt. Sir, like the hon. Members of this House who opposed this, we also felt very much before we thought of this step, before we put our hands on this measure; we felt more perhaps than all the hon. Members here who opposed, for the reasons stated by them. We should have been the last people to have made an attempt to introduce a Bill of this nature. We know what it is when a person is deprived of his liberty of person or property. We have gone through the whole mill, not for one year or two years, but for the whole period of 26 years; we know how the blood of the non-violent people were spilt on the ground in their fight for this freedom. They knew everything that is involved in a measure like this. And for us, to come to-day with a Bill of this nature is not a pleasure. I admitted it, and I admit it now, I always feel with the hon. Members for the harshness of some of the provisions made here. But believe me, could they be helped? That is the question. We are not mere legislators in charge of the administration here, passing orders on files in the office, sitting in the Secretariat in Fort St. George, without knowing all that is happening in the country; we have gone through every area that has been affected. What do you think we felt? You are accusing us to-day; the hon. Member Dr. John, a lawyer of his eminence, has thought in the manner he has done. What did we do? Did we keep quiet when this thing was developing in the country; did we sit idle; did we not exhaust all available provisions of the Criminal Law or any other Penal Law, with a view to prevent these activities and these atrocities on the part of these men? Everything has been done. Not merely the Government, Sir, but all those officers, the Police officers and others, have been discharging their duties most scrupulously. Government have looked into all the provisions of law which could be applied against these persons. They did not wish to go recklessly. For some time, we have not been able to notice such things; but the technical difficulties are soon got over. The Police department has been ready to discharge their duties; but they said, 'how can we lay our hands upon these people,' and they were helpless. So, Sir, every available step was taken to control this in a peaceful manner by the

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use of the ordinary law of the land but having failed in all these things, we felt compelled to go before the Legislature; we felt compelled to promulgate the Ordinance and then this Bill had to be followed.

" Sir, I had described in the past incidents in detail. I do not wish to refer to all those items. Even when I introduced the Ordinance, there was a big debate. Of course, in this House, there are such great men who can deal with any subject that comes before them in a masterly way. I always admired the way in which this thing is done here. We want that the people should know exactly the circumstances under which we had to bring in this Bill. I do not wish to take you back to those incidents again. There is no area which I have not visited in connexion with these matters. There is no place which I had not gone to with a view to know things directly; I had been to places where the Police people could not find anything, and where even the people did not know that the Communists were doing all these things. In Karur, Sir, where there are large handloom weavers' factories with bales of cloth and yarn, these Communists broke into these factories, put petrol upon the door-frames, entered inside and burnt the whole thing in broad daylight when the Collector was there, when the Police Superintendent was there and when the Police force was there. Could you imagine a state of affairs like this? These Communists are no doubt very clever to see that they take advantage of the time at their disposal when the whole Congress was locked up in jail. When the Congress leaders were arrested and put in jail, these Communists came into existence for the first time; they have not been there for years. They were part of the Congress; they were taking part in Congress movements also. But in 1942, they found that it was an opportune moment when the whole Congress was locked up. They remained outside and they had a chance to carry on a war against the Congress. Then what did they do? Having adopted all the methods and all the ways against the Congress, they entered the villages, took hold of those innocent men. It is those innocent men, Sir, that have been marching through Tanjore or in the Ramnad district or in Malabar and creating trouble. These innocent men do not know anything; they were told by the Communists 'you come along with us; we will take charge of this Government; we will become the rulers and we will distribute lands to you free.' That is the way in which these innocent persons have been approached. In what numbers they have been marching? Fifteen thousand and sixteen thousand people marched together and they attacked everything that they could lay their hands on, either crops or grains or any other thing. That is the way in which things had gone on and it became absolutely impossible, as it were, even with the Police force. The Police here were certainly fitted to tackle such people in an effective manner but it became difficult even for them. Therefore, Sir, it became an inevitable business for us to bring in this Bill with a heavy heart. With what difficulty, you may imagine just now. The Ordinance was there and the Bill is here. But, could we get at these persons who were doing all this mischief? I entirely agree with you that if conditions had changed

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while the Ordinance was there and before the Bill is brought in, certainly there would not have been this Bill before the House. But the situation was not so. I want to give an instance. In almost all places, most of the important men have gone underground; they cannot be traced until now. The hon. Member Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar stated just now how these people were up against the Prime Minister. I say, I am not afraid of these things; I am not also worried and I will not also try to wreak any vengeance upon them. Here, I may point out a statement made by the Communist member of the Assembly before he was arrested. He went over from here to Trichinopoly and issued a statement. The whole thing was reported and reproduced. It stated, that the Prime Minister's hands will be cut off, his head will be cut off and he will be beaten with a shoe on the floor of the House if only he was arrested. I knew that all these are young men who have lost their heads, so, I was not afraid of it. Supposing such a thing happens to-day, we must take it. Are we to run away from this place being terrified by such threats? Is there not duty cast upon us to carry on the administration? In that way, Sir, we were obliged to come here with this measure.

"Sir, some hon. Friends, have been referring to trouble inside the Congress Legislature Party. You might have been following the events. There have been no troubles in the Congress Legislature Party so far as the main subjects are concerned and every measure was first placed before the Legislature Party. There might have been some internal differences which are bound to exist so long as we are human beings. On Prohibition, we were agreed; on the Textile policy also, although there were some differences in the beginning, they did not exist afterwards and the members were obliged to accept it except with regard to the surrender of spindles. Again, on the Zamindari Bill, whatever differences there might have been, the measure was agreed upon finally. In regard to these co-operative societies, these producer-cum-consumer societies, there was difference of opinion and Sir, what is it that happened? We had really undertaken big works. We have been told, 'you have been making enemies all round; in every measure you have introduced you have alienated the sympathies and feelings of the people; they are all going to range themselves against you; where is your Government; how long can you get along?' This agitation was carried on in the manner in which there was no parallel in the history of the whole world in a political affair like this. However much differences there have been in the Congress Legislature Party, we were all agreed. There were forces ranged against us and all people thought, there is difference amongst these people, let us try and take hold of the people and deal with the matter. Elsewhere, the Press attempted to do it and other people attempted also. Everyday you must have heard, how long will this Government last; will it last for one week; will it last for two weeks; will it last for one month and even Sanjivi cannot put life into this. That is the way in which the press indulged here and although we could deal with the press, yet we restrained ourselves; let things go on and let us see where

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they are going to and what the effect of all these will be? Then we have got patience enough to see how things will end and how the public will be able to know the truth about the whole matter.

"The textile policy, Sir, has been condemned here. Great men and hon. Members like Dr. V. K. John, and Mr. Narayanaswami Naidu and other hon. Friends here have condemned it in that manner as if we have been very civilized men under the British Government, as if they are sitting to-day here advocating the legal profession in the High Court earning thousands and thousands of rupees. In opposing this matter, they have imagined that we have been going wrong in the matter. We have not gone wrong, but we have been doing the right thing so far as this matter is concerned, which is such a sacred matter with every one who knows anything about it. It is only ignorance that makes people attack this khadi programme. We are men; we are people living, but we are people not knowing exactly what is going on in one part of this country with regard to this khadder and with regard to the spinning business. Although Punjab is in the north of this country, the distance is so much that we could not ordinarily think of leaving Madras and going to the Punjab or to Delhi so easily within such a short time. By train it will take 2½ days to reach those places; but, Sir, I have become a good traveller in aero-planes recently. I may tell you, by getting into plane here at 7 o'clock in the morning you reach Delhi at 5 o'clock in the evening. Do you know what is going on in the Punjab? You have condemned khadder; you have condemned spinning because we have condemned mills because for the last 26 years we have been attempting to carry on this khadder and spinning work. The All-India Spinners' Association was started more than 25 years ago and spinning and weaving will be carried on. With what effect? Because all these great men who are luminaries and most civilized men have been carrying on with the mill business."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"We have the right to condemn khadi; the Hon. the Prime Minister is saying as if we are not civilized men."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I do not dispute your right."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"On a point of information, Sir. Are we on khadi and khadder policy now, Sir?"

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Every member has got the right to condemn and we have got the right to point out the error also. Sir, so far as this Bill is concerned, as I pointed out to you, under extraordinary circumstances we were obliged to introduce this Bill. As I stated to you, without referring to all other incidents which have been taking place during the last ten months—not one month or two months and having regard to all that, we were obliged to introduce this Bill."

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"I thank once again all hon. Members. I did not intend to say anything against any of the hon. Members about their rights. Of course, hon. Members do exercise and they have been exercising those rights. I must tell them this, with regard to the so-called differences in the Congress party itself, this Congress party knows its work; differences there would be sometimes; no doubt the differences this time have taken a wrong turn and a wrong shape, but I was telling you, Sir, on all the main points we have been quite agreed. Even though the question was put here, how long this Ministry will be in office; whom are you going to look to, I say you can look to a Government on this side, and whether these human bodies are here or not, the Congress policy will be the Congress policy; whether we are here or not and others come into our places or not, the Congress policy will be carried out and you need not be in the least disturbed that the Congress policy is split up—there is no such thing like that. I, for my part, have been sitting here and working all these 26 years, not with a view to become the Prime Minister but to sit on the floor of this House and carry on the administration as the servant of the people who sent us here. We should not call ourselves kings or rulers merely because we are called Ministers. 'Minister' means the servant of the people and every one of the Ministers is a servant of the people and they have to serve the people and if they fail in their duty, they have to be turned out; we must go out. If on account of any difference amongst ourselves also, there should be difficulties and we must have the sense, good sense to adjust matters ourselves and carry on and allow the country's administration to be carried on without introducing any differences. Therefore, Sir, none of you need be worried."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—"We are not worried."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"No one need be worried about that matter. It is a simple matter."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"We are worried about the reaction that will be created."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Not only you, but the whole world will be worried about the re-action on the part of my hon. Friends. I can understand that. All the logic and all the reasons he has given are sufficient to prove that this Bill is an absolute necessity. He referred to Vaniyambadi; he referred to other troubles; he referred to occasions on which he and we on this side had to go immediately and take every care to see that nothing untoward has happened. It is Providence that helped and it is not merely leadership that helped us. Take it from me, Sir, I was wondering how people became so very conscious of the whole situation and although such happenings had taken place in Vaniyambadi and in other places with loss of property, there was not a single death caused anywhere. What would have happened if anything had gone wrong or misdirected during that period? If anything had gone wrong in Malabar what would have not happened? My hon. Friend Mr. Anthoni is talking about the

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gagging of the press. What is the press that is intended to be gagged? We have allowed it to do whatever it liked. With regard to the special press of the Communists, one paper was published in Calicut in Malayalam, one in Tamil in Madras and one paper in Telugu in Bezvada. All these things were linked together. What situation had been created? We did not go against them in a reckless manner. We gave them liberty. What did they write? One paper in Calicut wrote, 'Desabimani' wrote an article comparing the old Moplah rebellion. Events had been quoted. Everything was similar to the Moplah rebellion of 1921. Only the people should be ready to take it up and follow it. Because the Moplahs were good and their leaders were good things did not go wrong. Of course you do not see anything untoward. It is not a quiet Province. Although the percentage of Muslims is very small, there were certain areas where anything might have happened. I know it is stated never mind about all these press but the other writings were coming up from the North to these parts and extracts were taken from these papers and brought to us. Therefore the situation worsened. Ordinary measures were not sufficient. This measure has been introduced and the Ordinance has been promulgated to save the country from the serious situation that has developed here. Now, Sir, my hon. Friend described the advisory council as an eye-wash. When we brought an Ordinance we promised to bring in a measure that would be helpful to the persons who would be detained or dealt with under it. We have provided this advisory council because we know something of what other countries had done. It is according to the English constitution, English history and English precedent. I am one of those who had trained myself under them in the past. When we looked into the English Ordinances we came across this advisory council and the advisory council became the subject-matter of a discussion in the House of Lords at one time. In dealing with an Ordinance the advisory council is the best safeguard. That is what those judges said. Of course this is only an advisory council. When this is provided for nobody need think this is a court of law and regular trial by judges hearing lawyers. These Advisory Councils consist of three persons in England. All lawyers know what are called the trial by jury and trial by ordinary law. Trial by jury is not by lawyers or by judges. It is by ordinary common men. Twelve men will sit. As a matter of fact they would take the whole thing into account and they will decide and when they decide there is no appeal provided for against their verdicts. Here in this council, that is the advisory council, it consists of three men and that is the best safeguard and they will have placed before them every available matter and nothing will be withheld from them. There may be some items which may not be disclosed to the persons concerned but they will not be withheld from the advisory councils because they are the judges who will go into the matter and deal with the matter."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Why distrust the courts?"

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* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ I did not expect Dr. John to put that question after hearing me for such a long time. It is because there is a special emergency and this is a special occasion. If everything were to go to the law courts where lawyers and pleaders come and argue, cases filed months and months back are still pending undisposed of. While they are pending this wretched thing was continued. There was no stop. Why don't you put them before a Court of law? Because the courts of law have become ineffective. They were not of any use on occasions like this. Lawyers will be engaged and arguments will be going on without an end. That is why this distrust of courts.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The question is—

‘ that the Bill to provide for preventive detention, imposition of collective fines, control of meetings and processions, control of essential services and certain other purposes, (The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1947) L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1947 as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration ’.”

The motion was put and declared carried.

On a poll being demanded the House divided thus :

Ayes.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Sri N. Ranga Reddi. | 12. Sri C. Perumalswami |
| 2. „ S. Jayaram Reddiar. | Reddiyar. |
| 3. „ C. Veerabhadra Rao. | 13. „ C. N. Muthuranga |
| 4. „ M. Narayana Menon. | Mudaliyar. |
| 5. „ K. Manathunainatha | 14. „ K. Natarajan. |
| Desigar. | 15. „ S. A. S. Rm. Ramanathan |
| 6. „ O. P. Ramaswami | Chettiyar. |
| Reddiyar. | 16. „ L. Subbarama Reddi. |
| 7. „ V. Nagappa Chettiyar. | 17. „ N. Sankara Reddi. |
| 8. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan. | 18. „ B. Bhema Rao. |
| 9. Sri N. Ramabhadra Raju. | 19. „ M. Narayana Rao. |
| 10. „ P. R. K. Sarma. | 20. „ K. Madhava Menon. |
| 11. „ T. Purushotham. | 21. „ P. Veerabhadraswami. |
| | 22. „ B. Veeraswami. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Sri D. Krishnamurthy. | 7. Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib. |
| 2. Dr. V. K. John. | 8. K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim |
| 3. Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao. | Sahib Bahadur. |
| 4. Mrs. M. Hensman. | 9. K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. |
| 5. Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu. | |
| 6. „ M. D. T. Kumaraswami | |
| Mudaliyar. | |

Neutral.

Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar.

Ayes 22; Noes 9; Neutral 1.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The sound of voices against does not warrant the result; the motion is carried and the Bill is taken into consideration at once.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Are we taking up the Bill, Sir? We have been sitting continuously from eleven this morning.”

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MR. PRESIDENT :—“ We will sit till 8 o'clock.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ But then, Sir, we have to be again here to-morrow morning.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ No doubt you have to come to-morrow. Would you not like to sit till 8 o'clock and finish if possible instead of sitting for it to-morrow? Personally, I would like to sit till 8 o'clock or a little longer, finish the matter and go home once for all.”

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Day after to-morrow being Sunday, we may sit to-day at least till 8 o'clock.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ At least if we go through a major portion of the Bill to-day, we may not have to sit long to-morrow.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Our amendments will only take a few minutes each; in so far as we have spoken at length in the introduction stage, we may be able to finish it.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The Government really want some time. It is only to-morrow evening we can meet to consider this matter. If we finish it to-day, they will have enough time to take further steps of sending copies to the Governor and Viceroy.”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ It must be passed in time for the post to-morrow.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ We can sit for another fifteen minutes or a little longer and we might be able to finish the amendments.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ That is what I am suggesting.”

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Mr. President, I rise to move my amendment to sub-clause (4) of clause 1, which stands in my name.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I suggest to the hon. Member to move his amendment to clause 2; clause 1 will be taken last.”

Clause 2—Sub-clause (1).

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Mr. President, in clause 2 (1) (a) after the word ‘ detained ’ the following shall be added :—

‘ only after the Provincial Government declares a state of emergency in any specified area and the person ordered to be detained belongs to that area or has been visiting that area for one month continuously prior to the notification.’

Whatever may be said by the Hon. Minister, I have enough conviction in me to say that it is not correct and must, therefore, be resisted. If it is said that it is to be done in a hurry, I submit that we are not taking days on days over it. Sir, I have already pointed out that this clause deals with detention. The thing is that you have remedies under the ordinary law of the land, that is section

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144 of the Criminal Procedure Code and under it an ordinary Divisional Magistrate can say that a person cannot enter a field and other such things can be proclaimed. The real question is that the man is sought to be detained. I shall just refer to the Magna Carta or the Great Charter. It says 'No free man shall be taken or imprisoned or detained or outlawed or exiled or in any way destroyed (not absolutely) . . . unless by the lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land'. You cannot deny an elementary right to a subject of his being judged by his peers or of being condemned according to the law of the land by his own countrymen which is what trial by jury means. You are now trying to take away that liberty. Take the last charter, I mean the Atlantic Charter, it secures to the people freedom from fear among other freedoms. It is not persecution or prosecution. What is wanted is that the subject must not have any fear that anything wrong will be done to him. The ordinary citizen must not fear that he will be detained or sent to jail unless he is condemned and sentenced by his own people and by the law. Of course, there are exceptions; during times of emergency, it has been abrogated and in fact during the war of 1914-1918 it was abrogated, under the Defence of the Realm Acts. Conditions 7 p.m. there are different. Section 18-B of the Defence Regulations shows how utterly helpless a victim of 18-B is to secure redress of his grievances or protection anywhere. If a question is asked about it in Parliament, the Home Secretary has only to say it would be contrary to the national interests to state why he has been detained."

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"You are reading clause 2 (1) (a)?"

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"I have given notice of an amendment to clause 2 (1) (a), and I am giving the reasons for that amendment. An extraordinary power is being taken to apply this Bill to the whole Presidency. Sir, I am only seeking to accommodate the Treasury Benches. But I ask them why do you want to put the whole Presidency in fear. I do not mind if you say that you are going to confine it to a particular place.

"Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar says he wants power. What is it you want? Is it the power to put people in jail without trial? Who is to say that a particular person is to be detained? The whole question is confusing. Therefore, I submit that it is very much from fear, people will suffer. It is not that you will put us all in jail. If a question is put in Parliament about production of documents, the Home Secretary will say that it is contrary to the national interests to produce documents. But what is the safety of the Realm here?"

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"Your amendment seeks to restrict it to specified areas."

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Yes, Sir. That is why I ask why put the whole Presidency in fear. Why not notify that a state of emergency exists in a certain area—say

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Tanjore district—and then exercise that power. That will be a warning to the people to desist from their activities. I submit that freedom from fear might not be hanging over the whole Presidency. It may be confined to certain areas.

"Another Lord said: 'it is the most arrogant assumption of powers that has been known or heard in this country. Nothing like it has happened since Magna Carta, since the time of Charles I, since the Grand Remonstrance, since the Bill of Rights. Nothing like it has ever been known.' I ask you whether you are not surrendering your liberties. No doubt you belong to the party in power. Still, is it right that you should surrender all your liberties into the hands of a single man? I am asking what is the safety of the Realm now involved? (Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliar: 'We want power to fight against "goondas"'. To-day you say a particular person is a goonda. To-morrow you will say I am a goonda. Who is to determine all this?') (Laughter).

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"May I bring to your attention that you are dealing with the principle?"

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"I am saying that the fear should be confined to a portion of the Province. As I said already, this is to be adopted only with regard to hostile persons in a country. What is said in the budget speech, Sir? The budget has been presented to us, and what is it that is said there. I may perhaps quote from the Prime Minister's speech:

'I may also perhaps mention, with some feeling of satisfaction and pride, that this Province has been free from serious communal troubles of the kind that have occurred in Bengal and Bihar. It is true that some misguided sections of the public have indulged in anti-social activities here, but we hope that these will soon come to an end.'

"My submission is, in the face of such a statement in the budget, what is the extraordinary reason for putting the whole Presidency in fear. You are so sure of your khadi scheme, but I ask, are you not so sure that this power will not be used against political parties? Will not this power be used to suppress political opponents? The whole bother is there. This much must be done, Sir. If you want to take away the liberty of the people, confine it to certain areas. Sir, this is No. 1 tyranny of the National Government. This is against the cardinal principles of the Atlantic Charter. What happened after the French Revolution, Sir? The people beheaded their own leaders. You are plunging the country into that state now. Therefore, I submit you should be careful about this power. It is good to have the power of a giant, but it is monstrous to use it as a giant."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Sir, in seconding this amendment I wish to say a few words. We have had an opportunity of explaining our views to the Government. We do not attribute any bad motives to the Government. I am prepared to support every amendment of his and also other amendments, as they are all good. May I know from the Hon. Premier whether he will go through the several amendments given notice of and see if there is any good

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amendment acceptable to him he will himself bring an amendment as soon as he can. Then probably I may suggest to my friend to move them without making any speeches. As it is, we know what the result of our amendments will be. I appeal to the Premier and suggest to him to give us an assurance that he will carefully go through these amendments and see if anything is acceptable. Then without taking much time the Bill can be gone through."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If the hon. Member's appeal is going to be responded, I have no objection to ask the Premier to give that assurance."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Whatever experience we gain in course of enforcement of this measure, certainly it will be taken into consideration and necessary steps will be taken to see if there is anything real in it."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In a matter like the advisory council most of us have suggested a judicial tribunal should be constituted. If those words are not to be accepted by the Government it is better we go through the Bill in detail whether we succeed or not."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question is that section 2 (1) be amended. The amendment is in the hands of hon. Members. So I shall put the amendment to the vote of the House."

The amendment was put and lost.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I am afraid I cannot follow the kind advice offered by Dr. John. Still I assure him I shall not take up the time of the House unnecessarily. I shall club my amendments and move them. I move—

' Clause 2 (1) (d) shall be omitted;

' Clause 2 (1) (e) shall be omitted.'

Sir, I shall now deal with these two amendments together. Only the other day the Hon. Minister for Law introduced a Bill repealing the Criminal Tribes Act. The two provisions in the Bill are the provisions enforced against criminals who have to report themselves at police stations at a particular hour. Now, I ask, are these people to be treated as criminals? I only appeal to him. He knows well the rigorous of the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act. My provision is simply to treat those people, however misguided they might be from his point of view, as gentlemen and not as criminals. That is my object in moving these amendments.

" Then, I shall move my amendment to sub-clause (1) (g) which runs thus :—

' In sub-clause (1) (g) of clause 2 the following words shall be omitted :—

" in respect of his employment or business, in respect of his association or communication with other persons and "'

Sir, even in regard to his business Government propose to restrict."

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* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, are we not to take each amendment separately? Is it your ruling that we are to move all the amendments in one clause together?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I am quite conscious of your technical objection; but it will result in your sitting for longer hours. Let me not be misunderstood. I am quite prepared to take each amendment one after the other. I am only trying to minimize your labour."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" As one who belongs to the Opposition, I have to safeguard our rights."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection; I will put one amendment after the other to the vote of the House."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Otherwise we will have to give up our rights."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" All the amendments moved by Sri Suryanarayana Rao are under one clause. He will now resume his speech."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I will speak on my amendment with regard to sub-clause (1) (g). Sir, it is too much to restrict the liberty of a person preventing him from eking out his livelihood. If he engages himself in dangerous business or employment, dangerous from the point of view of Government, there is always provision to deal with that in the existing ordinary law. I think, Sir, such restrictions are unnecessary and galling. You increase bitterness. The object of any legislation of this kind is not to be vindictive by imposing these restrictions, but to make it reformative. Instead, by making the life of a man miserable at every stage you make life for him impossible. It is not the intention, I know of the Premier to be vindictive. When that is so, why have this galling restriction? Why do you simply copy these rules which are meant for enemies and use them against people, who are your own kith and kin? Such a law was intended for an emergent situation, and such an emergent situation does not exist in this country to-day. Otherwise we would not have been sitting in this House, in this hall, at this hour. If there were air raids, we would not have been here. So I ask, why make the life of a man who may be holding certain views with which we may not agree bitter and treat him as an enemy? I think these galling restrictions are unnecessary, and if they persist I declare they smack vindictiveness."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I want to know whether we vote on each item separately."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Yes; that is so."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, I support this amendment. It is rather vindictive. Even at a time of war the British Government treated their enemies with some consideration. They were more kind than even the Congress Government. The British Government, a foreign Government, when in utter danger of being overrun by the Japanese, had the kindness to be considerate

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to those who were of pro-Japanese feeling. They were not so hardhearted as not to allow anything for a man to carry on his business. That was not the intention of that kind of Imperialistic Government to crush an opponent."

7-20 P.M. MR. PRESIDENT:—"Does the Government accept the amendment?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No, Sir."

The amendment of Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao that sub-clause (1) (d) of clause 2 shall be omitted was put and lost.

The amendment of Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao that sub-clause (1) (e) of clause 2 shall be omitted was put and lost.

The amendment of Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao that in sub-clause (1) (g) of clause 2, the following words, viz., 'in respect of his employment or business, in respect of his association or communication with other persons, and' shall be omitted was put and lost.

Clause 2—Sub-clause (1) (i).

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'that for sub-clause (1) (i) of clause 2, the following shall be substituted, namely:—

"Otherwise regulating his conduct in any such particular as may be specified in the order".'

Sir, the amendment that I have the honour to move is taken from the Defence of India Rules. I do not claim any originality for it. In the Ordinance this clause stood as I have suggested but in the Bill they have changed it as it exists in the Bill. I feel, Sir, that the clause as it stood in the Ordinance was quite good. Sir, in the Bill it reads thus:—

'for such incidental and supplementary matters as may be necessary for the purpose of giving effect to any order under this sub-section.'

This is a very tall order, Sir. It is said anything supplementary and anything incidental are tabooed without mentioning what those incidental and supplementary things are; whereas the Defence of India Rules said: 'otherwise regulating his conduct in any such particular manner as may be specified in the order.' Unless these are mentioned how is the advisory council to know or how can the person who is to be detained put up his defence and send such representation to the advisory council as he would like to? Sir, it is a vague thing to say for such incidental and supplementary matters. Everything can be brought under the words 'incidental' and 'supplementary'. It will be quite clear if it is put as 'otherwise regulating his conduct in any such particular as may be specified in the order.' Sir, the clause as it stood in the original Ordinance was really better than this which is evidently purposely introduced in the Bill, not to remove its rigours but to make it more rigorous."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Less obnoxious! I second it, Sir."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"I expect a formal acceptance or denial from the Government."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"I oppose it, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 2—Sub-clause (2).

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I move—
'that sub-clause (2) of clause 2 shall be omitted.'

"Sir, under this sub-clause the power of internment is not only given to the Government but to any officer or authority including a subordinate officer. I ask the Hon. the Minister for Law to show whether this internment provision can be exercised by a subordinate official. I want the Hon. the Minister for Law to peruse Regulation 18 (b) of the Defence Regulations. Sir, it was at a time when the British Government was at war with Germany and when Normandy was about to be invaded and when they expected the enemies would come down to England did they go in for a provision for internment giving power to the Home Secretary. We know in Germany when Himmler was the Gestapo Chief, he was given the power to delegate his power to subordinates for arresting men and putting them in concentration camps. That has been done in Germany but not in any free country where liberty of the individual exists. Now under the present provisions of the Bill the power of internment can be delegated to Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar to be used by him in a deadly manner if he likes. (Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar: 'I am not an officer.') But he may be authorized by any officer. Therefore, Sir, they have no idea of the responsibility of internment. Sir, the Lord Chancellor while defending the Home Secretary in the House of Lords in England says as follows:—

'... Here I should say a word about the responsibility of the Home Secretary in these matters. I feel it very much, in view of the fact I have twice held that office. I assure you, My Lords, most solemnly that next to the dreadful responsibility which falls on the Home Secretary of deciding whether a convicted murderer shall be hanged, there is no duty which falls upon him which he regards as so much his personal charge, his deep personal responsibility, as the decision in these internment cases ...'

You have no idea of that liberty. You have been in jails for 25 years and therefore you have become habituated to being in jail. Therefore you do not realize that responsibility. (Laughter.) You have been in jail for 25 years and you now want to put other people in jail. Sir, this is nothing but Himmler and his camp and his ruthless capture, guillotine and mass execution. This is not civilization but savagerization."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Sir, I second the amendment. In doing so, Sir, I may, for the information of this House cite some instances that occurred in 1942. Police officers, evidently authorized under a section like this in the Defence of India Rules, arrested people and when we went to the Chief Secretary and begged him to have them released, he said that he had no power. He got the papers, reviewed them and placed them

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before the Government. That means the Governor, and got the order. That, Sir, must be the procedure. This clause empowers any police officer to act. Therefore as you will see later on any police officer can arrest a person, if he is authorized by the Provincial Government. This, Sir, will place the arrested person in a peculiar position. I think, Sir, many hon. Members of this House were in the same position in 1942, still they are giving this power to the police officer."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 2—Sub-clause (4).

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I move, Sir—

' that in sub-clause (4) of clause 2, after the words " any police officer " the words " not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police " shall be inserted.'

" My suggestion is that instead of saying any police officer you may put it as any police officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector. This occurs in most of the Statutes of this Government and that is why I suggest this, Sir "

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I second it, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 2—Sub-clause (4).

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, I move—

' that the following shall be added at the end of sub-clause (4) of clause 2, namely :—

" Provided such police officer or person has been in writing authorized to act in that behalf by the Provincial Government or the officer or authority making the order." '

" Sir, the sub-clause as it stands will mean that any police officer whether he has authority in writing from the Government or from the officer concerned or not can arrest any person who is in any place in contravention of the order. Any police officer from any part of the Province can go and arrest. That is why I want that the person who is to arrest a person should be definitely specified."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 2—Sub-clause (5).

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I move—

' that in sub-clause (5) of clause 2, after the words " including conditions as to maintenance " the words " of himself and his family, if any " shall be inserted.'

" Sir, this is a very small amendment which I think is in fact even now being given effect to. I suggest, Sir, that the maintenance may be of himself and his family if any. In 1942, Sir,

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when persons were detained and their families were given some allowance though the allowances were not satisfactory. Now, the same thing is going to be repeated under this law and so I suggest that the maintenance of himself and his family if any. That is all that I want, Sir. I trust that this is being given effect to even now by the present Government, I understand, in regard to those who have been arrested and detained."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I second it, Sir."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I oppose it, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I was just trying to bring to the notice of the Government that the absence of the words will not at any time prevent the Government giving allowances to families."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Certainly not."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That is what I wanted to know."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 2—Sub-clause (6).

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I move—

' that sub-clause (6) (a) of clause 2 be omitted.'

" This clause attempts to deal not only with the person but also with the property of the man if he is absconding when an order for his arrest has been issued and notified, and he is asked to appear before the court or somebody on a particular date. If he fails to do so, he will have to be apprehended and punished for it. The sub-clause appears to be unnecessary except that it is again copying from some other rule."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 3.

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I move, Sir—

' that clause 3 be omitted.' "

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 3—Sub-clause (1).

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" I have given notice of an amendment that in sub-clause (1) of clause 3, the words ' or where any such order is made by an officer or authority subordinate to them ' be omitted.

" I have already said that the power of internment should not be delegated at all, but should be exercised by the Government. But that was not accepted."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" So, the hon. Member does not press this amendment."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAIDU :—" No, Sir."

(The amendment was not moved.)

7.30
p.m.

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Clause 3—Sub-clause (1).

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I move, Sir—

'that in sub-clause (1) of clause 3, between the words "to afford him" and "opportunity" the word "earliest" be inserted.'

"This word was once there but has now been omitted for some reason. From the proceedings of the Select Committee kindly lent to me by a Member of the Assembly I find that it was done at the instance of the Government. I am only suggesting that the Government should afford to the person the earliest opportunity and that not undue delay should take place in presenting the facts to the Advisory Council. This was what Government once intended but the word has since been dropped. I think it is fair to the party whose case is to be presented to the Advisory Council that Government should be asked to afford the earliest opportunity to the person concerned to present his case."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I second it."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Sir, it was at the instance of a Member of the Select Committee who is an Englishman that this was done. There was no difficulty."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I think it was omitted at the instance of Sri T. Viswanatham."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Very wrong, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Apart from the personnel, we should like to know the reason, if any, given by the Committee."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 3—Sub-clause (2).

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I move, Sir—

'In sub-clause (2) of clause 3, for the words "the Advisory Council" the words "a properly constituted judicial tribunal" shall be substituted.'

"No words are necessary from me to commend this amendment for the consideration of the House."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I second it."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Is it opposed? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Yes, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 3—Sub-clause (3).

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I move the following amendment :—

*'The following shall be added to clause 3 (3) at the end :—
"and the majority of the members including the chairman shall be persons holding or who have held judicial appointments not below the rank of a District Judge."'*

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"Sir, the Government have refused to accept an amendment in the other House with regard to the appointment of a judicial tribunal. My hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao's amendment also has not been accepted. The next amendment which can be moved is only this. This amendment envisages that at least the majority of the members of the Advisory Council should be persons who have held or who hold judicial appointments and have judicial experience. The Hon. the Premier said that in England trials by jury are held ordinarily, but there the jarymen are guided by judges, but here there is no provision for guidance being given to the Advisory Council by judges. That is why I want that the majority of the members at least should be persons with judicial experience and persons who have held judicial appointments not below the rank of a District Judge. Of course the Government is not bound to accept the findings of the Advisory Council, but let the persons concerned have at least the benefit of their records being examined by persons who have had some judicial experience."

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, trial by jury has been referred to. There a man is judged by his peers. But the peers are not appointed by Government but they are selected by casting of lots. Is the Government prepared to appoint the members of the Advisory Council by having a panel of men and casting lots? No, they are not. Then there is no use of saying that a man is judged by his peers. There is no comparison at all between trial by jury and trial by persons chosen by Government. Sir, if I am judged by Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar, he will hang me. If I am judged by Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, he will give a different sentence. I ask, Sir, why this camouflage? I asked the Hon. the Law Minister to tell us what is there in the English Act, what is the text of the law there. It must be in the Law Department. Let us see what is the constitution of the Advisory Committee, who appoints it and what are the qualifications of the members. Are we to follow precedents or are you to be the sole guide of yourself? Is it the position that if Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar wants three, let us have three? (Laughter.) I second the amendment."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Order, order."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Nothing much need be said. I simply mentioned about the position of the jury in England. Here they will be persons appointed by Government with due care and caution, so that there may not be miscarriage of justice by choosing useless persons. Government will take particular care to see that proper men are appointed."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 3—Sub-clause (3).

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" I move—

'In sub-clause (3) of clause 3 the words "whenever necessary" shall be omitted.'

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"Even the constitution of the so-called Advisory Council is within the discretion of the Government. 'The Government shall constitute an Advisory Council *whenever necessary*.' God only knows how they will constitute and when. Is there any obligation? The section as worded seems to indicate that there is no obligation. It is optional. The words used are 'whenever necessary.'"

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—I second the amendment.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"It is obligatory. The words 'whenever necessary' were introduced after a long discussion. It was considered that the Council appointed on one occasion to go into certain cases need not go on continuing, if the particular cases referred to it were over. Afterwards, if it is necessary to constitute an Advisory Council, it will be constituted."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 3—Sub-clause (4).

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I move—

'After the words "as it may deem necessary" the following words shall be inserted:—

"and if necessary after giving further opportunity to the person concerned to explain or make representation in respect of any materials placed before it".'

"Section 3 (1) says that the Provincial Government shall communicate to the person affected by the order, so far as such communication can be made without disclosing the facts which they consider it would be against the public interest to disclose, the grounds on which the order has been made against him and such other particulars as are in their opinion sufficient to enable him to make, if he wishes, a representation against that order. The Government are not under the Bill bound to communicate to the person affected all the particulars available with them. The Hon. Premier said in reply to the general discussion that so far as the Advisory Council was concerned, all the particulars would be placed before it. The Advisory Council may think it necessary that the person affected should be given an opportunity to make any representation in respect of some of those facts which were withheld from him originally. Even according to the provisions of the Bill as framed by the Government, I think it necessary that this amendment should be accepted."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—I second the amendment.

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Whatever matter is required to be placed before the person affected to enable him to make a representation will be placed before him. Sometimes there may be matters the disclosure of which to the affected person might lead to certain troubles. Therefore they would be withheld from him. The Advisory Council will certainly go into all the matters."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

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Clause 4—Sub-clause (1).

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—"I move—
'For the word "six" the word "three" shall be substituted.'

"Sub-clause (1) says that no order shall be in force for more than six months. This six months is a recurring decimal. With regard to human freedom, it is a suicidal policy to go on detaining a person for six months, again six months and once again six months and so on. That is what the section says."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I second the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 4 was put and carried.

Clause 5.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Sir, I move—
'that clause 5 shall be omitted and the other clauses shall be re-numbered.'

"I have nothing more to urge than what I have already said in the course of the general discussion on the Bill that the imposition of collective fines is unnecessary. If in an area there is danger to peace and order, there is provision in the ordinary law by which punitive police is stationed and the cost of their maintenance is collected from the people of the area. In areas where there is no danger to peace, there is no need to impose collective fines. I think the present law is quite sufficient to meet the situation."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I second it. In view of the comprehensive nature of the provisions of the Bill, there will be no necessity at all for the imposition of collective fines. The Government have taken ample powers to prevent persons from acting in a manner injurious to the interests of the public. Imposition of collective fines is tantamount to making innocent people vicariously suffer for offences committed by others. On principle also, I oppose therefore the imposition of collective fines."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I also add that this Congress Government are refunding the fines collected during 1942?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I was about to suggest it to the hon. Member for the withdrawal of the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 5 was put and carried.

Clause 6.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Sir, I move the following amendment—

'Clause 6 shall be omitted and the other clauses shall be re-numbered.'

I do not want to keep the House long for the reason, as I said, that section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code has been used

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in Mannargudi by notification and the period has been extended already by the Government, proclaiming that no meetings, processions, etc., should be held. The Government have got ample powers under the Criminal Procedure Code. This clause is only a repetition of the Defence of India Rules."

* SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—Sir, I second the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 6 was put and carried.

Clause 7.

Clause 7 was put and carried.

Clause 8.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Sir, I move the following amendment:—

'Clause 8 shall be omitted and the other clauses shall be renumbered.'

The reasonableness of Members of this House can be seen from the fact that we feel that section 7 should form part of the Bill. We have not given notice of any amendment because there is no such provision in the existing law. I bring this fact to the notice of the House to show that we are not unreasonable. Where the Government do not possess powers to deal with a situation and where they want such powers we have not given notice of any amendment to delete the existing clause in the Bill.

"Apart from that, I come to section 8 now. I have suggested the omission of this section, as it affects the right and liberty of workers to organize themselves for the purpose of defending the rights which Labour enjoy. It also interferes with the right of the worker to choose the employment he likes. Even under the Emigration Act the labourer who goes to Ceylon has the liberty to choose work in any estate he likes. Under this law it is impossible to do so. The Government will settle the kind of work which he should do. The Government have been very careful not to entrench on the subjects of the Central Government. They have put in Lists II and III. They cannot include List I without the consent of the Government of India. I do not know whether my hon. Friend, Mr. Sarma, will vote with the Government. It interferes with the right of labour workers. It is a right, a valuable right

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"Clause 8 refers to 'any person engaged in such employment.' It does not transfer the worker from one employment to another."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"The worker is not allowed to choose any employment he likes. That liberty is taken away. With regard to essential services during the war, there was such a provision."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"I do not understand the hon. Member. The clause says that any person engaged in any employment will be given that employment."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"You tie the workers down to the employer. It is not open to the employee to give 14 days notice under the Defence of India Rules whose life has been extended till October. After giving 14 days notice, they can strike work. . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I now follow what the hon. Member says."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"It interferes with the legitimate right of the workers. There was such a provision in war-time. This is not necessary in peace-time. I do not know why this Government want this power. Section 81-A of the Central Government Rules gives them the necessary power. Of course it will not last beyond October. I think in an emergency such restrictions may be necessary, as essential services may be affected. But in ordinary times it is not right that the right of the workers themselves to express their demands and obtain them should be taken away. In such cases 14 days' notice is given."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"I second the amendment. It does not touch control powers. The Bill does not refer to any specific trade. The Government can ask the agriculturists to continue to grow groundnut alone, whether they like it or not. The economic organization seems to be based on totalitarian principles. I can understand the Government using the powers in the Bill in the case of certain specified trade. There is nothing of the kind. They want to fix up the labourer to one work only."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member will not please look at his hon. Friend, Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar."

* SRI P. R. K. SARMA:—"Sir, the amendment moved and now under discussion is so vital and important for labour, for the protection of labour's rights that I cannot remain silent, nor vote with the Government though I am a member of the Party and I belong to the Party. It may be that this amendment moved by the hon. Member, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, for the omission of this clause, may appear to be trivial and unimportant to some hon. Members of the House. However patriotic one might be, it is not possible for some to appreciate the real difficulties of the working class. We know, Sir, during the war under the Defence of India Rules how workers suffered under many restraints. They had no right to move from one employer to another employer. I know, Sir, that there was at least the National Service Tribunal to interfere and say that under some circumstances the worker can go from one post to another, from one employer to another employer—if he was able to obtain better wages. Even such a saving clause is not found in this legislation. The only rights, the

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only protection and the only safeguard which a worker has in his hands for his advancement is his right to refuse to work if the conditions are not satisfactory. It is a fundamental right . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I would suggest to the hon. Member not to be so violent otherwise his hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao might come under this Bill for inciting him to violence."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar rose up and measured and compared sacrifices of Members to the country. There may be persons whom my hon. Friend may not know, whose sacrifices might not be known to him. It is not jail-going alone is a sacrifice. There may be men who have undergone greater sufferings and made greater sacrifices in furtherance of some noble causes without having to go to jail."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will confine his remarks to the amendment before the House."

8 p.m. SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" Sir, the only right the worker has got, to secure improved conditions of service, in the absence of any protective legislation and in the absence of legislation for ensuring minimum wages, hours of work, etc., is his right to strike. This clause denies the worker his fundamental right for which he is entitled and for which he has fought all along. Sir, no democratic body, or popular legislature should pass a clause of this character and I, therefore, support the amendment, that clause 8 shall be deleted."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The amendment is—

'that clause 8 shall be omitted and the other clauses be renumbered.'"

The amendment was put and lost.

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, I move—

'that Explanation (1) under clause 8 shall be omitted.'

" It says :

'Abandonment of employment or absence from duty by any person merely for fear of molestation, intimidation or assault by any person or class of persons shall not constitute a reasonable excuse within the meaning of clause (b).'

" Well, Sir, we know that during strikes and labour troubles it is quite possible that a person who is on his way for work might be molested, intimidated or assaulted. According to this explanation, even if he is molested, intimidated or assaulted, even if there is any risk to his life, he must go to his work. If not, he commits an offence under this Act, for which he is punishable. It is too much of a risk to be expected of any ordinary man and I consider that the provision is very stringent; it is, therefore, but reasonable that this explanation should be omitted."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I second the amendment, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost; clause 8 was then put and carried.

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K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, it is now eleven hours we have been sitting here and it is very inconvenient for us to sit any more."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I am just coming to that. There are a few more amendments and I do not know if hon. Members are very keen in making big speeches on them. If the House is inclined, I suggest that we may finish the Bill once for all to-day, so that we may not sit to-morrow also. Of course, the House has every right to have its say in the matter, but I wish that the Hon. the Premier and the hon. the Leader of the Opposition may consult each other and come to some decision just now."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I would appeal, Sir, to the Leader of the Opposition and the other hon. Members to sit for half-an-hour more and finish this Bill."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I do not think, Sir, we shall be able to finish this Bill within another half-an-hour, because this is a measure in which some of us feel very keenly and in the third reading stage we have to have our say again. Besides, there are other questions also."

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" If we want really to help the Government, we must sit for half-an-hour more and finish it, Sir."

(A number of hon. Members stood up at the same time and urged for the adjournment of the House to the next day.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I should like to know the opinion of Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar."

DR. SRI A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, we had better take it up to-morrow, having regard to the fact that the tempers are a bit frayed. Some of us also would like to speak on the third reading stage."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Shall we sit at 9 o'clock to-morrow?"

(Several Members again stood up and made various suggestions, but it was finally agreed to have the meeting at 9-30 a.m. on 8th March 1947.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The House stands adjourned to 9-30 a.m. to-morrow."

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 8th March 1947.

SPECIAL SITTING.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 9-30 a.m., Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

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

1.—THE MADRAS MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER BILL, 1947
(AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY)—*cont.*

Clause 9.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I move that this clause be deleted from the Bill.

“ In doing so, Sir, I feel that the existing law is expected to deal with a Press that violates the rules and publishes matter likely to affect public safety or the maintenance of public order. I do not know, Sir, what special consideration made the Government insert this clause in this Bill. We have not been informed of any. We have been hearing the Hon. the Premier complaining against the Press that they are not giving him the support he needs in the various measures . . . ”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ I never complained, Sir, that they are not giving me the support I wanted; I only wanted them to be giving fair comments in respect of facts, and nothing more.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ I do not think, Sir, the Hon. the Premier's explanation has in any way detracted from the complaint which I feel he has against the Press. Anyhow, Sir, this clause is unnecessary as the existing law dealing with the Press is sufficient to deal with it; already, Sir, the Government have taken action with regard to certain Presses like the *Desabhimani* and other organs of the Communist party for publishing matter prejudicial to public safety and maintenance of public order. They have the power to demand security, they have the power to demand confiscation of any issue in which any matter affecting public safety and maintenance of public order is published—they have all these powers. I do not know why this clause should have been introduced in this Bill. If they had not the power, then they were perfectly entitled to come up before this House and ask for the inclusion of the concerned provision. As they already possess these powers, they are redundant here, except perhaps that by introducing this clause, the Bill assumes a very respectable size. Except that, no purpose is served by keeping this clause in this Bill.”

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Mr. President, there is also an amendment under this clause standing in my name. Shall I also move it? ”

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"One after another."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"All right, Sir."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second the amendment moved, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The question is that clause 9 shall be omitted and the other clauses shall be renumbered."

The amendment was put and lost.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Mr. D. Krishnamurthy is not in his place. His amendment is deemed to have been withdrawn."

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, I move that sub-clauses (1) and (2) of clause 9 shall be omitted."

"I must first of all tell the House what the meaning of clause 9 is and what the powers conferred by that clause are. I do realize, at any rate, most of the Presses do realize, that it is difficult to understand the purport of this clause. What is it that is given to the Government in this clause? It says first of all: 'require that all matter or any matter relating to a particular subject or class of subjects, shall, before being published in any document or class of documents, be submitted for scrutiny to an authority specified in the order.' That is, the Government can ask any paper: 'Do not publish things with regard to certain matters, or do not put any news at all; you must submit that to me first; in other words, you must undergo what is called censorship, and then only you can publish.' In view of certain specific conditions prevailing now, according to the Government, they want this provision, and therefore, this thing may be admitted. But then the next sub-clause says: 'prohibit or regulate the making or publishing of any document or class of documents, or of any matter relating to a particular subject or class of subjects, or the use of any press, as defined in the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931.' Then what is stated in sub-clause (2) is the most important thing. It creates an offence, first of all, in sub-clause (3), which says 'if any person contravenes any order made under this section, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.' There is an offence there; if therefore a newspaper does not submit what is going to be published to-morrow, on a requisition made by the Government, then it may be prosecuted—the offence is created—and it can be fined and also there is imprisonment for three years or two years or two months, whatever it may be. But that is not the whole thing; there is sense in it if the provision rested there. No doubt there are some matters which newspapers may publish, may take the risk in publishing and take the risk of going to a court of law. But, as I said, it does not stop there. There is another

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sub-clause (2) which says: 'If any person contravenes any order made under sub-clause (1), then, without prejudice to any other proceedings which may be taken against such person, the Provincial Government may declare to be forfeited to His Majesty every copy of any document published or made in contravention of such order and any press, as defined in the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, used in the making of such document.' Therefore, you can prosecute a person who writes contrary to an intimation by the Government, as for an offence; not only that; you can take away, suppress the press as happened in the case of Mr. Govindachari in 1942. Therefore, the actual fact is: you create an offence first of all by saying, you should not publish what I say you should not publish. But that is to be judged by the ordinary civil courts in the country. The order of Government asking the press not to publish will be placed before the courts, it will be subject to comment and other things. But there is the extraordinary power to the effect that the Government can go and say: 'I will suppress the press, I will take away the press.' Sir, these are the two powers taken. They correspond to clause 2 (c) and (d) of the Defence Regulations passed in the year 1939. I ask, Sir, having said so far with regard to the importance of this clause, viz., that the press should not write anything except to the dictation of the Government, and that if it writes, it is liable for prosecution, and also, if it writes it is not only liable for prosecution, but the press itself will be confiscated—that I say is the climax . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Does the clause say that the press itself shall be forfeited?"

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Yes, Sir; not only the documents will be taken away; it says: 'The Provincial Government may declare to be forfeited to His Majesty every copy of any document published or made in contravention of such order, and any press as defined in the Indian Press Act.' I do not know, Sir, what it is that the 1939 Act says. There is also the term 'His Majesty' here; it still exists in the Act at least. (Laughter.) 'Every copy of any document published or made in contravention of such order'—that is with regard to the pamphlet issued. But 'any press'—these are artistic words, terms which are used in the legal language. That is done only in specific emergencies; it is the withdrawal of all powers to the State for meeting a state of emergency. We know such powers were used in 1914 and in 1942.

"The only question now is whether it is not the culmination of what I will term the Gandhian system of politics. I do not know the Gandhian system of non-violence but I do know something about the Gandhian system of politics. Here what is contained is that they have got power under this section to imprison a person. Not only that. They can also seize the press and forfeit it. My submission is, is it the non-violent system of politics?"

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The whole question resolves itself to this that you have to dance to the music of the Government. Already you have got power to prosecute him. Then, why do you want also to seize the press?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"May I know from the hon. Member the purpose of his amendment? It is 'omit sub-sections (1) and (2) and retain sub-section (3)'."

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"There is a mistake, Sir. At least I wanted that the portion about the confiscation of the press should be omitted. Because, you can ask a person not to publish certain things. If you are not satisfied, you can arrest and detain him for say, four or even ten months. Not only that, Sir, you can even prosecute him and ask him to appear before a court of law which will probably sentence him for some years. So, Sir, this section interferes with the liberty of the press. The whole position is this. What is this Gandhian politics about? Is this really a publication of the theory of Gandhian politics or is it really theory on the ideology of the word 'khaddar'? Is it defined anywhere clearly? I am asking this question plainly. We want to know whether it is like the press under the Parliament or is it a Hitlerite press? We want to know what it is. Is this democracy? In this connexion, if you allow me, Sir, I shall tell you what Viscount Simon said about the liberty of the press. I have already once mentioned about it to this House. Let me repeat it again with regard to this matter. You can vilify a man subject to the laws of slander and of defamation; you can put him in jail. Under the ordinary law, he can be taken before a court of law where he can defend himself and if he is found guilty, he will be put in prison. You see what the present position is. In Bhagavathar's case, there was complete blackmail by a certain press. In England, if articles of that type appeared in the press, the person would have gone to jail long ago. But, the press in this country not only say the truth but may also say falsehood. The question really to be found out is whether the press is saying the truth or it makes a vilification and if so, punish it subject to the law of slander. Now, the Government is the arbiter. Instead of being an arbiter, you are vilifying the whole press and carrying on a vendetta against the press. Mr. Balfour was in prison on account of some political agitations. The press has an enormous influence and if they think that a certain leadership should go, they can make it. So, what I will say to the press is, do not write anything at all about the ministry muddle, because, under this clause the Government can prosecute the person concerned and even the press can be done away with. That is the whole position. You should be ashamed to have a press in this country which will resemble one under Hitler. You should not create such a position in this country. So, do not do it. You must maintain the liberties of the press."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second it, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 9 was put and carried.

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Clause 10.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I move, Sir, for the deletion of clause 10 because it is redundant."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have said once before that I would like to hear some voices when I put the amendments to vote. There is a danger of my saying 'Noes have it', if I do not hear sufficient number of voices on the Government side."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"There is already legislation passed in 1946 dealing with the subject covered by the provision. Under Act XIV of 1946, there is already power under Section 4, power for requisition or acquisition of property. I do not know, Sir, why this clause should have been put in here. Except for the fact that it is a copy of the Defence of India Rules, I do not think this provision is necessary at all. There is already power which the Government possesses under which they can requisition property and even acquire property. Here, Sir, the same section is repeated and I do not think that it is necessary to include the words 'maintenance of supplies and services essential to the life of the community' under clause 4 of Act XIV of 1946. There is no use repeating the complaint—simply some rules have been copied and put forward into this Bill without looking into the fact whether they already possess the powers, and whether these powers are necessary. So, Sir, I move that clause 10 may be omitted as it is redundant."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second it, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, clause 10 provides for the requisition of movable property. Clause 10 (3) provides for the payment of such compensation to the owner as the Provincial Government may determine. The power to determine the compensation that should be paid to the owner of the movable property is vested in the Provincial Government. What I want by my amendment is that compensation be paid must be reasonable. It is a very reasonable amendment, Sir, that I propose and I hope the Government would accept it in the normal course. Therefore, Sir, I move that in line 2 of sub-clause (3) of clause 10, after the word 'such' the word 'reasonable' shall be inserted."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am sure the hon. Member will not object if any unreasonably high compensation is paid by the Government."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want only reasonable compensation to be paid by the Government, Sir, and I do not want any high compensation to be paid by Government because it should be at the expense of the tax-payers."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 10 was put and carried.

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Clause 11.

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a.m.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I move for the deletion of the whole clause. This is also a very dangerous clause. The clause was perhaps necessary during a period of war when the assistance of the public was required for the maintenance and restoration of law and order but when we are in peace time I do not see why this power is required by the Government to compel people to come to their assistance and do things which they themselves do not approve of. To-morrow an order may be passed by this Government requiring everyone to come and do a particular piece of work as it is required for the maintenance of law and order. It is all right, Sir, in a time of emergency when there is war, when the lives and properties of persons are in danger, when in order to promote the safety of the people, the Government may require people to come to the assistance of the Government so that the properties and lives of the people may be protected; but, no such emergency has arisen or will arise. If this clause is to be applied throughout the Province, not only to those areas which are considered as danger spots, but throughout the Province and if anybody, for any reason, fails to comply with this lawful duty,—unlawful direction I would call it though this unlawful direction is made lawful by passing it through the legislature with a large majority in support of the Government—will be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine or with both. It is very hard to enforce this provision on people though by a Government which is evidently drifting slowly to a totalitarian state."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I second it, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, as explained by my hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, section 11 arms an officer of Government with very wide powers. When I read the section, I was reminded of the Jallianwalla Bagh and the crawling laws of Amritsar. Any officer of Government may do anything for the purpose of getting assistance in the maintenance and restoration of law and order and there is nothing to prevent him from requiring any man, whoever he may be, to act in a particular manner. That is why I want that the actions of the officers under this section may be at least required to be reasonable. I therefore move my amendment which is as follows :—

'In sub-clause (1) of clause 11 before the word 'manner' the word 'reasonable' shall be inserted.'"

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I second it, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 11 was put and carried.

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Clause 12.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I move, Sir, that sub-clause (4) of clause 12 shall be omitted. I am not a lawyer, Sir, but my reason for this amendment is, already the Provincial Government delegate the power to an officer and again that officer is empowered under this sub-section to delegate his powers to any other officer. Whether such a delegation is lawful, I am doubtful. Delegation of powers can only be to one officer and whether that officer can delegate his powers to another officer, I think from a legal point of view, it is objectionable. According to the sub-section, 'an officer empowered under sub-section (1), may, subject to the control of the Provincial Government, authorize any officer subordinate to him to exercise any of the powers referred to in sub-section (1).' It is delegating a delegated power and I do not think under the law it is permitted as far as I know. Of course, Sir, all these things were necessary when there was a state of war, but I think it is an unnecessary provision here. Even if it is correct to give that power of delegation, I am informed by my lawyer friends that such delegation of a delegated power is wrong in law."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I second it, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does the Hon. the Law Minister wish to say anything about it? "

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" He is dumb to-day."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" There is nothing to be said about it. I oppose the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 12 was put and carried.

Clause 13.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I move the following amendment that stands in my name, viz.—

'After the words "Any Police Officer" the words "not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police" shall be inserted.'

" Sir, in the course of the general discussion on this Bill many hon. Members have expressed themselves against giving a tall order to any Police officer to arrest a person who is reasonably suspected of having committed an offence. According to this, even a police constable may arrest anybody he likes and whom he reasonably suspects of having committed an offence. Whether he reasonably suspects or unreasonably suspects is a matter that will have to come up to Government, once he is arrested and detained. I therefore suggest that the words 'a responsible police officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police' shall be inserted in the clause. It is after all a minor amendment which the Government

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themselves could have moved instead of members of this House being required to move it, because it is only taking every possible precaution that these wide and unrestrained powers vested in the executive under this Bill, should be used by officers who are competent and who can judge, at any rate, reasonably judge whether a person whom an officer wants to arrest is reasonably suspected of having committed an offence. It is only by way of abundant caution that I am moving this amendment. I know, Sir, the Government are not prepared to accept it."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I second it, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 13 was put and carried.

Clause 14.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, my suggestion is, the words 'attempts to contravene, or' may be omitted from the clause, so that the clause may read thus—

'Any person who abets, or attempts to abet, or does any act preparatory to a contravention of, any of the provisions of this Act or of any order made thereunder, shall be deemed to have contravened that provision or, as the case may be, that order.'

"Sir, it has covered all things. How to prove, Sir, who attempts to contravene an order; it is rather a difficult thing to prove. Then again too much of a power is given to any officer. It is a tall order. I am therefore suggesting this amendment, which is but a small one, though as in the case of the other amendments, whether small or big, the Government are not prepared to accept them. I am sure, they will soon realize the mistake they are making."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I second it, Sir."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 14.

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The words 'or does any act preparatory to a contravention of' shall be omitted. Sir, no system of jurisprudence makes preparation for an offence punishable as an offence ordinarily. The reason is obvious. A man may change his mind at any moment. I shall not make any speech because it will have no effect on the Government."

The amendment was put and lost.

The clause 14 was put and carried.

Clause 15 was put and carried.

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Clause 16.

DR. V. K. JOHN moved that—

"For the existing clause 16, the following shall be substituted :—

'(1) Any order made in exercise of any power conferred by or under this Act shall be communicated forthwith to the person or persons affected thereby, who may within two months from the date of the communication of such order apply to the High Court to set aside such order and the High Court shall have jurisdiction to consider the propriety and reasonableness of such order and pass such order or orders as it deems fit.

'(2) Every such application shall be heard and determined by a special Bench of the High Court composed of three Judges.'

"Yesterday, Sir, when it was dark I thought merely of reading this amendment and make no speech but today I feel that there is plenty of light in the Ministers and their supporters. Therefore, Sir, I ask your permission to make a speech. For the information of the Prime Minister and his colleagues I might say that the substance of this amendment is taken from the Indian Press Emergency Powers Act. This does not harm the Government in any way at all. They may gag the press, they may confiscate the press, they may detain a person, they may restrain his movements. They may do anything which they want under this Act. After doing all this give the interested party an opportunity to move the High Court within two months questioning the propriety and reasonableness of the action taken by the Government. Sir, if this is not going to be admitted it will be the funeral of all civil liberties in this Province. I hope the Ministers and those that support them would accept it. I am not standing in the way of their detaining any person or arresting anyone or seizing his property or doing anything which they want under this Act, but I say this that a person whose liberty is curtailed or whose property is requisitioned or against whom any order is passed, let him have the freedom to go to the highest Court in the land. Let three Judges of the Madras High Court hear his application. I do not think that any of the Hon'ble Ministers will do anything *mala fide*, but they have no time to look into all questions themselves. Therefore they have provided for delegation and one of the delegated authorities may be a Police constable, may be an Inspector of Police, may be anybody else. They may be doing something wrong. I say, Sir, let the person against whom an order is passed have the opportunity to move the High Court and let the High Court go into the question and why do we distrust the High Court? The High Court will go into the whole question, will understand the position and will give a decision. Sir, if it is found that a person has committed an unsocial act and he is detained for this purpose the High Court will come to a decision against him. There is not the slightest excuse for opposing this amendment except persistence. But persistence may be a virtue up to a certain limit but beyond that limit it becomes a vice. I

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a.m.

submit that my amendment does not in the least affect the provisions of this Act and does not in the least affect the powers that can be exercised. They can do anything they like but let there be a chance for the person convicted by that order to move the High Court. The Indian Press Emergency Act of 1931 has made this provision. We know from the reports in the papers how many times the High Courts in India have corrected the action of the executive and the executive must be glad over this if they are honest. The learned Judges are happy when they are corrected in appeal because after all man makes mistakes, they must be happy when the mistake is corrected. Therefore, I submit, that this provision ought to have been there not only for the liberty of the subject but for the reputation of the Government. Suppose the Government now pass orders which are never questioned in a court of law and never have the support of the court of law there will be public opinion against Government and their reputation will be at stake. The jurisdiction of a court of law is sought to be taken away by clause 16 of the Bill. In the interests of the Government and the delegated authorities I say let the matter be allowed to be carried to a court of law so that the court may sit in judgment. The amendment I move will be a great corrective. A provision like the one which I have now moved, will be a restraint on delegated authorities and they will not do *mala fide* acts and they will be very careful in exercising the powers conferred in this Act which as I have already said are very very drastic. If we make any suggestion to the Government that it should be worked in a particular way it will not be of any use whatsoever. I must frankly say, we on this side of the House are not attributing any motives to the Government, the Prime Minister or any others. We know that when this Act is put into force, the delegated authority, the small persons to whom authority will be delegated by Government, will misuse the powers and the Government themselves will be powerless and their reputation will be at stake and not so much the reputation of the delegated authority. I am suggesting that there may be some restraint on that delegated authority; they should be happy that the matter will be carried to the highest courts of the land and they will be corrected if they had committed any mistakes. It is not enough if I make suggestions that this should be mercifully and generously put into force. The Hon. Prime Minister himself regretted his having to introduce this Bill and he will certainly give an assurance that he will take every step in his power to see that there is no *mala fide* exercise of power; but I say he is himself powerless. He has provided for it and the powers will be exercised by somebody else. I have moved my amendment in the hope now that there is more light in the Ministers and we are not in darkness and in fact more and more light will be coming to the Government, although they may not be willing to accept the amendment to-day, they will think about and introduce an amendment as early as convenient so that clause 16 is deleted and the clause which I have given notice of will be accepted."

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* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" In supporting the motion, I shall just say a word or two. I do not know if it is the incompetence of the Premier or the antics of the party in power. I was thinking, Sir, they were committed to the policy of the separation of the judiciary from the executive. But now you want to fight shy of the courts. It has been said that the king is the foundation of justice. Evidently now according to this Bill, the Government and its puppets will carry through their own ideas and suppress civil liberty of every kind. I am at a loss to know why you do not like to give this power to High Court Judges. In one breath you are saying that you are going to make the magistracy quite independent of the executive and now you are doing a thing quite inconsistent with that principle in that you are denying access to the court for those affected. I say, Sir, that you must abandon the question of separation of the judiciary from the executive; you must abandon the question of individual liberty and go your own way. Otherwise you must accept that you are really keen on the judiciary having full powers of stepping in between the wronged and the executive and accept the amendment.

"The amendment that for existing clause 16, the following shall be substituted :—

'(1) Any order made in exercise of any power conferred by or under this Act shall be communicated forthwith to the person or persons affected thereby who may within two months from the date of the communication of such order apply to the High Court to set aside such order and the High Court shall have jurisdiction to consider the propriety and reasonableness of such order and pass such order or orders as it deems fit.

'(2) Every such application shall be heard and determined by a special bench of the High Court composed of three judges.'

was put and lost."

Clause 16 was put and carried.

Clause 17.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Mr. President, I move—

'In sub-clauses (1) and (2) the words "or intended to be done" wherever they occur shall be omitted.'

"I submit, Sir, this provision that was introduced during the war as part of war-time measures and strange to say the Government wish to have it even now. The second question is how can you find out the intention of the person unless he does an act by which his intention is shown."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I second the amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 17 was put and carried.

Clauses 18 and 19 were put and carried.

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Clause 1.

K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur's amendment to sub-clause (2) was by leave withdrawn

Clause 1, sub-clause (4).

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, I move that in lines 4 and 5 of sub-clause (4) of clause 1, for the words 'if in their opinion it is expedient so to do' the words 'after obtaining the consent of the Legislature on a motion duly tabled by the Government for such continuance' shall be substituted. We are on the last provision concerning the abrogation of individual liberty and the surrender of civil liberty that this Parliament is called upon to acquiesce in. 'This not only for one year but for such period as this Government may deem fit; then it does not come to this Parliament and they do not want it. The Fuhrer, the leader is there and if he says it shall be continued, it shall be continued. You know, Sir, when Hitler threatened the invasion of England, there were three sections of the law which affected the people; but I will ask the Law Member who, I understand, has been responsible for the drafting of the measure, to let me know and direct me to a like provision in the English law empowering the Government to extend the Act from time to time, at their discretion. I have been trying my best to get this regulation but I have not been able to get it. But I am able to find from the speech of the Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords that the Emergency Act is an annual Act and subject to the renewal effected by both the Houses at the end of the year. Therefore, they go to Parliament and ask for sanction and that is why I have tabled an amendment that you should do it only after obtaining the sanction of the Legislature on a motion tabled by the Government. This is too much of a surrender that we are asked to set our approval to. I ask if the Government have given their thought to it; have they bestowed any sense on it; is it well-advised; is it wise on your part to say that you will exercise them year after year without coming to this Parliament for approval. The least that I can say is that it is the height of irresponsibility."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—"May I make a fervent appeal to my friends on the other side, although they belong to the Congress Party, not to abdicate their functions."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried and formed part of the Bill.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I move that the Bill to provide for the preventive detention, imposition of collective fines, control of meetings and processions, control of essential services and certain other purposes (The Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1947) (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly be passed into law."

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* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, I oppose the motion. We, on this side of the House, want to impress upon the Government and to make it plain to them and definite that we are not a party to a measure which is going to crush the freedom of the people of this Province. Never for the last 25 years has an act of this kind been passed in any Legislature. When the Public Safety Act of 1929 was introduced in the Central Legislative Assembly, what a hue and cry was raised throughout the length and breadth of this country? Considering the powers the Government required in those days, and comparing that with the powers that this Government is going to take, it is nothing.

" It seems the Government in power wants to practice Hitlerism and Nazism in this Province. That is the position it has come to. I ask the Hon. the Prime Minister whether there is any other enactment like this which a foreign Government has enacted within 150 or 200 years of rule. This is so aggressive, so crushing, and so barbaric. I ask the Hon. the Prime Minister, who was the stalwart champion of the freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of association, to say which is the other Act in India. I only offer my condolences to my hon. Friend on this legislation. Where is the necessity for this Act? It is said that it will be used against Communists. But let me say, Sir, I have my own suspicion. My personal view is this Act is for something else. Otherwise such a huge, gigantic amount of powers you would not have taken. Under the present circumstances, you would not have asked for such powers. Sir, we do not want to be a party to such a perverse and barbaric legislation. We are going to definitely make it clear, through this House, that we are not going to be a party to this Bill. We are going to call for a division. We know our fate. From the very beginning, the Hon. the Premier has been saying in this House 'we have to get through this Act; there is no use of proposing any amendments; we cannot carry out your amendments, because it has to reach Delhi before the 14th, and it has to get the sanction of the Viceroy'. Why then, Sir, all this farce of discussion? Why all this waste of public money?

" Sir, it is usual to congratulate the sponsor of a Bill on these occasions, but now, on the other hand, I condole the Hon. the Prime Minister for the tragic irony of Fate. With these words, Sir, I oppose."

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am in a very embarrassed situation having to speak on the third reading stage of the Bill, when, as a matter of fact, on the first reading I was the only member that remained neutral. I should like to explain my position and state why I remained neutral, and why it is that I am not now in a position to give them the support of my neutrality in the passing of the third reading stage of the Bill. I remained neutral because I felt that on the facts as stated by the Hon. the Premier, it was no use of opposing this Bill without having something to substitute for it; and it was my hope—a vain hope as it turned out to be—

[Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar] [8th March 1947]

That in the course of the discussion, as the amendments were moved by member after member from this side of the House, the Hon. the Premier or any of his colleagues would get up and give a balm to the troubled heart—something to alleviate the pain that most of us felt. It is not because we had not enough confidence in the Ministers, but because we knew that a draconian measure like this, which is all comprehensive, all pervading and conferring powers far beyond the reach of the officialdom of the day, required some little justification even if the amendments were not accepted. But what did I find? Time after time, when hon. Members spoke on amendments—I quite confess that a certain amount of heat was generated for the purpose—when, time after time even the most reasonable amendments were placed before the House, the Hon. the Premier and his colleagues refused even to reply to any of those amendments and kept a stony silence (K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur: ‘Shame’) which is not in consonance with the spirit of a democratic legislature. I do feel that the manner in which these amendments have been treated by hon. Members opposite is not the manner in which a democratic assembly ought to have been treated under any circumstance.

“I realize, Sir, that this Act has been placed before this House, a House with so little of power, and but for your cheerful personality, we would feel much more a sense of humiliation. (Hear, hear.) We heard none of the Ministers to say ‘we do feel that there is some justification for your views; but, my dear friends, we will see to it that, in the execution of the provisions of the Act, we shall give instructions, and we shall take all the powers necessary to see that as far as possible nothing that contravenes the liberty of a citizen who is not a culprit, who is not a traitor, who is not a person who had defied the law, or outraged the law, such a person shall be protected.’ It is not only when some clauses of the Bill were opposed—some of which might have embarrassed the Government because of the adjournment of the Assembly—but even in other circumstances, either it was a stony silence or it was a mere ‘I oppose’. Hon. Members opposite want us to believe that they are a people’s Government. I want to believe that they are a people’s Government. But, Sir, let me say that it is not a statement that they are a people’s Government that will convince anybody. The compliment must come from others. (Hear, hear.) If they are a people’s Government, have we not on this side a stake? Have we not as much conscience as they have? When this Act is passed, it is an Act of the Legislature and not an Act of the party in power. This will go about the international world, and there, somebody, some Smuts of the future, who is none too well disposed to Indian people, will get up and say ‘What are you talking of my treatment of Indians in South Africa when in India your own countrymen are being treated in this manner; I think it is a matter of emulation for me to copy it.’ Sir, let us realize the far-flung capacities of an Act of this description.

“I now come to a few points. I appeal to the Hon. Ministers not to feel irritated. There are people who take a different view. One of my hon. Friends said the other day that this Act was a draconian Act which conferred continuous powers on the executive

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without the necessity of being referred to the legislature. This is a very wide power, a power beyond the reach of anybody that we can contemplate. A suggestion was made that this Act should be applicable to certain districts. That was thrown out. Even if the Hon. Minister has said that he will give instructions to the Collectors of the districts to see and be on the watch to take necessary steps in the districts with a previous reference to him in particular, I would have felt glad. But nothing of that sort was forthcoming. He was adamant and resisting. I think a suggestion was made that the court of appeal might be composed of persons who had been in the judiciary, a suggestion to which no person could possibly take exception. Was it not possible for the Premier to say, ‘he will bear that in mind?’ Well, I did not want him to accept it here, because of the confusion that will arise. I am a practical man; I did not want to pin him down to accept any amendment. I know this House is merely marking time, that its function in regard to the discussion of this Bill is well settled by the manner in which the Legislative Assembly has been adjourned and that nothing can be done if an amendment is accepted here; and further the time-limit is there. But was it not open to the Premier to say to the House ‘that we shall consider the suggestion?’ Would that have taken away the warmth of the support that hon. Members have given—the warmth that was very lukewarm (laughter), when the provisions were moved.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“I requested the Premier to make a statement.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“But we were not . . .”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“He did make a statement.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“About what?”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“About judges.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“But he did not accept the suggestion.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“He said he will bear it in mind.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“I am grateful for that, Sir. Then, the definition of ‘the police officer’ is very vague, and will lead to complications. I am one of those who will give my full support to the police. Whether it is the police or other officers, who will exercise the powers under this enactment, we know, as a matter of fact from past history that the bureaucracy has got its limitations. There are blacksheep here and there and it is very difficult to identify them. Whether the bureaucracy works under an Adviser’s regime or under a Ministerial regime there are certain defects which the bureaucracy cannot get over. Our aim is to see wherever possible the temptation is not placed in the hands of small men dressed with authority for the time being to misuse that power. There is a proverb in Telugu, which, with your permission, I will quote: “ఏనుగుజోలుతెచ్చి ఎన్నాళ్లు ఉరికినా నలుపు నలువేకాని తెలుపుకాదు.”

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The meaning of that is, 'you may try to wash an elephant's skin from day to day for months, it will still continue to be black skin that it is.' Even so, the lapse on the part of the bureaucracy can never be abrogated. The Premier has tried to do his best. But he himself has had to own it, that it is a Herculean task. In all this debate, we are not for one moment suggesting that the Ministerial party or the Ministers themselves are not actuated by the best of motives. If anybody suggests that, I shall be the first to say, it is unfair to say they are seized with power and that they think they can control this. I say, if once you let lose the little genii from the little glass bottle you will have no control over it afterwards. That is the great danger to which hon. Members have pointed out. I request the Premier, even at this stage, to tell this House, 'well, this Act is with me, the provisions will be kept more or less a dead letter, unless a grave emergency arises it will not be enforced; a public statement will be issued from time to time stating the grounds on which action has been taken under this enactment and the reasons why this Act has been enforced.' Sir, that is the least that can be done to assuage the feelings of the public. My hon. Friends are a little perturbed over this Act, because we all know what human nature is. Power, they say, corrupts man; great power greatly corrupts. Whatever position we occupy we have always to realize the limitations of human nature. If every single provision of this enactment will receive the personal notice of the Premier and he will hold himself responsible, I for one will unhesitatingly say, 'Yes, go ahead with it.' I have full confidence and have the greatest respect for him. I do not mean it as a compliment or flattery, for his untiring energy and for the real great goodwill that he has for all members here and members on the other side. I know, if it were within his competence, and if ever it came within his competence he would never see that injustice is done. But unfortunately, the Act, as it will be passed will not be an Act that will be administered by him personally, but it will be administered by the legion of myrmidons of the bureaucracy and others, who cannot and do not get inspiration from the Premier, much less follow him in his footsteps. On these grounds, I regret, I cannot support this Bill."

* SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, this tragic drama is now coming to an end and if I make a few observations now, it is only for the purpose of showing to the members on the other side that they are intoxicated with power and that will lead to the tyranny of the people and will lead to a revolution similar to the one in France, or with some limitations to a State which brought brute Hitler to power. To-day we have come to a condition when Gandhi cap is the only passport for freedom and no other ticket will be accepted. Are you going to have an intoxication of power which led to the second world war? And I shall not be astonished if liberty of person and freedom of press became a thing of the past very soon after this Bill is passed into law. I appeal to hon. Members opposite to work democratic institutions fairly and well."

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, I am oppressed with the feeling that this House should be a party to the passing of this legislation, which, in my humble opinion, will be a disgrace for any body of legislators to pass. Sir, in the history of no democratic form of Government has such a legislation ever been passed. The other day, I mentioned in joke, that I am glad Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar is not in the legal profession. I fear, even his persuasive powers will have any effect on the Premier or the party behind him. Under this Bill, the legislature gives draconian powers to the executive and orders passed under it are excluded from the jurisdiction of courts. This Bill empowers not only Government to pass orders, but under this enactment it gives them power to delegate to and allow others to pass orders. I think it is too much to hope that this Bill will be withdrawn at this stage. It is too much to hope that even Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar would be able to persuade the Premier to say that some of the amendments brought forward by us will be accepted. I am sure with the majority they have in this House this Bill will be passed. But I make this suggestion and this request to them, that at every stage, or at every session of this Council and the Assembly, let us have a full picture of the proceedings taken under this Act, and let us be given an opportunity—even though an opportunity is not offered to the accused person under this Bill—to consider and criticise and give suggestions in regard to the steps taken under this enactment."

"I hope, Sir, that the Hon. the Prime Minister will at least concede this request and that he will take into confidence the Members of the Legislature and keep them informed from time to time how the provisions of this Bill are being carried out by the delegated authorities. If that is done, at least if that is promised it may be possible for us at every stage and at every step to exercise our influence to create public opinion so that the drastic powers may not be exercised in a drastic manner, which people are afraid might be done."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, it is with considerable diffidence that I rise to speak on this occasion. I find there is considerable force in the representations made by the Members on the side of the Opposition. I would only appeal to the Hon. the Premier to give such assurances as were mentioned by the hon. Member Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. It is no doubt excellent to have a giant's strength but to use it like a giant is tyrannous. The Bill that we are going to pass into law to-day contains drastic draconian provisions and we are going to entrust the administration of these to persons of inferior rank in the administrative machinery. I think, Sir, that if this legislation should now be passed on account of the exigencies of the political situation at present, we have to pass it and the main provisions of the Ordinance have to become law by the 13th instant."

"Sir, though the conditions prevailing in two or three districts led to this enactment, this is being applied to the whole Province."

[Sri B. Bhima Rao] [8th March 1947]

So far as the districts that I represent are concerned, namely, the Rayalaseema, there is not the slightest trouble from these communists. I do not say there is no communist. There are two or three people in name having only ideologies. That being the case, I think the Hon. the Premier might give an assurance to the Members of the Opposition that a drastic revision of this Act will be undertaken. That was what I think was required by the hon. Member Dr. John. The assurance may also be given to the Members of the House that in the case of those districts where this trouble does not prevail the executive authorities, namely, the collectors will be asked to apply the ordinary law and not to use the drastic provisions of this Act. I suggest, Sir, that this delegation should not go beyond the Collector to any inferior authority. Sir, such assurances should be given so that we can lay aside the apprehensions of the man in the street represented by the whole House. I would request the Hon. the Prime Minister to give such assurances and see that a drastic revision of this enactment is taken up in the near future."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Before I call upon any other Member to speak, I would like to know whether the Hon. the Premier will also reply to the debate . . ."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think he must be given at least 10 minutes for making his reply. Hon. Members must finish their speeches in five minutes."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I cannot help pointing out . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The five minutes are for yourself and the other three hon. Members who wish to speak also."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I cannot help pointing out that it is the most inequitable piece of legislation that has ever found a place on the Statute Book of this country and it is most disgraceful that a party which has been claiming all along . . ."

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Sir, he used the word 'disgraceful'. Is 'disgraceful' parliamentary?"

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It has been used on more than one occasion, Sir, on this . . ."

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—"Two wrongs do not make a right."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"It all depends upon the context. If the hon. Member makes a reflection that something which this House does is disgraceful it should not have been used. Anyhow I wish you do not use it."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, it is most unfortunate that a party which has been claiming to fight for the freedom and independence of this country and for the civil liberties of the people of this country should come forward

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with this legislation especially when it functions as a popular Government. (An hon. Member: 'Claims to function.') Yes, claims to function as a popular Government. Well, Sir, I would ask whether there will be any single item of civil liberty left beyond the reach of this piece of legislation. It embraces all the activities of individuals as well as associations. A man can be detained without being given an opportunity to prove his innocence before a court of law. He may be arrested by any police officer, his house may be searched, he may be prevented from going on with his usual avocations of life, he may be asked not to get out of his house and he may be asked in the guise of assisting the preservation of order to do any work by any officer. Well, Sir, I ask: Will there be left any vestige of civil liberty in this country? We will be left to the tender mercies of the executive—I do not mean the tender mercies of the Hon. Ministers, because we have got confidence in them—we will be left to the tender mercies of the subordinate officials. Knowing as we do what human nature is . . . (Gong was sounded indicating that the hon. Member should finish his speech.) I will finish in a few minutes, Sir. The vesting of power and authority in subordinate officials is bound, we are sure, to lead to great abuse of the provisions of the bill. (Gong.) I have not finished my point, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"You are expecting the Hon. the Premier to tell the House something. You must give him some time because we must begin the Budget discussions punctually at 11 o'clock."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I will finish in two or three minutes."

MR. PRESIDENT:—(Addressing another hon. Member) "You must give up. You adjust it among yourselves."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Well, Sir, when the Ordinance was promulgated, Members on the other side raised a hue and cry and they were assured we were told, that the obnoxious provisions would be removed, but now when the Bill comes up before the House, we find that not only no provision of the Ordinance has been abrogated but that the provisions have been made more stringent. But we have been seeing that Member after Member of this House belonging to the Congress Party has been greeting with what I would call derisive laughter, clause after clause when each clause was taking away or abrogating the civil liberties of the people one after another and they were the hon. Friends who opposed the promulgation of the Ordinance in vehement language. I do not know what magic wand has been responsible for this change of attitude on the part of those Members. For these reasons, Sir, I oppose the Bill."

Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib rose to speak.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"No. Two members have spoken from your party. Mr. Suryanarayana Rao will now speak."

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, as you are aware it has been our lot on this side—I do not say the Opposition—to fight a losing battle. We entered the battle knowing that we would be defeated at every step. Now that the Bill is to be passed. I appeal through you to the Government to see that these provisions are used properly only in cases where a real occasion arises. Sir, in this connection I would like to quote an incident from the life of Mazzini. It appears Mazzini used to walk along the road in a contemplative mood and the Austrian Criminal Investigation Department followed him and when they were asked why they were following him, they said : ' We know nothing against this young man but he goes about mornings and evenings in a contemplative and serious mood. Our Government does not want young men to develop a contemplative mood.' Sir, that will be sufficient for any police officer to take action under clause 13 of the Bill. In his opinion he suspects any one to have done something or intends to do something. That will be enough. Sir, I am one of those who walk along the road—though I am not a young man—(Laughter) in what might be called a contemplative mood both mornings and evenings. Sir, I shall not be surprised if my steps are dogged by some police officer or by some constable thinking : ' What is it, this man goes along the road with a dog as his sole companion. He must be having some purpose.' Immediately some section under this Act will apply. So, Sir, I beg again the Government to be very careful in using the provisions of this Act now that they have got the power they wanted.

" Sir, I do not subscribe to what my hon. friend Mr. Ibrahim said about the Members on the other side. They do not welcome this. They only gave a lukewarm welcome, Sir. Party rules demand that they should support the Government and they have done that. In spite of that Mr. Bhima Rao had the courage to express what he felt in this matter though he was all the while voting with the Government. I do not think, Sir, we will be fair to the other side even to say that they indulged in a derisive laughter. It may be a laughter out of despair because they too are helpless (hear, hear) to prevent the Government from proceeding with the measure . . . "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I am not sure whether anybody laughed over the amendments. (Hon. Members from the Ministerial Benches : ' None of us laughed, Sir.') Probably I was the cause for creating the laughter."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I do not think any assurances will take away the sting of every word that is in this Bill. I oppose the Bill."

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Mr. President, Sir, my friends opposite very cleverly turned the table against us."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" We wish we had."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" We plead guilty."

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SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The hon. Member, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu has been saying that the position of this Council is tragic and he referred to the tragic drama that is being enacted here. Sir, I felt the very comic irony of the whole thing when friends to whom we had to approach in the good old days to enlist them as Members of the Civil Liberties Union when the civil liberty of our country was being frustrated are speaking in the name of civil liberty every time. At least the members of the Civil Liberties Union might have objected to attacks on civil liberties. But now they have turned the tables upon us and said that civil liberty is trampled down by us. It is a comic irony. There is nothing for derisive laughter. It is not for party discipline that we have voted for the Bill, we have also a sense of responsibility and a sense of duty. We realise the urgency of the matter. We know that we could not under the ordinary circumstances agree to all the provisions of the Bill, but now there are certain urgent conditions and unfortunate though they may be, the Bill has to be passed before the 12th instant, if we are to continue to be free from certain conditions which the Bill wants to avert. Therefore, Sir, a sense of duty and a sense of responsibility have induced us to vote in this matter. It is not merely party discipline or party considerations that have forced us to vote for this Bill.

" Sir, I certainly feel with the hon. Members of the Opposition that some of these provisions require drastic amendments, if not omission and I hope it will be done. (Hear, hear.) They have been pleading, particularly Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, that the Hon. Prime Minister should give an assurance that the Act would be administered in a human manner. Now Sir, the Ordinance has been in force for some time, but not even one hon. Member from the Opposition has been able to point out a single case where the Prime Minister has not taken care to see that no injustice is done. I have been observing all through and not even one single case has been cited so far where the persons to whom authority has been delegated and who are administering the Ordinance have gone out of their bounds and done any illegal or unjust thing. (Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu : ' What about Mr. Narayana Rao? ') There might have been one case, but that goes to show how careful Government has been and it is a guarantee that in future also such a thing will be done. I do not support, not even the Hon. the Prime Minister will agree that these things are very happy or good, but certain circumstances force them and force us. We have said ' no ' to many things in this House with the tongues in our cheeks. It is against our grain to pass laws like those under which we have suffered and for the removal of which we have fought. But certain circumstances and conditions and the necessity and urgency of them make us realize our responsibility. It is necessary for us to give our support for these reasons and it is not merely a sense of party discipline but a sense of duty which has forced us to do so."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" Sir, some hon. Members characterized some provisions here as provisions concerned with

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a.m.

[Sri T. Prakasam] [8th March 1947]

Gandhian philosophy. It is unfair that Gandhiji's name should have been brought in with these. He is a man by himself. The world has been led to know what Gandhi is and what his philosophy is and what his politics have been. During the last few months, where he has been staying and what he has been doing, would be sufficient to warrant every individual in this country not to mix up his name in this matter.

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a.m.

"A question was put: Is there any other law on the statute book which can be compared with this draconian law? We all know all, about draconian laws. Whatever may have been the state of affairs when the Ordinance was promulgated and whatever might have been the difficulty on the part of the public and the hon. Members on the Opposition here to understand the real motive of this Government, they cannot say that the same position holds to-day when this Bill has been introduced. Hon. Members with the best of motives and feelings expressed their strong condemnation, but in their anxiety they have forgotten what substantial modifications have been made in this piece of legislation as compared with the Ordinance. Certainly, Sir, not only in the Ordinance promulgated in this Province, but also in the ordinances that are in force to-day in the other provinces, you cannot find a provision similar to the one introduced in this Bill. The provision relating to the Advisory Council cannot be ignored. I have referred how the provision for an Advisory Council in a measure of this nature was estimated and interpreted by the highest of the courts in Britain. This is a special measure coming before the House under special circumstances, and not with any happy feelings on our part. We felt for it as much as the hon. members have been feeling. But the hon. members should not forget what difference it makes by the introduction of the Advisory Council. I can excuse hon. members who have not attached the same value as we have attached to it, because they were not in charge of this subject and did not have an opportunity to study the meaning of the Advisory Council in a special statute of this nature. It is very easy to use harsh words. It is only to prevent that that I am addressing you at this last stage. Pause for a while. The country is being reduced to anarchy, no Government, nothing at all, no police force, no military force, anybody can go and do anything either with man or woman or the property of the public. Hon. members should not forget the circumstances that forced the promulgation of the Ordinance first, and then this Bill. Terrible things are happening in other parts of this country also. From yesterday's news and to-day's news, you know that four streets in that beautiful city of Amritsar have been razed to the ground in a fight that flared up there between certain individuals or parties. We have heard the incidents that took place in Bengal and Bihar. Fortunately we did not reach that stage. Here, we have guaranteed all safeguards for arrest, search and similar things by providing for an Advisory Council. Hon. Members who have read the provisions of this Bill in detail would realize how the Advisory Council has changed the whole character of this measure and how that Council is empowered to go into every detail. After that is introduced, hon. Members

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should have been fair to us. No doubt we have been opposing the other amendments, because here is a safeguard, here is a guarantee, here are three persons—no doubt, appointed by the Government who will examine the whole thing and deal with the matter using their best judgment. Therefore it is not quite correct to deal with this measure in the manner in which my hon. Friends chose to do. You cannot find comparison in any other part of India where, in a measure intended for special purposes, the Government divested themselves of the powers that they wanted to have. That is the spirit in which we have worked. The provision for an Advisory Council is introduced in the Bill. It is that provision that is going to become law, and it is that provision that is going to govern the future. In addition to that, I give this assurance to the hon. Members—I gave it already but it was in a brief sentence—that it is not the intention of Government to exercise all these powers recklessly and mercilessly. Surely, that should not be the spirit in which a Government should act. Therefore, so far as this measure is concerned, the criticism has not been quite fair.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Bhima Rao gave us advice. Siding with the hon. Members on the other side, he was doing it. Bhima Rao did not know all the matters relating to his own district or his own province. He said that there was nothing to warrant this measure. What does Mr. Bhima Rao know? He has not known anything, and I would not be justified in giving out the facts because, instead of creating a calm atmosphere, they might disturb the atmosphere. Every part of the province has been so much affected. We have not published those things. We have taken particular care to stop those things. Therefore, I do not feel free to give all the details. If any hon. Friend would come to me and ask about his own district, I can tell him what the position there is. I did not wish to interrupt Mr. Bhima Rao from a party point of view. I wanted to know exactly what he wanted to say. With wrong ideas, he was going on. He did not know his own district. He did not know what reports we were getting about the activities that were going on in his district.

"No further assurance need be given by me, Sir. We on this side are all very anxious to see that there is no abuse of the provisions of this Bill and even the provisions of the Ordinance. My hon. Friend, Mr. Madhava Menon, has explained to some extent how anxious we were during the period of the Ordinance in the administration of the provisions. So the House can have the assurance which he gave."

SRI K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"May I know whether Mr. Madhava Menon has given the assurance in the name of the Government?"

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"I did not give any assurance, Sir."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Mr. Madhava Menon did not give any assurance. This spirit of finding something wrong in everything is bad."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"He did not give any assurance; he simply explained matters."

11-10
a.m.

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"This measure has been discussed seriously enough. Some hon. Members may be feeling that the amendments which they brought forward have not been accepted. As far as the Government is concerned, I may say that they will not delegate their powers, if possible, to police officers and that they will make themselves responsible for giving effect to this measure. There is also the safeguard provided for, the appointment of the Advisory Council. In appointing the Advisory Council I give the assurance that the Government will keep in mind the principles and suggestions contained in the amendments moved by hon. Members, as to what kind of persons should be there, who should be the persons who should look into the matter as occasion arises."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The motion is that the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 8 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly, be passed into law."

The motion was put and declared carried.

K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur demanded a poll and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 Sri B. Veeraswami. | 11 Sri T. Purushotham. |
| 2 " K. Madhava Menon. | 12 " N. Ramabhadra Raju. |
| 3 " B. Bhima Rao. | 13 " C. Perumalswami Reddiyar. |
| 4 " L. Subbarama Reddi. | 14 " O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar. |
| 5 " S. A. S. Rm. Ramanatham Chettiyar. | 15 " S. Jayaram Reddiyar. |
| 6 " P. Veerabhadraswami. | 16 " C. Veerabhadra Rao. |
| 7 " M. Narayana Rao. | 17 " N. Ranga Reddi. |
| 8 " N. Sankara Reddi. | 18 " V. Nagappa Chettiyar. |
| 9 " M. Narayana Menon. | 19 " G. Venkata Reddi. |
| 10 " K. Nataraajan. | 20 " P. R. K. Sarma. |
| | 21 " S. B. Adityan. |

Noes.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. | 7 Sri M. D. T. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar. |
| 2 K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. | 8 Mrs. M. Hensman. |
| 3 Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. | 9 Mrs. M. N. Clubwalla. |
| 4 Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu. | 10 Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao. |
| 5 Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur. | 11 Mr. K. O. Anthoni. |
| 6 Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib. | 12 Dr. V. K. John. |
| | 13 Sri Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurthi. |
| | 14 Sri H. M. Jagannatham. |

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I do not think there are any neutrals. Ayes 21, Noes 14. The motion is carried and the Bill is passed into law."

"May I know the wishes of hon. Members? Do they wish to carry on or to have a recess? Shall we go on now with the consideration of the Budget?"

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"We shall have some recess now; we can sit later."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Then we will have to sit longer in the evening."

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"We can finish Questions and Answers; then we can adjourn."

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II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Shall we take up Questions and Answers now or adjourn? It is left to hon. Members. The position is this. We can consider the Budget for five hours. If half an hour is taken up by Questions and Answers, we will have 4½ hours. We will meet between 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. or between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. We shall now take up Questions and Answers."

11-20
a.m.

Contribution towards the expenses of Constituent Assembly.

* 80 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state what financial contribution has been made or is proposed to be made by the Madras Government, towards the expenses of the Constituent Assembly?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"No contribution has been made or is proposed to be made by this Government towards the expenses of the Constituent Assembly."

Revival of time-gun.

* 81 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the Government propose to order the revival of the time-gun in order that the citizens of Madras City may get to know the exact time?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"The question was taken up with the local military authorities soon after the cessation of hostilities, but as the necessary ammunition is now obsolete and no stock is available, it has not been possible to revive the time-gun signal at Madras. The Government propose to address the Government of India to see if a modern gun can be secured."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR: "Will the Government consider any other method by which people can know the exact time?"

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes, Sir; it will be considered."

Audit of co-operative societies.

* 82 Q.—MR. K. O. ANTHONI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the concurrent audit of co-operative societies takes place months after the concerned month;

(b) whether the final audit of co-operative societies takes place several months after the close of the co-operative year; and

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) are in the affirmative, what the cause for the delay is and what steps the Government are going to take to see that the concurrent and final audits are made in time?

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THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“(a) Concurrent audit is provided for certain bigger co-operative institutions with heavy transactions such as district central banks, district wholesale stores, big urban banks, stores societies, weavers' societies, marketing societies, milk-supply societies, etc. It is generally done monthly or quarterly and the accounts are taken up for audit soon after the close of the month or quarter, as the case may be. While every effort is being made to keep the concurrent audit of societies up to date, it has not been possible to keep up to the schedule on account of the increase in number of societies and the volume of transactions and in such cases some delay is unavoidable.

“(b) The programme for final or annual audit is so drawn up as to provide for the completion of the audit of all societies before the end of January, i.e., within 7 months after the close of the Co-operative year. In this programme priority is given to central banks whose audit is expected to be completed by the month of August, district wholesale stores whose audit is to be completed by the end of September and primary stores, urban banks, weavers' societies and other societies paying audit fees, whose audit is scheduled to be completed by the end of November. Here also it is not possible to adhere to the schedule. This year, due to the special arrangements made, it is hoped to complete the audit of all societies earlier.

“(c) The delay in audit is mainly due to the following causes :—

(i) During the last few years, the number of societies have increased with no corresponding increase in the audit staff.

(ii) The audit of rural credit societies, which form the majority of societies, now take more time consequent on several of them having undertaken procurement of foodgrains and distribution of controlled articles.

(iii) The transactions of non-credit societies, especially stores societies and weavers' societies and milk-supply societies have increased considerably in volume.

(iv) inadequacy of audit staff; and

(v) the manning of a large number of posts with untrained men under emergency provisions owing to the dearth of trained men. To speed up concurrent audit the Registrar has asked bigger co-operative institutions in each district to form themselves into groups and take the services of Senior Inspectors or Junior Inspectors as the case may be for the exclusive audit of their accounts. The Registrar is also examining the possibility whether the central banks and district co-operative wholesale stores cannot employ staff exclusively for their audit and release the departmental staff employed for their concurrent audit so that the staff may be available for the audit of smaller societies. The Registrar has also submitted proposals for the employment of additional staff for audit work and those proposals are under consideration.”

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MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“Will the Hon. Minister take information from me that there are very many societies in which the concurrent and final audit has been considerably delayed?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“I take the information from the hon. Member and I shall certainly go into the matter.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know how long it will take for the Government to come to a decision regarding the steps to be taken for increasing the audit staff?”

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“We have come to a decision, Sir, and very soon it will be put into effect.”

Starting of cement factories.

* 83 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government of India invited by a Press Note applications for starting cement factories;

(b) whether in response to it a number of persons and institutions applied and if so who they are with full particulars;

(c) whether the Government of Madras recommended all or any of the applications;

(d) whether the Government of India accepted all or any of the recommendations;

(e) who the persons are whose applications were approved by the Government of India;

(f) whether one of the applications recommended by the Government of Madras was one submitted by Sri Rao Bahadur B. P. Sesha Reddi of Kurnool and others;

(g) whether the Government of India did not sanction the application referred to in (f) in the first instance;

(h) whether the Government of Madras time and again pressed for the favourable consideration of Sri Rao Bahadur Sesha Reddi's application as a special case;

(i) whether the Government of India as a special case approved the application of Sri Rao Bahadur B. P. Sesha Reddi for one unit of fifty thousand tons capacity for a factory at Kurnool;

(j) whether it is a fact that on receipt of this sanction of the Government of India, Sri Rao Bahadur B. P. Sesha Reddi was informed by telegram by this Government not to enter into any commitments as they had represented to the Government of India that Madras Government desire to establish cement as well as other basic industries as nationalized industries;

(k) whether the Government of Madras refused to recommend to the Government of India applications for capital issue and for registration of capital goods required for the cement factory which have long been pending with them; and

(l) what the policy of the Government is on nationalization in general and with special reference to cement in particular?

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THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“(a) Yes.

“(b) A statement^a showing the particulars of the applicants for cement industry is placed on the table of the House.

“(c) The Government of Madras recommended the following applications :—

(i) Sri S. N. N. Sankaralinga Ayyar.

(ii) Sri Rao Bahadur B. P. Sesha Reddi.

(iii) Sri A. Satyanarayanamurthy.

(iv) Sri S. S. Natarajan.

(v) The Raja of Venkatagiri.

“(d) to (f) The Government of India have accepted the recommendations of this Government in regard to the applications from the following persons only :—

(i) Sri S. N. N. Sankaralinga Iyer.

(ii) Sri Rao Bahadur B. P. Sesha Reddi.

“(g) & (h) It will not be in the public interest to disclose details of such correspondence between the two Governments.

“(i) This Government's recommendation for a cement factory at Kurnool was accepted by the Government of India in October 1946.

“(j) Yes.

“(k) & (l) The Government have under consideration the question of nationalization of certain basic industries including cement manufacture and until they reach a decision on this matter further action on individual applications has been deferred.

“I should like to add to this, that these questions have been considered and also the question of nationalization. It is likely that the individual concern may get the licence under certain conditions. That will be informed in due course, because the decisions are not yet complete.”

Pay of Assistant Crown Prosecutors and Assistant Public Prosecutors.

* 84 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : With reference to answers to Question No. 57 and supplementary questions on the same, will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) when the grades of salaries of Assistant Crown Prosecutors and Assistant Public Prosecutors were fixed;

(b) whether in view of the increased cost of living, the question of revising the grades has been considered;

(c) whether the duties performed by officers belonging to different grades are the same or different;

(d) if the duties are the same, whether there is need to maintain officers of different grades instead of one grade;

(e) what the rules governing their travelling allowances are;

^a Printed as Appendix on pages 260-261 infra.

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(f) whether Police Officers are eligible for appointment as Assistant Crown Prosecutors or as Assistant Public Prosecutors;

(g) whether there have been instances where Police Prosecuting Officers have been preferred for these appointments even when they do not satisfy the qualifications fixed in spite of the fact that there are other eligible candidates;

(h) whether the question of exercising supervision over the work of these officers by the Public Prosecutors has been considered, in view of the fact that the District Magistrate is also the head of the Police in the district; and

(i) whether the Government propose to consider the question of transferring the power of recruitment of these officers to the Public Service Commission?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“(a) The existing scales of pay were fixed in 1943 in the case of Assistant Crown Prosecutors and in 1944 in the case of Assistant Public Prosecutors.

“(b) Yes. The question was examined by the Cabinet Salaries Committee, 1946, and its recommendations have been accepted by the Government.

“(c) The duties performed by the officers belonging to the different grades are not the same; while the Junior Assistant Crown Prosecutors and Senior Assistant Crown Prosecutors perform the same duties, the Chief Assistant Crown Prosecutor has more onerous duties such as advising the Commissioner and also taking up the more important cases.

“(d) The two grades of Junior Assistant Crown Prosecutors and Senior Assistant Crown Prosecutors are considered necessary in order to provide scope for financial advancement by way of promotion from the junior to the senior grade.

“(e) Assistant Crown Prosecutors and Assistant Public Prosecutors are governed by the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules.

“(f) Prosecuting Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors of Police are eligible for appointment as Assistant Public Prosecutors, Grade I and Grade II respectively.

“(g) There have been cases where Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors of Police without the prescribed legal qualifications, were appointed as Assistant Public Prosecutors, Grade II. The appointments were made because the officers concerned were found suitable and efficient.

“(h) The answer is in the negative.

“(i) No such proposal is under consideration at present.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, why Police officers were appointed as Assistant Public Prosecutors when they did not possess the prescribed legal qualifications while candidates possessing the necessary qualifications and eligible for the posts were available and why this step was considered necessary by the District Magistrate?”

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THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ Though they have no legal qualifications, still in the light of experience they have been able to carry on their duties quite satisfactorily.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the Government have waived the qualifications in respect of these officers or whether the appointing authorities themselves have waived them? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ I don't know, Sir; the Government must call for the information and must set right, if they are irregular.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, in Madura, where there are a number of competent lawyers available, where is the necessity to prefer police officers? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ The District Magistrate must have thought that in cases like these, the police officers would prove more efficient than Assistant Public Prosecutors.”

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ May I invite the attention of the Hon. Minister that a Graduate in Law is a necessary qualification for such posts? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ Yes, Sir, but in some cases there were exceptions.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ What is the need for exemption in a district like Madura where there are a number of lawyers? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ I will investigate that matter, Sir.”

SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Should not any attempt be made to invite applications from lawyers before filling these posts by police officers? ”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“ If it is with regard to Madura, I say again I shall investigate it.”

Digging pits by the roadside.

* 85 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the practice of digging pits, sometimes deep, by the roadside for removing earth required for road-making or road repairs has become widespread;

(b) whether in the rainy seasons water stagnates in these pits;

(c) whether these pits form ideal farms for mosquito breeding;

(d) whether malaria prevails in most of the villages by the roadside on account of the objectionable practice referred to in (a);

(e) whether the Government have at any time considered the desirability of putting a stop to the practice in the interests of public health;

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(f) whether the Government propose to take any steps to ensure that pits are not dug in the above manner;

(g) whether the railway companies also resort to similar practice for removing earth to strengthen the track;

(h) what steps are being taken to prevent the railway companies from digging such pits; and

(i) whether the Government propose to examine the whole question anew?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“ (a) Burrow pits are often made in removing gravel and earth required for road-making or road repairs.

“ (b) Water is likely to stagnate in these pits during the rainy season.

“ (c) Stagnant collections of clear water in these pits may serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

“ (d) Such stagnation may cause malaria but there is no information as to whether and to what extent malaria prevails in roadside villages solely as a result of the practice referred to.

“ (e) Yes.

“ (f) In the interest of road-making and road repairs it is not practicable to prohibit absolutely the removal of gravel and earth from roadside land. Local officers have been instructed to empty the pits as far as possible by cutting drains, but it is not always possible to drain pits effectively. Adequate steps will be taken to drain the pits as far as possible where they have necessarily to be dug on roadside lands.

“ (g) Yes, except in the limits of towns where the earth is brought in ballast trains.

“ (h) Such burrow pits are made by the Railway Administration in exercise of the powers vested in them under section 7 of the Indian Railways Act, 1890. In doing so the Railway Administrations avoid any action which is likely to prejudice public health. When the ground is falling or rising burrow pits are connected so as to drain away water to the nearest culvert or waterway. Local bodies can take action under section 123 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and section 224 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, to enforce the obligation of the Railway authorities to prevent a pit from becoming a source of danger to the health of the neighbourhood. The Railway Authorities have also reported that they are prepared to extend their co-operation in this matter. No other steps are proposed to be taken.

“ (i) No, in view of the answer to clauses (f) and (h).

“ I may add to the written answer with reference to clause (f) that instructions have been issued to see that in regard to towns, and villages in panchayat areas, as far as possible, these pits are not made, as they are likely to prove a source of nuisance and trouble to the public.”

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Plans to check soil erosion.

* 86 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state what plans the Government have to check soil erosion in the Province and whether any specific schemes have been sanctioned for the purpose?

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM:—“The first part of the question is a very wide one which cannot be answered fully in a question as there are a number of schemes and suggestions on the technical and practical side of the issue. Anyhow schemes now undertaken are given below:—

- (1) The District staff of the Agricultural Department in all districts do propaganda on the following items of soil conservation work:—
 - (i) Contour bunding and contour ploughing and gully plugging;
 - (ii) Strip cropping;
 - (iii) Tree planting, hedge planting, planting grasses, etc.;
 - (iv) Construction of check dams;
 - (v) Terracing of sloping lands;
 - (vi) Cultivation of cover crops.
- (2) With a view to popularizing the bunding of lands for greater absorption of rain water and preventing soil erosion, the Government sanctioned in 1944 a scheme of demonstration with wooden bund-formers in six taluks in Bellary district. This scheme has been continued in a larger area in 1946. Three thousand five hundred and ninety-four acres have been bunded in that year.
- (3) Experiments on erosion are being conducted in run off plots at Hagari, Bellary district and Nanjanad on the Nilgiris.
- (4) The following two schemes have been included in the five-year plan of Post-war Reconstruction:—
 - (i) *Formation of soil conservation circles.*—With a view to setting up the necessary organization by the Forest department to deal with the special protection and land management of important catchment areas, the Government have accorded sanction in December 1945 for the formation of a Soil Conservation Division to cover the Nilgiris district and the adjoining Attapadi Valley of Malabar and Coimbatore districts. The Division was formed in January 1946. To enlist the co-operation of the public in pushing through the scheme it was proposed to constitute an advisory body called the Soil Conservation Board consisting of both officials and non-officials. But in view of the present financial position of the Province it has been suggested that this scheme may be dropped. The question of dropping or reviving the scheme will be considered at the next meeting of the Development Board.

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(ii) *Carrying out contour bunds and contour trenches.*—To conserve rain water and to prevent soil erosion it is proposed to carry out contour bunds and contour trenches over a lakh of acres every year in the Vizagapatam district and in one of the Ceded Districts and demonstrate the advantages of dry farming methods. Proposals have now been received for carrying out experimental contour bunding work over an area of 5,000 acres near Guntakal and 2,500 acres near Hagari in Bellary district. To begin with, the question of undertaking legislation on the lines of the Bombay Land Improvement Scheme Act, 1942, to enable contour bunding work being undertaken is under consideration of the Government.

- (5) A Dry Farming Research Scheme financed partly by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and partly by the Provincial Government has been in progress at Hagari in the Bellary district from 1934 onwards. The object of the scheme is to demonstrate the advantages of the improved dry farming practices, bunding and strip cropping.
- (6) The Government have had a comprehensive text-book on Soil Erosion compiled for the benefit of departmental officers, students at the Agricultural, Forest, etc., colleges, and others. The book is in the press and is expected to be published shortly.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, how long since this scheme for preventing soil erosion near Guntakal has been pending with the Government and when any practical work will be begun?”

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM:—“I want notice, Sir.”

Formation of food committees.

* 87 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

- (a) whether district, taluk and village food committees have been formed in all the districts of the Province;
- (b) if not, when are they expected to be formed;
- (c) whether it is a fact that even in some of the districts where food committees have been formed members of the legislature, representing those districts and residing in villages, where such committees have been formed, have neither been consulted nor invited to attend the meetings of such committees; and
- (d) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to make the district authorities act in accordance with the instructions of the Government in this respect?

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“(a) District Committees have been formed in all the districts. Taluk and Village Committees have yet to be formed in some districts as shown below :—

Name of the district.	Number of Committees yet to be formed.	
	Taluk Committees.	Village Committees.
1 Guntur	..	5
2 Nellore	2	..

“(b) Necessary instructions have been issued to the Collectors in the matter and it is hoped that these remaining committees will also be formed very soon.

“(c) Clear instructions have been issued to all Collectors that local members of the Legislatures should be consulted in forming the village committees. The Government are not aware of any complaints so far that these instructions were not adhered to. As the members of the Legislatures are ex-officio members of the District and Taluk Committees, it is expected previous notice of the meetings of these committees will be given to members of legislature residing in villages by the Secretary or the President of the Village Committees concerned. The Government are not aware of any default by any of the Committees in this respect.

“(d) In view of the answer to ‘(c)’ above the question does not arise.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Are the Government aware that Muslim Members of the Central Legislature are not included as members of some of the District and Taluk Committees? Is there any discrimination?”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“There is no discrimination in this respect; because all members of the Legislatures are ex-officio members, and so this question does not arise.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“I know notice has not gone to certain Members of the Central Legislature from some District and Taluk Committees.”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“The Government are not aware of it; they are entitled to get the notices. The Government will make enquiries.”

Alleged supply of provisions from the Wholesale Rice Co-operative Stores at Tiruvottiyur.

* 88 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received a petition from one Mr. M. Munirathna Sarma, President, Village Food Committee, Tiruvottiyur,

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in July 1946, regarding supply of provisions, etc., from the Wholesale Rice Co-operative Stores at Tiruvottiyur, without permit from the rationing authorities;

(b) whether similar petitions were received by the Collector and the Divisional Officer of the Saidapet taluk;

(c) whether any action was taken thereon; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to take any action on the same?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“(a) Yes. The complaint made in the petition was that the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies with a party of about 70 persons visited Kathivakkam, a village near Tiruvottiyur, on a pleasure trip, that Sri Rangaswami Ayyangar, Manager of the Wholesale Co-operative Stores, in Tiruvottiyur, arranged with one ‘Kumara Vilas’ Hotel to prepare 250 iddies and 100 jilabees to entertain the party and that this was done without obtaining the previous permission of the Rationing authorities.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) & (d) The petition received by the Government was forwarded to the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) and by the Board to the Collector for necessary action. With reference to the petitions received by the Collector and the Divisional Officer, Saidapet, the Collector conducted an enquiry into the matter and sent a report to the Board, with the connected records. The Board, after perusing the records, instructed the District Rationing Officer, to obtain the sanction of the District Magistrate, Chingleput for the prosecution of the persons who violated the orders of the Government, prohibiting the holding of a party consisting of more than 30 persons, consult the Public Prosecutor, get a complaint drafted and have it filed in the Court. The Collector has since reported that necessary action is being taken in this regard.”

Alleged reservation of front seats in buses in mufassal.

* 89 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKH SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the front seats in buses plying in the mufassal are permanently marked with the word “reserved”; and

(b) whether this mark is used as a cover to evict passengers occupying the front seats in order to provide comfortable accommodation to officials, especially of the Police and Revenue departments?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“(a) & (b) Government have no information that this is generally the case though there may be some such instances.”

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Will the Government make enquiries with regard to this matter, that members of the public are ousted from their seats and places are provided for officials, especially those belonging to the Police department? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ Certainly; the Government will take strong action if anything like that is done.”

SRI K. O. ANTHONI :—“ Will the Government take the information from us that it is being carried out? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ The Government have already, on the information contained in the question, taken steps in the matter.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Will the Government issue necessary instructions to the concerned people and to the bus-owners? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ The Government have already taken, as I said, action in the matter.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Will the Government issue a Press Communiqué, so that the public may know their rights in the matter? ”

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“ No difficulty in doing that, I think.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The House will now adjourn and will meet at 2 p.m.”

(After lunch—2 p.m.)

III.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1947-48—cont.

* SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, the Budget contains a large number of items which are beneficial to the villagers. The Hon. the Premier is to be congratulated for preparing a truly villagers' budget. Prohibition is working already in eight districts and may be extended to other districts next year. The introduction of prohibition is responsible for the loss of huge revenues of about ten lakhs of rupees. This policy of introducing prohibition has been taken up by our Ministry and the poor people are greatly benefited by this policy. Our children and our children's children will be very grateful for the policies that have been initiated by the present Ministry with the support of the legislators belonging to all parties. Our Government has done very well in tiding over the food crisis last year. A number of schemes that are essential for producing food grains are being taken on hand. Firstly, the well-sinking scheme for which the Government have been giving grants has been responsible to help the small agriculturists; but the Government grant of Rs. 300 for each well is not adequate during these days when the prices of all materials and the cost of labour have gone up. The poor cultivator is not able to invest his portion and is under a great handicap. So, I would suggest that the Government grant may be raised to Rs. 500 at least.

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“ Sir, I come from the Vizagapatam district which is a dry and deficit district. Last year, we have placed before the Minister for Public Works a number of irrigation schemes—no doubt they are minor schemes—but, not even one of them has been provided for in the Budget. Sir, in order to have more food grains, it is necessary to have good manures and the condition of the cattle also has to be immensely improved. Veterinary doctors who are trained not only in the western system of medicine but also in Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic systems should be encouraged and should be employed to look after the cattle so that we can have a better kind of cattle and a more healthy kind of cattle for our agricultural purposes and also for the purpose of giving more milk which is very important for all human beings.

“ In the matter of education, Sir, the Government have failed to introduce compulsory elementary education in the whole Province. This is a very important subject and must be dealt with by the Government at least in the coming years. The system of elementary schools in this Province under which some are run by the Government and others by local bodies and by private agencies is not working well, and there is a large amount of discontent among the primary school teachers. In order to remove these defects, it is highly necessary that all elementary schools should be run by the Government. There are large sums provided in the Budget for school buildings. In these days when economy and simplicity are essential, we do not require any palatial buildings for our schools, for our hospitals and for our Government offices. It is enough if they are simple and least costly. For instance, the buildings in which the offices of the Director of Industries are located are very simple and very cheap. Such buildings can be had for all purposes, for education, for hospitals as well as for public offices. The King George's Hospital in Vizagapatam is growing more and more in popularity. Patients from all parts of the Northern Circars are flocking to this hospital. I fail to find adequate provision made in the Budget for the improvement of this hospital.

“ Sir, a pleasant feature of the Budget is the provision that is made for starting a number of cottage industries and for giving training to a number of workers in the various parts of the Province. Sir, it is highly essential to see that these cottage industries thrive in our Province and I may say that there will be no conflict between cottage industries and big industries. In highly advanced countries like Japan, Germany, America and other countries cottage industries are playing a very important part. In these days when consumer goods are very scarce in the market and people are greatly in need of them, it is essential that the Government should pay even more attention to the improvement of these cottage industries. Government should try to prepare a number of articles that are required in daily use by means of these cottage industries.

“ Sir, it has been the policy of the present Government to remove middle-men in business. It may be a good thing but this policy will throw out a large number of small merchants and necessary provision will have to be made for the maintenance of

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these men. I suggest to the Government that training be given to the young men belonging to the merchant families in a number of industries, cottage as well as small industries, so that they may run these industries efficiently, have a living for themselves and also prepare a large number of articles that are necessary for the daily use of the people.

"Sir, for starting the Madras Industrial Finance Corporation, the Government have set apart a sum of fifty lakhs of rupees in the Budget. It is a very good thing. Another fifty lakhs of rupees have been set apart for starting certain basic industries, and it has been suggested that cement should be one of them. Sir, cement is greatly in demand and it has a great future. Even in the villages, we have to see that strong buildings and strong houses are built and for that purpose cement is essential. I suggest that one cement factory at least in each district may be started. I find that a large number of applications from private individual companies are pending with the Government. I suggest that the Government do grant permits to these companies and take at least fifty per cent of the shares so that the companies may run on efficient lines under the supervision of the Government and at the same time, allow the private companies to have their share in the business. As I said, at least one factory is necessary in each district because the demand for cement is so great that we are obliged to get it from long distances and if each district has a factory of its own, the transport difficulties can be minimized and the cost also will be smaller.

"Now, I come to the textile policy of the Government which has been the target of attack to a large extent. As one who has faith in the Gandhian economy and who has been doing some little work in the villages, I am sure the khadi policy of the Government will be a success in the long run. It is not possible with the existing textile factories to supply sufficient yarn to the handloom weavers. These handloom weavers are able to get supplies of yarn to provide them work only for ten days in the month and there is no prospect of increasing the output of yarn in the near future. So, in these circumstances, I think we have to fall back upon the charka for our immediate supplies. People in the villages are ready to take to spinning but there are a number of handicaps. The condition of the villages is so bad and they have been reduced to such a bad position on account of the circumstances that prevailed in the past, that the people in the villages are not producing their own cloth. We find, Sir, the villagers are not producing cotton even for their own purposes; even for one yard of cloth they have to go to the market for purchasing it. Owing to the scarcity of cloth in the market and due to the high prices prevailing, they can as well prepare their own cloth and they can also balance their budget.

"Sir, I may be permitted to say a few words about my own experience in this matter during the last Gandhi Day Celebrations. A small village containing about 75 families invited me to conduct a spinning demonstration. I, along with ten of my friends went and conducted a non-stop spinning demonstration for 24 hours and

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the villagers' enthusiasm was so great and women and children came forward to spinning and after I explained to them the economics of khadi the villagers agreed to spin their requirements, but they only wanted up-to-date good charkas to be supplied and so I arranged with some of my friends to supply them with 75 charkas and now they have been doing this work and are spinning; and good reports are coming from the village to me. I have also gone to some other villages and conducted spinning demonstration and all those villages have now taken to spinning. I am glad to say that in some places 20 per cent and in some other places 25 per cent have taken to it and are trying to solve the problem at least to some extent. For a long time, Sir, the villages have been neglected and towns have been allowed to grow; the condition of the towns is growing from bad to worse and the condition of the villages has always been bad. It should be the policy of the present Government to see that towns are not allowed to grow more and more and the villages are made more and more popular and if the conditions are created in such a way that people in the towns, at least those who can find employment in agriculture and cottage industries can be taken back to the villages, I am sure the villagers will hum again with activity and with prosperity in the near future."

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALLA :—"Mr. President, Sir, on going through the Budget it is welcome news that special attention is paid to the improvement of cottage industries essential to the life of village communities. As remarked by the Hon. the Prime Minister, the hereditary and potential skill of village artisans will be fully utilized and modern methods will be introduced and adapted to the extent necessary.

"Harijan uplift which is dear to the heart of all people in this Province is also receiving the attention of the Ministry.

"We congratulate the Premier on the improvement in the food situation and for his foresight in the procurement of the same, so that, since the last Budget, we are able to feel that the food crisis has more or less passed.

"Also, the Government have sanctioned schemes for settling ex-service men in land and colonies and for the formation of Labour Contract Societies of ex-servicemen on a co-operative basis. The other details under the scheme deserve our commendation.

"Turning to the other aspects of the Budget, one notes with disappointment the smallness of amounts granted for Public Health and for social services in the Province. Under the post-war scheme there was great hope for improvement in public health, increase of hospitals, nursing staff and child welfare centres. Not only are these forthcoming, but those that are in existence are not able to work satisfactorily due to want of finance. The hospitals are hopelessly overcrowded and under-staffed. Nurses who are the essential people in nursing and curing the sick have to live in cramped quarters and minor additions which would greatly add to the improvement of the hospitals are very often held up for want of Government sanction.

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"The voluntary workers of the Guild of Service (Seva Samajam), who visit the Government hospitals in Madras, time in and time out, have noticed these defects. I would call on the Government to provide firstly, more accommodation, more nurses and many more hospitals.

"Properly speaking, the work of the Vigilance Association ought to come under Public Health. One hon. Member in the Lower House, Begun Amiruddin, has pointed out the difficulties of the Madras Vigilance Association. This Association is doing one of the most essential services for the sake of public health and work of such a nature does not receive public encouragement as it should, and it is up to the Government to see that the institution which is run under their auspices should not be on the brink of a financial crisis. Since last year this Association has been facing great financial difficulties. We have two welfare workers touring the Province. They naturally do rescue work in the Province, and therefore, bring in more girls to the Home. The grant that is provided by the Government is not adequate enough to meet the diet of these girls, leave alone grant for clothes and equipment. All these years, clothes and equipment were secured by the help of interested friends of the Association. But with the expansion of work we cannot expect things to be as they were. In 1946, the average permanent monthly strength was 120 and in 1947 it is expected that the average strength will be about 150 girls. There is no specific grant and I would request the Government to give at least a per capita grant per mensem as they do to other institutions. The lowest amount that could really help us to do our work with some amount of efficiency is about Rs. 49,000. At the moment our yearly grant from the Government is only Rs. 29,458 which includes the maintenance of the girls, payment of the welfare workers, particularly, staff salaries, touring and other expenses. The other grant that we get is Rs. 1,500 from the Corporation of Madras. But for the timely help given by the Government—made by the Hon. the Minister for Law of an extra grant of Rs. 7,000—the Home would have had to close down. Again in the month of April, we shall meet with the same financial crisis and it would be deplorable if, after 25 years of building up this association against public opinion and want of real understanding, this work should go in vain for want of adequate grant which it is the Government duty to give. The Home has turned out many girls as useful citizens and some have married and settled down in life. I wish our members would visit this Home, for, to see is to believe, how nearly 3,000 girls have been helped.

"Referring to the Indian Women's Civic Corps, started as a war-time measure to teach poorer class women to guard against air-raid attacks, this organization in the last four years has been doing considerable good work in peace-time amongst women all over the Province. It is one of the outstanding organizations where women of all shades of opinion, caste and creed meet and help one another by voluntary service by way of teaching, literacy, domestic science, spinning, sewing, music, cooking, slum work—in fact all methods of disinterested social service. The Indian

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Women's Civic Corps, is working in co-operation with the Prohibition department in the matter of Prohibition. There are nearly 9,000 members, over 200 branches and 951 voluntary workers. This Indian Women's Civic Corps work has been studied by people from different parts of India and they are starting what they had learnt here in other Provinces, viz., Bombay and the Punjab. I hope the Government will see its way to help the Indian Women's Civic Corps in its expansion.

"Girl-guiding is also increasing and the Provincial Girl Guide Council, at the request of the Hon. Minister for Education, is in the process of forming a unity with other Scout movements in the Province. It would be very much appreciated if the grant for the Girl Guide Association could be increased.

"I know, others would say there are more important measures, but each item of service to the country leads to a betterment of the country and when giving grants, I do hope that this Government will take into consideration these requests that I have made."

* SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—"Mr. President, Sir, if I rise to participate in this debate, I do so under a compelling sense of duty, in order to voice the feelings of frustration and widespread disappointment of my community, that this Budget holds out no prospect for us—the 8 millions of untouchables inhabiting this Presidency that deliverance has come to us as well. I know, Sir, that mine is a solitary voice in this House. It cannot be otherwise, either here or elsewhere, under the system of representation that was foisted upon us by the Poona Pact.

"We know, Sir, that real political power rests with the owners of economic power. This Budget, as I shall show presently, is just a subtle and clever device to perpetuate the bondage and slavery of the Scheduled Classes to their Caste-Hindu masters, who have already obtained the reality of power in their hands and if anything is lacking it will be followed up by the devolution of absolute power in June 1948.

"Allow me, Sir, to say a few words on the general political situation to which reference has been made by the Premier in the opening paragraph of his speech introducing the Budget. The Prime Minister has paid a tribute to the 'earnest work of the Cabinet Mission'; he was jubilant over the setting up of the Interim Government at the Centre which according to him is a 'National' Government. Lastly, he was optimistic about the Constituent Assembly elected by the Provincial Legislatures as they are functioning to-day.

"I venture to submit, Sir, that in neither of these bodies—the Provincial Legislatures, or the Provincial Cabinets, or the Central Cabinet—much less in the Constituent Assembly, have the Scheduled Classes been allowed to choose or nominate their accredited leaders. That is the sober truth. You may try to explain it away by invoking the high principles of nationalism and democracy. You may say that separate electorates are incompatible with true democracy, or the functioning of a homogenous Cabinet.

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But, if the untouchable is to be pulled out of the depths of degradation, misery and squalour to which he has been condemned to live by centuries of oppression and social tyranny, there is no other way than by giving him his legitimate share of political power. And I submit, Sir, that separate electorates alone can give him a measure of self-confidence and protection, which is so needed at the present moment when we are standing at the cross-roads of destiny.

"The Cabinet Mission that came to India last year were anxious to cajole and conciliate the Congress and the Muslim League. Why? Because these two organizations gave them a lot of trouble. The Britishers are a nation of traders and they feared that unless they cultivate the goodwill of the Congress and the Hindu capitalists represented in the Congress, Great Britain cannot carry on a prosperous trade with India in the future. At the same time, they dared not antagonize the Muslim League because of its repercussions in the international situation and the growing power of Soviet Russia, in the Middle East.

"That, Sir, to my mind, is the basic factor responsible for the shameful betrayal of the Scheduled Classes by the Cabinet Mission, contrary to all the solemn pledges given to us by the British Government in the past.

"Time and again, the Government have admitted on the floor of this House as well as elsewhere that candidates are not forthcoming from the Harijan community to fill up vacancies in higher posts in Government service. If that be true, I say, Sir, it is not true, because your officers have not made any effort to find out the proper candidates from the community, but assuming the statement is correct, it is a very sad commentary on the existing state of things. It shows that you have not initiated the levelling up process. The interests of the Depressed Classes require special care and protection. The impulse must come from within, and the leadership must also come from our community. You may trumpet out to the world that our interests are safe in your hands. You may advertise to the world that you have provided and earmarked one crore of rupees specially for Harijan uplift, and appointed a Harijan Minister to be in charge of that work. But, what has been the result? Nothing has been done, and the lump sum grant of one crore still remains on paper. It will continue to remain on paper from year's end to year's end. Why? I will take one passage from the Prime Minister's speech to illustrate my point that all this talk of Harijan uplift is a mere propaganda stuff, a mere smoke-screen to conceal the real intentions. I am glad that the Government have left us in no doubt as to how their mind is working:

"Coming now to Harijan uplift', says the Premier, the scheme which the Government have under consideration (mark the words 'the scheme is still under consideration' though the lump sum provision was made one year ago) is to start colonies in selected places in each district where Harijans, Caste-Hindus, Muslims and others will be encouraged to live side by side and maintain the same standards of living. Schools, hospitals and

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other amenities will be provided for the benefit of *all classes*. (All classes, mind you! that is not Harijan uplift.) The Government intend that these colonies should serve as models for the reconstruction of villages on the basis of self-sufficiency and provision of common facilities for all communities without any distinction and with no disabilities for Harijans . . .

"And then, he goes on to say that the details still remain to be worked out and settled. More than a year has passed and yet the scheme is nebulous!

"I am more concerned with the words 'all communities will have the same facilities and no special disabilities will be imposed on Harijans.' Is this Harijan emancipation? Is this the way of rescuing the untouchables from the slough of despondency and despair to which centuries of caste oppression and tyranny have condemned them to live? That is mere camouflage, propaganda stuff, and no more.

"If you are earnest about elevating the Depressed Classes, you must give us opportunities and facilities to rise up, by opening special schools and educational institutions exclusively for our benefit, for primary, secondary and higher education, scholarships and fee-concessions, acquire land and build houses for us, construct roads, foot-paths, wells and burial grounds for us. These are the necessary items of expenditure which you have to incur if you want to raise the social and economic status of the Depressed Classes.

"Coming to the budget proper, I am neither an economist nor a financier, but it strikes me as a layman that what the Government are doing in drawing upon the revenue reserves (may be for financing prohibition) is just the misguided action of a spendthrift son in squandering the earnings of a prudent father. It is bound to spell disaster to the Province in the long run. The Premier has foreshadowed some measures of taxation—such as tax on agricultural incomes, the rise in entertainments tax, and I must in all conscience congratulate the Premier for his boldness in taxing the rich.

"Only I should end with expressing the hope and the prayer of my community that the proceeds of taxing the rich should be expended for the benefit of the poor. Not the common man, but the forgotten man, the poor Pariah, the outcaste and untouchable, deserves every care and consideration at the hands of the Government. Let it not be said that the beneficiaries of Government grants for Harijan uplift are the higher Caste Hindus alone and none else."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, before I refer to the Budget proper, I would like to make a few general observations dealing with the political situation. This is the only occasion when we get an opportunity of saying things not pertaining merely to the Budget though everything we say has something to do with the Budget."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I hope you will make it appear so."

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* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ I hope, Sir, if you permit me. During the last Budget session, Sir, some of us had occasion to refer to the publication of news in the press regarding differences in the party in power. We regret very much, Sir, such things continue to appear in the press. We regret much more this year, Sir, as the information that has appeared in the press recently is more damaging to the party. We are not interested in party squabbles, nor are we interested, though we may have our own personal predilections, who the leader of the party will be and who his followers are likely to be. What we are concerned, Sir, is about the demoralizing effect the publication of all this news has on the administration.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ So you support the press gag! ”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Men may come and men may go, but we, on these benches, will go on as usual. But what is surprising here, Sir, is that some members of the Government including Parliamentary Secretaries should have entered into controversies in the press. The erstwhile Ministers have under the constitution a forum in the Legislative Assembly through which they could make known their reasons for their resignation; instead of that they have chosen the press. In the interests of good Government of this Province we wish this unseemly controversy is brought to an end and a real Ministry enjoying the confidence of the party is installed so that the Ministers may attend to their onerous duties undisturbed by fear and the grim prospect of being made the playthings to satisfy real or imaginary grievances of individuals or groups. I shall not refer any more to this unseemly controversy.

“ It may be remembered, Sir, that when the Salaries Bill came up for consideration I raised the question of duties and functions of Parliamentary Secretaries. Since then, Sir, I have sought clarification by means of questions and I must say I have yet to be enlightened. I can only describe them, with all due deference to my good friends, the Parliamentary Secretaries, as I see them ‘ busy bodies ’. I do not blame them, Sir. As I said, Sir, many of them are my very good friends. I am sorry that they are being placed in such an awkward position. What can they do, Sir, when their duties and functions are kept in a nebulous state? The question of status of Parliamentary Secretaries, Sir, is not peculiar to this Province. It has been raised in other Provinces, particularly in the United Provinces. There also has been discontent among Parliamentary Secretaries. There the Parliamentary Secretaries represent Ministers in the Legislature.—this is a reply given by the Hon. the Premier in the United Provinces.—Sir, and the Parliamentary Secretaries perform such other functions as are delegated by the Ministers. The trouble there arose for want of a definition of the words ‘ other functions ’. I had occasion, Sir, to read about the practice that obtained in the Punjab. There I read that the Parliamentary Secretaries are required to take the oath of secrecy and immediately got into

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touch with our Government to write and obtain for me all possible information on the point so that at least we, who are not within the confidence of the Government, may know what status these Parliamentary Secretaries occupy and what functions they perform in that Province. Sir, it is said there their duties are purely Parliamentary confined to assistance in the Legislature. This is a sentence that I have taken from a letter which I got from the Chief Secretary to the Government from information which *he obtained writing for it at my request*. It is also stated that to perform these duties these Parliamentary Secretaries have to consult files and so the oath of secrecy is a condition of their appointment. Sir, why should not we adopt also a similar procedure here so that Parliamentary Secretaries may attend to Parliamentary work in the real sense and assist the Ministers in discharging their functions in both the Houses of the Legislature? One of the suggestions given and which I pass on for the consideration of the Government is that in preparing answers to questions or replies to resolutions, Parliamentary Secretaries can assist the Ministers. Every bit of information available should be placed at the disposal of these Parliamentary Secretaries and they should work up and prepare the answers and prepare replies in such a manner that they themselves may answer them on the floor of the House or enable their bosses to do so. This would greatly relieve the strain on the Secretariat. As you know, Sir, I am one of the worst sinners in this respect for the number of questions I put must be a source of annoyance not only to the Ministers, Sir, but to the Secretariat.

“ Therefore, the Punjab’s example may be usefully followed. Let them be entrusted with this work of preparing answers to questions, dive deep into the various records furnished by the Secretariat, prepare the answers subject to the approval of the Ministers and allow the Ministers to attend to other more important work. This is a suggestion which I wish to throw out and if this is accepted, oath of secrecy is absolutely necessary. With due deference to Parliamentary Secretaries, I have to say that they sometimes indulge in giving out the policies of Government before they are announced. It may be they are doing it innocently; but they will be perfectly entitled to do so if they take the oath of secrecy when they will have access to files by right and not by grace as they do now.

“ I am one of the worst sinners in sending questions to the Legislature. I believe the right of interpellation in a Legislature is one of the valuable privileges a member enjoys whether he is an elected or a nominated member. Unfortunately, some of us happen to be nominated members of this House—I mean some of us. The purpose of putting a question is not only for eliciting information but also for expediting action on certain matters pending consideration of Government. A writer in the *New Statesman and the Nation* says the purpose is also something more than merely eliciting information and expediting action. He says ‘ a parliamentary question is an instrument to probe the weakness of

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Ministers, to uncover what they might prefer to conceal and hasten the repair to public damage.' This purpose is also served sometimes by the questions we are putting. We do not want public damage to be done and we wish to make the Ministers and the Government to be aware that the public are awake to certain actions of theirs which might cause damage to public interests. The same writer goes on: 'Apart from those occasions when a member endures the familiar answers 'I must not anticipate the Budget', or 'if the hon. member will let me have opportunity to look into it', enquiries on matters of fact almost always receive specific answers; almost always but not always.' That has been our experience also. The Hon. Ministers can anticipate the kind of supplementaries which can be expected. When answers are given to supplementary questions they need not cry 'notice'; and a notice means another question and some more work to the Secretariat and then again some more work to the office. If only they read the files carefully on which answers are prepared, which I expect our Parliamentary Secretaries to do, this cry of asking for notice will not in many cases be absolutely necessary and can be avoided. I suggest this with a view to expedite business.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Natarajan pointed out that to a certain extent the tours of the Hon. Ministers can be curtailed; I would add to that the tours of Parliamentary Secretaries also can be curtailed. Taking the Government as a whole, the personnel comes to thirty. If thirty people go about the presidency in different directions and officers of the various departments have to attend on them to answer their queries and supply the information they seek, where is the time for them for attending to their normal work? It is not that any officer has complained to me about the way in which our Ministers tour. The fact is that Parliamentary Secretaries need not go about; if they attend to Parliamentary work, it will keep them at their desks throughout the year.

"I will come to a few general questions relating to the Budget. I will first of all take up education. I do so with some trepidation in the presence of the Vice-Chancellor of the University; but I shall deal with a field in which he is not intimately connected.

"First of all let me take up the regional language controversy. Unfortunately the Hon. Minister for Education is no longer the Minister for Education and I wish he were present here. The regional language controversy was occupying so much of the time of this House and the other House. A number of questions were put and a number of supplementary questions followed. I remember on one occasion, when I was there, the Assembly took half an hour over one question for starting a school at Nellore—half an hour for one question. This was simply because the Hon. Minister stuck to his point concerning regional language. On that occasion, he was unnecessarily aggressive when he could have been accommodative. In this connexion, I would invite the attention of the House and especially the Hon. the Premier to the plea of Moulana Abul Kalam Azad at a conference recently held in Lucknow. He emphasised the plea for the introduction

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of the mother tongue as the medium of instruction. If only the Hon. Minister had said that he was going to make the mother tongue as the medium of instruction instead of harping on regional language all the trouble would have ended and the controversy would have died down. Moulana Abul Kalam Azad—I do not want to pronounce it as Abdul as I understood it to be incorrect—not only pleaded for the introduction of mother tongue as the medium of instruction but also for making one of the European languages, preferably English, as a compulsory subject in order to fit in the whole scheme of national education to modern environments. Later on, he clarified the position with regard to the study of the English language in future. If only our Minister had followed this splendid example, much of the controversy would have ceased and more time can be spent in formulating a system of education which will satisfy the people.

"We were all hoping that under a popular Government more funds would be made available for the spread of compulsory education. Having had something to do with the Post-war Planning Committee where we contributed our little in framing the Post-war Plan of Education in this Province, I thought that at least in regard to education, that plan which accelerated the spread of education would be adopted by this Government. What has been done? A paltry sum of 13½ lakhs of rupees has been provided for the spread of compulsory education and 5 lakhs for the training of teachers and the Hon. Premier has stated in the Budget statement that it is intended to bring in 1½ lakhs of children more into schools. At that rate to bring in three or three and a half million children, assuming that the birth-rate will remain stationary and will not rise, how many years will it take to bring the three million children into schools? The post-war scheme of education contemplated that it should be put into immediate effect and must be accomplished within a particular period of time and all people should receive eighth standard education within a period of twenty years, the first five years to bring three million children more into schools to study up to the fifth standard and the Government provided for the first year 44 lakhs of rupees in their programme. Our popular Government has reduced it to 13½ lakhs of rupees. There is another thing which this Government have discontinued and that is midday meals for children. A free midday meal it was realized by the Post-War Education Committee, was absolutely necessary and that children if they were to benefit from instruction, they must be adequately fed. One of the causes of failure of compulsory education where it has been introduced, was poverty and not the cost of education. Parents are not able to feed their children properly to enable them to go to school and have the benefit of instruction given there. The Post-War Education Committee estimated to bring in under this scheme 3 million children more into schools at a cost of 12½ crores; but this Government have removed that provision from this year's Budget save to some 37 lakhs.

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"I need not say anything about the salaries of teachers; we have said enough on a resolution that is still to be debated upon by this House. I would again implore the Hon. Premier to re-consider the decision of Government and to see that their salaries are raised to a level consistent with the increased standard of living and in the increased cost of living as well. I implore the Government also to see that teachers whatever may be the agency under which they work, are paid the same salary. Let them give up the idea of creating castes among teachers.

"There is the question of financing education. The remark may be hurled against me when I make these proposals that they are wild proposals; but on that also the Sargent Committee has laid down that if it is not possible for any Government to carry out the scheme of education laid down with the help of its accumulated reserves, then the spread of education should be financed even from loans. It is an investment; an investment the results of which may not be visible now but they are bound to be seen in the years to come, an investment on which it is worth while even to spend from funds raised by loans. I also pass on another suggestion to the Hon. Minister for Education, who is not here to listen to us as he is not permitted to listen to us now—I am sorry that even the officiating Minister is not here"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"There is no objection to the other gentlemen to be here; there are seats provided for Assembly members. But I expect you ought to have given him notice."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"He must be lounging now and I do not wish to disturb his rest."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When the Budget is being debated upon, all questions will be raised."

3 p.m. * SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Everyone who knows the conditions under which education is imparted in rural areas knows that schools are located in ill-ventilated, dirty-looking and un-inspiring rented buildings. The provision made in the Budget for school buildings is also meagre. I made a suggestion to the then Hon. Minister for Education that the money for building schools may be found from out of the loan funds instead of from the revenues. That is also a line along which I would like the Hon. the Premier to consider the question of providing good school buildings to our children so that they may be brought up in surroundings which would be conducive to their growth rather than warp their growth.

"Then, Sir, I come to the vexed question of nationalization of industries. There is a provision of Rs. 50 lakhs in the Budget. I am afraid this nationalization has become a slogan. We have been informed of nationalization since the time, I think, this Legislature began to function. But so far we have had no indication of what the Government mean by nationalization, how they propose to plan for nationalization, and how they propose to carry out the plan. Even the Hon. the Prime Minister says it is under

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consideration. Sir, while we are conceiving, other Provinces are taking a march over us, and so we will be left behind in the race. That, Sir, should not be the unfortunate position of this Province. If you are not able to make out a plan for nationalization, allow private interests, under certain conditions, to bring industries into existence, and when you decide to nationalize them you can take them over with their assets and liabilities on such conditions as you may lay down. Did not England do that, Sir? In England coal mines were nationalized. Did the Government start the mining industries? They were there already. They wanted to nationalize transport. Did not England attempt to do that? But why should we, here, allow things to drift and allow time to be lost, because we are not able to make up our minds on principles or make up our plans. In this connexion, I would like to read a very sane and wise utterance of the Finance Minister of the Government of Bombay. He is also a Congress Minister. He is also a co-operator. We know him more as a co-operator than as a Finance Minister. I will read an extract from a weekly journal called the *Commerce*—

"While Mr. Mehta is in favour of state ownership of such public utilities as transport, electricity, and also industries of a monopolistic nature, he feels that nationalization of all industries at this stage of the country's development will be inadvisable and will bring the administration into disrepute. Leaving out points of theoretical consideration and confining himself only to the practical issues involved, Mr. Mehta observed (in his financial statement) in presenting the budget of the Bombay Presidency—"The pace of nationalization will obviously be conditioned by our own resources in economy. Even in these days of inflated finances, there is a limit to the funds which the Government have at their disposal for the layout of these things. First things must come first. With the programme the Government have in view for the development of irrigation, for agricultural improvements, for mass education, for betterment of public health, for electrification, the funds that can be spared for buying over existing undertakings or starting new ones are naturally limited. Government's investments of this type may therefore be confined to industries, and other undertakings where public ownership and management are deemed *absolutely essential* in the larger interests of the community as a whole. The administrative difficulty is no less important than the financial one. The administration has not always been found equal to the required task or take all trade. Moreover, at the highest level, we have no economic experts corresponding to the experts in the sphere of administration who now look after law and order, the collection of land revenue, public works, education and agriculture. It may be rash to take over existing concerns or to start new ones for the management of which Government may either flounder or seek the assistance of businessmen. Nationalization may therefore have to proceed at a pace in conformity with the Government's evaluation of their capacity, financial and administrative, to own and manage large economic enterprises."

Sir, I commend these words to the Hon. the Premier. I can see, Sir, we also labour under the same difficulties because as I already referred there is a provision of Rs. 50 lakhs in the budget for starting both cement and soda ash industries, whereas each project may perhaps require not less than one crore of rupees. That means we have not got economic experts to advise Government even on the cost of starting and maintaining an industry. I was gratified this morning to hear from the Hon. Minister for Labour and Industries that so far as cement was concerned, they had given up the idea of themselves starting or, at any rate, standing in the way of those who wanted to start a factory in the Ceded

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districts. But what about heavy chemicals? Many glass factories and paper factories suffer for want of soda ash. The whole country suffers from this deficit and the sooner these factories are allowed to come into existence to prepare these heavy chemicals, the better it will be.

"I now come to another vexed question, that is the textile policy. This subject had been discussed *ad nauseum* both in the press and on the platform. I feel, to say anything more on this, will amount to virtual flogging of a dead horse. Recently in reply to a question in the Council of State, the Secretary to the Government of India in the Industries and Supplies Department said on the 25th February that the Madras Government had been informed that the question of cancelling spindles already allotted did not arise. Still, Sir, our Hon. the Prime Minister persists that they are still in correspondence with the Government of India. This answer that they are not prepared to cancel the spindles has been repeated so often by the Government of India. But the Hon. the Prime Minister thinks that he will be able to persuade the Government of India to change their policy.

(At this stage Mrs. Mona Hensman occupied the Chair.)

"I would like, Sir (Interruption). I would like, Madam . . ."

THE CHAIRMAN (MRS. MONA HENSMAN):—"You can address as 'Sir,' because the reference is to the Chair and not to the person."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"I would like the Hon. the Prime Minister to make up his mind once for all one way or the other instead of placing the people in an awkward position and in a state of suspense. Commitments have been made by those who were allotted spindles by the Government of India, and no useful purpose will be served by trying to put off facing the inevitable. The Government may feel that they are strong enough to fight with the Central Government, but I feel no purpose will be served by fighting with the Central Government. After all, why should we persist in this policy when the Government of India have been time and again stating that they cannot withdraw the spindles already granted? I find that the Hon. the Premier has quoted the legal opinion of the Advocate-General in support of his position that the Madras Government have got the power to cancel the spindles. There is, in the words of the Hon. the Prime Minister, another legal luminary, who is giving a different opinion. One is pitted against the other, and we common people, laymen, do not know which opinion is the correct one. But we have every right to feel that the opinion expressed by the Government of India is the correct one. That is the opinion that appeals to the common man. We feel, Madam, that this Government, instead of wasting any more time in correspondence with the Government of India or fighting with them by going to the Federal Court to establish their right to order things in this Province as they like,

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should allow these spindles to be imported and utilized. If necessary, they may not register their claims for further spindles when offered. After all, what is the purpose of these spindles? It is only to provide adequate yarn to the large number of handloom weavers in this Province. I can very well understand if the Hon. the Prime Minister takes objection to weaving mills. But most of our mills are spinning mills, and the existing spinning mills are not able to spin all the yarn required in this Province by the handlooms. Handloom industry is one of the major cottage industries of this Province. The handlooms are already suffering for want of sufficient yarn, and if these spindles are not taken, and if the quantity of yarn required by the handloom weavers is not forthcoming in this Province itself, yarn from outside is sure to be dumped on us. The Prime Minister may then say that he will take the law into his hands and prohibit altogether the import of yarn into this Province. I wish, Madam, the khadi policy adopted by the Madras Government all success. I do not mind crores of rupees being spent in order to encourage, and even subsidise khadi. But should the handloom weavers wait till sufficient quantity of khadi yarn is produced to meet their requirements? All that we say is by the time sufficient quantity of khadi yarn becomes available in this Province, perhaps more handlooms will come into existence to meet the growing demand for cloth in this Province. Why not we allow the existing allotment to be taken advantage of? I have more than once suggested in the press and on the platform that a judicious adjustment in production should be made, so that mills do not compete with the handlooms and the handlooms do not compete with khadi, so that each is allowed to develop without detriment to the other. It is easily possible for the Hon. Prime Minister to plan it. Instead of that, I am afraid, the Premier is taking up an attitude which is,—and here I do not wish to use any unparliamentary word, and I do not wish to embarrass you, Madam, by any such word, and so I would respectfully say,—nothing but unreasonable (I hope it is a parliamentary expression) and the sooner he would revise his views on this matter the better for the Province. Let me here once again repeat, we have nothing against khadi at all. By all means subsidise khadi and do all things to bring it within the reach of the poor man. In passing may I say this: it is now nearly six months since khadi scheme was promulgated. I use the word 'promulgated' advisedly, because there is a certain amount of compulsion in it. May I know what is the amount of khadi yarn produced in these three or four months? We have not been furnished any information about it so far. Those who believe in spinning mills are crying hoarse saying that these mills are necessary in order to meet the needs of handlooms. There is no one to tell us what is the amount of yarn produced under the khadi scheme to meet the growing demand of the handlooms. I am afraid, as a matter of fact, that scheme has only just been begun. And may I ask, how many years it will take, even if all the firkas are made to engage themselves day-in and day-out without going to other avocations to spin, for them to produce the yarn that is

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required by the handlooms? There are other avocations for the people to pursue so that other needs of the community could be satisfied by the producers. So all I would say, Madam, in all humility is, we request the Premier not to persist in this negative attitude. This is negative attitude that he is adopting and it does not promote the economic welfare of the people. He is marring the future prospects of trade and commerce of this Province. It may be he is not conscious of it, but posterity will pronounce the judgment.

"Then I come to the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. I claim to be a co-operator. I must say the Minister for Agriculture considers me as a co-operator. I have spent some time and energy in studying, understanding and in working co-operative societies. Therefore, I was greatly pained by the paragraph in the Premier's budget speech dealing with producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, wherein he has unnecessarily gone out of his way and condemned the co-operative movement, when there was no need for it. Nobody denies that the co-operative movement has got its own defects like any other movement. Nobody says the co-operative movement is perfect. But why persist in quoting figures which do not at all bear any relationship to the problem at issue, namely, figures and facts relating to credit societies? If the Premier had only quoted figures and facts relating to store societies which have done so well in assisting Government in procurement and other operations, one would have understood him in condemning these store societies as not having risen to the occasion to meet the needs of the society. I would have gladly bowed to his criticism. Here are the figures relating to procurement operations conducted by the co-operative stores societies. The purchasers primary stores procured paddy and millets worth 21 lakhs in 1945-46, the marketing societies 7.85 lakhs and the wholesale stores 280.41 lakhs. Is this a small amount of procurement they have done? Is it fair to condemn those who came to the assistance of the Government when they had no idea of producers-cum-consumers societies and helped them in procuring and distributing foodstuffs? Is it fair to attack a movement which has done so much good to the poor people? Those who lived in the City in 1942 know what great part the Triplicane Co-operative Society played in relieving the situation created by the evacuation of the City. We all owe a debt of gratitude to those co-operative societies which have stood by us in times of stress and strain. But these producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies have been brought into existence only recently. And whether they should be given such preference and whether they justify their existence by their conduct as to wipe off the existing institutions altogether is a moot question. For, wherever producers-cum-consumers societies have come into existence, the existing co-operative societies are not able to function, either they have to merge in the producer-cum-consumer societies or to commit suicide. Is it fair to treat institutions that have been brought up by non-official co-operators at great

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sacrifice and inconvenience in that manner? Evidently the Premier was not aware at all, was not in touch with the co-operative movement as to know what it has achieved in this Province. It is said, that these credit societies, have not done enough to assist the cultivator. These producers-cum-consumers societies are only societies of producers and consumers, doing only procuring and distributing business. They are not functioning as credit societies at all and still the villager has to rely on the village credit society for his credit needs. It is a curious thing, Madam, the Premier says, "Hon. Members must however remember that even large profits, if made by these broadbased societies with membership running even in the initial stage to seven thousand to eight thousand in some societies." It makes all co-operators stand aghast. We can never think of seven or eight thousand members in a co-operative society." The fundamental principles of co-operation are mutual knowledge and mutual trust. How can there be that mutual knowledge and mutual trust when societies consist of 7,000 to 8,000 members? It is not co-operation. Make them joint stock societies. (Mr. Uppi Sahib: They are joint stock societies.) Why do you call this co-operation? It is going against the fundamentals of co-operation. Any text-book on co-operation will tell you that producer-cum-consumer co-operative society is no co-operative society at all. It is—I will go to the length of saying—prostituting the name of co-operation for the purpose of boosting up a new type of organization. It is unfair to co-operators all over the world, to the International Co-operative Alliance to call this kind of seven thousand to eight thousand membership societies as co-operatives. It is unthinkable. In fact, even in the Triplicane Co-operative Society various measures are devised to see that there is proper mutual knowledge and mutual trust between members by grouping them instead of dividing. I do not know wherefrom this idea of co-operation the Premier got. I must say, with due deference, having been a co-operator, being in charge of Co-operative Journal, which I am editing on behalf of the Provincial Co-operative Union and of which the Hon. Minister for Agriculture is the Chairman,—I am sure even he must now have found out—this is not co-operation. In order to boost up the producers-cum-consumers societies why bring in the poor credit movement and damn it—I will not say—with faint praise. I take strong objection to this on behalf of the co-operators of this presidency. Perhaps the hon. Minister knows there are many co-operators in this House, who feel as strongly there in this matter as myself and feel a slur has been cast on the co-operative movement. If the Premier feels that the co-operative movement has failed, let him wind up all the societies in the province; let him remove the present Registrar and appoint Mr. Kapur in his place and let him be made the Registrar and producers-cum-consumers societies. Moreover, I am one of those who feel there is a tug of war all over the world between co-operators as to the advisability of starting organizations wherein producers and consumers are joined together in one organization. Opinion is divided on this. Some feel the interests of producers will clash with those

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of the consumers and *vice versa*. But I am not one of those who is personally against the combination of the interests of the producers and consumers, because while I am producer of one thing I may be consumer of another thing. It should be possible to reconcile the interests of both the consumers and the producers. By all means convert the existing societies for that purpose. What prevents you from doing it? Is it difficult to change the by-laws to make them fit in the existing societies to meet the existing needs? Have you tried that and failed? I feel by what has happened, by boosting up these societies, the existing organizations are made to die a natural death. (Mr. Uppi Sahib: An unnatural death). They don't deserve that death; they don't deserve that treatment. I am surprised, Hon. Mr. Giri, who is in charge of co-operation, should have been a party to this murder of the existing societies. If they are to be converted into multi-purpose societies there is provision for that. Even the existing by-laws of ordinary societies permit co-operative societies to supply the needs of the consumers for example, to gather the produce and market it, to buy seeds and distribute them to the members, to buy manure and distribute it to the members, in fact to do every function that is supposed to be performed by these producers-cum-consumers societies. These can be performed by the existing societies themselves. If necessary, you can convert them into what we call multi-purpose societies.

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"Madam, I was a member of a committee which dealt with co-operation in a particular backward tract of my district in Rayalaseema. We examined the question in the same way as the Hon. the Prime Minister has done. We have suggested that every society in that area must be converted into a multi-purpose society. Why did not the Government do it? It is difficult to organize a new society but it is easier to transform an existing society to serve the purpose we have in view. We have suggested the following functions for them: financing business, sales to members of consumer goods such as salt, condiments, sugar, cloth and the like as well as food grains. We have suggested the supply to members of raw materials for manufacture and even yarn can be supplied. Yarn can be purchased by these societies and distributed among the weaver members of the society. Storage of members' agricultural produce, and assisting or acting as agents of financing institutions, even institutions which provide long term mortgage loans, all these things have been suggested by us.

"Another fact which the Hon. the Prime Minister has lost sight of is that most of these co-operative credit societies, i.e., village primary societies are organized on what we call an unlimited liability basis. Societies organized on an unlimited liability basis are not permitted to venture into schemes which may involve them in loss. Sir, I have in my hands a note written by the Registrar on the working of the stores movement in this Presidency. It is a public document because it has come to me for publication. He says: "Village co-operative credit societies have been permitted to undertake procurement only for local consumption and

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being based on unlimited liability they are allowed to invest money in such business to the extent of their paid-up share capital *plus* reserve fund." Any business man will appreciate the reason why the Registrar did not want these credit societies to venture in trade which may involve them in loss. To the extent of their paid-up share capital and reserve fund they are allowed to invest money for the purpose of procurement. If they borrow and invest the money for the purpose of procurement they cannot afford to risk. By all means make the unlimited liability societies multi-purpose societies as we have suggested in our report and ask them to take to this procurement work as well as distribution work. If it is the idea that there should be one institution for all purposes and that there should not be separate institutions to meet the separate needs of either consumer or producer or both, let them convert all the existing societies into multi-purpose societies. Madam, I think I have exhausted all the points on which I wanted to speak. I shall now only refer to a few facts in the Budget.

"The Hon. the Premier in his budget speech announced . . ."

(At this stage the Hon. President took the Chair.)

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I did not expect you to be continuing."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I am sorry, Sir. Though I appreciate the remark, I am sorry."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I thought you would have given a chance to the acting President to call some other hon. Member to speak."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I am sorry, Sir, if I was not chivalrous.

"The Hon. the Premier in presenting the Budget has stated that we have closed with a surplus of Rs. 57,000 and this was also announced by the All-India radio. Sir, how have we got this Rs. 57,000. We have taken from the reserves and announced that we have a surplus. We have taken Rs. 1.40 crores from the Revenue Reserve Fund piled up for years and then we close with a balance of Rs. 57,000. Sir, it is better we face facts as they are and say that we have a deficit budget. Often a deficit budget enlists the sympathy of the public when especially we have schemes for the amelioration of the common man.

"I must refer to one fact, Sir, which I have already mentioned and that is the abandoning of the scheme for supply of mid-day meals to the children in schools. There is another fact which affects the villager very much and that is the winding up of the rural water-supply fund. Sir, the Finance Secretary in his memorandum says that they have decided not to make further allotments to this fund and the remaining amount of Rs. 23.9 lakhs is being appropriated this year for rural water-supply. Sir, if I remember right, this fund for rural water-supply came into existence in 1938-39. It was created with a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs in that year. Now it

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ceases to exist when we appropriate the balance to the credit of that fund. I do not know why the Hon. the Prime Minister thought of retrenchment in rural water-supply. If there is a fund, Sir, for this purpose like the Harijan Uplift Fund or the Village Development Fund we can go on making contributions from the current revenues and utilize them as the schemes mature for being carried out from these funds. The balance will remain there, will accumulate there and will be always available for meeting any unforeseen expenditure. I do not know why the Hon. the Prime Minister did this. Whatever I might say, I know, he is a friend of the poor. I do not know why he has deprived this rural water-supply fund of its annual contribution. So, Sir, whatever ameliorative schemes the Budget may contain I feel it is a bad budget, because it hits the poor man. It removes from his purview schemes which ought to be there, such as feeding the school children, promotion of elementary education and the contribution to the fund for the development of rural water-supply.

"Sir, there is one good feature which I find, in regard to expenditure on what may be called 'capital outlay' for over Rs. 5 lakhs. They have all been debited to capital account and not to the revenues. That is a good feature of this Budget. It was the practice in the olden days for many years that even any amount spent for an irrigation work sometimes was being debited to current revenues. Now this new practice has been set up. I do not know why Rs. 5 lakhs has been placed as the limit. I would say that all capital expenditure, not of a recurring nature, may all be put under the capital account and financed out of loans or such other means by which Government raise funds.

"I have nothing more to say, Sir, except to request the Government—I might have used somewhat strong language in regard to certain matters—to ponder over deeply the points that I have raised. We have nothing against the khadi movement, as I said; we have nothing even against the producer-cum-consumer societies. But they are unfortunately proving themselves a fifth wheel in the coach and let not their new-found love for these producer-cum-consumer societies make the Government blind to the achievement of the co-operatives which have been in existence in this Presidency and fail to assist them to realise the object for which they have been brought into existence. I thank you, Sir, for the indulgence shown."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think you must thank the acting President."

* SRI M. NARAYANA MENON:—"Mr. President, I congratulate not formally, but with conviction, the Hon. the Premier for his budget. I cannot agree with some of the hon. Members who say that it is a budget which does not support the poor. Sir, the Hon. the Premier is really the friend of the poor as has been pointed out by another hon. Member of this House he has given ample provision to support them. But as regards some other matters I am unable to see eye to eye with the Hon. the Prime Minister especially with regard to certain policies.

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"I shall first refer to the textile policy of the Government and point out in what form it should be modified. I do not say that I am in complete disagreement with it, but some modification, according to me, is necessary. I perfectly agree that the khadi scheme and the village development scheme are for the good of the people, but Sir, I cannot understand why textile mills should not be encouraged to the extent they deserve. My chief objection to the present policy of the Government is that it is not consistent with the modern scientific development. We must see that we live according to science and our ways are moulded and improved by science. If we simply follow our forefathers in everything we may not improve or move forward. With regard to food and cloth it seems to me that as far as possible the least amount of human labour need be spent upon them. Man is not meant only for making cloth and eating food and sleeping for the rest of his time. He must have sufficient leisure for thinking and understanding and developing himself and doing many other things. If atomic energy is harnessed to industries, then all the cloth that we require for a year may be produced in a month or two. More food can be produced from the land if we apply the scientific inventions of the day. At the same time, I may say that in the villages where these scientific inventions will not be available amply and easily, the people may get on by carrying on some village industries. And I am glad to say that ample provision has been made in the budget for the development of cottage or village industries. I request the Government to modify their textile policy by allowing the existing mills to develop and also increasing their number. Then instead of 5 yards of mill cloth a year for a person he can have more. Some of us here have really more than 7 or 8 yards of cloth on us, but how can we get on with 5 yards a year. Mill cloth is cheap and the khadder or handloom cloth is very costly. In order that even middle-class people with low incomes may live in comfort as far as possible these essentials of life—food and cloth—must be made easily and cheaply available to them and all our efforts must be directed towards that end and not towards anything else which will mar or bar the future prospect simple but comfortable of life.

"I suggest, Sir, that the Government should start at least one textile mill. When the policy of the Government is not to encourage mills, if I say that the Government should start a mill, I do so with a purpose. If the Government start a mill, they can understand in what manner the employer and employee should behave towards each other. There have been several labour strikes in Coimbatore and other places. The Prime Minister has intervened and other Ministers also have intervened and settled those disputes by arriving at some sort of compromise. But in the course of a month or two, the strikes break out again. But if Government start a mill, they can experiment in their own institution, find out what should be the proper relation between the employer and the employee, how much should be paid to the employee and

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how much should be taken by the employer and so on. It will also improve the supply of yarn and cloth. By resorting to this method at this juncture, this Government may be able to do something with regard to the nationalization of industries. In some of the speeches I read in the papers—I do not know whether they have been correctly reported or not—the nationalization of industry was put forward as a threat to the mill-owners. But I say to the Government, let the mill-owners continue as before, and you start industries which have not been started already by other persons. New industries, any number of them can be started. Then also this problem of employer and employee can be solved. That is the real nationalization of industry. For instance, you can start a cement industry. Applications have been called for and you have recommended some. If really nationalization of industry is your idea, why not you start a new cement factory. In course of time when it is found that the industries started by Government flourish, the other industrialists may even surrender their industries to the Government, saying: 'Of course you are doing much better than we. You go on and we shall depart.' That will be a sort of solution for the nationalization of industries.

"Sir, one other subject to which I want to refer is the producer-cum-co-operative societies. I may at once submit that this idea is good for the present and that it will work well now when there is shortage of paddy and other grains and when it is necessary to procure them from other places also. I am not really for entrusting the ordinary traders with the distribution of what is procured, from other places. It will work to the detriment of the people as it did in 1942-43 when the mill-owners were purchasing paddy and rice in Palghat and distributing them to the people. Before my eyes, I saw several people die of starvation, but the deaths were attributed to cholera. But as soon as proper distribution was arranged, it was found that cholera stopped and people did not die as before and in the course of 15 days normal health was restored in Palghat. I may say that it was more possible by introduction of rationing and commandeering and distribution through the agency of co-operative stores. With the advent of the producer-cum-co-operative societies in 1946, we see that procurement has been easy. But as regards distribution by these societies how far it will result in the well-being of the people, is now a matter of conjecture. Although these societies are the distributors, the actual distributor is not the president or the secretary or a director but persons employed by these societies on wages of Rs. 30 and Rs. 40 a month. How far these employees will behave properly is yet to be seen. Whether these societies will be able to stop black-market altogether cannot be predicted now. All that is now a matter of experiment the result of which can be ascertained only by the end of the year. If the thing is regularly worked and if proper reports are received and materials collected we will be able to judge how far it has been successful. I do not want to be a prophet in regard to this matter. Let us wait and

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see, whether it is possible for these societies to be permanent. For the present they can exist. But when control ceases and large quantities of paddy and rice and other grains are available what will be the function of these societies? As regards ordinary traders, competition between them will result in advantage to the consumers. But how can these societies work to the advantage of the consumers at that time? What these societies can procure now, the traders can procure later on. On account of competition, the producers will get better price. But in the case of these co-operative societies, the prices will be fixed, it may be sometimes low and sometimes high, but it is likely one price may be fixed for the whole year. The producers selling to those societies cannot get anything more than that fixed price. That is one point which throws doubt on the permanence of these societies.

"The second point is whether how far the black-market will stop under the influence of these societies. I think we are blaming the traders to a large extent without going into the real cause of black-market. According to me, it is not the trader or the distributor who is the source of this cause. It is the competition between the consumers that is the real cause. When there are only a few things for sale and when there are 100 persons to purchase them, there is competition between the consumers and owing to that competition, there is an inducement on the part of the trader to part with it for a price much higher than that for which he would otherwise sell it. Again, the reason for this competition is the shortage of supply. This competition will stop only if the supply is greater than the demand. It will not stop otherwise.

"As regards price, you may compel a trader to sell at a certain price, you may post a policeman before the shop to watch him. But in that case, he will not sell the thing to any man who goes there but to persons of his own choice and even there you see there is some blackness in the trade. Therefore unless you produce large quantities of paddy and rice and everything else you cannot stop this black-market. I do not think that the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies will be able to stop it at all.

"I put a question: what is to become of these co-operative societies after some time? I suggest, Sir, that they may start some industry with the aid of their share money and accumulated profits. They have now their separate dictions—three or four villages—and each of these societies may be asked to start an industry suitable to the locality. Instead of giving them the privilege of getting every article in their hands and depriving the ordinary trader of his means of livelihood, you can make use of them in this way after the control ceases only then they will become useful to the country.

"Sir, a few words with regard to education. The question of the regional language has been referred to and as a substitute for the regional language, the mother tongue has been mentioned. Whether it is mother tongue or regional language, finally it will

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come to the same thing, regional language. The system of imparting instruction through the mother tongue is no doubt very important. If instruction is to be imparted in the mother tongue, the result will be this. You must have, say at Madras, elementary schools, high schools and colleges for the Malayalam-speaking people, for the Telugu-speaking people, for the Kanarese-speaking people and so on. We have also heard the clamour from Muslims for instruction through the medium of Urdu. Thus, the Government will be compelled to open a large number of institutions for the various languages in almost all the places and that will be really difficult. The system of imparting instruction through regional languages should be introduced in the whole Province, but as a matter of exception in selected towns like Madras, Trichinopoly, Madura, etc., where there are so many Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarese-speaking people, it should be possible to have some separate institutions for the lower standards and forms. The insistence of imparting education through the regional language must be adhered to generally throughout the Presidency.

4 p.m. "But, Sir, we have to consider other consequential aspects. We are on the point of division or partition. The Malayalees want a Kerala Province, the Tamils, Tamil Province and the Andhras, an Andhra Province. We have to divide on a linguistic basis, i.e., on the regional language basis. If we are going to divide on the regional language basis and if we are to continue until division on the regional language basis, my suggestion is that we must make ourselves ready and have all the necessary requirements even now. What are the requirements? The requirements are that all the subjects should be taught in the regional language in all the institutions in the respective regions. For instance, in the Tamil and Telugu districts, you must have a number of educational institutions including colleges in which all the subjects must be taught in Tamil and Telugu respectively. So also in Malabar there must be sufficient number of such institutions. Sir, I may be asked: what is the meaning of claiming so many institutions and colleges for a single district, Malabar, though it may constitute a linguistic province. Unless Arts colleges, an Engineering College, a Medical College, an Agricultural College and other technical colleges are established for Malabar how can the Malayalees receive education in the Malayalam language. Considering the comparatively small extent of the Kerala Province the position may be considered difficult, though it may not be such a difficult proposition with regard to Tamil and Telugu districts. People in Malabar would certainly like to be taught in their own language. If the Government adheres to the regional language system, sufficient money must be found to establish colleges of various types in Malabar. Even now the work should be commenced. I do not ask for the opening of such colleges all at once but one by one every year so that Malabar may have the necessary well-equipped institution before the formation of separate provinces is a settled fact.

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"Another point I want to bring to the notice of Government, is the desirability of having text-books in the regional languages. While the teachers and professors in the schools and colleges may teach in the regional languages, the students must have text-books in the said languages for study at home. What have you done in the course of the ten months towards that end, though you are sticking on to the regional language policy now and for the future? We have not the proper and necessary text-books in these languages. In the Osmania University in Hyderabad, I am told that practically all the good text-books have been translated into Urdu from various languages. A number of text-books come from England and other countries, where scientific studies have been developed considerably but all of them are translated in Urdu. Even then there is a complaint that the suitable books are not available. In this Presidency, you must have an independent department to commence translation or production of the necessary text-books in sciences in the four regional languages. Unless this is done, the regional language system will break down.

"Another thing of importance is with regard to technical and scientific terms. Technical terms will be varying in Malayalam, Kanarese, Tamil and Telugu and that will lead to considerable confusion and inconvenience. A common dictionary of scientific terms should be prepared not only for this Presidency but also for the whole of India. If you have a united India and visualize it as a whole entity now or in future with one Central Government, you must have the same scientific terms in all the regional languages in order to assure uniform scientific development in the whole of India. I understand that a committee is engaged in the preparation of the technical terms for the languages in this Presidency. I had a talk with some members. Their complaint is that if a technical term has a Sanskrit origin, objection is raised, and demand is made for a word with a purely Tamil root for the Tamil language. Unfortunately such words will not always be available. Such conflicts are now going on. (K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur: 'Then have English.') That has been the bane of us. When we quarrel, we go to a stranger. In Hindi or Urdu we have very many Sanskrit words. Bring Arabic terms, if you please, we will have them. Instead of that, we should not say: I want everything in Tamil or Telugu or Malayalam; I will ignore Sanskrit. If we proceed in this way, then we will have no proper terms. We must have all the scientific terms in common. We know that the technical terms are common for all the countries in Europe, including Italy, Germany, Switzerland, etc. Whenever there is an invention, a name is given to it. The root or origin of the word is not examined for adopting it into the various languages. We can do the same thing in India also. (K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur:—'Let us adopt the same procedure.') That is what I say. Don't go to the root of each word and see whether it is Tamil or Telugu in origin. Use one term, i.e., common to all the languages. In Kauthilya's Artha Sastra,

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the district and they must have sent their reports to the Government that it is a matter of necessity. I know the plans and accounts of estimates are being prepared then. But we do not see the end of them. That is the trouble. Our difficulty is that the Government have only a small amount of money in reserve. If the money is spent on various other schemes then there may not be anything left for Malabar irrigation. The district of Malabar has been suffering for the last 100 years. We have been clamouring for irrigation for several years. But nobody has done anything for us. In 1937, Mr. Prakasam, Hon. the Prime Minister now, was good enough to visit the district and he gave us hopes that very soon something will be done for Malabar. Unfortunately that Government resigned; but it has now come back. Hon. Mr. Prakasam has become Prime Minister. Let something be done this year with regard to the Malampuzha Project. Investigation may be going on. Let it be started this year so that it may be completed at least in the course of four or five years. In the other taluks also there are some irrigation sources not yet investigated. Some attempts may be made to investigate them and sufficient money may be provided to have sufficient staff for this purpose.

“One other matter I have to refer to. It is with regard to the raising of new taxes. New taxes may have to be raised if circumstances demand it. But with regard to the agricultural income-tax there is a cry in Malabar that it is not suitable to that district in any event. The reason is that the lands there do not yield as much as the lands in Nellore, Trichinopoly, Tanjore or other places. The Malabar lands are poor. The chief reason is whatever we put into the soil by way of manure, is washed away by rains. Rains are not always reliable as they come in torrents sometimes and the whole of it goes straight to the sea. We are not in a position to retain sufficient quantity of water for our irrigation purposes. That is the real difficulty. We lose our manure. We are not getting much yield. We pay heavy land-tax. There are no irrigation facilities. Amount ranging from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10 and sometimes a little more is the tax for an acre in Malabar. It may not appear to be very much, but for Malabar conditions it is really a very heavy tax. Why do you want to impose agricultural income-tax? There are technical difficulties, so far as the agricultural income-tax is concerned. In all places people have a grievance against this tax. There are complaints from all people. Therefore I say that the agricultural income-tax need not be imposed. All the other possible sources of revenue may be tapped; if they are found insufficient then only this agricultural income-tax—which is not wanted and which is not liked—may be imposed.

“With regard to other matters I need not say much because very many of my hon. friends have referred to them. I once more thank the Hon. the Prime Minister for the useful budget he has framed.”

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* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“Sir, I congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister for having introduced his second popular budget in this House. I call it a popular budget not only because a popular Government like the Congress Government has introduced the Budget but also because the Budget really deals with and provides for popular subjects in which the masses are interested. The first Budget that the Hon. Prime Minister introduced last year struck a definite note in introducing schemes like the Khadi scheme, the Harijan Scheme and Village Reconstruction Scheme, Cottage Industries, Prohibition, etc. This year the Hon. Prime Minister has not only improved the old schemes but also introduced other schemes like the introduction of new machinery for the procurement and distribution of foodgrains in the shape of Producer-cum-Consumer Co-operative Societies. You are all aware, Sir, that our Province under the leadership of the Hon. Premier, Mr. Prakasam, has claimed to be the first Province in the whole country to have followed the Congress programme in letter and spirit.

“I have heard it said that Mr. Prakasam's Ministry is becoming unpopular for having introduced new schemes and new methods like the Producer-cum-Consumer Co-operative Societies and also the Textile policy. I make bold to tell you that the Ministry has indeed become more popular with the masses for the very reasons that it is said it has become unpopular. Perhaps the Ministry has become unpopular with vested interests and those who are interested in them who have been affected by the new schemes introduced by the Hon. Premier. It is not enough if a few of us say within the walls of this House that the Ministry has become unpopular. The real test is for you to go into the country and feel the pulse of the people and then say who has become unpopular, whether it is Mr. Prakasam and his Ministry or others that decry it.

“I come from the East Godavari district and I am proud to say that my District stands first in the matter of starting the Producer-cum-Consumer Co-operative Societies. Fifty-one societies have been registered with a share capital of Rs. 42 lakhs. I may also state that I have also been intimately connected with the societies and have done my little bit in encouraging the starting of those societies. Though in the beginning owing to the propaganda made by some interested persons the starting of the societies was a bit slow and difficult as people began to understand the real benefits of the starting of such societies they easily took to them and began to subscribe to the best of their ability. There is no gainsaying the fact that by the introduction of these societies the middlemen are easily eliminated and people who manage the societies will get trained in the art of administration and business and they get all the profits for themselves which were being taken away by a few individuals previously. Perhaps there may be some shortcomings in the formation of these societies and there are bound to be some more shortcomings in the working of these societies in the initial stages but that cannot shut our eyes to the benefits that accrue by the formation and the proper working of these societies.

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"The Textile Policy of the Government has been the subject of criticism not only from vested interests but unfortunately from some amongst Congressmen themselves. We who have been votaries of the Congress and we who have been swearing by Khadi all these years under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi cannot do anything but congratulate the Hon. Premier for the courage of his conviction and the stoutness of his heart in having adopted this Textile policy in spite of so much opposition from all quarters. It is the strength of the cause that the Hon. Premier upholds that wins and not the strength of numbers on the opposite side. Yesterday the Hon. Premier was telling us some facts about the Punjab Province where hand-spun and hand-woven cloth is 75 per cent of the cloth used in that Province. All doubting Thomases who are afraid that the Khadi scheme does not succeed in this Province can very well take a lesson from the Punjab Province and shake off their doubts if doubts they still entertain. The Khadi scheme and its corollary and the Textile policy of the Government are intended to benefit and provide clothing to every man in the street without unduly enriching the capitalist mill-owners. If the scheme is faithfully and earnestly worked, certainly there cannot be cloth scarcity in this Province at all. During all these 25 years we as Congressmen have been preaching and popularizing khadder. Now that the Congress has come into power, is it not its duty not only to itself but also to the people it represents that it should reduce into action what it has been simply preaching before. With all the resources and the machinery of the Government at our disposal we ought honestly and sincerely to encourage the production of khadder in addition to the mill cloth that is produced by the existing mills so as to provide clothing for all.

"I beg to state a few points pertaining to my own district. The Central Delta comprising the two Revenue taluks of Amalapuram and Razole is surrounded on all sides by the branches of the river Godavari and on the fourth side by the Bay of Bengal. So the Central Delta in which myself and my other two colleagues representing East Godavari live is cut off from the mainland altogether and the Hon. Premier knows also full well that we are living in a nook-short isle called the Central Delta. The rivers are unbridged and it is not possible for vehicular communication to reach the Central Delta from the mainland.

"For nearly four months in the year from June to October, when the river is in floods, outside communication of whatever kind is impossible. For a number of years we have been agitating for the construction of a bridge at Alamuru or Kotipally so as to connect the main land with the Central Delta. Sometime prior to war the proposal for the construction of a bridge at Alamuru was made and we were told that it was approved by the Central Government as well as by this Government. But owing to the War the whole matter was shelved. Sir, now that the War is over, may I request the Government that the work may be taken up as early as possible and see that the Central Delta is connected with the outside world.

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"In the whole of the Northern Circars the Central Delta is the chief coconut growing centre. Nearly 50,000 acres are covered by coconut topes and the staple crop is coconut besides the paddy crop and the chief source of income of the ryots is coconut. Coconut is being exported to other districts and also to other Provinces. The coconut grown in the Central Delta is used for edible purposes and not for crushing oil. The recent restriction on the movement of coconut in all shapes, that is, dry coconuts, wet coconuts and copra has caused great hardship and inconvenience not only to the merchants that buy and export coconut but also to the ryots who grow coconuts in thousands and even lakhs. I may submit, Sir, that the conditions prevailing in Malabar and which necessitated the Government to put restriction of the movement of coconuts in those parts are not the same in East and West Godavari districts where coconut is grown and used for edible purposes. I therefore request that the Government will please see its way to abolish the restriction of movement of coconut in our part of the Province.

"As I have said, a vast extent of land in the Central Delta is covered by coconut gardens for a very long time. My hon. Friend Mr. Veeraswami and ourselves have been agitating for an agricultural farm to be located in the Central Delta particularly with a view to make research in coconut. I request that the Government may be pleased to locate an agricultural farm in that area.

"Sir, the topography of Razole taluk is very peculiar. Razole taluk extends from Bobbarlanka down to Antervedi covering a distance of about 60 miles. Kothapeta is the headquarters of the Deputy Tahsildar with no sub-treasury. Revenue collections made in these far off villages in the Kothapeta division have to be carried a long way off to the Razole Sub-treasury covering a distance from 13 to 14 miles. There was a proposal during the previous Congress Ministry that Kothapeta is to be made an independent division with a sub-treasury. Even recently I made a submission to the Government to expedite the formation of the Kothapeta as an independent division with a sub-treasury. I request, Sir, in the interests of the people in that locality the Government may be pleased to examine this question and make Kothapeta an independent division as early as possible.

"Amalapuram is the headquarters of the division comprising Amalapuram and Razole taluks. The hospital at Amalapuram is most ill-equipped and ill-provided for. A pucca hospital with full equipment should be constructed to serve the needs of the people of the division. As I have already stated the Central Delta is cut off from the main land and it is not easy and possible for poor people to go to the headquarters hospital at Cocanada or even Rajahmundry during the seasons. Therefore it is absolutely essential that Amalapuram should contain a pucca hospital well provided for and with maternity wards sufficient to meet the needs of the people.

"Last but not least, I have to make one important suggestion, Sir. I have been complaining about the monkey trouble in our area from Mukkamala to Bobbarlanka. The mischief done by the monkeys is immense. Food-crops such as plantains, vegetables and

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other fruits are being spoiled by the monkeys. When the Hon. Minister for Food visited our parts, I showed him what mischief the monkeys were capable of. Everybody knows what great havoc the Mukkamala monkeys can do. The only remedy Sir, is to exterminate all mischievous monkeys as early as possible either to Agencies or to unknown places."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" May I know how many hon. Members are prepared to speak to-day so that we may decide whether we can continue the session or adjourn now? "

* Mr. K. O. ANTHONI :—" May I know how long are we going to sit to-day? "

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" I suppose we can close at 5 o'clock, if there are no more members to speak. But if there are any members who desire to speak to-day, we shall just now adjourn for a few minutes for tea and shall meet again. I think it is better we shall finish as many members as possible from the list of those who have given their names to speak. Members who postpone speaking to-day may be taking some risk later on as we have only two days more left."

* Mr. K. O. ANTHONI :—" If we are rising at 5 o'clock, then I don't think I can finish my speech by that time."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" What time are you likely to take to finish your speech? "

* Mr. K. O. ANTHONI :—" About an hour, Sir."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" I think you had better go on. If you want to have some tea in the meanwhile, I have no objection for your going just now."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Why not we continue till 5-30 p.m. and then adjourn for the day? "

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection, but some members wanted to have some tea. Now I request that such of those hon. members as want to take tea may now go and return. Mr. Anthony will please continue his speech."

* Mr. K. O. ANTHONI :—" Mr. President, Sir, when there is a dearth of speakers on the Budget, I have come to step into the breach. Sir, there was a certain amount of reluctance on the part of some hon. Members of this House which I was noticing yesterday and the day before, to speak on the Budget. (A voice : " The budget discussions began only yesterday. "). But as Dr. John has remarked, there was a kind of artificial atmosphere in the budget discussions this year. I do not want to dilate upon it, especially after the Hon. Premier's statement last evening while discussing the Maintenance of Public Order Bill.

" Sir, last year I congratulated the Hon. the Premier on his inexhaustible patience. This year I must congratulate him on his ' incurable optimism. ' (Laughter). I am yet to see another man who is as optimistic as the Hon. Mr. T. Prakasam. Nothing seems

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to upset him in this world (Laughter). And I wish I had the capacity of the Hon. Premier to sleep with all his worries (interruption); unless he sleeps so well, he cannot do so much work as he is doing. Anyhow, Sir, I am glad at least in that respect I could congratulate the Hon. Premier. I cannot congratulate him on this Budget, but I think he certainly deserves our congratulations—and sometimes our sympathies too—for the manner in which he is standing the strain and also, as I said, on the great optimism that he is bringing to bear on his task.

" Now, Sir, it seems to me that this Budget is more or less the index of the uncertain position in which the Ministry found itself during the past few months. In this connexion I must draw the attention of the House to the Budget that was presented in the Central Assembly by the Hon. Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan the other day. There was a definite objective and a definite social policy in that Budget which we very sadly miss in this Budget. What is it that this Ministry is aiming at? What is the social policy that they are going to work out? We do not have any indication of that policy in this Budget.

" Well, Sir, before making my remarks on the Budget proper, I should like to say a few words about the community that I represent, its position in the body politic of India and the treatment that that community is receiving from the powers-that-be. Sir, I am a representative of the Indian Christian Community in this Province. The Indian Christian Community numbers just under 10 millions in this country and over 2 millions in this Province. In our country we are—I hope my Muslim friends would not object to my saying this—the third largest community. (K. T. M. Ahmad Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur : ' Why should we object, Sir? ') Because the Muslims have been claiming to be a Nation. Not even the worst critic of any community can deny that the Indian Christians have done invaluable service in this land of ours, by way of spreading education, carrying on social services of various kinds, looking after the weak and the infirm, the old and the decrepitude, the uncared for orphans, the deaf, the dumb and the blind and other physically defective sections of people. Now, as regards the contribution this community has made towards the national movement, the Hon. Dr. John Mathai, Member for Transport in the Interim Government, presiding over the 21st Annual Conference of the All-India Christian Conference in Bombay on the 27th January remarked that the accusation that the Indian Christians have not taken their due share in national service was not justifiable. I shall also quote the nationalist organ, the ' Hindustan Standard ' of Calcutta. That paper in its issue, dated 27th January 1947 says—' The Christian Community in India has all along shown commendable spirit of nationalism. It has not clamoured for any special privileges, but stood shoulder to shoulder with other communities in their common effort to achieve the national destiny. The fear of being swamped by the majority has never haunted it.' The Presidential address of Dr. John Mathai delivered in Bombay at the Conference of the All-India Christian Association also embodies the same spirit. The President advised

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the Christian community to heal the wounds and to soften the asperities in the body politic of the country. By their attitude and activities, the Indian Christian Community has undoubtedly qualified itself for this task. They ought to serve as an example to the other minority communities in the country.

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"That is the tribute, Sir, paid to the Indian Christian community by a nationalist organ of Calcutta. Sir, as remarked by Dr. Mathai, the community claims no special privileges and asked for no special favours. All that they demand is that whatever changes occur in the location or organization of political power in India, there should be no attempt by those in authority to differentiate against them and invade their fundamental rights as citizens.

"Again, Sir, we, as a nation, are believers in Almighty God. Those who believe otherwise are a microscopic minority in our country. When that all-important resolution on the objectives of the Indian constitution was being discussed in the Constituent Assembly, I say with some pride that it was only a representative of my community, Rev. Father Jerome D'Souza, who expressed the desire that some mention should be made in the resolution that all authority was derived from Almighty God. The best minds of my community feel, Sir, that we have got a duty, a mission to perform in this country. The first duty, as referred to by Dr. Mathai, is of healing the wounds and softening the asperities that exist in the body politic. The second is to work for the removal of the appalling want from which the great majority of our countrymen suffer. As for the first task, in this unfortunate country of ours which is witnessing communal strife on a widespread scale, the Christian community has got a great duty to perform. To us, the best minds of the community feel, has been allotted the task of bridge-builders between the Hindus and the Muslims. I was told, Sir, that in the provinces of Bihar and the United Provinces, there is a demand in areas which are affected by communal strife for public servants belonging to my community. I shall refer in a few minutes to the treatment that we, as a community, are receiving in Madras in this respect.

"As regards opportunities to render service to society, we feel that as nationals of our country, we have as much right as any other community to render service to society. It is in these circumstances, Sir, that I feel very keenly that a community which has such a record of service, whose attitude towards nationalism is of the type that I described, has not received due consideration at the hands of the powers-that-be.

"First, I should register my protest on the floor of this House against the treatment that has been meted out to this community in the matter of selection and election of its representatives to the Constituent Assembly and other consultative bodies. Sir, for the Indian Christians, there are two organizations of an all-India character, the Catholics are represented by the all-India Catholic Union; the non-Catholic section of Indian Christians are represented by the all-India Christian conference. There is a Joint Committee of the two organizations which tackle all-India

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problems concerning the Indian Christian community. The President of this All-India Joint Committee of the two organizations who happens to be also the President of the all-India Catholic Union as well as the Catholic Indian Association of the Madras Province, was put up as a representative of the community from this Province to the Constituent Assembly; but I am sorry to say that the High Command and the Low Command joined together and saw to it that he was not elected. Sir, the Anglo-Indian community's organization has been given the privilege of nominating its representatives, or at any rate the Congress authorities consult the representative body of the Anglo-Indians on the nomination of their representative; but the Indian Christian community has not been given that right and their recommendation has simply been ignored. Sir, I pay my tribute of praise to Babu Rajendra Prasad on this occasion for having, as a result of considerable agitation on our part, nominated the President of the Joint Committee, whom I have referred to, to the Minorities Advisory Committee of the Constituent Assembly. Let me hope that the authorities would give due respect to the feelings of the Indian Christian community in this matter and accept the nominations they make of representatives of their community on these consultative bodies.

"Secondly, Sir, we have carried on an agitation in this province with regard to the Harijan Uplift Fund. My friend the hon. Mr. Jagannathan has complained, and I think rightly too, that the one crore of rupees that was set apart for Harijan Uplift Fund is still remaining on paper. Well, even if it was on paper, we wanted justice in connexion with that."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I suppose it is paper money."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"Well, Sir, if paper money is distributed, let it be equitably done. I saw the Hon. Premier in connexion with this; the Hon. Premier, when I asked a question on the floor of this House, said that converts to Christianity are not entitled to that fund. May I submit again to the Hon. Premier that we are not asking for any special privilege? The Congress have brought in the name 'Harijans' to suit their own purpose. I shall reiterate our position very clearly. If this allotment is made as a mark of expiation for all the wrongs the Caste-Hindus have done to the Depressed classes for centuries, give it from the funds contributed by Caste-Hindus and not from the public exchequer; but if this allotment is made as a measure of relief for the economically weak and poor for which public funds should naturally be spent, well, let it be on the basis of poverty, the economic condition of the people, and not on the basis that because some of them belong to the Christian community or any other community, they should be excluded from it. That is the position that we have taken and it is not a question of asking for special consideration in this respect.

"Thirdly, Sir, we have made representations to the Hon. Premier on the question of Mass-wine; the mass which is the

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central act of Christian worship is a thing on which we can have no compromise. I do not want to dilate on this subject. His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Mathias, Archbishop of Madras, has sent a communication to the Hon. Premier explaining the position that obtains in some other Provinces and clearly defining the position that we have taken. Sir, we are entitled to statutory exemption for Mass-wine from the Prohibition Act; I think the Hon. Premier has been sympathetic in that respect, I do not know what has happened about that—but I hope that orders will soon be passed as desired by the Christian community. At the same time, I may be permitted to make this remark; should any obstacle be put in the way of the use of Mass-wine, the Christian community will not take it lying down.

“ Sir, I must also refer to the treatment that has been accorded to the Indian Christian community in the matter of appointments and promotions in service. As mentioned already, in the United Provinces and in Bihar, there is a demand for members of this community to hold the balance, to act as bridge-builders, whenever there is communal trouble, but here our claims are ignored. I would only appeal to the Hon. Premier not to neglect this community simply for the reason that we are not a militant set of people and that we are not raising the war-cry on every occasion, we ought not to be neglected, and our interests should not be thrown to the winds. Complaints are coming to us of ill-treatment that is being meted out to poor people belonging to this community in far-off villages. It is our hope and it is our belief that Government would give due consideration to the representations that we make in such matters.

“ Now, Sir, I will pass on to the Budget in its general aspects. Sir, last year I remarked that the Budget that had been presented to us was a deficit budget. This year again really it is a deficit budget that has been presented. Rs. 149 lakhs have been transferred from the Revenue Reserve Fund, and although new taxation to the tune of Rs. 135 lakhs—Rs. 100 lakhs from agricultural income-tax and Rs. 35 lakhs from motor-spirit tax—is expected to be realized, there is a glorious surplus of Rs. 57,000 in the Budget.

5 p.m. “ As I remarked on the last occasion when the Budget was presented, a deficit Budget is understandable if large sums had been set apart for items which would raise the standard of life of the people or increase their taxable capacity or if there was a slump to be tided over. But, none of these factors is present in connexion with this Budget. The Revenue Reserve Fund was built up during the Advisers' regime in order to finance post-war development schemes. That money is now being appropriated for what may be called the normal purpose of carrying on the Government. This carrying on of the Government was done by the Adviser's regime with a considerably smaller amount. Now, what are the services and amenities that this Ministry are going to give to the common man to the people at large for which provision has been made in their Budget? Well, Sir, the two feathers in the

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cap of the Ministry, according to their way of thinking, are Prohibition and the Khadi policy. It is intended to extend Prohibition to eight more districts. It is stated that 452 lakhs will be the loss in revenue. What further expenditure will be incurred on the machinery for enforcing prohibition and for providing counter-attractions is not known. Now Sir, what is the result of this Prohibition? So far, Sir, we have had some statements from some officers who are responsible for working this prohibition policy. But, they are not the people to tell us that prohibition has succeeded. They are parts of the machinery; they are interested parties. Is there any independent evidence to show that prohibition has succeeded in these districts and that it has done considerable good to the people of those districts? We would have liked the Ministry to send independent people, members of the legislature, to those districts and make a report in order to convince us—as my hon. friend Mr. Purushotham said, doubting Thomases—of its success.

“ Now, Sir, four crores of rupees were set apart in the last Budget for the Khadi and Village Uplift schemes. Sixty lakhs have been spent already; 340 lakhs have been appropriated for expenditure this year. May I know, Sir, on what items these sixty lakhs have been spent. Am I wrong if I take it that all this money has been spent in survey work and in paying their staff. Has any actual work been done? I would like the Hon. Premier to enlighten me on this matter. It is stated in the detailed estimates on the khadi scheme that for seven centres containing a population of 2.70 lakhs, the total expenditure will come to over one crore of rupees. The Government expect that out of this one crore of rupees, about 95 lakhs are recoverable. Sir, recovery is problematical; but expenditure is a certainty. That means, Sir, that on one of the pet schemes of the Ministry, they are going to spend per head somewhere about Rs. 35 to Rs. 40, in a Province where the total revenue per capita is only Rs. 7-8-0. That is the result of the scheme as far as I can see.

“ Then, Sir, let us see whether the Ministry have catered to the welfare of the common man in any other way in this Budget. With regard to expenditure, again we have to complain that lump sum allotments have been made. On the last occasion we were told that though lump sum allotments were being made, when detailed schemes were prepared, we could examine them. But they have not yet been given. I am sorry to see again in this Budget several items for which lump sum allotments have been made. So, our position, as they put it in military parlance is ‘as you were.’

“ One subject, Sir, on which remarks have already been made is education. I do not want to say much more on the subject. I think the hon. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar will speak about it. My hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao has already made some remarks on this item. Sir, we are told that in 1947-48, compulsory primary education will be extended so as to bring under it another one and a half lakhs of children. Sir, it will

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be seen from the 1941 Census that the total number of children of school-going age is about seven millions. In this Province which has a population of about fifty millions, the birth-rate is about 33 per thousand. This brings in about one and a half million fresh children of school-going age whereas the Hon. the Prime Minister is making provision only for one and a half lakhs of children. Well, Sir, no further comment is required on this matter. I think the position after a few years will be that in point of literacy, we would have regressed and not progressed.

"Again, Sir, I should also join my hon. friends who have protested against the stopping of the supply of milk to the children in the schools. I would also like to mention about the meagreness of the relief given to the teachers. I have already given notice of a resolution on this subject and I hope it will come up for discussion at an early date. In view of the remarks that have already been made on the subject, I do not want to say anything more except that there is considerable agitation throughout the Province on this matter. The salaries that are being paid to the teachers are no doubt very meagre and must be raised.

"Sir, I expected the popular Ministry to have made some provision for giving medical relief and for the intensification of the public health work in our Province. I do not want to quote any figures. As it is, the All-India figures show that in point of death-rate, we are the highest. Beginning with Canada at 10, we have got 22 in India. In infantile mortality again, Canada begins with 61 and we have got 161. In the average expectation of life, I wish that this ratio was true. But, I am sorry to say that our position is kept up only in the inverse ratio. Beginning with 51 in Canada, our average expectation of life is 27 years. Speaking about the Madras Province itself, these figures more or less apply. If there is any difference, it is only that the balance is tilted against us. Sir, in every international organization, India has been the subject of discussion with regard to public health. And yet, what provision has been made? The Hon. the Prime Minister has expressed a pious regret that he could not do more in view of the meagre finances. Well, Sir, it is time that we are fed on something more substantial than pious regrets and wishes of that kind.

"Sir, with regard to irrigation, provision has been made to a certain extent but it is not sufficient. Again, there is another aspect to this question. I thought my hon. friend, Mr. Narayana Menon would have raised his voice protesting against the treatment meted out to Kerala in this matter. Being a partyman, probably he did not."

SRI M. NARAYANA MENON:—"I raised my voice; I do not know whether the hon. member heard it."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"It was not sufficiently loud; that is my feeling. In working out irrigation schemes, Tamil Nad has had its turn; the Andhra Desa is having its turn now; what about poor Kerala? I leave it there. Sir, the Hon. the Premier

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himself is going to move a resolution for the creation of linguistic provinces. We want linguistic provinces. But when you form these linguistic provinces, you should see that the different provinces so formed do not start with a handicap. A certain linguistic province has huge irrigational schemes; another has none. That is the position we should avoid. It is your duty to develop such schemes in the linguistic province where there are no schemes. That is the point that I want the Hon. Premier to take note of.

"Sir, another measure that I should have seen the Ministry give some special attention to is the provision of houses. I have spoken on the subject at length in connexion with my resolution and I am glad that the Ministry has accepted my resolution. Now, as the Hon. the Premier is more optimistic about things in general, I hope he will give early attention to the question of forming a committee and doing something in the way of providing houses and solving the acute shortage that is felt with regard to housing in this Province, especially in the urban and semi-urban areas. Well, Sir, the cry of the working class for housing accommodation is very insistent and personally I know that that is a problem which must be solved at a very early date. The middle classes are suffering very much for want of accommodation and I hope the Hon. the Premier will give his attention to this question. I appeal to the Hon. Premier—because the Hon. the Minister who accepted my resolution is not on the Treasury Bench now—to give his earnest consideration to this matter.

"Well, Sir, I do not want to speak anything much on the textile policy of the Government, but . . ."

5-15
p.m.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"No 'buts,' if you do not want to speak."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"My hon. friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, has expatiated on that. I have got another cutting which he forgot to mention. But, the one aspect of the problem which I would like to place before the Hon. Premier is this. The Hon. Premier and we seem to be going on parallel lines without any attempt to come and join together at some point or other—we never meet."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"It will derail the train if they meet."
(Laughter.)

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"Well, Sir, people say something—I do not know whether it is unparliamentary language; if it is so, I immediately withdraw it—they say that that some one has a kink in his brain. I am sure it is not I who have got it. Sir, we were given a note that on the background of the textile policy—I quite agree with a friend of mine who told me—that it is an insult to the intelligence of this Province. I quite agree with the point of view brought forward by my hon. friend Mr. Narayana Menon. There is a colossal waste of human material involved in this experiment. Can we afford to do that; are we going to do that in the future

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India? The question of human material is coming up for consideration; if not to-day, if not to-morrow, it is coming up very soon. It has already begun to make itself felt in the West and I am sure that our country is not going to take to this bullock-cart civilization. The Hon. the Premier said the other day that he was almost living in aeroplanes, flying off and on to Delhi and back. Well, Sir, where is the consistency in doing away with this industrial civilization, as my hon. friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, defined it. I challenge the Ministry to manage one day's existence without having resources to some product or other which is the result of the industrial civilization. Mr. Khasa Subba Rao is reported to have said that while he was in jail, with very great difficulty, spinning all the 10 hours of the day with both hands, he was able to produce only four hanks. Well, Sir, for the information of the House, I may say something. It is not something which the Hon. Prime Minister does not know—the Hon. the Prime Minister has drawn some inspiration from my friend—Dr. P. J. Thomas, who was the Chairman of the Facts Finding Committee. The Hon. the Prime Minister is parading before us what is obtaining in the Punjab; that is only one side of the picture. I am now on this waste of human energy which is involved in this khadi production. A young boy—an adolescent of 18 years—can produce about 200 times the production of khadi by an expert hand-spinner and you have only to walk into a spinning mill to see that. So, in the whole scheme, there is a colossal waste of human energy. Now, the answer will be: The question is not one of conserving human energy, but it is with a view to providing the means of sustenance of our people in the villages who have no employment throughout the whole year that we are doing it. By all means do it, but not by carrying us into medievalism and into ante-diluvianism. Why not the Hon. the Premier launch upon schemes for further electrification projects and carry electricity into the villages? Why not the Hon. the Premier take a lesson from Japan and carry electricity into our far-off villages in order to start cottage industries with electric power? Well, Sir, I can go on in this strain, but I do not think I can make an impression on the Hon. the Premier, because he is determined to give effect to his policy. There is one extract which I have been asked by my hon. friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, to place before you. It is dated February 25th, and comes from the Secretary of the Industries and Supply Department, New Delhi. It states that the Government of India had informed the Madras Government that, in view of the commitments involved, they could not see their way to cancelling the licences for spindles already issued to applicants. He thought that the first deliveries of textile machinery should arrive well before the end of this year. In fact, the Government of India were hoping that about 350,000 spindles would be delivered in India in 1947. The Hon. the Premier told us that the Government of India cannot force these spindles on us. This is the latest statement made by a representative of the Government of India and we had another statement made by the Hon. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, the Minister for Industries and Supplies, dated February 8th. Sir, I shall not take any more of your time on this policy of the Government.

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“Now, Sir, I shall come to the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, which is one of the topical subjects of the day. I am myself a co-operator in a humble way. I am the President of a co-operative bank which operates in the Madras City as the financing bank and though I cannot claim that much of attachment to co-operation and that much of connexion with it as either the Hon. Minister for Law or my hon. friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao can claim, yet, in a way, I am connected and am interested in co-operation and so I very much like to see the ‘co-operative life’ that the Hon. Premier has referred to in his budget speech, come into vogue. Sir, I have made enquiries about the working of this producer-cum-consumer movement and I am just passing on the information that I have got, to the Hon. the Premier for his consideration. It has been said that this form of society, which seeks to combine the interests of the producer and the consumer, will not really benefit the consumer. The reasons given, I shall categorically state. Of course, I do not want to take up your time any longer . . .”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“The hon. member need not trouble himself to give the views of others, but if he has got really any useful information in his possession, it will be welcome.”

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—“Here I have got some opinions of some persons who are connected with such institutions.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“I gather that the hon. member has not so much information to give, as the views of others. If he can give some facts and figures which will form the basis of discussion, it will be good, instead of voicing the views of others. If the hon. member understands me aright, it will be better he spares himself the trouble of voicing the views of others; but if he is expressing his own views which will be useful for the Ministry, he can do so.”

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—“These are facts and figures, Sir, gathered from people who have had experience of this producer-cum-consumer societies that I am placing before the House. It is said that this scheme will not benefit the consumer for the following reasons: Firstly, the procuring agent has to pay a commission; secondly, in milling paddy, only 69½ or 70 per cent resultant rice is expected and whatever surplus there may be goes to the miller and he gets also the bran; and thirdly, though it was expected that there would be sales tax only at one end, as a matter of practical experience, it is found that both the society and the retail dealer or the ration shop are being assessed with this sales tax. Therefore, Sir, there is a very reasonable fear in the minds of the people who are working these societies that it will not be possible to sell rice at a cheaper rate in these societies than it would be available by means of local procurement. Again, Sir, in regard to the staff that has been put to work these societies, the Inspectors of the Co-operative department are not men who are conversant with the varieties of paddy and other details connected with this matter. The Revenue department staff certainly know these things better. There is also the question of finding godowns to stock the supplies of paddy.

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"With regard to finance, Sir, it is stated that the Central banks are expected to finance these societies. What will happen if the Central bank refuses to finance these societies. I have been told—I do not know whether it is intended for the consumption of this House—that already in one district there is a tug-of-war going on between the president of the society and the president of the Central bank. Now, if the Central bank refuses to advance the necessary capital, what becomes of procurement? You may, of course, say that you will get advances from Scheduled banks, but are Scheduled banks going to give such societies the necessary capital without any security?

"Then again, another feature of this scheme which deserves consideration is that the village agent procures paddy for the requirement of the village. The co-operative society promises a bonus and so the producers would naturally like to sell their paddy to these societies. But, no clear line of demarcation seems to have been drawn between the scope of activities of the agents and of these societies. Sugar also is being distributed through these producer-consumer societies. The result has been that in some urban areas sugar is distributed on population basis. Sugar goes into the villages and in urban and semi-urban areas where the number of coffee-drinking people is certainly larger than in other areas, the need for sugar is being keenly felt. Again Sir, there is one more aspect of this society which I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Premier. If these societies are found to be sound, economic and financial propositions, why should these be taken up and sponsored by Government as a kind of monopoly business? How long is this monopoly system going to last? What is going to happen to these societies after the controls are withdrawn? I would just postulate these questions in order that the Prime Minister may give his attention to them.

"Then with regard to the distribution of cloth on the 5 yards basis. I understand that a scheme has come into force from 1st January 1947. But in several districts and several villages, the ration cards have not yet been issued. That is also a matter for consideration.

"Before concluding, I would like to refer to the social unrest which exists at present. I am one of those who feel, Sir, that Government should set themselves up as model employers in this country. There is a good deal of social unrest. I referred to it in my remarks on the last budget also. But I am not one of those who think that a large part of the revenue of the Government should be spent on its staff. There are some hon. members who feel that we must go on spending all the money or at least the greater part of what we receive on the staff. I do not agree with that view. The primary object of the Government is to promote the well-being and happiness of the people at large. For doing that, a certain machinery is required and on that machinery only a certain proportion of the revenue should be spent but within that limit I would like to see that Government be a model employer, especially with regard to the lower-paid staff, the subordinate staff. I would like

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Government to give them a living wage, a family wage. A family wage has been described by famous Catholic sociologists as a wage which would suffice for the worker and his family to live in frugal comfort, provide for the education of his children and to put by something for the rainy day. Now let us make a heart-searching, a searching of our conscience and see whether we are paying to our humblest workers such a wage. It is in that light that I would like the Hon. Premier to examine this question. Another aspect of this question is that we seem to be going on multiplying the staff. I say the time is ripe for seeing whether every man employed by this Government is giving an honest day's work to the State or whether there is any waste of human material in this process of running the Government. I have been told that there is waste. Just an illustration of how Government are disposing of the human material at their disposal, I would cite the case of peons sleeping in the houses of officers. Why this waste of human material in the Government? Three or four peons are given for some officers. I would like Government to make a very close examination. Let the Hon. Minister for Revenue and others who formed the Cabinet Sub-Committee look into this."

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—"We are looking into that."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—"I have spoken on other occasions about Cabinet Sub-Committees and I do not want to refer to that now but this is a matter that should engage the serious attention of the Government. You must employ the minimum staff that is required for carrying on the administration of the country efficiently and you must see that you set yourselves up as a model employer, especially in the case of the lower-paid workers. I am sorry to say that I have heard from several persons that a good deal of the trouble that has been going on with regard to the politics of our Province to-day, has arisen in connexion with new appointments that have been made by the Government. It is a very unseemly thing that we see. I would only appeal to the Hon. the Premier to see that as far as possible all these appointments are made by the Public Services Commission or some body whose motives could not be questioned. I thank you, Sir, for the consideration you have given me and I thank the Hon. Premier for the indulgence he has shown me."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Are there any other hon. members who wish to speak?"

There appeared to be no members who wanted to speak.

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The House now adjourns to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday."

APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 83 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of Legislative Council held on the 8th March 1947, page 208 supra.]

Statement showing the details of the applicants for cement industry.

Serial number and name of firm or person.	Location proposed.	Capacity (in thousands) TONS.
1 Wholesale Co-operative Stores, Kurnool (Rao Bahadur Sri B. P. Sesha Reddi).	Kurnool district	150
2 Mr. A. K. Sharfudin, Mailamachandai, Trichinopoly	Salem	30
3 Manakampat Brothers, Limited, Parli, South Malabar	Olavakot	100
4 Mr. S. N. N. Sankaralinga Ayyar, Managing Director, Indo-Commercial Bank, Limited, P. B. 194, Madras.	South of Madras, Tinnevely and Ramnad districts.	250
5 Andhra Cement Company, Limited, Bezwada Do.	North Vizagapatam district	90
6 The Rayalaseema Engineering Company, No. 8, Ammayappa Mudali Street, Royapetta, Madras.	Bezwada	150
7 Mr. S. Dogar Singh, Blue Mountain Estate, Kotegiri	Nandalur, Cuddapah district	35
8 Mr. U. B. Somesh Rao, Radha Bank Buildings, Chalapuram, Malabar	1. Pidgvala	120
9 Mr. L. G. Balakrishnan, Green House, Tiruppur	2. Kurnool	Jointly.
10 Devi Prasad, Khandelval Company, Limited, 269, Hornby Road, Fort Bombay.	Madukkarai	100
11 South Madras Corporation, 2, Luz Church Road, Mylapore	Trichinopoly or Tinnevely district.	100
12 Industrial Development Syndicate, 84, Chavalvari Street, Vizagapatam	Kurnool	.. *
	Province of Madras	.. *
	Vizagapatam	.. *

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13 Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria, 'Sukhastan,' Tuticorin	Tinnevely or Ambasamudram	35
14 Mr. S. S. Natarajan, South Car Street, Virudunagar	Thalayuth, Tinnevely district	100
15 Mr. Addepalli Satyanarayanamurthi, Palakol, West Godavari	Kurnool	70
16 T. V. V. Dikshitulu and Nookala Venkataratnam, Flour Mill Street, Gandhi-nagar, Bezwada.	Bezwada or at Kistna Canal	100
17 Mr. G. Ramaswami, Managing Agent, Sri Ranga Vilas Ginning, Spinning and Weaving Mills, Coimbatore.	Tanjore or Coimbatore	90
18 Sri Guntur Narasimha Rao, 20-B, Govindappa Naick street, Madras	Yerranguntla	30
19 Mr. Narayana Rao Chaudari, P.B. 271, Madras (Parvataveni Narayana Chowdary).	Charla, midway between Balar-shah and Rajahmundry.	.. *
20 South Indian Industries, 20, Broadway, Madras	Two factories in Kurnool and Kistna districts.	.. *
21 The Cuddapah Ceramics, Limited, Cuddapah	Nandalur	60
22 The Hon'ble Mr. M. C. M. Chidambaram Chettiar, Bedford House, Vepery, Madras.	Not given	Not given.
23 The Rajah of Venkatagiri, 'Palace,' Venkatagiri town	Madras	30
24 Sri M. K. V. Reddi, Bar-at-Law, Andhra Insurance Buildings, Thambu Chetti street, Madras.	Kurnool	100
25 Sri K. Seshachar, College House, 37-9, Esplanade, Madras	Any suitable place in Kurnool district.	Not given.

* Not furnished

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“(b) The amount spent on gazetted services towards salaries for 1945-46 is—

	RS.
	LAKHS.
(i) Indian Civil Service	24.04
(ii) All-India Services (excluding I.C.S.) ...	25.35
(iii) Provincial Services	139.22

Total ... 188.61

“(c) The number of persons employed in non-gazetted services during the year ending 1945-46 is—

(i) Subordinate, Ministerial and Inferior Services (excluding village establishments)	1,55,347
(ii) Village Establishments	1,07,777

Total ... 2,63,124

“(d) The amount spent on non-gazetted services towards salaries for 1945-46 is—

	RS.
	LAKHS.
(i) Subordinate Ministerial and Inferior Services (excluding Village Establishments)	573.43
(ii) Village Establishments	135.27

Total ... 708.70

“Figures regarding the cost of allowances incurred during 1945-46 separately for the gazetted and the non-gazetted services, are not available. However the total amount spent during 1945-46 on all kinds of allowances including travelling allowance is Rs. 511.36 lakhs.

“As the current year is not yet over, it is not possible to furnish actuals till August 1947.

“(e) The recommendations of the Cabinet Salaries Committee included provision for—

- The revision of scales of pay of all Subordinate Services.
- Grant of House Rent Allowance to all non-gazetted Government servants within certain pay limits employed in the Madras City and Municipal Towns with a population of over 50,000.

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“The Cabinet has decided to accept their recommendations. Orders will be issued shortly, and a copy of the orders of Government containing details of the revised scales of pay and house rent allowance will be placed on the table of the House as soon as they are issued.

“(f) The immediate and ultimate extra recurring cost on account of the above recommendations are as follows:—

	Extra cost.	
	Immediate (46-47).	Ultimate.
	RS. LAKHS.	RS. LAKHS.
Salaries of Subordinate Service	20.0	162.9
House rent allowance.	2.5	12.3
Total ..	22.5	175.2 per year.”

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know with reference to answers to (a) and (c), how many of them are Muslims, Brahmans, Non-Brahmans and Christians?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“It is very difficult to answer without notice.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know, Madam, whether it was not the practice in the past to place on the table of the House a list of officers created carrying salaries above a certain amount?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“I do not know about the practice in the past; it would be done hereafter.”

Scheme for yarn distribution.

* 92 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state what the scheme for yarn distribution is to which the Hon. the Prime Minister referred in his speeches in the Legislature?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI:—“The existing scheme of yarn distribution is detailed below:—

In April 1945, the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, introduced a scheme known as the All-India Yarn Distribution Scheme under which this Province was allowed to retain 21,305 bales of yarn. This allocation has been made on the following basis. According to the Fact Finding Committee, Madras, consumed in the year immediately preceding the outbreak of the war 26.05 per cent of the yarn available for handlooms in India and this proportion has been adopted in fixing the yarn quota for this Province. Efforts are being made to get the quota of this Province enhanced.

* This is exclusive of the extra cost involved in the grant of bonus sanctioned to the non-gazetted Government servants estimated at Rs. 50 lakhs (in lieu of retrospective effect to revised scales originally proposed by the Committee).

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" Since August 1944, the available supplies of yarn have been rationed equitably among the handlooms all over the Province. Yarn quotas have been fixed for each district, and what is sent to each district is distributed to the weavers through a chain of distributors consisting of quota-holders, sub-wholesalers and retailers who between them charge a profit margin ranging from 10 to 15 per cent over the ex-mill price. Yarn sent to each centre is distributed through the dealers in proportion to their turn over in the past. The supply of yarn to each handloom is made against ration cards which specify the quantities and counts of yarn which the loom is entitled to receive and the retail dealer who should make the supply.

" The Village, Taluk, Town and District Committees recently constituted by the Government will assist the officers of the Textile Control Department in enforcing the yarn control measures.

" The attention of the hon. member is also invited to the proceedings No. 4653, Development, dated 19th December 1946, and No. 4696, Development, dated 23rd December 1946, of the Government reorganizing the administration of the Textile Control Department and directing organization of Weavers Co-operative Societies. Copies of these proceedings have been placed on the table of the House."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" What is the rate of profit allowed to the middlemen? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I think about 18½ per cent."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Throughout the whole process of distribution? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" That is what we have fixed. Hitherto it was 20 per cent but now it is 18½ only."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" To these middlemen—the post office through which the yarn goes to the consumer—what does the post office get? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I would like to have a separate question about post office mentioned by the hon. member."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is it a fact that in one of proceedings referred to by the Hon. Minister a scheme has been promulgated indirectly compelling every weaver to join a co-operative society? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" We desire them to join."

Assistant Commissioners of Textiles.

* 93 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the number of the posts of Inspecting Assistant Commissioners of Textiles created recently;

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(b) whether it is a fact that the posts were not advertised;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Public Service Commission was not consulted in making the appointments;

(d) the names, caste, age, educational and other qualifications of the men selected for the posts;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Muslim community and other backward communities are excluded while selecting the nominees; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the communal ratio is not being observed in making the new appointments that are created by the present Government; and if so, why?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (a) Sixteen.

" (b) Yes.

" (c) Yes.

" (d) Besides the 16 posts newly created, there were three other vacancies also. The names, etc., of the 19 persons appointed to these posts are given in the statement * placed on the table of the House.

" (e) The answer is in the negative.

" (f) Except in the case of three appointments where persons already in Government service have been posted as Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners, the other appointments have been made on contract for a period of one year from the date of appointment. The communal rule is not applicable to such appointment. The Government, however, selected the officers from the different communities in the Province."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know why not even one from the Ceded districts has been included? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I am not sure; I think the subsequent list that is coming includes this."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" From the statement placed on the table of the House, I find that most of the Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners are lawyers and not one of them seems to possess textile qualifications; may I ask whether any attempts were made to get persons with textile qualifications? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" Attempts are being made."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister does not feel that Muslim representation is inadequate? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" Wait and see."

Appointment of Law Officers.

* 94 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state—

(a) whether the appointment of Law Officers in the City and the mufassal is subject to age restriction;

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(b) whether the age restriction applies to the Public Prosecutors and Government Pleaders in the districts;

(c) whether the Government have at any time relaxed the age restriction in respect of any appointment of Public Prosecutors; and if so, whether it was a general or special relaxation;

(d) what the consideration was which prompted the Government to permit these relaxations;

(e) whether the High Court or the District Magistrates and the District Judges concerned were consulted before giving such exemption; and if so, whether they favoured relaxation; and

(f) whether the Government propose to transfer the selection of Public Prosecutors and Government Pleaders to the Public Service Commission?

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“(a) & (b) Except the Advocate-General, all other law officers of the Government in the City as well as in the mufassal, are required to vacate their office when they complete 60 years of age, unless the Government direct otherwise. In the case of law officers in the mufassal, the age-limit was 55 years till November last, when it was raised to 60 years. No upper age-limit has been prescribed in the case of the Advocate-General who, unlike the other law officers, is appointed by His Excellency the Governor in his discretion.

“(c) During the last three years, the Government have relaxed the age-limit for special reasons in certain individual cases; no general relaxation was sanctioned at any time.

“(d) The Government thought that the relaxation of the rule was necessary for the purpose of continuing the person in office owing to the exigencies of Government business.

“(e) In all such cases, relaxation of the age-limit was made on the recommendations of the Sessions Judge and the District Magistrate concerned.

“(f) The answer is in the negative.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know whether cases of relaxation are special and not general?”

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—“It is only special and specially intended for the individual concerned.”

Schools for the training of clerks and village officers.

* 95 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether schools for the training of clerks and village officers have been started by Government; and if so, what the number of such schools and the number of candidates so far trained are;

(b) what the expenditure incurred so far has been on these projects;

(c) whether it is proposed to continue these schools;

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(d) the nature and qualifications of the staff employed in these schools;

(e) whether the trainees receive stipends during the period of training;

(f) why the necessity for starting these schools was felt; and

(g) whether similar schools had been started at any time in the past?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“(a) to (g) A note^a containing the information is laid on the table of the House.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know whether these clerks and village officers are trained together or separate classes are held.”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“Separate schools are held for them.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know the nature of the training given and whether any syllabus has been prepared?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“Regarding the clerks, Madam, the note furnishes details that they are trained in office routine, in accounts matters and other things in outline; regarding village officers, the hon. member may note that these schools have been closed down as they were found to be not useful.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“My submission is whether any detailed syllabus is prepared on the topics on which clerks are to be educated?”

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—“I cannot say off-hand now.”

Motor Vehicles Inspectors.

* 96 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether service rules governing the recruitment, appointment, transfer, salaries, etc., of Motor Vehicles Inspectors have been framed; and if so, what they are;

(b) who the authority competent to exercise disciplinary control, including power to transfer them is;

(c) whether there have been occasions in recent months when the intervention of Government was sought in respect of transfer of some Motor Vehicles Inspectors; and if so, whether the Government intervened and altered the orders passed by the competent authority; and

(d) if the answer to (c) is in the affirmative, whether such interference was exercised as an appellate authority or on their own volition?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“(a) Yes. Motor Vehicles Inspectors are included in class VI of the Madras General Subordinate Service. Appointments to the post are

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made by direct recruitment or for special reasons, by transfer from any other class or service. The appointing authority is the Secretary, Central Road Traffic Board, and, in the City appointments are made in consultation with the Commissioner of Police.

"The qualifications of candidates for appointment for the post are—

- (i) the candidate must have completed 22 years of age and must not have completed 32 years of age;
- (ii) the candidate must hold a diploma in Automobile Engineering granted by the Technological Diploma Examination Board, Madras. [This qualification has preference over any other that may be considered as equivalent by the appointing authority]; and
- (iii) the candidate must have held a motor driving licence and have experience in driving motor vehicles for a period of not less than three years.

"The period of probation is a total of two years on duty within a continuous period of three years.

"A probationary Motor Vehicles Inspector must pass the following tests within the period of his probation:—

- (i) a test in Motor Vehicles Law;
- (ii) a departmental test in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, and Police Orders and Practice; and
- (iii) the third class test (Viva voce—Parts A, B and D) in one of the following languages other than his mother-tongue, namely, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada.

"The scale of pay of the Motor Vehicles Inspectors is Rs. 175—10—225—E.B.—10—275.

"(b) In the case of Motor Vehicles Inspectors in the mufassal, the Regional Transport Officer can award censure and the Secretary, Central Road Traffic Board, the punishments of withholding of increment or promotion, reduction to a lower rank or to a lower post or time scale, recovery from pay of any pecuniary loss caused to Government by negligence or breach of orders and suspension. In the case of Motor Vehicles Inspectors in the City, the authority who can award censure is the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Licensing and for the other punishments referred to, the competent authority is the Commissioner of Police. The authority competent to order compulsory retirement or removal or dismissal from service is the Secretary, Central Road Traffic Board, in both cases.

"The power to transfer motor vehicles inspectors rests with the appointing authority, and also with any authority to whom the appointing authority is administratively subordinate.

"(c) & (d) There has been no occasion recently when the intervention of the Government was sought in respect of

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transfer of motor vehicles inspectors; but the Government have of their own accord altered the postings ordered by the appointing authority in one case."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know which is the case in which the Government interfered with the posting of a motor vehicle inspector? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" In the case of one Motor Vehicle Inspector named Mr. Srinivasan, against whom there was a case of corruption. He was transferred, and one Sankara Raju has already been posted there."

Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores.

* 97 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores are the sole agents for importing and clearing foodgrains from and out of the Province;

(b) whether they are also the distributing agents of imported foodgrains for the Chingleput district;

(c) whether it is a fact that the orders issued by the Rationing department for the supply to the wholesalers are not fully honoured;

(d) whether it is a fact that at Kelampakkam stores in the Chingleput taluk, the storekeeper has delivered only 15 bags of rice for an order for 50 bags of rice;

(e) whether the Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies and District Supply Officer and District Rationing Officer of Chingleput district had to run up to the place to investigate into the matter;

(f) what is the result of their investigations and what action the Government propose to take;

(g) whether it is a fact that there are several similar instances in other parts of rationed area;

(h) whether as a consequence retail ration shops in Mangadu, Kunnathur and Kovvur areas had to be closed for a number of days and the consumers of those areas had to go without their meagre ration; and

(i) whether the Government propose to make a thorough enquiry into the matter and do the needful?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" (a) The Chingleput District Co-operative Wholesale Stores are Collector's agents for clearing the imported grains such as wheat, maize, overseas paddy and rice allotted to this district and arriving at Madras Harbour. As regards paddy and rice, that are allotted to this district from other districts in this Province and from other Provinces, the Chingleput District Wholesale Co-operative Stores are one of the many quota-holders. They are not the sole importers.

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"(b) No. They are not the sole distributing agents. The distribution of quotas is made by the Collector.

"(c) No such complaint has reached the Collector.

"(d) There is no definite information on this point. However there was a complaint in the middle of August 1946, that the wholesale sub-depot keeper at Kelamapakkam did not comply with the demands of rice as passed by the ration authorities between 13th August 1946 to 22nd August 1946 to the ration shops at Covelong village. This was enquired into by the District Rationing Officer and found to be the result of the sub-depot not having been properly supplied. It was a time when adequate stocks were not available. The Brazil rice just then received was distributed and the deficiency was set right.

"(e) The Deputy Commissioner (Central) also visited the village later with the District Rationing Officer and District Supply Officer and made enquiries.

"(f) Arrangements were made to replenish stocks as soon as possible to this and other depots in short supply. Instructions were also issued to the Collector to the effect that he should impress on the District Supply Officer and the District Rationing Officer and their subordinates that a very high standard of zeal and integrity was expected of them.

"(g) to (i) The Chingleput District Wholesale Central Co-operative Stores were wholesale distributors in the taluks, viz., Madurantakam, Chingleput and Conjeeveram. In other taluks there were private wholesale dealers. The ration shops at Mangadu, Kunnathur and Kovvur were served by private wholesalers authorized in Sriperumbudur taluk. There were occasionally shortages with these private wholesale dealers as the expected stocks did not move freely from the northern supply areas. This in turn affected the stock position. By the timely transfer of stocks from one depot to another, the supply position was maintained fairly all right.

"It was an extremely difficult time when such shortages were inevitable in spite of all vigilance. Now that the situation is getting easier there should be no occasion for such complaints. The District Supply Officer, whose duty it was to look into this, was reverted for inadequate vigilance in seeing that all shops were properly provided."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" May I know how many District Co-operative Stores are entrusted with the duty of distribution? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" The exact number is not available. Those District Co-operative Stores which are considered to be efficient have been entrusted."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Are they satisfactorily working? "

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THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" Generally satisfactorily; but sometimes complaints are received and they are being investigated."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Are there any co-operative societies in Malabar? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" Not to my knowledge."

SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI :—" Is it a fact that the Vizagapatam Co-operative Stores procured paddy 50 per cent from the wholesale merchants? "

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—" Notice."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Grant of leave to Hon. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.

3 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any rules governing grant of casual, privilege and sick leave to the Hon. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries;

(b) who the authority sanctioning each kind of leave is;

(c) whether regular attendance in the office during certain hours is expected of each Hon. Minister and Parliamentary Secretary; and

(d) whether the Government will clarify the position of the Hon. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in regard to application of rules affecting other Public servants?

A.—(a) to (d) The service and disciplinary rules apply only to persons who are members of Provincial or All-India Services or hold posts in such services. They do not apply to Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.

Treatment of cancer in the Presidency.

4 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) the average number of cancer cases treated in the hospitals of the Presidency;

(b) what has been the percentage of deaths per 1,000 population of Madras Presidency from cancer during the past 10 years; and whether there has been any appreciable reduction in this percentage owing to earlier diagnosis;

(c) whether any research in the treatment of cancer is being carried on specially in regard to the various uses of radium in the treatment of cancer; and

(d) whether it is a fact that facilities for the treatment of cancer in the mufassal are inadequate and if so, what steps are proposed to improve these facilities?

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A.—(a) The number of cancer cases treated in the Government General Hospital, Madras, is 601, 653 and 915 during the years 1943, 1944 and 1945, respectively. Similar figures for the whole Province are not available.

(b) The information is not available as there has not been a systematic survey of the incidence of cancer in the Province. A Cancer Association has been formed to take effective steps in the matter of the treatment of cancer and other relevant matters.

(c) No such research has been possible till now for want of adequate facilities.

(d) The Government sanctioned the introduction of cancer treatment centres at five District Headquarters Hospitals at Madura, Coimbatore, Bellary, Guntur and Tanjore, the radium for treatment being supplied weekly from the Barnard Institute of Radiology, Madras. These centres were selected for their geographical position, medical importance and because Radiologist departments were already developed there. The centres functioned from 1938 until 1941 when all radium was transferred from Madras and Vizagapatnam to Vellore for safety. Guntur reported in 1939 that very few cancer cases come suitable for radium treatment.

The complete stock of radium has not been brought to Madras from Vellore. The present policy is to develop a main cancer treatment centre at Madras and possibly at Vizagapatnam where the question of providing deep X-Ray therapy is under consideration.

Pay of teachers.

5 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether representations have been made to Government about certain anomalies, and minor injustices in the working of the scales of pay for school teachers employed under various agencies;

(b) whether in connexion with the revision of the scale of salaries a comprehensive revision has been made;

(c) whether steps have been taken or proposed to remove such anomalies and minor injustices; and

(d) whether he will place a comprehensive and detailed statement on the Table of the House?

A.—(a) to (d) Yes. Certain representations have been received from teachers protesting against the different scales of pay in the different agencies of service. These differences in the pay of teachers have existed all along and they are inherent in the system of having various agencies for the spread of education. The Cabinet Sub-Committee which recently considered the question of the revision of salaries has not gone into the large

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questions of policy with reference to agencies of education and other matters on educational re-organization, but they have made only such recommendations as they thought fit in the matter of revision of salaries.

Physical training and education in schools and colleges.

6 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the steps that are being taken to promote physical training and education in schools and colleges;

(b) the amount of Government grants to schools and colleges as also to other voluntary institutions interested in physical welfare in respect of schemes involving capital expenditure; and

(c) the amounts that have been promised for expenditure of a recurring nature; and whether a statement will be placed on the Table of the House detailing the steps taken till now to promote physical education as also those proposed to accelerate the progress of physical education?

A.—(a) Steps that are being taken to promote physical training and education in schools and colleges—

(1) A Committee has been appointed by Government to revise the syllabus of physical education work in secondary schools.

(2) The question of playgrounds to schools is being examined. Other alternatives are being explored, e.g., play streets, gymnasias, etc.

(3) The development of the foreshore along with Marina road for playground is being considered.

(4) Steps have been taken for training a larger number of physical education teachers, the stipends to candidates raised to Rs. 18 per mensem.

(5) The question of Government conducting a Government College of Physical Education is being examined. The training class for women physical education teachers is now entirely under Government control.

(6) Instructions are issued to the private managements to depute as many secondary grade assistants as possible to undergo physical training in the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education, Saidapet, with a view to secure more qualified physical training instructors.

(7) Schools and colleges are being visited by the Regional Inspectors of Physical Education and the Chief Inspector of Physical Education, respectively, and constructive suggestions are offered in respect of physical education to the concerned managements for improving the playgrounds as well as physical instruction.

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(8) The Government are also considering a proposal to appoint District Inspectors of Physical Education and Circle Inspectress of Physical Education to supervise and guide the teachers in the field of physical education.

(b) The amount of Government grant to schools and colleges as also to other voluntary institutions interested in physical welfare in respect of schemes involving capital expenditure—

(1) A sum of Rs. 1,380 was sanctioned for payment to the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education, Saidapet, as equipment grant towards the purchase of games materials for the year 1945-46.

(2) The Government also alienated to the college free of cost land measuring about 65 acres.

(3) Further a non-recurring grant of Rs. 27,024 has been paid to the institution during 1946-47 on capital works and on these works the college has to be paid a further sum of Rs. 52,151.

(c) (i) the amounts that have been promised for expenditure of a recurring nature—

(1) Grant-in-aid is being given to the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical Education according to the Grant-in-Aid Code. The grants paid to the college in previous years are as follows :—

	RS.
1942-43	3,307
1943-44	3,827
1944-45	1,853
1945-46	4,727

The usual recurring grant will be paid to this institution.

(2) Grants are given to Government colleges and Government Secondary and Training Schools towards the games fund as laid down in Financial Code. An amount of Rs. 19,900 (as detailed below) was paid as grant during 1945-46 :—

Amount spent in 1945-46.	RS.
Games grant to Arts Colleges ..	12,477
Queen Mary's College	519
Law College	1,600
Engineering College, Guindy ..	2,241
Do. Coimbatore	242
Teachers' College	918
Lady Willingdon Training College ..	368
Secondary School for Boys, Vellore.	138
Training Schools for Masters ..	1,365
	<u>19,868</u>
	or
	<u>19,900</u>

(ii) See information given in the answer to clause (a).

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Constitution of University Grants Committee.

7 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have constituted a University Grants Committee and if so, what the personnel and terms of reference to that Committee are;

(b) whether this Committee will have any part in the expansion and planned development of the Universities in the Province; and

(c) whether the proceedings of the Committee are made available to the public?

A.—(a) Yes.

Its personnel are—

(1) The Hon. the Minister for Education—*Chairman.*

Members.

(2) The Hon. Mr. Justice P. V. Rajamannar, Judge, High Court of Judicature, Madras.

(3) Sri A. Kaleswara Rao, M.L.A.

(4) Sri Mamidipudi Venkata Rangaiya.

(5) Rao Bahadur Dr. M. R. Guruswami Mudaliyar.

(6) Sri K. Madhava Menon, M.L.C.

(7) Sri T. R. Venkatarama Sastriar, C.I.E.

The functions of the Committee are—

(1) to examine new schemes proposed by the universities and to advise Government in regard to the allocation of grants to them;

(2) to encourage private benefactions to universities; and

(3) to prevent undesirable competition between the universities and to secure as much uniformity and co-ordination as possible on university policy.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

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

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1947-48—*cont.*

* HAMEED SULTAN MARICAIR SAHIB BAHADUR :— 11-20 a.m.
“ Sir, the Hon. the Premier deserves our congratulations for having been able to present this Budget for 1947-48 himself, to us, with his speech. During the last week of February there was a storm in the ministerial circles and one was not sure whether the same Captain will continue at the helm to steer the course of the ship of budget in the sea of Finance in our Province. Some of us thought whether the meetings of the Council and the Assembly would have had to be postponed, though for a short while, as it has happened

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in the Punjab as you know. The position in the Punjab of the political parties is different no doubt, but still in shaping the financial policy in the provinces and in the centre for the economic, social and industrial uplift of our country, the ideals to be set before us and the schemes to be pursued for achieving the same are more or less alike. The Hon. the Premier has been guided by the policies of his party in shaping the budget. Some of the items for which he has provided expenditure, for example, village reconstruction, Khadi scheme, Harijan uplift—however laudable and worthy the objects—are of doubtful utilitarian value unless all the communities and parties in this Province are associated in active working of those schemes. On the whole I consider that this is a fair and good budget capable of suitable alterations for our criticism and adoption after receiving our suggestions. Of course, we in this House have no right to propose cut-motions, but that defect does not nor has been intended to deprive us of our rights as elected representatives of the people in this Upper Chamber to discuss the budget thread-bare to make necessary and suitable suggestions for its modifications in such a manner as to make it serve the people in all ameliorative measures. With these general remarks I shall proceed to get into details with respect to the many items in the budget.

“ First I would like to mark my sense of disappointment in the niggardly provision made for the promotion of the Muslim Education. From this side of the House here, and in the Assembly, the members of the Opposition have been ever continuing to press the claims of the Muslims for a fair deal not only in every other thing, but more particularly in the matter of preservation of their religion and culture. What has been done or is proposed to be done in this regard? In no uncertain terms during the debate at the time of the passing of the budget in last August, we indicated our desire that the Government should extend its hand of goodwill and friendliness to us, recognizing Urdu as the regional language, at least in those parts of the Presidency where there is a large number of Muslims speaking that language.

(At this stage Mr. President occupied the Chair.)

“ You know, Sir, what a handicap it is to the children born and bred up in that language and culture to be compelled to give up their mother-tongue while learning the several subjects taught to them in an altogether different language. This is as bad as the compulsion of having to learn the subjects in English, a state of things that has been condemned boldly by our patriots, so insistently that for all the non-Muslims their mother-tongue Tamil or Telugu or Canarese or Malayalam has come to occupy the place of pride as the first language. I ask where is the difficulty in recognizing Urdu as the regional language. I ask whether it will not help in the not distant future of evolving a common *lingua franca* for all-India, because whether it is Urdu script or Hindu script the spoken and written language is almost the same. Without a knowledge of Hindustani, neither can we serve in the armed forces nor can we successfully carry on commercial correspondence among

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the Provinces in the greater part of India. At least for these reasons and upon this ground I hope the Hon. Minister for Education will lose no time in introducing Urdu as a regional language.

“ As regards religious instruction in the schools, why don't you shed your indifference and pursue an attitude of active co-operation? Differences of language and religion do not matter. You have recognised separate institutions for Muslim boys and girls. You give grants-in-aid to the schools and colleges run by Christian Missionaries. You recognise and aid purely Hindu educational institutions. In each of these, sometimes here and there, there is a moral lesson class in which its own special religious concepts are emphasized to the exclusion or disparagement of others. What I would suggest is that in every school and college there ought to be employed teachers of the respective religions and thus the pupils attending the schools may not forget that in all that we do, we are answerable to God above. I do not want—I hope none here wants—that our people should become atheists, irreligious and downright materialists, with what results you can too easily see from the fate of certain Western countries. Gloating over their advancement of scientific knowledge and discovery, they forgot that they have a soul, and have invented the atomic bomb for the destruction and annihilation of mankind. In England recently the Archbishop of Canterbury expressed his concern over the threatening danger of irreligion becoming the habit of many people leading to disastrous results in individual, national, and international relationships. He gave a timely warning. I hope that this note of warning will not have fallen on deaf ears. It is therefore my belief and hope that the Government of the country will dissociate themselves from the attitude of religious neutrality followed by British power and adopt in a spirit of co-operation schemes for the furtherance and advancement of all the religious cultures in this land so as to bring about the greatest unity possible. Thus can we knit our people together, giving them opportunities to respect each other's culture and religion.

“ Coming to the expenditure of the Public Health Department, the provision made is too meagre. The state of health of the average man, woman or child is far from normal. The incidence of disease is high. There is infantile mortality. Epidemics do not seem to have abated their fury. Witness the reports of plague, cholera, typhoid, etc. No serious steps are being taken to prevent the recurrence of epidemics. The preventive side of the maintenance of public health is being woefully neglected. I put it to the Hon. Minister for Public Health to direct a survey to be made regarding the physical condition of every member of the public, i.e., to compile a sort of health census. This may be done by requesting the medical profession to give its assistance on an honorary and voluntary basis. I have no doubt that inspired by the high ideals of the profession the doctors, will come forward to make the survey on an up-to-date, accurate and exhaustive scale. Allied to this preventive side, is the problem of providing the people with clean, wholesome, nutritious food. It may be said that in these days of

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scarcity of foodstuffs, my suggestion, even if accepted, will only be the dream of a visionary. However, the advantage of such a Health Survey are manifold. It will be something like taking stock and preparing an inventory in a running business. It will show us our defects and to remedy them we may devise short term and long term plans. In any event, the result of such a survey will be useful and instructive and will mark a milestone in the road of our progress towards the attainment of a strong and healthy nation. As for the curative side of the medicine, there is already an endeavour to revive the indigenous systems of Unani, Ayurveda and Siddha treatments. They have to be encouraged and put on a scientific basis. The average expenditure *per capita* of the population is low. With the prospect of all-round prohibition, resulting in loss of revenue, notwithstanding the introduction of fresh sources of taxation, I am afraid it will take a long time for us to make the necessary contribution in terms of adequate grants under this head. Hence, it is necessary that the cheap indigenous systems which are homely and quite within the reach of the poor should be encouraged. While dealing with this topic, I am at once reminded of the need for enforcing the sanitation in towns and villages. My own view is that the Health Department is not doing its work as sincerely and enthusiastically as it can and ought to. Red-tapism which is a hindrance to efficiency and lasting results in any department pervades this department also. We require men with drive and initiative who will be inspired with high ideals of service. I am not speaking of any particular individual in the department but the general impression left in the mind of a layman is certainly of the kind I refer to, i.e., indifference. I do not wish to quote specific instances of which I can give many from my own experience of the living conditions in the mufassal and Madras City. There is something wrong somewhere. It is time the cause of the disease in this department is immediately diagnosed and proper remedy applied without delay.

"Sometime ago, I read an article on public health engineering. It explains how the system of maintenance of roads and drainage channels is connected with the standard of public health in the locality. Look at our roads full of dust which are thrown up when a vehicle moves. What do these dust particles contain—thousands and millions of microbes, injurious and deleterious to the public safety. Cannot you have a Public Safety Ordinance or rather a well formulated bill to arrest them and deport them? What about the inundation and accumulation of flood water during the rainy season? Do not the rivers Cooum and Buckingham canal still emit stinking smell and thus mar, nay infect, the beautiful city of Madras? Let not the members of the Government or others here think that I am painting a very lurid picture. If only we give a silent thought to these unhappy circumstances which exist in our midst, we feel appalled by the magnitude of the task before us to set right this state of affairs. I would suggest continuous door to door propaganda by the health staff. The co-operation of non-officials can be had for the work. I know cases where such co-operation was volunteered,

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but the health authorities of a particular place said that such efforts will only end in vain. We are having many committees for many purposes. There may be a difference of opinion as to whether they serve their purpose well. Let us add one more committee to achieve the end in view for improving the standard of public health by propaganda for the use of the healthy habits.

"In this connection, I wish to say that in reconstituting local boards and municipal councils by fresh election, the number of seats allotted to the various communities particularly to Muslims and other minorities should not only be increased, but separate electorates should be formed. Whatever may be said about the benefit of the adult suffrage in other countries, for us in India we have not yet reached nor do I hope that we shall ever reach that condition of mind of the common man where he will forget his religion, his culture, his community in the ordinary affairs of the daily life. This has been caused by the age-old fear and suspicion of each other's motive in competitive life of struggle for existence.

"We cannot eradicate this feeling—you may call it an evil in a way. Even in other countries you find such a cleavage of class interests, commercial interests and so forth and for smooth working of public and social life, we have to exercise the greatest amount of toleration, give and take policy, etc. So, it is that I urge you to recognise this fact that communal electorates are the only and the best solution for solving the problem of mutual distrust and fear. You have got it in the Provincial and Central Assemblies, also in the Constituent Assembly and in many of the Indian State constitutions. Why should you object to its introduction in the local boards and municipal councils? This is how you can allay the fears of the minority.

"In the matter of revision of salaries of the non-gazetted Government servants recently ordered by the Government there is no uniformity of the application of any scientific principle. There may be differences in the responsibility involved in several posts. But that should not be the reason for making any undue distinction in the scale of salaries. It will be noted particularly that the Judicial Department which has won the admiration of the public for its efficiency and integrity has not been given due recognition of its claim for higher salaries. For example the Sheristadar of a District Court was originally on the scale of Rs. 180—10—240. It was reduced in 1933 to Rs. 150—20/2—210. Now the pre-1933 scale is not restored, but only the increment is made annual, i.e., Rs. 150—10—210. Take the case of the Official Receivers. They do the same work in the districts as the Official Assignee and the Deputy Official Assignee in Madras. The Official Assignee's scale is Rs. 1,400—50/2—1,800. He gets an additional allowance of Rs. 300 per month for doing work under the Indian Companies Act as Official Receiver as well. The Deputy Official Assignee is on the scale of Rs. 500—50—750. Whereas in the districts for doing the same work, the Official Receivers are paid Rs. 160—10—325 for first grade and Rs. 160—5—240—10—270 for second grade. Whatever reason there may have been for the distinction of the

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first and second grade when the provincialization scheme was introduced there is no necessity for retaining this distinction now that the Insolvency work for all has become more or less the same. The difference between the first and second grade Superintendents in the Secretariat service has been abolished. It is well that the Official Receivers are put on the same grade and their salaries are also fixed on the same scale as the Superintendents. This is one of several anomalies which have got to be set right immediately to restore contentment among officials. The pay of peons and duffadars should have been fixed higher. The annual increment of half a rupee is ridiculously low.

"Before I conclude I wish to add that we have to be vigilant in the matter of securing enough food and cloth for the masses. The outturn during the last harvest has not been very promising. We have to depend upon imports of foodgrains. The ration system has to continue for some more time. It has proved successful in the matter of distribution of foodstuffs. In extending it to cloth distribution, I hope the same principle of efficiency and economy and impartiality will be continued. It is necessary to conserve stocks and guarantee supply. The quantity now allowed per head per year is very insufficient. Steps must be taken to increase this allotment. For special occasions, extra rations must be permitted, for example, marriages and religious observations, funeral ceremonies, etc., during which presents have to be given. It might be taken that with the prevailing high ruling prices, one thinks twice before choosing a cloth or saree for presentation and therefore, there is no fear that such relaxation will lead to deficiency in this supply of ordinary rations of clothing. Further, to the extent to which a person receives cloth as present he is relieved of scarcity that much and such cases will be far and few between among the large mass of population. Hence, I plead for giving effect to this proposal in framing the cloth ration regulations.

"Regarding the Publicity Department I should think that it should represent to the people not only the policies of the Government but also the views of the Opposition in the Legislature. There is no virtue in the Government blowing its own trumpet through its journal *Madras Information*. During the war for counteracting the enemy, war propaganda and publicity was necessary and this machinery was utilized for purposes of getting all the materials in men and money to carry on the fight against the enemy. Is the Government still carrying on warfare on that colossal scale, and if so against whom? Where is the necessity for the huge waste of public funds for such propaganda?

"I close with the hope that the points raised by me will receive the attention which they deserve."

11-30 a.m. * MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, much has been said in this discussion on the budget displaying comprehensive knowledge and encyclopaedic survey. Sir, it is not my intention to make a sweeping statement of congratulation or denunciation on this budget; but I wish to offer a few remarks by way of criticism in a spirit of co-operation and I trust the suggestions will be

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approved by the Treasury Bench, and although it is too late now to incorporate them in the budget before us here they might be included in the supplementary budget that will come up at the end of the year. I remember your ruling, Sir, that the average speaker in this House is expected to finish his or her speech within 20 minutes, and so I shall try to limit myself well within that time."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I don't mind your taking more time." (Laughter.)

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—"Thank you, Sir, I now come to the individual items of the budget. I feel this budget is very disappointing after taking into consideration what the Hon. Premier said in this budget speech for 1946-47. These are his remarks :—

'Apart from the additional provision of grants to managements of aided primary schools to enable them to pay higher dearness allowance at Rs. 16 per mensem to their teaching staff and for the supply of midday meals to poor children attending primary schools in selected areas, the budget includes a provision of Rs. 22 lakhs for the extension of compulsory primary education to further selected areas in the current year. To provide teachers for the increasing number of primary schools, the Government have also planned to train 4,000 additional teachers and have arranged for the payment of enhanced rates of stipends to teachers undergoing training. The Government are aware of the need for raising the status of these teachers.'

This filled the country with hope. Many of us on this side of the House are optimists. Although we knew that the hands of Government are very much tied by way of finance we trusted that the axe was not going to fall on education. Because, Sir, let me remind you, that education is the highway of implementing every Bill and every measure satisfactorily, that has been brought in by the Government during this period. The very Bill that we were discussing during the last week depended entirely on the instruments that are used to exercise it. We would have no hesitation in adopting any such measure, or every such measure, if the education of the person, who was entitled to take action, could be of a standard that the House would honourably approve of. Sir, it is the lack of education that we regret in this Province; and that is the reason why we hoped from the paragraph I quoted from the last budget speech that Government was really going to do something to raise the status of the teachers. I think you will agree with me that the standards of this Province are so low in everything, because we are all down on education. I think, if you look, you will find there is very little allotted in the budget under education this year in comparison with last year and the years before that.

"Besides the typical passage I quoted, I wish to say there should be more provision for scholarship. We need scholarships not for those who are already going to colleges, but for those who cannot go to colleges, for those who cannot go to schools, for those who cannot take up technical training and for those who cannot take up polytechnic courses by reason of poverty or lack of other resources. Training in polytechnics and schools of technology especially needs scholarships, for many a skilled worker has to put aside a brilliant and useful future just for lack of money. Colleges may not be counted very necessary for higher education by some of

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us, and they are a bit too much emphasised in certain districts or by certain groups. There is no doubt that colleges are absolutely necessary for our boys and girls between 14 and 18 years old, for, instead of otherwise using their leisure well, using their literacy and other powers of memory and intellect for the good of the nation, they would sink back into apathy and ignorance. Colleges may be intended only for a favoured few, but they are intended definitely for the leaders of the country. Government have recognised that; and their own leaders for the most part have exercised privileges and enjoyed the social service and recreation of college life as well as the work in their college days.

"Then, Sir, nursery schools and creches are things that should come under education. People who go out to work—men and women in these days have both got to earn—find no time to bring up their children properly themselves, with the result that these children are left to the care of hirelings. If nursery schools and creches are established they can take care of such children and bring them up as citizens, not as future waifs and strays.

"Now, I come to the vexed question of the salaries of teachers and their allowances. I trust that in future the budget will provide for a special grant for the salaries of teachers. In the old days, justice was meted out to everybody. At a time when people in Europe could not approach their monarch and when they were dressed in woad and painted their bodies for clothing, our people were allowed to come to any ruler in this country and state their own case. We hear even of animals coming to our kings—in historical stories ringing the bells of justice—and their grievances being attended to in due course. That tradition has always been recognised and it is still recognised. During the last seven months, it is well known how our Ministers were besieged not only by beggars, but by friends and well-wishers, not only by those who had something to gain, but by those who could contribute something and give a welcome to the leaders of the people, and we know how so many teachers stood face to face with Members of the Treasury Bench to voice forth their grievances. And, Sir, what provision is made for them in this budget, Sir? That is justice.

11-45 a.m. "I trust that in the implementation of this budget (when it becomes a supplementary budget shall I say), I trust that 1947 will not close with this meagre amount for the education budget and that this education budget will be more than doubled and trebled. This request comes from those who are nobody in office but who are everybody at the moment according to the Government's claims. Sir, I am sorry to see that the Minister for Education is not here. The gentleman who holds the portfolio at the present moment is one who has worked with us very much in university matters. He is very tender-hearted. He is what I may call a practised advocate for students, finding an excuse even for those who practise what is termed in common parlance, malpractice in examinations."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member may give his name for the benefit of the House."

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Mrs. MONA HENSMAN :—"I always thought, Sir, that I should not refer to personalities on the floor of the House. But since you ask me to do so, I may say that the Hon. Minister, Mr. Bhashyam has always made an appeal to students' claims for education."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—"I am only hoping that this will bring him to the House."

* Mrs. MONA HENSMAN :—"It is too late for me, Sir. He may probably hear somebody else. Again, I say that I hope that the Government in the implementation of this budget will give a high priority for education."

"I will be grateful, Sir, if the Hon. the Lady Minister for Medicine also will increase her budget. Sir, she is well-known and well-loved. We have known her long ago before she came into this Government. Sir, this is not a tribute paid because she is a woman. Please do not think that women will easily compliment women; it is really a good woman who gets a compliment from another woman." (Laughter.)

Mr. PRESIDENT :—"You surely supplement men!"

* Mrs. MONA HENSMAN :—"Mr. President, in this budget medical relief and public health are taken under separate heads. To my uninformed mind, medical and public health are just two sides of the same thing. One is the curative side and the other, the preventive side of the business. I would suggest to the Hon. Lady Minister that there should be more money allotted to Nursing, Hospitals, etc., and that there should be more free beds and more doctors provided for the public. Now, Sir, the hospitals are overcrowded because of the malnutrition and because of the existing circumstances of financial deficiencies. Some are there for lack of what they need by way of nutrition. They would have had the requisite amount and been able to afford the necessary diet if this had been 1939 and before the war. Our financial budget now remains the same as then and so it is health that is going down. I therefore appeal for more beds and more properly paid doctors in hospitals. I would make no invidious distinction when I especially mention three hospitals with which I have had something to do, one which deals with the sight of the City, and the others the Royapettah Hospital and the Government Mental Hospital which indeed have received stepmotherly treatment. I would ask that a certain amount of money be given to improve the Mental Hospital, which I know from within, for I was there in another capacity than as a patient. (Laughter.) I assure the House that this hospital needs much by way of ameliorative benefits and I am sure that the Hon. Minister will do what she can for that hospital and all other hospitals, not only in the City but in the mufassal.

"As regards the preventive side, I would ask her to make an increase in the budget in regard to anti-pestilential measures for diseases and pests in general. I would ask for an increase for all that inoculation, vaccination, etc., involve—for they have become necessary in these days—and for anti-tetanus injections and other

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cures. I know that doctors are here in this House who know far better than I do, but I feel that we should certainly have an increase of amount on the preventive side.

“ Then I come to housing. Sir, I should place housing together with beggary, nutrition and free meals under this head rather than any other head, for the public health of the Province depends very much upon housing and the prevention of beggary. If there are better and more houses and less overcrowding, more water and better drainage and the beggars were to be kept inside and not allowed to overcrowd the streets there would be a great increase immediately in the real health of the City and the Province as a whole.

“ Sir, a sum of Rs. 37 lakhs which was provided for free meals to feed the children in Government schools has been cut out. What is 37 or 38 lakhs in a provincial budget when you think of the future health of these children who will be the fathers and mothers, whether we like it or not, of our future legislators twenty years hence. In 1942 when there was an exodus from the City the only institutions in the Chingleput district and in the City that kept their normal working hours were the Government schools where free meals were given to the children. Goods did not come in and materials were not there. Even the cooks ran away or were found wanting. Somehow the schools continued to give the free meals even at that time of stress and strain. Now that it is a peace time it is surely not good that we should stop this ameliorative benefit for the children who may have no other way of getting the good food that has been given to them in their schools.

“ Then I will pass on to the miscellaneous items. The other Lady Member of this House has touched upon many of them comprehensively. Sir, I would say a word with regard to vigilance work. Vigilance does not mean only rescue work. It means a general condition whereby peace may prosper and develop in this Province. That is vigilance which means that a spirit be created so that all the evil elements should be eradicated. Sir, that work must receive more encouragement and I would plead that all worthy institutions that especially touch on this vigilance work and that have been carried on in this Province by women welfare workers should get a specially enhanced budget for the future.

“ The next items I would touch upon are cottage industries and youth movements. Well, Sir, as regards cottage industries the Hon. the Premier has got his heart in that and I know that he has made an extensive and elastic budget with regard to that. But what about the youth movements—the youth movements I talk of are irrespective of caste and creed and irrespective of objects and needs. What is it that makes the youth of our country fit to become good citizens of the future India? It is not to be controlled, not to be regimented but to be allowed and encouraged to learn. Could not some money be found for free libraries or for free education for those boys and girls who have to work early in life? I therefore

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appeal to the Treasury Bench that some money should be allotted to all youth movements to build up the strength of the nation as it should be built up and as we want it to be built up in these days.

“ Then, Sir, I should say something about public information. Sir, ‘ Madras Information ’ has been coming out once a fortnight. It is a very creditable magazine. But, Sir, it does not give us the fortnight's news but it gives us news months old and sometimes of years gone by. I feel, Sir, it should give a great deal more of topical information. It should present both sides of the case in any controversy or of any vexed question and it should be made to interest everybody. If the Hon. Minister for Information—I do not know who is now in charge and therefore I can be quite impersonal—says that he has spent lakhs of money on it, we would not think it wrong, because we wish to have the beautiful photographs of the buildings in this City and news of what has been done lately not very long ago. The present magazine does no good at all.

“ Sir, in this magazine there is no woman's point of view. I feel that the woman's point of view is very necessary for propaganda of all sorts. You could get some articles from eminent writer. I do not mean you, Sir, personally, but I mean the Minister concerned and the authority concerned. He can get articles from ladies who are doing a great deal of work and who can give advice to people on the welfare of children. The other day Dr. Lakshmi made a very stirring speech at the Women's Inter-Collegiate Sports about students not taking part in party politics. This is woman's politics. We wish to be above party and communal considerations, considering only principles of life. We want our children to improve their social life and we must be able to do propaganda in the magazine of Public Information. I hope the Minister for Information will take this into consideration. Now as it is, ‘ Madras Information ’ costs four annas, while we have the ‘ Illustrated Weekly ’ for 8 annas a copy where the public are given a lot of pictures and puzzles and the peculiar mammoth prize offers to encourage the circulation. Sir, ‘ Madras Information ’ must be made the most interesting magazine of this Province as well as the organ of Government's propaganda.

“ Now, Sir, before I finish, I wish to refer to a remark that was made on Friday—I think it was Friday evening—that Members on this side of the House were in the Opposition just because they sit on this side of the House. Sir, both sides have heavy stakes in the working and interpretation of the same rule, and you know, Sir, that we on this side of the House are as eager to serve our country as any one else. Does sincerity belong wholly to one party and insincerity to another? Does the guidance of Heaven stop on either side of the central table? Surely it is more like the microphone that interprets the ideals of both sides and translates them into action.

“ Sir, now I want to say that my criticism of this budget is not in any spirit of opposition, but it is in a spirit of suggestion and co-operation. I trust that it will be taken and implemented. I would say not only that it does not go far enough, but it does not go any way at all to cover the heads under which I have spoken.

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I trust that the Government will be able, before the end of the year, to present it to us in a form that will be welcome and that will satisfy us under the various clauses. Sir, not only are the revenues of a nation at stake here, but the reputation, the growth and the development of a nation are also at stake in the budget that is brought before us to-day."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—
"Mr. President, Sir, as I sat listening to the budget speeches of hon. Members hour after hour, I felt an air of unreality creeping into me and I was wondering whether those speeches were worth making on the floor of this House. It has been a misfortune, Sir, that Members in this House have to address empty Treasury Benches on almost every occasion conceivable, except perhaps for the great honour that the youngest Member of the Cabinet does for us who probably has nothing else to do because he has a lesser allotment of portfolios to shoulder! Sir, the visits of Ministers have been as rare as those of angels, far more fleeting perhaps than those, angels will make. Ministers have been trying to get information from the districts in their recent tours and are so busy touring the whole of the constituencies, they have not the time, Sir, to listen to the speeches of hon. members who are supposed to be representatives of those people in the House. I do not . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I suppose you mean the Hon. the Premier when you say 'the youngest of the Ministers'."
(Laughter.)

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, having seen him sitting there from hour to hour so patiently listening to the speeches, not always complimentary, I did feel that he was the youngest Minister and therefore I paid him that compliment. I ask, Sir, whether we are working in a democracy? I have always maintained that one of the fundamentals of democracy should be sound conventions. I say, it is not to compliment us, it is not as a matter of courtesy that we expect every single Minister to be present on this occasion of budget speeches because although we know that they can read the budget speeches, they cannot have any knowledge of the spirit of those who speak nor the purpose behind those speeches. It is a matter of regret that even after so many hints had been given both by yourself and by other hon. Members here the Hon. Ministers are far too busy with their portfolios to care to listen to the representatives in the Council.

"Sir, I have another point to make before I proceed with the Budget. You, Sir, have taken the greatest amount of interest in trying to get the meetings of the Legislature fixed and I know what difficulties you have experienced. I do feel that the time has come when the legislatures ought not to be the plaything of the Treasury Bench but should have definite days for themselves and definite periods when they are to meet. I do feel, Sir—I know that it is your object and you have tried your best—that there must be a convention established that the legislature will be beyond the official

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influence of the Treasury Bench and will be able to set up its own duties and fix its own dates, albeit with the kind co-operation of the Hon. the Premier. We do not want to ignore his wishes, but, Sir, the manner in which the Legislative Council was sought to be assembled—the day-to-day adjournments that were necessary which the papers announced to the Members—does not speak well of the amount of interest that ought to be taken in the legislature. Sir, I spoke of the Legislature being independent of the Treasury Bench not because there is anything harmful in the Treasury Bench knowing something about it, but that is the convention in all democratic Assemblies. Sir, I know the Speaker in the House of Commons is extremely particular about his own rights not that he does not agree with the Premier of the day, but in the interests of all legislative bodies, I think the convention demands in a democratic Assembly that the Legislature ought to have its own functional responsibility."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"May I suggest to the Hon. the Premier that the rest of the Ministers may be asked to be present in the House at least when important speeches are being made."
(Laughter.)

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I ¹²noon, feel embarrassed by your suggestion. But let me continue.

"I understand that there is a proposal that the Speaker of the Assembly should be deputed to foreign countries, more particularly to see the Mother of Parliaments at work. I do hope that it will be also possible for this House to share in the happiness of the President of the Legislative Council being likewise deputed. (Hear, hear). Left to myself I should be the first to vote, even in this budget, sufficient funds to enable even the Ministers to go to foreign countries for a period of three to six months, because if they go out and come back they and we on this side will have less different points of view, and more possibilities of seeing each other's points of view.

"Sir, I now come to another question which pertains to the principles of democratic forms of Government. I have no intention of discussing the party politics of the day or in any way interfere with the internal politics of the party in power. But we cannot and ought not to forget that at present the position is a little anomalous. Some Members who were Ministers have resigned their portfolios and have handed them over to other Ministers. I feel, Sir, that just on the eve of the most important session of the Legislature, the Budget Session, it is unfortunate that these Ministers were compelled from their own private or personal or from their political convictions to submit their resignations. I wish they had deferred it, but that is a matter of opinion. I do feel however that the convention ought to be established that when a Minister resigns, his first duty is to explain his position to the Legislature. The resignation of an individual Minister is nothing new in a democratic Assembly. Many Ministers have resigned

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before. Lord Randolph Churchill resigned on that famous occasion, but there was Lord Goschen, the father of one of the Madras Governors to take his place. But Lord Randolph felt compelled to make apologies both to the House of Commons and to his own electorate. If a Minister therefore feels compelled to resign there are two forums to which he must address himself. The one is the Legislative Assembly of which he happens to be a Member and the second is his own constituency. I saw the other day the correspondence going on in the press on the resignation of the Ministers. I have nothing to say on the merits of the correspondence but it is an undemocratic method of conducting oneself when one is a Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary of the party in power. My object is not to criticize these people; perhaps they had not thought of this aspect of the matter. But as unfortunately or fortunately it may happen again, I do wish to reiterate the fact that when a Minister resigns his first duty is to explain his position to the Legislature and secondly to the electorate which returned him to the House concerned.

“ Sir, when a budget is presented to this House, we generally apply some yard-sticks to know what exactly is the advantage conferred on the population by the budget. These yard-sticks are in a measure more or less international, and we are therefore justified in applying the yard-sticks to any budget that may be presented.

“ Sir, what is the object of a budget. The budget in a measure should show whether it has or has not been able to increase the productive capacity of the people and enable them to earn more, so that their wants may be supplied. It has also got to show whether it has directly or indirectly contributed to a better condition of living for the people concerned, the masses and the classes, if you still want to make a differentiation, for the time is rapidly coming when all will be masses and there will be no classes. The budget has to show how far people are educated to take a lively sense of responsibility in the affairs of the country, how far it has been possible to make them not merely literate but something better than literate so that they may discharge their duties of citizenship. Fourthly it must show how far it has enabled people to live a healthy life, free from the various diseases to which unfortunately human beings are subject. Lastly the budget in a way should be the great solidifying force to the community, promoting a spirit of unity and not a spirit of discord. Judged by these standards, I would leave it to the hon. Members to say how far this budget satisfies those conditions.

“ Sir, on the last occasion when the budget was presented, I ventured to express the plea that it was not quite fair to criticize the Ministry for that particular budget, because they had after all inherited some of the tendencies, good and bad, of the Advisers' regime and they had not had time to amend the budget. But at present after 7 or 8 months of office, they should know exactly

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what the conditions are, and we must take it that this budget represents the considered verdict and the view points of the Treasury Bench on the various aspects of the budget programme they have placed before the House.

“ Before going into the details of the budget, I should like to refer to some general aspects of the administration. I feel these general aspects of administration are far more important if we are to preserve the democratic nature of the Province. I am sorry to say, Sir, that many of the proposals of the Government were more or less proposals hatched, if I may say so, in the Secretariat. This Government has somehow or other established a convention that the most important questions of the day should be discussed only in the sub-committees of the Cabinet. Whether it is a question of the reorganization of the pay of non-gazetted services, whether it is a question of tackling the food situation, whether it is the most contentious subject of producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, whether it is a question of laying out a policy of prohibition, or whether it is the textile policy of the Government, it seems to me that this Government is in no need of advice from any source whatever and that it could manage all the affairs of the State by co-operation and co-ordination among the Members of the Cabinet. You find plenty of evidence in the budget presented by the Hon. Premier that almost everything has been done by sub-committees of the Cabinet. I have the greatest respect for these sub-committees. But may I say without any fear of contradiction that the amount of assistance available to these sub-committees must necessarily be very meagre, the amount of information at their disposal must necessarily be very meagre? In addition, Sir, the present Members, most of them, suffer from the great handicap that for twenty-five years they have been in the woods, they have not had the experience of facing a Legislature either from the Treasury Bench or from the Opposition, much less of knowing something of what legislative enactments mean, something of what a budget means. In spite of the great attention and devotion that they might have paid to their duties, it is no reflection on any of them to say that they could have discharged their duties better if they had more advice and more of consultation and more of information from diverse sources. I do not for a moment suggest that they should give up their responsibility. No Central Government has been condemned more vehemently, than the Government of India but they had an Advisory Board or Council attached to every department and composed of Members of the Legislature and sometimes of those who are not Members of the Legislature. Believe me, I am not pleading for Members of the Legislature, but it seems to me that the proper thing to do is for every portfolio, to have an Advisory Council composed partly of Members of the Legislature and partly of expert opinion from outside, so that before any large question of policy is finally decided by the Government they would have an opportunity of hearing all shades of opinion. That is the way in which democratic forms of Government can be envisaged. I do plead that in future at least, this particular reform

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which is necessary and not in any way intended to take away from the powers of the Government will be considered by the Hon. Ministers.

" Sir, I now come to another point which, I feel, is a little more contentious. But I have to mention the facts somehow or other, even at the risk of criticism. There has been a feeling in many quarters that the Members of the Legislature are dominating in places where they should not dominate. This Government is actually encouraging the participation of the Members of the Legislature in various functions in the respective districts in which they need not have found such a prominent place. I was sorry, I was not present on the occasion of the debate on the food situation. But I saw in an answer to a recent question the Hon. Minister stated that Food Committees consisted of Members of Legislature of the district concerned. Not only that they consisted of these legislators, but in the constitution of these food committees, the Members of the Legislature had to be consulted by the Collector and those whom they recommend should be appointed. What is the inference, Sir? The inference is that political considerations must necessarily weigh with those representatives who have their political parties to support them in the Legislature. They must therefore dominate the food committees by representatives of political parties to which they belong. Whether it be the Muslim League or whether it be the Congress, it does not matter to me. The fundamental consideration is that the Collector has no choice in the matter and that the gentleman who is the legislator has to dictate. In other ways also, the Government have been laying stress that legislators should be placed on this or that particular body. I have had half-a-dozen circulars to this effect, but as I am more or less tied down by various considerations, I have not had an opportunity of availing myself of these facilities. I ask, Sir, is it right that the legislator should be asked to take on these duties? Are they competent to do so? What is the legislator for? The legislator has to express his views. Is it contended that the legislators are the only persons? Are there not many others, perhaps much better qualified, than they in their own party to take up these duties? If the legislator comes in by virtue of his influence in the particular district, I have no objection. But if he is to be foisted on by the mere fact that he is a legislator, it brings trouble with it. Because once that temptation is placed, it will grow and the legislators will demand that they should occupy places in many other bodies. I have seen sufficient evidence of that temptation already. I have been a visitor to the Secretariat. It surpasses my imagination how the corridors of the Secretariat are crowded with Members who do not belong to the Legislature, with members who do not belong to any particular department. Railway traffic has increased in volume! I congratulate myself that the railway budget of the Government of India will show more income after the inauguration of the Ministry! But may I say, if you want to break the spirit of and confuse the permanent services

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of the country, there can be no better method than that of getting these representations made through these gentlemen for various reasons and for various purposes.

" There again, Sir, I do not want to discriminate. I am neither an Andhra nor a Tamilian, but both. (Laughter.) But I do say this that if it is an Andhra Minister, the Andhras are there in large numbers, and if it is a Tamilian Minister, the Tamilians are there in large numbers. I cannot speak of Malayalam because I have not seen Mr. Raghava Menon and therefore I will not venture. The purpose of my comment is this. Every democracy has realized that the integrity and the independence of the public services ought to be the first and last concern of democracy. What happens? Very influential gentlemen, gentlemen who have given a great deal of their time, talent and energy during the elections and after, gentlemen who can probably influence the legislators come and they have to be satisfied. Human nature being what it is, the permanent services are completely demoralized. If this were to continue, I would rather wish that the hon. Members of Government have separate rooms, now that the Government House is so easily available to them, where they can hold the old banyan tree jamabandi of the Collector and get everybody to talk to them. But the presence of these gentlemen in the Secretariat has been at the risk of delaying many files and the regular routine duties of the hon. Members concerned. The impression that one has only got to go to Madras to get this or that set right is not an impression to be encouraged. I do not suggest for a moment that grievances should not be redressed. I perfectly agree that the hon. Members are there for redressing legitimate grievances. But the first consideration should be that the person should have travelled through the regular channels and should ultimately come up to the Minister concerned through a petition. It is hardly necessary for oral representations to be made. If the hon. Members would only take courage in their hands and say: 'we shall not be tortured by these visitors who keep us disturbing in time and out of time, in season and out of season' this Council and the other House will support that attitude. If this interference with the day-to-day administration be allowed to continue, it will seriously detract from the work of the Ministry. Not only will it seriously detract from the work of the Ministry, it will lay itself open to various current rumours which may have no bearing at all but which will certainly affect the position and the prestige of the Ministry itself. Other democratic forms of Government have realized this and that brings me to the next point, Sir.

" In regard to appointments, I regret to state that the Ministry has not yet realized that patronage is one of the worst sins in the hands of any Ministry. It may be that they are temporary appointments; it may be they are only for this or that purpose. But, believe me, the foundations of any Ministry, whether it be this Ministry or any other Ministry, will be rudely shaken if it takes patronage into its hands. I remember, Sir, as if it were only the

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other day, the late Rajah of Panagal speaking on a no-confidence motion in the old Legislative Council, when he said: 'For one particular appointment that I made, I made one doubtful friend and twenty enemies.' That is perfectly true to-day, Sir, and if I may venture to express a guess with apologies to the party in power, the troubles within the Government are not a little due to this fundamental fact. (Hear, hear.) There is a saying that—

'Ill fares the man to hastening ills a prey
Where wealth accumulates and men decay.'

If you will permit me to change it a little bit, I would say—

'Ill fares the party to hastening ills a prey
Where power and patronage accumulate and men decay.'

That is the position to-day which we have to guard against in democratic institutions. Now, Sir, with your permission, let me come to the point at issue. A Public Service Commission of a definite nature may be set up with a view to make these appointments, to lay down conditions, and to choose in any manner they like, once the Government settle their policy. It need not be the present Public Service Commission. It is open to this Government to appoint a small Public Service Commission and to throw this wretched responsibility into their hands, who will then be free to decide without any of these innumerable visits from very entertaining friends.

"Sir, with your permission, I want to deal with a few details of the budget. I do not want to take much time in this departmental budget. For one thing, the hon. Members here are not in a position to answer and you yourself, out of your tenderness, have given us the gentle hint that we have to take note of the fact that the Ministers concerned with the particular departments took over charge only a few days ago. If, therefore, we express criticism, it is somewhat embarrassing, for I would have liked to face the particular Ministers who were responsible. Yet, this is the only occasion when this House has an opportunity to give expression to its views. It is with that little reservation that I wish to apply myself.

"Let me take the education budget. Many members have spoken about it and it is not my intention to go into it in detail. Sir, it was the greatest disappointment for me to see the provision that had been made in the budget. We had been living in dreams, dreams of a post-war reconstruction era, dreams of compulsory primary education everywhere, dreams of expansion of secondary education, dreams of technological schools and technological laboratories, dreams of further expansion of professional education—dreams indeed which are still continuing to be dreams! This budget really shows that nothing more has been provided than in the previous years. If anything, it is much less than in previous years. I say that, because the bulk of the amount provided there is for the payment of dearness allowance and increased pay of teachers rather than for any progressive expansion of education. But, Sir, even that increased pay is hardly sufficient. Hon. Members

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must not convict us of coming in a Micawberlike way and pleading for these poor teachers. I realize their difficulties, I realize what a strain it is for managements to get qualified teachers. When I find, for instance, in the Subordinate Educational Service that the revised scale of pay is only Rs. 120 to Rs. 240 when in the years previous to 1931 it was Rs. 125 to Rs. 250 and much water has run underneath the bridge since then, am I to take it that first-class and second-class Honours people, people with research qualifications, people high in the academic world, will come for this salary and possibly spend the rest of their lives in the Subordinate Educational Service? If you do not recruit properly qualified men and men with high academic attainments to the Subordinate Educational Service, when you promote them to the Provincial Educational Service, you cannot get the best elements into that sphere. I think there is a certain lack of imagination because the Hon. Minister for Education, who is a person very good in many ways, had lived an abstemious life all through (laughter) and a bachelor at that, that he does not realize the responsibilities of married life. (Renewed laughter.) From that point of view at least I congratulate the present Hon. Minister for Education. (Laughter.)

"Sir, within a few months, from the 15th of June if not from the 1st of June, there will be groups and groups of students running from one educational institution to another, some of them holding their *panchangams* as they call the S.S.L.Cs. in their hands, rushing from Principal to Principal, the Principals getting almost mad, and sometimes nearly getting into that institution that Mrs. Hensman spoke about. It was our experience, especially that it was our experience last year the applicants were so many that the Government came and said: We have just come into power; can you not do something to relieve this. The university went out of its way, and I say this deliberately, to increase the number of students that can be admitted to any college to its maximum capacity, although some of us felt that it was not in the interests of efficiency. Eight months have passed. We are going to face another year. What is the position? The same problem confronts us. Not one single institution has been so far opened by the Government. I want to go further and say that we have laid down certain conditions which will probably enable the Government to come to the aid of managements who wish to open colleges. The university has laid down taking the present conditions into consideration that Rs. 5 lakhs would be required for building and equipment and Rs. 5 lakhs as an endowment to help to pay the teachers properly and to purchase the instruments that are required. I do hope that the Government would give some building grants at least Rs. 2½ lakhs especially because the university, by insisting upon this Rs. 5 lakhs endowment, had really come to the rescue of Government by a proportionate cutting down in the recurring grants. What do I find? Government colleges—I am

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stating this after a tour of inspection of the whole of the Madras University area—are in a far worse position than colleges maintained by private managements. The Government, the Director of Public Instruction, and the managements concerned gave us an assurance that if the university allowed this increased number, they would entertain more teachers to cope with the work of the increased number. The conditions laid down for the increased number were the same for private-managed colleges as for the Government colleges. The only colleges that have not conformed to the university stipulations are those Government colleges which had increased the number but which unfortunately did not increase the staff. The Syndicate of the Madras University is going into this matter. Is it unfair if we say that the university cannot accept it? There is an impression that there is something wrong with the University in that it wants to fight the Government. I am neither by temper nor by physique capable of much fight. But I do say this: not only are you doing a disservice to your colleges, but you are actually making it extremely difficult for the university to put the same stipulations to private-managed colleges when you, as the Government, with all the resources at your command, are not in a position to fulfil your obligations. I do hope that the Government will take it in the spirit in which I have mentioned.

“There is one controversy that has certainly created a great deal of sentiment and a great deal of opposition. ‘Regional language’ is an expression that has been coined of late. I do not know the significance of it. But I would like to mention this. The hon. members referred to many other reforms. To-day the most urgent of all reforms is certainly not the regional reform, the encouragement of this or that language, or the abandoning of English, but the reform which will promote unity among people. You may do it with the best of motives, but when it creates discord, it is not a thing about which you or I can be proud. Regional language can certainly be encouraged, but to force it as the one and only issue against the teeth of opposition is really to do a disservice to the regional language. Let me give you the experience that I had only two days ago, that is on Saturday. My friends here have been contending that Urdu should be the language. The more you stress the regional language, the more vehement this contention becomes—may be without good cause. But it is in human nature to rebel against the enforcement of any particular view-point. At the Government Muslim College, Madras, I had the honour of distributing prizes. The occasion was an inter-collegiate debate in Tamil open to all the colleges in Madras City. Do you know who won that prize? Two Muslim boys won the Tamil elocution prize. I tell you, my heart was overflowing with a feeling of elation. Now that spirit is going to be ruined by the enforcement of this regional language without taking into consideration the exceptions that are to be made. I think it is unfortunate that even in matters of education there is not a large-hearted and generous view of things.

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“I do not want to speak more on the subject. I should like to state that the Hon. Minister should take note of the position of the Engineering colleges to-day. I say that, because it is not on the responsibility of the Government but it is on the responsibility of the University, these colleges have been opened. 12-30 p.m.

“My hon. friend, Mr. Narayana Menon, was referring to the college of Palghat and the correspondence that has taken place about that college would absolve the University from any blame of responsibility for the state of affairs there. The Engineering college opened at Coimbatore is in a most unfortunate condition to-day. By June 1948 the period of three years elapses. Seventy-five to eighty students have been admitted. The third year will open in July next. We have been asking the Government to take the necessary steps for building the colleges but still a lot of trouble there is with regard to the site, where shall we locate it. Your own legislators are not able to come to a unanimous opinion on that subject. That is with reference to the Coimbatore Engineering College. As far as the colleges at other places are concerned, I do not wish to say more because I am not really familiar with them.

“Now, Sir, I come to one of the most contentious subjects which has been repeatedly criticized both here and elsewhere. That is the Textile policy of the Government. Sir, I am one of those who will not oppose a policy which I am reluctant to adopt, if there can be shown a rational basis for that policy. I ask the Hon. Premier to appreciate other points of view. There can be more than one point of view on every question. I am sorry the other day for the first time, the Hon. Prime Minister referred to two of our friends, who were not championing the cause, that they were not civilized because they were not dressed in khadi. Being self-conscious I felt myself in the same dock as my two friends. The Hon. Minister knows as well as anybody that the sartorial embellishment of any individual does not connote the sign of civilization to-day.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“I think the Hon. Premier was not referring to the dress.”

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“I am sorry if I am wrong.

“That apart, what is the textile policy of the Government? I would be very happy if the Hon. Prime Minister or any of his colleagues would not imagine that those who differ from them are really in the pay of vested interests and guided by vested interests. Democracy will be a snare if that were the manner in which the opposition view-point were taken. Certain amount of spindles were allotted to this Presidency and the Hon. Prime Minister and his colleagues were feeling that mills were an anachronism, if not a positive invention of the devil. They want to surrender the spindles. The Hon. Prime Minister has stated that that is the cardinal principle and policy of the party to which he belongs and that they fought for khadi all these years. Therefore they are

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entitled to have it by virtue of their electoral manifesto and by virtue of their long fight and to impose it on the whole population. Yes, Sir, being a democrat I bow to that. May I ask him whether that Congress policy is confined only to this benighted Presidency? Are not the Congress Ministries in eight Provinces to surrender the spindles allotted by the Government of India? What is the position? An esteemed colleague of the Hon. Prime Minister, the Prime Minister of Orissa, Mr. Harikrishna Mehtab, is putting up three more mills in his Province with the permission of the Government of India. In the Central Provinces Mr. Ravi Shanker Sukhla is asking for more mills, while Mr. Govind Vallabh Pant, one of the most influential members of the inner Cabinet of the Congress, is getting more spindles. I need not speak of Bombay. If you cannot show us that your policy is consistent in all these Provinces, may we not reasonably claim some further reasons why this policy is being inflicted on this benighted Presidency. Not only that. People who have been having these mills are deprived of spindles. Some people have raised buildings for opening more mills; they are not in a position to utilize those buildings. You know, Sir—because it is in your electorate—there is a building within three miles of Tirupati; it was built for the purpose of locating a mill and it has now come to the roof-level and is hanging there in the mid air. The Hon. Prime Minister says 'we cannot give you spindles.' Is that the policy of the Congress? If that is so, why is it that the Congressmen in this Presidency are now starting and organizing associations for the starting of mills. One prominent member of the Congress Organization who is now the Managing Director proposes to establish a mill in Pudukottah. We are willing to follow you if you show there is consistency in your own policy.

"The real trouble is this. If this Presidency is deprived of these mills, if we are not going to get more spindles, the mills will have to become mere scraps in course of time. They have already become scraps for they are used beyond their productive capacity; if spindles are not supplied, mills will become scraps. I am not lavishing any sympathy for the mill-owners; they have hunted with the hounds and run with the hares. If they are in this unfortunate and precarious position, they have to thank themselves. But I ask you one fundamental question. Are Ahmedabad and Bombay going to rule us in this as in other respects? How is the Ministry going to stop the supply of textile cloth from the neighbouring Provinces to the citizens of Madras? Will that come under Public Safety Ordinance? Have you got power to do it? The result of this policy, when it is not followed in other parts of the country, is to ruin this industry . . ."

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—"They are not now starting new mills."

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"I am not talking of new mills. They have got so many mills; they do not want any new mills. They are getting lakhs of spindles allotted to them. They are going to get them as speedily as

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possible. Not only that; the Government of India, the Congress Government, has asked for machinery for textile mill manufacture. Is that consistent with your policy? The Hon. Premier said the other day that he was prepared to fight the Government of India tooth and nail. May I submit that, I do not propose to enter into a fratricidal warfare which will be between the gentlemen of the Congress. I have nothing to do with political parties and have little to do with the controversy. The Hon. Prime Minister said that he had the opinion of the Advocate-General. Sir, we have the highest respect for the opinions of Advocate-Generals. Let us drop the word 'Generals' from 'Advocate-Generals'; there are advocates and advocates and they differ. My friend, the Hon. the Law Member will bear me out on this matter; the Government launched on the prosecution of two innocent persons against their release on the advice of the Advocate-General. May I ask the Hon. Minister what was the result of the prosecution in the High Court? Your Advocate-General has let you down very badly and has given the impression that you, as a Government, were vindictive in carrying out this prosecution against two innocent persons established finally by the highest tribunal in the land, as innocent. Let not therefore the Hon. Prime Minister stick too closely and violently to the opinions expressed by the Advocate-General.

"There is another point of view on this textile policy. You want that the production of textile cloth in this Presidency should be curtailed. I am prepared to go to that extent. But, are you realizing to-day that there is a great void in regard to mill cloth in neighbouring countries? That void cannot be supplied by Japan. There is Malaya, East Indies, Burma who are crying for cloth. Are you going to tell us, if these mills produce cloth under your control and send it to other countries, they are not following your pledges? With due deference to everything that the Hon. Prime Minister and his colleagues have said, there is something still wanting, which men of average intelligence like myself, fail to follow in the Textile policy of the Government. In this connection, may I say this; we were greatly perturbed when Minister after Minister tried to out-herod herod and threw challenges to the mill-owners. They spoke of nationalisation, of acquiring mills by the Government. All forms of threats were held out. May I not suggest that this is not the time to think of acquiring mills when we have to set our own house in order; we have yet to learn the art of administration; it may take a little time.

"The next subject that was criticised was the producer-cum-consumer societies. I do not know anything about them. I am not a co-operator; I do not venture to express any definite opinion. It seems to me that this producer-cum-consumer society is very much like the tiger and the lamb sitting on the same table in a circus show and trying to have a hearty dinner. The interests of the producer are definitely and necessarily antagonistic to those of the consumers."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"We see such a thing in the circus."
(Laughter.)

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* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I am waiting to see how the masters of the circus—how the Government are going to see that such a combination takes place. Has the result of the co-operative movement been as satisfactory as we desire? This is an extension of the co-operative principle. Let me give one instance known to me. I am not expressing any rash opinion; let it not be taken as a general condemnation of the working of co-operative societies. I have very great respect for those who have been working in this field. I perfectly agree that if the co-operative societies are run on proper basis, they will solve many of the problems of this country. There are no two opinions about it.

"But only in June last, I was in Kodaikanal. There is a consumer society there. I would like the Hon. Minister to see the proceedings of that society's annual meeting. The directors of the society were the first to violate all rules and exceed the rations that has been allotted to them. Why I mention the case of the Kodaikanal society is because, according to present standards, its Directorate is composed of the cream of the intellect of officialdom, prominent persons in the Judiciary in the Provincial Government and retired members of the services. These are the members who form the Directorate. If you find that, in that co-operative society the Directorate constituted can violate the fundamentals of honest directorship, may I not be pardoned if I have doubts whether this scheme should be so vigorously pursued and rushed. The Hon. Prime Minister quoted figures; hundreds of thousands have joined; lakhs of rupees have been subscribed. That itself raises in my mind a doubt with reference to these co-operative societies. When you recall that co-operative societies are diminishing, why do these people come in such numbers if it not be with the expectation of something different from what may be expected in the ordinary co-operative societies? I am not trying to state that this movement is bad. I wish to give a warning that in the haste with which these societies may be formed, there may be the likelihood of a danger which will ruin the whole of these co-operative societies.

12-45 p.m. "Sir, it has been said that trade channels will be impoverished. I quite agree that the setting up of these societies at this juncture for a temporary period will probably interfere with trade channels. But I have not much love lost for the trade channels. Chambers of Commerce all over have protested. They have sent us, Members of the Legislature, their long-winded resolutions. We welcome those resolutions, but may I ask them a question? 'What have you done as a Chamber of Commerce? Did you put down corruption and black-marketing among your people? If you cannot do that, what right have you to expect the general public to support you in your grievances?' No Chamber of Commerce has been able to deal with this question. I regret very much that the present producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies largely draw their support, because the Chambers of Commerce have not been in a position to separate the black sheep in their fold and to discriminate

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against the bad black-marketeer and traders against the good marketeer. That is the first lesson that these Chambers of Commerce have to learn much more in the future than in the past.

"Sir, I do not know if you will allow me some more time; if you do, I shall be most grateful.

"I do want the Government to remember that in these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, there must be as much freedom as possible from Governmental control. The directors should be appointed, not by the Government nominating them, but by the shareholders themselves. I think it is so, but I am not sure—and I am anxious that it should be so. So far as the staff that is required is concerned, I have already suggested to this House that it must be through a Public Service Commission, that the members of the staff should be recruited. Supervision and check should be very much more than what obtains now in the best co-operative societies. Let me say this as a friendly warning and with no spirit of criticism; here you are dealing with foodgrains, with the essentials of the population; it is no use depending upon the ephemeral enthusiasm of this or that man, for after all, human nature being what it is, there is plenty of room for troubles to arise if efficient supervision and check are not there. Sir, the profits of these societies should be a minimum. The other day, I was surprised to find that in some co-operative societies 50 per cent profits and 35 per cent profits were made. It is entirely against the spirit of co-operation. What are those profits for? You take money from people and then you share it among the directors and others. The minimum amount of profits must be the aim of all co-operative societies. Sir, I had in all my life touch with one small co-operative society of which I was the ex-officio President, as being the Principal of the College. In the very first year of my Principalship, the secretary came to me and said we had 12½ per cent profit and the boys were prepared to give it to a charitable purpose. I said it was wholly wrong. 'You should not sell at a profit, except the barest profit sufficient to cover the expenses of running the co-operative society.' That should be the spirit of co-operation and that is the ideal to be kept in view.

"Sir, I now come to the Prohibition policy of the Government. That policy is an accepted fact. I raised some points of criticism on the occasion of the last Budget; but I do not propose to do so now, for I am too law-abiding a citizen. I request the Hon. the Law Minister to take note of this fact—to question the decisions of Government, once they are accepted by the Legislature. But after saying that, may I not say a few words about the Prohibition policy?

"Sir, it would appear, not from Press reports but from the statement made by the Hon. the Premier himself, that the idea behind the Government was that they should introduce Prohibition in six more districts. This gave a handle to certain influential members of the Party to come in large numbers and shake their

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fists and make the Government yield. The result was that two more districts were added on. You may say; 'What have you got to say to that?' This is our party, we are there to settle our policy and the policy of the Government; who are you to say that?' I will not interfere with the Hon. the Premier and I might not have, even if I had known the facts, but for his statement here. What does the Hon. the Premier say? 'After the Budget estimates were fixed, the Government decided to extend Prohibition also to two more districts, Malabar and South Kanara, from the 1st October 1947. The further loss of revenue for the half year on account of this decision is Rs. 58 lakhs. When this decision was reached, it was too late to alter the budget figures and documents in accordance with it.' Sir, this Budget therefore does not represent the facts of the case. Is it proper for this House to have a Budget presented like that, because some members showed their big fists? Sir, it is the tail that is wagging the proverbial animal to-day and therein lies the greatest danger to the Treasury Benches. I want them to take the power of this House and not to take the power of the Party or the disgruntled elements of that Party; I want them to tell this House and the people, 'We have determined on various grounds that we should have the introduction of Prohibition in six districts'. Apart from the fact that you have ruined the Budget by including two more districts, is it not a fact that you are not prepared for that? For Prohibition in eight districts, have you got the staff? The other day when I was in Salem, I was shown a place in a village where some thousands of gallons of spirit were manufactured, and 200 and odd people were prosecuted and 100 people were sent to jail. That is not by any means a solitary instance. If you want Prohibition to succeed, you have to prepare yourself. Do you want Prohibition on paper? If so, go ahead; introduce Prohibition in all the 26 districts. What will happen? The money that should go to the poor man's relief will go somewhere else. And all that we would have in this world is the satisfaction of knowing that, we may be illiterate, we may be suffering from disease, we may be crippled, but when we die, we die a sober death and will be buried sober. That is the consolation we are getting in the Legislature by the manner in which Prohibition is being persecuted and prosecuted at the behests of those who do not share the responsibility that the Hon. the Prime Minister and his colleagues have necessarily to share. Sir, if I am a little vehement in this criticism, pardon me. I have no other intention but to suggest that these things should not recur in the future, that the Ministry-of-the-day should take courage in their hands to resist any attempt from whatever powerful group or clique or otherwise it may be—I do not know whether there is any group or clique, but I do know this, that at the last moment when you have prepared the Budget, when you are presenting it and when it is in the Press, you hastily withdraw it and you add those sentences and leave us with a budget that by no means represents the facts of the case.

"Sir, I should like to refer to a few points about Public Health. I know the Hon. Minister in charge of Public Health is very anxious

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to push many schemes of Public Health; but her hands are tied; her lips even are sealed. She cannot speak out what she feels, because party discipline stands in the way. She has studied the Shore report with a purpose; she knows what changes are expected in the post-war reconstruction period. To-day the condition of affairs is most deplorable, both in regard to medical relief, in regard to public health and in regard to medical education. Sir, let me refer to medical education first. I wish to assure the Hon. Minister that we are as anxious as she is to promote the cause of medical education, to have more colleges opened as she wants. But what is the position? The Government applied for recognition of the Medical College at Madura; that College had no buildings, no appliances, no staff at that time. They have since sanctioned the staff, they have some implements, but the building is not there. We had a conference the other day through the courtesy of the Hon. the Minister for Public Health at which unfortunately, the Minister was not present, owing to indisposition, but the Parliamentary Secretary was there; the Surgeon-General of the day, the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University and my humble self presented our case. Do not misunderstand us if we cannot recognize this College; we have a larger obligation to look up to. The Indian Medical Council is there; it will come down on us; not only will it chastise the College that is non-existent, but the great danger is that all the colleges that are at present in the University and whose qualifications have been accepted, may not be recognized. That is the position to-day. I however gave this assurance that if by the 15th of June some building was put up sufficiently to give us hope that it would be completed by the end of December, we would allow the whole of the students to come and take their second year course; further that I would myself go to Madura, inspect those buildings and report to the Syndicate of the Madras University. In the absence of these, how do you expect me to co-operate with the Government? Can you say that the Madura Medical College is established? The same is the position with regard to the Guntur Medical College as I understand it from the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University. I would therefore request the Hon. the Minister to put up a fight—and when ladies put up a fight, it is very difficult for anybody not to say 'yes'. (Laughter.) We shall give you every support because this is a question where fundamentally it would be most unfortunate if a state of affairs were to arise, when the blame is shifted from one shoulder to another shoulder. I am therefore appealing to the Hon. Minister to take some steps to see that both the University and the Indian Medical Council are satisfied.

"Sir, there is a great deal to be done in the Medical department. I am sure, the Hon. Minister has realized it. I do feel that in the changed circumstances of to-day, the whole of the department is to be reorganized; it is necessary for us to know definitely what are the lines on which that reorganization will take place, in what way medical education has to be improved; the question of the salaried services, the question of the honorary posts, in what way and to what extent they should be encouraged—all

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these things have got to be taken into consideration. I appeal to the Hon. the Minister to take steps to see that the general policy with regard to Medical education is laid down, so that all of us may know exactly where we stand. Some members have returned from the army and are waiting for months and months. A gentleman met me in Salem who had been interviewed eight months ago; but he cannot live on air, he came and settled down in Salem; perhaps he may not join the service at all when wanted. There are others who unfortunately are not even in that position. A decision has to be made and that soon. May I also repeat that the place of the honorary service, particularly in the teaching line, has to be carefully settled? I was sorry that some of the experienced honorary medical officers were changed just when they were most suitable to continue the job. I do not mind if you change the officers after a few years, if people are there for five years or more; but in regard to teaching, when you find good men, capable, efficient teachers, may I not ask you to consider the desirability of continuing them in their particular capacities as honorary surgeons and assistant surgeons. I am not speaking on behalf of any individual, but I am only speaking on behalf of the benefit that will accrue to medical education if that policy is followed.

"Sir, may I know if I can continue?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"You need not be afraid of the clock, you may go on."

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In regard to Public Health, I wish to suggest that it is very necessary to have a comprehensive programme laid down for the whole Presidency. That also applies to education. There is no survey properly made of the needs of the different parts of this Province. The whole trouble with the previous Government was that they did not make a survey. If they had made a survey like that, if they had properly assessed the requirements of the different parts of the province, if they had given a helping hand to the weaker parts as they ought to have, my friends over there, for whom I have the greatest sympathy, will not be pleading for Royalaseema to-day and the question of the Andhra Province also would not have come to the forefront as it has come to-day. (Laughter.) I will have my say about it on another occasion. But, Sir, it is lack of a proper survey which is really responsible for the lopsided development although all of us share in the ill-development. Some people think they are worse off than others. A proper regional survey which takes into consideration the question of water-supply, the question of sanitation, the question of environmental hygiene, the question of buildings—these things are most important and vital for any public health survey and I beg of the Hon. the Minister to undertake this task sufficiently early so that when funds are available, she may be in a position to see that those funds are usefully diverted to proper purpose instead of being spent on a haphazard recommendation of this or that Director of Public Health, or this or that member of the Legislature on schemes which may not be capable of fulfilment but which are pending consideration. Sir, may I go on?"

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am prepared to allow you to go on till you finish."

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Thank you very much."

"I now come to a portion of the Budget which speaks of Harijan uplift. When my friend Mr. H. M. Jagannatham was beginning to read his tirade, I felt it was not within me to dispute many of the points he has stated. I am glad and grateful that the Hon. Minister in charge of Religious Endowments has been able to do almost a miracle. He has thrown open the doors of the temples in many places of this Province and I on behalf of everybody heartily thank him and congratulate him. But may I ask, Sir, whether he has thrown open the hearts of the people as well? And that counts much more than the doors of the temples. In a work-a-day world when you forget that there are such things as temples, naturally my friends seem to be enthusiastic about temples. I wish them all joy; let them go to every temple. But Sir, what is it that we find for Harijan uplift here? Sir, I speak with a certain amount of responsibility when I say that the feelings among the Harijans is such that it may not be conducive once again to the unity of this country. We all know the Poona Pact. I was present in Bombay as was my friend there when this Poona Pact was signed under circumstances which can be said to be phenomenally exciting. When the Poona Pact was signed we had hoped that the Harijans who had signed the pact would have an opportunity given to them to feel more than a sense of confidence, that they had signed something which would not be against their interests in the future. I ask, Sir, if the Congress after the Poona Pact had accepted the decision of the primary election of the Harijans, instead of trying to ferret out the last man on the Congress panel just because he has signed the Congress creed; to-day you find not only that opposition from the Scheduled Castes, but even my friends who might have been persuaded—let them not contradict me too vehemently—could have been persuaded to accept a similar form of joint electorate. You have ruined the possibility of all understanding by the manner in which you wanted your party politics to dominate the essential unity ideals of the country. Sir, I do not congratulate you on that; but even to-day there is a possibility in the changed circumstances of the country and in the manner in which we are now trying to progress. May I not appeal to the party in power, to the Hon. the Prime Minister who is a member of the Constituent Assembly to plead with those who are the leaders and dictators of society in India to-day that they may for the next two elections make it more or less a pact. We have asked one party to adhere to a pact. Why not you play the role of an equally willing partner in the pact that you will accept the persons who top the polls in the primary elections? Then, much of this feeling of disappointment, chagrin, disillusionment and hostility will cease on the part of community. I venture to make that suggestion in all humility, but with an entire satisfaction in my mind that that is the most important measure to take."

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" Sir, I see that the Hon. the Prime Minister in his opening address has referred to the changes that are taking place at the Centre and has given us an idea as to the manner in which those changes will ultimately have great and tremendous effects in this country. I do hope that his forecast will be fulfilled. To-day we are standing on the brink of a precipice; to-day we are moving in such a rapid fashion that unless we take stock of the situation, we shall all go to the wall. The Budget has been presented. These sittings in the Assembly will certainly have to share the fate of something that is decided in the Centre. Sir, the pronouncement of the British Cabinet that they are quitting India in June 1948 is a momentous pronouncement, not for their sake, but for our sake. The implications of that pronouncement are so obvious. Sir, to-day unfortunately the position of India and Indians is very much like what it was in ancient Rome and what has been so beautifully described by Macaulay—

'Then none was for a Party,
Then all were for the State,
Then the rich man helped the poor,
And the poor man loved the rich;
Then lands were fairly parcelled.
The Romans were like brothers,
In the brave days of old;
But now Roman is to Roman,
More hateful than a foe.'

" I did not transliterate in the manner in which it ought to be transliterated, but the fact is that if you can only substitute 'Indian' for 'Roman' that will express in clear and unambiguous terms the position to-day. It is no use trying to assess responsibilities. It is no use trying to assess blames; the fact is there. We have to get on and after all is said and done, Sir, may it not be that a single expression here or there may have taken a turn for the worse, that among all these arguments that have been let loose, there may be something which has perhaps been taken as much worse than it ought to have been. It was Marcus Aurilius, the great philosopher, who said 'If thy brother offends thee, think not of the offence that he had given, think rather that it is thy brother, and then you will find an entirely different picture presented to yourself.' Sir, may I not appeal to the leaders on both sides of the House to realise that their differences are much more unreal than what they think. It was Omar Khayyam that said—

'A hair perhaps divides the false and true'.

That is the real psychology. Omar Khayyam who is uttering his settled judgment of men's differences, whether of taste, opinion or creed, when he extols in the couplet—

'The grape that can with logic absolute,
The two and seventy jarring sects confute.'

" I am afraid grape is not available to us and will not be available to us in a short time, but that is the actual lesson to take.

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" I would beg of the hon. Members who have any influence with the leaders—I know them not and certainly I will never have any influence with them—to realize that in view of the altered circumstances of the case, it is not the Constituent Assembly that is going to settle this, it is the people of the country that are to lay down a constitution, a democratic constitution for 400 millions, an unheard of event in the history of humanity. For the first time, you are asked to give a solution to an experiment that baffles all imagination. That experiment can be solved only if you get the best, the wisest and the most statesmanlike of the people of this country. Are you so sure that all these commodities are available within your respective parties? Are there not men who can rise above these party limitations and who can give you a lead in these matters? So my suggestion would be this. I was very happy to find in this morning's paper that the great political party had extended an invitation, a cordial invitation to the Muslim League. I want it to be followed up. You must establish coalition Governments in every province and you must go out of your way. Now that the Ministry here is being reconstituted—we have been told that Madras is leading in everything, in Khaddar, in prohibition, in rationing, in asking people not to smoke and not to do so many things—may not Madras also lead in this matter? I would beg of this Council and of the Hon. the Prime Minister and his colleagues to tell the High Command that the only solution for the country to-day is to establish coalition Governments everywhere, that these coalition Governments must function for a period, say a year or two when the Britisher is expected to leave. If Indians are there, we need not worry when the new constitution comes into shape; if the coalition Governments can function for two or three years, if you can bring to bear on your task that magnanimous outlook which unfortunately was not always seen on the Treasury Benches, particularly at the time of replying to questions in this House. If you can bring to bear that large-hearted outlook and show that the Muslim brethren are not entitled to entertain those opinions, and if the Muslim League, especially in those Provinces where they are in authority, can say that they also reciprocate, and the Hindu brethren have no reason not only to feel frightened of them, but feel that they have got their elder brothers in the Province, when only you can get to that state, when the future of the country will be golden. How many patriots have passed away expecting to see something of the greatness of this country? The wine of life keeps oozing drop by drop, the leaves of life keep falling one by one; the sands of time are falling fast. There is no other opportunity if you miss this one. This is the bus that will take you to the grand ideal that we have all at heart. Give up the idea that because of your performance within the last quarter of a century, patriotism is confined only to the eastern side of this House and does not arise in the western side. Therein lies the greatest danger. Think of your brethren, the more so because you stand for ideals which ought to be gradually spread among the whole of the people. And may He in His infinite wisdom give the courage and statesmanship for the leaders to do what befits the opportunity and the occasion to see that India

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is a grand, great and prosperous country in the world of the future."

* SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, after hearing the hon. speaker who spoke just now, I feel nervous to stand on my legs . . ."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I will support you, do not worry."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Thank you."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have no objection to your sitting and speaking." (Laughter.)

* SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Thank you, Sir, not necessary. Sir, the Budget presented before the House seems to provide for pet theories and pretty dreams ignoring the real needs of the people of the Province."

"A popular Government is expected to devise practical measures for promoting the welfare of the people."

"Though our Hon. Prime Minister deserves our heartfelt congratulations for prompt procuring of foodgrains and for averting a food crisis, still shortage of food and shortage of cloth are staring us in the face and no attempt has been made to solve the problem; nor do we find any provision for increasing the production."

"Sir, large sums are sought to be lavished and wasted on impracticable schemes involving heavy expenses or loss of revenue. Further, all the twenty-six districts are units of the Province and contribute to the provincial revenues; the needs of each district have not been considered and no equitable distribution has been made for carrying out the schemes already investigated or sanctioned."

"Everywhere, every available land has been cultivated with the available water. Unless fresh sources of irrigation or fresh storages are provided, the cry of grow more food is a cry in the wilderness."

"Sir, no attempt has been made and no provision has been so far made for providing iron gates over the surplus weir in the upper dam of Papanasam in Hope Lake in Tinnevely district at Mettur. Such a provision would increase the capacity of the lake and would give an additional storage of at least one-fourth the present capacity."

"The consideration of the Manimuthur Dam and the restoration of the Sivilaperi tank have not been considered, provided and expedited."

"The extension of the electric and water power would be a boon to promote the industries in the district."

"The promoters of the textile mills in the Province are actually mourning and are actually praying day and night for the reversal of the policy of the present Government."

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"Tinnevely and Palamcottah are sister municipalities on both sides of the river Thambraparni and protected water-supply has to be made from the bed of the same river. Still a combined scheme has not yet been adopted and insisted on by the Government."

"For any and every activity, agricultural, industrial and commercial, good roads are essential and their maintenance in a good condition is an imperative necessity."

"Sir, the abolition of the taluk boards and the deprivation of control on the part of the district boards have led to the complete neglect of village, country and urban roads and have almost paralysed the traffic and free movement of commodities. The present state of roads is a disgrace to any civilized country and is a handicap and obstruction to the progress of the district."

"As far as possible, each item of revenue should be equitably and economically spent to the best advantage of the people. Diversion of funds from the religious to the secular side would be disastrous and would lead to bitterness and destroy the harmony of the people. The wishes of the donors should be respected and specific endowments should be administered according to the terms of the original grants."

"Sir, litigation should be avoided as far as possible. The present provision in the Endowments Act that the cost of litigation should be borne by the respective endowments seems to have encouraged the Board in launching on litigation at the slightest provocation and on slender grounds. Such litigation should be checked and the Board should be directed to take independent legal advice before taking any matter to court. Sacred trusts are dragged to courts and spiritual gifts are used for material purposes. Temple premises are used for commercial purposes and the approaches are kept in unhealthy and insanitary condition."

"Contributions made to the Health Department on festival occasions alone are not enough. Temples must have their own permanent and temporary establishments for ordinary and festival occasions, to look after the health of the pilgrims and to keep the premises and approaches in a neat, healthy and sanitary condition."

"Be it religious, local, district or provincial administration, a contented staff is an absolute necessity. No work could be effectively done and no progress could be made without an efficient staff. Discontented staff could never be efficient. The cost of living has increased on many items even hundred-fold. A living wage should be provided. Want of funds cannot be a valid excuse. Ways and means should be found for solving the vexed problem of wages and salary."

"Wasting real, solid revenue on impractical schemes, throwing away spindles, obstructing the growth of mills and revolution arising out of the present land tenure system cannot be tolerated by any civilized nation, especially when we have to face famine and starvation, Sir. The Government is increasing the ration

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from ten to twelve ounces and *vice versa* for the healthy and wealthy while even the doctors hesitate to reduce the rations for their patients.

"Sir, public health and education are totally neglected and the provision made in the Budget for those items is only an eye-wash.

"For the sake of the country, for the sake of the starving millions and for God's sake, please do not experiment on speculative, impracticable and costly schemes till our people have at least one square meal a day.

"I thank you, Sir, for the opportunity given to me to express my views on the Budget."

* SRI N. VENKATACHALAMAJI:—"Mr. President, Sir, the Budget contains provisions for a number of items which are useful to the people. But the most important thing that the Government have to do is to make primary education compulsory. Most of the troubles our people are suffering from can disappear if people are educated.

"Sir, the Government grants for wells are not serving any useful purpose. In Vizagapatnam district, the irrigation schemes must be pushed through. We want more foodgrains and unless there is water-supply for the fields when the rains fail, this cannot be had.

"The sales tax is acting as a great burden to the poor people. When the article passes through a number of hands, the sales tax is collected a number of times. So, the sales tax must be levied only at one stage like the Bengal Sales Act.

"In districts where prohibition is not introduced, country liquors are supplied to renters in fixed quantities and they are allowed to sell at their own rates. Hence there is any amount of profiteering. This is so not only in the case of country liquors but also in the case of opium. I suggest ceiling prices be fixed by Government for these.

"Last year, groundnut cake was allowed to be spoiled and by the time it was given by the Agricultural Department, the ryots found it unfit to be used as a manure. The Government should give strict instructions to the Agricultural Department Officers that fresh stocks should be taken from mills and before it is spoiled, it should be sold to the ryots.

"In the case of pulses, the Government should allow free movement from district to district fixing ceiling prices. In that case they can be obtained at fair prices in all the districts. At present the prices are very low in the places where they are produced and very dear in all other places.

"Sir, cinema shows are becoming more and more popular. The only chief entertainment for the workers and the poor people is the cinema. By increasing the entertainment tax, we are causing troubles to the poor. So, I would suggest that the enhancement should not affect the lowest class tickets.

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"The Government are insisting upon the Municipalities maintaining at least one Sanitary Inspector for every ten thousand of the population. The local bodies are spending most of the revenue on their staff. The sanitation of towns has not improved by employing more Sanitary Inspectors. The Health Officer can look after the sanitation of the towns if they are helped by Sanitary Inspectors, one for every 25,000 of the population.

"Some of the roads of Municipalities have been taken over by the Government but they are not maintained by the Government well. So, it is better they are handed back to the Municipalities and grants given to the Municipalities for their maintenance.

"Sir, the Government are entrusting sale of foodgrains, cloth, coconut oil, etc., to co-operative societies and stores on the plea that merchants are indulging in black-marketing. The black-market will disappear when corruption among officials ceases. The anti-corruption staff is not working satisfactorily. The co-operative stores in a number of cases are managed by directors who are self-seekers and profiteers. The Government are allowing a profit of two annas for every maund of paddy to the co-operative stores. If the accounts of the co-operative stores are scrutinized, it can be seen that their profits are eight annas and twelve annas a maund. Is it not black-marketing?

"The scales of Pandits in all schools are not satisfactory. They are in no way inferior to the other teachers. Their lot must be improved. We have to give proper weight to our own culture.

"So, Sir, I appeal to the Hon. the Premier to consider all these points and to make necessary changes in the Budget in the light of my remarks."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The House now adjourns and will meet again at 2-30 p.m."

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to offer a few remarks on the Budget to-day. I wish the hon. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar were here now. He remarked bitterly that the Ministers . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If the hon. member had given me notice, I would have asked him to be present."

SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU:—"It sometimes happens that he is otherwise engaged; it is not our mistake. I said that it would have been better if he were here to hear my remarks on his speech. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar is a very accomplished speaker and he is an able doctor too. He knows how to cut without pain; he knows also how to give sugar-coated pills, but what I wish to say is, we should not be carried away by his eloquence . . ."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"They are sold by you." (Laughter.)

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* SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Though he administers them he won't take them on my advice. So, Sir, I was saying we should not be carried away by his eloquence, but we have to carefully analyse and see if what all he said is correct.

“ First of all, he spoke about Advisory Boards. I also wish to say that it is very good to have Advisory Boards on all important subjects so that Government can get the best possible advice on various matters. In this connexion, I would like also to say that we should have an Advisory Board for the administration of temples. Though at present we have a separate Minister for Endowments, yet it is necessary we should get the best possible advice on the administration of religious endowments. My own opinion is, very soon this department must become a department of Government so that the Government may take the fullest responsibility for the administration of our temples.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ You mean the Endowment Board? ”

* SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NADUDU :—“ Now it is a Commission, Sir. I wish it to be a department of Government so that Government may take the fullest responsibility and they can be advised by a good committee for this purpose.

“ I don't agree with the learned Doctor when he referred to the interference of the members of Legislature. I think he gave a very exaggerated picture of this interference. We are here, Sir, to help the Government, to give counsel to the Government and to see that the Government is properly administered. When we are in our constituencies, our influence will be felt by the authorities, but on that account it should not be told that it is a bad influence. I know that the Government is sufficiently strong enough to protect their services and the services are sufficiently entrenched in their position that they will not be baffled by our interference. So it should not be said that members should not interfere, on the other hand, they have every right to say what they feel on the administration of various departments of Government. As I said, the services are sufficiently strong; they know what to do and what not to do and it is not correct to say that we will baffle the services and no member of the House is entitled to say that this interference is far too much. I do not think any such extra influence was exercised by the members of this House.

“ Another matter, Sir, was, the learned Doctor criticised the Chambers of Commerce that they have not done their duty properly. He criticised them rather in strong terms saying that the Chambers have not put down black-marketing (Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar: ‘ He was correct in the statement ’) with great deference to the views of my revered friend, Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliar, I have to say that the Chambers have done their best to see that black-marketing was put down. The big businessmen have always tried to see that the prices are put low. Horlicks is sold at Rs. 3-6-0 and where it may be possible to sell it at Rs. 6-12-0 because the price of everything is doubled, it is allowed to remain at Rs. 3-6-0 by all businessmen. If some petty businessmen have

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raised the price, I do not think the whole trade must be found fault with because of a little black-marketeer. Black-marketing is everywhere; corruption is also everywhere. Government is doing its best to put it down. Can we say that if corruption has not been completely put down, the Government are not trying their best to put it down? The Chambers of Commerce who have got a very great duty towards trade and commerce are doing their level best to see that black-marketing is put down. As a matter of fact black-marketing is going down.

“ Now we want the de-control of all goods. I am glad controls are going away in various departments; control has been taken away with respect to motor cars, drugs and medicines. Now in the drug market you find the prices rapidly going down and it is very necessary that we should come back to normal conditions. It is a long time since the war came to a close and we should not always be thinking of war conditions and perpetuate war conditions. Though, of course, with regard to food-stuffs, control may be necessary for some time longer because we must take all possible precautions to see that food-stuffs are secured to the people, I would say that in respect of all other things, controls must disappear as quickly as possible because that is the only way to come back to normal conditions and to restore the confidence of the people so that they may think that normal conditions have been restored. In this connexion, I would like to say that it is not everybody that can become a trader, just as everybody cannot become an artisan. A blacksmith's son may become a blacksmith, so that in trade the trading community have to develop their traditions and it is necessary that the trade channels should be protected if good business has to be carried on and if prices have to go down. It is, therefore, very necessary, Sir, that the normal trade channels must be allowed to function.

“ Now, we have the co-operative movement and the co-operative societies are doing a great deal and the Ministry wants to encourage the co-operative movement and to see that it takes the upper hand in all matters. I have no objection to their doing so but what I feel is that the normal trade channels must be made a balancing factor or rather the co-operative societies must be a blancing element for trade channels. Then only these two channels will try to lower down the prices and get the trade into normal conditions. If you upset or destroy one, the other will get the upper hand and then trouble will arise. It is therefore very necessary that we must have the normal trade channels also developed.

“ Sir, the war has damaged many things and we have not yet been able to repair the damage quickly and so Government must do two things. First of all, they must see that war damages are repaired as quickly as possible and then other important and forward schemes put through. The Hon. the Premier has studded the Province with schemes of Congress ideology. It may be felt doubtful by some whether all the schemes can be put through. Of course, it will take a long time for the people to realize that these are for the betterment of the country, but till then there

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will be some amount of confusion of thought on this matter. However, I dare say that some of the schemes for instance, the Khadi Scheme and other similar schemes are sure to benefit the country and that they will take the upper hand very soon.

"Then, Sir, as a City man, I have got to say something about the City itself. It is very necessary that this capital City, where all the people of the Province come and where Government is functioning and where people come from various parts of the Province to settle here, we are finding great difficulty in the matter of accommodation. Of course, people in the City have their own houses, but in respect of people coming from outside, it is very necessary that they should have accommodation. I am very glad that the Government have accepted the suggestion of my friend, Mr. Anthoni, for the appointment of a committee to go into the question of devising proper methods to solve the housing problem. In my opinion, the first step that Government should take will be big housing schemes in the City and see that the congestion is relieved. I am very glad that the City limits have been extended; it was not at the choice of the Corporation that it was extended, but Government asked us whether we would like to have more territory and the Corporation was only too glad to agree. Now that we have got a Greater Madras, I think it is necessary that Government should provide adequate funds so that all parts of the City are developed. For instance, Saidapet requires several things to be done, for conditions in Saidapet cannot be compared with conditions in the City. It requires various schemes relating to underground drainage, water-supply, etc., and these require a lot of money. I would, therefore, request the Government to allot sufficient funds to see that the conditions in the whole of the extended area are improved so that people who come into the City will have ordinary human comforts.

"Another thing, I would say is this. I am glad to find that the Government have taken up the nationalization of bus services and that they are making an experiment in the City of Madras to start with and very shortly, I understand, a few buses will be put on the road. I would suggest as a first step in the nationalization of transport they should take up the transport services in the City including the tramways and if the scheme is tried and found to be successful, it may be extended to all other towns. As soon as possible the whole bus service should be taken up so that they can nationalize at least one important service in this Province. It is well known that in other important towns in the Province, the transport services are not good. In other big towns in the Presidency, the roads are very bad whereas in Madras we should thank ourselves that we have got tarred roads. In other places, owing to the bad nature of the roads, there is a lot of dust nuisance and dust nuisance brings in its train so many diseases. It is therefore necessary that all the towns must be improved so that the congestion may be removed and especially when a large number of people go to those places naturally the sanitary conditions ought to be as good as possible.

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"Sir, these are some of the ideas that have suggested themselves to me and I think this House will be able to see still greater progress in the near future than what we had last year." 2.45 p.m.

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—

باغبان فصلی خزان دیکھ کے کھر بیٹھ رہا
• اؤ راخولوں نے بہی باغ کا جانا چھوڑا
اے الفت بلبل کہ نہ چھوڑا تنہا
گل پژمردہ پہ بیٹھی پری کہتی یہ صدا *
حیف در چشم ردن صحبت یار آخر شد
روئے گل سیر بدیدیم و بہار آخر شد *

I shall translate the meaning for the benefit of my friends. Sir, a rough translation of the verses that I have just now repeated is: The gardener in the days of winter abstained from going to the garden. Those who went for a change and enjoy the pure air and fragrance of the flowers have given up their resort to the garden but praise be to the loyalty and faithfulness of the nightingale which did not leave the decayed flower alone and is sitting on it and praying for the dawn of spring.

"I feel highly reluctant, Sir, to embarrass the Hon. the Premier and his remaining loyal and faithful colleagues who still cling to their seats in the Ministry and who are in a disturbed state of mind by the unsparing criticisms of the Budget."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"We are not in a disturbed state of mind. My hon. friend may take it."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I know Sir, the Hon. Premier is a courageous fighter. Let us pay that compliment to him but a state of disturbance is in the minds of the people. The people of this Province are feeling uncertain about what the position of the Province will be. I have therefore tried to find some redeeming features in the Budget but let me confess that I have failed in my attempt.

"The Budget, Sir, appears to me to be a pitiful exhibition of the financial and administrative incompetence of the present Government which provides nothing but a dismal reading and generates disturbed forebodings for the future of this Province. The fact that during the two consecutive budgets of the present Congress Governments in this Province large sums have been drawn from the Revenue Reserve Fund, for the accumulation of which the credit properly goes to the Advisers' regime, is proof, if proof were needed, that the so-called national schemes of the present Ministry are only going to lead the Province into financial disaster. The stark picture has been envisaged by the Premier himself in the concluding portions of his Budget speech. He says—

'Owing to the large expenditure on subsidizing the sale of foodgrains and to the introduction of Prohibition and other ameliorative measures such as village reconstruction and Harijan uplift, the extension of

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pulsory primary education, etc., deficits on Revenue Account are anticipated in the current year and the budget year. These deficits have to be met by drawing on the Revenue Reserve Fund. The balance at the credit of this Fund on the 1st April 1948 is expected to be Rs. 22.31 crores. I am sure that the House will agree that it will not be wise to allow revenue deficits to recur regularly in subsequent years and rely merely on meeting them from the balance in the Revenue Reserve Fund, as that would result in a very difficult and unsatisfactory position as soon as that limited balance had been exhausted."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" To-morrow being the last day for the general discussion of the Budget, I would like to know how many more members still want to speak and I request them to give their names so that I may adjust the time available."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Large sums, Sir, are squeezed from the poor people by way of tax and these amounts are being extravagantly wasted on unwanted schemes.

" Now, Sir, let me come to one of the most hotly discussed problems, viz., the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. The Ministry has been very critical of the merchant community. I do not hold any brief for them. There may be some black sheep among them, there may be some confirmed black marketers but how do these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies furnish a remedy for wiping out the sins of omission and commission of the merchants? While condemning the merchants for earning large profits the Government breathes hot and cold in the same breath when it takes pride in announcing to the public that some of these societies recently set up in Malabar have earned profits ranging from 25 to 50 per cent. It is needless to state that the poor people who form the majority of the population of this Province and who cannot invest any money for purchasing the shares of these Societies cannot at all expect to be benefited by the profits made by these societies. Even when the so-called middlemen have been removed there has been no appreciable decrease in the prices of rice and other essential foodstuffs but on the contrary, the tendency has been towards an increase and this provides a sad commentary upon the whole experiment. The fact is that these societies are more often than not controlled by a single man. Ask the man in the street about these societies and he will show how disappointed he is with this new experiment of the Government. There are complaints from villages in the Chingleput district and Sriperambudur taluk that the agents of the procurement societies do not turn up in time and that they the producers suffer for want of money to pay the kist. Ask the people of Malabar and Andhra Desa about Mr. Kapur, I.C.S., who is put in charge of these societies and they will tell the Government what they feel about this officer. When Mr. Bhima Rao the other day spoke a little bit of his mind regarding the Public Safety Bill, the Premier remarked that the latter did not know about his own constituency but here I am constrained to remark that the Premier does not know what the people of Andhra Desa of which he is the great leader, feel with regard to his scheme and its guardian, Mr. Kapur. In spite of large investments of money Muslims have studiously been excluded from the

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directorates of these societies and if at all one or two have been taken here and there, they are of the Congress way of thinking. The credit for this exclusion of Muslims goes not in a small degree to Mr. Kapur. From this it is evident that these societies which are carefully given the outward appearance of innocent non-political bodies designed to help the poor and the helpless are in fact intended to serve as powerful instruments to strengthen the Congress and suppress others who are opposed to its creed or else there seems to be hardly any need for the replacement of the normal trader by such co-operative societies. As I have already pointed out a change in the system of distribution has in no way improved the situation even though the Government have to pay very heavily for it. It is felt by prominent Congressmen themselves that the Government have resorted to coercion in collecting share capital for the new societies and that the measures adopted by the Government are even more reprehensible than those followed in collection of funds for the war. In no district was the scheme less wanted than in Malabar where more than hundred thousand consumers have joined in protesting against it in a memorial to the Premier and yet we have been told that subscriptions amounting to a large sum have been offered by the rich and the poor in that area. The funds accumulated for them show that the societies are to function not merely when the present scarcity of goods lasts but at all times and this is evidence of the main purpose that they are to serve—the upkeep of a political organization which will leave no liberty to merchants or the people in general save those who carry out its will.

" I do not think, Sir, that anything more is necessary to show that these societies are unwanted by the people of this Province.

" Let me then come to the question of Public Health and Medicine. They appear to be sleeping departments. The Government School of Indian Medicine is a pestering sore. There has been more strikes in that school during the last seven years than in the worst paid industrial establishments of this Province. It is said, Sir, that a considerable sum amounting to no less than Rs. 7,500 was paid by the Government to an Ashram at Avadi. Let me not mention the name of the gentleman who has taken 3 p.m. it. I do not like to embarrass the Ministry. Such acts of generosity, if my information is correct, Sir, were not at all encouraged by the previous Congress Ministry, of which Mr. C. Rajagopalachari was the Premier. He refused to grant any subsidy to the same Ashram. Such being the case, it seems to me incomprehensible how this sort of subsidy is being given to persons closely connected with the authorities who are responsible for running the Government.

" It is a great disappointment to see that no provision has practically been made for medical relief. In support of what I say, let me quote the Hon. the Premier himself in his Budget speech. He says—

' No one regrets more than myself that there are many crying needs for which it has not been possible to provide adequate funds in the Budget, for example provision of funds for medical and public health relief in villages.'

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I ask the Hon. the Premier in all humility, with due regard and respect to his age and position what is the meaning of saying that he has got the interests of the villages at heart, that he means to accomplish village uplift, if there are no funds provided for any medical relief for them? It is only with life and the longevity of life that many other things can exist; if people cannot live their whole life, if they are not going to live long, if the mortality becomes great—it is already great, if it becomes greater and if people are going to die in their prime and their lives are to be curtailed when they have ordinarily many more years to live, what is the necessity for khadi schemes, for producer-cum-consumer society schemes and various other schemes? Who is going to benefit if people are not going to live long and enjoy them? The primary need, the most important need and the most important duty of a State is to see that people live long and it is the duty of the State to see that the lives of the people are preserved and education and enlightenment are given to them. It is only after that that other things can be thought of. I feel, Sir, that whatever may be said by the Ministry with regard to village uplift, rural uplift or any uplift it has to be shown in a practical way that the people are going to be helped; it has yet to be shown in actual practice that they are going to be helped and it has yet to come from the heart.

“Then there are schemes for the benefit of ex-service men. One is naturally inclined to ask what these labour contract societies are and for whose benefit a provision of nearly 30 lakhs of rupees has been made. Is it really intended for the benefit of ex-service men or is it going to benefit any individual gentleman? It is very embarrassing on occasions like this when Members have to give full expression to what they feel—I rather feel very reluctant—to bring in personalities. The difficulty seems to me that Government are not going to be reformed unless such things are brought to their notice. Are they going to benefit gentleman like Mr. Ramakrishna, I.C.S.? Are these societies run by a semi-qualified person who was formerly associated with Mr. Ramakrishna in the Vuyyur Sugar factory? Does Mr. Ramakrishna dictate to Government over the heads of the Ministry, Secretary and Engineers what contract should be given to the societies and that the tenders from the societies should be accepted even if the rates quoted happen to be the highest?

“Coming to the Industrial and Finance Corporation, I ask what need there is for it at all, when the Government are not going to start any industries at all nor are they permitting any new industries to be started except in the cases of some of their own favourites. Why should such a huge sum of 51 lakhs be provided in the Budget as Government's subscription in the share capital of this institution?

“I do not wish to say much about transport and nationalization of transport. If there is going to be no road development, I do not see how the Government can be justified in saying that they want to nationalize transport. The Government of whose

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legislature we, fortunately or unfortunately happen to be Members claim to be more concerned with the development of villages and yet there is no proper road development, what is the use of saying that they are determined upon the nationalization of transport? If this transport affair is going to be handled in the same way—I do not find the Minister for Road Development here—in which permits for motor cars and lorries were reported to have been given I think it is much better that the Government drops this proposal altogether.

“I shall now enter upon the most important question, perhaps a question, a reference to which is as painful to me as it is to the Hon. Ministers there.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“You can save pain to both if you choose.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I am thankful to you, Sir, for the suggestion. But it is necessary sometimes to communicate your pain to the surgeon to use his knife. Therefore, we have to point out that a particular portion of the body is becoming deteriorated and the poison is spreading throughout the whole body (Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur: ‘From the top or from the bottom?’) My hon. friend Dr. Tajuddin may know it very well and I shall leave it to him to apply his knife; but I shall only make a suggestion that the knife should be applied and he will do it in practice.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“You may go on to the point.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“I am coming to the most important question, the textile question. I remember once—I am referring to a personality whose name I revere—it was the late lamented Pandit Moti Lal Nehru and he used sometimes to make very humorous remarks—he was smoking a cigarette and when Gandhiji asked him to boycott foreign goods, he replied, ‘Yes, Mahatmaji, I am burning foreign goods.’ I am glad that the Hon. the Premier is happy to hear his (Panditji's) name as I am happy. He (Panditji) also once remarked that consistency in politics is the virtue of an ass. (Laughter.) If that is so, let me say, that this Ministry is following a policy of inconsistency. My hon. friend Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar referred this morning to the inconsistency in the textile policy between the various Congress Governments as well as the Centre. I shall refer to what the Member in charge of the Department in the Interim Government had said about the textile policy of the Madras Government. This is a cutting from the ‘Indian Express’ from which I am quoting and the heading itself will be sufficient to show what the views of the various Congress leaders are with regard to this question; and this is the heading: ‘Prakasam's stand altogether wrong; C.R. on Madras textile policy; reply in the Central Assembly’. I do not want to read the matter below.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“We all know it; if you have anything of your own to point out, you may do so.”

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* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Repetition of things of this kind will certainly go a long way to help the Ministry to understand and appreciate the feelings of the people of the country ; I think, Sir, repetition will go a long way to change their policy and we shall be only sorry if they are not going to give it up and are going to be stubborn. Let me say that it is widely spoken throughout the whole Province, that if at all any trouble had come upon the Ministry and they are losing ground in the popular mind, it is due chiefly if not solely to their policy in regard to textiles. In more than one Congress governed Provinces the demand for machinery has been made. Even at the time a speech was delivered at Tenkasi by my hon. friend Mr. Bhashyam, I was under the impression that the Madras Government was not opposed to the coming in of machinery and spindles here. I felt that there must be some justification when the Congress party came into power—I am not blaming them for it but I appreciated their stand—they would give a fillip to the khadi movement, which they considered to be the token of a national spirit. The Minister at Tenkasi is reported to have deplored the attitude taken by the Central Government and he said—these are words which have to be specially marked—‘ the allotment made to the Provinces of spindles and machinery was not likely to be received for the next four or five years and till then khadi was the only thing available for the clothing needs of the population.’

“ That is an important pronouncement on the part of a responsible Minister that this Government was constrained to compel people to weave and wear khadi on account of the fact that it was not possible for the coming four or five years to get spindles and machinery, and that, Sir, was exactly in consonance with the policy adopted in various other Congress Provinces—not only there, but at the Centre as well. The shortage of cloth has been so severely felt that the Government of India have decided that schemes proposed for rationalizing production of mill cloth should be referred to the *Ad Hoc* Departmental Committee, etc. Again, Sir, the most important thing is this. The desirability of working three shifts whenever possible has already been impressed on the mill industry by the Government of India. The Government are also considering the possibility of increasing the hours of work where only two shifts are possible by either increasing the working day or by ‘ staggering ’ hours of work so as to keep the machines going during the midday interval. These measures are intended to increase production.” Reference was made to the textile policy of the Orissa Congress Ministry and the United Provinces Congress Ministry. I have pointed out what the Hon. Mr. Bhashyam himself has said. Such being the case, will it be too much for us to expect of the Hon. Prime Minister to state that while he is encouraging khadi schemes he is in no way opposed to the expansion of the mill industry in this Province, without which it is not possible for the people of this Province to clothe themselves? This complaint was made during the last Budget session. It is being repeated often and often, and now let us see what the shortage of cloth is.”

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MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I wish the hon. member is more quick. There are three more of his friends to speak, and some more on this side. There will not be much time to-morrow, because the Hon. the Premier must have some good time to reply to the whole debate. I wish to make it clear”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Even if I do not cover all the points, I shall sit down whenever you ask me.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I do not like to ask any hon. member to sit. I am just telling that we are coming to the end of debate, and we must know the importance of time. Please therefore try to co-operate with me in trying to finish your points quickly.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Sir, I am missing the paper cutting (laughter). (Dr. Tajuddin : Also the trend!) (more laughter). If the trend is missed”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The Hon. Premier will come to your help.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I know, Sir, in spite of all our bitter criticisms, the Hon. Premier has always been kind to come to our help, and I am sure he will not fail us this time. It is his geniality of temper that not only members opposite but also we on this side appreciate. Sir, there is a shortage of about seven million yards of cloth, and this shortage cannot be made good unless and until the Madras Congress Ministry changes its policy with regard to textiles. I shall come now—I have to run up, because you have ordered me to finish soon.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Do not take it as an order. I was only telling you.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ We, in this House, feel that there is an order and that should be obeyed. Sir, we are living in times when it is highly necessary that mass education should be given to people. The former Education Minister—a good man, but people say that he is a stiff-necked man—was not able to understand the difficulties of people with regard to education, particularly the difficulties of Muslims. It was long ago that one of the great leaders of India, Mr. Gokhale, introduced his Primary Education Bill in the Imperial Legislative Council. Are we to think that our present Ministers are only thinking of those days? Are we to think that they have just woke up from their sleep and want to give education to people only in the piecemeal manner which nobody in these days will appreciate? A bold education policy to run into the very hearts of villages, an education which will make people understand that they are really independent—independence we can get in 1948—is needed. I do not express any sanguine hopes about it. It is the Congress which says we shall get independence in 1948. I wish we get it earlier. But what is the use of independence, I ask, if people are not educated? They will not be in a position to retain that independence. Therefore, I only appeal to the

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Hon. Minister—whoever may be in charge of Education now—I think it is the Hon. Mr. Bhashyam, whether it is only a temporary portfolio for him or whether he is going to be the permanent Education Minister—it is necessary that a bold education policy should be adopted. Then, illiteracy will go, people will realize their significance and importance, and will feel they are independent or they should be independent. With regard to Muslim education, I am only sorry that the replies given on the floor of the Legislative Assembly do not in any way conduce to create a hope in the minds of the Muslims that there is a change of attitude on the part of the Congress Ministry towards the Muslims. A very modest demand of ours was thrown out both in the Assembly and in this House when we said that adequate representation should be given to the Muslims on the Senate and Syndicate of the Andhra and Annamalai Universities. Sir, the question of language has always been a perturbing factor. Sir, the Holy Prophet asked his followers to seek knowledge even though it might be in China—it is easy to go to China nowadays, but in those days it was very difficult. From that we can imagine what importance did the Holy Prophet attach to education—education not only to men but to women also. Because one of the sayings Thome High School.”

طلب العلم فريضة على كل مسلم ومسلمة

This means, seek education—education not only to Muslim men, but Muslim women also. Therefore, Sir, a Muslim will be least reluctant to get education in any language, education in sciences, etc. We have been the pioneers in the invention of several sciences. We shall not in any way oppose any language, be it Tamil or Telugu or Kanarese or Malayalam or even Chinese or Latin. Sir, I took Latin as my second language when I was a student in the San Thome High School.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“It is very good!”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Let us have some Latin proverbs.” (Laughter.)

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Such being the case, Sir, I do not in the least feel that Muslims will be averse to any language. We shall certainly welcome the imparting of education in any language. We shall certainly try to learn as many languages as possible. But I ask why this aversion on the part of the Ministers to impart education to Muslims in Urdu which is their mother tongue? I am sorry, Sir, I have to quote a number of times from the statements made by Mr. Rajagopalachariar.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“Let them come as if they are your own.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“No, Sir; if they are my own, it would not create an impression on the other side. I want to give the lie direct to those who say

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that Urdu is not the mother tongue of Muslims and that Urdu should not be taught. Mr. Rajagopalachariar said that he had positive proof of this view in the Osmania University where all subjects are taught in Urdu. I ask this Ministry what objection can they have, and why should they at all object to Muslims demanding that education should be imparted to them in their mother tongue, which is Urdu. If there is no insistence on the other side that they will not impart education to Muslims in Urdu, I do not think there will be any insistence on our part to say that we are not going to learn any language except Urdu. It is a question that should be carefully considered by the Ministry, and if they want that Muslims also should be given equal opportunities in the field of education in this Province, it is necessary that this right of the Muslims to be educated in their mother tongue, namely, Urdu, should be recognized.

“Sir, there is another very delicate question, about which 3-30 views have been expressed on the floor of the other House. Sir, it p.m. is felt that the various schemes of the Government, namely, Grow More Food Campaign, schemes of Post-war Reconstruction, Village reconstruction, Khadi scheme and Cottage Industries scheme are to be termed as ‘grow more job schemes’ for the supporters of the Ministry and the Congress. (Interruption) yes, ‘create more jobs’. Sir, it is certainly a very delicate subject, and one finds himself in a rather embarrassed position when he has to say what he feels on a very delicate subject like this. So I wish to say, that it is all in a spirit of friendship and in a spirit of well-intentioned suggestion that we have to offer these remarks, and not in a spirit of antagonism. Then, when these jobs are created, people feel, though it may be without justification, but we must as popular representatives pay regard to the wishes and the views of the man-in-the-street. It is not certain classes alone, but the masses as well feel like that. They feel—but let me say, I do not for one moment agree with what the people feel, but yet I have to state it and point it out so that there may be caution,—people feel this is nepotism and there is corruption in Government service from top to bottom. And this is the view given expression to not only by the ordinary man in the street, but it has found a place in the press also. I shall read one or two sentences here. In opening the conference of provincial yarn merchants on 27th January last an important gentleman made these remarks:—

‘There was corruption everywhere in the Government, and that should be ended. From the Secretariat down to the lowest peon there was corruption. The Textile Department was not free from it, and as a result, men who could not distinguish between yarn and string had got yarn licences.’

As though this is not enough complaints have gone to higher quarters, and they found expression from the lips of an important personality, who is here now, the President of the Indian National Congress, Mr. Acharya Kripalani.”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—“He is not here, in this House.”

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" By here, I meant, in the city. Acharya Kripalani, while addressing a public meeting at Ranchi on 7th February 1947 referred to a number of complaints he had received against Congress governments that they had not done what was expected of them in the matter of easing the food and cloth situation and checking black-marketing, bribery and corruption."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" You don't find Madras in it."

A VOICE :—" Madras Province is excluded, you see."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am glad for the interruption. Sir, it is a general statement Acharya Kripalani has made. What you say will be correct, if he had said, 'barring Madras these are the complaints with regard to other Provinces (laughter). Even though what you say may not be correct, I only wish it were so with regard to Madras. I only implore the Hon. Premier to appoint an independent committee with a High Court Judge to preside over its deliberations to find out what is the real state of affairs. It is not sufficient merely to be just, but you must also appear to be just. Caesar's wife should not only be chaste, but she must be above suspicion. I want Madras Government and this province, of which we are proud to be the inhabitants, to be above suspicion like Caesar's wife."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Why do you restrict that quality to Caesar's wife alone." (Laughter)

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I do so because that is the proverb. But it can be true, Sir, if I may say so, of every daughter of India. I am certain, Sir, that Indians yield to none; our ladies, our sisters, our mothers. (A voice: 'Daughters too!') and daughters too irrespective of caste or creed, whether Hindus, Muslims, Christians or Depressed Classes, whoever they may be, from the point of view of integrity and chastity, I say, they will not yield to anybody, whether it be Caesar's wife or anybody's wife. But, Sir, it is necessary, as I said, that this Ministry should appear to be above board. I am certain there are Hon. Ministers—and I for one do not suspect any one of them—who will not connive at any such thing and who are far above those things themselves. So far as I am concerned I will be the last man to accuse any Hon. Minister of the charge of conniving at any such thing. But when there is a feeling in the public, when it has gone to the press and when it has gone to the notice of Acharya Kripalani, I think, it is high time, we institute an independent inquiry to show to the world that the charges levelled are groundless and false. I request Hon. Ministers to bear that in mind."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I suppose the hon. member is coming to a close. He has nearly taken one hour. Hereafter I will ring the bell and I expect hon. members to sit down five minutes after that."

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" There are some more points I would like to deal with."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" But there are other friends of yours who want to speak."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In that case I will leave out the minor points. Let me say a word with regard to the entertainments tax. (At this stage the bell was rung.) I do not see why there should be a share for the Government in the entertainments tax. I can understand if they levied cent per cent tax on a particular industry or project, but I cannot understand how one-third share is to be claimed by the Government not on the net profits but one-third of the net income. I do not know how these people are going to pay."

THE HON. SRI K. KOTI REDDI :—" May I say for the information of the hon. member, except ten per cent of the collection, the rest is to be given over to the local boards."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" But the fact that you levy the tax stands. You are only robbing Peter to pay Paul."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I don't think you are correct. They impose a particular tax, so much percentage, not one-third of the collection of the tax. It is a regular tax."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Whatever that may be, it is a very unjust tax. (Laughter.) When I was a Member of the Central Legislative Assembly in 1927 a committee was appointed for the development of cinema industry in this country. I do not know, if you are going to levy this tax, how these people can make both ends meet, how their status could be maintained and how this tax can be paid by them and how the cinema industry can develop."

" With regard to the services, there are no Muslim superintendents in the Revenue, Local Administration and Legal Departments. There is a number of gazetted posts in the Secretariat. For instance, there are Secretaries, Additional Secretaries, Joint Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries. But not a single Muslim holds any of these posts although it will be too late in the day to contend that there are no qualified Muslims to hold these posts. In the Registration Department all the 42 vacancies of District Registrars which arose for ten long years from 1935 to 1945 were given to non-Muslims. If the rule of communal rotation had been followed, seven of these vacancies would have gone to Muslims. In March 1946 seven more posts of District Registrars were created by bifurcation of the clubbed districts and creation of a fresh post and the sanctioned strength of the District Registrars cadre rose from 25 to 32. Even if the principle of communal ratio were to be applied there should be five Muslim District Registrars, but there are actually only three working now because one of the four

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Muslims working in the year 1934 retired. Hence two more Muslims should have been appointed. But, Sir, Government neglected altogether the claims of the Muslims. In the Medical Department after July 1946 till 18th February 1947—I am glad the Hon. Public Health Minister is here—43 appointments of Temporary Civil Assistant Surgeons were made but not a single Muslim was taken in. I do not think the Hon. Minister for Medical and Public Health will have the courage to assert that qualified Muslims are not available to fill these posts. Instances of such injustice to Muslims in various departments of public service can be multiplied.

"And, Sir, there are Muslims in the waiting lists for these appointments but their claims have been ignored.

"Sir, I do not think, I need say much now about salaries. There is a resolution on this subject which was moved in this House and I have finished half my speech on that resolution."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Oh!"

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I shall finish it on another non-official day."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"You mean your speech on the resolution, I am sorry."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM:—"It seems he is threatening us with a long speech on that occasion."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I need only add a few sentences to impress upon the Ministry the need for increasing the salaries of the teachers, the peons, the daffadars and the salaries of so many other people who on account of these hard days are not able to maintain their families. Sir, I read only two or three days back a report in the Press that the constables in the city have not received their salaries. I do not know what understanding has been arrived at. But this only goes to show the discontent among the people and their difficulties. It is not that they are opposed to the Ministry, it is not that they are opposed to the party which is in power, but it is because they feel they are helpless on account of the increase in the cost of living. Therefore, I suggest that a sympathetic attitude should be adopted with regard to these people. Sir, with regard to head constables I am afraid that even in the revised scale there is no provision made for them. Without being opposed to the salaries that are now given to the European sergeants I will bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister in charge of the department, namely, the Hon. the Premier, that the Indian sergeants are not kept so far as their salaries are concerned on a par with the salaries that are given to the European sergeants."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If you have any more points remaining, you may pass them on to Dr. Tajuddin."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I have only one or two more points to deal with, Sir, and I shall finish.

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"I shall now come to the betting on horses. I am thankful to the Hon. the Premier for not providing for the tax on betting this year. You are aware, Sir, that I gave notice of moving a Bill with regard to that and I do not want this credit for myself. The Government was pleased to publish a Bill and if that Bill is passed in this House and the other House, the public of Madras will be very grateful to the Ministry because it is a very important measure to save the poor people of this Province. It is as necessary as Prohibition, Sir. (An hon. Member: 'Oh!') Therefore I express my thanks to the Hon. the Premier. But I have to strike a note of caution with regard to this. Sir, the Bill has been circulated and I have been repeatedly asked by the department whether I should like to withdraw my Bill in view of the fact that the Government have published a Bill. I would certainly . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"You repeatedly refused."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I repeatedly refused; certainly, because of the fact that this Government is sometimes accustomed to publish Bills which they do not perhaps intend to bring before the Legislature. I do not want again to refer to some of the Bills which have been published and which have yet to see the light of day in this House or even in the other House. Therefore I would request the Hon. the Premier to see that this Bill is passed. Sir, it was very easy for the Hon. the Premier to have got it passed in one day; he could have moved it and all the three readings would have been gone through and the Bill would have become law in one day. The same thing can be said with regard to the other Bills which have been circulated. You know and the Members of this House know that it is perhaps due to the fact . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"There are good reasons for deciding not to go on with the Bill."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I do not know, Sir, there may be people in the inner circle of the Government who know that there are good reasons, but so far as I am concerned I am outside and I do not know what the reasons are. I do not know why these Bills have to be suppressed and I am only afraid that the Betting Bill also may share the same fate."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think you must finish soon."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I would like the Hon. the Premier to say that this Bill will be introduced soon."

"I will now conclude only in a few sentences, Sir. (Laughter.) Sir, the conclusion is important and it is so on account of the changed circumstances. The Hon. the Premier has taken legitimate pride in regard to the communal unity that is being maintained in this Province. We are only thankful to him. Sir, but

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it would have been more graceful if the Hon. the Premier had also stated that for this communal unity the leaders of the Muslim League and chiefly the Hon. Leader of the Opposition in the other House, Mr. Muhammad Ismail Sahib, is also responsible. Sir, it was the joint statement to which His Excellency also referred, of the Hon. the Premier and the Hon. Leader of the Opposition in the other House, Mr. Muhammad Ismail Sahib, which has served a long way to maintain that unity in this Province which we all desire and long cherish from the bottom of our hearts."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think the Hon. the Prime Minister said so in some other occasion though not on the budget."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am only referring to the budget, Sir. Now the conditions have changed. The All-India Congress Working Committee has passed a resolution that the Punjab should be split up. I would request the Hon. the Premier to bring to the notice of the All-India Congress Working Committee that we in this House, namely, the Muslim League with which the Hon. the Premier must naturally agree, feel that when there is a division of the Punjab, there seems to be no reason why India should not be divided if that is necessary and if that is in the interests of humanity in this country and the harmonious relationship between the Hindus and Muslims. I do not see why we should stick to formalities. We can simply say that we are agreeable to that. If we only say that I do not think any differences will exist. But in spite of the differences that are there, our Province is unique in having that unity. As I said on many other occasions both in this House and in other places outside, this unity should be copied by people in other Provinces. Therefore, I feel that it is necessary for us to say through this House that Hindus and Muslims should live together and circumstances should be created willy-nilly by the leaders, particularly the leaders of the majority party to disabuse the minds of the minorities, not only the Muslim minority but other minorities, of any suspicions that they may entertain. Dr. Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar referred to coalition Ministries. Sir, we are not anxious to be in the ministries. Whether we are in the Ministry or not I would request that justice should be done to all. Sir, let me pay my humble tribute to the Justice Party which was in power in this Province. Whatever might have been the differences between the Brahmans and the Non-Brahmans or between the Justice Party and the Congress Party, there was some balance maintained on account of the Justice Party and there was some justice done to the Muslims and minorities. I would therefore request the Congress Ministry to infuse the confidence which was there in our minds on account of the existence of the Justice Party and assure us that our rights will be safeguarded and that there will be no encroachment on our liberties and that we, the minorities, will always have the sympathetic support and generous treatment from the majority party."

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* SRI D. MANJAYA HEGDE :—" Sir, I thank you for 4 p.m. giving me an opportunity to state my views on the budget. The budget of this year has come out, exhibiting the strong hand behind it. The Hon. the Premier has been ever frank and straight and that outspoken frankness and straightforwardness can be discerned in the budget. I do not in the least fail to express my esteem and regard for the Premier and for some of the merits of the budget.

" The present Government's nation-building schemes and plans such as the revival of cottage industries, the provision made for the extension of compulsory elementary education, encouragement to Indian medicine and multitude of other helpful things deserve compliments. The Ministry would have certainly passed many other measures, if funds permitted. But the financial position is not sound and the present Government is not free from criticism for its financial policy. The budget though apparently a surplus budget, is really a deficit one. But for the amount drawn from the Reserve Fund, it would have been very difficult to balance the budget.

" In introducing wide reforms and big plans, the Government did not come to its finance partly due to the huge sum of money in the Reserve Fund which was preserved for some other purposes, and partly due to the hopes of taxing the people further. They ought to have realized that people are already groaning under the burden of various taxes and overtaxing would bring nothing less than great displeasure and dissatisfaction among their subjects. Such is the state of administration of the present Government which is called popular Government.

" Instead of lessening the burden of taxation which the present administrators openly declared unlawful, while others were conducting the Government the present regime finds rather a pleasure to go on levying new taxes and enhancing the existing ones such as the tax on petrol and the entertainment tax, which is really creating a setback in the cultural side of the people, and lastly the proposed agricultural income-tax which will certainly ruin the agricultural class.

" The introduction of prohibition on a large scale, suddenly, has brought the Government at once near to bankruptcy, which would have certainly been averted by introducing prohibition gradually, step by step. But the Government, it must be told, lacked patience and foresight and hence the present deplorable condition of the State finance.

" With the loss of revenue, the Government naturally lost the enthusiasm and interest to give due attention to the present urgent needs of the people, facilities for food, cloth, health and education, and the maintenance of highways, and other communications and all-round development of villages by providing elementary education, village roads, sanitation and proper medical aid which are the basic need for better life in the rural areas.

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"The proposal of the Government as to the nationalizing of motor bus and lorry services is sure to deprive people of their private enterprises. On the other hand, by permitting bus and lorry services to private agencies, the Government could improve the conditions of traffic and commerce without incurring extra expenditure

"The village and taluk food committees established under the new regime suffer for want of strict supervision. Village factions and quarrels are the chief results. Procurement is slow and less. In South Kanara, procurement during this part of the year is far less when compared with the procurement for the last year. This is partly due to the selfishness of the food committees and partly due to the lack of vigilant supervision by the Government officials. Attempts must be made to improve the conditions of these committees.

"The much criticized textile policy of the present Government should be revised in the interest of the public. Instead of providing cloth easily and cheaply to the already half-naked people at large, the Government has created scarcity of cloth. Khadi scheme seems to be more idealistic than practical. People should not be coerced to adopt what is against their will. Whatever may be the merits and demerits of such scheme, the Government should drop such measures in the interest of the public.

"The activities of the Firka Development Scheme are not yet known to the public though it is nearly a year since the scheme was adopted. It is one of the schemes that goes to the improvement of the rural areas. The Government ought to give equal attention to the needs of villages by providing elementary education by opening new schools where there are no schools, by improving village communications, by constructing new roads and bridges, by improving the health of people in the interior rural parts by providing more dispensaries without which all-round development of villages cannot be expected. So I appeal to the Government to provide more money for the new roads, schools, and more dispensaries in the villages whose salvation is the salvation of the nation.

"I regret much to bring to the notice of the Government the indifferent attitude of the Government towards the anti-malaria work that should have been taken up long ago in some villages in Puttur taluk, South Kanara district, where the malaria research work has already been completed by the Government two years ago. So I request the Government to sanction the anti-malaria work soon in that area to the great relief of malaria-stricken people.

"Lastly I suggest to Government to drop the agricultural income-tax proposal now under contemplation in the interest of the agricultural class. By the proposed tax, the landholders are discouraged to improve their lands. Further, the tenants who depend upon their landlords cannot get help in cattle, money, etc., for improvement of the lands. Hasty legislation should not

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be undertaken without making elaborate and regular enquiry. By this measure the Grow More Food campaign will certainly be retarded. Therefore I appeal to the Government not to put further taxation on the agricultural class which is already overburdened with various kinds of taxes. It is a great pity that the party in power is suffering from internal factions. I wish the present Government will see right things done at right times in spite of some bad atmosphere prevailing within the party which I hope will vanish soon."

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I really did not want to participate in the budget discussion. I have not even gone closely into the budget proposals; still having watched the proceedings here for the last three days I think I must also participate in the debate. The Government have in the budget made provision for the improvement of khaddar, village industries, rural uplift, Harijan uplift and for all constructive activities. The Government have also made provision for the educational needs of the country, for introducing compulsory elementary education. It is all good, so far as it goes. But, Sir, my own feeling is that the education that is sought to be given and as it has been going on till now is not the right type of education. Whether it is elementary education or education in the University, it is not of the right sort. That has been my feeling and that has been the feeling also of many educationists. There have been in the air several schemes for the improvement of the educational system of the land. Special officers were appointed to enquire and report on the right type of education that should be given to the people. They have all reported, but still, Sir, I do not know whether their reports have all been consigned to the Secretarial archives. The old system of education is still continuing, the system which has not been of much use to us. We have been very much spoiled by the Western system of education, by the present system of education. You may say that this education has created very many big men, honest men and men of character. True, Sir, I admit, but with the generality of educated, it has failed. It has not improved the general stamina and character of the educated people. That is my view. Recently basic education, education based on crafts, has been devised. The Zahir Hussain system of education it used to be called or the Wardha system of education. That system of education was conducted in several Provinces in North India when Congress Ministries were last in office. Kashmir also has introduced that system of education and it has been going on for the last 5 or 6 years. Madras has tried to do it, but has not done it so far.

"A training school was started by the last Congress Ministry, but when the Congress Ministry went out of office, that school was abolished. Even now, after the last budget no effort seems to have been made to train teachers for starting basic education. Even in basic education, there is pre-basic education, basic education and post-basic education. The child has to be educated from 5 years to 14 years in the three stages of education in the mother-tongue

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of the child. The Government must devote more attention to this kind of basic education and allot more funds for starting training schools for teachers who will start giving this kind of education based on crafts. A kind of education must be devised which will improve the character of the child. That must be the kind of education that must be given. I now leave that subject and go on to village uplift.

"Khaddar is an important item of the constructive programme. Much was said in this House for the past few days about the khaddar industry and about the mill policy of the Government of Madras. It was said that khaddar was rough, not nice, and that the cost of khaddar was high and that we can get very fine mill cloth at cheap rates. All that was said. Sir, we got our mills only recently after the advent of the British Government. Before the British Government came into the field, before the East India Company came to this land, we were also wearing cloth, very decent and nice cloth. There were no mills in those days, but only hand-spinning and hand-weaving were going on in the country. India was producing khadi cloth out of handspun yarn and the whole country of 40 crores—probably there were not 40 crores then but only 30 crores—were clad in khadi."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"In those days, your requirements were small."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"No, not at all. If you see the dubashes and the big-wigs of those days, of the East India Company days, they were wearing long coats, double-breasted coats and double-sized coats!"

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Not all of them."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"It is not correct to say that their requirements were small. All the 30 crores of Indians were clad in khadi and there was a surplus which the East India Company took away from the country and sold it at great profit. The East India Company merchants purchased khadi from this country, took it to their country and sold it at a high profit."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"There was no machinery then. There were no motor cars then."

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"It is unnecessary that because we travel in motor cars, because we fly in the air, we must have machine-made cloth."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—"Why not?"

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Why not? If you are so minded, you are free to use it. But the present Government is minded otherwise. They want to improve khadi and restore it to its greatness of its early days. If khadi is to be developed, if you are asked to spin and weave and wear your own cloth . . . (K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur rose to interrupt and the hon. member speaking did not yield.) I do not want any interruption. The hon. member was not interrupted by anybody while he was speaking."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—"The hon. member will not interrupt the speaker hereafter."

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Thank you, Sir. If khadi must be developed and has to be developed, mills must be controlled. The present Madras Government has not done anything wrong. They have not said that they will close down all the existing mills; they have only said that they would not allow any new mills to be started and any new spindles to be given for expansion. If mills have their spindles worn out, new spindles will be given. If mills are to be helped by the supply of spindles, by all means they will supply for the existing ones. They may run two or three shifts with the existing mills but no new mills and no new spindles for expansion is their policy."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Why not?"

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Why not? That is a matter of opinion. That is the policy of the Government. Much of the difference of opinion arises only from a misunderstanding of the position of the Madras Government and that is: "No new mills and no new spindles for expansion, but spindles will be given for replacement and 2 shifts and 3 shifts can be worked."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"We are glad that the misunderstanding has been removed."

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Good, I am glad. You are all glad that the Madras Government has not been successful in carrying out its policy because the Central Government has said that inasmuch as the Provincial Government have agreed to take the spindles and the Central Government have promised to give the spindles, it is no longer possible to go back upon it. True, but all this has been done not by the Congress Government, but by the Advisers' Government. They ordered the spindles and the bureaucratic Government at the centre agreed to send them. Somehow or other the present Interim Government says that we cannot go back upon the orders of the previous Government. Very well, Sir, even then I do not know what the Madras Government is going to do even if they have to agree to take the spindles already ordered. But I assure you, Sir, we must carry out the policy of the Madras Government in controlling the mills and stopping future expansion. The spindles ordered for may be accepted, but no order for new spindles will be placed hereafter. That will be the position as I envisage. That is my individual opinion. It is not the policy of the present Ministry. We have to submit to the Central Government's hukum. The Madras Government should not hereafter order for any new spindles or allow the erection of new mills. I would like to say that already the existing mills are not able to get the necessary cotton from the cotton cultivated in this country. They have to import cotton from Egypt. If villages take to khadi under the Madras Government's Khadi Scheme, they would want more cotton. If 27 new mills are to be started

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in this Province and more spindles are to be given to the existing mills, where are they to get the cotton from? Is the Madras Government going to order that all the paddy fields should be converted into cotton fields? Then, what about food production? Will the Madras Government rely upon imports of foodstuffs from foreign countries for ever and ever? Are they going to import rice from Rangoon and what is called the 'glass rice' from Brazil? Are we going to depend upon foreign countries for our food products? Certainly not. If you start more and more mills and convert all your paddy fields into cotton fields, how are you going to spend it? In ancient days, even by hand-spinning our people produced khadi, wore it, and also sold it to foreign countries. When new mills are started and all the mills produce cloth, can all of it be worn by the people in the country? We will have to capture foreign markets. Is that the policy of the Madras Government? Is that the policy of the Congress Party? No. We want world peace. We want to be the harbingers of world peace in this land. No more land could be captured either by India or by any other country to advance her trade. As such, we cannot encourage mills. Khadi alone must be encouraged and we must make self-sufficiency possible in this land with regard to it. Similarly, with regard to other rural industries, we must create self-sufficiency. For none of the articles which we can manufacture in this country, should we rely upon foreign imports. Foreign imports should be taboo except in respect of things which we cannot make in this country. We can allow foreign imports only of such articles, manufactured or raw, in which we are not self-sufficient. That is the constructive programme. There is no use ridiculing the constructive programme, the Khadi Scheme, or the mill policy of the Government. It has to come one day or other. The Central Government itself, when it becomes the people's Government in July 1948, as I envisage, will take up the Khadi Scheme and the mill policy. They will develop the Khadi Scheme. I should like to say that the Congress is not at all against heavy industries. The Congress has appointed a National Planning Committee. They have planned for national industries, heavy industries, chemical industries, key industries or whatever you may call them. Industries which cannot be decentralized and carried on in villages will no doubt be left to mills and big factories. For instance, you cannot make railway engines or wagons or passenger coaches or motor cars or aeroplanes in decentralized village industries. These industries will of course be factory industries. Such industries as can be decentralized and carried into the villages must be developed as village industries on a decentralized basis. We can produce several articles in the villages. In Switzerland, I understand, that many parts of the Swiss watches are made in the villages with the aid of electric current. When all the villages in this Province get electricity, such industries can be developed and improvement in agriculture is also possible. With the help of electricity, we can even manufacture delicate parts of watches in the homes of the ryots. Agriculture nowadays is not a paying industry. It is not at all paying, though the prices fixed by the Government are not low. Last year, I was complaining that the

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prices fixed for paddy and other articles were very low. But this year, after the rains, I do not wish to complain that the prices are very low, as they are good enough. Yet, agriculture is not paying, because wages have risen, the prices of cattle have risen. Agricultural implements are nowhere to be got. Manures are not available, though the Agricultural department may say that they are procuring and supplying enough. Being a villager myself and residing in the midst of villagers, I know because many villagers come and complain that they are not getting manure. Because agricultural industry is not paying, villagers tend to vacate their villages and go to towns. We have always been creating towns and destroying villages. Several times I have visited every village in the Chingleput district, and several villages in the other districts of Tamil Nad. Everywhere, if you go into the villages, the houses are dilapidated, and you cannot find men residing in them. It is now time that the Congress Government must direct their attention to the villages. People must be convinced that living in villages will pay them. Additional village industry, besides agriculture, alone will pay them. Agriculture is heavily taxed. In no other part of the country is the land revenue so heavy as in South India. Hon. Members opposite and responsible Ministers have said that the incidence of land revenue is very heavy in South India. That is why the last Congress Government, as soon as they came into office, reduced land revenue by 70 lakhs of rupees in this Province. No doubt the Interim Government planned it in the first instance knowing full well that the Congress Government were going to come. The Interim Government started it, but the Congress Government completed it. We had the benefit of the reduction for three years. As soon as the Advisers' Government came, they stopped the reduction. Now the Congress Government have come. You have not taken any steps to reduce land revenue in this Province to the old Congress Government's level. You are still keeping it at the Advisers' Government's level. You are planning to impose tax on agricultural incomes. I do not object to agricultural incomes being taxed. The incidence of land revenue must be fair and equitable. Rich men, no doubt, may be taxed heavily, but you must find some basis. But to continue land revenue at the prevailing high rate and at the same time to impose a tax on agricultural incomes is not just. You must abolish land revenue altogether and then tax the rich people to any extent you like on the basis of agricultural income. For small landholders, you may impose either sales-tax on the sale of agricultural produce or a small land revenue as in Travancore State. The Travancore State is now planning to impose a tax of one rupee or fourteen annas per acre. That would be a fair thing.

"With regard to food administration, what shall I say? No doubt the Government have done very well. But you are helpless, you are the victims of the Government officials who have been continued for a long time even before the Ministers came in. In the city as well as in the mufassal, there are corruption and bribery. Mr. Abdul Latif Farookhi read out extracts from some books about

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black-marketing and corruption. It is true corruption and black-marketing are there. In the last Budget, the Premier promised us that he would put down corruption in six months. Now we are in the eleventh month, and still it tends to increase. That is the position. Traders' associations are openly issuing memoranda saying that the Textile department is corrupt, that they are black-marketing and that they could not help it. They send me the memoranda though I am not a Minister. There are advocates to support the merchants. Our friend Mr. Venkataswami Nayudu said that the South Indian Chamber of Commerce was doing very well in the matter. I do not want to enter into the controversy whether they are doing very well or ill. The fact remains that corruption and black-marketing are there. Corruption thrives only when people give bribes. If people don't give bribes, there will be nobody to take bribes. The giver has to be blamed more than the taker. The Government have fixed the price of gur and brown sugar at Rs. 75 per *baram*. I hear that the control was removed recently. The retail merchants do not get at the rate of Rs. 75, but only at Rs. 125 or so. The bigger merchants issue a receipt for Rs. 75 only, though they charge Rs. 125. Thus the retail merchants, who give Rs. 50 more than the controlled price, double the controlled price and sell it to the public. The controlled price of groundnut oil is Rs. 202 per *baram*. But the retail merchant has to give Rs. 250 to purchase a *baram* of groundnut oil. The Government have allowed big capitalists like Ralli Brothers and others to export groundnut oil to foreign lands."

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"May I take it that the hon. Member will finish in five minutes more?"

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"Yes, Sir, I will curtail all other subjects I wish to speak about, and finish in five minutes."

4-30
p.m.

"Groundnut oil is not available here. Yet, groundnut oil is allowed to be exported. The Ministry has extended the period of export by 20 days. The wholesale merchants are purchasing it for exorbitant rates. The local merchants also have to purchase at exorbitant rates. Similarly we are not able to get the things we want. Some of these controlled articles go underground. They are nowhere to be seen. All these things such as dhall, greengram and blackgram are not available. They are available only in the black-market. They sell at Rs. 1-12-0, Rs. 1-8-0 and Rs. 2. The control prices are 12 annas, 14 annas and 8½ annas. That is the position. What is the use of this control? You must control things well. Control is good. Control may be continued for a long time and for ever and ever. It is bad if things are not controlled well, if your officers are corrupt and if there are black-markets. In such cases, remove all control. I know Horlicks was not available sometime before, because it was controlled. Control was removed and they are selling it openly now. Sometimes it was sold at Rs. 8 and Rs. 10. If you remove control on any article, it is available. Control of motor cars has been removed. The price of motors has risen. The control price is of course there. But the dealers want

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Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000 more. Men in need of cars and who have money, purchase cars at the highest prices. People who have extra cash by corruption can pay Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000 more if they are in need of cars. For some time this will go on. If there are no purchasers, then the price of motor cars will go down. Similarly with every control. It is imperative that the Government should remove all controls, and abolish all the control departments. They can thus save lot of rupees; they can save a lot of salaries and travelling allowances and rent for office premises. (An hon. member: 'Without fixing ceiling prices.') Ceiling prices are fixed. But are things sold at ceiling prices? By all means, fix ceiling prices. Appoint a few officers and see if the ceiling prices are adhered to. These officers must be above board. They must not also join the merchants. I want somehow or other that this corruption should go, the black-market should go. Consumers must be able to get things sufficiently.

"One another matter. Much criticism was made about the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, about the interests of merchants, of merchant clerks, etc. I received a memorandum from merchants; they say that their interests are suffering. These producer-cum-consumer societies are democratic organizations, popular organizations. While the people themselves are shareholders, whatever benefit or profit is derived, it will go back to the people themselves. The consumers must get the profit of the societies. Is that good? Is it right that a particular or single merchant, however efficient he may be and whatever may be the capital he may have invested, should take away all the profits? Are the Government tabooing these merchants from becoming shareholders of these societies? These merchants say that they are the only people who have experience of business. If the merchants join the consumer societies they can help in the successful working of these societies, and get their proper share along with other shareholders. This kind of getting huge profits by black-market may also go if they come and join these societies. No prohibition. Neither Hon. Ministers nor the members of co-operative societies prohibit anybody from joining the consumer societies. Merchant clerks are complaining that their living is gone. Co-operative societies are started to take the place of merchants; these merchant clerks will be employed by these societies. They can seek employment in these societies. Their full experience may be used by the co-operative societies. Co-operative societies and people must be benefited. Black-market must be put down. We do not want the merchants to commit harikeri or suicide. We do not want merchants to trade in black-market or make huge profits at the expense of the consumer. Let merchants come and join the co-operative societies, and share the profits. They can use their experience in running the societies, amass profits and share them with the consumers."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I thought that you would call upon me to speak to-morrow."

Mr. PRESIDENT:—"There may not be much time to-morrow; therefore the hon. member can speak to-day."

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* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I thought that you made separate allotment of time for the Hon. Premier and the Leader of the Opposition. I am not complaining. However, as you have called on me to speak, I shall do so. Yesterday morning a friend of mine put in my hand a paper; when I looked at it, I saw a funny cartoon. I think my Hon. Friend, the Premier, also might have seen it. In that paper I saw that the Hon. Premier was standing like a giant with some pigmies near his feet trying to get up on his shoulders. It really depicted a real character. Certainly the Hon. Premier under the circumstances is a giant. His courage, his tenacity of purpose and his broad-mindedness are admirable. I know Mr. Prakasam and Mr. Prakasam knows me for many years. The gentleman who had drawn that picture, has drawn it correctly. I admire him. The Hon. Premier is surrounded—as a poet said—by cannons on the right, cannons on the left, cannons in front of him, etc. Still unconcerned and smiling, he is sitting there. It is really enviable. I would like that I had an iota of that courage. Smaller men certainly would have succumbed; many have succumbed, have turned tail and run away, at the very sight of the storm. So hereafter Hon. Mr. Prakasam will be careful in his selections of his lieutenants. He has tenacity of purpose and persistency. Having said this, I must say that I do not agree with his steam-hammer policy crushing everybody in this Province. Let me review the work that has been done by this Congress Government. First of all this food control experiment was started in Malabar. The Congress Government started first the producer-cum-consumer societies in Malabar. The result of it is that it swept away all the grain merchants, big and small, from the field of their avocations. They are thinking of sacking cloth merchants, from the producer down to the village retailer. Now, the zamindars, the janmis of Malabar, the mill-owner, cloth merchants and retailers are waiting anxiously to see what will be their fate to-morrow. The poor man is waiting; he has every reason to be uneasy, on account of such Acts as have been enacted only yesterday. What other Bills are up in their sleeves, God and this Government alone know.

4-45
p.m. “ Having said this, let me come to the Budget. I do not wish to detain the House for a long time. I wish to say that the Budget is a squandering Budget. Huge sums are provided for imaginary purposes the effect of which is only imaginary. Nobody except the Congress Government of this Province and their supporters says that any good will come from the sum of Rs. 4 crores which is provided to be spent on khaddar and village reconstruction. Mr. President, just now the previous speaker here was referring to khaddar and said that India was producing khaddar from time immemorial and that India was providing all the cloth required for her population from time immemorial. Sir, it might be true; nobody can deny that. India was providing so many other things for her whole population from time immemorial, but those days are gone. Then the needs of the people regarding cloth were very small. Now times have changed. However much you may wish to go back

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to that period you cannot, because it will not be possible for anybody in this world to push back India to that by-gone ages. Mr. President, you know, at the time of the Industrial Revolution in England what all things had taken place, how many revolutions had taken place, how many people had lost their property and their lives, and how people rose in revolt against machinery. But still people had to yield to the inevitable. You will not deny that India is part of the world and in this year of grace 1947, it is impossible for India to shut herself out from the rest of the world. Now-a-days you want motor cars; you want aeroplanes; you want telephones; you want all sorts of modern machineries and you want heavy chemicals for industries. My hon. Friends on the opposite side also want all these things except textile machines. Will it be possible to shut out textiles alone coming into this country, when you want all other things? You want all the comforts of modern science, all machines, etc., from other countries. If you allow other countries to bring in those things here, they know how to bring textile goods also along with others. Are you going to declare war against America or against England or against Russia? They have got all the heavy chemicals; they have all the engineering machinery and ever so many other materials which we may take years for us to produce here. For all those things we must depend upon them. If we allow to bring these things here, they will bring certainly cloth also. Then how are you going to prevent it? Sir, I am not a lawyer; I am not a scientist, I am a layman, a villager. I ask, will it be possible for you to sustain this production of khaddar? It may be possible now, because there is a dearth of cloth in the country. People want cloth. And so you say ‘ You must spin, you must weave, you must bleach ’ and so on. Because we are not going to have cloth, you may do this for one, two or three years. Even to put the scheme into operation, it will take two or three years for you. Things are not going to happen as you wish to-morrow morning merely by words. You have to carry on propaganda in the villages; you have to teach them spinning and weaving. The people require time to practice to produce yarn fit for weaving into cloth fit for wearing. It took months for me to produce some kind of yarn out of which one could weave some cloth. I ask the Hon. the Premier himself, ‘ Suppose a man practices spinning for one month, what will be the count of yarn that he will be able to produce? ’ Can he tell me? It will be of about 7 to 10 counts, but certainly not of more than 14 counts. What is it fit for? Can my hon. friend over there tell me? It is only fit for making chord or coir. To produce yarn of 30 or 40 counts by hand-spinning, would take months. You will have to train all these people for months. They say that if one crore of people spin, then only could this Province become self-sufficient in the matter of cloth. By that time, that this one crore is trained, it will be two or three years and things will certainly change by then and there will be plenty of cheap cloth, better cloth and cloth of finer variety. Do you think that people are going to take to this afterwards when they will get better and cheap cloth? Therefore this money you are spending

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will be merely a waste; Sir, I say to the Government that you are unnecessarily creating opposition and trouble in the land. You are trying to force your fad on the people of the Province. I do not believe in khaddar. You want me to spin, to weave and to wear khadi, because you do it, because somebody believes in it. Is it not forcible conversion, I ask? To force one's faith on another is resented and opposed as forcible conversion. Here is a Government which says "we believe in khadi". So I too should have faith in it and do a work in which I have no faith. You say, 'Go on, do it, otherwise you will not get cloth.' If this is not forcible conversion, nothing else is. Sir, I say that the three crores you are spending on this scheme is nothing but a huge waste of public money.

"Then Sir, let me come to the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. Sir, I come from a constituency, on behalf of whose members I can speak with greater knowledge than anybody else in this House, except perhaps Mr. Madhava Menon. What do they say about these producer-cum-consumers? Mr. President, to-day we heard an eminent speech from an eminent member of this House and he has put his case like a doctor. He examined the patient, diagnosed his disease, showed it to him and prescribed the medicine like a true doctor. Yesterday, my hon. Friend over there, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, most eloquently and in very lucid language, explained to us what co-operation is, how co-operative societies ought to work, what are the defects of these producer-cum-consumers and how they are going to be worked, and what use they are going to be to the people, etc. As a matter of fact, from the very beginning I believed and I have been telling so, that these producer-cum-consumers are not co-operative societies. They are worked as a sort of limited companies. As my hon. Friend Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar this morning rightly pointed out, both the tiger and the lamb are made to sit at the same table, to eat and to work together. That is the position. Now when that scheme was placed before this House, the Hon. Premier told us that the object of the scheme was to prevent middlemen exploiting the poor people, and to save both the producer and the consumer. So far as Malabar is concerned, I ask the Hon. Premier, whether anybody has been benefited to a single pie. No, Sir; I say emphatically, no. Last year when the distribution of food-grains was through these ration shops and through wholesale grain merchants, the price of paddy paid to the producer was Rs. 1-5-0. This year also he is getting only that Rs. 1-5-0. These societies have not taken into consideration the increase in wages paid to the workers within this period. Sir, wages have considerably increased and cultivation expenses have also greatly increased in Malabar during this one year. But the cultivator gets only the same amount. And then what is the position as regards the consumer? The price at which food-stuffs are sold to the consumer is the same as last year. But then these co-operative societies make a clean profit of Rs. 1-0-8 per bag. Sometimes even more I do not know how many Madras measures it will hold per bag, but it is 50 seers

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of the place, according to the ration measure it is 70 measures. On 70 measures they are making a profit of Rs. 1-10-8 in one transaction. That works out at about 21 per cent profit. They are making 21 per cent in one transaction. How many turnover there will be within one month, Sir, within one month and 14 days, with a capital of about Rs. 7,00,000, they have made a clean profit of about Rs. 22,000. Within one year, how much turnover there will be? At the rate of Rs. 22,000 in 1½ months, they will be able to make 8 times that amount, that is to say, the societies will be making a profit of Rs. 1,76,000. It is about 300 per cent. Is this how the consumers are benefited by these societies? Is it not exploitation of people with permission of Government? It is said that they are working in the interests of the consumers. I say 5 p.m. neither the consumer nor the producer is benefited by the societies. It is said that the shareholders are to get 6½ per cent only out of this fabulous profit. Are all the consumers and producers of a firka shareholders of these producer cum consumers? No; only a small portion of the consumers, the producers are shareholders. But the whole inhabitants of the place are certainly consumers.

"These people are robbed with the consent of Government by the producer cum consumer societies. What about the profit? Only 6½ per cent will be given to shareholders? The Prime Minister has said the balance will be kept in reserve so that when times improve and business becomes normal, and others come into the field these huge amounts will be used for cut-throat competition which will kill all who may attempt to revive their avocation . . ."

AN HON. MEMBER :—"We do not understand what this amount is; is it profit on Rs. 80,000?"

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Yes."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"You have been listening to the hon. member. He says Rs. 80,000 brought in Rs. 30,000 in one and a half months' time; that there were eight turnovers in a year. The rest was all mathematics."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Which is the society?"

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Kuttuparamba society. I can give you the pamphlet; and you may take the Tellicherry and Tirur societies also. On the 8th March, the Government itself had issued a press note stating that fourteen societies have made 20 to 50 per cent profit within the first quarter."

"Sir, in Malabar, we Moplahs were the merchants; but of late others are also slowly coming into business. Still the main business, petty as well as wholesale business, is in the hands of Moplahs. Some fifteen or twenty years ago, the whole business was in the hands of Muslims. Now, with a wave of the hand, with a stroke of the pen, the Prime Minister, or rather the Madras Government, has swept us, Muslims, off this field of business."

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This is the only business in which we were mainly engaged; we no doubt take to agriculture, but trade is our main business. As I said, the whole trade has been forcibly taken out of our hands in the villages, on account of these co-operative societies. I may tell you, Mr. President, and for the information of this House, that had it not been for the statesmanlike step the Hon. Premier took in going to Malabar and pacifying by assuring words this would have created a situation for which he and I would have been very sorry. Sir, we in Malabar were nervous as things were going out of our control. People were becoming desperate, especially in the interior, petty traders were becoming desperate when the co-operative society came and asked to close down their trade which was their mainstay. The Muslim Leaders pacified them for the time being and fortunately for Malabar, the Minister ran up to Malabar on a whirlwind tour. He spoke to them in very kind and reassuring words which pacified them. But I may say that discontent is still there, and they are still waiting, still anxiously asking us always 'what have you done, what are you going to do, you have been telling us that the Prime Minister would rectify matters. Nothing is seen.' That is the position even now."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" But the Leaders have succeeded in the recent elections. That is the telegram received by the hon. Mr. Moideen Kutti of the other House."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" That is only in two places. The Muslims there were excluded; and even some officials were issuing demi-official letters that as far as possible the Muslim Leaguers should be excluded not only from the directorship, but also from the membership of the co-operative society itself. Mr. President, only just before I was coming here, an incident happened. In one of the amsams in my place, some people came hurriedly and anxiously to me and told me that in their village, where the Muslim population was in a majority there were four or five grain shops; all of the grain merchants were Muslims; but after these co-operative societies came into being, they were reduced to two; one of them was given to a Muslim salesman and the other to a Hindu. Allright, they said, and agreed. But with regard to the Hindu salesman, there was discontent. Both Hindus and Muslims joined in saying that he should not be there; they said it might be given to any other man, not to a Muslim but to any other Hindu; only that particular man they did not like. Mr. President, he was a paid servant of the society. But somehow or other the Taluk Supply Officer said : ' Allright, let both the shops be here; for the time being he will remove the Hindu, and we will appoint the man whom the local people want.' So, people were pacified. But after a month, what happened? The Muslim shopkeeper gets an order from the President of the Co-operative Society saying that he must hand over charge to the unwanted salesman of the other shop; then the people rose. The President of the Co-operative Society and some others went to

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the shop; the residents of the place resisted. This is not a Hindu-Muslim question. But both Hindus and Muslims of the locality assembled there, they resisted—and the President had to return. After two days, order came that charge should be handed over. In the meanwhile, I approached the Taluk Officer and told him everything. He stopped it; afterwards what happened I do not know. Then again you may see how Muslims are slowly removed from the entire field from. Salesmen were appointed both from among Hindus and Muslims, but later on, Muslims are removed for some reason or other in several shops. Though there is no Hindu-Muslim difference in Malabar, such acts are going to create unwholesome feelings. That is one thing.

" There is another very serious grievance. You come to Malabar and see one of the village ration shops. You will see a very pathetic sight. Hundred or two hundred people assembling in the ration shop, mainly women and children, waiting to get the rations. Only those that are able to make their way through will be able to get the rations; the others will be standing from morning 8 to 11 or 12 o'clock and again from 2 or 3 to 8 o'clock in the night. Sometimes, they have to return home—poor women and children—without being able to get their rations. They are in this helpless condition, and they are actually cursing. I say, Sir, the curses of the poor people are to be more afraid of than all your thousand atom bombs.

" Mr. President, having said all this, I must say I hear some reports that the Moplahs are now pleasantly co-operating. Sir, that is only a propagandist statement. Moplahs are waiting to see if the Premier would rectify things. Very often, people are getting excited. If anybody reports to the Premier that Moplahs are co-operating wholeheartedly, I warn the Premier not to take it seriously. It is misleading; the hon. Premier is under delusion that everything is allright. It is not so. I may tell you if you will not rectify matters anything may happen. What I say is : let the Premier see that everything is rectified as early as possible—I mean all these grievances."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know when we will rise, Sir? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" As soon as Mr. Uppi Sahib finishes."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I do not think he will finish to-day, Sir."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I may require another half an hour. Anyway I think I may be allowed to continue."

AN HON. MEMBER :—" Why not continue tomorrow, Sir : I think there is time enough for us."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question is this : tomorrow, if you exclude the question hour, we will have only just about two hours in the morning, between 12 noon and 1-30 p.m., or, even if

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we finish off our questions by 11-30 a.m., between 11-30 a.m. and 1-30 p.m. There are two other gentlemen, long-winded persons. (Laughter.) Perhaps, Mr. Sarma is there; but I would like to have the Premier after lunch. If Mr. Uppi Sahib . . ."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" I think, Sir, we may rise now."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The Members seem to be anxious to rise; and it will not be interesting to them to hear further speeches at this stage; minds get tired."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I hope you will finish in half an hour tomorrow."

The Council then rose, to meet again at 11 a.m. on the next day.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 93 asked by Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 10th March 1947, page 287 supra.]

Statement regarding the names, etc., of the Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners appointed.

Serial number and name.	Caste.	Age.	Educational qualifications.	Other qualifications.
1 Sri B. Balakrishna Ayyar ..	Brahman ..	YES.	..	Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies. Revenue Divisional Officer.
2 Mohammed Azizullah Sharif ..	Muslim ..	..	..	..
3 Sri V. L. Sastri ..	Hindu, Brahman ..	55 at the time of appointment.	B.A. ..	..
4 " N. Ramachandra Rao ..	Hindu, Vysia ..	26	L.B. ..	Tahsildar of the South Kanara district.
5 " P. Seetharama Chetti ..	Hindu, Bunt ..	45	..	..
6 " Yenumula Venkanna Dora ..	Hindu, Non-Brahman ..	31	B.A., B.L.	..
7 Dr. G. Narayanamurthy ..	Hindu, Brahman (Brahma Samaj) ..	49	L.M. & S.	..
8 Sri K. L. Narasimha Rao ..	Hindu, Brahman ..	50	B.A., B.L.	..
9 " G. K. Somayajulu ..	Do. ..	42	M.A.	..
10 " M. Muthukrishnan ..	Do. ..	35	B.A., B.L.	..
11 " P. V. Avadhani ..	Harijan ..	26	M.A.	..
12 " Kappaguntala Subba Rao ..	Hindu, Brahman ..	37	B.A., B.L.	..
13 " Tallapragada Prakasa-rayudu ..	Do. ..	54	M.A.	..
14 " S. B. Sampath Thatham ..	Do. ..	38	B.A., B.L.	..
15 " T. Kesavam Chetti ..	Hindu, Vysia ..	26	M.A.	..
16 Mr. G. M. Khuraishty ..	Muslim ..	26	B.A.	Formerly employed as assistant in the Office of the Superintending Engineer, Central Public Works Department, Madras.
17 Sri P. Srinivasan ..	Hindu, Vaishnavite, Kamma ..	36	B.A., B.L.	..
18 " B. Kolandavelu ..	Hindu, Non-Brahman ..	26	B.A. (Hons.)	..
19 " C. Prabakara Menon ..	Do. ..	29	B.A., B.L.	..

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 95 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 10th March 1947, page 269 supra.]

I.—Note on the Scheme for Training Clerks.

The normal method of recruitment to clerical posts is by appointment of candidates selected by the Madras Public Service Commission as a result of a competitive examination. These candidates, who are mostly fresh from schools or colleges, have no training or guidance in regard to the nature of clerical work. They do not know even the rudiments of office routine. The regular staff can rarely find time to instruct them properly. There was thus a waste of time, energy and stationery in public offices. It was, therefore, thought desirable that if those clerks were to prove useful and efficient they should be given, immediately after selection by the Madras Public Service Commission, a training which would make them fit to deal with the different subjects from the very date they joined their appointments. A scheme for training clerks was therefore started in 1944, for the first time, by the Government.

Four schools were started.

The staff of each school consists ordinarily of a Principal, a Chief Instructor, two instructors in office procedure, two instructors in accounts, part-time instructors for teaching Special Codes and Manuals relating to the departments concerned, two clerks and five peons. The qualifications of the teaching staff are given below:—

Staff.	Qualifications.
Principal	Appointed from the ranks of Deputy Collectors.
Chief Instructor	Deputy Collectors were previously appointed but, on account of dearth of Deputy Collectors, Tahsildars are being appointed now.
Instructors in Office Procedure.	Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars or Superintendents of the Secretariat or of the Board of Revenue.
Instructors in Accounts	Superintendents of the Accountant-General's Office or Inspectors of the Local Fund Accounts Department or Huzur Head Accountants.
Part-time instructors for teaching Special Codes and Manuals relating to the Departments concerned.	The Chief Ministerial Officer of the Department at the Training Centre is usually selected for the purpose, in consultation with the Heads of Departments concerned.

Trainees are given stipends during training.

The number of candidates trained up to 1st January 1947 is reported to be 2,757.

The total expenditure incurred on the scheme up to 1st January 1947 is about Rs. 6,10,900.

It is proposed to continue the scheme.

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II.—Notes on the Scheme for training Village Officers.

In 1944, the Government introduced, for the first time, a scheme for the training of village headmen in measures of village welfare and improvement. Schools were held in many centres in the Presidency.

The staff employed in each school consisted of a headmaster, an instructor in health subjects, an instructor in engineering subjects, a clerk and two peons.

The Agricultural Demonstrator, the Supervisor of Industries, the Inspector of Co-operative Societies, the Deputy Inspector of Schools, the Fisheries Demonstrator and the Veterinary Assistant gave instructions on the subjects relating to them for a week or ten days during each session of the school.

Other departmental officers, like the Rural Recreation Organizer, the Sub-officer of the Madras Fire Service, the Police Inspector, the Scout Organizer, the Government Entomologist and the Assistant Circle Officer of the National Savings Scheme, also attended each school, for some periods in a session, and gave practical hints on the subjects relating to them.

The headmaster of each school was generally an officer of the rank of Deputy Tahsildar, the instructor in health subjects was to possess the qualifications of a Health Inspector and the instructor in engineering subjects was to possess the qualifications prescribed for a Minor Irrigation Overseer or a Public Works Department Overseer.

The trainees (village headmen) drew their salary during the period of training and were provided with meals in the common mess attached to each school.

The scheme was discontinued recently. Fourteen schools were functioning at the time of discontinuance.

The number of persons trained in full up to the time of the discontinuance of the scheme is 13,831.

The total expenditure incurred on the scheme up to the time of its discontinuance is Rs. 3,40,000 nearly.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 11th March 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Manufacture of heavy chemicals.

* 98 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether applications have been received from individuals or companies for starting manufacture of heavy chemicals such as soda ash, caustic soda, etc.;

(b) whether the Government have examined the prospects of these industries in the light of recommendations of the panel on heavy chemicals;

(c) whether it is a fact that the short supply of these chemicals is so acute that establishments using these chemicals in manufacturing processes are either forced to close down the factories or reduce production;

(d) what steps the Government propose to take to accelerate the progress of these industries;

(e) whether the policy of nationalization is to be applied to the production of these chemicals; and

(f) how it is to be enforced?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The final report of the panel has not yet been received.

“(c) Government are not aware of the closure of any factory for this reason, though in some cases, production may have gone down.

“(d) to (f) These questions are under consideration and an early announcement of the decisions will be made.”

Re-employment of retired persons.

* 99 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) with reference to answer to question No. 24 answered on the 9th September 1946, whether heads of departments have been instructed not to send up proposals either for re-employment of those who have retired or recommend the extension of service of those who are due to retire;

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(b) whether it is a fact that when officers due to retire apply for leave preparatory to retirement they have been in many cases refused leave; and if so, whether such officers are entitled to enjoy leave after retirement virtually entitling extension of service;

(c) whether the Government have considered the desirability of stopping the procedure mentioned in (b);

(d) whether it is a fact that re-employment or extension of service or refusal to grant leave preparatory to retirement, results in blocking the chances of promotion of those who would have otherwise normally secured promotion;

(e) whether it is a fact that the action of the kind mentioned in (d) has created heart-burning in officers who are looking forward to normal promotions; and

(f) whether the Government propose to issue instructions not to entertain or submit proposals for either re-employment of retired persons or for extension of service of those due to retire or refuse to grant leave preparatory to retirement?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“(a), (c) & (f) In practice Government servants are generally not granted any extension of service. In cases where the services of senior men on the verge of retirement are required, they are retired and subsequently re-employed. The policy of the Government is to discourage even cases of such re-employment and this policy is followed consistent with public interest. The Government consider that the instructions already issued in the matter are sufficient.

“(b) The answer to the first part of the question is that there have occasionally been such cases and the answer to the second part is in the affirmative.

“(d) Theoretically it is so but in practice such block in promotion will not arise as re-employment is resorted to only if qualified and suitable candidates are not available for appointment or promotion in the normal way.

“(e) The Government are not aware of any such heart-burning. Nor do they believe that there is any such thing in view of their policy mentioned in the answer to clauses (a), (c) and (f).”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I take it, Sir, that generally the heads of departments follow the instructions of the Government and only in exceptional cases and in cases where a deviation is to be made, they approach the Government to consider the desirability of either extending or re-employing retired men?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“Yes, Sir, it is so.”

Distribution of cloth in the city.

* 100 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) what the arrangements are for the distribution of cloth in the city;

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(b) whether there is any permit system for sale to consumers; and if so, who the sanctioning authority is;

(c) whether the Provincial Textile Commissioner has issued special permits over and above the rationed quantity for cloth for certain consumers; and if so, the number of such cases in the city, the names of persons and the yardage sanctioned in respect of each case; and

(d) the circumstances under which consumers are entitled to receive such special permits in addition to permitted ration?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—“(a) There is no restriction on the purchase of handloom cloth as sufficient quantities of handloom cloth are available in the varieties to which the people are accustomed. Mill cloth however, has been rationed as it is in short supply. From August 1946 to 31st December 1946 an interim ration at the rate of 4 yards per adult and 2 yards per child was enforced in the City of Madras. This ration could be bought by any family on production of its food ration card. The full rationing scheme was introduced in Madras from 1st January 1947. A flat rate of 5 yards per adult and 2 yards per child per annum has been adopted in all the areas in the Province including the city. Separate cloth ration cards have been distributed to all the families in the city.

“(b) With the introduction of the interim ration a system of special permits was enforced to mitigate hardships in the following cases :—

(i) supplies to hospitals, nursing homes, etc., and for industrial and other similar purposes for which cloth is not used as wearing apparel;

(ii) persons residing in hotels or hostels and who have, therefore, no individual food ration cards. (Supply in these cases will be limited to the quantity admissible under the rationing scheme);

(iii) employees in transport companies, e.g., bus companies, who have to wear uniforms as prescribed under the rules promulgated by the Government;

(iv) employees in firms and institutions who are customarily supplied with uniforms by the employers;

(v) other bona fide consumers, such as persons proceeding overseas and others where the officer granting the permit was satisfied that some quantities of cloth over and above the prescribed ration should be allowed the quantity and varieties thus permitted being fixed in that officer's discretion.

These permits were at first issued by the Provincial Textile Commissioner. But a committee has now been set up consisting of the Additional Secretary to Government, Development Department, the Joint Secretary to Government (Planning and Development) and the Provincial Textile Commissioner to dispose of all applications for special permits.

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"(c) & (d) The time and energy spent on collecting this information will not be commensurate with the results."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, whether any of the Ministers had received a special permit for three hundred yards of cloth? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I would like to have notice, Sir, and certainly the question will be answered in due course."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know, Sir, whether it was published in one of the Madras dailies? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I think there was also a statement on this published by the Publicity Officer of the Government."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are aware that at present even card-holders are not able to obtain their ration cloth in the city? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I would like to have notice, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In view of the scarcity of mill cloth, may I ask whether the system of special permits will be altogether removed? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" There might arise some difficulties but I can assure the hon. member that they have been absolutely limited and this committee has been set up for that purpose."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Referring to answer to clause (c) of my question refers only to the city, may I ask if the list of persons for whom special permits have been sanctioned in the city cannot be furnished? "

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" I would be glad to give that information but even that information will contain a number of pages."

Sanskrit colleges in the Province.

* 101 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO (on behalf of Sri K. Madhava Menon) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of Sanskrit colleges in the Province and in what districts they are;

(b) how many of them are run by the Government and how many by private agencies;

(c) the names of the districts in which the Government are running the Sanskrit colleges;

(d) what are the courses of studies followed in the respective colleges; and

(e) how many of them are qualifying students for the Degree Course (B.O.L.)?

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THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" (a) to (e) A statement* furnishing the information is laid on the table."

Coupe contracts by Forest department.

* 102 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Forests be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are rules governing the sanction of coupe contracts given by the Forest department;

(b) who the competent authority to approve such contracts is;

(c) whether contracts can be entered into without calling for tenders in the exercise of the discretion of the sanctioning authority; and if so, whether limits to exercise such power have been imposed by rules;

(d) whether in respect of coupe contracts relating to the Silent Valley Estate in Palghat Division, coupe contracts have been entered into without calling for tenders; and if so, under what rule or authority;

(e) what the terms of these contracts are and who the contractors are;

(f) whether the contractors are outsiders; and if so, whether the local contractors were given an opportunity to offer their terms before approving the contract;

(g) what the periods of contracts are, and whether they can be terminated on any grounds; and

(h) whether the Government are aware that the activities of these contractors in this and other estates have resulted in the denudation of forests in those areas?

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM :—" (a) Rules governing the sanction of coupe contracts given by the Forest department are laid down in section 130 of the Madras Forest Department Code and in section 3 (i) on page 102 of Range Officers Manual.

" (b) The District Forest Officer is competent to enter into and deal with contracts not exceeding Rs. 10,000 and for contracts above this limit the previous approval of the Conservator is necessary.

" (c) Contracts can be entered into without calling for tenders in the exercise of the discretion of the sanctioning authority. No monetary limit has been imposed for the exercise of these powers.

" (d) & (e) The Government decided to lease the Silent Valley Forests to Messrs. Hope Timber Syndicate without calling for tenders. The terms of the lease are, briefly that the lessees will be permitted to extract timber from the leased area under the prescriptions of the working plan for a period of fifteen years, that for the timber so extracted they should pay at rates which have been fixed on the basis of rates obtained for similar

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species of timber at recent sales of forest coupes in the neighbouring forests and that these rates will be subject to revision from time to time.

“(f) The application of the Hope Timber Syndicate for a lease of these forests was addressed from Kallai, South Malabar, and the Forest Utilization Officer stated that they did some timber trade on the West Coast and were working in the Nilambur Valley forests during the war. As stated in answer to clauses (d) and (e) above, the Government decided to lease these forests to the Syndicate without calling for tenders for the reason that the lease of these forests (the exploitation of which requires large capital investment, experienced technical staff, transport facilities and previous experience in timber trade) should be given to a selected contractor possessing the requisite qualifications.

“(g) The period of the lease is fifteen years. The lease is liable to be terminated for breach of any of the conditions of the lease.

“(h) The Government have no such information. In any case, the working of the forests under the lease with the Syndicate will be under conditions which will preclude any possibility of denudation.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, what is the lease amount for which the Hope Timber Syndicate got the contract? ”

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM :—“ I have stated in the answer that there is no lease amount fixed. The cost of timber taken from the forest will be paid as and when they take the timber from the forest.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know, Sir, whether anybody else worked these forests previously? ”

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM :—“ No, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, if the Chief Conservator of Forests is the person entitled to exercise discretion in accepting contracts, where did the Government come in this case? ”

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM :—“ The matter has been reported by the Chief Conservator of Forests to give it on a nomination basis and Government considering all the conditions prescribed by the Chief Conservator of Forests decided the matter in this way.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I ask, Sir, when a contract of this kind was considered, why did not Government ask the Chief Conservator of Forests to call for tenders and afterwards choose among the tenderers as when tenders are called for, it need not be the highest bidder or the highest or lowest tender which the Government are bound to accept; but any tender which Government consider suitable? So, Sir, in this case why was this system of calling for tenders given up? ”

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THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM :—“ The reply to this was already given in my answer but I will state it once more. Government thought that this being a virgin forest, having no special facilities like roads and other necessary conveniences, it was profitable for them to give the contract to a private person or a Syndicate which has got all the materials for the purpose, namely, technical staff, etc., to exploit this virgin forest.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Is it the opinion of the Government that there are no such contractors in Malabar where timber operations have been going on for generations? ”

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM :—“ Yes, Sir. One other company applied originally and subsequently, the Chief Conservator reported that that company went into liquidation and then another company applied and in that case also, the Chief Conservator of Forests reported that it had not got the requisite capacity to work the forest.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, whether in view of the various conjectures in this House and in the other House, will the Government issue a Press Communiqué explaining all the circumstances under which they had to give up this system of calling for tenders and giving the contract to the Hope Timber Syndicate? ”

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM :—“ Government are not responsible for conjectures made by outsiders.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know who form this Hope Timber Syndicate? ”

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM :—“ Notice, Sir.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know, Sir, whether this Hope Timber Syndicate had any previous experience of timber trade? ”

THE HON. SRI B. VENKATARATNAM :—“ I have already stated it in my reply.”

Principles governing priority to permits for the purchase of new cars.

* 103 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) the principles governing priority in regard to permits for the purchase of new cars;

(b) whether what is known as ‘essentiality’ has been adopted as the main consideration; and if so, how ‘essentiality’ has been defined;

(c) whether the Government themselves have at any time given instructions to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller in some cases to give priority to certain individuals; and if so, whether it was on the ground of ‘essentiality’;

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(d) whether appeal lies to Government from the orders of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller in regard to permits for the purchase of new cars; and

(e) whether the Government will place on the table of the House a list of priorities prepared for guidance of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller?

THE HON. SRI R. RAGHAVA MENON :—“(a) The general principle observed is that those in most need of a car should be given priority. Preference is given to those who need a car, but have no car or are willing to place their car at the disposal of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller for sale at a price calculated on the basis of the Used Motor Vehicles Control Order.

“(b) The answer is in the affirmative. No specific definition of essentiality has been laid down but the principle is as given in answer to (a).

“(c) Government issued instructions in some cases to give priority to certain individuals based on grounds of essentiality.

“(d) No appeal as such lies to the Government, but it is open to Government to review any case of refusal.

“(e) No list of priorities has been prescribed. Each case is decided on merits.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“Now that the permit system has gone, I do not propose to pursue the question by putting any supplementaries.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“In fact, I wanted to ask the hon. member whether he would put the question at all.”

Pension to retired peons.

* 104 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state with reference to answer to question No. 51 answered on 11th September 1946, whether the Government have under consideration the question allowing peons who have retired from service before the decision of Government to sanction half their emoluments as pension was announced, to draw their pensions also on the same basis?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“The question referred to is not under the consideration of the Government.

“According to the existing orders, the concession of pension equal to half the average emoluments of the peons has effect from 1st January 1946, that is, it does not apply to those who retired prior to 1st January 1946.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, in view of the fact that the amount of pension is Rs. 6 per mensem whatever might have been the salary the peon was drawing at the time of retirement and as increased emoluments in the shape of pension are available to those who retire after 1st April 1946, why

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not this benefit be extended to also in respect of those who retired before 1st April 1946 for, after all, the number of people who will be affected will be very very small? Will the Government consider this suggestion?”

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“I should be inclined to do so.”

Pension to peons who retired before 27th April 1946.

* 105 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : With reference to answer to question No. 51 given on the 11th September 1946 and the supplementary questions and answers on the same, will the Hon'ble the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have considered the question of allowing peons, who retired before 27th April 1946 also to draw pension equal to half their average emoluments during the last three years of their service as against a pension of Rs. 6 per mensem for which they are now eligible;

(b) whether the Government have accepted the recommendation of the Salaries Committee to treat peons as superior for purposes of pension;

(c) if the answer to (b) as in the affirmative, whether rules governing pension in respect of superior services will be applicable to peons also;

(d) whether any revision in the salaries of peons has been ordered; and

(e) whether in view of the increased cost of living, travelling allowances granted to peons will also be revised?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“(a) The answer to this clause has been given to question No. 104.

“(b) & (c) The rules governing pension in respect of Government servants in superior service are not applicable to peons, who continue to be classed as in inferior service. But the Cabinet Salaries Committee, 1946, has recommended that the rates and rules regarding gratuities should be liberalized, and the recommendation has been accepted by the Government. The Government have also accepted the recommendation of the Committee that provision should be made for permitting inferior servants to retire from service at their option after reaching the age of 55 years or after they have rendered 30 years qualifying service, if the head of the office certifies to their incapacity for further public service.

“(d) The Government have decided to enhance the scale of pay of peons to Rs. 16- $\frac{1}{4}$ (annual)-25.

“(e) the Government have already increased from time to time the rates of travelling allowance admissible to peons in consideration of the increase in the cost of living brought about by

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war conditions. The Cabinet Salaries Committees examined the question of travelling allowance of Government servants and came to the conclusion that the existing conditions need no improvement."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Whatever may be the considerations that govern the travelling allowance of other officers, since the peons are already getting a very small travelling allowance when they go out on duty, will the Hon. the Premier consider the question of raising the travelling allowance of peons? "

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" It will be considered, Sir."

Labour dispute in Messrs. Parry & Co., at Ranipet.

* 106 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether an adjudicator has been appointed under rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules into the labour dispute in the factories of Messrs. Parry & Co., at Ranipet;

(b) what the dispute is and what the issues referred for adjudication are;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Lobo, the District Judge of North Arcot has been appointed by the Government as the adjudicator in the dispute under rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules,

(d) whether it is a fact that the Ranipet Labour Union has complained to the Government that the District Judge has taken the matter as an original petition before the District Court of North Arcot with the Ranipet Labour Union as the plaintiff and Messrs. Parry & Co., Ltd., as the respondent, and is proceeding with the case as such instead of dealing with it as adjudicator appointed under rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules;

(e) whether any representation has been made by the Ranipet Labour Union to the Government pointing out the difficulties in the presentation of their case by the attitude of the District Judge in dealing with the matter as an original petition before the District Court instead of as a trade dispute referred to him for adjudication; and

(f) what the Government have done or propose to do in the matter?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) The dispute is about the wages of the workers.

The following issues have been referred for adjudication :—

(1) The minimum number of jars which a potter may be required to manufacture in a working day of eight hours;

(2) The piece rates of wages for the production of the minimum number of jars.

" (c) Yes, Sir.

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" (d) & (e) Yes, Sir. A letter was received from the hon. member in his capacity as the Honorary President of the Ranipet Labour Union. It is not clear what the 'difficulties and complications' are owing to the Adjudicator treating it as an original petition.

" (f) The Government have taken no action as they do not consider it desirable to interfere with the discretion of the Court."

Land tax in the deltaic districts of Kistna and Godavari.

* 107 Q.—SRI K. NATARAJAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether in the deltaic districts of Kistna and Godavari, in the matter of calculation of assessment, land tax is levied on land irrespective of the number of crops raised in the fasli year and when the land is irrigated, water tax is levied at a certain rate per acre, for the first irrigated crop at 50 per cent of that rate, for the next irrigated crop in the same fasli successive irrigation, if any, in the same fasli year being treated similarly;

(b) whether in all such cases land tax as such is levied only once;

(c) whether on the other hand in the district of Tanjore the assessment is worked out at a consolidated rate for wet land based on outturn, the figure being made up of both the land tax and the water tax;

(d) whether on the areas covered by the Cauvery-Mettur Project the principle adopted is the addition of water tax to land tax as in other districts;

(e) whether in the area covered by the Cauvery-Mettur Project when the land is irrigated for a second crop 50 per cent of the water tax alone is levied;

(f) whether, however, in the old Delta area in Tanjore district, the rate for the second irrigated crop is worked out not at 50 per cent of the water tax alone but 50 per cent of the consolidated wet rate including land tax also;

(g) whether this imposition of the land tax once again has been objected to by the ryots; and

(h) whether in view of the hardship to the ryots concerned, there is any proposal to order the assessment for the successive irrigated crop only at 50 per cent of the water tax alone, and whether orders will be issued that the kist be collected only on those for 1947 onwards.

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH :—" (a) to (h) The information asked for by the hon. member is laid on the table of the House."

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

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1947-48—cont.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The general discussion on the Budget will now be resumed. We have barely two hours before us and I hope all speeches will be closed by that time.”

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, yesterday, I was telling the House about the co-operative societies in Malabar. In the course of my statement, I referred to the income which a society has made within one and half months. Sir, I gave some figures yesterday which I wish to correct. The actual figures, as they stand and as published by the society, are as follows. The society was started on 29th September 1946, and worked till 13th October 1946 and the accounts rendered by it on 30th November 1946, that is, after one month and fourteen days of its working, showed that it made a net profit of Rs. 29,965-9-5. The capital of the society was Rs. 74,475. Don't you think that even this is a very huge and fabulous profit. Now that two months have elapsed since the publication of this note, naturally they must have made a bigger profit than this since then, because, they have to incur a certain amount of expense in the initial stages.

“ Now, Sir, let me refer to other affairs of this Government during the ten months they were in office. I have to thank the Hon. the Premier for having introduced Prohibition and for his attempting to stop betting. Prohibition is a thing, Sir, which we all desire and especially so, the Mussalmans. We are prepared to pay for it. We have no quarrel with the Hon. the Prime Minister or the Madras Government for imposing taxes in the name of Prohibition. But we were once told that they were going to make the Madras Presidency a dry area and so they have to tax us; but soon after the burden of tax is there and liquor too is there. Now, again, they are trying it as an experiment. If they succeed, well and good. We will be mighty glad over it. You will admit, Sir, that no other person than the Prophet Mohamed has been able to bring about Prohibition cent per cent within twenty-three years of his prophethood. You know, Sir, he made the whole of Arabia—a country where the population was then swimming as it were in liquor when the Prohibition order was announced, immediately the streets of Medina was flowing with wine—Nobody else was able to do that. That is the position there even to-day. Here, if the Hon. the Premier is able to accomplish that, I would be mighty glad. But I have my doubts. I only suggest that this mild way of closing liquor shops and asking people not to use liquor will not solve the problem. It has been tried elsewhere in America and failed; the previous Congress Government themselves had attempted and failed. However, the Hon. the Prime Minister has taken the courage to try it again. I wish him all success but still I have my own diffidence about it. I suggest that if you want to succeed in this, you will have to give up some of your notions about humane treatment and all that. If you really and sincerely wish

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to have the millions of this country from this immorality this ruinous habit, this social plague from the country, then resort to Islamic laws at least in this matter. That is you should bring forward a measure like the one you passed in this House the other day. If a man is found drunk, bring him in public and flog him in the public. (Laughter.) I anticipated this laughter. If you do it in the case of one dozen people in the City of Madras, I assure you that millions of people will be saved. (Laughter). Nothing short of this is going to stop the evil.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Is that Islamic law? ”

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Yes, Sir. But some other laws to safeguard innocent persons have to be adopted. In other words, if witness gives false evidence against a person, he must be punished more severely. According to Islamic law there is no mercy shown to him. It is only if you could get proper evidence—eye-witness's evidence, you can punish a man. Sir, I may tell you for the information of the House, there is another law of the Muslims which is equally beneficial to the society and that is, if a man steals and is caught red-handed, the punishment awarded to him is to cut off one of his hands. Mr. President, these laws had been tried for centuries. Even in this twentieth century, it is applied and found successful in Arabia. Before Ibn Saud came, the Turks who were ruling the country, introduced the modern punishment like imprisonment.

“ But Ibn Saud reintroduced Islamic law. Since he introduced this law there were not more than a 100 people who were punished. The result is that now in Arabia even if people threw valuables in the streets nobody dares to touch them. You can ask about this from people who are coming back from Arabia. So, Sir, I say that if you want to save the society there must be exemplary punishment and we are prepared to co-operate with the authorities if they adopt any such measures.

“ Now, Sir, another thing which evidently is in the minds of everybody here is about blackmarketing and control. I say to the Government, you give up all controls and allow things to settle themselves; then everything will be normal and will find its own place. What is happening is, the moment you intend to introduce control over a particular thing immediately that thing goes underground and the prices rise. It is not available in the market. If you withdraw that control, suddenly the price may go up. But it will be only for a few days or one or two weeks, the pendulum may swing the other way, but it is bound to come to its level and it will come. You have got so many examples for this. Take the case of jaggery, the moment you imposed control jaggery was not available in the open market and prices went high, abnormally high; but again when you withdrew the control there has been an improvement in the situation and things are returning to normal. You remove all controls except in a few cases. After all, nobody wishes to give away money for the pleasure of it unless it be for an urgent necessity. People themselves will bring the prices to their normal level.

11-30 a.m.

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"With regard to the control of coconut oil in Malabar, you have been very hard. I think this Government did not realize the cultivators' position there at all. Sir, for some years, that is before the war began, the position of the coconut producer was very miserable. In Malabar you know, Sir, there are not many coconut gardens of 20 or 25 acres. They are very few and far between. All coconut is produced by small cultivators holding one acre and two acres, or say five acres. Sixty per cent of the population are getting on with this cultivation and before the war, when the price was very low, it was not at all paying. We were agitating for this in 1930-34. I was in the Central Assembly and was very often bringing this matter before the Central Government. They had then begun to allow Ceylon coconut to come in. We asked for protection of the poor coconut cultivators by stopping import of Ceylon coconut, but for some reason or other, the India Government did not heed and the result was that we suffered. Now what happens? When the Ceylon people found other markets for their production, the prices here rose and when the pendulum of price has swung towards the cultivators' side, the Government comes in and controls. It has hit the poor coconut producers in Malabar and it has benefited the big merchants of Bombay. The latter purchase from the small cultivators at low prices and sell them in the Native States, where there are no controls at a very high price. It appears nuts are sold at Re. 1-8-0 each. You may control the price of oil and copra but not nuts. And you should allow free movement of this within the Province.

"Then with regard to yarn, yesterday on the floor of the House, an Hon. Minister on the other side told us that in the transaction of yarn they allowed 18½ per cent to middlemen for taking the yarn and passing it on to the weavers. Is it not a fabulous percentage of profit? Thus is not this action of the Government responsible for the high prices of handloom cloth? I ask the Government to go into the matter and allow them 5 per cent when 2 per cent and 2½ per cent were considered to be very big profits in the pre-war days, now they are allowing 18½ per cent.

"Let me now come to the educational policy of the Madras Government. I do not want to enter into the big problem of education, because it has been so beautifully and so eloquently dealt with by Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. I have only to say that the educational policy, so far as the Muslims are concerned, is rather very unsatisfactory. The other day the Hon. Minister's statement, coupled with the reply recently given to a memorandum submitted by the South Indian Muslim Educational Association, was very disappointing. The Government is slowly brushing aside all our demands by flimsy arguments and the result is, the more you refuse the greater is the demand or resistance. You have been trying to enforce the regional language or mother tongue or whatever it is, and you are forcing us to study a language other than what we wish or rather you refuse to give facility for a language which we want. You try to force us to study the language

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which you want. We are prepared to study the language which you want but give us also facility to study our language. Why do you refuse? What is behind your mind, I ask? Are you trying to keep us from coming into contact with our culture. Is that your motive? I am bluntly putting this to you. If that is your idea we may as well tell you, woe unto this Presidency; we are not going to give up our culture or religion; on that score we will go to the extreme. Mr. President, we have been living together for the last many centuries. There were days when the Muslims ruled over India. Did they object you from studying your culture or your religion? We did not do that and everything was amicably going on. There might have been here and there some troubles. For 800 or 900 years we lived together. We did not prevent you from studying your language nor did you prevent us. Let us go on in that way. Now you are in power. Give us facilities to study our language. Do not say, no and speak about this bunkum of regional language, mother tongue and all this because they are all mere eyewash. Sir, then with regard to Muslim education. Formerly some provision used to be found in the Budget. Now there is only provision for European education. It seems that we have to depend upon whatever doles that you may be pleased to give us for our special education and we will have to be satisfied with that. That is the stage to which it has come. Within the Muslim education there was another special education, education for the Mappillas. Provision for that also is not to be found here. This is our lot in a Hindu majority. Sir, there is a Government High School in Malabar which has no hostel, no school building. It is located in some Government Training school or so. There is a Muslim Girls' high school at Tirur. There is no building for it. It is located in a rented building and we have been crying for the provision of a building. Provision was made in the previous Budget, not in the last Budget, but in the Budget previous to that and that is not to be found here, after this Government has come into power. If this is your attitude towards us, it is no wonder that we ask for Pakistan. It is such resistance to such refusal on your part of vital requirements of the Muslims that has led to the present situation. The more you refuse, the greater becomes the resistance. That is quite human. I do not propose to take much of the time of the House. I will only say that by your policy since you came into power, so far as Mappillas are concerned, you have driven them from their trade and you are very niggardly in helping them in educational matters.

"You are obstinate in giving us our rights and under those circumstances we have to think very seriously about our future. Now, what we find is that the Congress at last is forced to agree to the partition of India. But it is conniving at partition of India not only into two but several divisions. So I have seriously to think whether we should not put forward our claim for Moplastan."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"During the annual Budget discussion, we used to travel in a mental aeroplane from

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China to Peru; but to-day being the last day, I am afraid we will have to race against time and much more, you may not be in a mood or able to allow us sufficient time."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is not a question of mood but one of ability."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—" I would, therefore, like to confine my remarks to one or two subjects, such as medicine, public health and some aspects of education. I wish the Health Minister were here so that she may take note of what I say with regard to the reorganization of the Medical and Public Health Departments. Of course our Hon. Premier is a many-faceted genius and he can take notes in respect of all departments but it would be much better if the Hon. Minister for Medicine and Public Health is here.

" This year's Budget is a humdrum Budget, save for some two or three outstanding features. It has been prepared in the same old rigmorage fashion as in the past.

" We are passing through revolutionary times; the whole world is in a melting pot; times are very, very stirring; the days of autocracy, bureaucracy are no more and we are having popular and national governments. When such is the case, we must also try to have far-reaching schemes with a revolutionary flavour about them.

" I feel it my duty to offer my warm congratulations to the Premier and his colleagues for declaring eight more districts dry this year; we would have been all the more pleased if he had straightway declared like a benevolent autocrat, the whole Province dry."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" He would have done so if he were a despot."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—" In such matters, we would freely allow him to be a despot.

" The Government and especially the Health Minister deserve our gratitude for the great fillip that is about to be given to the Indian systems of medicine despite opposition of vested interests and some allopathic practitioners. During the regime of the late lamented Raja of Panagal, the Indian systems of medicine like the phoenix rose from the ashes; but though living, the systems were only able to keep body and soul together and there was not much of vigour in them. I find now that the Health Minister is breathing a new life into those systems by extending the hand of help. We are immensely pleased that the School of Indian Medicine is going to be converted into a college. In that connection, may I not repeat what I said in some other occasion that the general qualification for admission into the college should not be less than a pass in the Intermediate in Arts.

" With regard to Medical and Public Health Departments, I would like to say that a comprehensive service for the prevention and cure of illness and for post-medical rehabilitation is a prime

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and a basic need of the hour. The scheme for national health service should ensure that every citizen, man, woman or child, shall have equal opportunity to benefit from the best available medical and allied services, if the Government is going to assume the duty of guaranteeing as a citizen right . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Health Minister has come."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—" I am very glad and I am much obliged to her.

" If the Government assumes the duty of guaranteeing as a citizen right that one and all should have free medical care according to the medical need of each, three inevitable and inescapable obligations devolve upon them. Firstly, it should bring about a better geographical distribution of not only doctors but also medical resources, for a sort of maldistribution occurs in several districts and so earlier it is cured, the better. Secondly, the highest attainable quality must be vouchsafed to the people at large. Thirdly, the Government should explore ways and means to solve the financial barriers. It is the job of the Government to clear these financial hurdles. There is little use in carrying out reforms here and there but the plan should be such that, if carried out, the reforms should amount to a revolution in medical services.

" The health of the community depends upon three main factors. The higher the living standard the better the health and undoubtedly living standards should be raised considerably. Secondly, the higher the standard of education, the better the health of the community will be and thirdly, there should be an organized public service to prevent disease and arrange for early diagnosis and suitable treatment. Each factor is essential in itself and each complements the other. In advanced countries, ' public health ' has now become ' social medicine,' a sphere of social service directed towards the medical protection of the society and its individuals through organized and co-operative and collective effort. We must do our utmost to diminish three things above all others, namely, poverty, disease and ignorance. These are the three monsters, the cyclops that bar the gate of the country's progress. We should not forget that disease is as much the result of social and economic maladjustment as of infection and we must not labour under the notion that infections alone bring about disease. Social medicine is no new thing, either in this country or in others. It is an integral part of preventive medicine. The purpose of this science and art is application of knowledge to the prevention of disease. So the creation of a University professorship of Social Medicine and the foundation of an institute in which the professor will work, are both vitally important. The medical curriculum and the practice of medicine should be reconstructed with these ends in view. The knowledge already gleaned in the field of preventive medicine should be made more widely known and more freely offered.

" The public should be educated in the right mode of living. National nutrition should be under the Food Minister, who should take over the duties among others as to the purity and standard

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of foodstuffs. We need a number of nutritional institutes, as we find in Russia, to conduct researches on nutrition and train dietetic specialists. There is only one in this Province. These specialists should be made to supervise canteen cooking, cooking in hostels of schools and colleges and in various such other places, and food storage and hygiene. Technical experts, who will inspect and advise on school meals, are badly needed.

"Milk, Sir, is needed not only for adults but also for infants, children, expectant mothers and invalids. A sufficient and safe quantity should be secured. As it is, there is a great dearth of milk specially in this metropolis. Adulterated milk carries with it many infections, and the best way to remedy this source of infection is to have it pasteurized. In England, and even in other parts of the West, ninety per cent of the milk supplied is being pasteurized. In Madras, I believe, there is only one place, namely, the Co-operative Milk Union, where milk is pasteurized. So, Government should see that non-pasteurized milk is not allowed to be sold in any part of the metropolis or even the Province. To avoid such infection, reconstituted milk is much better than natural milk which is not pasteurized. Powers, therefore, are needed to detect and prohibit the sale of infected and adulterated milk which causes tuberculosis and infectious diseases, such as typhoid, diphtheria, epidemics, sore throat, and all the rest of it.

"Now, Sir, I wish to say a word on dental services. The importance of teeth cannot be over-emphasized. I would even go to the length of saying that teeth are the pegs of health. There is a Tamil proverb which says:

‘பலனுய் போச்சு, சொல்லும் சுகமும் போச்சு.’

The very health will be lost for want of teeth. Sir, God has not provided any grinding machinery in the human stomach. Naturally, the teeth do the grinding part of it. If such an important instrument is lost to the body, then woe unto the digestive system."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am sure you doctors will invent a grinding system in the stomach. I do not know if the stomach goes on grinding."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"We are not inventors in any sense in this matter. We can only set right things. Spare parts are not available in Nature's factory (laughter) to replace any organ in the human system. Plans, therefore, are needed immediately for constituting a comprehensive dental service all over the Province. A dental service for the whole of India should be provided as soon as possible in view of the importance of teeth to health. The existing independent dental services may be absorbed with mutual advantage. In this connexion, I wish to emphasize that each and every educational institution should have a dentist, because once the trouble starts in childhood it never stops anywhere especially such remediable diseases as caries. So, it is very necessary that every educational institution should have a dentist.

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"Ancillary services.—There are several ancillary services included in the medical and health services, such as nurses, midwives, health visitors, sanitary inspectors and others. As a wider concept of preventable medicine prevails, these ancillary services multiply. This needs co-ordination in the scheme of reform. There is a dire dearth of trained nurses. In the whole of the sub-continent, namely, India, there are only about 5,000 nurses as compared to 50,000 doctors. In our Province there are only about a couple or at the most 300 of them. This betrays the backward status of the profession. Therefore, Sir, conditions of nursing services and remuneration require immediate and satisfactory consideration and organization. Improvements in hours and conditions of work should be called for. A need for recognition is keenly felt, for an assistant nurse who need not be so well trained as the registered nurse. They may be allowed to do nursing work of less importance under supervision. Moreover social obstacles should soon disappear. This urgent problem now chiefly awaits leadership from Indian women of all castes and creeds.

"Industrial health is still chiefly a private responsibility, and Government has not assumed full responsibility yet. It should become the major activity of the Government. There has been little improvement since the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Labour in India in 1931. It is high time this Government takes adequate steps to counteract the serious effect on the health of the workers. It is high time a school medical service is set up, and linked up with public health activities. The school medical service should not be purely consultant and advisory, but provide actual treatment. Certain special clinics for pressing conditions such as the removal of enlarged tonsils and adenoids, cure of ringworm or fungus and dental diseases. An all-round scheme of reform for all the health needs of the school child and specialized advice and treatment in all children's diseases, and departures from normal state of health is imperative. For, our object must be to build up a healthy and sturdy stock and prevent both invalidity and disease. Tuberculosis, Sir, is a dire and insidious disease to which thousands and tens of thousands fall victims year after year. We should deal adequately with the prevention and treatment of it on modern lines. Every scheme should provide full and proper combination of means both for prevention and for treatment. It is very unfortunate that for this vast premier Presidency only one tuberculosis sanatorium, worth its name, is available. Of course in Tambaram and Perundurai there are two institutions but they are not up to the mark. These three institutions have to cater to a population of fifty millions, and consequently patients have to wait for beds for months and months together. By that time the disease gets the upper hand and gets into the third stage which, mostly, is incurable. This is a grave situation, and so Government should see its way to start many more sanatorium hospitals in a number of suitable places, specially in hilly stations, so that every tuberculosis patient may have an opportunity to receive the best available modern and special treatment.

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"Now, Sir, I come to venereal diseases. There are meagre facilities . . ."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—"On a point or order, Sir. May I know how the mention of these diseases is relevant to the budget debate?"

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—"Of course, it is only in budget debate we have to place our suggestions, which are to be implemented by the departments concerned or the Government."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I too feel that the hon. member need not go into so many details."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—"I will finish soon, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Practically you have exhausted your time."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—"With regard to venereal diseases, there are very few centres in the whole of the Province. The new schemes should be such as to have a centre within every ten miles, so that special treatment for venereal diseases can be had."

"As regards research, it is considered to be the touchstone of progress as it is in all other spheres. In the scheme of public health, medical research should play an all-important part. In the present University Medical education there is little scope for research as compared to that undertaken in the University Medical Colleges in the West. This should be attended to. Doctors should be sent to foreign countries, periodically, to have their mental cobwebs removed. They should have their 'quinquennial brain dusting,' as it were, once in 5 or 7 years."

12-15 p.m. "The inclusion of politics into national health is not conducive to public health. Just as the Minister gets acquainted with the work of his portfolio, when initiating certain reforms something undesirable happens and a change of hands takes place. Health reform ought not to be a counter in the game of politics as Sir MacNally once said. Sir, I have finished with the medical and public health topics."

"Coming to the question of language, I wish to place before this House a few considerations."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I hope you will be short."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—"Yes, Sir. Sir, language, we all know, is a great unifying, and not only unifying but a potent political and cultural factor. As such we, Muslims, belonging to the minority community, regard it as of vital importance. India is not a unilingual country. It is not even a bilingual, but it is a multilingual sub-continent. The language problem is not a local problem either of this province or of this country. It is a world problem. About 30 countries are facing this language problem. So what we, Muslims, want is that we should be allowed freedom to choose what language we want for our children and our children's children. Sir, this is a very

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reasonable demand of ours. No Government on earth should compel any community to have a particular language which is not liked or which is resented by a particular community."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Except perhaps the British Government."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—"Sir, British Government is taking leave of us."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"They made study of English compulsory."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—"Yes, for various reasons. I shall come to that presently. There is our mother-tongue; and there is going to be another language for our province, and they call it, regional language. And there is a third language which we cannot escape. I mean English the world vehicle we want it for commercial purposes and for some other reasons, an international language. Such being the case, we should be allowed to have our own way. As I said, Sir, at least thirty countries are affected by this question, and the tendency to bilingualism or trilingualism is increasing day by day. The mother-tongue is the most important of all. It is part and parcel of the texture of a man's personality, and therefore we cannot afford to lose our mother-tongue. If it is neglected the child will be affected. Let us consider, Sir, the bilingual area situation in the three continents, viz., South America, the eastern sea-borne territory of the United States and Belgium in Europe. Every South American republic is compelled to face bilingual problem in all forms. First, there are the small but important minority of Europeans of Northern American descent with schools of their own, in which instruction is given in French, English, Italian and German. Secondly, there is a larger minority of many millions of native Indians who speak one of the different Indian languages. Many State schools now exist for these Indians, as Wyatt Rawson pointed out. So why not even in India such State institutions exist for Muslims, who are in a minority in this province. The Muslims who are in a majority in some other provinces in India I believe it is the bounden duty . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I hope the hon. member will finish before 12-30."

* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—"I will finish even before that, Sir. It will be the bounden duty of this Government to allow us to pick and choose what language we want for the benefit of our children. Even granting that some Muslims in some places are not having Urdu as their mother-tongue. I would like to point out that because of want of facilities for learning Urdu, these people have not been able to have Urdu as their mother-tongue. If proper facilities had been provided by this Government and the previous Government, they would have taken to Urdu. For instance, when I was a school boy studying in a High school in Tanjore there was no munshi at all in the school. Necessarily I had to take up Tamil as my second language. It was

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a great handicap to me as Urdu was my mother-tongue. I had to study Urdu side by side with Tamil. It was an additional burden on a child's mind. It is a great handicap to Muslims. When we have a popular and national Government we look to them for a little sympathy towards our difficulties. At least this province should show to the whole of India that they are not harsh towards a community who desires to have a reasonable demand of their own. I hope better counsels will prevail in this province as well as in other provinces. Of course in Northern India, Urdu is widespread and the problem is not so acute as it is in the south. So if it is solved here, the whole problem could have been solved in a great way.

"Then, Sir, with regard to general education, I would like to say a few words. The present education does not quite fit a person for his life's work. It is more theoretical in its aspect, and hereafter it should assume a practical bias. It should be highly practical in its character. A free and compulsory universal education, Sir, should come immediately. There is no use of just declaring a certain area here and a certain area there for this purpose. With one stroke of the pen our Hon. Premier should declare in the whole province a free and compulsory universal education. There is no justification to say that for want of funds it is being kept back. His hands are not tied to levy taxes. We on our side from this side of the House are prepared to offer our fullest support for any good cause, as we have shown our intention with regard to good schemes, such as Prohibition and prevention of gambling and such things. Therefore I appeal to the Hon. Premier and his colleagues that they should bring about a great reformation in the realm of education and in medical and public health spheres."

* S. K. SHAIK ROWTHER SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I have read the Hon. Premier's budget speech with interest and considered the various remarks he has made therein. It is said that last year's budget has been hastily prepared but the Premier has had ample time to prepare the present budget. I find, Sir, the present budget is not more satisfactory than the last budget as it contains few promising features.

"Sir, first and foremost I would like to discuss the policy of the Government as regards State-trading and nationalizing of industries. The Government, instead of concentrating their attention to govern as other Governments are doing for improving the lot of people, is giving more attention to the trading and thereby eliminates business people from the usual trade channels. This will retard the economic progress of this province. It is a well known fact that trade and business are the factors which contribute towards the progress of a country. The next problem I would like to discuss is the food problem of our province. Last year during the months of June and July we were in a very desperate condition and we were on the verge of a famine but by the grace of God and timely action of our Government and help from foreign countries we were able to have a narrow escape from famine."

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[S. K. Shaik Rowther Sahib Bahadur]

"This year the favourable seasonal conditions will no doubt improve the food situation considerably but we should not forget the lesson we have learnt last year. It is owing to the indifference of the previous Government to the agricultural development of our province and the construction of irrigation works that we were driven to such sorry plight last year. With the advent of the popular Government we thought that there will be substantial improvement in the agricultural development, irrigation and other facilities. Now, Sir, the amount allotted to irrigation in the present budget is not at all adequate. Although certain irrigation schemes have been prepared for Malabar long ago the actual work has not been commenced so far. I request the Government to expedite the construction of anicuts and reservoirs in Malabar and save us from depending upon outside countries. 12-30 p.m.

"The next important item I should like to discuss is about the Textile policy of the Government. The Textile policy of the Madras Government is quite different from that of other provinces. I am at a loss to understand the attitude of our Government in not accepting the spindles allotted to the Madras Province by the Central Government while all the other provinces desire to get more spindles than what have been allotted to them. Although the Interim Government which is also a Congress Government advised our Government to accept the spindles allotted to Madras and although there is very strong opposition from the people of this province about the refusal to accept the spindles our Government still contemplates to fight on a legal basis. This attitude of our Government will aggravate the hardship to the people as regards cloth supply.

"Sir, the Textile Department was working very unsatisfactorily in the past. Now the department is reorganized and the work of distribution of mill cloth and yarn is entrusted to the District Collectors who will be helped by the Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners, I hope the present arrangement will improve the situation. The distribution of yarn at present is based entirely on a census of looms taken in 1944. That census was not taken by officers of the Textile Department, but by the yarn merchants who were linked up with the weavers' associations as they liked and as such that census should not be considered as satisfactory. Many complaints have been made to the Textile authorities about this and the irregular distribution of yarn to the weavers and weaving factories. Yarn is supplied to many bogus looms while genuine active looms have not been supplied with yarn. I would suggest to the Government to intimate the District Collectors to arrange to take a fresh census of looms by the Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners themselves, as early as possible to avoid complaints in future.

"Sir, it is said that the price of handloom cloth is higher than the price of mill cloth, but it is cheaper than khadder. The price of handloom cloth may be brought down by reducing the price of the yarn by adequate supply of yarn to the weavers and factories and also by fixing the wages. The fixing of wages will no doubt minimize the strikes in factories.

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works, which are not on a permanent basis. These amounts are spent, Sir, by giving wages to the labourers for breaking stones on the roadside and for laying out famine roads. These works are incomplete and another famine has to come for the completion of these works, though of course lakhs and lakhs have been spent. I only pray that the Government would look into it and see that something is done which could give a permanent relief instead of giving these doles now and then when famine does occur. I ask why not a certain amount be set apart for these districts, especially for the Anantapur district, because of the frequent famines there. No other district wants the money and we cannot tide over the famine unless the Government comes to our aid. We cannot do anything. That is the situation of the district.

“ Now, Sir, there are some rivers flowing in my district. People are seeing their waters flowing down and down with gaping mouths and tears in their eyes. Projects have been under contemplation from 1909. I am told that there are three projects on paper, (1) the Upper Pennar Project, (2) the Mid-Pennar Project and (3) the Ponnar-Kumudavati Project. I understand that they are being investigated from the year 1909 and they are still under investigation. We do not know when the investigation will come to an end and when we could see the starting of the work. When the Hon. Minister for Public Works came to our district last year, we went to the spot along with the Hon. Minister and so many memorandums have been submitted. The spots have been inspected and the Engineering Department says that everything is ready and only the work remains to be started. But to our dismay we find nothing is provided in this year's budget for any project to be started in our district. I pray that the Government should at once come to our aid and not let the waters flow down while the people are looking at them with dismay. If we spend a few lakhs of rupees some thousands of acres can be brought under cultivation, and the districts need not be a dead-weight on other districts. Suppose a limb of the body is affected by a burn, unless it is properly treated the whole body will become septic, so also if these neglected districts are still further neglected, I am sure the other districts also will be affected. Sir, that is my sound warning, though with agonies given to the Government. I just request them to extend their human sympathies for those people who are suffering there.

“ Then, Sir, I want to say something about the Anantapur town. Just 25 years back the water works in the town was started and water was brought down to the town from a place two miles away. Then the population was 10,000. Now, Sir, the population of Anantapur town is nearly 30,000 and the same work is there and the Municipal Council is at a loss to know how to serve the needs of the growing population and the floating population as well. On these questions they have passed resolutions and submitted memorandum. When the Hon. Minister for Public Health came to Anantapur some memoradums were submitted to her and she answered that she would consider the question sympathetically. But now I do not find any move towards that direction and I request that this also might be taken note of by the Government.”

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"Coming to the educational side of the question, Sir, our district has one arts college in Anantapur. It is called the Ceded Districts College, which we want to be changed into the Rayalaseema Arts College. Sir, it is intended for the Rayalaseema students but at the time of admission the Rayalaseema students have to go hither and thither in search of seats because of want of accommodation in the College. Admission to these students are denied and they have to go elsewhere. I have seen many youths in the Anantapur district now who for want of seats in the college are wasting their time idly sitting at home. In other colleges also they are not given seats, because there is a college in the Anantapur district intended for students from the Rayalaseema. On this question also we have made some representations to the Government requesting that some additional accommodation may be provided for the Rayalaseema students. I would request the Government, Sir, to take note of this and issue instructions—so that at least in next June when the question of admission comes up again—that the Rayalaseema students should be given the requisite number of seats.

"I shall finish, Sir, by requesting the Government to expedite the taking up of the projects that I have already referred, namely, the Ponnar Project, etc., and thus relieve the poor people of my district from their sufferings."

12.45 p.m. * K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, in the course of the speech which the Hon. the Premier delivered last year to a large audience gathered on the grounds of the American Mission College, Madura, after his inspection of the areas affected by the communal riots in Madura, Ramnad and Ekkakudi, he warned, of course with his characteristic sincerity, earnestness and firmness that people should not think that because they were Congressmen they could do anything they liked with impunity. It was true, he said, that the Ministry owed its existence to Congressmen, but on that account they should not think they would be allowed to do anything they liked and that when once Congressmen took charge of the administration of the Province, it was their duty to render justice to all sections of the people irrespective of caste or creed and that the Government had the necessary resources to carry out that objective. Well, Sir, those of us who were on the spot cannot forget what a soothing balm this statement of the Hon. the Premier was to the gaping wounds caused by the communal riots. Again, the Hon. Premier visited Malabar when the minds of the people were agitated very much over the communal situation and he tried to pacify the people and they are now keeping quiet expecting that the Hon. Premier would implement his assurance. Sir, on this occasion, I would be failing in my duty if I did not mention that it was on account of the sincerity and anxiety with which the Hon. Premier endeavoured to carry out the policy explained by him at Madura with regard to the preservation of peace and order in the Province, that he has been now able to mention in his budget speech with some feeling of satisfaction and pride that this Province has been free from serious communal troubles of the kind that have occurred in Bengal and Bihar." Sir, that feeling of satisfaction

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is well-deserved and the pride legitimate and pardonable. I should also like to point out that in this great and sacred task of maintaining peace and order in the Province, the Muslims of the Province represented by the Muslim League Party in the Legislature have assured the Hon. the Premier and his Cabinet of our full and whole-hearted co-operation from the very beginning and the Muslim leaders have, as it has been admitted, endeavoured their utmost to implement this assurance not only in the matter of preservation of law and order but also in the solution of the food problem. At the same time, Sir, I cannot help pointing out that if the Hon. the Premier had been as vigilant and prompt as was necessary in the circumstances in the execution of the task he set before himself, he would have now been able to speak with greater satisfaction and pride about the conditions obtaining in the province. Unfortunately, for various reasons, he was not able to go to the fullest extent in the matter. True it is, whenever news of riots or information about impending clashes was given to him either by the members of the Muslim League or other persons, he hastened to take steps to prevent those communal riots and clashes. We must congratulate him on the expedition with which he did that part of the work. If he had shown the same expedition, vigour and speed in other directions also, our Province would have been saved from many other calamities which we have witnessed. Repeatedly I have pointed out on the floor of the House that the spirit of lawlessness was first let loose by certain Congressmen on various pleas and if action had been taken against them even at the start, it would have been nipped in the bud. Sir, certain nationalist papers of the Province had been sedulously taking advantage of certain incidents which took place in Bengal and Bihar and publishing exaggerated accounts of those happenings and writing editorials inciting one section of the population against another. Repeatedly we have made representations to the Hon. the Premier to take adequate steps to put an end to this kind of purveying of news and comments thereon. These acts on the one hand incited one section of the people against another and on the other hand infuriated the other section whose leaders and national organization were vilified. They incited the Hindus against the Muslims and the Muslims in their turn were infuriated against the Hindus. If the Hon. the Premier had taken action against these persons and journals, much life and property would have been saved. That is my sincere feeling. The Hon. the Premier could not say that he was not armed with the necessary powers and that he waited for the Public Safety Act."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Does not the hon. member feel that he has said enough at the time of the Public Order Bill on this subject?"

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I am making only a passing reference. Sir, the ordinary law of the land was sufficient for the purpose and if he had used the ordinary law of the land for this purpose, he would have been able to speak to-day with greater satisfaction and greater pride about the condition of this Province."

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"Sir, one has to wade through the voluminous pages of the budget estimates and search in vain for any evidence showing the same spirit of justice to all irrespective of caste or creed. The budget cannot claim to be a budget of a popular Government in the accepted connotation of the term. Shorn of all the normal items prepared in the Secretariat in the usual course, the budget is at best a party budget fit to be presented at a meeting of the political party to which the Members of the Cabinet belong, the main purpose being the implementation of the programme of the party at the expense of the public exchequer with a view to strengthening the position of the party in the Province. It is truly a party propaganda budget and this can be seen very well from the items included in it, such as the khadi scheme, and Harijan Uplift work which form the main planks of the Congress Constructive Programme. These are the only two main items in the budget which are different from the budgets of the previous years. Apart from these, I would say that the budget does not provide for the service of the common man and for raising his standard of life. There is no adequate provision for expansion of elementary education, no adequate provision for medical relief and public health, expansion of communications such as village roads and for water-supply in the villages. When I speak of communications, I am reminded of my personal experience about two months ago when I went to Kilakarai. Sir, from Ramnad to Kilakarai the distance is about 10½ miles. On account of the recent rains the *thoni* bridge there collapsed. The whole road was full of mud and mire. My bullock cart had to be diverted. The poor bullocks went into the mud hip-deep so much so I apprehended that if they attempted to come out their legs would be broken. I was there in the position of the Brahman in the story of the tiger and the golden bangle. (Laughter.) Fortunately, the bullocks were able to extricate themselves from the mire. But the position there is still the same. Kilakarai contains a population of more than 15,000 people and that is the only road by which it can be reached from outside. There is no other approach to that village. Even such an important village as Kilakarai is not provided with proper communications, and the people there are often isolated from the rest of the world on account of the total disregard of the District Board authorities in this matter. There are similarly ever so many villages in the districts where the communications are very bad and which are isolated on that account from the rest of the world. It is absolutely necessary that Government should provide for these necessities. They are not amenities, they are absolute necessities to enable the villagers to carry on their ordinary avocations in life. But we do not find adequate provision in the budget for these necessities, and the Hon. the Premier himself admits that he could not provide for them because he has to maintain the financial credit unimpaired. I am afraid, Sir, the financial credit is not kept unimpaired because the Government has been forced to draw large amounts from the Revenue Reserve Fund created during the Advisers' Regime and if they are going to follow the same procedure in successive years also, we will not be mistaken in saying that the Province will be heading towards

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bankruptcy. The words of the French Economist quoted by the Hon. the Premier will apply most appropriately to the present budget also.

"Having said so much, I should like to illustrate my point that this budget is not a popular budget, but only a party propaganda budget. First, let us take the khadi scheme. Much has been said about this at the time of the last budget and also on this occasion. The Hon. the President may say that I am repeating, but our words have been throughout a cry in the wilderness and they have had no effect. Because we feel so much about the matter we have to repeat the arguments. It is a matter which affects the vital interests of the Province. Sir, khadi, I have been wearing for well-nigh two decades . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I would not mind the hon. member adverting to the same subjects which have been dealt with by other hon. members, but the House would certainly appreciate better and additional arguments and not have the same arguments repeated. That is the point that I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. member."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, this khadi is the symbol of the political party to which the Ministry belongs."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Symbol of all."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"It is a political symbol."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"No."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Even now, since the Ministry came into office, we find certain people in the street suddenly taking to khaddar, because they think that by wearing khaddar they would be considered to belong to the Congress Party and that thereby they would be getting some privileges. That is anyhow what the people outside feel. From the beginning, khadi has been the political symbol of the Congress Party. This is clear from the fact that no person can become a member of the Congress organization who does not wear khadi. It is a fundamental requisite."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—"Is the hon. member now wearing khadi?"

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I am not now wearing khadi. For various and proper reasons, I had to give up khadi which I had been wearing for more than 18 years."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"Hear, hear, I congratulate you."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—"Did the hon. member abandon the practice on political grounds?"

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* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ On various grounds. If my hon. friend wants to know the reasons, let him come to me and I will explain. There are political grounds, economic grounds and other grounds!

“ Now Sir, any person wearing khadi is recognized as a Congressman by everyone else. We Muslims feel that we are different from Congressmen in our ideals and ideologies and we should not therefore be forced to wear khadi. The hon. member for Labour and Industries of the Government of India speaking at the fourth All-India Industrial Conference held at Cawnpore on the 7th instant said that ‘ dress was much more a matter of taste than a necessity’. I would say, Sir, that dress is both a matter of taste and necessity. How then can you force your taste on us? It is too much to expect people to submit to compulsion in the matter of dress. This compulsion is proposed to be used not only in the matter of wearing khadi, but also at every stage from the production stage to the wearing stage. I pointed this out very elaborately last time with reference to the statement placed on the table of the House by the Hon. the Premier. Every family in the area
1 p.m. selected for the purpose has to provide one person for spinning khadi for certain periods every day. So also, the weavers in that locality must use the available khadi yarn because they will not be supplied with mill yarn. The people must wear only the khadi produced in that locality, because they will not be supplied with mill cloth. (Mr. President: ‘ The Hon. Leader of the Opposition, in dealing with prohibition, referred to Islamic Law.’) That is a fundamental matter, but dress is a matter of taste. (Mr. President: ‘ I just wanted to know whether the Islamic Law is different here.’) Prohibition is a fundamental matter which affects the character and conduct of man, but dress is not such a fundamental and vital matter affecting the very existence of man. We all know that drink is the father of many vices. So it is absolutely necessary to prohibit drink and to award the most severe punishments to those who indulge in it. The Hon. Premier cannot question the statement that large sections of the population of this Province are not wedded to the policy of khaddar. If a referendum is taken, an overwhelming majority of the people, even a large number of Congressmen will vote in favour of mill cloth as against khaddar for various reasons. (Hon. members: No, no.) I appeal to the Hon. Premier to take a referendum on this point. Then he will find that my statement is correct. Anyhow, we Muslims are not willing to wear khaddar. We are not willing to be dictated to in regard to dress. The Government cannot expect every man to be an abstemious ascetic in dress. After all, variety is the spice of life and every man likes to have change in dress. Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar himself said that the scheme of standard cloth failed on account of the ‘ tiresome sameness ’ of the cloth. Will this Khadi scheme solve the scarcity of cloth immediately is the question which I want to put to the Hon. Premier. One or two mills will produce a larger quantity of yarn than what some lakhs of people will be able to produce by plying the charka. It is said that one month’s training in spinning is to be given to the people. Will

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this one month’s training enable people to spin yarn of sufficient twist and durability? Surely, the yarn they spin will snap at every stage and it will not get into the loom. The amount invested will vanish into thin air

‘ பாக்கிருக்க, சாக்கிருக்க பணம் போன மாயம் என்ன?’

is a proverb in Tamil. It means: ‘ the arecanuts are there, the bags are there. By what mystery then did the money vanish?’ It was my personal experience in 1921-22. We invested Rs. 10,000 on Khaddar scheme. It met the same fate, though the Inspector of the All-India Congress Committee who visited our Khaddar depot in Tinnevely Petai said that it was the only depot in the whole Province run on business lines. Spinning was never intended by Gandhiji himself to be a full-time occupation. Even during the Non-co-operation days, he said that spinning could only be a part-time occupation for the agriculturists during the off-season. Now you want to make it a full-time occupation for the people. Coming to the economic aspect, do you think that a poor man or even a middle class man can afford to purchase khaddar? Its cost is prohibitive as compared with mill cloth or even with handloom cloth? You cannot compel people to spin for two or three hours a day. The very same man may employ the time spent in spinning more profitably in his usual avocation. A man can be a financier, a banker or an industrialist, and he may utilize this time much more profitably for furthering his business. When such a man is compelled to spin, is it not an economic loss not only to him, but also to the whole Province? Therefore I say there is waste of human material in the Khadi scheme framed by the Government and waste of cotton at every stage because a great deal of waste will occur in the processes of sizing, spinning and weaving.

“ Why should you fight shy of machinery? You want machinery in every other department of life. You want to ride in motor cars and fly in aeroplanes. The other day the Hon. the Premier said that he lived in aeroplane for a number of days together. After closely following the movement for the past thirty years, I cannot understand the philosophy of it unless it be as a political symbol. I cannot understand the economic value of khaddar. Machinery can easily solve the present cloth scarcity, whereas charka cannot solve it in two or three years or even in decades. You have been trying for the past two decades and more, but what is the quantity of khaddar available now with all your labour of love? This compulsion in the matter of dress cannot be taken lying down by the people of this Province. Large sections of the population are against it for economic and political reasons and on principle. It is not proper for this Government to force it down the unwilling throats of the Muslims and other sections, simply because they have got a numerical majority. To-day, they can pass any budget or any Bill into law because they have got a majority. That is not the way to establish democracy in the land. Numerical majority alone should not count. The Government must be able to convince the people, especially the minorities, that what they are doing is for the good of the people. The Hon. the Premier knows the famous dictum that justice should not only be done, but that

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the people should be made to feel that justice is being done. So also, he may feel that what he is doing is for the good of the country. But when large sections of population are against it, it should not be enforced. It should not be the policy of any democratic government to compel anybody in such a matter as dress. If Khadi policy is for the economic good of the country, allow it to develop on its own lines and also the mill and handloom industries in their own way. Let the survival of the fittest policy apply. The Hon. Premier says that the people want it. If villagers have taken to it willingly, why should there be any compulsion at all? If you are convinced that the people are for it, allow it to develop voluntarily. If khaddar survives, the mill industry and handloom industry will die a natural death. Why do you want to ban machinery? In Khadi exhibitions, we find improved models of charka being exhibited. That shows you want to improve the charka and not to stick to the antediluvian charka. Are you going to put a limit to the improvement? Improvement after improvement will be made and finally it will again result in machinery. Do you not now want to ignore the accumulated experience of centuries, and to start afresh from the old charka and in course of time to arrive at the textile machinery again? Is it wise, is it proper economy, and is it conducive to the economic well-being of the country?

"In our province, there are thousands of weavers, and we all know that they get yarn to keep them engaged only for ten days in a month. If you erect mills, you will be able to give them enough yarn to keep them engaged throughout the month, instead of starving them and their looms for twenty days. From that point of view, it is absolutely necessary to start mills. Government need not start them, but they can allow freedom to the people who are willing to start them. Otherwise, we will have to depend on other provinces and become their slaves. While the other provinces are going ahead with mill expansion, the local Government want to cripple and wipe out even the existing mills by making them work two or three shifts. What is the virtue in Madras alone pursuing a different policy, I cannot understand.

"Now I turn to the appointment of officers. Recently it was said that the Government wanted to appoint a number of Firka Cottage Industries Officers in the centres chosen for rural development. Khadi is not the only cottage industry which the Government want to develop.

1-15 p.m. "There are ever so many cottage industries. Conditions have been prescribed for the appointment of the Firka Cottage Industries Officers. They say that applicants must be men interested in khadi. Khadi is only one of the industries which are to be developed. It is stated again that people must be interested in the work for which they are appointed, namely, khadi, i.e., in the case of the appointment of officers for rural development, they stipulate that all the officers must be interested in khadi. There are ever so many industries; khadi is one of the industries for rural development. Why should they insist that every officer who is appointed for this

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purpose must be interested in khadi? Is it not shutting out various sections of people? The Government know that there are large sections of the population who are opposed to khadi. Members belonging to these communities and sections are being prohibited or prevented from applying for these posts by the condition prescribing that the applicants should be interested in khadi.

"Then, Sir, I come to the question of Muslim education. I must add a few words in addition to these of other hon. Members. The first question that comes up is that of the medium of instruction. This question does not affect me personally, because my mother-tongue is Tamil and not Urdu. What is the position of people whose mother-tongue is Urdu? Again and again all the Muslim members of the Assembly and of this Council have reiterated that the mother-tongue of Muslims of Telugu districts is Urdu and not Telugu. Again and again members of the Treasury Benches insisted that it is not so; they say it is Telugu. They said so on the last occasion also. They think they know about it better than we ourselves. If they have any doubt, let them, Sir, appoint a fact-finding committee to find out what the mother-tongue of the Muslims living in Telugu areas is. We know it is Urdu. They say Telugu is the mother-tongue and not Urdu. Now, Sir, it is admitted that the best method of imparting instruction is through the medium of the mother-tongue. Even the Hon. Education Member of the Interim Government in Delhi has said that the mother-tongue should be adopted as the medium of instruction. So also the National Planning Committee. To speak of the regional language is all right for those whose mother-tongue happens to be one of the regional languages. What about those whose mother-tongue is not the regional language, like the Muslims of the Telugu districts, a large number of Muslims in the City of Madras and several other parts of the Province. Are they not entitled to instruction being imparted to them through their mother-tongue? If they are forced to acquire knowledge in another language, they suffer from serious handicaps at every stage. Will they be able to compete with students whose mother-tongue is Telugu? Will they be able to compete successfully? At every stage they will be placed under very serious handicaps. The reason is their mother-tongue is not Telugu. It is most unreasonable and unjust to force them to learn through a foreign tongue. The Government should give facilities to Urdu Muslims to study through their mother-tongue.

"Muslims have got their own needs in the matter of education. Successive Governments of this Province and Governments of other provinces have recognized the special needs and requirements of Muslims. Provision is therefore made to facilitate the education of Muslims who are very backward in the matter of education. For instance, there is the question of imparting religious instruction. Muslims have been backward in the matter of English education until special facilities were given to them. They began to take to modern education only after they were assured of certain facilities.

"I wish to say that we do not want any special concessions. I repeat, Sir, we do not claim any special concessions. So far as the Hindus are concerned, they have got all the facilities in the

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common schools; they are under no handicaps, because the text-books are to their taste and are such as to satisfy their needs. Most of their teachers belong to their community; they feel no alien atmosphere. When the Muslim boys go there, they find themselves in an alien atmosphere; the curricula do not satisfy their needs. Everything in the schools is intended generally for the majority population, namely, the Hindus. Muslims are placed under difficulties and handicaps there. The Hon. Premier may smile. But that is my personal experience. I myself have felt the handicaps; I have gone through elementary education, secondary education and collegiate education. Hindus do not require any special facilities at all. But the case of the Muslims is entirely different and it is the duty of the Government to help in the education of all sections of people. That is why we want special facilities for Muslims. Other communities have such facilities in their common schools. This leads to the necessity of establishing separate schools. A separate special officer should be appointed to look after the interests of Muslims. In this connexion I wish to refer to the convention regarding the appointment of a Muslim as Deputy Director of Public Instruction. I am told that a vacancy has arisen and that a Muslim may not now be appointed. I am told also that suggestions are being made for re-employing an Educational Officer who is going to retire shortly. I do not know why they should seek to re-employ the retiring Educational Officer when the policy of the Government is not to re-employ retired officials. Are you going to re-employ him? If so, why? I would urge that a Muslim officer should be appointed as Deputy Director of Public Instruction. I can say there are fully qualified officers among Muslims who can be appointed to that post and who can hold that post with dignity and efficiency.

"There is another complaint that I have been receiving from the villages. Urdu Munshis who are working in the schools are being dismissed from service because they do not know Hindi. Instructions have been issued, I understand to the effect that it is preferable to appoint Munshis who know both Hindi and Urdu. The result is Urdu Munshis are being sent away. Is it a proper course, Sir? Will people who have acquired a smattering of Hindi in the Hindi Prachar Sabha be able to teach Urdu to Muslim boys? Will they be able to discharge their duties in an efficient manner? It is most improper that instructions should be issued to the effect that Munshis ought to know both Hindi and Urdu.

"It is stated that there is no need for the establishment of special schools for Muslims. What are you doing with regard to other communities? Do you not have separate schools for Harijans?

"There is a delicate matter; I feel it delicate to mention it. When it is repeatedly stated that no special schools need be started for Muslims, I am forced to ask 'what about the schools, high schools and colleges run by the Pachaiyappa's Charities.' Muslims and Christians are not admitted into those schools. Still you give grants to these institutions. I would refer you to the Grant-in-Aid

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Code. The first rule of that Code provides that the grants shall be withheld from institutions which refuse admission to any pupil merely on the ground of caste or community to which he belongs. Do the institutions run by Pachaiyappa's Charities comply with this first rule of the Grant-in-Aid Code? You are willing to grant lakhs of rupees to them. Rule 2 of the Code says that the Government can refuse or withdraw any grant at their entire discretion. It does not give them power to give grants by relaxing the first rule; it gives them power only to withdraw or refuse grants. I am not against the giving of grants to the Pachaiyappa's. My point is only this. Because you say that separate institutions should not be started for Muslims, I ask 'what do you say about the institutions run by Pachaiyappa's Charities.' I leave the point at that.

"Then I come to the old question of Food Committees. Even when the scheme for the constitution of these committees was first formulated we pointed out the grave danger lurking in it. We have been crying hoarse. We said that these Village, District and Taluk Food Committees would be replicas of Congress Committees, and that there would be no proper representation for Muslims and other communities in those committees. Experience has shown that what we said that is correct. I have written so many letters to the Hon. Premier complaining against the personnel of many of these committees. We have still to make representations in respect of several other committees. But since we have not been receiving replies from the Government, we are not making any complaints now. People have become fed up. They feel that there is no use of expressing their dissatisfaction with regard to these committees. I know personally that many Food Committees consist of Congressmen only. The other day my hon. Friend, Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, spoke about the interference of members of the Legislature in the administration of the country, especially with the work of local officials. The hon. Member, Mr. Venkataswami Nayudu said it was not correct. I can say, Sir, with personal knowledge that many members of the Legislature have been interfering with the work of the officials; some of the former have embarrassed the latter, not only with regard to these Village, Taluk or District Food Committees but also with regard to other matters. I know personally that the word of Congress members of the Legislature has more weight than those of members of other parties. I shall leave it at that. Now, Sir, I know that in very many districts not a single Muslim has been elected to the District Food Committees—for example, Tinnevely, Chittoor, South Arcot, etc. Will not Muslims be able to discharge their functions as members of District Food Committees with efficiency and satisfaction? Why is it that no Muslims have been elected to these committees?"

K. TIPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"In Malabar there is only one Muslim member who is a Congressman."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :— 1-30 p.m.
"Power is given to these committees to co-opt members. Sir, co-optation is for the purpose of giving representation to unrepresented interests. But even in the matter of co-option, we find that

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it is being used for strengthening the party which is already in a majority. If at all any Muslim is co-opted by our Congress friends, he will be a Nationalist Muslim and it is obvious he will not command the confidence of the Muslim population of the locality. Sir, what is the place of a Nationalist Muslim in the Muslim body politic? Can he say that he represents the views of the Muslim community? Can he say that he commands the confidence of the Muslim population of the locality? He will not, I venture to make that assertion. But still my Congress friends would get in only a Nationalist Muslim. That is the real position with regard to these food committees. Sir, we are receiving daily reports and complaints about the working of these food committees. Some-time ago, I happened to attend a meeting of a food committee. An ex-officio Muslim member of the committee happened to say something which was unpalatable to the majority of the members. At once the Collector disposed of the matter by taking the vote of the majority. That is how these village committees are working. I assure hon. Members that I am speaking of these committees out of my own experience. I have no prejudice against anybody; far be it from me. Democracy should be worked successfully and efficiently, especially when it is worked by persons who have been fighting for the freedom of the country. I do not want that democracy should become a fetish and that a mere numerical majority should rule the country, with callous disregard towards the rights and interests of the minorities."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member propose to take more time? "

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I shall finish soon, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" What time would the hon. Member take to finish his speech? "

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I might take at the most half an hour, Sir. I shall however try to finish sooner."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If you will finish in another 15 minutes, we shall continue to sit till then. The Hon. Premier will reply in the afternoon."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, let me now refer to the Producer-cum-Consumer Co-operative Society. We call them PC's societies, because it is difficult to repeat these words very often. How these PC societies have been working has been explained clearly by my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao. It is a misnomer to call them co-operative societies. It is prostitution of the word co-operation. That is what he said. It is true, because from its very constitution down to its actual working, there is no principle of co-operation involved. Co-operative societies are intended to be worked by members in close contact with each other and with mutual co-operation. But what do we find in these PC's societies? There are thousands of members in it. How on earth is there going to be mutual contact

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and co-operation among their members? How can they be called co-operative societies? What are their ideals, I cannot understand. They are intended to replace the normal trade channels. I do not see any difference between private wholesale traders and these societies, except that in these co-operative societies there is larger scope for corruption, while in private trade there is not so much scope. If there are private merchants, they will be able to attend to their work more conscientiously than the directors of these P.C.C.C. societies. You do not ordinarily find a member who will be specially interested in the welfare of these societies. I know instances where there has been a great deal of swindling. The Tinnevely District Co-operative Stores appointed an agent in a village known as Melacheval for the purpose of procuring paddy. He procured a thousand bags of paddy, but it was only on paper. When a superior authority went to inspect the godown, not a single bag was there. These thousand bags of paddy had been sold in the black-market. Many of these P.C.C.C. societies are proceeding on communal lines. In very many of these co-operative societies also there is not even a single Muslim on the directorate and in some there are no Muslim shareholders at all. Even if there are some Muslim shareholders, they are not elected as directors and there are also cases where applications for shares from Muslim members have been rejected. (Interruption.) I can quote instances. The files of the Government may be looked into, if what I say is doubted. (A voice: 'According to rules no application for shares should be rejected.'). (Interruption.) That may be so on paper, but in actual practice many applications for shares have been rejected."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—" If they want to become directors or managing directors, then that is a different matter; but if they want to become shareholders, nobody can refuse."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, I ask why should they be disallowed from becoming directors? All these co-operative societies are there to associate the public in the solution of the food problem and if a certain section of the population is not given its due representation on the directorate, will they be able to function properly? Will they be able to do their duties to the public properly? Unless you see that proper representation is given to all the sections of the population on the directorate of the society, the whole purpose of the movement will be defeated. It will become only a communal body. I know also there are societies against whom, both the Hindus and Muslims of the place, have been writing complaint after complaint to the Government. Both of them do not want these societies, but still the Government insist that food-grains should be distributed only through these societies. Representations have been made to the Government by local Congress Committee as well as by the Primary Muslim League of the locality that these co-operative societies are not working efficiently, that there is corruption rampant and that they should not be allowed to continue. But still the Government will not look into them. How can you expect these societies to work, when people do not want them?

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"Well, Sir, by starting these P.C.C.C. societies and village committees this Government has completely shut out the ordinary trade channels. Sir, you must know that trade and commerce are the backbone of any country. A country can prosper only if its trade and commerce flourish. If you shut out trade and commerce completely, how will the country prosper? I cannot say that there are no black legs among these traders. As in the case of all other departments of life, there are black-marketeers among merchants also. The only proper course would be to take action against such of them as are indulging in anti-social activities. Sir, I belong to a religion which prohibits cornering of the market. It is *haram*, Sir. Taking advantage of another man's need is also prohibited. But still trade is one of the professions recommended to Muslims by their faith. There is no use of banning trade and commerce. That means you are breaking the backbone of the Province. You must allow trade to progress. If you want to shut out trade, then you must abolish private property altogether. If there is no room for private enterprise, how can the country progress economically? By your present policy of appointing these village committees and by making provision for distribution of food-grains; kerosene, sugar, etc., through these co-operative societies and village committees, thousands of dealers and traders are thrown out of employment. Should you not find out alternative employment for these people? Are all those merchants so bad as to be wiped out of existence. That is a matter which should be considered by the Government.

"Another question is with regard to separate electorates. As regards elections to the local boards and municipalities, the only method of giving proper representation to Muslims in these local bodies is through separate electorates. In the two Bills which have been placed before the other House, you have conceded one point, namely, that Muslim can be properly represented only by Muslims. Then the next thing that you must adopt automatically is that those representatives should be elected only by Muslims. A person can be a proper and true representative of Muslims only when he is elected by those whom he is asked to represent, and whose views he is asked to represent and whose needs he is asked to espouse. He cannot be elected by some other persons and be told that he is the real representative of the Muslims. When once you concede that seats should be reserved for Muslims in the local bodies, you must also concede the other thing automatically, namely, that those representatives of the Muslims should be elected only by Muslims. That is a thing that must follow as a matter of course, but you are not prepared to do that. Why? Unless Muslim representatives are elected by Muslims themselves, they are not going to be true representatives of Muslims and Muslims will not accept that position at any cost. I may say, Sir, in this connexion that the other minority communities in this Province are also one with me in this matter. The other day my hon. Friend Mr. K. O. Anthony complained that the Christian community was not given the right to elect its representative Rev. Jerome D'Souza to the Constituent Assembly. So also my hon. Friend Mr. H. M. Jagannatham complained that the representatives of the scheduled caste in the

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legislature should be elected by the community and that the Poona Pact had done the greatest injustice to his community in that two elections have been made compulsory for his community. Therefore, Sir, the only just, proper and natural course for the Government to adopt, with regard to the elections to these local bodies is to allow Muslims to elect their own representatives. I am sorry that the Government are not willing to adopt that course. I can tell them once again that the Muslim community cannot accept the position that is forced on them, as any Muslim who will be elected through these joint electorates for these reserved seats will be only men of straw, to use the words of the late Moulana Muhammad Ali and not the true representative of the Muslims.

"Well, Sir, there is another small matter that I should like to bring to the notice of the Government. It seems that last year certain agriculturists were given pumps on hire at Rs. 10 per month for the purpose of sinking wells. Time has been extended for the sinking of wells from time to time. Recently notices have been issued to those people to the effect that they would be charged Rs. 75 per month instead of Rs. 10. Representations seem to have been made to the Agricultural department and then the department seems to have said that the hire would be reduced to Rs. 20 with retrospective effect from January. Is it possible for these poor ryots to pay Rs. 20 per month for these pumps? They have now started cultivation thinking that they will have to pay only Rs. 10 per month as hire for the pumping sets. Besides they have to pay for the driver, oil, etc. That is a matter which I would request the Hon. Minister for Agriculture to consider."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I think we will now rise. The House stands adjourned to meet at 2-45 in the afternoon to hear the Prime Minister's reply."

(After lunch—2-45 p.m.)

* SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to make a few observations which I am anxious to make though we are now almost at the end of our discussions. I am reluctant to speak because the Hon. Ministers are not here and I think they are preoccupied with the ministerial developments. I was anxious not to embarrass them at all. That was the main reason for my not participating in the discussions till now; but, Sir, I would be failing in my duty if I did not take this opportunity to emphasize the few points that I would very much like to stress.

"Sir, labour disputes have been occurring all over the province—why, all over the country. They are not special to India; we have been hearing of labour unrest all over the world. We are having strikes even in England; we have been witnessing the huge transport strike and various other strikes even in the United Kingdom. Strikes are nothing special or particular to the Indian situation. As I have again and again pointed out, the workers were under serious restraints during the war; they had

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no right to strike; and under the favourable circumstances offered by the formation of the National Government, the workers have organized themselves into unions and are trying to obtain redress of their elementary grievances. These strikes and struggles cannot be entirely attributed to communist activities. Most of these strikes and struggles are for recognition of their elementary rights. I especially wish to emphasize that all strikes cannot be attributed to communist activities. The Government have been doing their best to settle trade disputes as they arose; but I must say with a feeling of pain and sorrow that the Ministry has been long in office and yet they have not attempted to establish a permanent court of industrial justice, a permanent machinery for the settlement of disputes as they arise. Sir, the Labour Minister has been promising us legislation; the Provincial Government have been looking up to the Central Government and I do not know what the Central Government have been doing. But one thing is certain; the workers have been suffering on account of the absence of a permanent standing machinery for the settlement of disputes. *Ad hoc* courts of enquiry have been appointed again and again, but if the results of these courts of enquiry are examined, it will be found that they have not resulted in any substantial good to the workers concerned. Industrial unrest is increasing in the province. The Labour department is not sufficiently equipped. The one Labour Commissioner goes from one corner of the country to the other as strikes break out. The Labour department is not sufficiently equipped. There are not sufficient number of conciliation officers, and I must emphasize, proper type of conciliation officers. It used to be said that if a man was unfit for any other department, he used to be sent up to the Education department—I do not mean any reflection on the distinguished members of that profession; but nowadays, if a man is a failure in any other department, he is sent to the Labour department as a conciliation officer. If disputes are prolonged and if strikes are not settled in time and if strikes have at all broken out, it is due to the absence of an efficient staff of conciliation officers. Again and again, Sir, it has been pointed out that the factory inspection staff is not sufficient; it is insufficient. There is not yet a Chief Inspector of Factories in this province. The first requirement of the Factory Act is the presence of a Chief Inspector of Factories; the Labour Commissioner in our province is a jack-of-all-trades. He is the Commissioner for Labour, he is the Chief Inspector of Factories and he is in charge probably of as many departments as the Hon. Minister for Labour and Industries. I wish to emphasize, without meaning any reflection in the least on the Hon. Minister for Industries,—we have been life-long friends—that he has been saddled with too many departments, with the result that industrial peace in the province has terribly suffered. The important thing is: if industrial peace should be developed and preserved and industries are to grow and disputes are to be settled, it is necessary that the Labour Minister should also be a full-time Labour Minister, and he should not be saddled with too many departments.

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I know, Sir, the Hon. Mr. Giri has done his very best, and by his holding so many portfolios, the Labour department has not suffered; but the Labour department could have been better administered, labour laws could have been devised, industrial disputes could have been more promptly settled and better work could have certainly been done in the Labour department, if the Labour Minister had not been saddled with so many other departments."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Do you mean to say that you could have kept him more busy? I think you are unfair to the Labour Minister."

* SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" In the Budget discussions, Sir, we have emphasized the necessity for a *Labour Gazette* to be published by our Labour department. I hope we will realize this desire at least during the current year. I find there is no provision made for that in the Budget this year.

" Then, Sir, it has been pointed out by every speaker that the Salaries Sub-Committee of the Cabinet has not tackled the problem as it ought to have been tackled, with the result that the discontent among the Government employees has grown instead of being mitigated. As I have said, the Government have tried to do their very best; the time at their disposal has been very brief, but their recommendations ought not to be final. The Government are bound to set an example to other employers; the Government should solve, as early as possible if not immediately, the problem of providing a basic living-wage for their employees, both in the industrial undertakings and in the ministerial establishments.

" Then, Sir, special legislation has now been devised for dealing with labour unrest and strikes. It is therefore necessary that the rights of labour should be secured, that a labour code should be made by the Government for providing workers with their elementary rights. Wage-fixing machinery should be established, as most of the labour disputes are regarding wages. It is necessary that the Labour department should be strengthened; labour officers cannot be manufactured; men with aptitude for conciliation work should be specially trained and appointed as conciliation officers and not Deputy Collectors or Revenue Inspectors who, we know, have been accustomed to deal with survey stones and not with human beings. I do not mean any reflection on those distinguished persons who have occupied the office of the Commissioner of Labour; but the fact is: I have found it to my cost that in many cases they have not been able to deal with trade disputes with that amount of sympathy which could have been exercised by one who had an aptitude for the department and who had been trained for it.

" Then, Sir, labour unions have to conduct in the near future many struggles, as the attitude of the employers has not undergone any desirable transformation. The Government have to take a more sympathetic attitude towards labour problems and the struggles of the workers.

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"I do not wish to take up more of the time of the House, Sir. But I wish to emphasize that the Labour department should be strengthened and made more efficient in the interests of industrial peace and in the interests of both the employers and the employees. The problems of the Labour department should not be dealt with lightly, but they have to be dealt with as seriously as the problems of any other department.

"I thank you, Sir, for the opportunity given to me."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. the Premier."

3 p.m. * K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I want to say a few words, Sir, before the Hon. the Premier gives his reply."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If the Hon. the Premier agrees to the arrangement, I have no objection."

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Yes, Sir."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am much obliged to the Hon. the President and the Hon. the Premier for giving me an opportunity again."

"In speaking about village committees, Sir, I said that in many of the villages there is no proper representation for the Muslims in those committees. Even in cases where members have been appointed by the Revenue officials in consultation with the local Muslim and Hindu M.L.As. and M.L.Cs., very often, you find that the Parliamentary Secretary or some other authority interferes and thereby creates much confusion and dissatisfaction. I would mention as an instance the case of Kadayanallur in Tinnevely district. There, Sir, a village committee was formed with four Muslim members and four Hindu members after due consultation with the local Muslim and Hindu members of the Legislature. A Muslim was elected as President on the motion of the Secretary of the Town Congress Committee who happened to be a Hindu. But suddenly, Sir, the Parliamentary Secretary goes there and without consulting the local M.L.As. or even the Revenue Committee and replaces two Muslim members by one Hindu member and one nationalist Muslim with the result that the Committee could not function. Sir, the Muslim President was also elected to the taluk committee but the Firka Supply Officer convenes a meeting of the village committee for electing its President and a representative to the taluk committee. Very often, the people of the village write to the Government about such affairs, but with what results? They find that it is no use writing to the Government because the Government do not move in the matter. Sir, we have received so many complaints of this kind. It is better that such matters are settled as and when complaints are received."

"Now, Sir, as the Hon. the Minister for Additional Food is here . . ."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"Is it Hon. Minister for Additional Food?"

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I mean, Sir, the Hon. the Additional Minister for Food. It may be also as I said Sir, Minister for Additional Food. So many things happen in the Cabinet, Sir, that a Minister for Additional Food will also be possible. Sir, in these days of scarcity of food, in these days of mal-nutrition and under-nutrition, it would be better if we have got a Minister for Additional Food. I would say that it is even highly necessary."

"Sir, I was referring to the village committee in the Tinnevely district. Only after three or four days of hard work with the Minister in charge of the department, the original position was restored but there are ever so many complaints against so many other village committees. Sir, my hon. friend from Palghat tells me that out of the 131 village committees, there, only one village committee has a Muslim President and no other committee has a Muslim as its President. Even that President was asked not to function by an edict issued by the Deputy Tahsildar. Such being the case, it is no wonder that the Muslims should feel aggrieved over the situation. In these committees, Sir, they feel that they have lost all confidence. Sir, I may quote many other instances in which Muslims have not been represented either in the village committees or in the co-operative societies, with the result that their interests suffer considerably. As the matter is one concerning food, we are very much interested in the proper constitution of these village committees and co-operative stores and we are anxious to see that Muslims are given due and proper representation on those committees and stores so that their interests may not suffer."

"Sir, these are days of communalism. We have to face facts as they are. There is no use branding us as communalists. We must have proper and adequate representation of all communities in all these bodies, so that the interests of these communities may be looked after properly and they may receive proper and adequate quantity of foodstuffs and other things. I have got a telegram from one village today stating that kerosine oil has not been supplied to the Muslims alone in the village for the past two months. Sir, I am referring to the mentality that has been generated during the past few months. There is no use of refusing to recognize facts. We must recognize facts and try to remedy the situation. But the actual fact is that instead of facing the situation and improving the position, the difficulties are being accentuated. So, Sir, I appeal to the Government to go into the whole question of the formation of these committees and to rectify the defects. We are sorry to find in actual practice that things are not being done in the proper manner. I have gone about in my own district and urged on the Revenue Divisional Officers and Tahsildars to give proper representation to the Muslims on the village committees. Many taluk committees have been formed but there is no

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Muslim elected to many of those bodies. Do you mean to say that there are no Muslims qualified to be members of those committees? Sir, you have got a numerical majority and so, you are electing only Hindus to these bodies. I ask, Sir, is it not communalism? You charge us with communalism. I say, Sir, we Muslims are internationalists by temperament and culture and cannot afford to be narrow communalists. But our rights, religious and political, should be safeguarded. Our people should not suffer. We should not be dominated over by other peoples. We want all people to receive justice. The minorities should not be deprived of their legitimate rights because they are numerically weak. We only want that all people should be treated justly.

"Sir, I want to say one word about foreign scholarships, now that the Hon. Minister for Education is here. Recently, Sir, the Government issued a communiqué calling for applications from persons desiring to go to foreign countries for higher studies. It is rumoured, Sir, that these persons for scholarships are to be selected not by the Committee appointed for the purpose but by the Government. I do not know how far it is correct. Secondly, Sir, it is said that persons who are now selected for being deputed to foreign countries for higher studies are to be guaranteed appointments after they return. If that is so, I would like to know whether in the matter of selection of these candidates, the communal Government Order is being applied. I would also like to know whether the Government propose to send all applications to the Government of India or to send only the applications of persons selected. I would like to know whether in selecting the scholars, the communal Government Order will be applied. This is an important point about which I would like to have information from the Hon. Minister concerned. In matters like these, Sir, and also in matters pertaining to ration shops, village-committees and other things, so many representations have been made to the Government. I do not know whether they have considered all these representations made to them. When we go to the Minister concerned, he says sometimes that he does not know that representations have been made on the particular subject. Sir, repeated representations have been made and I would request the Hon. the Ministers concerned to consider them in time and deal with them properly. The Hon. Ministers may have the best of intentions and may deal with the representations later but I say, Sir, that justice delayed is justice denied. Sir, Government should render justice in time. If they delay in rendering justice, people lose confidence in them. So, they must act in time and with promptness. Otherwise, the desired effect will not be produced.

"Sir, we have been crying hoarse in both the Houses of the Legislature but with what effect? Last time, we gave our suggestions with regard to the Budget. This morning I tried to find out whether any suggestions of mine have been accepted. I find, Sir, that my suggestion has been accepted fully only with regard to one matter and partially with regard to another matter. But,

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generally, Sir, most of the suggestions that come from this side of the House have been a cry in the wilderness. I am glad to find, Sir, that the Government have decided to abolish betting on horse races in the race course enclosures at Madras and Ootacamund. Last time, Sir, I am really glad that Government have published a Bill for the purpose of abolishing betting on horse races in the race courses. I wish they pass the Bill into law as early as possible. But, Sir, I have been hearing so many rumours about it."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"Do not believe it."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I understand, Sir, that pressure from high quarters is being brought to bear on members of the Government to withdraw the Bill. I am also told that high temptation is also being offered—not to individual Ministers; but to certain public causes. I appeal to the hon. members not to succumb to this pressure but to insist on abolishing this betting on horses and thereby save many families from ruination. So many persons have been coming to me daily and asking me as to what has happened of the proposal of the Government to abolish betting on horses."

THE HON. SRI K. BHASHYAM :—"I understand that a Bill has been published already."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"So many Bills are being published, but how are we to be sure that they would be passed into law in due course, for example, a Bill about the salary of our Hon. President was published but it was not introduced at all. Mere publication does not ensure that the Bill will be passed into law. We are in days of uncertainty."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"There is nothing uncertain about your attitude."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I am certain about everything I say, Sir. My feet are on *terra firma* and my contentions are based on strong facts. Now, as I said, our cry has been in the wilderness except for the fact that the Government have brought in measures regarding prohibition and betting on horses. Now, Sir, the Hon. the Prime Minister seems to be completely obsessed with the infallibility of the pet schemes of the Congress. This obsession, I am sorry to say, has developed into fanaticism. But, Sir, I am anxious to warn obsession almost always warps the judgment and clouds the imagination. I would appeal to the Hon. the Prime Minister not to have this obsession, but to try to give due consideration to the suggestions that the members on this side of the House make.

"Sir, the Hon. the Premier has referred to the Constituent Assembly in his opening speech on the Budget. He feels that the framing of a constitution for India by the Constituent Assembly may be completed in the course of the year 1948. Well, Sir, I am not aware of any Constituent Assembly adumbrated by the Cabinet Mission's statement functioning at all."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" You are certain about it."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am certain about it; I am also certain that the Constituent Assembly does not function according to the plan adumbrated by the Cabinet Mission. Only one part of the Constituent Assembly is functioning and that is the Congress Constituent Assembly or the Hindu Constituent Assembly. So far as the Muslims are concerned, it is not functioning and the British Cabinet has made it plain that they will not accept the constitution framed by any Assembly which is not a representative body as formulated by the Cabinet Mission. But, now, Sir, there is a silver lining in this dark cloud. Yesterday or day before, the Congress Working Committee has resolved that if necessary they would be willing to divide the Punjab."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Are you agreeable to that?"
(Laughter).

3-15 p.m. * K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Well, Sir, India, according to the theory of the Congress, is an indivisible whole, and is a single unit geographically and culturally. Now, Sir, I am glad that on principle the Congress has descended from that high position; from the clouds it has descended to the mundane world and it has conceded the principle that not only can India be divided, but that the provinces also can be divided. I call that 'silver lining' not because I am agreeable to the division of provinces, but because they have agreed on principle that India is not one indivisible unit but that it can be divided; if provinces can be divided, India can be divided and thus they have accepted the principle of Pakistan. When once that is accepted on principle, the details can be worked out easily. I hope the Congress will now face facts and give due regard to the progress, advancement, freedom and independence of the various sections of the population of this country and that they will have the practical sense to understand the realities of the situation and come to grips with the problem and solve it in the only manner in which it is capable of being solved and not by insisting on the old slogans like one united India and persisting that dividing India will be cutting the cow. All these things have gone because they have agreed to the principle of Pakistan. I hope, very soon, they will be able to solve the problem in a manner acceptable to all parties."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Not in this Budget at any rate."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Because that is referred to in the Budget speech of the Hon. the Prime Minister I have to refer to that, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think the hon. member will close his speech."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The Hon. the President put me the question whether I am agreeable to division. Sir, if the Punjab can be divided, there are also so many parts in every province, the division of which also will have to be

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taken into consideration. For example, the Leader of the Opposition referred to the possibility of separating the Moplaistan and that also may have to be considered; and so many other questions may also spring up in this connexion. I thank you, Sir, for giving me another opportunity to speak on this occasion. I once again appeal to the Hon. the Prime Minister." (Interruption.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. member should not make it such a close secret between himself and Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" There is no such thing, Sir. The hon. Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar said that I have been given opportunity to speak twice and I was telling him that this was only a stop-gap arrangement."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" It is good the Hon. the Leader of the Muslim League should take advice from a Hindu Vice-Chancellor."

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I am sorry, Sir, though we have been living here for centuries, our Hindu friends have not understood us. The hon. member must have known that so far as the Muslim is concerned, he is prepared to be benefited by the knowledge of others whoever they may be. There is a saying of the Holy Prophet to the effect that 'if a truth is written even on a wall, Muslims should accept it, without ignoring it on the ground that the wall which is an inanimate object cannot teach man anything.' Another saying of the Holy Prophet says that knowledge is the lost camel of the Muslim and that he should take it wherever he finds it. It should not therefore cause any surprise in the mind of my hon. friend Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar if I accept a suggestion from my hon. friend, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. I am sorry that even after long association, we have not been able to understand each other. Sir, I appeal again to the Hon. the Premier that though he has got a numerical majority, he should not ignore the rights of minorities and though, as I said, he is obsessed with the pet schemes of the Congress party, he must pay due consideration to the firm convictions and views of the minorities and try to find whether their views and convictions cannot be given effect to wherever possible. After all, in a democracy, the rights of minorities must be preserved and maintained and further it is the minorities who can say what their rights are. I therefore appeal to him that he should not be carried away with the strength of his party, but must give due consideration to our rights and privileges and safeguard them; otherwise we will have to . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Let us not think of 'otherwise'; it is better we do not think of it now." (Laughter.)

* K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I say Sir, that is the only way in which a true foundation can be laid for the freedom and independence of this vast sub-continent and I hope the Hon. the Premier will lead the way in that respect."

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* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :— Sir, I must first of all thank all the hon. members who have debated the various points of this Budget at great length for four days. There are very able gentlemen here who deal with questions dispassionately, doing their best to uphold the stand they take up. Formidable opposition had been made by one member after another, each in his own way, pointing out how we on this side have been going on a wrong road, ignoring the interests of various classes, persons and estates. Therefore, it is not quite a simple matter for us to make these hon. Leaders understand that we are not obsessed with pet ideas. We are not endeavouring to carry out any of our pet schemes because of our superstitions or because of our orthodoxy in regard to these matters. None of us working here on this side is orthodox and none is endeavouring to cling to any old or ancient idea because of the superstition that is in us. I must thank the Leader of the Opposition and of the Muslim League and all other members for the co-operation which they have been giving to the Government in many matters. Although we are obliged to differ on certain subjects, as and when pointed out by the hon. Mr. Ahamed Ibrahim, on the question of law and order which has been one of the most important items of the political programme of every Government and which has been disturbing the other parts of the country, here they have been giving every support along with all other people. And, it is not the leaders alone that have been responsible for maintaining law and order in this big province of ours, it is also the people generally, the public, both men and women, young and old, that have realized the situation and have been co-operating with us by forming what are called 'peace committees' of different communities and taking the whole thing on hand and going ahead to establish peace and order without waiting for the Police force or the military to arrive for any of these things. I must thank the public generally with regard to this matter. It is Providence that has been helping us in regard to this important situation.

"Coming now to the political situation about which my hon. friend, Ibrahim Sahib, has spoken, he says that because the division of the Punjab is accepted by the Congress High Command, the principle of Pakistan has been recognized now. I do not know, Sir, anything in detail about the resolution which the Congress High Command has adopted. Division of provinces, or division of districts, has been going on as usual with us all over India. For instance, just now there has been the question of the division of the Vizagapatam district into two parts, the northern part and southern part. If Punjab is to be divided into two parts for the sake of administrative convenience or any other convenience, nothing follows from that. So far as Pakistan is concerned, we need not enter into a controversy over these matters. This is a very unfortunate country where such questions arose and they have been causing great troubles all these years—few years. This word 'Pakistan' was not heard of until the resolution was adopted by the Muslim League in Lahore in 1940. (K. T. M. Ahamed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur : 'But the principle was there.') What the Muslim

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leaders in the rank and file and what the Hindu leaders in the rank and file and the leaders of all other communities should have been doing in this country is they should have been working for the unity of all and for carrying on the work peacefully in every field, but that has been lost sight of and we have been going on in a wrong way, counting upon various small details over which we have been pressing matters too far. Take for instance the education question, Sir. Education is not a matter which can be divided piecemeal into various compartments. I am not one who would say that the Muslim leaders, the Muslim population should not demand for teaching in Urdu. As matters stand, in all the colleges, in all the schools, pandits there are to teach Sanskrit, pandits there are to teach Telugu and pandits there are to teach Tamil, Malayalam and similarly pandits there are in almost all universities and colleges and schools teaching Urdu and so on. The word 'regional' that had been used was understood in a wrong way and agitation had developed and had been disturbing to men like Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. It is not a fresh thing. It has been going on here for a long time. The mother-tongue has been adopted in every college, in every University and in every school and those who wanted their mother-tongue, facilities have been provided to enable them to learn Urdu, Sanskrit or whatever it is. If we had stopped there, there would be no trouble. If we go beyond that and try to divide the country in this way or that we find that real difficulties arise but such difficulties have not arisen, Sir, here. I congratulate hon. members of this House for this. Leaving aside the question of education, in other matters, where is the difference, Sir, except in the matter of religion? All are human beings, all are trying to settle themselves in their profession and earn their livelihood and to manage their family affairs. In public services also they are trying to get their proper place and settle down. Where is the difference between any two communities here except the fact that they have been able to give different names for the communities and then went on creating more differences? All are one, and that is what Islam teaches. That is what Christianity teaches, and Hinduism teaches. I am not talking of any orthodox Hindu persons who talk of so many things. You can go into the origin of the matter. You will find in commentaries of Sankara and Bhagavad Gita. When he was asked to define what is God he defined it as that supreme being that pervades the whole universe, that makes the whole universe run and that who created the universe. That is the one idea that has been taught by Jesus Christ and which the Prophet also taught. It is the misfortune of this country that all these differences had arisen. I have been telling the hon. members that there should be no difference on every side, in colleges and in schools. I for one would advocate, if possible, teaching of the four or five important religions from the childhood to every student, so that they will be able to understand really the truth of the whole thing; go to the bottom of the whole thing, and understand that it is all one business. It is all stupid that these people are quarrelling like this. That is the position, Sir. It has been my desire that in

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my lifetime at least a beginning should be made with regard to this kind of education among us. It is in that way that we can become one people again and we can work together. I say, Sir, in spite of the troubles we have been facing in regard to these communal matters, I see signs of improvement.

“ Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar in his very eloquent address said something about the Coalition Ministries. I for one without waiting for any instruction from the High Command or anybody, has been thinking on those lines even during the last eleven months and I tried to know something of the mind of the hon. members of the Opposition. There was no development both on the side of the Congress and on the side of the Muslim League and unless the High Command sanctions nothing can be done here. That is the rule which the Muslim League has developed. Sir, I know this Muslim League since the time when Mohammed Ali and Shaikat Ali were living. They were the two friends who worked as right hand and left hand of Gandhi when he started his new movement. This charka was referred to by Ahmed Ibrahim after wearing the cloth for 18 years. In speaking of charka in a derisive manner, they make a mistake. It is not a charka of a Hindu, it is not a charka of any other special caste or community. It is the charka upon which that wheel was fixed up by Mohammed Ali and Shaikat Ali along with Gandhi and all others. It is a common thing. It is a thing that gives cloth to all people and not to any particular community. ‘To-day that charka is yours. The spinning wheel on the charka is yours. It is not ours.’ How could it be said like that when it was done jointly by the representatives of the two communities? ”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ But they left the Congress, Sir.”

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ So many are dividing themselves from their fathers and mothers. That has been the tragedy of this country. All the communities belong to one family. They have divided themselves. For the sake of that there is no need at all for this kind of talk at this stage and what is it that one can say with regard to Hindu and Muslim relations. They are not small relations which are existing superficially only. We have become blind to realities, how the Muslim population, the Muslim traders and others generally are getting on with their work, so far as other communities are concerned. Take, for instance, district by district. From that go to the overseas countries and see how the Muslim traders, the merchant princes, are getting on with regard to all their work. I covered almost all the overseas countries and have made a study in regard to all these matters. Therefore, it is a wrong notion to think that the Muslims must get separated for everything. They must not think that things will go wrong unless there is separate electorate. We must remove that wrong notion. We must work together in such a manner that no Muslim would feel diffident with regard to this matter.

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“ Take, for instance, these Food Committees. Sir, in this Province of ours when we started these we were ignorant people. As Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar put it, ‘you had been spending all your time, 25 or 26 years, in jail. You cannot be expected to know all these things.’ Although we have spent much time in jails we were old enough to understand and study from the jails all about our country and about ourselves. Recently, Sir, with regard to these Food Committees stress was laid on the Directorate and other things. How wrong is the impression which the leaders of the League have been carrying on in their minds? You can see the real thing if you look into the facts as they are. Regarding Malabar, in the three taluks of Ernad, Kurumbranad and Ponnani where there was a fair number of Muslim inhabitants, the number of directors in each was as follows :—

Name of the taluk.	Total number of directors.	Total number of Muslim directors.
Ernad taluk	49	21
Kurumbranad taluk ..	98	36
Ponnani taluk	49	15

Government redressed whatever grievances the members of the Muslim community had in the beginning. The members of the Muslim community were themselves too keenly interested in running these societies and in the case of Tirur after a keen contest in which the Muslims took a lively interest the society had now a Muslim directorate. In two places, Sir, where there was said to have been a miscarriage of justice, fresh elections were ordered and then the Muslim League members were returned successfully and telegrams were received here.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ On a point of personal explanation, Sir, with what difficulty and with what struggle these members came in? On account of this struggle, the Premier had to run up to Malabar.”

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—“ That was long ago. In the beginning, when there were complaints, I had promised that I would go there to settle matters and matters were settled. I have quoted this to show how these societies had been managed by Muslim directors. Still many more things have to be rectified by us as we proceed.

“ Let me come to our pet schemes, the obsessions as was referred to by the members on the other side of the House so frequently. So far as Prohibition is concerned, there is little disagreement and you wanted us to have it introduced in all the districts. Many friends in the Congress Legislature Party took that view and they gave us so much trouble that after a considerable amount of discussion, we have come to some settlement as we have indicated in the speech. Prohibition has been introduced not because we have the backing of the Police or not because we have the support of the Abkari department; it is not because of such things that we undertook such a task and it is not on account of that that we hoped to succeed. A note of warning was given by my hon. friend Mr. Uppi Sahib, saying that this scheme failed in other countries and he asked ‘if they failed in other countries, how can you expect to

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succeed here? I know Pussy Foot Johnson lost his eyes in his zeal and enthusiasm for Prohibition in America. I say that countries in the West are quite differently situated, both geographically and in other manners and they have not been in the line to think of Prohibition. Those countries are quite different and here the position is different. Why is the Muslim population so very keen on Prohibition and why are the other communities so very keen? Why do they think alike in this matter? Because they have inherited that sacred thing from their ancestors, though they may call themselves Muslims on one side or Hindus on the other side. It is due to their common inheritance that they are able to say that there shall be universal Prohibition here. What is it that heartens us further; men, women and children are wedded to this theory and the Prohibition movement has support all round. When I was marching from Cuddapah to Erragondapalem at the top of Kurnool district all along the road everywhere without exception I saw little children with flags and so much of enthusiasm was seen; that is why we have got the hope that we will succeed. It has been stated by some hon. members that this was started during the term of office of our last Government and failed. It is unfair to say so. We started Prohibition and we went into the wilderness when we were called out. In the four districts in which we introduced Prohibition, had it been kept on, it would have been a complete success and other districts would have been covered perfectly and total Prohibition would have been in being in all the districts in this Province but for the fact that the Advisers' Government, whose heart was unable to grasp the meaning of the scheme, did not believe in it and therefore, they thought, 'let us close this down and let us accumulate some money' and thus it was that this drink money was given to us, as though this country would prosper with revenues derived from such sources. Now we have taken it up and we have got every hope that Prohibition would be a perfect success.

"The next item in the constructive programme is village reconstruction. Nobody quarrels with it and everybody is agreeable that the villages should be lifted up. How can they be lifted up? We cannot lift them up by establishing universities in the midst of villages, by giving higher education to all the people living in villages. Their method of life is different. I have known villages which were so prosperous at one time—villages which could be held up as model villages comparable with any village in Europe or any other country, though not in perfect style and form, but in substance. What have you now got to-day. The unfortunate fellows have been practically ruined; they are living only in human form and they have nothing to depend upon. If they had anything to depend upon, they have been dragged into law courts where they had to spend the little money that they had and they were compelled to borrow from Marwari sowcars and they had been rendered mere shells and they have got no substance. Ninety per cent of our population live in villages. If we have taken to their uplift as the most sacred thing, no criticism should be offered; you should have sympathised with us and you must examine the scheme more

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closely and see whether the science of the scheme, the programme and the plan involved in all these things are correct or false. I may tell you that this country has been economically ruined on account of the currency and exchange policy of the British Government and this currency and exchange policy many people do not know. Top ranking gentlemen do not understand the cause of the ruination of the villages. That is why the currency and exchange policy is to be tackled by means of the constructive programme that is devised for these villages. If these villages are made self-sufficient where is the necessity for the villagers to go to the nearest town and pledge himself, borrow and get something to eat? There was enough in the land, there was water; there was the land and they could grow what they want, either vegetable or anything they liked; but people have lost the habit of doing any of these things and they go to distant places eight or ten miles away, mortgage or pledge something and purchase vegetable or other things and carry them eight or ten miles, for their consumption. All these things will automatically disappear if this programme is allowed to be carried on and it is with that hope that that scheme has been started. It is not because even Gandhiji stated that I came into line with him. I first saw the whole scheme of his and I had the conviction that this programme would enable people of this country to progress. That is how I brought in this movement so long ago as 1920-21. I have been sticking to it because I have a firm conviction in this programme. It is with that object that we have been endeavouring to have the whole plan. To ridicule the whole idea of the spinning wheel, the charka and the loom and to ask how they are going to help the country when it is marching in such a rapid way by the development of the mill industry, is not a helpful thing. It has been asked: 'Is it practical? Are you thinking in these days of 1947 of the charka and the loom? The mills are going on flourishing and how can you expect the charka to take its place?' I was about to refer to that the other day in a wrong place by mistake. The mistake is we do not know our own country and we do not know our own province. I referred to this aeroplane business only incidentally to show the distances between the Punjab and us. The Punjab is the most important province in the whole of this country to-day. What is the position of the Punjab with regard to yarn; with regard to mills; who are those people in the Punjab; what is the percentage of Muslims to the entire population; and what is the percentage of Hindus and others; what is the percentage of hand-spun yarn to the total consumption in that country and what is the percentage of hand-made cloth to the quantity used in that province? I have got this statement prepared showing the quantity of yarn consumed in the Punjab and the figures represent so many millions—

Indian mill yarn.	Imported mill yarn.	Hand-spun yarn.	Total.
LB.	LB.	LB.	LB.
12.31	1.19	35.38	48.88
Percentage to the total consumption is as under—			
25.18	2.44	72.38	—

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Hand-spun yarn accounts for 72.38 per cent of total consumption. Let us compare those figures with those for Madras. The figures are, Indian mill yarn 75.48 million pounds, imported yarn 5.83 and hand-spun yarn 0.82 only. Let us take how the position is with regard to total consumption. Indian mill yarn accounts for 91.9 per cent of the total consumption and imported yarn is 7.1 per cent and hand-spun yarn 0.99 per cent or nearly one per cent only. In the Punjab, they make use of hand-spun yarn to the extent of 72 per cent whereas only one per cent of our total consumption is hand-spun yarn. They in the Punjab are a military people; they are a martial race and there the men and women have been producing so much hand-spun yarn, whereas we here are not even producing one per cent. Here in spite of the efforts made by the Congress for the last 26 years, going about the country begging the people, investing large sums of money for that purpose, the All-India Spinners' Association working enthusiastically at it for all these years, why have we this poor result? Some intelligent gentlemen have attacked this matter and that is why I am placing the figures before you to show that the mills have so far stood in the way of the progress of hand-spun yarn. In spite of our efforts only 1 per cent is handspun yarn. Unless you put a stop to it, we cannot interfere with the mills that are working. Unless we stop it somewhere, the working of khadi and its development will not be possible. This possibility has now come because we happen to do it. Otherwise it is not possible to do it at all. A whole lifetime of begging and borrowing would not collect and invest a crore of rupees either in this or that mill or Harijan Seva Sangh. It is the people's money which should help them, and therefore, it is that we wanted to take up this business. Can any one of you say anything about the possibility and practicability of khadi? You speak of Punjab. I only pointed to the aeroplane to show that if one wanted to go to Punjab he could get into the plane and get down in Lahore and see things there for himself. You do not go about Punjab; you do not know about your own selves. We are unfortunate fellows who cannot claim to have got all the experience and knowledge which some of you have got in other directions as Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar put it. We have been labouring under them. Sir, I am one of those who as far as possible. Therefore, Sir, it is wrong, I say, to suppose that this textile policy of ours is wrong. Do not attack us mercilessly. Merciless attacks had been made against us, not by you, because I am sure when the matter comes up before you, you will certainly look into the papers and then you will be convinced. My hope is that even the hardest of the critics can be convinced when facts and figures are placed before him, but how are we to meet criticism in the Press—ill-advised and ill-informed Press? It comes forth supporting a particular vested interest. The Press point. That is how we were obliged to suffer. We have suffered because we have no organ of our own in this Province. I had been in charge of a newspaper. I tried to keep it alive for eighteen years spending all the money I could get from the paper. Until

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I became a Minister I kept it alive. But the misfortune is when the matter went up before the Court, one judge thought 'why not I wind it up.' That is how it was closed. I was telling that so long as there was breath in me that paper should not be closed, because the public support was there, in spite of my mismanagement, and my being absent in other places leaving it in the hands of others. We have suffered in that way, and we have been working without that real help we deserved. We can convince Hon. Members of this House and we can convince other people also by coming into contact and by telling them. Sir, the other day Prof. Radhakumud Mukherji, a distinguished educationist of Bengal, who had returned from Washington then, met me in Delhi. He told me 'well Mr. Prakasam, I have put up your scheme, your plan and all those things; there was a lot of discussion and controversy over the matter; finally I convinced them and they accepted this as the best possible thing in the interests of the people.' Therefore, Sir, this is a difficult subject. We have undertaken this under the leadership of the most selfless leader of this country. But for him, Sir, I would not have been living to see this much of development and progress in our country. All these textile plans and schemes are our own. When these things were let known, there was an uproar in our own ranks that we have started all these things without the sanction of Mahatma Gandhi. 'Go there first; obtain his sanction; until then we cannot give you a hearing; we cannot approve of these', this is what they said. Of course, I waited up to a point to prepare schemes. Then I asked the Textile Commissioner to have this scheme tested by Gandhiji himself. He tested it, and he made certain modifications. He said 'your programme is too big; there is difficulty in getting on with the work of all the 25 firkas; you cannot tackle at one stretch all the 25 firkas; therefore, confine it to 7 centres, where there is already progress, and with regard to the rest you bring them up to the preparatory stage. When I met him later, he was keen on this. He is a very able man, a very shrewd man, a man who knows his business more than anybody else. However much I may pretend to be more learned than him, I cannot say that he is not a thinking man, or he is making a mistake. When I saw him about the scheme he asked me (he wrote to me also) 'well, do you think you can ride two horses; can you have the mill progressing on the one side and the charka progressing on the other; riding two horses means that; what are you going to do; you are at the head of a Government; can you work up all the big schemes; get the money set apart, and all these things, if side by side, new mills are also to come up; don't you think it is time for you to say "no more mills"'. I was in perfect agreement with him. I said, 'I entirely agree with you.' That gentleman is a peculiar man. He does not go on with the main point. He goes also to the details. Then he said 'I understand now that there are certain spindles to come; unless you tackle that also how can you expect the success of the scheme.' That is the real point in dispute now. He said 'if those spindles are to be forced upon you, you will have to say that you surrender those spindles.' For this what uproar, Sir? Great men, our

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best friends and others thought that we had made a mistake. Even to-day, hon. friends talk 'how can you say that you will not accept the spindles that have been ordered for by the Government of India; you are bound by them; you cannot avoid it; we shall not allow you to do it.' Sir, I am here representing the whole Province. I am expected to do the right thing. If we have come into conflict with the Government of India, it is not out of any desire to come into conflict and fight with them. It is a question of jurisdiction whether Madras Province should govern itself or whether the Government of India should govern the Madras Province from Delhi. That is the constitutional issue that is involved. I am not a foolish young man who cannot understand these things. All of you know the Government of India gave a licence to import that machinery. 'On a promise, or assurance given by you, those people had sent their moneys and ordered for these things; now how can that be broken,' they ask? It is a big question; not a simple matter. I talked to the Hon. John Mathai and asked him 'is there a breach of faith'. He said 'we have got the legal opinion of a very important man of Madras; there will be a breach of faith; there may be cause of action for damages'. Sir, I had been a lawyer all my lifetime, and those gentlemen who are giving opinions are persons who were with me when I was also practising as a lawyer here. (Laughter.) The impression now is that I have forgotten law (more laughter). I told Dr. John Mathai, 'please do not be carried away by the legal opinion you have got; if you have the opinion of the ex-Advocate-General, I will give you the opinion of the present Advocate-General.' (Laughter.) In that connexion . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"That means that what the hon. Member Dr. Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar said that we should not rely on the opinion of Advocates-General is right!" (Laughter.)

* THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—"This is a letter from Mahatma Gandhi which I have not revealed out until now. Now I am reading that for the benefit of hon. members. This is a letter from Srirampur, dated the 28th December 1946 :—

'My dear Prakasam,

I have now your letter enclosing papers. I hope you have my reply to your telegram, copy of which is enclosed herewith. I have nothing to add to what I have said. I regard Central Government's reply as a challenge to your faith in yourself, the charka and dumb masses of the people of Madras. If the latter are really with you, as I hope they are, you can accept the challenge and you will benefit not only Madras but the whole of Indian humanity.

Sir, this is another letter from Mahatma Gandhi, dated 5th December 1946, from Srirampur—

'Dear Prakasam,

I have your letter with enclosures. I have studied all the papers you have sent to me. Your statement appears to me to be in order so far as it goes. But I do feel that if the new policy becomes popular with the masses, the concentrated production of cotton will become decentralized and distributed like khadi cloth itself and to that extent the Presidency will be the gainer, as the whole of India will, if it takes up the Madras policy, as it will, if Madras succeeds, as it ought to if the villagers take up khadi with zest. They will, if khadi becomes cheaper than unprotected mill cloth, as Shri Manu Subedar has shown from the figures, which I have printed in *Harijan*.

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The argument in the cuttings you have been good enough to send me makes no appeal to me and if I get the time from the heavy Noakhali work before me, I shall write in *Harijan*. But I know nothing about the legal argument which, of course, you will get properly examined by the Advocate-General and other lawyers expert in the matter and, if the legal argument is against you, naturally you will resign from the position taken up by you. But I take it that you had the legal position carefully examined before you took the plunge,

But apart from the question of establishing new mills or expanding the old ones, how is the scheme progressing? Have you already made the commencement?

Finally I wrote to him, Sir, that spindles were surrendered, but the Government of India declined to accept the surrender. This is a letter which he wrote on 4th January 1947—

'Dear Prakasam,

I have your two letters, dated 10th and 11th instant, and telegram sent from New Delhi. At the time of dictation they are not in front of me. I am dictating this in the small hours of the morning. I am glad the fast of Ramulu ended in the happy manner you describe. He had sent me a telegram immediately he broke his fast. I know he is a solid worker though a little eccentric. (Laughter.) I am glad too that Mr. Daniel Thomas never delivered the speech attributed to him.

About the Madras quota spindles I am absolutely clear. If I were the Government of Madras, as you are, and I had the backing of public opinion I would do this in spite of the manufactured opinion of interested parties, and, if the worst happened, I would pay for the spindles of my quota and yet not use them. I regard mill-owners and Chamber of Commerce's opinion to be interested in the sense that they and their supporters have made up their minds that what is good for them is good for the whole India. It is not a question of honesty and dishonesty, it is a question pure and simple of conflict of ideals. Of course, it is open to these gentlemen to retort that in my sense the opinion of the masses may be called interested. If such be the argument I would hold that the interest of the masses as conceived by them must prevail over that of the classes. It is conceivable that in certain cases the opinion of the masses may be intrinsically right and that of the classes intrinsically absurd. This to my mind is the crux of democracy. Hence, as the Government, if I am confident about the backing of the masses, I would tell the Centre that my Government would pay damages for breach of contract, if that be the legal result. I must serve the masses to the best of my ability.

Jajaji tells me that the scheme you have announced has not been put into operation. If you do not strike the iron while it is hot the whole thing might become stale and might not produce the anticipated result. Of course, I am utterly out of court here because I do not know full facts.'

"I did not publish this letter until now. I had opposition from inside our party. One important member raised the point on this question and gave a challenge to me and said, 'with your policy I am not in agreement.' He did not know exactly whether I was doing it on my own account, without the backing of that great man. So in that party meeting of ours—I did not disclose till then—I read out these three letters for the first time. Whatever they may have been thinking before that, the outside world did not expect such a thing till now. And so we were held up to ridicule day after day, week after week and month after month by the newspapers, saying, 'What is this textile policy? Can this Government survive for a single day?' Newspapers, what is it they did not say against us? They said, 'this Ministry is on its death-bed; even Sanjeevi would not put life into it!' (Laughter.) Take all these things into consideration; wait and see, and you will find what happens. I may tell hon. members to-day, even if I am not here to-morrow as a Minister or as the head of this

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Government, I am confident by going into the country I can carry on this programme. What is this four crores? You can get from the poor people, not four crores, but forty or fifty crores, if we want, if we tell them 'this is your work.' That is our faith in the programme; that is our policy. I implore every one of you to take the Punjab instance into account and see how things are going on. If you go into your own province you will find the same thing. I went into one area and looked into the register and found out the number of spinners in Gudur in Kurnool district to be 500. And what is more? Out of this 500, nearly four hundred were Muhammadan citizens. It is because these facts are not placed before you, you don't see how it easily helps the poor people.

"Coming now to producers-cum-consumers' societies, these have been mercilessly criticized. There may be faults in the execution of the work in the first stage. But nobody can say the foundation, the co-operative basis, is wrong. Even the Soviet Republic is based upon this. The constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as amended up to 2nd February 1941, Article V, is this:

"Soviet property in U.S.S.R. exists either in the form of State property", that is, the possession of the whole people (State means the whole people), "or in the form of co-operative collective farm property", that is, property of a collective farm or property of a co-operative association."

"Here, I wish to refer back to the textile policy to let the House know about the Advocate-General's opinion on the matter. As it is a long one, I do not wish to read it but give only the substance of it. When Dr. Mathai said that legal opinion is that there would be breach of faith and that there may be a cause of action for damages, I asked the Advocate-General here to examine the whole matter and give a clear opinion on it. His opinion is that there can be no breach of faith, and as there is no contract here, there is no breach of contract here. So no claim for damages can lie; because apparently though it looks like it the application is made only for a permit. Under the rules, to cross the frontier of the Government of India, i.e., for goods to enter the limits of India, they introduced a system of issuing licences. That is the position. That is what the Advocate-General explained. This is a State matter. There is no contract here at all. There is no permit also to anybody. It is merely licence given to you. The State represent the people, as I said a little while ago. The executive of any Government—and here in Madras, it means the Ministers—are not entitled to enter into any contract so as to affect the interests of the people for so many years together. That is the law laid down in a particular case in England. I will read only a few sentences from the opinion of the Advocate-General: 'Licences of this description, which are issued by the State, have to be distinguished from other licences between individuals and special considerations would be applicable to them. I shall presently consider the matter even from the point of view of their being ordinary licences and point out that, even so, it will

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not make any difference, since, in law, a bare licence, which does not amount to a contract or a grant, is revocable. But in the case of a licence of this nature, there is the additional fact that has to be borne in mind, namely, that public interests are primarily involved both in the grant of the licence as well as in the cancellation thereof; and it has to be considered whether the Government can at all preclude itself from the reservation of a power to cancel a licence in the interests of the State. A striking case arose in the English courts and is reported in (1921) 3 King's Bench, page 500. There, neutral shipowners obtained an undertaking from the British Government that, if they sent a particular ship to England with a particular class of cargo, she should not be detained. On the faith of that undertaking the owners sent their ship to a British port with a cargo of the stipulated kind. The British Government withdrew the undertaking and refused clearance. On a petition of right for damages for breach of contract, it was held that the Government's undertaking was not enforceable in a Court of Law, it being not within the competence of the Crown to make a contract, which would have the effect of limiting their power of executive action in the future. It was pointed out that no doubt, the Government can bind itself through its officers by a commercial contract and if it does so, it must perform it like anybody else or pay damages for the breach. But, where there was no commercial contract but merely an arrangement whereby the Government purported to give an assurance as to what its executive action would be in the future in relation to a particular ship in the event of her coming to England with a particular kind of cargo which was merely an expression of intention to act in a particular way in a certain event, it was not competent for the Government to fetter its future executive action, which must necessarily be determined by the needs of the (community) State when the question arises. It was pointed out that 'the Government cannot by contract hamper its freedom of action in matters which concern the welfare of the State.

"Now, Sir, I am trying to point out to you that the licence was given by the Government of India on the recommendation of the Government of Madras; whether it is the present Government or the previous Advisers' Government, it makes no difference. Now we have introduced a scheme for the development of khaddar and we have invested money in it. We have made all the preparations all over the province to start the work of the people, which means the work of the State so long as the Ministers remain the servants of the people. We have to carry on our business here in such a manner that their interests will not be affected. When the licences were applied for, these schemes were not here and none of these proposals was contemplated at that time. Now after this new Government have come into office and after these schemes have been started and placed before the whole country what is it that we have to do to protect the interests of the schemes which are meant for the benefit of the people, which means the State. We have got the right to say: At that time we ordered for it and now owing to the fact that

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we have undertaken these schemes we cannot agree to that. The Advocate-General also has referred to this in his long opinion and I am telling you this briefly. Therefore it is that we say that these things should not come. Sir, in my view, the Government were wrong, Dr. John Mathai was quite wrong and his successor Mr. Rajagopalachari is quite wrong in saying: 'There is a breach of faith here and we cannot allow it.' (K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur: 'What about the licensees, Sir?') Sir, about the licensees, if the worst comes to the worst, we can pay compensation to them. That is what Gandhiji says and that is what I would also do. I would not put them to loss. (Hear, hear.) If necessary we will give them other work and make them utilize their plant and machinery for some other purpose which would help this country without interfering with this business. They cannot be losers. Sir, I say the Government of India are wrong and there is a constitutional issue involved in it. We have not entered into any contract with the persons who wanted the licence. We simply granted the licence that has permitted them to take their goods into the frontier gates where I have put my man to collect the customs duties. Beyond that there is no legal right given to anybody. The Government of India cannot say we should allow. We are the people who should look to the interests of the people here and carry on all the schemes that we have launched. We are the people to decide whether we are doing the right thing or whether we are doing something wrong to those people who have already ordered for them. (K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur: 'Establish Pakistan, Sir.') No Pakistan. You and I will become one and will live together. We will never talk of Pakistan if we begin on these lines and we will go together under the same yoke. Therefore, so far as that matter is concerned there a constitutional issue is involved. Why am I here if I am not to give a reply to them when I am in the right and if I cannot fight them and convince them and get the right thing done to our people. You have no idea how we have been entangled in the problems of this province, namely, food and other things on account of the interference of the Government of India and on account of the war. It has been taking the life out of the millions of innocent people. The direction is given by somebody sitting there: 'You must export, etc.' Sir, we are exporting to-day 13,000 bales when our people are starving for yarn, and our looms are idle. We are not able to give yarn for our handloom industry. It is therefore that the price of the handloom has become prohibitive. We fought this issue. They say, 'No, you have to export.' Sir, it is a moral obligation. There is no law which can say that I cannot keep my own goods for the benefit of my own weavers. There is nothing like that. But still we are trying to carry on the administration bending our head and receiving all the knocks that can be received not only from the public but also from the Government above us. We may have to tell them that there should be a limit for all these things. We shall be doing that if it becomes impossible for our people to get yarn for making the necessary cloth. Then we will have to shift for ourselves. That will be our position. I was telling them these things orally but I was not committing

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myself to anything in writing, because having become so old in the experience of this world I have been adjusting myself so that the people may not suffer on account of our indiscretions. Sir, enough indiscretions have been made, we are responsible for many mistakes and on account of that all these troubles are hanging on our heads and we are suffering in every possible manner.

"Now, Sir, about the co-operative societies I will say something. It is not a new thing that I have picked up now or yesterday in a library. Sir, this is a subject on which I have devoted my life for nearly 26 years, ever since these multi-purpose societies were started in Baroda and other places and those pamphlets were issued by them. From that day I have gone into the whole position. Before that date I happened to be in the Central Legislative Assembly and I happened to go to the overseas countries to study not only the labour subjects but also about these co-operative societies. I have studied country after country in these matters. In Denmark, particularly, it was a delight. One would not come out when once he goes into the question of co-operative societies. Sir, as it were, this co-operative movement has become a part of my bone and I say, Sir, that it is the only thing that can save an unfortunate country like India which has been exploited in thousands of ways. Sir, it is in that way that this 'co-operation' has been undertaken by me and when I wanted to start this co-operative organization in Malabar there was a lot of trouble from the Co-operative Department of the Government itself. Their conception was that Malabar would not be able to supply even three to four lakhs worth of goods. That was how the discussion went on in our own conference. They then said: 'We have no men, how can we start this or that?' They said this because they have been used to one kind of training only. They fixed a certain period and in that period they will give training to the men and grant them certificates. Then these men will proceed to their destinations to join their work. But I have been used to all kinds of life. I told them: 'Take Malabar. It will give you the best of young men. You need not have any doubt about competent young men being available there.' Sir, the young men did not require a year's training. They could be trained within the shortest possible period. Sir, within three to six months they were trained and they were put on their work. Afterwards the department itself certified that everything has gone on all right. Sir, in Malabar 50 to 70 lakhs have been subscribed for. The only thing is that the people should be told that they must do the business in these lines. After it succeeded to some extent my Muslim friends were raising points and they were telling me that I should go there and look into the matter. After going there and looking into the business with the co-operation of these friends, we have settled the matters and as I have read just now the whole thing is going on smoothly.

"Sir, in the northern districts the whole trouble was created by the vested interests. Some of our own friends have some interest in the matter and therefore it became very difficult unfortunately for this affair to make headway in certain areas and all kinds of rumours

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have been spread. Whenever the thing came up I went into the matter and I was satisfying myself that there was nothing wrong in it. This is how the work is going on.

"Now, Sir, instead of speaking freely I would like to explain the historical position of these co-operative societies. Already in my budget speech I pointed out how during the whole period of 42 or 44 years ever since this movement was started it could not be of any help. I know in my tours in the overseas countries how the whole co-operative movement could do much. It is to show its previous history I am going to refer to the whole thing about how during the last so many years this movement had gone down because attacks were made in so many quarters. I will just give you a more correct idea of this thing.

"I gather that my reference to the co-operative movement in my opening speech has caused discontent in some quarters. It was far from my intention to give any offence to the large body of co-operators, official as well as non-official, who had been working in the field in the cause of co-operation or belittle their efforts or achievements. The co-operative movement started nearly 42 years ago and the fact remains that so far as our rural life is concerned, nothing tangible has been achieved except in the small field of credit and even here the achievements have not been conspicuous. It was clear, therefore, that a new line of activity should be started to further the welfare of the producers. The Royal Commission on Agriculture in India, reporting in 1928, observed that under the conditions prevailing it was inevitable that the cultivator should come off second best in his contest with the highly specialized knowledge and the vastly superior resources of those who purchase his produce. The middlemen carry none of the risks incidental to production. They are tolerably secure in the enjoyment of their profit margins, merchants being, as a rule, in a position, by adjusting prices, to pass on to the consumer any rise in costs, while commission agents are concerned mainly with obtaining their commission over the largest possible turn-over. They observed that group marketing must be more efficient than marketing by individuals especially in conditions such as those existing in India where the individual producer is such a small unit. The ideal to be aimed at is, therefore, co-operative sale societies which will educate the cultivator in the production and preparation for market of his produce. They remarked that persons who interested themselves in the many-sided development of co-operative movement in Europe and America and elsewhere had expressed regret that the organization of societies for purchase and sale had made so little progress in India.

"It was nearly 19 years ago that these observations were recorded and no substantial progress has been made in this direction.

"I would refer now to the report of the Committee on Co-operation in Madras, presided over by Sir T. Vijayaraghava Achariyar. This committee considered that simultaneously with the enlargement of the field of village co-operative societies, there

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should be an intense drive for enlarging their membership and bringing every eligible family of the right type of character in their area of operations within their ambit. As far as possible there should be scope in village credit societies for all sections of the community each of which has definite, economic and social needs. This intensive development is necessary so that the money-lender's credit may be replaced by co-operative and therefore controlled credit within as short a period as possible.

"In paragraph 160 of the report they recommended that the intensive expansion must comprehend the enlarging of the activities of village credit co-operatives by making them discharge all the functions which are contemplated by the model by-laws of these societies. These include the supply of manure, seed, improved implements and other necessary equipment required for agriculture, joint purchase on indent system and sale of produce. They may also undertake the supply of electrical and other mechanical power on a collective basis and even farming on a co-operative basis and such other allied functions as may be decided upon by the committees of societies. These objects are so conceived as to achieve the ideal of co-operative societies and help the village in the triple programme of "better farming, better business and better living." The report of this committee was issued in 1940 but vigorous action has not been taken to implement the recommendations.

"I would then refer you to the more recent authoritative recommendation on the subject contained in the report of the Famine Enquiry Commission issued in 1945. The whole section on multi-purpose co-operation in part IV, chapter III of the report is worth serious attention. I would refer you only to some extracts.

"Co-operation should cover the whole field of farming economy. The provision of relatively cheap credit is not enough, in fact, cheap credit by itself may do harm. A co-operative society of which a small cultivator is a member should be able to assist him in many ways in his farming business.

"The case in favour of multi-purpose societies is set forth in paragraph 7 (p. 318). The committee records the opinion that the future development of agriculture in the case of small and medium farmer depends in considerable measure on the ability of the Government to bring together in the multi-purpose organization, to establish effective contact between these cultivators and the agencies of the Government and to carry through a programme of planned development embracing all aspects of the economy of the cultivator.

"In the face of these authoritative pronouncements on the subject no further defence is necessary to justify the Government scheme of producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies. These are a step in the direction of the multi-purpose societies which have been recommended as the only effective means of improving the lot of the cultivators who form the vast bulk of the population. Opportunity has been taken of the present difficult conditions to bring the

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producers together into such societies and it is the hope of the Government that the experience the producers gain by working together now will enable them to continue to stand together for the common good when normal conditions return. Every effort will be made to effect a fusion of the existing village co-operative organizations and these new societies.

"There has been criticism on some points of details during the course of debate. The most important of these is that the shares are collected under official pressure and that but for official agencies these societies would not have come into existence at all. In the extracts I have already quoted, official support has been stressed as necessary for making progress. The Famine Commission attach very great importance to constant guidance and supervision by official agency. This does not of course mean that the activities of the union and its primary societies should be subject to official control. Self-help is the foundation of the co-operative movement and the directors of the union and the members of the primary societies must recognise that responsibility for the working of the institutions rests primarily upon them. Every society must learn to keep its own accounts and transact its own business, but until the principles of co-operation are more fully understood we consider it essential that official guidance and control should be maintained.

"The next line of criticism that this scheme is intended to seek political power for one party and exclude the Muslims. Sir, Muslims are not excluded because they are Muslims; but excluded like members of other communities to the extent that they are middlemen. As these societies get established official control will gradually be relaxed and it is difficult to see how these organizations can be made to serve the purpose of any single party. The shareholders will be the primary producers and the directors will gradually be elected even in the Circars. There may be some defects and irregularities in the actual organization and conduct of these societies because they were organized speedily to handle the produce which was coming to market. As soon as the societies get on their way, such complaints will be looked into and established defects will be set right. I do not think I need take any more time of the House in defence of this scheme of the Government. What I have said is, I hope, sufficient to convince the hon. members that far from foreboding failure and disaster to these societies, it is the duty of all members to assist in making them a success for the well-being of the country.

"Sir, the Village, Taluk and Food Committees have come in for some criticism. But it has not been directed against the institutions of the committees themselves but in regard to the details. I take it that the House accepts that these committees have a very useful purpose to serve. I feel that they are the nucleus of the Village Republics which, I hope to see established to revitalise life in the villages.

"There have been complaints that certain communities may not find seats on these bodies merely by election. Provision has

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been made for this contingency by authorizing the nomination of two members of unrepresented communities or special interest to the Taluk Committees and up to five members to the District Food Committees.

"Sir, that much in defence of this scheme. One other important subject about which much comment was made by hon. members of this House is the Zamindari Bill that is proposed to be introduced in this session, followed up by proceedings that would abolish the zamindari system altogether. I have been a friend of the zamindars all my lifetime. There is nothing aimed at any of these friends. On the other hand I should be feeling with some of you to consider whether anything could be done to advance their own interests without prejudice to the interests of the general ryot population. It is only with that object that this Bill has been introduced. There is no motive behind it. There is no ill-will against any of these zamindars. A question was put in the other House by Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiyar: "What about the tax on Government lands?" Last time, when I was Revenue Minister I prepared a Bill for the reduction of rents in ryotwari areas also. If the zamindars had been increasing rents in their areas without knowing exactly their own position, the Government have not been in any way idle. If the zamindars increased their rents through their Diwans in an uncouth manner, the Government, being a perfectly civilized organization introduced what was called resettlements and at every resettlement, they invariably increased the rents. During the time of the first Congress Ministry this question was considered at great length and we wanted to reduce all the enhancements made at successive resettlements, Mr. Holdsworth was then Revenue Secretary. He was a very good man. He is no more now. We went through the documents preserved in the Secretariat and found out what should be the proper rent with regard to the Government jirayati lands. That has been my policy. At one time, one might go to jails resigning office, another time one might go into wilderness in another manner. That does not matter. This is a question relating to the country as a whole. The rents should be reduced both in the Government lands and the zamindari lands. Then will come the stage at which we have to consider whether land tax should not be abolished altogether. That is my feeling about it. I have studied the whole subject. If the taxes are reduced first, thereafter we will consider whether land revenue should not be dispensed with altogether. It is unfortunate that land in this country alone has been bearing an unbearable burden and cultivators have become ruined.

"Am I exceeding my time, Mr. President?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. Premier may take as much time as he requires. I am sure the Opposition also will agree to this in fairness, because they have had as much time as they wanted."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—"Thank you, Sir, I have been benefited very much by the criticisms of hon. members, by

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the approach which they made to various questions, because it is not always from one point of view alone that we will be able to know the truth about things.

"Sir, the Zamindari legislation is a huge problem. For centuries we have been slaves, we have lost everything. I am asked: "Have other Provinces followed this policy? Why then do you start this mill policy?" If other Provinces would not follow, somebody must make a beginning somewhere. I am the only man who can take it into my hands and see to it, because I am convinced about it and also because it has been supported by that great man who has devoted his life for the sake of the masses. I would request hon. members to look upon this without any prejudice. I am so certain that within a few years, the whole plan when it is put into action will become very useful and serviceable.

5 p.m. "Now Sir, you must all forgive me. I have made notes of all the points in the speeches delivered here. I do not wish to tax hon. members by attempting to go into details with regard to every point. I thank you, Sir, and the hon. members for the way in which they have dealt with the whole of this budget. This budget, it has been said, relates only to the villages, to the constructive programme, khadi work, cottage industries and all these things. But we have not been pledged only to these things. The larger industries are the industries that can really save and protect this country. It is not merely the Government or the Ministers who may call themselves the Governors who can give all that the people want. People want substantial support from the wealthy people. I am not attacking the wealthy people. In all these schemes some wealthy friends will be obliged to invest. I have been appealing to them not only here but in Malabar or wherever I go. Don't think you may be left out altogether, don't feel that you are deprived of your professions and your sources of income. If that should be the result we being in office should condemn ourselves. My plan and the plan of every one of us is to have the industrial organization in such a manner that all the wealth in the country will go into that. We are starting an industrial finance corporation on the lines on which such corporations have been started in Britain and other countries. I studied those things well and how they have been functioning. They are autonomous bodies. The Finance Corporation is an autonomous body which would be ready to give finances to promote industries. The Industrial Finance Corporation is a body which takes the industries on hand for the purpose of developing nationalization and doing all those things. That is why I have been telling: Just have some patience. Within a few months perhaps, money will be required in thousands, in lakhs and even in crores. If that money is put in, what will be the position? Will we be in the position of commission agents? Ever since Britain had taken possession of this country—some of you may not know—these British people tried to introduce here the system of banking and the system of issuing cheques, while hundies and all those things have been flourishing

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on the largest scale. Nowhere else in the world can you find such institutions as our indigenous banks. The traders and merchants resisted up to a point. It was only then that the Indian National Congress came into existence in 1885. The traders and merchants, fully conscious of the encroachment on their trade and how their business was going to dogs, were very nearly prepared to rise in armed revolt as it were. Then it was Hume Wedderburn and others started the Indian National Congress with a view to divert all the activities into constitutional channels. It was the constitutional channel that bound the Congress leadership until this time came from South Africa and put life into the dead population here, after the Jalianwalabagh."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The discussion on the budget has now ended. The House now adjourns and will meet at 3 p.m. on the 22nd instant."

The House then adjourned.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 101 asked by Sri B. Bhima Rao (on behalf of Sri K. Madhava Menon) at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th March 1947, page 353 supra.]

Number of Sanskrit Colleges in the Province and the districts in which they are located.

(a) Number of Sanskrit Colleges is 19.*

Vizagapatam district	1
East Godavari district	1
Kistna district	1
Guntur district	2
Nellore district	1
Madras district	1
Chingleput district	1
North Arcot district	1
Chittoor district	1
Tanjore district	1
Madura district	1
South Kanara district	3
South Malabar district	4
	—
	19 *
	—

(b) None by Government; one College maintained by Tanjore District Board and 18 by Private Agencies.

(c) Nil.

(d) The Colleges are affiliated to courses in Oriental Titles of the respective University of the area—

Madras University.—(1) Siromani Courses—Vyakarna Sahitya, Mimamsa, Nyaya, Jothisha and Ayurveda.

(2) Vidwan Course—Comprising proficiency in a language with Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada.

Andhra University.—(1) Vidya Praveena Courses referred to in Siromani of the Madras University.

(2) Bala Praveena Courses referred to as Vidwan of the Madras University.

(e) None of the Oriental Colleges are affiliated to B.O.L. courses.

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 107 asked by Sri K. Natarajan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th March 1947, page 359 supra.]

(a) & (c) The question seems to be based on the assumption that the lands in Tanjore district and those in the deltaic districts of Kistna and Godavari are treated differently in respect of water-rate. But there is no such difference. The principles governing the levy of assessment (land tax) and water-cess are the same in all districts, though the rates may differ. But the bulk of the land in the old delta in Tanjore district is classed as "wet", while the extent of the lands classed as "wet" in the deltaic districts of Kistna and Godavari is only about a fourth of the extent of lands classed as "dry".

When lands classed as "dry" are irrigated with water from Government irrigation sources, water-cess at the prescribed rates, which vary in different localities and also with the class of the sources and the nature of the crops ("wet" or "dry") is charged in addition to the "dry" assessment (land tax) payable on the land. In the case of "wet" lands, the water-cess payable for the irrigation of the crop is consolidated with the land tax, and the consolidated "wet" assessment so fixed has to be paid by the owner whether he avails himself of water or not. In the case of lands classed as "dry" the ryot has the option of taking water when he wants it, and he has to pay water-cess only when he thus irrigates his land with the aid of Government water.

Presumably, the lands in Kistna and Godavari districts referred to in clause (a) are classed as "dry". If so, in addition to the assessment payable on the land, water-cess is also levied.

(b) Yes; the land tax is levied only once.

(d) Yes. Lands under the Cauvery-Mettur Project are classed as dry, manavari and wet. Dry and manavari lands pay water-cess in addition to dry assessment (land tax) as in other areas.

(e) Yes; in the area irrigated by the Cauvery-Mettur Project (new delta) the water-cess for the second crop is 50 per cent of that levied for the first crop.

(f) The hon. member presumably refers to single crop wet lands in the old Tanjore Delta. Under the Rules a second wet crop raised on wet lands classed as a single crop is liable to an extra charge which is ordinarily half the assessment. When, however, under any particular source of irrigation or in any particular locality a definite rate of charge has been prescribed for such crops, the extra charge will be at that rate and not at half single crop assessment. The charge for a second irrigated crop on single crop wet lands was originally fixed not at half the single crop assessment but at Rs. 7-8-0 per acre, because the Government considered that there should be no differentiation in regard to this charge between the Cauvery-Mettur Project area (new delta) and the adjoining old delta which has benefited by the longer and

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steadier supplies assured by the Project and also that this charge was necessary to make the project a productive one. However, according to the orders now in force, the charge for the irrigation of a second crop on ryotwari lands registered as single crop wet is levied at a concessional rate of half the single crop assessment and not at Rs. 7-8-0 per acre as originally fixed. These orders will be in force till the end of this fasli.

(g) The Government are not aware of any such objection from the ryots.

(h) The question does not arise.

Please see the concluding portion of the answer to clause (f).

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 22nd March 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMA-KRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I have to make the following announcement to hon. Members. I have received the following message from His Excellency the Governor :—

‘ Dear Mr. President,

In view of the Ministerial changes I am compelled to order the postponement of the presentation of Supplementary Statements of Expenditure for 1946-47 in the Legislative Council from 22nd March to 25th March 1947. I shall intimate later the date fixed for discussion of the supplementary estimates. I am sorry for any inconvenience thus caused to members.

Yours sincerely,
ARCHIBALD NYE.’

“ The House now stands adjourned till 25th March 1947, 3 p.m.”

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 25th March 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Duties of Personal Assistants to certain officers.

* 108 Q.—SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR (on behalf of Sri K. Natarajan): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) what the duties assigned to the officers holding the following appointments are—

- (1) Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction,
- (2) Personal Assistant to the Director of Agriculture,
- (3) Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General,
- (4) Personal Assistant to the Commissioner of Labour,
- (5) Personal Assistant to the District Superintendent of Police, and
- (6) Personal Assistant to the District Agricultural Officer;

(b) whether irrespective of the necessity or otherwise of these posts when they were created, there is now any necessity for the retention of these posts;

(c) whether the functions which these officers perform at present cannot be redistributed among the rest of the staff in the several departments without detriment to efficiency of administration;

(d) whether any other arrangements, involving no cost or less cost cannot be made for discharging those duties;

(e) whether the offices of the Deputy Inspector of Local Boards, and Divisional Inspector of Schools cannot be abolished without detriment to efficiency of administration; and

(f) whether the above suggestions can, if the Government agree to their advisability, be brought into force immediately without waiting for the formation of a Retrenchment Committee or for the report of any such Committee?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) The duties of the Personal Assistants are to exercise immediate supervision over the establishments attached to offices in which they are employed to do the less responsible part of the superior officers' work, to exercise certain financial powers within prescribed limits and generally to assist superior officers in all respects thus enabling the latter to bestow greater attention to major departmental affairs.

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- (b) The answer is in the affirmative.
- (c) & (d) The answer is in the negative.
- (e) & (f) The answer is in the negative so far as Deputy Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards are concerned. As regards Divisional Inspectors of Schools, the matter is under consideration."

Fines levied under the City Police Act.

109 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Mr. K. O. Anthoni): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the amounts of fine collected in the City of Madras for causing obstruction to public thoroughfare (section 71, clause XI, Act III of 1888) in the following years:

1939 and 1946;

(b) whether in view of the increased population of the City during the past few years, greater facilities have been provided by Government to sell fruits, vegetable and other articles in places allotted to them; and

(c) whether it is a fact that orders have been issued by the Government stipulating the minimum fines that shall be levied for certain offences under this Act and if so, whether it is not interfering with the discretion of the magistracy?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) The amounts of fine collected in Madras City for causing obstruction to public thoroughfare under clause XI of section 71 of the Madras City Police Act, 1888, were Rs. 23,500 in 1939 and Rs. 44,420 in 1946.

“(b) Additional facilities have been provided by the Corporation.

“(c) The answer is in the negative. The latter part of the question does not arise.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I take it from the Hon. Minister that the Government have not issued any such instructions?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“As I said in the other House to-day, I have not had time to go into details concerning the administration as yet and if the hon. Gentleman will put another question, I shall be able to give better information.”

Appointment of an Indian as Surgeon-General.

* 110 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR. Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras is falling vacant at an early date;

(b) whether it is proposed to appoint an Indian to the vacancy;

(c) whether it is not the policy of the Government to India-nize the services as and when the vacancies arise.

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(d) whether there are not competent civil medical men and I.M.S. officers, who can fill the post creditably; and

(e) whether the Government propose to consider the claims of I.M.S. officers who have joined the I.N.A., and if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“(a) & (b) The post of Surgeon-General fell vacant due to the grant of leave pending retirement to Major-General J. P. Huban, C.S.I., O.B.E., K.H.S., I.M.S., with effect from the 1st March 1947 and Dr. P. V. Cherian, M.B.E., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), etc., Professor of Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases, Medical College and Surgeon, Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases, Government General Hospital, Madras, has been appointed temporarily to act as Surgeon-General.

“(c) & (d) Under the rules in force the post of Surgeon-General has been reserved for I.M.S. officers of the 1928 category and the claims of all such I.M.S. officers have to be considered before filling up the vacancy. The question of filling up the vacancy by the appointment of an I.M.S. officer of the 1928 protected category is under consideration. There are competent Provincial officers to hold the post.

“(e) The Government are not aware whether I.M.S. officers have joined in the I.N.A. and as such the question of considering such officers for the post of Surgeon-General does not arise.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know why when there are competent officers in the Provincial Medical Service the Government are not pressing the claims of these people as against the I.M.S. officers of the 1928 protected category?”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“As I said already, we are bound by the existing orders that an officer in the 1928 protected category has to be chosen. The Government and particularly my predecessor has written to the Government of India that preference be given to Provincial officers. Though as a matter of fact we have made the selections, representations have been made that we should have the choice of filling up this post with our own Provincial officers. Not only representations have been made but also this Government will do its utmost to get in an officer of the Provincial service there.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“May I for the information of the hon. Member state that we are now working under the Government of India Act, 1935, and appointment of the Surgeon-General is still subject to the control of the Secretary of State for India. A panel of three names for the Surgeon-Generalship has been given to us to choose from and in fact, one name has been suggested. But during the interval a Provincial service officer has been appointed Surgeon-General. It will be the endeavour of this Government, as it has been the endeavour of the previous Government, to get a provincial officer for the post, apart from the control of the Secretary of State. There is an early prospect

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of the Secretary of State giving up his control in this matter and it is possible that we will have a provincial man for the post at an early date."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"You may ask the Secretary of State to begin with this."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"He is already working at it."

Cancellation of licences of merchants involved in blackmarket operations.

* 111 Q.—SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the licences of certain cloth merchants were cancelled for being involved in blackmarket operations;

(b) if so, their names, by whom it was done, where and on what date; and

(c) the policy of Government in dealing with merchants involved in blackmarket operations?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" (a) Yes.

" (b) The number of cloth licences cancelled during 1944-45 is 7 while that during 1945-46 is 230. A register containing the names of dealers whose licences were cancelled or suspended with the dates on which the orders were issued during the years 1944-46 is with me. The hon. Member can inspect the register if he so desires. The punishments in all these cases were ordered by the Provincial Textile Commissioner or the Joint Provincial Textile Commissioner.

" (c) The policy of the Government is to eliminate from trade as far as possible, unscrupulous dealers who by various means have contravened the control orders and thus failed to serve the public."

SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR:—" ஒரு வியாபாரமும் செய்யாதவர்களுக்கு லைசென்ஸ் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள் அல்லவா? "

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. Minister will reply in Tamil "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" இந்த Question-க் கும் நீங்கள் கேட்கிறதற்கும் சம்பந்தம் இல்லை."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—" May I know, Sir, whether an appeal lies to the Government against the orders of the Provincial Textile Commissioner or the Joint Provincial Textile Commissioner? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" I should like to have notice of that question."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" May I say that the Government is always the appellate authority in all these matters and the right of appeal is not denied to any person on any matter on which he has a grievance."

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Girls' certified schools attached to the Madras Children's Aid Society.

* 112 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Mrs. M. N. Clubwalla): Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state when the Junior and Senior Girls' Certified Schools attached to the Madras Children's Aid Society evacuated to Tanjore in 1942 will be brought back to Madras?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" The schools will be brought back to Madras as soon as the Civil Supplies Department releases the rice godown which is right in the centre of the compound in which the schools were originally accommodated or when suitable alternative accommodation is found for those schools, whichever is earlier."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—" May I know whether Government will take steps to expedite the transfer by finding suitable accommodation? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I will try my best to do so because I have been told that the place where the school is situate is cramped and what is more the girls do not like the climate of Tanjore and so it is up to us to see that they come back here. Of course there is also the difficulty concerning the Civil Supplies as well."

Alleged supplies to Revenue officials.

* 113 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Revenue officials touring in districts get supplies from the lower Revenue officials, such as Revenue Inspectors, etc.;

(b) whether it is a fact that the cost of supplies is not fully paid up, but a nominal bill is prepared and that alone is paid;

(c) whether it is a fact that these officials get their travelling allowances and halting allowances in addition to their salaries and dearness allowances;

(d) whether it is a fact that the generality of the Revenue Inspectors shift this burden on the village officers who in their turn press the poorer class of the ryots in the village for payment; and

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

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM:—" (a) Some touring officials make their own arrangements for obtaining provisions without depending on the village officers or lower Revenue officials; others however may indent on their subordinates for supplies where they are not procurable in the open market.

" (b) Under the existing rules, every Government officer obtaining the assistance of the village headmen for supplies is required to see that the bill for supplies is paid in full before he leaves the camp.

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"The Government have reasons to apprehend however that these rules are not being always followed and some evil exists. In the absence of actual complaints, however, it is difficult to take definite steps to stop the evil.

"(c) Gazetted Revenue officers touring within their jurisdictions are entitled to travelling allowance and daily allowance at rates admissible to them under the Madras Travelling Allowance Rules. Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors whose work involves touring within their respective jurisdiction are allowed fixed rates of travelling allowance. The travelling allowance and daily allowance paid to the touring revenue officials are in addition to the salary and other allowances due to them.

"(d) No such cases have been brought to the notice of Government.

"(e) The whole matter is under consideration of Government."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that similar practice exists in every department of Government. The officer makes a tour in the mufassal and they depend upon the subordinates to supply to them. It is a patent fact; if the Government are not aware of it, will they at least hold an enquiry and find out the truth? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" Perhaps it is so. I have only answered that we have no specific cases before us. I have already stated that Government are aware of the general complaint and we are looking into the matter."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, why in some cases fixed travelling allowances are given while in other cases the travelling allowance is given according to the Travelling Allowance Rules? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice of that question."

SRI THURAGA PURUSHOTTAM :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that regular supplies of all requirements including snuff, is being obtained by some gazetted officers of the Public Works Department? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" I take the information from the hon. Member."

New railway lines in Nellore.

* 114 Q.—SRI L. SUBBARAMA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government propose to take necessary steps with the Government of India to speed up the proposed railway lines in the Nellore district, i.e., Nellore to Vinikonda via Atmakur, Kanigiri and Nellore to Dharmavaram via Badvel, Cuddapah?

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THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" There is no proposal at present to construct any railway line in the Nellore district; the question of speeding up these lines does not therefore arise."

SRI L. SUBBARAMA REDDI :—" May I know, Sir, when it was surveyed and stones fixed did not the Government feel that the line will pay? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" These lines were considered to be unremunerative ones and in regard to financing them, Railway Board require a guarantee from the district boards against loss in the actual working of the lines. As the district board did not give the guarantee, these have not been pursued further."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that Nellore district is very badly served by railway communications and the opening of these lines in the particular area is absolutely necessary? "

THE HON. SRI M. BAKTHAVATSALAM :—" I have been quite well aware of the paucity of railway communication in the Nellore district. Sir, we shall again take up the matter."

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

II.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY MR. PRESIDENT.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce that His Excellency the Governor-General has withheld his assent to the Madras Trade Disputes Adjudication (Temporary Provision) Bill, 1946, passed by the Council on the 12th day of September 1946 and the Press Communiqué No. 13, Public (Information and Publicity) Department, dated the 19th March 1947, has been placed on the table of the House."

III.—PRESENTATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1946-47.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Mr. President, I beg to present the Demands for Grants for further expenditure and Detailed Supplementary Estimates thereof for the year 1946-47.

"I am sure, hon. Members have been supplied with copies of Demands for Grants for further expenditure."

IV.—DISCUSSION RE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE.

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" May I bring to your notice, Sir, that the Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Bill with the report of the Select Committee is likely to be taken up for discussion in the other House on the 27th instant. That will come up before this House on 28th or 29th, and it is necessary that the Bill should become law before the end of this month. So some time has to be provided for it to be discussed in

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this House. On the 29th instant supplementary estimates will be discussed here, 30th is Sunday and there is only one day, 31st. So some time must be found by adjustment for the discussion of that Bill."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Are you appealing to me or to the Leader of the Opposition." (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" My appeal to you means appeal to all members of the House and the Leader of the Opposition." (Laughter.)

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister does not know when he will be able to get that Bill through the other House. It will be very inconvenient for us to come here and go without doing any work. Therefore, I request, Mr. President, to ascertain definitely whether it will be ready for us here on the 28th or 29th instant. To my knowledge it is a controversial matter and as far as my party is concerned, the Muslim Leaguers, they are going to oppose it tooth and nail, and I am afraid it may not come up here on the 28th."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" From what I know, the Muslim League has opposed it and discussed it at great length when it was introduced, and so I do not think there will be much scope for discussion now, and I am sure the Bill will be here on the 29th. The Hon. the Speaker has consulted the leaders of parties and they have agreed to sit on the 27th after 5 p.m."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" It has become a custom for a Bill to be passed through the other House on one evening and throw it at our face here the next morning. We have on several occasions brought this to the notice of Government and you, Mr. President, have been trying to protect our rights. This time also the Government propose to do the same old thing. So, I request you, Mr. President, at least to give us 48 hours to read and understand the Bill."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" As a member of this House I know everything that the hon. Member has said. And he can expect me also certainly to protect the rights and privileges of this House as sacredly as he wants the President to do. But whatever may have been the conditions in the past, this is a special occasion, as we want to have this Bill passed into law before 31st March 1947. We cannot continue the nominated councils beyond the 31st March. You must have all already read in the papers the circumstances under which we could not bring this Bill earlier. So I make an appeal to members on the other side to realise that it is due to circumstances beyond our control this has come. So in this particular case I make a special appeal that we have to bring this Bill with no idea of overriding the rights and privileges of this House."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" As Government hold the view that members of this House are so clever that they do not want any preparation, I suggest we can meet on the 29th."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" Can I take it that the Bill will be ready on the 28th instant? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" At least it can be presumed it will be ready."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Doctor knows he cannot proceed on presumptions. (Laughter.) If you can get it through on 28th there, we can request hon. Members to allow it to be taken up here on the 28th."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The 30th instant is Sunday; so there is only one day, 31st."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" So you must make all efforts to influence Muslim League friends to allow you to get through the Bill before 28th."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" So I would suggest—I do respect the feelings of the Opposition here—if they have no objection we shall sit on Sunday next. If that is agreeable (without their privileges being infringed) we can have the Bill passed through."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Can we sit on a Sunday? Do rules allow it? "

(At this stage the rules were consulted.)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We can sit on a Sunday."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There is no rule against it as far as I know."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I take it Christian Members have no objection? "

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" As this Bill is a good one we can sit on Sunday next."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" I would like to avoid a Sunday as far as possible."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" Will it be possible to meet at 11 a.m. on that day? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Yes, at 11 o'clock, if it comes to a question of sitting on Sunday."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" This is God's work, as Mr. Suryanarayana Rao says. And so as a special case we can sit on a Sunday, if it comes to that."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" I would suggest we would begin on 29th evening and continue on Sunday, if necessary."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I bring to your notice, Sir, that on Sunday next most of the members of the Muslim League will not be present at Madras; because there is an engagement for the leaders of the Muslims of the Assembly, myself and Mr. Ibrahim elsewhere. We are all going to Tanjore for the celebration of Prophet's birthday. We will not be present here on Sunday."

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K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" We have already arranged for that, hoping Sunday will not be a working day for the Council. So if it comes to the Council sitting on Sunday it will be depriving us of an opportunity of discussing this Bill."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" So we would suggest that we sit as long as possible on Saturday, the 29th instant."

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" On the 29th evening we will have to catch the train."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, you can catch the train at night."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I would suggest, let them come prepared to catch the train from here. (Laughter.)"

" The House stands adjourned till 11 a.m. on 29th March 1947."

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APPENDIX.

[Vide item II at page 427 supra.]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC (INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY) DEPARTMENT.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE No. 13.

Dated, Fort St. George, the 19th March 1947.

Before the war, trade disputes were sought to be settled by conciliation or arbitration under the Trade Disputes Act, 1929. The awards of conciliators or arbitrators were not, however, binding on the parties to the dispute; and as it was essential during the war that all trade disputes should be settled expeditiously, a rule, viz., rule 81-A, was inserted in the Defence of India Rules, so as to provide for the reference of trade disputes to adjudicators whose awards would be binding on the parties. Experience of the working of adjudication under rule 81-A was very satisfactory, and in August last, in view of the impending expiry of the Defence of India Rules on the 1st October 1946, this Government considered it necessary to introduce interim legislation for the settlement of trade disputes, pending further investigation and final legislation in regard to the matter. The Madras Trade Disputes Adjudication (Temporary Provisions) Bill, 1946, was accordingly introduced in the Legislative Assembly and passed by it on the 9th September 1946 and by the Legislative Council on the 12th September 1946.

2. As the Bill regulated subjects in the Concurrent Legislative List in a manner which was repugnant to the provisions of the existing law on those subjects, His Excellency the Governor reserved the Bill for the consideration of the Governor-General, with reference to section 107 (2) of the Government of India Act, 1933.

3. Shortly afterwards, on the 25th September 1946, the Emergency Provisions (Continuance) Ordinance, 1946 (Ordinance XX of 1946) was passed by the Governor-General, continuing Rule 81-A and certain other of the Defence of India Rules.

4. His Excellency the Governor-General has intimated his decision, arrived at after the fullest consideration, to withhold his assent to the Bill for the reasons set out below.

5. In the first place, His Excellency considers that in view of the division of functions made not only in the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, but also in Rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules as continued in force by the Ordinance, the Bill is open to objection as encroaching on the Central field. His Excellency has also pointed out that since Rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules has been continued in force by the Ordinance, the immediate reasons which led to the promotion of the Bill have ceased to apply.

6. It may be added that in view of the continuance of Rule 81-A of the Defence of India Rules, the Government of Madras did not press for assent being accorded to the Bill.

C. V. HANUMANTHA RAO,
Director of Information and Publicity.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 29th March 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—STATEMENT *RE* NEW MINISTERS.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Sir, before we begin the proceedings of the House, I have got to make an announcement for the information of the hon. Members. The Madras Council of Ministers has been increased by five more members. They are: The Hon. Sri A. B. Shetty, the Hon. Sri Kala Venkata Rao, the Hon. Sri T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiyar, the Hon. Sri V. Kurmayya and the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas. Their respective departments have already been published and if any hon. Member wants any further information on this subject, I shall be very glad to give him.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I am sure the House will welcome the new team as also the old Ministers who came into existence a few days back and I am sure the House would feel highly gratified that three of its members are on the Cabinet. I wish them Godspeed.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Who is the Leader of the House, Sir? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ My humble self has been asked to be the Leader of the House.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Why the Hon. Sri Madhava Menon has resigned his leadership of the House? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ May I inform the hon. Member that Hon. Sri Madhava Menon was never the Leader of the House.”

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Re-employment of retired persons.

* 115 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the services of all retired officials, either re-entertained for a definite period or given extension of service, have all been terminated;

(b) whether there are any still in service whose retention has been considered necessary for special reasons and, if so, what they are and what the reasons for extension are; and

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(c) whether, before such extensions are granted, efforts are made to secure officers with the same or similar qualifications either by promotion or direct recruitment?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) The answer is in the negative.

“(b) The answer to the first part is in the affirmative.

As regards the second part the reasons for the extensions of service or re-employment are generally paucity of suitable and qualified candidates for appointment or promotion in the ordinary course. As to who the persons are that have been re-employed or granted extensions of service, in the interests of economy in stationery and printing a list of such persons has not been printed and placed on the table of the House. If the hon. Member wants it, he may obtain a list on application to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

“(c) Generally such efforts are made.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“From what the Hon. Minister has stated it looks that this list appears to be a formidable one. Will the Government take immediate steps to stop extension of service or re-employment of the retired officers?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“The Government are always prepared to do that, but there are circumstances under which we are not able to put the whole of that policy into practice. It is, as I have said, due to paucity of suitable men for the post and in these days when service conditions have become so very competitive and enormously enlarged, it is certainly very difficult to procure the right kind of men. The Government have not however given up the idea of not engaging or re-engaging people who have become superannuated.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“May I know, Sir, whether the time has not come to retire all superannuated officers in view of the fact that there are many educated unemployed and more and more graduates are being produced every year?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“Yes, Sir, the time has come but we have to run the Government and the suitability of the candidates has got to be ascertained before they are taken in. In view of this fact a few of the superannuated people are being retained to carry on the administration and these also will be retired as soon as possible.”

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“May I know, Sir, whether the Special Officer for Departmental Enquiries is one of those whose services are absolutely necessary to be continued?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“That is a more detailed question which I am not prepared to answer as there are more than about 150 or 200 people still in service of whom about 15 or 20 are Gazetted officers and there are a great number of non-gazetted men in the service. This specific question will have to be gone into before I can find an answer.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“I remember the hon. Mr. Prakasam laid on the table of the House a Government Order saying that in the view of the Government no such extension should be given and still we are told there are 150 re-employed officers in service. Will the Government give an undertaking that they will examine each case and see that the Government Order is given effect to?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I have already given an indication as to the policy of this Government in this matter. It will not be fair to send away all these people home one fine morning because the principle has been accepted. Certainly this point will be remembered by the Government and they will, as far as possible, expedite the termination of these people.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I also bring to the notice of the Government another instance. In the Local Fund Accounts one retired officer was re-employed as an Examiner of Local Fund Accounts and when he went on leave the other day they promoted an Assistant Examiner to act in that post. May I know why if the Assistant Examiner was competent to act in a leave vacancy he should not be considered competent to act in a permanent vacancy? That also has to be looked into, Sir.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“That will be examined, Sir.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Is it a fact that attempts are being made to re-employ certain retired high educational officers?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I do not know of it. We shall enquire.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“May I know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that retired Muslims have particularly been excluded from re-employment?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I am not aware of this fact, Sir.”

Report of the Cabinet Salaries Committee.

* 116 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to place on the table of the House the report of the Cabinet Salaries Committee, 1946, on which the Madras Revised Scales of Pay Rules, 1947 (G.O. No. 78, Finance, dated 6th February 1947), have been based?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“The Cabinet Salaries Committee wished that its report (on which the revised scales of pay have been based) should be treated as confidential and intended for official use only. The Government therefore regret that the report cannot be placed on the table of the House.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ When there is a reference made to the Committee's report in the Government Order quoted by me in the question how is it possible either for the members of this House or the public to know what circumstances compelled the Cabinet Sub-Committee to make their recommendations which the Government have accepted if the Report of the Committee is not published? If no reference had been made to this report, it would have been a different matter.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I have nothing more to add to the answer already given, Sir.”

Subsidies to newspapers and journals.

* 117 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have been granting subsidies or subventions to newspapers or journals in the Province, either regularly or occasionally;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, in what shape the subsidy or subvention is given, i.e., by cash payment or by purchasing a certain number of copies of the paper or journal;

(c) the names of papers and journals which have received assistance in some shape or other and what such assistance has cost Government;

(d) whether the Government have assisted papers or journals to secure extra quota of paper required to assist their propaganda; and

(e) why the Government resort to this method of subsidized propaganda when they have a Publicity department of their own?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ (a) The answer is in the negative.

“ (b), (c) & (e) The question does not arise.

“ (d) The answer is in the negative.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Am I to understand that the Government have never purchased copies of any journal in the past for the purpose of distribution? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ It may have been so, Sir.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ Is it not a fact, Sir, that 5,000 copies of the *Swatantra* were purchased by the Government for the purpose of distribution? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I do not know whether they actually purchased it or not. If you make a specific demand for investigation of this matter, Government will certainly enquire into the matter.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ When a general question of this nature is put, can we not expect Government to investigate into the matter and furnish the information? Why should the Government say that we should ask a specific question? Is it necessary to put a specific question for the purpose of knowing whether a particular journal has been assisted and only if there is a specific question, the matter becomes important? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ It is not a specific question that I referred to but I wanted specific instances.”

House Surgeons and House Physicians in the city hospitals.

* 118 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) the number of posts, paid and unpaid House Physicians and House Surgeons, in the city hospitals and mufassal hospitals;

(b) on what considerations paid and unpaid House Surgeons and House Physicians are selected;

(c) whether there is any difference in the treatment accorded to the two categories of House Surgeons and House Physicians;

(d) whether these officers are provided with rent-free quarters;

(e) whether there is any proposal under consideration to increase the number of these officers;

(f) whether every student passing out of the Medical College can secure one of the posts on application;

(g) whether the entertainment of Medical graduates as House Surgeons and House Physicians is intended to equip them better professionally; and

(h) whether there is a proposal to abolish the distinction between paid and unpaid House Surgeons and House Physicians and convert them all into paid posts?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ (a) The number of posts of paid House Surgeons and House Physicians in the Government hospitals in the City and mufassal is 139 and the number of unpaid posts is 96.

“ (b) The candidates are selected as far as possible, to represent the various communities in the Province. Paid and unpaid appointments are given to those candidates who have passed the final examination with a good record, according to the order of merit as evidenced by the results of their examinations.

“ (c) & (d) Paid House Surgeons and House Physicians are given a subsistence allowance of Rs. 60 per mensem and free quarters or a house allowance in lieu thereof. Unpaid men are not given any allowance but are given free quarters wherever they are available.

Paid men in teaching hospitals are required to be on duty for 24 hours of the day and also to attend to emergency calls.

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In non-teaching hospitals they are posted for casualty and night duties. Unpaid men who are not provided with free quarters are not required to attend on the patients during emergencies or in the night.

"(e) In February this year, the number of paid posts has been increased by 23 and unpaid appointments by 13.

"(f) Every student can secure one post provided that he is willing to be posted to any hospital either in the City or mufassal to which he is selected.

"(g) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(h) This question is under examination."

Allotment of yarn and cloth to merchants.

* 119 Q.—SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the surplus quota in yarn and cloth given to every centre in the whole of Madras Presidency during the period 1944-45 and 1945-46; and what was done with it all and by whom;

(b) how much of the total quota was allotted to Dr. Sir Alagappa Chettiyar, the special reasons for giving licence for so much cloth and yarn; and for how many lakhs of yards of lungi, licence was given to Dr. Sir Alagappa Chettiyar; and

(c) whether it is true that a licence which was given to a Muslim at Cannanore was cancelled and the same given to Dr. Sir Alagappa Chettiyar and, if so, the reasons for such preferential treatment?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“(a) No centre in the Province has at any time been given a surplus quota of yarn or cloth. The quantities available for distribution from time to time are allotted equitably to all districts and there is no surplus left over.

"(b) The first part of the question does not arise. Dr. Sir Alagappa Chettiyar was granted in March 1946 an export quota of one lakh of yards of handloom cloth, per month, as a special case.

"(c) Cancelled licences are never given to other persons. As the Alagappa Corporation, Cannanore, was doing yarn business even in the pre-control period, it has had a yarn licence all along."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know if it was the Government or the Textile Commissioner who granted the licence.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The Government granted it on the recommendation of the Textile Commissioner.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know how it is that the Government come in as a licensing authority under the control orders?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“This was done in March 1946. As it is, it is seen from the file that a letter was addressed to the Government and the Government asked for the opinion of the Textile Commissioner. He naturally recommended it and the orders have been passed on it.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know, Sir, what the special circumstances were under which the permit for export quota was given to Dr. Sir Alagappa Chettiyar?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“One of the reasons that seems to have weighed with the Government in the matter of the grant of the quota seems to have been the fact that he is a great philanthropist and has contributed large sums of money to various public charities.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Are only philanthropists allowed special quota?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I am only stating what has happened before this Government came into office. I could only help hon. Members with the information that I have at my disposal.”

K. T. M. AHAMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know if he is the only philanthropic person in the whole of the Province to warrant the entire quota of one lakh of yards to be given to him?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I am not sure if other philanthropic parties applied for it at that time.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Was there a communication to the other philanthropists?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“I cannot answer this question. I have already answered what the reasons were.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know if it was a quota for all time, and did it cease once an export of a lakh of yards has been made?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“The quota was per month.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—“May I know whether the present Government feels that the previous Government was justified in granting such a large quota for one individual.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—“No.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Now that the Government see the inequity of the order, will they revise the order and cancel that licence?”

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ The policy of the present Government is to put down all inequities.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ So far as the present inequity is concerned, are they prepared to put down this inequity? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I think my answer covers everything.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ We want to know from the Hon. Minister whether this is an inequity or not and if this is an inequity, whether he will give us an assurance that this inequity will be stopped? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I have already said that the question will be examined to see that no inequity is perpetrated by anybody under this Government.”

Production of khadi.

* 120 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether a final scheme for the production of khadi has been formulated by Government and if so, what the scheme is with full particulars;

(b) whether it is proposed to give a fillip to ‘ Commercial khadi ’ as distinguished from ‘ self-sufficiency khadi ’;

(c) whether it is a fact that for years institutions and individuals other than the All-India Spinners’ Association have, subject to such conditions as have been imposed, continued to contribute a great deal for the promotion of khadi production;

(d) what the position of these khadi producers will be in the new order of things; and

(e) whether the Government have received representations from khadi producers and, if so, what their decisions are?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ (a) The hon. Members’ attention is invited to the pamphlet on the Madras Government khadi Scheme, copies of which have already been placed on the table of the House.

“ (b) It is presumed that by the term ‘ Commercial Khadi ’ the hon. Member means ‘ uncertified khadi. ’ If so, his attention is invited to paragraph 18 of the pamphlet on the Madras Government’s Khadi Scheme indicating the lines on which such khadi will be controlled.

“ (c) The Government are unable to give a categorical reply to this question. Certain organizations which were once recognized by the All-India Spinners’ Association have since been disowned by that body on the ground that they had ceased to work on sound lines. There have also been instances of private organizations exploiting spinners or indulging in reckless competition according to the conditions

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in the khadi trade or producing and selling ‘ spurious ’ khadi woven with mill yarn deliberately mixed up with hand-spun yarn.

“ (d) It is proposed to eliminate the production and sale of uncertified khadi in the following areas :—

(1) the areas in which the ‘ intensive ’ part of the Government Khadi Scheme is in force;

(2) the firkas selected for the ‘ extensive ’ part of the khadi scheme;

(3) all the villages lying within a distance of ten miles beyond the limits of the ‘ intensive ’ areas;

(4) villages within a belt of ten miles beyond the production centres of the All-India Spinners’ Association and organizations certified by the All-India Spinners’ Association and other approved organizations, if any;

(5) the Coimbatore and Erode Municipalities;

(6) Madura town.

“ (e) Representations from a number of khadi producers and dealers have been received, and they are under consideration of the Government.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ In view of the insufficiency of mill cloth and also khadi, will they take into consideration this fact and desist from preventing this source of supply to the public? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ If such a necessity arises, we shall do so.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know, Sir, if the present Government is wedded to the khadi policy of the previous Government? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I do not know what the policy of the previous Government is in this matter. But I can certainly say that wherever possible, our policy does not differ from that of the previous Government and we continue the khadi policy laid down by the previous Government.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Was not the pamphlet issued by the previous Government seen by this Government? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Yes. We take responsibility for it.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Therefore, Sir, I wish to know whether the present Government is wedded to the khadi policy as previous Government was.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Yes, Sir.”

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Rates of Entertainments and Sales Taxes.

* 121 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the receipts from the Entertainments Tax, Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation and the General Sales Tax (yearwar) since the enactment of the respective Acts;

(b) the rates of these taxes and whether there have been changes;

(c) whether the rates of Sales Tax has been altered in respect of any commodities or articles and, if so, what they are and what the rates have been;

(d) the amounts of compensation given to local bodies from the proceeds of the taxes on entertainments and sales of motor spirit (yearwar);

(e) the income of local bodies from tolls before its abolition;

(f) whether local bodies have claimed a portion of the proceeds from the Sales Tax also and if so, what the decision of Government in the matter is;

(g) whether it is proposed to re-enact the Sale of Cloth Act in some other form;

(h) whether the licence fees charged for licensing dealers in cloth bears any relation to the proceeds under the Sale of Cloth Act; and

(i) whether the system of licensing dealers of all commodities is under consideration?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) to (i) The information asked for by the hon. Member is laid on the table of the House. *”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“From the statement placed on the table of the House, it is seen that the local boards are not given anything out of the proceeds of the motor spirit taxes. Prior to 1920–21, district boards and municipalities were in receipt of large sums of money on account of tolls. I wish to know how they can maintain their roads if they are not given any portion of the motor spirit taxes.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“It was never the intention to give anything to the local boards from the amounts realized on account of motor spirit taxation. But toll compensation is being paid to them out of the 105 lakhs and odd which is recovered under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.”

Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.

* 122 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of manuscript and printed books in the Madras Government Oriental Manuscripts Library;

* Printed as Appendix I on pages 513–514 infra.

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(b) whether catalogues of manuscripts have been published for each of the languages and if so, what the number of catalogues is according to language;

(c) what the staff engaged in the preparation of the catalogues is and whether it is adequate to complete the work within a reasonable period of time;

(d) whether the library is being utilized for consultation and if so, what the average number of users is;

(e) whether the staff employed is adequate to cope with the inquiries received;

(f) whether any charges are levied for supplying transcripts to scholars and institutions and if so, what they are and what the income has been during last year;

(g) what the number of the staff is with the qualifications and emoluments prescribed for each post;

(h) whether sanskrit qualification is not insisted upon for the Curator's post;

(i) whether the library has been located in a rented building and whether the accommodation provided is adequate;

(j) whether there are proposals before the Government to convert the library into a Research Institute;

(k) whether the members of the staff are required to go out on tour to collect rare manuscripts and acquire them for the library;

(l) whether adequate arrangements have been made to preserve the manuscripts in their original form or otherwise and whether rare works are being published and made available to the public as in the case of records in the Madras Record Office; and

(m) whether the Government have under consideration the whole question of the future of the Oriental Manuscripts Library with a view not only to promote the purpose for which it has been established but also make it more useful to the general public?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—

“(a) There are 48,708 manuscripts and 9,251 printed books in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) The number of catalogues, published is: Sanskrit—55; Tamil—15; Telugu—16; Kannada—5; Malayalam—2; Arabic, Persian and Urdu—4.

“(d) There is no special staff solely for the purpose of cataloguing. A staff of one Librarian, two Assistant Librarians and eleven Pandits under the Curator; attend to the work of the preparation of catalogues, in addition to their normal duties. The sanctioning of additional staff to complete the work of cataloguing in a reasonable time is under consideration.

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"(d) Yes. It is consulted locally by visitors and by non-residence users through correspondence and loan of manuscripts. For the period from 1st April to 30th November 1946 the monthly average of users is 258.

"(e) Yes.

"(f) Charges are levied for supplying transcripts to scholars and institutions at the following rates:—

Sanskrit, Kannada and Malayalam.	Rs. 10 for copying 1,000 granthas. (A grantha is equal to 32 syllables.)
Telugu and Tamil ..	Rs. 9 for copying 1,000 granthas.
Urdu and Persian ..	Rs. 10 for copying 10,000 letters.
Arabic	Rs. 10 for copying 45,000 letters.

Besides, there are comparing charges at the following rates—Charges for comparing 1,000 granthas in Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam and 60,000 letters in Urdu and Persian and 45,000 letters in Arabic are Rs. 2-12-0.

"The income received was about Rs. 939.

"(g) The number of the staff, with the qualifications and emoluments prescribed is as follows:—

Designation.	Number.	Qualifications.	Scale of pay. RS.
Curator	1	First or second class M.A. or B.A. (Hons.) of any British or Indian University in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Arabic or Persian with a working knowledge of Sanskrit.	200—30/2—260— 40/2—500—50/2 —700.
Librarian	1	B.A. (Hons.) or B.Sc. (Hons.) or M.A. or M.Sc. of a University in the Province and must possess a sufficient knowledge of Sanskrit and of at least one of the languages, namely, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada. Below 30 years of age. Account Test for Subordinate Officers—Part 1.	100—10/2—150.
Assistant Librarian (one temporary).	2	Do.	70—5/2—85—7 1/2 —100.
Clerk	1	S.S.L.C.	30—3/2—45—2/2 —55.
Do. (Temporary)	1	Do.	30 per mensem (fixed).
Typist (Temporary).	1	S.S.L.C. with qualification in typing.	30—3/2—45—2/2 —55.
Senior Pandit (one for Tamil).	1	Oriental Title of one of the Universities in the Province.	45—5/2—60.

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Designation.	Number.	Qualifications.	Scale of pay. RS.
Pandits (1 temporary), 3 for Sanskrit, 1 for Tamil, 1 for Telugu, 1 for Kannada, and 1 for Arabic, Persian and Urdu. (One of the Sanskrit Pandits efficient in Malayalam for Malayalam).	9	Oriental Title in concerned language of one of the Universities in the Province.	35—4/2—43—2/2 —45.
Marathi Pandit (Temporary).	1	Proficiency in Marathi with sufficient knowledge of English and ability to read and write Marathi manuscript recorded in Nagari and Modi script. Preference to Oriental Title holders of graduates.	75 per mensem (fixed).
Attender	1	III Form	19 to 30.
Peons	3		12 to 18.
Dusting coolies for dusting manuscripts and books.	2		12 paid from contingencies.

"(h) Sanskrit qualification is not insisted upon for the Curator's post, but a candidate who knows to read and write Sanskrit is given preference for appointment to the post.

"(i) The Library is not located in a rented building. At present it is housed in a portion of the University buildings on the western side. The accommodation provided for it is not considered adequate.

"(j) No.

"(k) On receiving information regarding the availability of rare manuscripts in any particular place, a member of the staff qualified to examine them is deputed with or without the Curator to acquire them for the Library.

"(l) Yes.

"(m) An advisory committee has recently been constituted and it will be asked to go into the question of making the library more useful to the general public and submit their recommendations."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Before the question is answered by the Hon. Minister, I wish to submit that I never intended this to be put as a starred question as I was aware long answer is involved. But by some mistake, it has been starred. I would only request the Minister to furnish me with a copy of the answer now and it might go into the proceedings."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"The question has appeared on the agenda. Though the answer may be long"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—

"I am prepared to read out any portion of the answer which hon. Members may be interested to hear."

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know who the Curator is?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I do not know."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is it not a fact that a Muslim gentleman by name Muhammad Fazlullah Sahib, M.A., L.T., is the Curator?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I take the information from the hon. Member."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is it not a fact that he is highly qualified in Sanskrit?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I do not know, Sir."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Will it be possible to have it printed and circulated one of these days the Council is sitting so that we may put supplementary questions on it?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" A copy of the answer is with the Council Secretariat and it might be circulated by them as usual."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If hon. Members want it to be printed and it might be arranged."

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" The answer to this question is also sufficiently long. If you want, I will read it."

Functions of the Publicity department.

* 123 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Information be pleased to state—

- (a) the functions of the Publicity department;
- (b) the publications issued by the department;
- (c) whether all Press Notes and communiqués of Government are issued by this department;
- (d) the staff employed and proposed to be employed at Madras and in the mufassal;
- (e) the nature of work entrusted to officers of the Publicity department in the mufassal;
- (f) whether the mufassal staff will work under the control and supervision of Collectors;
- (g) whether *Madras Information* is issued only in English or in regional languages as well;
- (h) whether it is proposed to issue a Hindi edition of *Madras Information* and if so, of what region is Hindi the spoken or written language;
- (i) the expenditure incurred on the publication of *Madras Information* and the number of copies printed (language-wise); and
- (j) where English and language editions including Hindi edition are published?

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (a) The functions of the Publicity department have already been explained on the floor of this House on 10th February 1947 by the Hon. the Minister for Public Information in answer to question No. 40 of Mr. K. O. Anthoni, M.L.C.

" (b) The main publication of this department is the fortnightly magazine *Madras Information* and its counterparts in the regional languages, and Hindustani. In addition, pamphlets on subjects of topical interest like Prohibition, Anti-corruption Measures, Food Administration in the Province, Livestock Improvement, Settlement of Labour Disputes, Rationing, Textile Policy, and Irrigation Schemes have been issued in English as well as the regional languages. Pamphlets on recipes relating to unfamiliar foodgrains like wheat, maize and barley also have been issued. A pamphlet on the zamindari system is being published with a view to give the public a background of the system and the Government's proposals to deal with it.

" (c) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (d) Information regarding the staff employed at Madras has been furnished to the House in answer to question No. 40 of Mr. K. O. Anthoni, M.L.C., on 10th February 1947. For the field publicity organization in the districts the following staff has been sanctioned :—

Two Deputy Publicity Officers at Trichinopoly and Bezwada to be in charge of the Tamil districts and Telugu districts respectively.

Two Divisional Publicity Officers for Malabar and South Kanara to be in charge of the two districts respectively.

One Sub-Deputy Publicity Officer at Guntakal to be in charge of the Ceded districts.

Twenty-four District Publicity Assistants at the rate of one per district except Madras.

Five translators at the rate of one per Deputy, Divisional, and Sub-Deputy Publicity Officer.

Two accountants at the rate of one for each Deputy Publicity Officer.

Five lower division clerks at the rate of one per Deputy, Divisional and Sub-Deputy Publicity Officer.

Seven typists at the rate of two for each Deputy Publicity Officer, and one for each Divisional and Sub-Deputy Publicity Officer.

Twenty-nine peons at the rate of one for each Publicity Officer and Publicity Assistant.

" (e) The District Publicity staff proposed for appointment is mainly concerned with the collecting of facts regarding anti-Government propaganda that is being carried on by interested

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parties in the districts and to take steps to counteract such propaganda, produce literature and propaganda material for the purpose and see to their distribution. They will also be responsible for publicity of the Government's nation building and developmental activities.

(f) The Field Publicity staff will work as officers of the Information and Publicity department and in close co-operation and consultation with the Collectors concerned.

(g) Madras Information is issued in English as well as the regional languages.

(h) A Hindustani edition is also issued. The Hindustani edition has two parts, one in Devanagiri script and the other in Urdu. The Hindi portion is intended mostly to educate the public in Northern India regarding the work of the Madras Ministry and the cultural heritage of the south.

(i) The estimated cost of all editions is about Rs. 1.1 lakh per annum. The number of copies printed languagewar is as follows:—

English	...	...	...	...	2,750
Telugu	...	...	...	...	1,000
Tamil	...	...	...	...	1,500
Malayalam	...	...	...	...	500
Kanarese	...	...	...	...	500
Hindi	...	...	...	...	1,000

(j) English, Telugu and Tamil editions are printed and published by the Government Press. The Malayalam edition is printed at Jaya Kerala Press, Madras, Kanarese edition at Srivatsava Press, Madras, and the Hindustani edition at the Dakshina Bharata Hindi Prachar Sabha, Madras."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, the answers may be printed, and we may be given an opportunity to put supplementary questions on some other day."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I suggest, Sir, that copies of answers to these questions may kindly be supplied to us, and that we be given permission to put supplementary questions arising out of the answers to these two questions on some other day when the Council meets? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" All right."

Rules for the movement of controlled articles.

* 124 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether for granting permits for the movement within and outside the province of essential or controlled articles such as groundnut-oil, potatoes, jaggery, onions, etc., the Government have prescribed rules and if so, what they are;

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(b) who the authority granting permits is;

(c) whether any appeal to Government is provided against the orders of the sanctioning authority;

(d) whether the Government themselves in the first instance have issued permits in certain instances without reference to the authorized sanctioning authority; and what the names of such grantees are;

(e) whether in such instances the grantees have invariably satisfied the conditions governing the sanction of permits;

(f) what steps are taken to ensure that the permit-holders do not transfer their permits for a consideration;

(g) whether any instances of abuses by permit-holders have come to the notice of Government and if so, what action has been taken in their cases; and

(h) whether permits have been granted to persons who do not belong to this province?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The information* required is placed on the table of the House."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether Government as such have power, or competent, to interfere with the powers of the licensing authority, as the order is passed by His Excellency the Governor? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Government is an appellate authority, and therefore Government has got the power."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I inform the Hon. Minister that in the various orders passed no mention of 'Government' is made and the licensing authority alone is mentioned. I raise this because I think Government have taken upon themselves the power to issue instructions to the licensing authorities to issue certain permits. I believe this is *ultra vires*. I would like the Hon. Minister to have this examined by the Legal Department to see whether the Government are competent to issue instructions to the licensing authorities."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir."

Prices of agricultural products.

* 125 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have undertaken or propose to undertake a survey of the prices of agricultural and 'non-agricultural' products before and after the war; and

(b) whether statistics of the prices the cultivator was receiving before and after the war and the prices he has to pay during the same period for his bare necessities other than foods are available?

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 515-518 infra.

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) No. The Government of India have constituted a Board called the “Commodities Prices Board”. This Board will maintain a continuous review over the prices of all commodities and assist the Government in the very difficult task of fixing prices by advising them as to the prices or price levels to be fixed for controlled commodities so that the best interests of the commodity may be served. The survey of the prices of the nature referred to in the question will be undertaken by the Board.

“(b) The Government are compiling and reviewing every week index numbers of prices of various commodities for 13 selected rural centres in the Province. In this connection the prices of food and non-food articles prevailing in these centres are being collected and recorded every week.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the price of paddy fixed now is economical to the agriculturist?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“As far as possible, the economic condition of the agriculturists is predominating in the minds of the Government. The prices now fixed are such that while answering the price level of the consumer, they also see that the producer also gets a fair share of profit.”

Effect of reduced intake of food on youngsters.

* 126 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state what steps the Government propose to take to study the effects of reduced intake of food due to reduced rations especially on children and young persons?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“The following steps have been taken to study the effects of reduced intake of food due to reduced rations especially on children and young persons:—

- (i) A periodical examination of vulnerable groups such as infants, children, adolescents and nursing and pregnant woman for clinical signs of under-nutrition and mal-nutrition by the Health staff.
- (ii) Measurements of heights and weights of groups of children in deficit areas and comparison of these data with those of standard biometric tables.
- (iii) Analytical studies of mortality figures in different age groups from such of the causes as are directly or indirectly attributable to quantitative or qualitative deficiencies in food, e.g., dysentery, diarrhoea, respiratory diseases, starvation, etc., and comparison of infantile mortality rates, maternity mortality rates and general death rates with corresponding periods in previous years.
- (iv) Observation of cases treated at the various hospitals and dispensaries.

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Periodical reports are being received by the Government on the above items. No abnormal features have been observed so far, as a result of rationing and there is no particular increase in mortality amongst the vulnerable groups of population from any cause directly attributable to food shortage.

“The Nutrition officer attached to Food Department has also proposed a scheme for the examination of school going children between the ages of about 5–12 in different areas of the Presidency, for signs of food deficiency diseases. A close watch on the health of the vulnerable population is being maintained. The free distribution of milk to elementary school children in certain deficit districts and the supply of free midday meals to elementary school children under the compulsory Elementary Education Scheme are intended to offset the effect of reduced rations.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Is it a fact, Sir, that midday meals are being stopped from the 1st April to school children?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I think so; because it is mentioned in the budget.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“One of the means by which you wanted to prevent under-nutrition or mal-nutrition is sacrificed evidently may I say wantonly!”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“I suppose you dealt with this in the budget.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“Yes, Sir.”

Lands under the Tungabhadra Project.

* 127 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) when the inauguration of the Tungabhadra Project was notified in the official gazette;

(b) how many acres of land coming under the project area have been sold in each year and at what price, after the said notification, with reference to each taluk of Bellary and Kurnool districts;

(c) how many persons have purchased more than 50 acres and below 100 acres in the said area and at what price; and

(d) how many have purchased more than 100 acres and at what price in respect of each taluk referred to above?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“(a) 1941.

“(b) Talukwar particulars of sale of lands, value per acre, etc., are not available, as the ayacut of the project has not been fixed yet.

“(c) & (d) The question does not arise.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Is it not possible for the Government to get this information about the sale of lands at least in the supposed project area?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“ The ayacut has not yet been localised. Therefore the information that is asked for cannot be given now.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, when the legislation relating to the Tungabhadra project about preventing speculation in purchase of land will be introduced?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“ Notice; this is a subject dealt with by the Minister for Revenue.”

Secretary, Chingleput District Board.

* 128 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the claims of one Mr. Natesa Ayyar, a senior qualified officer in the service of the Chingleput District Board, has been overlooked when the vacancy of the secretaryship arose;

(b) whether it is a fact that one Mr. Manicka Naicker has been appointed to the secretaryship;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Manicka Naicker was much junior to Mr. Natesa Ayyar and educationally unqualified for the post;

(d) whether it is a fact that Mr. Natesa Ayyar has appealed to Government against the decision of the District Board President, Chingleput, in overlooking his claims for the secretaryship of the Board; and

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

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“ (a), (b) & (c) Sri R. C. Manicka Naicker was appointed as Secretary of the Chingleput District Board in preference to one Sri Natesa Ayyar who was his senior. Sri Manicka Naicker is qualified to hold the post of Secretary. Promotion to the post of Secretary which is a selection post is made on grounds of merit, seniority being considered only where the qualifications and merit are approximately equal. The promotion of Sri Manicka Naicker as Secretary was made on this basis.”

(d) & (e) Sri Natesa Ayyar submitted a petition to Government in November 1946 against the supersession of his claims for appointment as Secretary of the Chingleput District Board. The petition was rejected.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether it is a fact that Sri Manicka Naicker has not got even S.S.L.C. qualification?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“ Sri Manicka Naicker is a S.S.L.C. eligible for college course.”
(Laughter.)

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MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Not for Secretaryship you mean!”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Is it a fact that Natesa Ayyar, when he was the manager of the defunct taluk board, was charged with forgery of a cheque for Rs. 2,000?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“ Natesa Ayyar was charged for defalcation and other irregularities. Police enquiries revealed no tangible proof. His work was generally considered to be good.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether the charges were foisted by Manicka Naicker himself, and the charges against Natesa Ayyar were found unsustainable and he was exonerated?” (Laughter.)

(No answer.)

Chingleput Wholesale Stores.

* 129 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Chingleput Wholesale Stores were the wholesalers for procurement and distribution in Madurantakam taluk and parts of Saidapet taluk;

(b) whether it is a fact that large quantities of rice were transferred from Madurantakam Sub-depot to Saidapet Sub-depot in the year 1946;

(c) whether it is a fact that out of this stock about 1,068 bags of rice were missing and remained unaccounted for;

(d) whether it is a fact that this quantity has gone underground into the blackmarket;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Co-operative Department Official who unearthed this scandal has been transferred immediately;

(f) whether it is a fact that these 1,068 bags of rice were written off in the accounts as wastage and dryage; and

(g) whether the Government propose to hold an enquiry into the matter and bring the offender to book?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ (a) Yes.

“ (b) The stores are supplying rice to the Madras suburban area and rice is therefore being transferred not only from Madurantakam sub-depot but also from Conjeeveram, Chingleput and Uttiramerur to Saidapet.

“ (c) No complaint in this regard has been received and no enquiry was therefore made.

“ (d), (e) & (f) The Government have no knowledge.

“ (g) The Government are having the matter enquired into.”

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Sub-depot of Chingleput Wholesale Stores at Avadi.

* 130 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chingleput Wholesale Stores maintain a Sub-depot in Avadi;

(b) whether it is a fact that large quantities of sugar were missing;

(c) whether any enquiry was held in the matter and how it was disposed off; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the missing sugar bags were written off as wastage and if so, how many bags were so written off?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) There was a branch of the Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores at Avadi. It was subsequently closed down. There is no branch of the stores at Avadi now.

“(b) No quantity of sugar was actually missing. Some irregularities in the distribution of sugar however noticed in July 1946 at the Avadi branch of the stores.

“(c) Investigation into the irregularities in the distribution of sugar was made by the officers of the Commercial Tax and Co-operative Departments. As investigation showed that the conduct of the godown keeper at Avadi branch was suspicious he was removed from service.

“(d) There is no information that any quantity was written off as wastage.”

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Settlement of labour disputes.

8. Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the general principles followed by Government in regard to the appointment of Adjudicators, Conciliators, and Courts of Enquiries in labour disputes; and

(b) whether the Government have any other schemes and plans for prompt and effective settlement of labour dispute and if so, what the schemes and plans are?

A.—(a) The general policy is to appoint officers of the status of District and Sessions Judges as Adjudicators, Conciliators and Courts of Enquiries.

(b) Yes, Sir. The most important proposals are—

(1) The Industrial Disputes Bill recently passed by the Central Assembly;

(2) The establishment of Wage Boards to fix minimum wages;

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(3) The enforcement of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, the Workmen's Health Insurance Act, the Shops and Establishments Act and the Non-power Factories Act when the last three are enacted;

(4) The extension of welfare measures such as recreation centres, creches, housing schemes, etc.; and

(5) The strengthening of the present Conciliation staff.

Labour conditions in certain services.

9. Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether a Court of Enquiry has been appointed to enquire into labour conditions in the Motor Transport Services, oil-mills, rice-mills and other similar mills, automobile engineering factories, minor engineering concerns, foundries and make recommendations; and

(b) what the scope of the enquiry, its terms of reference, etc., are;

(c) under what circumstances and under what law or rule the enquiry has been ordered;

(d) who constitute the said Court of Enquiry and whether any procedure has been laid down or will be laid down for its proceedings;

(e) whether the appointment of this Court of Enquiry will in any way affect any conciliations or negotiations now pending between trade unions and employers in the said industries; and

(f) whether any conciliation proceedings in any dispute have been stopped on account of the constitution or proposed constitution of the said Court of Enquiry and whether the Government have received any representations from any trade union in this connexion and, if so, what the Government propose to do with the representations?

A.—(a) Two Courts of Enquiry, one to enquire into the conditions of labour in motor transport services, motor transport workshops, engineering firms and type-foundries and the other to enquire into the conditions of labour in rice and oil-mills have been appointed.

(b) The object of the enquiries is to have a comprehensive picture of the conditions of service of the workers in these services and industries in the Province in order to standardize them as far as possible.

(c) Enquiries have been ordered under section 3 (a) read with section 4 (1) of the Trade Disputes Act on the report of the Commissioner of Labour that the conditions of the workers in these concerns are unsatisfactory.

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(d) Sri Rao Bahadur M. Venkataramayya, retired District and Sessions Judge, is the Court of Enquiry for motor transport services, motor transport workshops, engineering firms and type-foundries and Sri U. Ramappa, retired Judge of the City Civil Court, Madras, constitutes the Court of Enquiry for rice and oil-mills. The Courts have been asked to follow the procedure laid down in sections 5, 9, 11, 13 and 14 of the Trade Disputes Act and the rules issued by the Provincial Government under the Trade Disputes Act.

(e) & (f) No, Sir.

Strike notice by Public Works Department Workers' Union at Dowlaishwaram.

10. Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Public Works Department Workers' Union at Dowlaishwaram (Rajahmundry) has issued a notice of strike demanding redress of definite grievances;

(b) whether the notice was withdrawn at the request of the Government and on an assurance to the President of the Union that the grievances will be redressed early;

(c) what action have the Government since taken in the matter; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the concerned workers have informed the Government that they would have to resort to direct action if their grievances are not immediately redressed and what the Government propose to do in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The notice of strike was withdrawn after Government informed the President of the Union that they were considering the various demands put forward by the Union and that orders would be issued as soon as a decision was arrived at and suggested that the workers might be advised not to resort to strike.

(c) The Government have called for a detailed report from the Chief Engineer (General, Buildings and Defence) and it is awaited.

(d) The notice of strike has not been renewed, but the President of the Union has been reminding the Government. The matter is receiving the special attention of the Government.

Sinking of wells.

11. Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any fresh schemes for accelerating the sinking of wells has been formulated;

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(b) whether in framing it, the difficulties encountered in giving effect to previous schemes have been taken into account;

(c) whether the question of Government undertaking sinking of wells in areas where the response has not been encouraging has been considered; and

(d) whether the Government will be pleased to place the new scheme on the table of the House?

A.—(a), (b) & (d) The Government have sanctioned a new well-subsidy scheme with effect from 1st March 1947, in supersession of the earlier schemes. In framing it, the difficulties encountered in the working of the earlier schemes were taken into account. Details of the scheme were announced in a Press Note ^a, dated 3rd March 1947. They are laid on the table of the House.

(c) Judging from the number of applications received, the response from the ryots to the Accelerated Scheme was not particularly good in the districts of Tanjore, Malabar, South Kanara, Kistna, Guntur, East Godavari, West Godavari, Madras, and the Ceded districts. The subsidies given under this scheme were not attractive in the Ceded districts. Larger subsidies up to a maximum of Rs. 500 are now given in the Ceded districts. Under the new scheme, it is also proposed to raise the maximum subsidy for wells to Rs. 500 in other areas where conditions similar to those in the Ceded districts exist.

The Government have decided that it is not feasible for them to undertake the sinking of wells for ryots.

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

III.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT:—“ I have to announce to the House that the following message, dated Fort St. George, 27th March 1947, has been received by me from the Hon. Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly:—

“ In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules I transmit a copy of the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly on the 27th March 1947 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council.” ”

IV.—DISCUSSION ON SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENTS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1946-47.

MR. PRESIDENT:—“ Discussion will now proceed on Supplementary Statements of Expenditure for 1946-47. May I know the number of intended speakers. We have to bear in mind that we have only one and a three-quarters hours before us.”

(*) Printed as Appendix III on page 519-520 infra

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, as the hon. Leader of the Opposition has not chosen to get up, let me say . . . ”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Are we to understand that discussion will end at that hour and there will be no more discussion after that.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Quite so.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ With your permission, Sir, may I also express our sincere sense of gratification on the accomplished fact that after all, this House is being represented on the Cabinet. You may remember, Sir, the hon. Mr. Farookhi gave notice of a resolution on the subject and, before withdrawing it he made a speech indicating the feelings of this House with regard to the representation of its Members on the Cabinet. We thought, Sir, at least after the speech of the hon. Mr. Farookhi, the then Prime Minister would respect the wishes of this House, but to our surprise the next day we found another member of the Assembly was made a Minister. However, we have now been paid not only with compound interest but may I say at usurious rates of interest (Laughter), and we are very gratified that this House is being represented on the Cabinet by three hon. Members. We are more gratified that the Hon. the Prime Minister belongs to this House. That is a request which we did not contemplate to make at any time, and much less did we expect it to fructify. And we are grateful to the Hon. the Prime Minister for having chosen also as his colleagues two members of this House.

“ Sir, you may remember, you have been put to considerable inconvenience for want of a Leader of the House in order to arrange the business of this House. And to-day we are also glad that an hon. Member of this House, who is also a Minister has been nominated as the Leader of the House, so that in future the business of this House may be conducted without much inconvenience to yourself and to the members of this House.

“ Then, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the procedure adopted in regard to these supplementary statements. I invite the attention of hon. Members of this House to the introductory memorandum written by the Secretary to Government, Finance Department, to which I believe Government are also a party. Sir, the Finance Secretary quotes section 81 of the Government of India Act, and in the course of the memorandum he says, it was only prior to 1st April 1937 supplementary demands had to be presented to the Legislature when the amount voted in the budget for a grant was found to be insufficient for the purposes of the year, or, a need arose for expenditure upon some new service not contemplated in the budget.’ And he also explains, that ‘ in respect of expenditure of the latter class, the practice was to present a demand for a token sum of Rs. 100 if it was found possible to meet the balance of the expenditure by reappropriation from savings within the grant.’ I would like to invite the attention of this House to the words ‘ if it was found possible.’ Now what

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has happened to this supplementary budget which consists of new items, new services and new commitments. The expenditure incurred shown by the Secretary is not correct. The amount given is not a correct figure in the sense it does not indicate the real state of affairs. Now the demand is for Rs. 9,65,61,900. This is not the real demand; this is mostly made up of token sums and if you total up all the items of expenditure you will see the real amount is much more, perhaps, many crores. If only one takes the trouble to tabulate all the sums involved in new services, for which expenditure has been incurred as also in respect of items for which accounts have yet to be made up, the expenditure, you will see, amounts up to many many crores, and not nine crores and odd. I do not think it is fair to the Legislature not to get its previous sanction especially for new services, before they were undertaken. Now, let us see what does section 81 of the Government of India Act, 1935, say :

‘ Section 81.—If in respect of any financial year further expenditure from the revenues of the Province becomes necessary over and above the expenditure theretofore authorized for that year the Governor shall cause to be laid before the Chamber or Chambers a supplementary statement showing the estimated amount of that expenditure, and the provisions of the preceding sections shall have effect in relation to that statement and that expenditure as they have effect in relation to the annual financial statement and the expenditure mentioned therein.’

My point is no expenditure ought to have been incurred on new services without bringing it before the Legislature for approval. The Finance Secretary tries to show that ‘ except in special circumstances, expenditure on new services is not ordinarily incurred before the supplementary demands relating to them have been presented and voted.’ Here the whole of the supplementary demand, almost the whole of it, I would say, is nothing but expenditure on new services incurred without coming to this House or the other House, and getting its vote. This is a very sorry state of affairs especially when this province is going through a financial crisis. Sir, I have taken trouble to mark all new services in the statement furnished to us; and I find almost all of them are new services. In some cases the expenditure incurred amounts to several lakhs—15, 16 and 20 lakhs, and so on. I shall give a few instances. I will take agriculture. From pages 23-24 of the memorandum you will see a sum of Rs. 22,67,000 has been spent in purchasing pumps, tractors and jeeps, etc. I do not know for what purpose these were bought, where they are now and how they are being utilized. God only knows. What was the policy of Government in purchasing them has not been explained. Did they get the sanction of the Legislature before they spent such a large sum of money? Sir, there are certain items of expenditure incurred simply because the Government of India had promised a half grant for them. Sir, unless we feel there is a necessity for such new services, it is wrong policy on the part of Government to incur expenditure on them simply because we are eligible for a half grant on them from the Government of India. In doing so, I submit, they have violated section 81 of the Government of India Act, 1935. Now, what we are doing is all post-mortem

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examination. There are many items in which policies are involved. It would have been fair to the Legislature if at least a resolution had been moved or a token grant of Rs. 100 moved and obtained its sanction. If that had been done, then, members of the Legislature might have offered their remarks, and it would have enabled Government to alter any item of new service before they had incurred expenditure.

"Then, Sir, there is a fairly large sum of money spent on the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. It is a new service; it involves a new policy which had not received the approval of the Legislature here or there. Then there is the resettlement of ex-service men. I am told these various schemes of resettlement of ex-service men have not borne much fruit. Sir, large sums are involved in them. I do not know whether there is anybody or any method by which these various schemes that are put forward involving expenditure on a large scale have been scrutinized, or if the advice of experts competent to express an opinion was taken. In this connexion I am reminded of a story. One Collector of a district was invited to visit a poultry farm; he was very reluctant to do so; but he was prevailed upon to visit it. He went there and found, there were no eggs at all. So he entered in the visitors' book the following: 'There have been more visitors than eggs.' Sir, it looks the same thing with regard to the resettlement of ex-service men. It looks as though there are more institutions for ex-service men than enough ex-service men taking advantage of the facilities. The other day His Excellency the Governor visited a resettlement colony in North Arcot, and as reported in the press, he found the response was very disappointing though Government have planned to spend lakhs of rupees on these colonies. In the words of His Excellency, 'Only a handful of people have come forward.' It is up to us to see that various schemes for ex-service men should be made attractive so that they may be induced to take advantage of them.

"Now I come to industries. As we have no power to discuss demands, the only way in which we can express our views on them is by conveying our remarks to Government now in office, so that whatever might have happened in the past, at least in future sufficient care may be taken, when new services are undertaken by Government. Here are two classes of officers appointed. What are they called? They are called authorized controllers of textile mills and Assistant Inspecting Textile Commissioners. These are new services for which no provision has been made in the budget, and yet expenditure is incurred on them without the consent of the Legislature. We are perfectly willing to concede that these officers are necessary in regard to the textile policy of the Government and of the Government of India so that the consuming public may not suffer. I remember the other day in reply to a question in the Legislative Assembly the then Industries Member gave out some qualifications required for these textile officers, and how they had to appoint them in pursuance of the policy decided. I think, at a conference of Ministers of Industries that was held at Delhi. Textile is a difficult subject; even those

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of us who are interested in textile mills do not know what warp and weft are. To administer control orders of a highly technical nature we expected men with sufficient knowledge of textiles would be appointed. I am told most of them know hand-spinning. But, Sir, hand-spinning and hand weaving are two quite different things. You may remember, Sir, in a supplementary question I brought to the notice of the then Minister for Industries how an Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioner threatened to cancel the licence for yarn of weavers because they were engaged in preparatory processes necessary before yarn is put on the looms simply because he did not find the yarn on the looms. I have heard another story and it is worth while repeating. When an Assistant Inspecting Textile Commissioner went to a weaver, he complained that though he had indented for a bundle of forty's he had been given two bundles of twenty's. Thereupon, the officer replied 'Why, you have been given two twenty's; twenty plus twenty makes forty; so you have got forty's which you wanted.' (Laughter.) Sir, this betrays the knowledge these officers have on textiles.

"I think, Sir, the sooner these posts are abolished the better. They will be neither good for the people nor will they be able to discharge their duties satisfactorily. I am sure, as I said in the Budget debate, the Collectors must be finding they are more a hindrance than help in carrying out their duties. But they dare not express this being Government servants. I wish, Sir, that this thing is looked into.

"Sir, I invite the attention of the House to page 29. For development of cottage industries, look at the amount of money budgeted here. I would like hon. Members to read item 9 on page 29. The recurring cost of the scheme will be, after making certain deductions Rs. 29.75 lakhs and the non-recurring cost will be Rs. 14.56 lakhs. Sir, these are not small amounts. My hon. Friend Mr. Farookhi and I have been complaining that you have deprived the school children of a free mid-day meal and now you are pursuing plans of a chimerical nature, without obtaining results by carrying on experiments in certain selected areas. This is a huge amount, Sir, and I wish this Government brought forward a detailed scheme and obtained the sanction of the House. Simply a paper is put on the table of the House and they say: 'We have supplied it.' Of course a printed scheme was given to us. But no motion was made. Unless a motion is made nobody can criticise the Government. All that we can do is to send up questions and get elucidation of the various points. This huge amount is being spent like this while the poor children are being starved. Sir, I do not mind cottage industries being encouraged. By all means give all possible help. In fact I earnestly plead for them. But there also I see more officers have been employed than more industries started. I do not blame hon. Members of the Treasury Bench who sit there to-day though some of them formed part of the previous Government. I would like them all to take some personal interest when any new proposal is brought forward.

"Sir, I am pleased that for the first time now there is a separate Minister for Finance. All these things have happened because Finance and other subjects in which a particular Minister

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was interested were in one hand. Sir, the Minister for Finance is like a watch dog. He can scrutinize every item of expenditure and I beg of him, Sir, to take charge of the Finances of this Province and not allow anybody to fritter them away as I find. I must regretfully say, in this supplementary statement. I have never come across any Government coming forward with supplementary estimates on the 29th or 30th of March, just a day previous to the end of the financial year, involving crores of rupees. It is unthinkable, Sir, that a popular Government should have done this. They may as well say: 'We are Fascists, we will carry on. We have a large majority. We can do whatever we like and get approval afterwards.' One who goes through these lists of expenditure will be horrified. I am sure the Hon. Ministers now in office will not take up such an unreasonable attitude.

"Another thing which I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Finance Minister is to let the excess amounts spent on grants already received to be shown separately from the amounts intended for new items. Sir, they are all mixed up so that one has to go through this volume very carefully to find out which is a new service and which is an old service on which a larger amount has been spent. The Finance Secretary says that prior to 1st April 1937, they were giving them. Simply because the Congress Government came into office in 1937, why was it given up? This is a system which is good for all whereby the Government can place all its cards on the table and allow anybody to criticise and be benefited by such criticism as is given. Sir, this excess amount spent in respect of grants already made and the new services are all jumbled up together so that a man has to spend days to find out which is a new service and which is an old service on which an excess amount has been spent. I wish, Sir, the Hon. the Finance Minister takes note of this humble suggestion of mine and I also hope, Sir, he will exercise due care in the future and will not allow departments to proceed with new schemes unless he has scrutinized them and is satisfied about their practicability, utility and value.

"I would like the Hon. Finance Minister to see pages 37 and 43. In page 37, you will see 'Amount transferred from 85-A—Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading Schemes.' Sir, the amount put down is Rs. 6,62,25,000. But on page 43 a small token grant of Rs. 100 is put against each item and if you count the amounts involved in these items they come to crores on account of payment of subsidy to ryots, on account of rice and millet, and so on. I would like to know what the difference is between reference to trading schemes in Grant XXXI and that in Grant XXXVIII. May I take it that one is outright expenditure whereas the other is Capital Outlay on State Trading, some of which may come back and most of which may not come back. But for the present the expenditure is treated as an investment likely to be returned, though without interest, after the accounts are made up. You will be surprised, Sir, that a huge amount to the tune of Rs. 61 lakhs has been spent on dehydrated potatoes. I do not think most of us had occasion to eat dehydrated potatoes. It is a huge amount and why such a large amount was spent and

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how the distribution was made, all these things are not given in detail and no facts are mentioned. I hope the Hon. Minister for Finance will see that the Administration Reports of all these spending departments are separately issued together with the accounts.

"Then again, Sir, a sum of Rs. 27.60 lakhs has been spent on the purchase of gunnies. I do not mind if purchases have to be made in order to maintain the population. I do not mind any amount of expenditure. But we would like to know how the Hon. Minister for Finance will reconcile this statement on page 43 and with that on page 37. If in one case it is outright expenditure and in another case it is only an outlay from which he expects to get back something in course of time, let him say so though we are constrained to think that even that will be ultimately an expenditure amounting to many crores.

"I have nothing more to say, Sir, except to point this out and making a request to the Hon. Finance Minister to be so good as to see that the statements given to us, lay men, are in a form that we may be able to understand in what respects the amounts are excess grants and what amounts are intended for new services. Secondly, this system of putting token sums of Rs. 100 and to get the approval of the Legislature afterwards is all right, as it is stated here, if it is possible to meet the balance of the expenditure by reappropriation from savings out of the sanctioned grant. But if it is a new service, I would like, though even cases where it is possible to meet the cost by reappropriation, the Hon. Finance Minister to insist on the Hon. Ministers concerned to table a motion asking for a token sum giving at least an approximate amount of the expenditure involved in undertaking expansion of existing services or that of new services. Sir, I have made these suggestions in no critical spirit. It is the Finance Secretary's memorandum that prompted me to look into these matters and I found that several crores are involved in this supplementary demand. I would also like the Hon. Minister for Finance to show us some consideration and to come up with supplementary demands as and when they are required and not to put them off till the end of the year."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Mr. President, Sir, when I opened this supplementary budget the same idea which my hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao gave expression to, also struck me. This is rather not the work for a Legislature. I found that this is a report to the Public Accounts Committee rather than to the Legislative Council, because on most of the items they have spent—and some of the amounts were very large—and it is only an attempt on the part of the Government to go through the technicalities of the law. Sir, they have hidden under these few pages so many items which as my hon. Friend said involve commitments for crores of rupees. My hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao has in his own way pointed out to this House how this Government is attempting to swindle, no Sir, to deprive this House and through this House the public of the Madras Province to the tune of hundreds of crores. Mr. President, in short, I feel that to discuss this supplementary budget is only a waste of energy and a waste of public money and waste of everything, because most of the items . . ."

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SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—“ Did I hear the hon. Member say, Sir, that the Government was attempting to swindle and are the hon. Members who represent the Government listening to it? Am I wrong when I say that I heard him say that the Government was trying to swindle? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ He corrected himself immediately, Sir.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I thought he himself was not conscious of it.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ If I have in any way dropped from my mouth some words that would be disparaging this House, I am very sorry for it, Sir. It is only a slip of the tongue in the course of my statement.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member does not know you as I do.”

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ What I was saying is that the Government should give respect to this House and the House should not be treated as it has been treated in this supplementary demand.

“ Sir, I have been going through the items in regard to industrial development. There are so many items in it that I do not want to detain the House by detailing them. Members can read that. There are so many items and so many new services the results of which even this Government, even though they may differ from us, do not know. Sir, I am doubtful about the results. On such occasions it is the duty of the Government to take this House into their confidence and bring such matters before the House and give the House and the representatives of the people an opportunity to discuss and decide. My hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao has put the whole thing in a very lucid and clear manner. I do not wish to mar the effect of that on the Government. My request to the present Finance Minister is that he will look into all these things and if necessary scrap some of the items for which there are demands for which we are automatically going to consent or rather as the old adage says, silence will be taken for consent. Sir, we are not able to speak on each item of the demands and so he will take it that we have granted. Anyhow, Sir, he has got a great responsibility to the people of this Province and I think he will work hard and find out whether public money is not wasted. With these words, Sir, I am done.”

12-15 p.m. * DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Mr. President, Sir, this supplementary demand for expenditure in the current year is a confession in print that the Government had no mind of its own and no plan of its own when the original estimates were prepared. They were then pre-occupied with non-administrative matters and they have now come forward with a supplementary demand for grants for expenditure. The Hon. Minister has thought fit to introduce these demands for grants without a speech explaining the various

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items. Perhaps he will explain them later on. I should like now to confine myself to one or two items only as many items have been dealt with by other speakers.

“ Sir, it is a very dangerous thing for Government to enter into schemes of state trading. On page 43 of this memorandum, we find figures of enormous losses on account of state trading. I have always thought, Sir, that retired Government servants and lawyers should never enter business because they always lose. I am convinced that Ministers are persons who will lose more.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I hope you are safe from that failing!”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ I never entered business. I have seen my friends entering business and losing. The real truth is that by training by up-bringing and by habits, Ministers, Government officers and professional men are incompetent to carry on trade or business. It is better left to person who are trained up in business. If we look at the various items under the heading ‘Capital Outlay on Provincial Schemes of State Trading’, we find that there has been colossal loss on state trading. One should have expected the Government to make a loss, but not such a colossal loss of about five crores. Payment of bonus to ryots for the early delivery of the surplus from short-term crops involved an expenditure of Rs. 255.18 lakhs. The previous Ministry—I hope the present Ministry will not follow that example—was a ‘control’ Ministry. It introduced many pieces of legislation to control every aspect of man’s life. We have to-day an Act in force under which a person can be detained or externed or interned, a search made, the press gagged or confiscated without resort to a court of law. When the Government had so much power, it is atrocious that they should have given away Rs. 255 lakhs of the tax-payers’ money as bonus. This amount went to somebody and we might console ourselves that after all that it went to the agriculturists. But, Sir, look at the enormous loss due to sale at reduced rates in Malabar and South Kanara of defective quality Sind raw rice which amounts to Rs. 2,33,500. Then there is another item, ‘Loss due to sale of Balasore boiled rice at reduced rates’, but the actual amount of loss is not given. Then under ‘Wheat and Wheat Products’ there is a loss of Rs. 100 lakhs incurred on the subsidized sale of maida. It is atrocious that the Government without any experience should go into trade and on one item alone lose Rs. 100 lakhs, instead of handing over the business to the usual trade channels. The loss incurred on the subsidized sale of overseas millets is Rs. 7 lakhs odd. There is also another item of a loss of Rs. 61.03 lakhs due to sale at subsidized rates of dehydrated potatoes manufactured and imported on Government account. Reference was made to this by the previous speaker. It is quite possible that the present Members of the Government are not responsible for these losses incurred in state trading. I request them to go into the matter very very carefully and see whether it is the function of the State, whether it is advantageous for the

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State and whether it is proper for the State that crores of rupees of the tax-payers' money amounting nearly to one-tenth of the total revenues should be given away or written off as losses on account of state trading. When we have businessmen who can carry on trade without much loss, I cannot understand why Government without any experience of trade should take up this job on themselves and lose crores of rupees amounting to one-tenth of the revenues of the Province. I say, Sir, it is atrocious, it is a great injustice to the tax-payer, and as has been already pointed out by the previous speakers, it is very regrettable that these supplementary demands for expenditure should have been made.

"Then Sir, I want to refer to another item where the Government are losing money on socio-political experiments. I want to draw your attention to the scheme for the opening of training and demonstration units for the development of cottage industries in selected firkas in the Province as a part of the Firka Development Scheme. The scheme is said to involve an expenditure of Rs. 14.56 lakhs on non-recurring items such as equipment and construction of sheds and recurring expenditure of Rs. 29.75 lakhs annually on staff, raw materials, maintenance of canteens, contingencies and grant of stipends. Sir, this is a socio-political experiment and the tax-payers' money is thrown away not only in capital expenditure but also in recurring expenditure on this scheme. The tax-payer is not paying his taxes for the Government to spend in any manner they like. Sir, I must particularly draw the attention of the House to the expenditure on staff. I should like, if possible, that the Hon. Minister when he replies gives us some idea, a rough idea of the appointments made by the previous Prime Minister, by the previous Government, during the last 11 months. Appointments of a temporary and permanent nature may be included in his statement. I suggest, Sir, that thousands and thousands of appointments have been made without any reference whatsoever to the Public Service Commission. Sir, if there is one weakness in any Government, it is the desire to exercise patronage. For the purpose of exercising patronage, public money is drained away in trading concerns and socio-political experiments. Sir, it is very wrong on the part of the Ministry to do so. I would like the Hon. Minister to give us some idea of how many appointments were made on salaries from Rs. 50 a month. I am sure, Sir, the public, the hon. members of this House and you, Sir, will be surprised at the number of appointments made by the last Government. I submit, Sir, the establishment charges alone would come to very much. The Government of a country should be run in accordance with some plan. The very introduction of these demands shows that Government had no plan of their own. We have read, Sir, of there being a method in madness, but, as far as the expenditure detailed in these demands is concerned, I do not find any method. I submit, Sir, it is a very wrong on the part of the Government to have introduced these supplementary demands without in many cases giving the actual amounts and in many cases mentioning a token sum of

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Rs. 100 only. Without a plan and without ideas, they spend away crores of rupees on trade which they are incompetent to carry on and also on socio-political ideas which are not shared by the tax-payers generally in the Province. I ask the Government to go into these matters now that we have a new Government, go into every item thoroughly and check it before the expenditure is incurred."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Mr. President, I wish to say a few words . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I hope they will be really few. We have only got half an hour for all the other members."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" I shall take as little time as possible. Sir, in the supplementary demands for grants, I am sorry to say that neither principles of public finance nor the well-known methods adopted in the preparation of a budget have been observed. A supplementary demand can be moved only for a particular purpose which has been mentioned in the original demand. Supplementary demand should not cover expenditure for a purpose which has not been mentioned in the original budget. As my hon. friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao has already said, the demand for crores of rupees in this supplementary budget goes against the fundamental principles of public finance. Anyhow since this expenditure has already been incurred under the authority of the Government, there is no other alternative for this House except to accept the demand. If we analyse the expenditure incurred, we will find that much expenditure has been incurred on things on which it ought not to have been spent and nothing has been spent where it ought to have been spent. For instance, there are two colleges managed by Government in Andhra Desa out of 11 Government Colleges in the whole Province. For nine long months, I am told that the Rajahmundry College was run without a Principal. It seems the Government asked the college to admit more students in the science classes, but no lecturer or demonstrator was appointed. That is a kind of expenditure which we should have seen in a supplementary grant. For admissions to colleges take place in the month of June and so they cannot visualise exactly what expenditure they may have to incur later on. That is the kind of expenditure which we can expect in a supplementary demand. Such things were not done. In fact, I am glad to see that the Annamalai University is given more funds. As a representative of this House on the Senate of the 12-30
Andhra University, I must say in an unequivocal manner that P.m.
that University is treated in a step-motherly manner. Huge funds for the promotion of education in Andhra Desa are given by zamindars, and we are now out to confiscate them. I do not know how the colleges will be run hereafter. The Government may have to take charge of them. The two colleges in Andhra Desa are not treated well. For instance, a site was purchased some years back to construct buildings for the Rajahmundry

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College near the Government Museum. What happened to it? Is there any proposal pending for the construction of buildings for this ancient Rajahmundry College? Nothing is found in the supplementary statement of demands for grants about it.

"At the tail end of the year, drainage channels in the Kistna and Godavari districts get silted up and they have to be cleared. Every year Government have been incurring loss of crores of rupees on account of remissions on lands submerged by water. Neither the Government nor the ryots benefit thereby. Government lose revenue and ryots lose paddy. Unless the drainage channels are cleared of the silt, the cultivators will not prosper. This is the time to provide funds for the clearance of silt, but we do not find any provision here. Only a few hundreds of rupees have been provided for expenditure on capital outlay.

"Since the time at my disposal is short, I will refer to only one knotty problem, and that is the producer *cum* consumer co-operative societies, about which much has been said. In this supplementary budget, we find large expenditure under that head. From the very starting of these societies, none of the legislators in the districts of Guntur, West Godavari, East Godavari and Kistna were consulted in the matter. They were not even supplied with the details of the scheme before its inauguration. To-day we find sitting in the Visitors' Gallery many important ryots of our district, every one of whom has come here to represent to the Food Minister to abolish these unwanted and unnecessary societies. (Hear, hear.) I represent at least most of the ryots, if not all the ryots. I say these societies are neither producer societies nor consumer societies. The shareholders of these societies are neither producers nor consumers in the real sense."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"We have heard about these societies from the hon. member in the course of the budget discussion. So, he need not go into the matter again."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—"I would like to say only a few words more on this. Yesterday many ryots, along with some legislators, waited on deputation on the Hon. Food Minister seeking some relief from the hardships caused to the ryots on account of the societies' inability to purchase paddy from them. This I would like to tell you with all the emphasis at my command. To-day, in West Godavari, the rate of interest has shot up to 3½ per cent. It is because the societies are unable to purchase paddy, and consequently the ryots are unable to sell. But the ryots have necessarily to pay land revenue and meet their expenditure. Where can the small landholders of my district go? They are driven to the necessity of borrowing money from money-lenders. They execute pro-notes at 3½ per cent, borrow money and pay land revenue. Is this the way to treat the ryots in the name of societies said to have been introduced for their benefit?

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The Hon. Food Minister is not here. With due respect I say that he should at least suspend the operation of these societies. Yesterday some legislators and big ryots requested him to issue orders to suspend their activities at least for the present and allow the ryots to sell in the open market. I heard that the Government had already issued such orders in respect of Guntur and Vizagapatam districts. We request the Government to issue similar orders in respect of West Godavari district forthwith, and relieve the suffering of the ryots."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"When the last budget was introduced by the then Hon. the Premier, we opposed certain items on fundamental principles. These supplementary demands have justified in full the view of the Opposition. First of all, we were against the Government embarking on trading schemes. As has been pointed out by my friends, crores of rupees have been lost in state trading schemes. I would like to point out the loss to Government of Rs. 61.03 lakhs in the purchase and sale of dehydrated sweet potatoes. We do not know how this loss has occurred.

"Even on the last occasion we pointed out specific instances of huge losses to Government on account of the deputation of inexperienced revenue officials to purchase foodgrains. One such instance now is the loss of about Rs. 2,33,500 due to the sale at reduced rates of defective quality Sind raw rice. The loss incurred on the subsidized sale of maida alone is about one crore of rupees. Then there is loss in respect of groundnut toffee which unwilling people were forced to purchase. Do not these instances point out that the principle of the Government embarking upon trading schemes is fundamentally wrong? Government must take advantage of the experience of people who have been in the trade for generations. On account of their throwing these traders out of employment and entrusting the work to inexperienced revenue officials, they are now faced with these huge losses. I would appeal to the present Minister to take note of this fact and consider whether the time has not yet come for a reversal of the policy pursued by the Government during the past one year. Even within one year, we are faced with a loss to the tune of so many crores. If the Government continue and develop this policy, we will have to lose many more crores, and the Province will be heading towards bankruptcy. The Hon. ex-Premier in his budget speech quoted an observation by a French economist, and it applies more aptly to the present supplementary demands.

"Again, we were against the pet obsession of the Congress, namely the Khadi scheme. It was repeated *ad nauseum* that the people were for Khadi and that they were putting into effect the will of the people. At page 28 of the supplementary statement of demands for grants, it is said:

'Under the scheme, arrangements will be made for the training of weavers and spinner and for the supply of charkas, carding and slivering equipment at cost price and of guts at one-third of the cost price. A sub-

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sidy at 4 annas per square yard will be given to self-spinners on the quantity of cloth woven for the consumption of the spinner's family. The expenditure on the scheme during 1946-7 is estimated at Rs. 21,44,342 and the receipts at Rs. 12,96,232. The ultimate expenditure is estimated at rupees one crore and the receipts at Rs. 94.5 lakhs per annum. Only the amount spent on the subsidy and on training courses, viz., 5.5 lakhs per annum, will be a loss to the Government.

I cannot understand the figures. I remember a statement regarding this scheme was placed on the table of the House sometime ago. I tried to analyse it, and even then I was faced with the same difficulty. It is impossible to understand that there will be a loss of Rs. 5.5 lakhs only per annum. Even according to the above statement there will be a loss of about 9 lakhs during 1946-47. The Congress wants to put into effect its pet scheme. If the Government are convinced that the people are for it, then why should they suffer any loss at all? Why should they give a subsidy of four annas per square yard and sell equipment at cost price? If the people are for it, allow the Khadi scheme to develop and allow the mills also to develop side by side. That is the only way to remedy the present cloth scarcity. From the way in which the Ministry have been doing things, I am sure they are not going to remedy the scarcity. You want to shut out the mills. You want to throw away the spindles allotted to this Province by the Government of India. If I am right this Ministry is prepared to revise the policy of the previous Ministry only to the extent of allowing the allotted spindles to come into this Province, and they are not prepared to fight for further allotment of spindles. Is that the way to meet the present scarcity of cloth? I say: Certainly not. As has been repeatedly pointed out, the Khadi scheme is not going to solve the cloth scarcity. Further, in item (v) at page 18, I find: 'In order to encourage the study of Hindustani, the Government have directed that provision should be made for the teaching of the language in Forms II to IV in all secondary schools in which the language is not now taught. It is a surprise thrown at us. At the time of the last budget, nothing was mentioned about the introduction of Hindustani in the schools. Whether it is through Hindi script of Urdu script, I do not know.'

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Hindustani in both the scripts."

12-45 p.m. K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In having both scripts, I must point out one great hardship which is being imposed on Urdu Munshis recently. The Government have issued an order that every Hindustani Munshi should know both the Arabic and Devanagiri scripts with the result that experienced Urdu Munshis are thrown out and in their places so-called Graduates or certificate-holders of the Hindi Prachar Sabha of Mambalam are being appointed. Will they be able to teach Urdu properly? This is a matter which I would like to request the Ministry to consider seriously. This will not solve the problem. If both the

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scripts are taught in this manner, eventually Urdu will be eliminated and all boys will be compelled to learn Hindi in Devanagari characters.

"This item of expenditure is lugged in along with so many other items of expenditure. This shows that the House is not treated properly. The Government know what amount of opposition there has been in the Province ever since the last Ministry thought of introducing the scheme. Still this item of expenditure is lugged in along with many items even though the question was actually raised on the floor of this House. Is that the way to treat this House? Is it fair on the part of the Ministry to initiate policies in that way without even the knowledge of the House?

"There is another point with regard to Education. The Government must provide for instruction in B.A. class in the Brennen College, Tellicherry. This is long overdue. People in the West Coast are put to great difficulties. No provision has been made even in these supplementary estimates in respect of this matter. I know report was called for from the Director of Public Instruction and the same has been received by the Government from the Director. Still we find no provision is made in these supplementary estimates in respect of the matter. I want to emphasize the urgent necessity of opening B.A. classes in the said college in 1947-48."

* SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"Sir, I should like to make a few remarks with regard to the supplementary demands. But before doing so I would like to correct the impression created by my hon. friend, Mr. John, with regard to the State's trading policy. The whole question involves the function of the State. What is the function of the State? Is it only keeping law and order in the Province? Or is it to keep all the people of this Presidency in proper health . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. member will finish his speech in five minutes. The Hon. Minister has to reply."

* SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"I shall take ten minutes, Sir. "Is it only to keep law and order in this Presidency or to keep all the people in the Presidency in good health and in good condition? What is the function of the State? Is it only to be a Police State? My hon. friend was saying that the State should not engage itself in trade. The question of loss and gain does not at all arise in the case of activities of the State. Only in the case of private individuals dealing in certain commodities, the question of loss and gain does arise. In the case of the State, there is no question of loss and gain. The Government is interested in the welfare of the people of this Province. On account of inflation, the poor man is not able to purchase his food, his cloth and some other things. As a matter of fact hon. members may be aware that even fuel is subsidized in Madras. The Government purchase fuel at a higher cost and sell it at a lower cost so that the ordinary poor man can

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live in Madras. Prices have gone up. My hon. friend feels that this function should not be exercised by the State at all. When the ordinary trade channels are not able to supply necessary materials, it is absolutely necessary that the State should step in and see that the ordinary man is supplied with all the necessary materials. When doing so, the State supplies some facts and figures of expenditure; you come to the conclusion that there is loss. Is it not so, Sir? I give you concrete instances. There are the hospitals; the poor, the sick and the indigent are treated in the hospitals; so much money is spent in every hospital. Is it a loss to the State? What is lost in one direction is gained in another direction. That is the way you have to look at the matter. It is not a Police State only.

"I do not know whether there are plans for preparing our budget. We have to see that the budget is prepared not for one year but for, say, 10 years. I would go to the extent of saying that the budget should not be spread for one year but for a longer period. You should have some sort of planning and see that moneys are spent from that point of view. The so-called loss that has been incurred by the Government is due to the fact that figures has to be budgeted at the end of every year.

"I wish to say a few words with regard to the agency to work the Prohibition Act. It has been decided that the Police and the Excise departments should work the Prohibition Act. I would submit that it is rather difficult to get a correct picture when the work of Prohibition is entrusted to Police as well as the Excise departments. The Excise department is inadequately staffed and inadequately equipped. It has not got its own buses; the Police people have got buses. The Excise officials want the help of the Police when the former have to go on raiding work. If the District Superintendent of Police helps, it is well and good. If not, the Excise officials will be put to great difficulties; they will not be able to discharge their duties satisfactorily. The Excise officials do not command as much respect as the Police. When this work is entrusted to the Police, it would appear that the Act is being worked successfully; when it is entrusted to the Excise officials, it may appear to be unsuccessful. I would suggest that it should be either the Police or the Excise department; let us have only one agency; let us not have two agencies; then only we will get a correct picture. It does not matter if it is the Excise department; let us have only one.

"My hon. friend said that so much money is spent by some departments unnecessarily. I join issue with him. So far as the ameliorative side is concerned, Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies is placed at the head of the department in each district. Two or three Deputy Tahsildars have been appointed under him; they have no work they want to say they are doing something. Practically they are not doing anything. It is waste of money. With regard to the village welfare work, some money has been spent; some people have been recruited for doing the work. What

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I would like to say, it is not enough if people are appointed to particular posts. The villagers will appreciate if something is being done; they have to see that something is being done by way of laying roads, sinking new wells, construction of better houses, irrigation channels, etc. Now what the Government have done is they have appointed certain people and they have made no provision for undertaking any work and showing to the people that they are really doing something for the welfare of the people. Unless money is given to the Firka Development Officers to enable them to carry on their work, it will be waste of money to continue them. If you are not able to give more money for these people, you may abolish the Firka Development officials.

"I find that some Polytechnic centres have been opened in the Presidency. I submit, Sir, that Rayalaseema has been completely neglected in this matter. One must have been opened for Rayalaseema. When facilities for Collegiate Education are asked, they say money is not available. When you are starting Polytechnic centres, you might have started one at least for Rayalaseema. These Supplementary Estimates are asking for new services also. The Government could have established a Polytechnic Institute for Rayalaseema."

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—"Sir, in view of the shortness of the time before me I shall take only 4 or 5 minutes. While bringing forward these extra items of expenditure which have been incurred during the past year, the Government have in so many ways increased the Budget. They have been lavish in other ways and increased the expenditure connected with administration but they could have done the same in the case of Education also, and this might well have been one of the channels by which expenditure might have been lavishly and extravagantly increased. Certain items have been brought up for supplementary or extra expenditure incurred. The Government might have incurred extra expenditure for an increase of salaries to teachers, for the betterment of boys and girls in schools and colleges, for more staff, for better hostels, etc., throughout the Province for those who are now studying in schools and colleges. If extra expenditure had been incurred on such things, it would have been worth while. By saying this, I do not impute motives to all those on the Treasury Bench who have brought forward estimates for extra expenditure. But it is surely a shame to this Province that we have not spent more money on Education. We have not got the highest percentage of literacy, because Travancore and Cochin have already claimed a higher percentage. The Treasury Bench may in the near future bring forward some Supplementary Estimates for Education, although they are not able now to include some items of expenditure in the annual Budget. I would ask your indulgence to bring forward at an instance of what is lacking, certain defects in the Queen Mary's College, the Premier Women's College in this Presidency. The dining rooms and kitchens of that college are not in good condition. Hon. Members of the House should come and see them. Then . . ."

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Mr. PRESIDENT :—“ The best way is to invite hon. Members of this House for a dinner party in the College.”

Mrs. MONA HENSMAN :—“ Yes, Sir, and then the hon. Members will see how the floor of some of the rooms are lower than the steps leading up to them, and if they are washed, the water cannot be drained. Some rooms are low and dark; they would have been old-fashioned in the time of Akbar and of William the Conqueror of England. We have got to-day students in the College between 200 and 300 without any proper rest rooms for them, without tiffin rooms and other conveniences. I take this as instance. We can multiply such instances with regard to other Government Colleges in the Presidency. I know Government has not got much money but is it not worthwhile that we should spend money on these schools, colleges and teachers, the backbone of the nation. I am aware that labourers also uphold the name of the country, but educational institutions uphold the fair fame of the nation too. We are not one-sided, nor are we one-track minded. We are not monomaniacs but we have to see what is happening elsewhere. It comes to this : that if there is going to be trouble, if groups of people say they will not deliver letters if they are not given a fair living wage, we have to give them what they fight for. And if those whose duty it is to uphold law and order in this Province press their claims and have them recognised by the stand they take, we honour them for the stand they take. We are not for any strike, but for a firm stand that convinces those against them. There are honest men and women in this Province who are teachers who are not able to bring their pitiable condition to the attention of the Treasury Benches. They cannot voice their grievances to the children whom they teach, nor to the parents of those children. If you spend lavishly on other matters, does it matter if you incur some necessary expenditure for the teachers, for their salaries and allowances in Government-Aided and private schools?

1 p.m. “ Because, Sir, I repeat that the teachers are the backbone of the nation. I am aware that workers and labourers are the backbone of the nation, but teachers who are also the backbone of the nation have not been fairly treated and their mouths are closed, because of their culture and because of what we have taught them what is right to do. I would therefore ask the Treasury Bench to understand and realise the present needs of the teachers and not sit like the frog of the Aesop's Fable which nearly burst, without knowing the outside world, and see how far the salaries of this group could be supplemented immediately. To meet the present cost of living, teachers must be paid a minimum salary of Rs. 30 + 22 and Rs. 70 + 30 (in the case of high school teachers) per mensem. Nothing less than Rs. 52 per months will be a fair living wage for a teacher now, and I appeal to the authorities in question to allot the necessary amounts for this branch of national service as well as for administration.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. President, I must thank you, Sir, for giving me double the time.”

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Mr. PRESIDENT :—“ I should be glad if you will finish your speech in half the time.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ We are glad, Sir, that we have more members of this House occupying the Treasury Benches than what I myself either wished or anticipated. We are also glad, Sir, that one of our Members is the Premier of this great Province. Perhaps in no other Province, after the advent of the present Reforms, has a member of the Upper House become the Premier. Perhaps this is the first instance. Sir, of course my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao has given expression to the views of most of the Members on this side of the House and of course my hon. Friend Mr. Uppi Sahib has also given a very deserving complement to the gentleman. Such gentlemen are really assets for any Legislature.

“ Now, Sir, he has pointed out that a resolution was sought to be moved on the floor of this House with regard to the feelings of this House, that members of this House should become Ministers. Now the object why such a resolution was sought to be moved was that this House ought to occupy a place which it really deserves. I want to bring, Sir, to the notice of the hon. Members on the other side, and particularly to the new Ministers that this spirit has to be observed and maintained; and in observing this spirit, the fundamental thing that they should keep before their minds is that the gentleman who is the spokesman of the whole House should be allowed to occupy a place which he really deserves, by which I mean that his status should in no way be less than that occupied by the Speaker of the Assembly from the point of view of emoluments. Sir, on many occasions, I along with other members, brought to the notice of this House that the President—I am not referring to you, Sir, personally—must be given a salary which is equal to the salary of the Speaker.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ May I point out to the hon. Member that a Bill to this effect is already coming.”

Mr. PRESIDENT :—“ Whether it comes or not, I am sorry, you are losing your time.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ No, Sir. I am pressing a very important point. I want to bring to the notice of the House that large sums of money have been provided in the supplementary demand and therefore when such large sums have been provided, I feel that it is necessary that the Hon. Ministers on the other side should understand the real feeling of the Members on this side of the House that the salary of the President is a very important item. I am glad and I am thankful to my hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon for having given us the assurance that a Bill is coming. I know that a Bill was circulated and it is there for a long time. I want to bring home to the Minister that there is no use in putting off this Bill. Of course this Government will have to take the responsibility for what the other Ministry has done and I know they are taking. As a matter of fact, this supple-

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mentary budget is only the legacy of the previous Ministry, but for which all this extravagant expenditure would not have found a place in the supplementary demand. It is therefore no use saying that a Bill is coming. I should like to impress upon the Ministers that the Bill must come immediately, and no time should be lost with regard to this. That is point No. 1.

"Well, Sir, the Hon. Premier is a very good friend of ours; there may be reasons why he did not become the Leader of the House, but we are glad my Hon. Friend Dr. Rajan is there, a gentleman with great experience and who was also the leader previously."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"He is away on some urgent business; he took my leave to go."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I do not blame about his absence, Sir. I was simply saying that he is the Leader of the House; but we all wished that the Premier should have been the Leader of the House. Anyhow, we are satisfied that Dr. Rajan is there."

"Now, Sir, what has Dr. Rajan said this morning with regard to the health of the people? He said that measures are being taken to keep up the health of the people from deterioration. But now that he has become a Minister, this time, as usual, he was evading a very important question. He did not state, until a supplementary question was put to him, that from the 1st of April, midday meals to poor children is going to be stopped. When there is so much of expenditure, lavish expenditure, fabulous amounts are being spent on quite unnecessary items, is it not just on the part of the Minister to see that these poor children are given at least one mid-day meal so that they may attend school and maintain their health, without getting deteriorated? Therefore, Sir, I should like the Minister in charge of Education who is not also here, to see that this midday meal to children is not stopped."

"Then, Sir, I should like to bring one other important point to your notice, and that is, if there is a change in the Ministry in any Government, whether in this country or in any other country, that change is brought about on account of some fundamental difference in policies. I should like to point out that such difference in policies must be maintained, without which there could be no justification of any new Ministry taking the place of the previous one. Let me tell the present Ministry that the policy pursued by the former Ministry was the cause of its downfall and one of the important items of its policy was its textile policy. I do not want to take much of the time of the House on this question. You are already fed up with the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. But as regards the textile policy, I was able to elicit an answer to a supplementary question from the Hon. Leader of the House, Dr. Rajan, that the Khadi policy of the previous Government will be maintained. Sir, if all the policies of the previous Government are to be continued, I do not see any reason for these

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hon. Gentlemen to sit on the Treasury Benches. I would therefore like the Hon. Minister to see that no restriction is placed upon the installation of mills. (Interruption.) Whatever assurance my hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon has given somewhere else, I want this assurance to be given on the floor of this House, namely that there will be no restriction hereafter on the installation of new mills and also on the mills already existing."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"The newspaper reports are not correct."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I do not know anything about the reports that appeared in the newspaper, but I should like to be assured that on no account should the people be deprived of the cloth."

"Then, Sir, there is on page 7 of the Supplementary Demand, an item with regard to betting. Sir, my complaint has been, and still is, that the Government publish Bills, circulate Bills—I do not want to say anything about their intention—but those Bills do not see the light of day, after some time. A Bill has been published with regard to betting. There is a genuine suspicion in the minds of the people that some of the present Ministers are fond of encouraging races, that some gentlemen are also stewards or might have been stewards. Let not this suspicion be confirmed in the minds of the people that on account of their zeal for betting, they are not going to stop betting altogether. I am sure the Bill will see the light of day very soon."

"Another point I want to refer to, is this. I have seen in this morning's papers that the present Government has proposed to increase the salaries of the City police constables. I congratulate them on their move and I wish that they give effect to their decision."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Please leave it at that, and do not make any suggestions."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I do not make any suggestion, Sir, but what I say is that if the contemplated increase is due to the rise in the cost of living, then the cost of living has increased all-round in the whole Province, and even in villages too. Therefore, that increase should apply to all other services too not only in the City but in the mufassal as well."

"With regard to the staff of the Legislature, I have to say one word. I have seen them working from morning till late at night. Therefore, Sir, their cases too should be considered and their pay also should be increased."

"My last point is this, Sir. It is a very important one, and it will be interesting to the House to hear it. There is a complaint, Sir, that the claims of women have not been recognized by the present Ministry. I wish that one of our lady Members becomes a Minister. (A voice : It is from this House?) Whether it is from this House or from the other House, it does not matter. If the complaint is from this House, then it must be taken as a complaint

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from the Province, because we represent the whole Province. Therefore, I think the Hon. the Premier will bear this in mind and see that women are given their rightful place, and that a convention is established, that if there is a Lady Minister from the other House, there must be another Lady Minister from this House also." (Laughter.)

* Mr. K. O. ANTHONI :—" Sir, I shall not take more than five minutes.

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p.m.

"The restriction that you are placing on us in this House with regard to time in making our remarks on this supplementary budget is a tribute to this House. That shows that this House is very keen on offering its remarks on the supplementary budget; and since almost all the points have been covered, I have only to make one or two remarks.

"With regard to prohibition, we see that a big allotment has been included in this supplementary budget. The extra cost (ultimately) on account of the pay and allowances of the staff, contingencies, etc., debitable to this head works out to about Rs. 9,50,000 per annum recurring and Rs. 2,26,700 non-recurring while the cost in 1946-47 comes to Rs. 5,89,400. As Dr. John said in referring to this matter, there are some in this House who are not intellectually convinced of the utility of the socio-political experiments of the Government; and we see that large sums are being spent on the staff for enforcing these policies. It is only fair to this House, Sir, that we should be given a report on the progress of these schemes. Unfortunately, excepting the propaganda carried on by certain officers connected with the prohibition department, I have not seen any report on the subject. I note that my hon. Friend Mr. Daniel Thomas has been promoted to the region of prohibition. I hope he will take steps to see that the progress made in this direction will be made known to us. (The Hon. Sri B. Gopala Reddi: 'He is also in charge of Excise'.) Does that mean that the one cancels the other, Sir?

"Then again, I must join hands with Dr. John in commenting upon the large expenditure incurred by the Government in creating appointments and spending the taxpayers' money. I think that a good deal of the trouble that was caused to the late Government was due to this multiplication of appointments and the patronage that was connected with it. But that is not my concern just now. I would like the Finance Minister to whom a tribute was paid by my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, to see that the tempo of new appointments is curtailed. As I said in my budget speech, there must be a certain percentage of the revenues spent on services and within that limit I should expect the Government to set themselves as an ideal employer and give a living wage to the low-paid staff. I see that no attempt is yet being made by the Government to give such a wage to the staff. That there is considerable discontent in regard to this problem is evidenced by the fact that we are getting threats from almost all services. So I

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should like that this Government gives its attention to this problem as well as to the problem of examining the necessity of maintaining the staff in the new appointments that have been made.

"One word, Sir, about Parliamentary Secretaries. I note that an extra allotment has been asked for because the number of Parliamentary Secretaries was increased from 13 to 14. We have time and again asked the Treasury Benches as to what the duties of these Parliamentary Secretaries are, and I find that the Parliamentary Secretaries have been given personal clerks. Some Ministers have been given Personal Assistants in the place of personal clerks also. What all these differences are, and why Personal Assistants have been given in the place of personal clerks of these Parliamentary do we know what the personal clerks of these Parliamentary Secretaries are doing. I hope, Sir, the Treasury Bench will enlighten us on the duties that the Parliamentary Secretaries are doing. They have not been appointed now, I understand. With regard to these Parliamentary Secretaries, I hope we will be enlightened on their duties before they are appointed."

"Sir, I thank you; I shall not delay the House any longer."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, I am very thankful to the hon. Members of this House for the various constructive criticisms they have made with regard to the supplementary demand for grants. I am particularly thankful to Mr. Suryanarayana Rao for pointing out some of the so-called mistakes which this present supplementary demand contains. Sir, while I am new to the job, I can assure the hon. Members that I will certainly be the watchdog of the finances of the Government of Madras; and I want you, Sir, and the members to be equally the watchdogs of the finances of the Government. Whether I am here, whether you are there, it makes very little difference as long as we are all interested in the better government of the Province. I want my friends to realise that last year was an exceptionally bad year for any Government. After seven years of Advisers' regime, after a terrible devastating war and when the food situation was very gloomy in the Province, the Government came into office. Had they come into office early enough to frame their own budget, had they presented the budget themselves and taken this House into their confidence, things perhaps would have been different. But, as you are aware, they had to accept the Advisers' Government's Budget as it was. They had come into office by the end of April and they had very little time to frame their own budget and formulate their own policies. So, I want the members to remember the time at which they came into office and the situation in the Province also at that time with regard to food and cloth. I for myself was feeling very despondent, Sir, when my leaders took up office by the end of April—how they were going to tackle this food problem. South India was affected very badly and we are thankful that not one individual died of starvation in our Presidency. I will be failing in my duty if I do not pay my own compliment to the Prakasam Ministry for the way in which they handled the food situation and saved the Province

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from starvation (Hear, hear). If now we have presented this supplementary demand for Rs. 9 crores and odd, it is rather unusual. It is because, as I said, they could not envisage many things when they formulated their own budget perhaps in the month of June or July—I do not remember exactly the month. Anyway, food alone is responsible for nearly six crores or so. Hon. Members are perhaps already aware, but I may just read out some of the items:

Payment of bonus to ryots for the early delivery of the surplus from short-term crops, represented Rs. 255.18 lakhs.

Loss incurred on the subsidized sale of maida amounted to nearly Rs. 100 lakhs.

Loss incurred on the subsidized sale of overseas millets came to about Rs. 7.11 lakhs.

Loss due to sale at reduced rates in Malabar and South Kanara of defective quality Sind raw rice, amounted to about Rs. 2.34 lakhs.

Subsidy to meet the extra cost incurred in respect of the movement of 20,000 tons of paddy and rice from the Northern Circars to Malabar, about Rs. 5 lakhs.

Purchase and sale of dehydrated potatoes. Rs. 61.03 lakhs.

Purchase of gunny bags for packing food-grains. Rs. 27.60 lakhs.

Other items are subsidized sale of Balasore boiled rice, additional staff, additional staff for the purchase and distribution of firewood, etc. All these items are under the Food Department. But for the huge sums spent, I am sure the province would not have been saved from the terrible effects of famine. The Government had to rush imports from Brazil and Argentine, from Sind and from Balasore and they had also to purchase gunny bags, so that they could facilitate the transport of rice to the devastated areas. So, Sir, all these alone represent Rs. 6 crores and odd. As regards well and other things, under the "Grow More Food Campaign" they had to incur a lot of expenditure. There was also another important thing; just immediately after the war, the situation in the province was so very dismal with regard to labour trouble, and with regard to the services, that the Government when they presented the last Budget, could not visualize how the Government services were going to react to the new Government because of the post-war period. Whoever expected, Sir, that the services in the Secretariat would stage a "staying in" strike—I do not know what it is—and press their demand for increased salaries on the Government? Whoever expected that the police in the City and elsewhere would demand increased salaries and say that if it was not given to them in proper time, they would go on a symbolic strike or some such thing? So, the situation all round was very gloomy and the Government had to take prompt steps to see that these things were sanctioned immediately and thus save the situation from terrible consequences. All these must be borne in mind, Sir, before the Members can criticise how this expenditure of Rs. 9 crores and odd came to be omitted when the last Budget was presented. I do not want to go into other questions that were raised by hon. Members; they had enough time to discuss the policy of the Government for full four days when the original Budget was presented

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to them and all the criticisms levelled at the original Budget or at the supplementary Budget will be borne in mind by the Government. And God willing, with the full co-operation of all the Members and of all the sections in the Legislature, the Government will be able to carry out some of the programmes adumbrated in the old Budget and also which they are contemplating to frame in the near future. I am also aware how the salaries of teachers are very much on the horizon now and something has to be done with regard to the salaries of teachers. But only recently, the Cabinet Sub-Committee made some recommendations; we have to examine them thoroughly and see also how the provincial finances may be augmented so that we can meet this legitimate demand of increased salaries for teachers. I am fully sympathetic to the demand, and let us see what we can do with regard to that.

"Sir, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao has raised a very pertinent point with regard to the way in which the supplementary demands have been presented. He wanted that the House should be taken into confidence by a resolution moved by the Government just before incurring expenditure. Sir, I would like that the Government should be treated with some little compassion and leniency in this matter. It is not a University body where the Vice-Chancellor or the Syndicate will go before the House and ask the leave of the House for increased expenditure on a particular item if it is not already provided for in the Budget. It is not a district board or a taluk board where at every turn the president has to come before the board and seek the sanction of the board.

"Sir, when a Government has to function, when it is in charge of law and order, when the services have to be placated, when the policemen have to be pleased and labour strikes have to be prevented and when prohibition has to be enforced, we want immediately some staff and things like that. Government cannot wait for the House to be summoned so that it can move a resolution and get their approval. Sir, I want the Government to be treated with some leniency. When the Government represents the majority party, it also means that these Members of Government are the representatives of the people as long as they are on the Treasury Benches. That is the democratic position. Government must be assumed to be the trustees of the finances of the Government and that they incur reasonable expenditure and discharge their duties properly and efficiently. So, we must draw a distinction between the University bodies and other local bodies. You must allow Government to incur this expenditure at the end of the year because there is the Public Accounts Committee, there is the Upper House and there is the Lower House and all these will certainly bang the Government if they go wrong. So, Sir, it is up to you to point out the mistakes but the Government must be allowed a free hand with regard to expenditure during the course of the year on all new services and all new items where the amounts are insufficient and also for meeting the immediate exigencies of the times. It has been the practice not only of this Government,

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Sir, but the Government of India also. The Government of India, when they want to meet any supplementary expenditure, do not come before the House and it is only laid upon the table at the end of the year for discussion. It is a sort of post-mortem examination. Government must be trusted to deal with such items as new services and if the allotment made in the Budget is not sufficient, they should also incur additional expenditure. That has been the practice. I am glad, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, has raised it in a question also and it is coming shortly before the House when the position will be further explained. In this matter, we are not following any bad precedent. It has been the practice from 1937 when the first Congress Ministry was in office. I have nothing more to say except to ask for the fullest co-operation of the Members in trying to keep a watch over the finances of the Government and I hope the Members will guide us by co-operating with us so that unnecessary expenditure can be curtailed. I am aware that during the Advisers' regime, many new departments and many new services were added on to the existing services."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" During the previous ministry also."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" All these items can very well be examined. Let us not forget that we have passed through a terrible war period and the Advisers, whether they are responsible or not, had to take certain responsibilities in maintaining the so-called King's Government and they had, in their own way, added several new departments."

" With regard to the co-operative societies, Sir, Mr. Govindacharyulu referred to them in very strong terms, but may I just tell him that these co-operative societies are going to be financed by the Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank. They have asked for some help from the Government and the Government also is willing to finance them. I am sure that the Madras Provincial Co-operative Bank will immediately sanction the loan applications of these societies so that they may immediately purchase the grain. But just now these societies are at a standstill because they have not got enough money but the Provincial Co-operative Bank will soon come to their aid and I am sure things will go on smoothly as we expect them to go. I can say nothing more about these co-operative societies. It is the policy of the Government to examine these societies frequently and to correct them if they go wrong. Government will also see whether these societies do the right thing by the producer and the consumer. They must be given all encouragement."

" Sir, as regards State Trading Schemes, the Government has to give good subsidies because there a scarcity of things like agricultural implements, etc. The poor ryots have to be given facilities and they must be given these implements at reduced or concessional rates. So, we have to incur some expenditure to meet that loss. Though it is not an actual loss for the Government

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because it is an investment, for the time being, it is a loss to Government if there are no sale-proceeds. That will be shown in the next Budget. So let us not condemn these schemes straightaway. These schemes depend upon the Government because they cannot incur the whole expenditure."

" Sir, the other matters mentioned by the hon. Members will certainly be borne in mind and I am very thankful for the very valuable criticisms offered on the supplementary budget demands."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" On a point of information I did not wish to interrupt the Hon. Minister when he was speaking. I am grateful to the assurance that he has given that teachers are to get increased amounts. Does it mean that until financial additions are made and additional taxes are put, the increased amounts will not be given or that the teachers will be given a priority under the already drawn up Budget so that they might come out of it before any financial adjustments are necessary? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Just now, Sir, I am unable to give any assurance to the hon. the Lady Member because that subject comes under the Education Department. We shall certainly consider the matter and examine the financial aspects involved."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The House stands adjourned till 5-30 this evening."

(The Council re-assembled at 5-30 p.m.)
V.—ANNOUNCEMENT RE MEMBERSHIP OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Mr. R. B. Theobald has resigned his Membership of the Legislative Council. Consequent on his resignation he ceases to be a Member of the House Committee to which he was nominated by the President. Another Member must be nominated. I, therefore, nominate Dr. V. K. John in the place of the hon. Member Mr. Theobald."

VI.—ANNOUNCEMENT RE PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Consequent on the resignation of the Hon. Mr. K. Madhava Menon, who has gone over to the Treasury Bench, from the panel of Chairmen, I nominate the hon. Member M. Narayana Rao Garu, to be on the panel of Chairmen."

VII.—THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES AND LOCAL BOARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947 AS (PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Hon. Minister for Local Administration."

* THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'That the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947 L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration.'

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"Sir, in moving this, I do not want to take up much of the time of this House. I shall go over only the three salient points of this Bill.

"Proviso (ii) under the proposed sub-section (3-B) under sub-clause (iii) of clause 2 of the Bill states that the object of the Bill is to increase the strength of the reserved seats for the minorities; the total number of reserved seats hitherto is one-fourth of the total strength of the council. The intention of the Bill is to make it one-third of the total strength of the municipal council.

"Then item (iii) of sub-clause (1) of clause 5 of the Bill takes power for the appointment of special officers to all municipal councils during the interval between the date of expiry of the term of the councillors previously holding office and the date on which the newly elected councillors will come into office. This is to give an interval for conducting the elections and other things.

"Then clause 7 of the Bill is intended to validate the orders issued by the Government last November postponing the elections to local bodies and municipal councils after the notices had been issued by the election authorities.

"I request the House to accept the motion to take this Bill into consideration at once."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The question is that the Bill further to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, and the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1946 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947) as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration at once."

* **K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:**—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. The two main objects of this Bill are to give increased representation to minorities by way of reserved seats and to appoint special officers.

"Sir, you may remember that on more than one occasion, Members on this side of the House have raised their protest against both these issues, viz., the reservation of seats through joint electorates, and the appointment of special officers.

"I shall first deal with the question of reservation of seats through joint electorates. Sir, when the Government feel that there is necessity for the reservation of seats for minorities, they do grant that certain sections of the population of this Province have to be represented by their own representatives and not by representatives of other communities or other sections. When this is granted, the corollary follows that the person who is to represent a particular section of the people must be able to reflect the will of the people whom he is purported to represent. He must be a personification of the will of the people; otherwise, the purpose of the reservation of seats will be defeated. From this it follows that filling up of reserved seats through joint electorates will be of no avail, and it will not fulfil the purpose in view. We have on more

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than one occasion amply dealt with the subject and I think it is not necessary for me to traverse the ground once again in view of the fact that my friends . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If you think it is not necessary, then why speak? Probably you think it is."

* **K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:**—"But unfortunately, Sir, we have to do it, we are forced to do so on account of the attitude that is being adopted on the other side. Whatever may be said on the floor of this House seems to have no effect at all on the Members of the other side."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"We do not accept it."

* **K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:**—"But the fact is there. Whatever we said had been a cry in the wilderness; but still we feel that we must do our duty and we hope that at least in the future—it may be some years hence—our words will have effect. Therefore, until we succeed in our efforts, we must go on doing our duty without consideration of the fact whether our words have immediate effect or not.

"Well, Sir, when once you say that sections of the population must have seats reserved for them, it necessarily follows that those persons who are to fill those seats must be able to give expression to the will of the people whom they are to represent. That, they can do only if they really represent them, if they are their real representatives. Sir, what is democracy? It is Government of the people, by the people, for the people. Applying the same principle, the person who is to represent a particular section of the people must be one of those people and he must be chosen or elected by the persons whose views he is to represent and whose grievances he has to remedy. Otherwise, he cannot by any stretch of imagination be said to be their representative. The provisions of this Bill are fundamentally opposed to this vital principle of democracy. That is why, Sir, I am constrained to oppose this Bill, on this point."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"You oppose the number being increased?"

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My Hon. Friend says the number may be increased."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"No; the Hon. Minister wants to know if you oppose the increase in the number."

* **K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:**—"That is not my look-out just now; I shall come to it at the proper time.

"Well, Sir, if the Government insists that these seats should be filled only through joint electorate, the result would be similar to that or identical with the result of 'jerry-mandering of elections' as it is known in the West. The person elected would not be the representative of those who are deemed to elect him, but would represent some other persons.

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5-40 p.m. "Another point is this, Sir. These seats are reserved for the purpose of safeguarding the rights of the minorities. If the representatives are not elected by persons whose rights are to be safeguarded, will they be able to safeguard their rights? That is the question I put to the hon. Members. If you allow these people to elect their representative by separate electorates, the persons elected will understand the difficulties and the grievances of the people and they will be guided in their work by the opinions of the people and try to remedy their grievances. It is very often said, Sir, that the European cannot be made to represent the Indians on particular committees. The same principle applies to the issue in question also. If you only analyze the matter, differences do exist between Hindus and Muslims in this country and these differences are far more vital than the differences that we find between any two nations in Europe, for example, between the Portuguese and the Spaniards or the Englishmen and the Irishmen. When you concede these differences, you must also concede that these representatives of the peoples must be elected through the separate electorates only; otherwise, the purpose will not be served. My Hon. Friend asked, what about the increased representation. It may so happen that one or two Muslims elected through joint electorates may—I lay emphasis on the word 'may'—be the true representatives of the people but it cannot be said that all these people elected will be real representatives. That is why I want that there must be separate electorates. We should not depend upon the whims and fancies of voters who belong to a different community and who constitute the majority in a particular electorate, of people who belong to a different community which happens to be a majority. So, Sir, if these persons are not elected through separate electorates, these Muslims must depend upon the goodwill, may be upon the whims and fancies, of the voters belonging to the other communities and so they cannot get their real representatives elected. Sir, this is a matter which affects the very existence of Muslims. So, Sir, we want these separate electorates in order that we may elect our own real representatives to these municipal councils and local boards without the necessity of waiting for mercy or concession from other persons.

"Another point, Sir. These municipal councils and local boards are even more intimately and vitally connected with the everyday life of the people than these legislatures and such being the case, it is more necessary that separate electorates should be constituted for these municipal councils and local boards than for the legislative bodies. Now, Sir, when we have come here through separate electorates to these legislative bodies, it is much more necessary that we must be given the same right in getting into the municipal councils and local boards because the members on these bodies have to come into contact more often with their constituents in their respective wards or circles and how can they go to them unless they command their confidence. Unless they go to them and contact them, how can they know and attempt to

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remedy the grievances of the people in those areas? Such people will not ordinarily be sympathetic to their electors and the electors also cannot and will not go to them for redressing their grievances. That is why, Sir, it is absolutely necessary that there must be separate electorates. If there are no separate electorates, the representatives cannot be said to be the representatives of the Muslims of the locality and their grievances cannot be properly remedied by these representatives. I may quote here the very apt words used by the late Moulana Muhammad Ali in this connexion. He said that persons elected through joint electorates will not be the real representatives of the community but they will be only 'men of straw' from the community. 'Men of straw', these are the words used by the late Moulana Muhammad Ali. These words, Sir, are pregnant with meaning and sum up the entire position.

"Now, Sir, there is no refusing to face realities especially when the whole Government is run on communal lines. Well, Sir, when the Interim Government was constituted, did they not select men on the basis of communities? What was it for? You conceded that each community must be represented on the Interim Government. So also when forming the ministry—the present ministry as well as the previous ministry—you gave representation to the communities. You did not ignore the existence of communities, but on the other hand these communities had to be given representation in the Cabinet. Such being the case, you must apply the same principle with regard to the municipal councils and local boards also. Again, Sir, you may say that true representatives can be elected through joint electorates. But our experience has been otherwise. The other day, when the question of the constitution of the food committees came up before this House, everyone of us recorded our protest on the ground that these food committees would become the replicas of the Congress Committees and that Muslims will not have proper representation on these committees and the results have amply justified our worst fears. There are districts, for example, Tinnevely, South Arcot and Trichinopoly districts—where, I have personally known, there is not a single Muslim elected to any of the district committees. That is also the case with many other district committees. Do you mean to say, Sir, that there is no Muslim capable of becoming a member of these blessed district committees?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Have I said so?"

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I am glad the President is with me."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"When you questioned me saying 'Do you mean to say, etc.' I said 'Have I said so?'"

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"So, Sir, we want our true representatives on these municipal councils and local boards. The true representatives can be secured only through separate electorates and persons elected otherwise than by separate electorates, will not ordinarily represent the Muslims."

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"Now, Sir, whenever we talk of separate electorates, there is one argument that is trotted out against it and that is, that separate electorates will breed communal differences. I would request those friends who say that these electorates have caused communal bitterness just to read the Indian Political History for the last several decades. They will find that separate electorates are not the cause of communal differences but its logical and natural effect. In justification of this, I would say this. In the legislative bodies, both Central and Provincial, Hindus go to the polls and elect their own representatives and Muslims go to the polls and elect their own representatives and there is no communal bitterness at all. So, Sir, I would say that the best method to cure communal bitterness is to give separate electorates and to concede the principle that Muslims should elect their own representatives so that even at the polls there may not be any communal bitterness. The result, so far as the legislative bodies are concerned, has shown that there has not been any communal bitterness."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM:—"If Muslims go to separate polls in local bodies, they will also demand separate seats in those bodies."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Here, Sir, you see how we are sitting. Is there any trouble here? If we had joint electorates all these members would not be here. There may be one or two . . ."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Even with reservation of seats."

5-50
p.m.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think it is better that the hon. Member proceeds with his speech than argue with hon. Members."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Then, so far as separate electorates are concerned, some of my hon. Friends, including my hon. Friend, Mr. K. O. Anthoni, representing the Christian community, expressed the other day their desire for separate electorates at least so far as the Constituent Assembly was concerned."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"I am sorry I should be dragged here."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Even my hon. Friend, Mr. Jagannatham, representing the Scheduled Castes said that he wanted separate electorates on account of the difficulty which his community had to face in the mixed joint electorate and also in view of the fact that the Scheduled Castes have to go through two forms of electorates."

"I do not want to elaborate on the question of reservation of seats, because the President wants to finish the business soon."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"In the interests of all of us."

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* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"There is another handicap in the joint electorates in regard to reservation of seats, so far as the Muslims are concerned. In many of the wards in municipalities and in the circles of district boards, Muslims living in contiguous areas are split up. I know there are several such instances. The result is that Muslims do not form a majority in many of the circles and wards. Let us take one concrete instance. Take for example a place called Kilakkarai in Ramnad district which contains more than 15,000 Muslims. About 10½ miles away from Kilakkarai there is the town of Ramnad which contains more population than Kilakkarai. In between these, about 2½ miles from Kilakkarai and about 8 miles from Ramnad there is one place called Tiruppallani where there are about seven to eight-hundred Hindu voters and Tiruppallani is constituted into a separate circle while Kilakkarai and Ramnad are clubbed together. At no time can a Muslim get elected from that circle though there are 15,000 Muslims, while Tiruppallani with about 900 to 1,000 voters can elect a Hindu member. There are so many other instances like that. Even in the City of Madras, for instance, there is the Mirsahibpet area. A few years ago, the area round about Mirsahibpet was constituted into a separate ward, with the result a Muslim could be elected from that ward since Muslims happened to be in a majority in that ward. Now it has been divided and part of Mirsahibpet is clubbed with Rayapettah and the rest with Mylapore so that in no ward the Muslims form a majority. I ask, Sir, why should not contiguous areas where the Muslims are in a majority be clubbed together and why should they be deliberately separated? Is it not to prevent the Muslims from electing their own representatives from those places?"

"There is another aspect of the matter, Sir, and that is in regard to the previous practice that was in vogue. These Muslim seats were deliberately reserved in wards where Muslims are in a minority and not in wards where they are in a majority. Now I understand that Government want to reserve seats where Muslims form a majority. Of course that is a salutary departure from the old practice and I hope it will be adhered to in all cases. I hear that attempts are being made in certain municipalities to deviate from this new practice to serve the interests of particular individuals. I hope that Government will not encourage such deviations from this practice, and see that at least in those areas where Muslims are in a majority true representatives of the Muslims are elected."

"Then, Sir, my friend said something about more reservation for Muslims. Of course, it is always welcome, because we are in a minority and we want not only to have better and true representation but we must also have adequate representation on those bodies so that our voice may be effectively felt and not become a cry in the wilderness as it happens both in the other House and in this House. It may so happen that though these Members are ultimately to be elected through joint electorates, some of them

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may be true representatives of the people—by chance it may happen. We are anxious that Government should give adequate and sufficient representation to minorities in these bodies, even though they find it difficult to accept our cry and demand for separate electorates.

“ Now in regard to the appointment of Special Officers, Sir, on former occasions also we opposed against this policy. I do not think there is any need for the appointment of Special Officers. Probably there is a lurking suspicion in the minds of hon. Members that because in certain municipal councils, members have been nominated they might interfere with the elections. I must take strong objection to the expression used in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the original Bill which has been circulated. It is stated there; ‘ In order that undue influence is not brought to bear upon any section of the electorate during the next elections to municipal councils, it is desirable as in the case of district boards to place the municipal councils in charge of Special Officers . . . and so on ’. Well, Sir, I cannot understand what this means if it is not a reflection on those members of municipal councils who have been holding office as nominated members—I find that it also applies to members of elected councils? It has been the practice, Sir, throughout the whole world, for members of various bodies who are functioning now, to continue to function until their successors are elected and assume office. That is the ordinary rule of any democracy and why should you depart from that practice in the case of municipal councils and local boards. Supposing there is an election to be conducted for the Legislative Council or Assembly, are you going to say that a Special Officer should be appointed; or, that the Council or the Assembly should be dissolved as otherwise the members of the Council or Assembly will exercise undue influence over the electorate? Sir, it is nothing but casting unmerited slur on the members of the councils concerned. And, how can you say that these people will exercise an undue influence over the electorate? When especially they have been entrusted with the administration of important towns and when they can administer the affairs of their respective areas, can they not be trusted not to exercise any undue influence so far as the elections are concerned? Why can't you let them function whether they are elected or nominated persons? When the Government did not find any objection to entrusting the administration of whole districts and towns in their hands and have not superseded them, why should they want to supersede them only with regard to elections by appointing Special Officers. I cannot understand the logic of it. I do not want to take more time of the House except I oppose the Bill, Sir, for these reasons.”

8 p.m. * MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“ Speaking on the important provision relating to the increased representation for the minorities in the District Municipalities and Local Boards, I must express on behalf of my community, the Indian Christian community, our gratification on the Government's recognizing the need for giving

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increased representation not only to my community but to the other communities as well. The hon. Mr. Ibrahim was referring to me also when he was pleading for separate electorates.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Do not disappoint him.”

* MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“ I am afraid I will have to. Sir, the Indian Christian community is as I remarked in connection with my speech on the budget, is the third largest community in the country and there are over two millions in our province. We have not yet developed to the stage. I hope we never will of demanding a Christianstan. We feel that our duty lies in becoming peace-builders in our country. Whenever there is communal tension as we now find in Northern India, we feel that Indian Christians have a very important role to play. The Indian Christian Community is drawn from the various other communities that reside in this land of ours and so they are in a better position to enter into the mentality and understand the view-points of the other communities. When I say that I do not stand for separate electorates on the floor of this House, I do not certainly ignore the fact that we have had our disappointments in the past. Unfortunately, the major communities have not extended communal justice to the smaller minorities in this country with the result that there is a feeling of insecurity.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know, Sir, through what electorate he is here in this House now? ”

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“ I belong to the Indian Christian community. That does not mean that I should stand up and support the two nation theory in this House.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Give up separate electorate then.”

* MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“ Speaking about our disappointments, I mentioned last time when I was speaking on the Budget the fact that the President of the All-India Catholic Union who happens to be the President of the Joint Committee of Indian Christians, Protestants and Catholics, and also the President of the Catholic Association of the Madras Province was not elected as a member of the Constituent Assembly from this Province. We also know that if we agree to this reservation of seats it is quite likely that members of my community who are nominated by the party in power or their organization are likely to be elected as representatives. We know all that. Still the progressive minds of the community think that we have got a duty to get into the general electorate and play our part in developing a better social conscience in our country.”

“ So, I feel, Sir, that our position is such that we should give our provisional consent to joint electorates with reservation of seats. If representation is to be effective in a democratic constitution, the candidate who enjoys the confidence of the group or the community should be elected. At the same time I realize that it is not wise

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to keep away from the general electorate. That kind of disintegrating tendency is not a thing that will result in good being done to the country as a whole. That is what the best minds of the Indian Christian Community feel to-day. While therefore I give my provisional support to the principles adumbrated in this Bill, I would appeal to the Leaders of the Hindu community to realize that the Indian Christians are politically an important community and that they are not quite satisfied with the results that have so far been obtained in the working of general electorates or joint electorates with reservation of seats. It should be up to the majority communities, especially the Hindu community to realize that the Indian Christian community has got a role to play in this country and to see that the rules and regulations are so made that it would enable the community to elect their true representatives to these local boards and municipalities. We shall watch this experiment with the keenest interest and it will be our painful duty, if say within a year or two we realize that the conditions that obtain in these elections have not permitted of our electing the true representatives of the community, to ask for a change in the electoral system."

SRI S. K. SATAGOPA MUDALIYAR :—" I would submit, Sir, that there should be reservation for the fair sex. The argument that had been adduced by the Mohammedan colleague will apply in this also. Another argument which I strongly urge is that 50 per cent of the seats should be reserved for the fair sex. They represent all the communities. I think that at least in this case Mrs. Mona Hensman will support me."

6-10 p.m. MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" Mr. President, I thought I shall not participate in this debate because I felt it was a matter for men. While appreciating the suggestion of the last speaker, I do feel that women have to stand by their declaration of fifteen years ago of the Lothian Commission that they wanted joint electorates. Moreover they took this stand not only for women but also for men but you will excuse my saying it, that it was the men of this country that upset that procedure. I must congratulate the present Government on bringing a Bill that is going to enlarge the scope of minority representation. I am very glad to be able to say—you will excuse a personal reference in this regard—that those of us who were teachers in colleges and schools are just as fond of our children who are of different communities. We do not say because the school is run by a particular religious body that we are more fond of children of that religion. I have had in my classes, Muslim, Hindu and Christian girls all of whom are as dear to me and all of whom have done just as much and perhaps more than, men who have been students in parallel colleges. I will not mention names; but one of the chief superintendents of Muslim schools in this City was one of my beloved students and I cannot think of any other girl who could have done better. I could multiply instances but I do not want to hold up the House that way. I feel that Mr. Antoni is only voicing the

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opinion of those of us, the Christian community of North India, who have for a long time stood for joint electorates. We may lose; we may have disappointments. We have to endure it because we are training the electorates of the future. We are going to look to nationality and to the scope, wisdom and help that the person can give not only because of religion. I feel that our friends who feel very strongly for separate electorates will bear with me when I say that we are Indians first and that each of our religions makes us the truer citizens of the country and the truer serfs of our country. I must congratulate the Government on their having extending the scope to a quarter and it will be not long before it is made a third and I trust that women will have increased number just as men."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, I feel that I must join hands with my hon. Friend Mr. Ahamed Ibrahim Saheb in opposing this Bill. Though we agree in conclusions, we differ in arguments. I shall take a different line of argument altogether in opposing reservations of seats with joint electorates. I can understand if there is general electorate pure and simple and people of different communities being given the chance to find their place in the municipality or district board on account of their popularity because I do not feel that there will be any such thing as parties in local boards. But I feel that reservation of seats is nothing but an eye-wash. If you want the general interests of the country to be served, there is no need for reservation for any particular community. You want to reserve seats for a particular community in order that they may find representation on that body. If that is the case, I feel that representation should be given to people belonging to that particular community who could really represent that community. By reservation of seats in the general electorate, you are only going to get people who will be subservient to your wishes, particularly in a Province where we are in a minority and the electorate will consist of the majority who do not belong to the community, for whose sake particular seats are reserved. I feel there is no meaning at all in reservation of seats. You can as well say: 'There is only a general electorate if you are popular, you will be elected though you be a Muslim.' I wish we had an atmosphere of that kind. I wish for the old days in our life when a Muslim stood for election without any reservation and he was elected not only by Muslims but by a large majority of Hindus. That was the position some time ago but unfortunately it is not so now. By reserving certain seats for particular communities, you recognize the fact that that situation is not there in which people belonging to minorities can with confidence stand in a general electorate and be elected to municipalities and local bodies. Such being the case, I do not see the reason why you should ask those people to stand and get votes not only from Muslims but also as from non-Muslims and then say that they would be considered as the representatives of the Muslim community. You can give them any number; instead of four, you may even have four hundred.

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6-20
p.m.

Do you honestly believe that those people will represent the community on whose behalf they have been elected? Certainly not. Because they will be elected not by their own community whom they have to represent but by others who will ask them to represent certain interests other than those of the community to which the representatives belong. I can understand your saying that all the seats will be open for any member of any community; that is perfectly logical. But even if you say you are going to give us 75 per cent of the seats in a joint electorate, that will not do. I say that one Muslim if he is elected on a separate electorate will be a better representative than all the 75 coming through the general electorate. (Interruption.) There is no use blinking over facts and saying, at a time when the sun is not shining, that all is sun. The fact has to be faced that people are there on reservation of seats elected by a joint electorate who unfortunately have to yield very important interests of their own community for the sake of people by whose majority votes they had been elected. Therefore, Sir, I say logically this reservation of seats is inconsistent. You can have joint electorate without reservation of seats. That will be an honest proposition and I can quite appreciate it. Have no reservation of seats at all. Ask people to be elected on joint electorate. On account of the popularity of particular individuals, let them be elected, and these people will certainly represent both Hindus and Muslims in as dignified a manner as it is possible for them to represent. If you say 'no', then I say let these communities elect their own representations and not people who will for namesake be elected to represent them. Actually they will not represent those communities, because they will be represented by some other people. Therefore, this is a question which Hon. Ministers have to seriously consider. On account of their majority, I am sure, I am as sure as you are sure and as any other member in this House is sure, that this Bill or any other Bill which may be brought forward by the majority party will certainly become law. There is no doubt about that and in spite of that fact we are crying hoarse. We have been fighting, as you on one occasion pointed out, very valiantly a losing battle. But this fight is certainly going to bear fruit one day or other. Though we are going down, we will not take this lying down. Though we are defeated still we will feel even in defeat there is success and glory. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, I feel that reservation of seats with joint electorates is quite an inconsistent proposition. Either there should be only joint electorates and people—Hindus or Muslims—should be elected, or there should be separate electorate, and the electorates should be given a chance to elect their own representatives. Sir, this is one point. Now I come to the other point. Whatever may be the experience of my Christian friends or other friends, this has been our bitter experience, Sir. In this House, and in any other part of India, the present Congress Governments are anxious either to get the real representatives of the people in the Government or to discard them altogether. If it is only a question of giving representation to Muslims, I would

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have seen somebody, some one from the Muslims, sitting on the other side with my hon. Friend Mr. Reddiar and the other Hon. Ministers. They could have easily nominated somebody to the Council and of course that could have been done earlier. They could have said 'we want a Muslim; we want Muslim representation.' So far as the Ministry is concerned there is no reservation of seats. Why? The reason is apparent. The reason is that the Congress Governments feel that if anybody is nominated or if anybody is brought by their franchise or by their electorate or by their influence that man cannot be considered to be a representative of the Muslims. Therefore, Sir, no Muslim has been taken in. If it was possible for the Congress, before this Government came, the previous Government could have done it. Somebody could have been nominated and he would have taken a seat on the other side as a Muslim Minister. The fact that you have not done it is conclusive proof that you feel that a Muslim who is not elected by the Muslims, a Muslim who is not elected by separate electorate, a Muslim who is not elected by the franchise of the Muslim voters, even though he may be nominated by the Congress Party, even though he may be taken as Minister, still he will not be in a position to represent the Muslim interests, Muslim feelings and so on. That being the case, I do not understand how Muslims whatever may be their number—whether they are 10 or 20 or 30 or even 90 per cent—if they are elected on joint electorate, will be able to represent the Muslims. If you want that they should represent only general interests, then have no reservation of seats at all. These people who will be elected on general electorate will be no better than people who some time back were appointed by the British Government, and who were given high offices for namesake. They were made mere figure heads. They were made responsible for the administration of a whole Province, and yet they were sitting like lifeless dolls without having any real power in their hands, and the whole string was pulled behind by somebody else, and these people were simply signing machines. Such being the case, Muslim representatives, or any representatives, of any community, if they are to be elected by the joint electorate system, cannot be the real representatives of that community. I say, and I still maintain, that if you want to have representation of all the people, then no reservation of seats is necessary. In a joint electorate I can stand, and if you have confidence in me, you can vote for me. That is the point which is to be very seriously considered. My hon. Friend Mr. Anthoni said that the Christian community is going to bridge the gulf between the various communities. Sir, I have got a number of Christian friends. I myself was educated in a Christian institution. I know their catholicism is proverbial. We shall take pride in the fact that Mr. Anthoni and the Christian community are going to be the bridge-builders between the various communities. But, Sir, I have an ambition. I do not know how far that ambition is going to be fulfilled. I do not know whether it is a reality or it is going to be a reality. I have got the ambition, and that ambition is that we in this Province, you and I,

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should be the bridge builders throughout the whole of India. I want this Province to give a lead in all matters, whatever may be the madness of people outside fighting like mad men. We, as sensible people, Hindus and Muslims in this Province as I have said on many an occasion, should set an example and show to the world that we are capable of adjustments, that we can understand and appreciate the feelings of either side, that Hindus can appreciate the feelings of Muslims and Muslims can appreciate the feelings of Hindus, that we are in a position to disabuse the minds of the different communities on account of our toleration, on account of our yielding to their wishes, and on account of our yielding to show that their suspicions are proved incorrect. Therefore, Sir, I am very anxious that the Hon. Ministers on the other side should realize this position and see that Muslims are given satisfaction that the representatives who will be elected to represent them in the local bodies and municipalities will be people who will really represent their interests.

"One more point, Sir, and I shall be done. That is with regard to the Special Officers."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Enough has been said already."

6-30
p.m. ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I shall finish in one sentence, Sir. In any democratic country, whether it is here or anywhere else, it is on the basis of public confidence that people work. This Ministry is here on that basis. I wish this Ministry long life. Supposing these people go out resigning their office, will not the Governor ask them to continue the administration until some other people come in? Such being the case, why should our friends on the other side say 'well; we do not have confidence in the people who are there; we want to have people who are above them.' Sir, what sort of Special Officers are they going to appoint? Why should there be want of confidence in our own people? Whatever party we may belong, let us not think in terms of party. The Congress party must be above all these things. I want the Congress party not to be so narrow-minded as to think that other people will interfere in elections and try to bring in other people who will not suit to the ideas of Congress. That is perhaps the whole difficulty. Therefore I want our friends to have confidence in our own people.

"Then, Sir, with regard to special officers. Who are going to be appointed as special officers? I do not know what the idea of Government is, and how they are going to be designated? If there are going to be special officers, let them be appointed from among non-official gentlemen, not from people who will be under the influence of the Government. Let them be non-officials who will be appointed to these places, and let them be from various communities, people belonging to Hindu community, the Christian community and the Muslim community. Let them be selected or nominated from all communities, so that all communities may have confidence in them.

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"Sir, I do not think much is needed to be said on this Bill. If this Bill is to be passed into law I am sure it will not give proper representation to my community."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I regret to say I cannot sympathize with the point of view of my hon. Friend, Mr. Farookhi. His whole point of view is based in the belief in the two-nation theory, to which he and his party cling. So they will ask for separate arrangement in every proposal. I am surprised my good friends talk as if they have come down to this place from somewhere. So there is no use trying to convince people who believe in that way. I wish to point out why separate electorate is not necessary to safeguard their rights and remedy their grievances, as long as representation to their community as such is guaranteed with reservation of seats in joint electorates. (Mr. Abdul Latif Farookhi: 'That is where we differ.') He and I agree that reservation of seats should be removed. To that extent it is a step in the right direction. But while I want to progress, Mr. Farookhi want to regress. (Laughter.) While I want to take a long view, he wants to look back; while I want to go a step forward, he wants to take one step back. (Mr. Abdul Latif Farookhi: I go back so that I may go forward and force on. (Laughter.) I am almost amazed how this question of separate electorate comes in here. It will arise only in the City Municipality Bill. This tendency to separate is quite foreign to municipal life. Because all the interests there are common to all communities. The other day I was reading the speech of the Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly on this Bill, because I wished to know his point of view; and the example he gave of how the interests of his community would be affected was somewhat curious. He said he would find the whole place strewn with cowdung-water against the sentiments of the Muslims. He quoted this as an example, as he had no other examples to quote. In municipal life our interests are common. We drink the same kind of water, we have the same kind of quarters to be swept, occupied by them by Muslim or Hindu or any other community. In fact there are no conflicting interests in the administration of local bodies. Merely because a particular gentleman comes from one particular electorate, so long as he continues to be a member of a particular minority community, how is he going to better that particular community. (Mr. Abdul Latif Farookhi: By crying hoarse!) You can do that even when you come in through joint electorates. Sir, there are no separate interests as far as civic life is concerned. It is quite different in higher spheres, where fishes and loaves of office play an important part even in the best of democratic countries. It is very difficult to convince my friends. We only regret that they distrust all other communities. It is a pity this distrust is allowed to grow instead of my good friends using their influence to arrange and see the other side of things. Unfortunately I am afraid they are allowing their influence more to see the bad side of communal life.

[Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao] [29th March 1947]

"Sir, I am also against special officers. We have discussed that question very often, and so here, I will make only a passing reference to it. Let me express the hope they will not bring in outsiders. As I have already said on the last occasion this is only a mere bill to provide for the postponement of elections. No contentious provisions have been introduced in this Bill. It is merely intended to extend the life of the local boards beyond 31st March 1947. If Government want to have any alterations either in the number of members or in the method of elections that should be done by a comprehensive Bill dealing with all aspects of the matter, I wish my friends had not raised the contentious points. Perhaps it has been introduced in the City Municipality Bill and so they raise that here also. If my friends want to have the number of seats increased for their community by half the present total number, let them ask for it. Perhaps I will support them. But here in the present Bill there is no mention about the method of election. I want to raise a point of order—Of course—when the time comes perhaps you will have to give your ruling."

6-40 P.M. * DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Sir, in rising to speak on this Bill one feels that one is not in an atmosphere of reality. The Bill will be passed without any amendment, however much we may press our views. I have several times said that all parties should have an effective voice in the shaping of Bills which pass through this House. Now that we have three Members of this House as Ministers, including the Prime Minister, I hope the Government will take the feeling of this part of the House into consideration, about the unreal atmosphere in which Bills are brought here in the shaping of which we have no hand at all, either in the Select Committee or in the House, because it has to go through without any amendment."

"Having said that I do not think, Sir, that the claim made by the Hon. Minister, Mr. Chandramouli, that the main object of this Bill is to give larger representation to the minorities is correct. Sir, section 7, sub-section (1) of Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, provides that the municipal council shall consist of such number of councillors as may be notified by the Provincial Government in accordance with a particular table mentioned in the section. It says that if the population exceeds 100,000 the number of members shall be 36. Sub-section (2) of section 7 provides that all the councillors of every municipality shall be elected. Sub-section (3), that is the sub-section which is now being amended, provides that in any municipality, the Provincial Government by notification, from time to time reserve seats for Muslims, Indian Christians, Members of the Scheduled Castes, Europeans, Anglo-Indians or women and the determination of the number of such seats is left to the Government. Then there is the proviso that the total number of seats so reserved shall not exceed one-fourth of the strength fixed for the municipal council under sub-section (1). It is provided further that no seat shall be

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reserved for any of the communities mentioned in clauses (a) to (e) (i.e., excluding women) if at the last census such community constituted more than one-half of the total population of the municipality. Sir, in sub-section (4) it is also provided that in reserving seats for the communities mentioned in clauses (a) to (e) of sub-section (3) the Provincial Government shall have due regard to their number and importance. Discretion is given to the Government to allot the number of seats among the Europeans, Anglo-Indians, Women, Members of the Scheduled Castes and Indian Christians, etc."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The main object is that the 'one-fourth' should be increased to 'one-third'."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"I am contending, Sir, that it is not much of an advance. Nothing contained in sub-section (3) shows that the members of any community or women for whom seats have to be reserved there in a municipal council can be sure that the seats will be reserved or how many will be reserved. Sir, this is the existing position."

"Sir, the Government have introduced a Bill. It says that in the same section the following sub-sections shall be inserted after sub-section (3), namely :—

'(3-A) The total number of seats reserved under sub-section (3) shall not exceed one-fourth of the strength of the municipal council as notified in sub-section (1).'

This is the first proviso itself in the old Act which they have taken out and incorporated in the new Bill. I was going to show, Sir, that this is a clumsily worded Bill. In my own experience as a lawyer I have never come across an Act which is more clumsily worded than this. How it is clumsily worded, Sir, I will show. In sub-section (3-A) they have taken one of the provisos saying that the reserved seats shall exceed one-fourth of the strength of the municipality. Next sub-section (3-B) says :—

'(3-B) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3-A), the Provincial Government may, if they think fit by notification, fix the total number of seats reserved in any municipal council in excess of the number admissible under sub-section (3-A).'

Thus sub-section (3-B) deletes sub-section (3-A) in the same section. It seems to be very absurd, Sir, they should have deleted sub-section (3-A) and inserted sub-section (3-B). Now sub-section (3-B) gives power to the Government to override sub-section (3-A). And Sir, notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3-A), i.e., the one-fourth maximum, the Provincial Government may, if they think fit, by a notification fix the total number of seats reserved in any municipal council, in excess of that number. The discretion is still with the Government. That is why, Sir, I say there is no advance at all. This section (3-B) which deletes sub-section (3-A) in the same section is conditioned by two provisos. One is :

[Dr. V. K. John] [29th March 1947]

'Provided that the strength of the municipal council is notified under sub-section (1) is also increased by the same number as that by which the total number of reserved seats is increased and is specified in the notification aforesaid.'

Sir, King's language is murdered. It is very difficult to understand what this proviso means. It will take two hours for a man to interpret what it is; and then it goes on to say:

'and the total number of reserved seats is so fixed as not to exceed one-third of the strength of the municipal council as increased under clause (i).'

It is not that Government wish to give one-third to the minorities. It says, it shall not exceed one-third. They can fix it at one-eighth, or at one-fourth or one-fifth. They can have any number. It is left to the Government to fix and allot the number to any community. It is a general discretion either to advance on one-fourth or to keep it at one-fourth. I say that, if the Government's intention is so to increase the number of representatives of the minority communities, surely they should have raised it to 'one-third' and provided that one-third shall represent the minority communities.

"Now, Sir, I say there is no real advance. Besides, this is a clumsy piece of legislation, one section deleting another section.

"Sir, in 1947, they should not have copied the provisions of the 1920 Act. That we are divided into communities is a fact which cannot be denied by anybody. There are four alternatives before the Government if they want to solve the problem of communalism. The first is that which they have adopted, what they call 'joint electorates' with reservation. Now, Sir, it has been stated and forcibly stated by the Muslim members in this House that it does not give representation to the minorities at all. It is only giving representation to the majority community. They say: 'We will appoint whom we like.' Sir, the Executive Councillors in this Province were Indians and a claim was made that Indians constituted the Government as they were in the Executive Council. It was then stated that those Indians were elected or selected or nominated or appointed by the Britisher, a foreign Government, and they did not represent Indians at all. That was the contention made by the Congress always. Now Sir, my Muslim friends are afraid that anybody appointed by another person, although he is an Indian, or a Muslim or an Indian Christian, certainly we will not be giving representation to the minority community. And, therefore, I agree that, if the Government's object is to give representation to the minority community, this is not the way to do it.

"The next alternative is, as my hon. Friends pleaded, separate electorates. I feel, Sir, and I am strongly convinced about it, that it is the separate electorates that has accentuated communalism in this country. The day on which separate electorate system was introduced in this country we were lost. Any solution of the communal problem in my opinion must be one that effaces communalism in the long run, one which will not perpetuate communalism.

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It is not in the interests, in my opinion, of any minority community to have separate electorates at all, because it perpetuates communalism. It keeps them in a group and they are in a minority always. What then is the alternative? I say there are two more alternatives. One is to abolish reservation for minority communities altogether. It may be that in the beginning there will be a feeling of discrimination. I think communalism is passing from this country. The average man is not communally minded. Sir, some men may suffer in the beginning, but we must take a long view. In a few years, in 10, 15 or 20 years, it may be there will be no communalism in the country. And in the life of a community or a nation, 10, 15 or 20 years is nothing at all. We must take a long view of the matter. In the year 1947, a Congress Government which apparently stands for non-communalism should have brought forward a bill deleting section 7 of the District Municipalities Act.

"Now they have come forward and said: 'We feel that a larger representation is required for the minority communities; therefore, we take the power to raise the number to one-third under certain conditions. The minority communities have great faith in the Congress Government. Therefore, the Government have taken the power to increase the number.' But this is as if they have promised nothing at all. In my opinion, the Congress Government should not have felt that there is need for representation of minority communities in 1947. They should have boldly said: 'We stand for all communities, we are not communally minded at all and therefore we delete the section. If this is not possible, I suggest they should have introduced the system of election and selection. Suppose in a Municipality 80 per cent of the inhabitants are Hindus, then let 80 seats for the Hindus. Suppose 10 per cent are Muslims, let 10 seats for Muslims and so on. Multiply the number of seats by 3 or 4 or 5. Let the Hindus for instance select 5 times the number assigned to them, i.e., 400 members, and let the Muslims select 5 times the number assigned to them, i.e., 50. Then, let all the other communities elect the required number of candidates from out of the numbers selected. The result will be that every member returned to the Council will have the confidence not only of one community but of all communities. Although the election will be a bit cumbersome, we can certainly go through it and in course of time you will find that no communal-minded person will be elected. He may be selected, because the selection is by his community. But it may be that members of the Hindu community may select an Indian Christian, because it does not mean that the representative must belong to the same community. I represent in the High Court many Hindus and Muslims and more non-Indian Christians than Christians. As their representative they have confidence in me. The Hindus may have a Christian as their representative."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have a feeling that the hon. Member is going much beyond the principle of the Bill."

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ We have been side-tracked into a discussion of joint and separate electorates. If the procedure of selection and election was adopted, we should have no communalism at all and everybody elected will represent all the communities, Hindu, Muslim and Christian. Therefore communalism will disappear in course of time. Any solution of the communal problem should be one which will not perpetuate communalism but efface communalism. I appeal to my hon. Friends: Let them not talk of separate electorates. We are on the threshold of freedom and we should all march as one nation in our political, public and economic life without any difference of caste, creed or colour. If we who are in this Council give a lead to our communities, that we do not belong to one community but to all communities, the future of the country is safe. I appeal to my hon. Friends not to ask for separate electorates. I appeal to the Government not to introduce any further reservations, because the reservation does not mean anything at all as it will be said that the reserved seats will be occupied by dummies and there will be quarrel over that. The principle of the Bill is wrong and it should be dropped.

“ Again, Sir, it has been clumsily drafted. I do not know who is responsible for the last section which says :

“ If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Provincial Government may, as occasion may require, by order do anything which appears to them necessary for the purpose of removing this difficulty.”

“ Do anything . . . as occasion may require ” is a thing which is unparalleled in the history of legislation. The Government takes power to do anything by order if they find there is some difficulty. If there is a provision like that, they will find any number of difficulties and they will pass orders to remove those difficulties. No Legislature could vest in the Government of the country such an arbitrary power to remove any difficulty merely by passing an order. This is a clumsy piece of legislation. Act was introduced a few months back and it has again been amended. Sir, this Government has not got the assistance of men qualified to draft bills, study the existing Acts and put into proper wording the intentions of the Government. I say, Sir, that this Bill ought to be dropped. I know that this is an unreal atmosphere. If I plead that the Bill should be dropped and even if they are convinced that it should be dropped, there is the question of prestige. The Bill has been passed by the Assembly and it should be passed by the Council. I ask you, Sir, whatever influence you may have as President of the Council, to put pressure on the Government and make them agree to have joint select committees at least so that we may have some voice in shaping the Bills which have to be passed through this House.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The Hon. Minister . . . ”

* THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“ Sir, I thank the House for the constructive criticisms and valuable suggestions . . . ”

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“ THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Before the Hon. Minister for Local Administration replies, may I say a few words? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I only said : ‘ The Hon. Minister ’. ”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ The hon. Members Mr. Ibrahim Sahib and Mr. Farookhi Sahib said that the object of the Government in the appointment of special officers was to hit at the nominated councils nominated by the previous Government because we could not trust them to influence the elections. I shall give some figures which will speak for themselves. There are now 24 nominated councils and 57 elected councils. This Bill is going to affect both the 57 elected and the 24 nominated councils. The 57 elected councils are ‘ Congress ’ councils and if it was a matter of trying to influence the elections in our favour, it would have been better to retain the 57 councils. It is therefore very uncharitable to say that this is an attempt to abolish nominated councils alone.”

* THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“ Mr. President, Sir, While thanking the House for its constructive criticism and valuable suggestions, I am compelled to differ from my hon. Friends, Mr. Ibrahim Sahib and other Muslim Friends. The object of this Bill is to increase the representation of minorities. It has nothing to do either with the electorate or with the franchise or the electoral areas or any such thing. So much of the criticism levelled against the Bill is not really within the scope of this limited amending Bill. I am sure the whole House has agreed that the objects of the Bill are necessary, but there have been one or two criticisms levelled against the Bill. My hon. Friend Dr. John said that instead of bringing this clumsy or hasty piece of legislation, it would have been better. If the Bill had been comprehensive and a little more specific and clear. I do agree with my hon. Friend and I assure him that it is the object of the present Government to see that such a comprehensive bill, without complications, a simple easy and effective bill without affecting any community or section and as a matter of fact giving full and satisfactory representation to the whole population may be brought forward at an early date.”

“ I request the hon. Members through you, Sir, to bear with me so far as the other points are concerned. Separate electorates and other things mentioned by our friends have nothing to do with the present Bill. I only appeal to our Muslim friends that a day might come when we will have to feel as one, work together, live together and not think in terms of separate communities, separate electorates and so on. With these words, I request the House to accept the motion.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I now put the question to the House. The question is that the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once.”

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The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration at once.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member Mr. K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim has given notice of two amendments to clauses (2) and (3). I am afraid both the amendments are out of order.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I explain, Mr. President. The Statement of Objects and Reasons says that the Government consider it desirable to have power to increase the representation provided for minority communities. My point is that this Bill does not at all provide for proper representation. My amendments seek to provide proper representation.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Rule 60 (1) of the Madras Legislative Council Rules reads as follows :—

‘ An amendment must be relevant to, and within the scope of, the subject matter of the Bill or motion to which it relates.’

This Bill is an amendment to the existing Acts. The cardinal principle running through the existing Acts is that elections to the existing local boards, municipalities and other local bodies should be on the principle of joint electorates with reservation of seats. The provisions of the Amending Bill do not go beyond this object. The only object envisaged by the Bill is to raise the reservation from one-fourth to one-third if the Government thinks it necessary. If the amendments of the hon. Member are accepted, the principle of the existing Acts, that is joint electorates, will have to be modified, and separate electorates will have to be brought in in the place of joint electorates. The present amendments are to Clauses 2 and 3 of the Bill. The sections of the existing Acts which deal with the method of election and the method of division into circles and wards are Section 43 of the Madras District Municipalities Act and Sections 47 and 49 of the Madras Local Boards Act. It is not proposed to amend them now. So even if these amendments are accepted, Section 43 of the District Municipalities Act and Sections 47 and 49 of the Local Boards will remain as they are. It will mean that while Clauses 2 and 3 of the amending Bill advocate separate electorates, the real, effective sections of the Acts quoted above do not provide for separate electorates. The Acts will become contradictory in their provisions and will become absolutely unworkable. These amendments not only go beyond the scope of the Acts, but also materially vary the very scope of the Bill altogether. I am therefore constrained to rule these two amendments out of order.”

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clause 4 was put and carried.

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Clause 5.

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I move—
‘ In clause 5 (1) (i) for the words “ may be different from ” the words “ shall be the same as ” shall be substituted.’ ”

The object of my amendment is that there should be no interregnum between the date of the newly elected councillors coming into office and the date of expiry of the term of office of the existing councillors. Then the need for appointment of Special Officers will not arise. I have explained the reasons already in the first reading stage, and I do not think it necessary to explain the amendment in detail.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I second the amendment, Sir.”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“ I oppose the amendment, Sir.”

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 5 (1) (iii).

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Sir, I move—
‘ Clause 5 (1) (iii) shall be omitted.’ ”

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K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I second the amendment.”

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“ Sir, I rise on a point of order. The effect of this amendment is the same as the appointment of a Special Officer for the period after 31st March.”

The amendment was put and lost.

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Sir, I move the following amendment :—

‘ At the end of clause 5 (1) (iii), the following proviso shall be inserted :—

“ Provided that the Government shall have the power to extend the term of office of the councillors previously holding office until the date on which the newly elected councillors will come into office.” ’

“ This amendment is consequential to my first amendment.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I second the amendment.”

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 5 (3).

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Sir, I move the following amendment :—

‘ Clause 5 (3) shall be omitted.’ ”

[K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur] [29th March 1947]

"This has also reference to the Special Officer."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 5 (4).

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, I move the following amendment:—

"Clause 5 (4) shall be omitted."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I second it."

The amendment was put and lost.

Clause 5 was put and carried.

Clause 6 was put and carried.

Clause 7 was put and carried.

Clause 8 was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I now move—

'That the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly be passed into law.'"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The question is that the Bill be passed into law."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to oppose the Bill at this stage and at this late hour for reasons of my own . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I hope the hon. Member will not keep us very late."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"The question of joint electorates and reservation of seats is a hoax pure and simple and is a sort of crafty camouflage practised on the minority communities. Time was in the history of local bodies when there was no reservation of seats at all. There was such a time for valid and good reasons. It was thought that, because there was consensus of opinion, it was fit and proper to safeguard the interests of the various minority communities and that reservation of seats should be made. I may tell you that many of us were Congressmen in those days; we worked together and we were like a pair of tongs; we were collaborating . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I hope you did not squeeze anybody coming between."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"We co-operated together. We gave a very fair trial. But as ill-luck would have it, we were at cross-purposes and cross-roads."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Never too late to mend."

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DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"It is never too late for Congressmen to mend. If they grant our reasonable request and grant us separate electorates we are one. The object of both parties is one. The policy of all of us should be one; we should be one with them. But here oneness is of a different kind. All of us have read of Easop's Fables—the wolf and the lamb. The wolf wanted to be one with the lamb, the lamb wanted the same thing; but the wolf said 'I will swallow you, we will become one.' There will be no question of two bodies; there will be one body and one soul. In that fashion the Congress people now want us to be one with them. Why should they fight shy of separate electorates? I cannot understand. They are the biggest party in the country. Whatever may be the conditions and whatever may be the number of reservation of seats, there is no room for any apprehension at all. Why should they not give us separate electorates? I should say that they are consistently inconsistent in this matter. There are higher bodies such as Legislatures where this principle has been upheld and is in practice. We are having separate electorates in the higher spheres even in the highest bodies. Why should they not extend the same principle even to local bodies, I cannot understand. It is unanswerable I should say. They say local bodies are the field where you should practise joint electorates and not separate electorates. What are the valid reasons? I put the question straight to the Treasury Benches . . ."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I rise to a point of order. The hon. Member is referring to separate electorates."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"He is opposing the Bill."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"There is no consistency at all in the practice of the Congress party. They would not lose anything by granting us separate electorate. The Muslims stand first and foremost among the minority communities. Next come Harijans. Thirdly there is the Christian community. Among Harijans also there is great clamour for separate electorate. Adi-Dravidas from the great bulk of Scheduled Classes; they want separate electorate. My hon. friend, Mr. Anthoni, is absent now. The Christian community have got a purpose behind joint electorates. I will explain how it is . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member need not take the trouble."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"I think the Christian community would have asked for a Christianstan, first and foremost, if only their population had not been scattered and distributed here, there and everywhere all over the Presidency and all over the country. Because they cannot ask for any particular area to be declared as Christianstan, therefore they are at their wits end and they have no other go, but to throw in their lot along with the majority community."

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p.m.

[Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib] [29th March 1947]

"Putting all the minority communities, if we count their number, I think they will be over 50 or 60 per cent of the total population of either this Province or of the whole country. So, the whole country is clamouring for separate electorate. If all these minorities are put together, they become the majority and the majority becomes the minority. Therefore I say that when the majority wants separate electorate, they have no business to deny us, saying that they are the majority and that we are the minorities and that we cannot have that.

"Sir, I do not want to keep the House very long. I have got one point here to say, before I come to the question of special officers. Sir, this question is against the very fundamental principles of democracy, because here in India, the population is not at all homogenous. Where there is a heterogeneity of population in a land, you cannot have the farce of a democracy unless you grant what the minorities want for themselves. So that is the greatest blunder some people make in saying that in democracy, why should there be any separate electorate at all. I once again impress upon the House that there is no homogeneity in the population at all.

"As regards the appointment of special officers, the Hon. Minister said that there are a number of Congress municipalities also and therefore it is not their intention to spot out only nominated councils. But what I would like to say is whether they are nominated municipal councils or Congress-elected municipal councils, it would be in keeping with the spirit of democracy if the present councils are allowed to go on, because all the councils, I should say, have done their best in carrying out the administration. If we read the annual administration report issued by the Government, we can see that no municipality has been branded as a bad one. And therefore, are not many heads better than one? Is the Government going to guarantee that the special officers that are to me appointed will be angels and better than angels?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The councils will have nothing to do with elections."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"I maintain, Sir, that these municipalities may be allowed to carry on the administration till the elections are over. Beyond that, I have nothing to say."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. President, Sir, even at this third reading, I am sorry I have to oppose the motion. My hon. Friend behind me, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao was advising the Government not to concede or not yield to the Muslim demand for separate representation. It is only this advice and this tendency on the part of the majority community for the last several years that has brought the political situation to this position. They have been denying the right of the minorities to be represented by the persons of their choice for some reason or other. I do not wish to wash the dirty linen or rake up old controversies on the floor of

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this House regarding separate electorate. As a matter of fact, Mr. President, let me say on the floor of this House that Muslims are not only non-communalists, but they are nationalists, nay they are internationalists. We practice this every day and it has been our practice for the last 400 years. We have no barriers of community and no geographical barriers. To us the whole of humanity is one brotherhood. My friend over here knows it. From our infancy we were taught that the whole human race on the face of the earth sprung from one mother and one father. Whether he be a Brahmin or a Musalman, whether he be a Negro in Africa, or a Red Indian of America, or an Englishman or a Siberian or a Chinese, we believe that they are all human beings, they are all brothers. Our only difference is in the matter of faith. I have no objection to eat from another's plate, or in another's house, or even from the house of the meanest human being, whom they call Chandala. I have no objection to eat with him, except some prohibited food. Because it is prepared by a Chandala, I do not reject it. I do not call him a Chandala, but I call him my brother. There is no communalism among Muslims. Then, how has communalism come here? Who is responsible for such a state? Was I do not want to cross swords with them at this late hour. Was it not that very man who now fights for Pakistan that was working with you before? What does our Quai-de-Azam Jinnah gain for himself by asking for Pakistan, I ask? Has he axe to grind? No. The whole of India knows that even the highest position in India was at his feet. The highest position to which an Indian in those days could aspire, was at his asking. Did he go in for that? Such a man who was fighting with Muslims against the Muslim League has been driven to this position to-day. Who is responsible for it? If he had been aspiring for any high position and if he had been disappointed in the matter, then one could very well say, that because Mr. Jinnah was disappointed he has been misled. The late Gopalakrishna Gokhale . . ."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I did not drag in Mr. Jinnah's name at all when I was talking about separate electorate, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Why do you object to Mr. Uppi Sahib referring to Mr. Jinnah?"

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I was just mentioning Mr. Gopalakrishna Gokhale, one of the greatest sons of this country of whom every one should be proud of, was the righthand man of Mr. Jinnah. When the British Government agreed to take an Indian on the All-India Executive Council, it was none other than the late Gopalakrishna Gokhale and Mr. Jinnah who went and did tapas before Lord Sinha who was reluctant to accept the post. I think, Sir, it is all in your memory; we were all young and I remember these two persons went to Calcutta and almost did tapas before Lord Sinha in order to persuade him to accept. That gentleman was reluctant to give up his very lucrative practice as a lawyer. But at last after two months' persuasion, Mr. Jinnah told

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Lord Sinha—he was not Lord Sinha at that time—‘We have been doing tapas at your feet for the last two months, not because we wanted to get anything from you, but because we wanted to protect the Indian interests and prestige. Here is the opportunity; you are the only person in India to take up that post; we want you to take it up; are you not prepared to sacrifice your practice for the country's sake and take up that post.’ Even later on, I suppose, Mr. Jinnah could have got many things. Such a man about whom that great lady Mrs. Sarojini has written—that Jinnah is the ambassador of unity—such a man has been driven away. Under what circumstances? Your refusal to reasonable and legitimate demands of Mussalmans. Sir, what did force Mr. Jinnah to demand Pakistan? It is the statement that when Muslims wanted to co-operate with you, to work with you in the Government in 1937 the Congress leaders told us in our face ‘we do not know you, who are these Muslims?’ ‘We know only two people, the Congress and the Britisher.’ This was said at a time when the Britisher is here, when his cannons and his arms are here when you require our co-operation and help to fight him. And when he goes, where, I ask, is the guarantee that you will not ask: ‘If you want a share, you have to become this, you have to become that, give up your faith.’ Why not? You want our help, our co-operation, but when we ask you for our legitimate share you refuse it. In 1937 when we asked that, in coalition Governments, one or two Muslim representatives be taken then, none other than that great leader Jawaharlal Nehru wrote, what you may remember. ‘We do not know the Muslims. We knew only two, the Congressmen and Britishers.’ It was at that time my leader also wrote. In India, ‘not two but three’. There are a hundred millions of Muslims also. That has led to the present situation. The more you deny, the greater will be the demand—that is human nature. You refuse to a child a toy or anything; that moment it cries and revolts in its own way. We are afraid of you. For the present, in this Presidency, I say the position is this: you admit and you concede that we Muslims must be represented. How? ‘Representation is,’ you say, ‘by our selecting you.’ You concede the right, by reservation, to our representation; but you say we should not have the right of choice of our own representative; what you say is that we should be represented by a person whom you choose. What I say is: ‘No: that is not the proper method of representation: we must select our own representative.’ If you concede this reasonable demand all this trouble and unnecessary agitation will go. If you concede that, heavens will not fall or earth will not go up. What is the position to-day? These speeches in this House opposing our demand will only estrange our relationship. We say that if you want co-operation of Muslims allow us to elect our representatives. In that case, you may say ‘All right, but you will get only 6 per cent.’ We say ‘all right: we will be satisfied even with that with a true representative than by larger number of diluted ones

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we have no trust in the weak diluted representatives chosen by you.’ (Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib: ‘Pseudo-representatives’.) Yes. Either the Government do not know, or they do not care to understand the correct position. Let me give the House some instances to show the real nature of representation chosen by joint electorates. In the last district board elections in Malabar, some ten years there were eight or nine reserved seats and the Muslim majority areas the right to contest the general seats was also there. Two Muslims from general seats also came and in both of them did not know even to sign their names. Such were the persons selected as Muslim representatives for the elections. I do not want to take you to higher levels or to a bigger arena on this matter.

“I do not want to retain the House for a long time but I wish specifically to state here that we require separate electorates. Why are you denying this to the people you have to deal with the day to day life of human beings and not with political ideologies and philosophies. Your policy is not going to obliterate from our minds the evils that are inherent in the joint electorates so far as minorities are concerned.

“Again, Sir, we have come here through separate electorates and there is no quarrel here. But, if we had been elected by joint electorates, during the time of election, all sorts of communal troubles would have taken place and there would have been bickerings even after the elections were over and they would have continued until the next elections. So, I say, let us be agreed on this matter. You elect your own representatives and we elect our own representatives. This principle will be conducive to a happy living. My hon Friend, Dr. John, told you that the whole Christian community do not want separate electorates. He is a gentleman, Sir, who is hailing from Travancore. Is not Travancore Christians demanding separate electorates? In this Province because they are unfortunately a small minority scattered all over, they do not consider it practicable and so do not demand separate electorate. The other day, I was listening to the debate in the other House, and even the Harijans there have begun to be vociferous in demanding for separate representation and due representation if their just demands would not be met. Then, Sir, how can you deny the Harijans or even the Christians their demand with regard to separate representation. If you want to concede the principle of separate electorates, do so; but do not ask us to come to you saying, we will discuss the matter and so on, because we know, the result will be worse and the remedy will be far worse. Sir, with these words, I oppose the Bill.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—“Only one word, I want to say, Sir.”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“You had your full say. Now, the question is that a Bill further to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, and

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the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1946 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947) be passed into law."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Since we are having Assembly sittings later on on the 31st March and 1st April, it is likely that two more Bills will be coming up for consideration here. We cannot possibly meet here in April. If you want to adjourn, it is very likely we may have a very long adjournment. Therefore, I suggest that we sit on the 3rd April and then adjourn, and it will be a long adjournment. Only two small Bills may be coming here; one is the Temple Entry Bill and the other Bill is about the President's salary, which really concerns us. So, we would have to hold on here and see that your salary is raised to a very respectable level. I would request the hon. Members to stay on till the 3rd and complete the work of the session and then the House might adjourn conveniently at least for a few weeks."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I hope the Leader of the Opposition has no objection."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I hope the Hon. the Leader of the House will give us a guarantee that he will not summon us during the hot season. Granting that, we have no objection to stay on here for three more days."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is a very big bargain, Sir, on which I cannot give an undertaking. But so far as the present legislative business is concerned, we will have to sit on the 3rd. About sitting during the hot season, I shall try to see if that can be avoided."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The House stands adjourned till 11 a.m. on the 3rd April 1947."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on the 3rd April 1947.

VIII.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* 1. Rationing explained—Pamphlet issued by the Information and Publicity Department.

* 2. Press Communiqué No. 13 (Public Information and Publicity Department), dated 19th March 1947, communicating the decision of His Excellency the Governor-General to withhold his assent to the Madras Trade Disputes Adjudication (Temporary Provisions) Bill, 1946.

3. Note on the New Well-subsidy Scheme.

† 4. The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 7 of 1947) passed by the Assembly and received therefrom in the Council.

* Laid on the table on 25th March 1947.

† Circulated on the 28th March 1947.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 121 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana ao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th March 1947, page 442 supra.]

(a) The three taxes referred to were introduced during the year 1939-40 and the receipts under the three taxes during the years 1939-40 to 1945-46 were as follows :—

	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1945-46.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.
Sales Tax	33.99	71.78	67.02	89.03	248.83	528.09	602.71
Motor Spirit Tax	15.77	16.19	13.90	13.11	16.21	34.15	43.59
Entertainments Tax ..	8.13	18.16	14.61	15.43	21.56	28.70	45.78

(b) The rates of tax under the three Taxation Acts were as shown below :—

	From 1st October 1939 to 31st March 1940.	From 1st April 1940 to 30th September 1943.	From 1st October 1943 to 31st March 1944.
1 General Sales Tax Act—			
(a) If the turnover is between Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 20,000.	Rs. 5 per mensem.	Rs. 4 per mensem.	Rs. 5 per mensem.
(b) If the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 ..	Half per cent of turnover.	Quarter per cent of turnover.	One per cent of turnover.
(a) (i) If the turnover is Rs. 10,000 and above but does not exceed Rs. 15,000.			Rates in force since 1st April 1944.
(ii) If the turnover exceeds Rs. 15,000 but does not exceed Rs. 20,000 ..			Rs. 144 per annum.
(b) If the turnover exceeds Rs. 20,000 ..			One per cent of turnover.
2 Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act—			
Petrol	One anna six pies per gallon.	One anna six pies per gallon.	Four annas per gallon.
Motor spirit other than petrol	Six pies per gallon.	Six pies per gallon.	One anna six pies per gallon.
3 Madras Entertainments Tax Act, 1939—			
Where the payment, excluding the amount of tax is—			
(i) not more than two annas	Three pies	Three pies	Three pies
(ii) is more than two annas but less than six annas	Six pies	Six pies	Nine pies
(iii) is six annas or more but is less than twelve annas	One anna	One anna	One anna six pies
(iv) is twelve annas or more but is less than one rupee eight annas	Two annas	Two annas	Three annas
(v) is one rupee eight annas or more but is less than two rupees eight annas	Four annas	Four annas	Six annas
(vi) is two rupees eight annas or more but is less than three rupees eight annas	Eight annas	Eight annas	Twelve annas
(vii) is three rupees eight annas or more but is less than four rupees eight annas	Twelve annas	Twelve annas	One rupee two annas
(viii) is four rupees eight annas or more but is less than six rupees eight annas	One rupee	One rupee	One rupee eight annas
(ix) is six rupees eight annas or more but is less than nine rupees eight annas	One rupee eight annas	One rupee eight annas	Two rupees four annas
(x) is nine rupees eight annas or more but is less than ten rupees	Two rupees	Two rupees	Three rupees
(xi) is ten rupees or more	Two rupees in respect of the first ten rupees and two rupees for every ten rupees or portion thereof in excess of the first ten rupees.	Two rupees in respect of the first ten rupees and three rupees for every ten rupees or portion thereof in excess of the first ten rupees.	Three rupees in respect of the first ten rupees and three rupees for every ten rupees or portion thereof in excess of the first ten rupees.

(c) The changes in the rates of sales-tax mentioned in the answer to clause (b) above were applicable to all commodities.

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(d) Prior to 1st April 1945 only certain local bodies which were in receipt of an income from the tax levied under the Madras Local Authorities Entertainments Tax Act, 1926, during any part of the three years preceding the 1st April 1939 were given a compensation from the entertainments tax under section 13 of the Madras Entertainments Tax Act, 1939. With effect from 1st April 1945, the Government directed that from the entire proceeds from the entertainments tax a deduction of ten per cent should be made towards collection charges and that the net proceeds after such deduction should be assigned to the local bodies within whose jurisdiction the tax was collected. This was inclusive of the compensation paid to certain local bodies under section 13 of the Madras Entertainments Tax Act. The amounts of compensation paid under section 13 of the Madras Entertainments Tax Act to certain local bodies prior to 1st April 1945 and the amounts of net proceeds from the entertainments tax paid to local bodies for the year 1945-46 were as follows:—

	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Compensation under section 13 of Madras Entertainments Tax Act.	2.96	1.77	1.63	1.67	1.74
2. Net proceeds from entertainments tax assigned to local bodies for the year 1945-46.	28.19 lakhs (for three quarters only. The proceeds of the fourth quarter are payable during 1946-47).				

No compensation is paid to local bodies out of the proceeds from the motor spirit tax.

(e) The total income of local bodies from tolls in 1930-31, the last year in which tolls were levied was as follows :—

	RS.
District Boards	LAKHS 41-88
Municipalities	17-70
Corporation of Madras	0-91

(f) Yes. The Government examined the question and decided that no portion of the sales tax revenue should be given to local bodies.

(g) No.

(h) No.

(i) No. But a proposal to register all dealers having an annual turnover of Rs. 7,500 and above on payment of a small fee is under the consideration of the Government in connection with the proposed amendments to the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939.

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APPENDIX II.

APPENDIX II.

(Vide answer to starred question No. 124 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th March 1947, page 449 supra.)

Answer.

Question.	Answer.	Onbans.	Chillies.	Ghee.
Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—	There is no ban on the movement of jaggery within the Province at present except in the case of movement of palmira jaggery from Tinnevely district. As for movement outside the Province the exports are prohibited except under permits under clause 7 of the Gur Control Order, 1946. The Gur Controller for India allots quotas to the deficit States and Provinces on an All-India basis. During 1945-46 permits were granted to bona fide dealers of this Province for export to quota holding administrations. During 1946-47, it is proposed to arrange for export of the allotted quota on the same system.	Movement outside the Province is prohibited except under permits.	Movement outside the Province is prohibited except under permits.	Movement outside the Province is prohibited except under permits.
(a) whether for granting permits for the movement within and outside the Province of essential or controlled articles such as groundnut oil, potatoes, jaggery, onions, etc., the Government have prescribed rules and if so, what they are;	There is no ban on the movement of jaggery within the Province at present except in the case of movement of palmira jaggery from Tinnevely district. As for movement outside the Province the exports are prohibited except under permits under clause 7 of the Gur Control Order, 1946. The Gur Controller for India allots quotas to the deficit States and Provinces on an All-India basis. During 1945-46 permits were granted to bona fide dealers of this Province for export to quota holding administrations. During 1946-47, it is proposed to arrange for export of the allotted quota on the same system.	Movement outside the Province is prohibited except under permits.	Movement outside the Province is prohibited except under permits.	Movement outside the Province is prohibited except under permits.
(b) who the authority granting permits is;	(1) Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, in respect of the whole Province, and (2) Collectors of Vizagapatam, North Arcot, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Salem and Tinnevely for exports from their respective districts. The Government have the inherent right to hear appeals.	Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or Collectors of respective districts. The Government have inherent right to hear appeals.	Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or Collectors of respective districts. The Government have inherent right to hear appeals.	Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or Collectors of respective districts. The Government have inherent right to hear appeals.
(c) whether any appeal to Government is provided against the orders of the sanctioning authority;	The Government have the inherent right to receive appeals and revise the orders of their subordinates.	Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or Collectors of respective districts. The Government have inherent right to hear appeals.	Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or Collectors of respective districts. The Government have inherent right to hear appeals.	Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras, or Collectors of respective districts. The Government have inherent right to hear appeals.

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Question.

Groundnut oil.

(d) whether Government themselves in the first instance have issued permits, in certain instances without reference to the authorized sanctioning authority and what the names of such grantees are :

No. But the Government have directed the issuing authority to grant permits in the following cases :—

(1) Messrs. Motamari Venkataramaniah, Pasumarthi Guriah and Company, Parvathipuram, Vizagapatnam district,

(2) Sri B. Gopalakrishnaiah, Bharat Type Foundry, Governorpet, Bezwada,

(3) Sri Issa Venkataramaniah Chetty and Company, No. 45, Kandappa Chetty Street, Georgetown, Madras,

(4) Sri P. S. Rajagopalan, Mundakanni Amman Koil Street, Mylapore, Madras,

(5) Messrs. Andhra Match Factory, Guntur, and

(6) Mr. Muhammad Ghouse Baig, Chirala.

Potatoes.

The Government have not actually issued any permits themselves but directed the Commissioner of Civil Supplies to grant permits to the following Madras merchants to export their excess stocks of potatoes from the City to Bengal and Bombay :—

(1) Messrs. R. Parthasarathy and Company, No. 43, Malayaperumal Street, Georgetown, Madras,

(2) Messrs. The Nilgiris Potato Supply Company, No. 14, Uthandi Street, Kothawal Bazaar, Madras,

(3) The Victory Potato Supply Company, No. 43, Malayaperumal Street, Georgetown, Madras,

(4) The Madras Potato Supply Company, No. 1, Uthandi Street, Madras,

(5) Messrs. Muhammad Nader Rowther and Company, No. 31, Uthandi Street, Madras, and

(6) Messrs. V. T. Shanker, No. 20, Malayaperumal Street, Georgetown, Madras.

Jaggery.

No. The Government have only directed the Commissioner of Civil Supplies to issue permits in the following cases :—

(1) Messrs. Asgar Ali and Company, Calcutta, and

(2) Messrs. Veppala Satyanarayana, Anakapalle, Vizagapatnam district.

Chillies.

No. The Government directed the Collector of Madras to issue permits to the following cases :—

(1) Sri P. S. Rajagopalan, No. 34-A, Mundakkanni Amman Koil Street, Mylapore, Madras, and

(2) Sri K. T. Janakiram, No. 31, Thana Street, Vepery.

(1) Messrs. Amrutha Ghee and Company, Guntur, K. Rajalingeswara Rao, Gollaprolu, and

(3) Srinathi Motibai, Proprietrix Lakshmi Goss Premji, Guntur.

Ghee.

(e) whether in such instances the grantees have invariably satisfied the conditions governing the sanction of permits;

No. Permits were issued as a special case.

The permits were granted as a special case to enable the permit holders to clear their excess stocks which were perishing.

Yes.

Yes.

Yes.

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(f) what steps are taken to ensure that the permit holders do not transfer their permits for a consideration;

Permits are issued subject to condition that they are not transferable and that they are liable to be cancelled without previous notice at the absolute discretion of the issuing authority. Besides any permit that is taken out but not utilized should be surrendered forthwith for cancellation. Further one copy will be given to the applicant and a duplicate will be sent to the Importing Province or State. The applicant should return his copy to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies on completion of despatches.

Every effort is made by the controlling authorities and their checking staff to prevent such abuses and all cases involving violation of rules are suitably dealt with under the provision of the Control Order.

Permits are issued subject to the conditions that they are not transferable.

Permits are issued subject to condition that they are not transferable.

(g) whether any instances of abuses by permit holders have come to the notice of Government and if so, what action has been taken in their cases ; and

One such instance has been reported. It is under investigation.

No.

No.

No.

No.

No.

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Question	Answer		Ghee No.
	Groundnut oil.	Jaggery.	
(A) whether permits have been granted to persons who do not belong to this Province?	No. Except in the case of the Orissa quota, where permits were issued to the merchants of that Province, nominated by the Orissa Government.	Yes. In the case of exports to the Central Provinces permits were issued to the nominees of the Central Provinces Government. Item 1 under clause (d) also comes under this.	Onions. Yes. Only in the case of Mr. S. N. Mukerjee, Calcutta, a permit was granted for the export of onions as he was recommended by the Eastern Command as their contractor.
	Potatoes.		Chillies.

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APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 11 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao, at the meeting of the Legislative Council, held on the 29th March 1947, page 457 supra.]

New Well-subsidy Scheme.

The new Well-subsidy Scheme came into force from 1st March 1947. It supersedes all the earlier schemes and applies to all the districts in the province, except the Nilgiris and Madras.

In the districts of South Kanara and Malabar, not only wells but also tanks used for irrigation purposes, will be eligible for subsidies. In one respect the new scheme differs from the existing accelerated scheme, as no assistance under it will be granted in respect of repairs to existing sources. South Kanara and Malabar will, however, be exceptions to this rule also, and subsidies will be granted there for repairs to tanks as well.

The scheme offers a subsidy of half the cost, subject to the maxima mentioned below :—

South Kanara and Malabar .. Rs. 300 for new wells and Rs. 500 for tanks, new or old.

Ceded districts Rs. 500 for new wells.

Other districts Rs. 300 for new wells.

In the case of tanks (new and old) in South Kanara and Malabar, however, if the cost exceeds Rs. 1,000, the Collector will have discretion to sanction an amount equal to half the cost, up to a limit of Rs. 1,000; and the Board of Revenue will have similar powers, up to a limit of Rs. 2,000. The maximum subsidy will be only Rs. 2,000 in any case.

It is also proposed to raise the maximum subsidy for wells to Rs. 500 in areas where conditions similar to those in the Ceded districts exist.

Under this scheme, prior approval of the site of the well or tank is necessary. The proposed well or tank should have an ayacut of at least one acre. Except in the Ceded districts and other areas where similar conditions exist, wells costing more than Rs. 2,000 each will not be eligible for assistance under the scheme.

The usual condition regarding the growing of food crops for three years, will be imposed. Food crops will include vegetables and such other crops as may be approved by the Collector.

The amount of subsidy will not, as before, be given as a free grant in the first instance. It will be advanced as a takkavi loan at first and will be treated as subsidy only if the work is satisfactorily completed by 30th June 1948. Under no circumstances will this time for completion be extended. The disbursement of subsidies will stop on 31st March 1948.

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The loan, if it is not subsequently treated as subsidy, will be repayable in five equal annual instalments. It will, however, be free of interest for the first year and repayment will start only after three years.

Wells for which subsidies have been sanctioned under the earlier schemes, but have not actually been paid, will be treated as coming under the new scheme.

Well-works for which subsidies have been granted under the Accelerated Scheme and the Ceded Districts Scheme will also be allowed the time prescribed in the new scheme, i.e., up to 30th June 1948, for completion, provided that some part of the work, not necessarily a substantial part, has already been done.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide item VII at page 483 supra.]

L.A. BILL No. 7 OF 1947.

(As passed by the Assembly.)

A Bill further to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, and the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1946.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, and the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1946, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Madras Act V of 1920.
Madras Act XIV of 1920.
Madras Act XXIV of 1942.
Madras Act XVI of 1946.

Short title.

1. This Act may be called the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1947.

2. In the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920—

(i) in section 7, sub-section (1), for the words "The municipal council", the words, brackets, figure and letter "Subject to the provisions of sub-section (3-B), the municipal council" shall be substituted;

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(ii) in the same section, in sub-section (3), the first proviso and the word "further" in the second proviso, shall be omitted;

(iii) in the same section, after sub-section (3), the following sub-sections shall be inserted, namely:—

"(3-A) The total number of seats reserved under sub-section (3) shall not exceed one-fourth of the strength of the municipal council as notified under sub-section (1).

(3-B) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3-A), the Provincial Government may, if they think fit, by notification, fix the total number of seats reserved in any municipal council, in excess of the number admissible under sub-section (3-A):

Provided that—

(i) the strength of the municipal council as notified under sub-section (1) is also increased by the same number as that by which the total number of reserved seats is increased and is specified in the notification aforesaid; and

(ii) the total number of reserved seats is so fixed as not to exceed one-third of the strength of the municipal council as increased under clause (i).";

(iv) in the same section, in sub-section (5), for the word, brackets and figure "sub-section (3)", the words "this section" shall be substituted;

(v) in section 8, in sub-section (2), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely:—

"Provided further that the Provincial Government may, for sufficient reasons, direct from time to time, the postponement or alteration of the date of an ordinary election or any stage thereof, and the election authority shall give effect to such direction.";

(vi) in section 44, sub-section (1)—

(a) in the first paragraph, after the words "whose name is included" the words "or who is qualified to be included" shall be inserted;

(b) in Explanation (1), after the words "who are entered", the words "or who are qualified to be included" shall be inserted and the words "as entered in such roll" shall be omitted.

(vii) in the same section, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(2) The executive authority or any person authorized by the election authority in this behalf shall prepare and publish in such manner and at such times as the Provincial Government may direct, the electoral roll for the municipality or the alterations to such roll."

Amendment of Madras Act XIV of 1920. 3. In the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920—

(i) in section 7, for the words "The total number", the words, brackets, figures and letter "Subject to the provisions of sub-section (3-A) of section 9, the total number" shall be substituted;

(ii) in section 9, after sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

"(3-A) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (3), the Provincial Government may, if they think fit, by notification, fix the total number of seats reserved in any local board in excess of the number admissible under sub-section (3):

Provided that—

(i) the strength of the local board as fixed under section 10 is also increased by the same number as that by which the total number of reserved seats is increased and is specified in the notification aforesaid; and

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(ii) the total number of reserved seats is so fixed as not to exceed one-third of the strength of the local board as increased under clause (i).";

(iii) in the same section, in sub-section (6), for the words, brackets and figures "sub-sections (1) and (2)", the words "this section" shall be substituted;

(iv) in section 11, sub-section (2), after the proviso, the following proviso shall be added, namely:—

"Provided further that the Provincial Government may, for sufficient reasons, direct from time to time, the postponement or alteration of the date of an ordinary election or any stage thereof, and the prescribed authority shall give effect to such direction.";

(v) in section 51, in sub-section (1)—

(a) in the first paragraph, after the words "whose name is included" the words "or who is qualified to be included" shall be inserted;

(b) in Explanation (1), after the words "who are entered" the words "or who are qualified to be included" shall be inserted and the words "as entered in such roll" shall be omitted;

(vi) in the same section, for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

"(2) The District Panchayat Officer or any person authorized by the prescribed authority in this behalf shall prepare and publish in such manner and at such times as the Provincial Government may direct, the electoral roll for the local board or the alterations to such roll."

4. In clause (ii) of sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1946, before the words "to advance" the words "from time to time" shall be inserted.

5. (1) Where elections have to be held for the first time after the commencement of this Act to fill vacancies in the office of the councillors of any municipal council whose term of office has been fixed under section 3 or section 4 (1) (c) or section 5 of the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, then, notwithstanding anything contained in section 6 of that Act and in the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, it shall be lawful for the Provincial Government—

(i) to cause elections to be held to the municipal council so that its newly elected councillors may come into office on any date fixed by the Provincial Government which may be different from the date of expiry of the term of office of the councillors previously holding office;

(ii) from time to time, to advance or postpone the date fixed under clause (i) and fix instead another date;

(iii) to appoint for that municipal council, a Special Officer during the interval between the date of expiry of the term of the councillors previously holding office and the date on which the newly elected councillors will come into office.

(2) Where any date other than the first day of November of any year is fixed under sub-section (1) as the date on which the newly elected councillors of a municipal council will come into office, the term of office of such councillors shall, subject to the provisions of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1921, expire at noon on the first day of November immediately succeeding the expiry of three years from the date so fixed.

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(3) A Special Officer appointed under sub-section (1) shall exercise and perform the functions specified in section 41 (3) (b) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, in the same manner, as if he had been appointed under that section.

(4) A Special Officer appointed under sub-section (1) who is not a District Collector or a Revenue Divisional Officer may, if the Provincial Government so direct, receive payment for his services from the municipal fund.

6. Where elections have to be held for the first time to a district board which has been superseded under section 45-A of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and has not been reconstituted at the commencement of this Act, the Provincial Government may, notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (4) of that section, postpone from time to time the reconstitution of the district board for such period as they think fit.

7. All orders issued by the Provincial Government before the commencement of this Act, directing the stoppage or postponement of elections to a municipal council or local board or any stage thereof, shall be deemed to have been as valid as if the said orders had been issued under the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, as amended by this Act.

8. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, or of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, or the Madras City Municipal, District Municipalities and Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, as amended by this Act, the Provincial Government may, as occasion may require, by order, do anything which appears to them necessary for the purpose of removing the difficulty.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 3rd April 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ As the Minister wants to go, I am taking question No. 142 out of turn.”

Supply channel to Gudapakkam irrigation channel.

* 142 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply channel to Gudapakkam irrigation tank has been filled up and levelled by the Military when the Gudapakkam forest was cleared;

(b) whether the villagers of Gudapakkam have addressed the Hon. Minister for Public Works to excavate and clear the supply channel at an early date; and

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

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—“ (a) Yes.

“ (b) No. But it is understood that the ryots sent a petition to the Tahsildar about two years ago.

“ (c) The portions levelled up by the military have been partially cleared by the ryots themselves. The channel requires silt clearance now and the work will be carried out without delay.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, whether the work will be carried out before the next cultivation season? ”

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—“ I have a telephone message from the Collector to say that he has personally taken it on hand and will get it completed ere long.”

The Madras Vigilance Association and the Sri Sadana.

* 130-A Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representation has been received by the Government that unless assistance was immediately forthcoming, the

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Madras Vigilance Association and the Sri Sadana would be compelled to reduce the number of inmates in the Association's Home to almost half the present strength;

(b) whether the Government have at any time considered the necessity to change the basis on which the grants are made to the Madras Vigilance Association so that the Association may continue its good work unhampered by fear of financial commitments; and

(c) whether the Government propose to give some interim relief to make up the deficit pending consideration of any fresh basis for the grants made?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) A representation has been received from the President of the Association that the latter is facing a financial crisis.

“(b) The question whether it is necessary to increase the grant paid by Government to the Madras Vigilance Association towards the maintenance charges of the inmates of the Sri Sadana is under the consideration of Government.

“(c) The matter is under consideration.”

MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—“May I know whether the grant will be increased?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“That is the matter which is being considered.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“A large number of inmates has to be maintained and the association cannot continue to maintain them unless the grant is increased. Will the Hon. Minister expedite orders?”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“That will be done as quickly as possible.”

Madras Fire Service.

* 131 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether rules governing the Madras Fire Service have been made and if so, what they are;

(b) whether all the present incumbents satisfy the rules framed;

(c) whether arrangements are made to train men in lower ranks to qualify themselves for higher posts;

(d) where the Fire Stations are located in the province and the strength of staff employed in each; and

(e) whether the Government have under consideration the question of providing Fire Service to all the municipalities and major panchayats in the Province?

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) The Madras Fire Services was governed by a set of rules called the Madras Fire Services Rules issued under section 10 (1) of the A.R.P. Services Ordinance, 1941 (Ordinance No. IV of 1941). With the repealing of the above Ordinance wholly in January 1946, the Madras Fire Services Rules issued thereunder have ceased to be operative. Now that the Fire Service has come to stay as a permanent feature of the Provincial Government's administration, a separate set of statutory service rules to govern it under the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935, is under preparation.

“(b) Does not arise in view of the answer to (a) above.

“(c) Yes.

“(d) A statement* giving the information required is placed on the table of the House.

“(e) The present policy is to establish fire stations only in all the municipal towns in the Province.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“In the event of the Fire Services Rules being framed and if there are any officers who do not satisfy those rules, will their services be terminated?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“Evidently so, Sir.”

MR. K. O. ANTONI :—“May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. Minister has received any representation from the Fire Services men and they have been dealt with?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“No, Sir, we are not aware of it. If there is any representation received, I shall certainly go into the matter.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal to retrench the personnel in the Fire Services and any representation has been received concerning that matter?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“No, Sir, there is no proposal to retrench.”

Retired officials re-employed during the war.

* 132 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of superannuated retired officials re-employed during the war by the Advisers' Government;

(b) the number of superannuated retired officials re-employed since the Congress Government took office;

(c) how many of these two sets of officials have since retired and how many still continue in office;

(d) the need for continuing them in office while a number of war-retained men and educated young men are awaiting their turn to be employed in Government service;

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(e) the number of retired officials from the Government of India service who have been re-employed in this Province; and

(f) why they are still kept in harness when better and younger men are available?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a), (b), (c) & (e) The Government have compiled a list of persons who have either been re-employed or granted extension of service after retirement and who are still in service. In the interest of economy in stationery and printing the list has not been printed and placed on the table of the House. If the hon. Member wants it, he may obtain a copy on application to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

“On the other points covered by the question the Government have not collected any information in view of their avowed policy of discouraging the continuance of superannuated officials in service and also of the time and labour involved, which is not commensurate with any public interest, in the collection of such information.

“(d) & (f) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (e) of the Legislative Council Starred Question No. 24 answered on the 9th September 1946. In accordance with the orders and instructions mentioned in that answer, re-employed retired officers are being replaced as and when war-retained men and other better and younger men become available.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“May I know whether there are any I.N.A. men among the war-retained persons who can be employed?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I do not know whether there are any applications from them; if any are received, they will be considered.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“Are the Government aware that I.N.A. men are employed in the anti-corruption and other departments of Government in Bombay and other Congress-governed provinces?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I think so, Sir.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“May I know whether this list of re-employed superannuated officials is compiled communitywar?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I do not know whether the communal question enters employment of superannuated men or the discharge of superannuated men. I have not got figures or names of either; but I do not know whether any special discrimination is shown between one community and another in this regard.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“That is the very idea with which I put the question. There are complaints

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that the claims of certain communities are being discriminated even in this matter and I would like a list to be compiled communitywar.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“It is not prepared communitywar but if the hon. Gentleman wants specific information, I shall supply.”

Appointments made since May 1946.

* 133 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of appointments, gazetted and non-gazetted, made since May 1946;

(b) whether qualifications prescribed for these appointments are the same or similar to those prescribed for similar existing appointments and if so, what they are;

(c) whether in any or all the cases these appointments have been made following the procedure prescribed for recruitment through the Public Service Commission;

(d) whether expenditure in respect of these new appointments has already been provided in the Budget for 1946-47;

(e) whether all the appointments made relate to existing services or new services for which provision has been made in 1946-47 and the approval of the Legislature obtained;

(f) if the appointments related to new services, whether the approval of the Legislature has been obtained by token grants;

(g) whether seeking approval for new services after creating them and incurring expenditure is in accordance with Parliamentary practice; and

(h) whether the Government will place on the table of the House a list of appointments made, emoluments offered, qualifications prescribed and other particulars?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a), (b), (c) & (h) The Government consider that the time and labour involved in the collection of information is not commensurate with any public interest that may be served.

“(d) Not in all cases.

“(e) If provision has been made in the budget for a scheme it will not be a ‘New Service.’ The appointments relate both to existing services and ‘New Services’ (i.e., services for which no provision has been made in the budget for 1946-47).

“(f) It is proposed to obtain supplementary grants—token or otherwise—in respect of all new services on the 27th instant.

“(g) The procedure has been followed for a long time both by this Government and by the Government of India and has been approved by the Public Accounts Committee of this

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Legislature. As the budget for each year is approved before its commencement it is inevitable that some urgent schemes for which no provision has been made in the budget have to be introduced during the course of a year. A list of schemes treated as new services is placed before the Public Accounts Committee."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Arising out of answer to (f) that a supplementary demand will be made on the 27th instant; does it refer to the 27th of March? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Yes."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If the list is such a formidable one and the amounts involved in the very nature of the case must be also formidable, is it not fair to the Legislature when a new service is created involving expenditure, to take the approval of the Legislature by way of a token grant at least? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The practice followed here has been in existence for some time and I may inform the hon. Member that the same practice prevails in the Government of India also."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that in the Government of India, there is a Standing Finance Committee which first approves proposals whereas here the Public Accounts Committee only performs a post-mortem examination? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" If the hon. Member desires to have a Standing Finance Committee, the matter may be brought to the notice of the Government and it shall be considered."

Expansion of I.W.C.C.

* 134 Q.—MRS. MONA HENSMAN (on behalf of Mrs. M. N. Clubwalla): Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether in view of the growing popularity of the I.W.C.C. and the demands for opening new branches any provision has been made for its expansion, in the amount allotted for the I.W.C.C.;

(b) as the work is increasing and more immediate supervision is necessary, whether District Officers will be appointed soon; and

(c) whether the Government have any proposals for enlarging the scope of the organization so that it becomes a complete department to serve the whole Province?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (a) Not for the present.

" (b) The matter is under consideration.

" (c) Yes."

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Secretaries to Producers-cum-Consumers Co-operative Societies.

* 135 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Motor Transport and Food be pleased to state—

(a) the number of posts of Secretaries of the Producers-cum-Consumers' Societies that are filled in by the Government;

(b) the names, caste, age, education and other qualifications of the men that are selected for the various posts;

(c) whether it is a fact that some retired Tahsildars and other qualified men, though they were sent for training, were not finally selected; as they did not possess jail qualifications;

(d) whether it is a fact that Muslims were excluded from holding these posts;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies was not asked to select the candidates from among those who have got wide experience in the co-operative field;

(f) why the Co-operative department was not asked to organize these societies and undertake the supervision and audit of these societies even though these are registered under Co-operative Act; and

(g) whether it is a fact that in making the selection good educational qualifications or experience are not insisted upon?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (a) 184.

" (b) Over eighty per cent of the candidates selected are graduates in Arts, Commerce, Education and Law. Some of the candidates are double-graduates, and some are M.As., B.Com., M.A., B.L. Their age varies generally from 20 to 40. Information regarding the names, caste and the age of the candidates is being gathered and will be furnished later.

" (c) No. Only two retired Tahsildars applied for the post of Secretary and both were selected.

" (d) No.

" (e) Yes. The societies were organized by the Special Officer in charge of the scheme, viz., the Deputy Commissioner, Civil Supplies (North), and he was entrusted with this work for which he is responsible.

" (f) The Co-operative department was not asked to organize these societies as the producers-cum-consumers societies are concerned mostly with procurement work which is the responsibility of the Revenue department. Under section 3 of the Co-operative Societies Act, any person can be appointed as a Registrar and it is therefore not necessary that only the Co-operative department should be asked to organize these societies. In the case of the co-operative societies for demobilized soldiers Government have granted similar powers of a Registrar to the Director of Resettlement and his subordinate officers.

" (g) No. Vide answer to clause (b) above."

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K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Will the Hon. Minister tell us how many of these 184 persons are Muslims? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think the Hon. Minister said that information is being gathered. ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Sir, I have seen some figures in the file. I think it will be able to satisfy the hon. Gentleman. ”

“ As far as I am able to gather from the file, I remember three Muslims were selected and were sent for training, and after training they were employed. What happened was that they did not like their touring in the villages and the heavy work involved in the business, and so all of them left their jobs. ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, what is the relationship of this special officer engaged in this work with the Co-operative department? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ The relationship is that he is employed to look after these producers-cum-consumers co-operative societies, supervise all new societies that have been formed in Malabar and four societies in Northern Circars. He is responsible for the conduct of the work. His relation with the Co-operative department is very little because the whole scheme is managed by him really under the control of the Commissioner of Civil Supplies according to the recent orders passed by the Government. ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, at least in regard to audit why these new societies are not placed under the control of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I am unable to give the information just now. ”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ The Hon. Minister said that about 80 per cent of the gentlemen employed are double-graduates, B.Ls. and so on. What about the other 20 per cent? Are they employed without qualifications? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ It does not mean so, Sir. It is just possible a few of them may not possess all the high qualifications as the other 80 per cent possess. I have not got details. Eighty per cent of the people are well qualified educationally. As regards the other 20 per cent, if the hon. Member wants, I shall give details later. ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ What is the nature of the training provided for these men before they are placed in charge of these societies? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I am unable to give the information just now. ”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Were any qualifications prescribed for these appointments? ”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ The qualifications prescribed are evidently those of an educational nature. No special qualifications were prescribed, because the whole scheme is new. They have appointed a number of people to see whether they will take up this work. Those who did not like the work left their jobs. ”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Was there an advertisement for applicants? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I do not know. I will ask for information. ”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know the number of Muslim applications? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I have not got the information just now. ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Why was not the Co-operative Department which has been in existence in this Province for so many years, asked to organize these societies? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I had already said in my answer that the whole scheme belongs to the Revenue Department and the work of the societies is one of procurement, and therefore, it was thought unnecessary that it should be given to the Co-operative Department. Though co-operative in its nature, procurement is really the work of the Revenue Department. ”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Will the Government consider the necessity of giving due representation to all communities in view of the fact that these societies are entrusted with the more vital problem of procuring and distributing food and other necessities of life? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Government have absolutely no bias in favour of one community or another. But the fact is that three Muslim gentlemen who were appointed did not stick to their places and found it difficult to get on with their work. I do not know how far Government could proceed in the matter, except by putting in other communities and getting on with the work. ”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Do the Government think that because three Muslim candidates left their jobs, no other member of the Muslim community will be found fit for the work? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ It is not so, Sir. ”

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“ Sir, I am not a communalist. But since the claims of Muslims have been raised, would the Hon. Minister be pleased to say how many Christians have been appointed? ” (Laughter.)

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I will call for the information, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Sir, if these societies have been organized for the purpose of procurement, is it the intention of Government to wind them up as soon as their task is over? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ The question of winding up any particular society shall come up only after some time. I do not believe procurement is the only job of these societies. It may be for the present that it is their job, but if subsequently they are found that they are doing useful work, I do not think why they should not continue.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Are the Government satisfied with the procurement operations effected by these societies? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Consistent with the time allowed to these societies to operate in their areas, I think most of them have done fairly well. Where the societies have not done well, Government have taken upon themselves the responsibility of trying to get the procurement work done by ordinary sources available to them, which was the practice obtaining till these societies came into existence. Such a position happened only in one district. In that district procurement has been entrusted to other agents.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether it is a fact that the District Co-operative Wholesale Stores were entrusted with the work of procurement before these producers-cum-consumers' societies were brought into existence? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I am not aware of it. I will call for information.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ If the Hon. Minister calls for information and he is satisfied that the co-operative stores did their work well even with regard to procurement, will he consider the desirability of stopping these producers-cum-consumers' societies? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think you should consider the desirability of putting this question later.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I may answer the hon. Member straightaway. Sir, that Government have taken upon themselves the responsibility, and that action has been taken in a district where procurement was not satisfactory. The hon. Member may draw the conclusion therefrom that Government are not clinging to these societies as such, but procurement only is the real factor.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Is it not a fact, Sir, where these societies were not established, procurement work was being done by District Wholesale Co-operative Stores? ”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Generally, it was entrusted to the District Wholesale Co-operative Stores officer, and it was left to him to secure it in whichever way suitable to him to get the target for that particular district.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I suggest to the Hon. Minister to give figures of procurement done by the District Co-operative Wholesale Stores, because, as the hon. Member Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim said, there are co-operative stores entrusted with procurement work? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I know that there are co-operative stores entrusted with procurement work, but I cannot give that information on a supplementary question.”

Extent of land to be irrigated under Thungabhadra Project.

* 136 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of irrigation area which will be brought under cultivation by the proposed Thungabhadra Project in the several taluks of Bellary district;

(b) how much area will be irrigated with wet crops and how much with dry crops in each of the taluks;

(c) the area that will be irrigated with wet crops in His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Dominions on the other side of the Thungabhadra river and how much dry;

(d) how much electricity is developed under the scheme for utilization in Bellary district and adjacent areas;

(e) how much electrical energy is developed under the scheme for utilization in His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Dominions;

(f) the reason for the extraordinary difference between the proposed area to be irrigated in the Nizam's Dominions when compared with that in British India;

(g) the reason why more electrical energy is developed under the scheme by His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government when compared with that in British India; and

(h) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table, the agreement entered into by the Madras Government with His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government in respect of the sharing of the waters of the Thungabhadra and other incidental matters?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“ The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer ^a to the question placed on the Table of the House.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ With reference to clauses (c) and (d) may I ask the Hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that the area irrigated in Nizam's Dominions is three times more than that in British India and the electrical energy that is developed in Nizam's Dominions is 10 times more than that in Bellary district? ”

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have already answered that Government have no information in the matter and that they will get the information."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" If the information (I have furnished) is correct, will the Hon. Minister also get the information as to why the Nizam's Government is taking an advantage over us?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I shall try to get the additional information also which the hon. Member wants."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware of all kinds of conjectures regarding this Tungabhadra Project, and in order to remove certain misgivings from the minds of the public, will Government obtain all possible information both on this side as well as the Hyderabad State, and issue a communique?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Government have already decided to issue a communique."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the information asked for by my hon. Friend Mr. Bhima Rao also be included in that?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If we are to wait for that information, it may take some time. I think the communique which we have already decided to issue will be issued. When the additional information becomes available, we shall issue a further communique."

Number of Muslims as District Registrars.

* 137 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) how many vacancies of District Registrars arose from the year 1935 to 1945 and how many of them were filled by Muslims;

(b) whether it is a fact that in March 1946 seven more posts of District Registrars were created by the bifurcation of the clubbed districts and by the creation of a fresh post;

(c) if so, how many of these posts were given to Muslims; and

(d) what is the total strength of District Registrars and how many of them are Muslims?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Number of vacancies of District Registrars that arose from 1935-45—44 (four of whom are reserved to be filled by War Service personnel irrespective of communal considerations).
Number filled by Muslims—2.

" (b) Six posts of District Registrars with effect from 1st April 1946 and one post of Inspector of Registration offices with effect from 1st December 1946 were created temporarily.

* (c) None.

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" (d) Total strength of District Registrars—36.
Number of Muslims among them—3."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, why the claims of Muslims for these temporary appointments were not considered?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" For the temporary appointments, claims of Muslims were considered. Two Muslims' names have since been included in the approved list of District Registrars."

SRI S. B. ADITHYAN :—" May I know, Sir, why the Congress Government should reserve any posts at all for ex-service men?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not know, Sir, why the Congress Government should not reserve posts for ex-service men."

Inspecting Textile Commissioners.

* 138 Q.—SRI S. RM. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of the Inspecting Textile Commissioners recently appointed; and

(b) how many of them belong to Andhra and Tamilnad and how many of them are Christians, Muhammadans, Scheduled Castes, Brahmans and Non-Brahmans?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (a) Nineteen Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners were appointed recently.

" (b) Out of the 19 Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners, eight belong to Tamilnad, nine to Andhra Desa, one to South Kanara and one to Malabar.

Christians	..	..	Nil.
Muhammadans	..	..	2
Scheduled Castes	..	..	1
Non-Brahmans	..	..	8
Brahmans	..	..	8."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, how many are from Royalaseema districts?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" From the information available in the file I am not able to give the information at present. I shall call for the information."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" May I know what are the qualifications prescribed for these officers?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" There are no special qualifications prescribed. I think the capacity of each person was ascertained before he was appointed."

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K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know how many of them are officials and how many are non-officials; and if non-officials were appointed, what are their qualifications? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ From the information available I cannot answer that question. I will call for the information.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether all the nineteen were directly recruited, or some of them were promoted from the services? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I cannot answer that question off hand. I will call for the information.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Is it not possible to redress the injustice done to Royalaseema districts now by making additional appointments? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ In this connexion I may submit, Sir, that these appointments are temporary and have been made to facilitate work. Distribution of yarn in the presidency had to be taken up immediately the scheme was framed by Government. So to implement the policy of Government these appointments had necessarily to be made without going into the question of communal representation and all that sort of thing. But I can assure hon. Members that Government will certainly try to see all areas, communities and interests are properly represented.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know, Sir, whether applications were invited, or applicants were invited? ” (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I cannot answer that question.” (Laughter.)

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Is it a fact, Sir, that offers were made by the Government for the persons appointed? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think the Hon. Minister has said that he cannot answer that question.”

The Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Society.

* 139 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Society passed some amendments to the by-laws relating to the composition of the Board and the Executive Committee;

(b) whether the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, the competent authority to register the amendments, was directed by the Government not to register them and, if so, what were the reasons for the interference of the Government;

(c) whether under the Madras Co-operative Societies Act, the Registrar of Co-operative Societies is the ultimate authority to register amendments and appeal lies to Government only in cases of refusal;

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(d) whether it is a fact that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies was directed to ask the society to call for another meeting of the general body of the society to reconsider the amendments;

(e) what the provision of law is under which this direction was given;

(f) whether even the second general body meeting reiterated their resolutions regarding the amendments;

(g) whether a deputation of the Provincial Society waited on the Hon. Minister more than once and that he assured them that even if the amendments were carried by a bare majority, they would be registered;

(h) whether the amendments have since been registered; and

(i) the authority, statutory or otherwise under which the Government acted?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“ (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

“ (b) On a representation received from some members of the Provincial Handloom Weavers' Society the Government found that the division of opinion among the members of the general body for and against the amendment was somewhat even and informed the Registrar that in a matter of this kind the *status quo* should not be changed without a fairly general consensus of opinion among the members of the general body favouring the change.

“ (c) The answer is in the affirmative.

“ (d) As the opinion of the general body at the first meeting was more or less equally divided and as the Government considered that on a fundamental matter affecting the constitution of the society it was desirable that the amendments should command a wider measure of assent, the Registrar, was informed that the Government would reconsider the position if the amendment was passed again at a general body meeting of the society.

“ (e) & (i) Under section 57 of the Madras Co-operative Societies Act, the Provincial Government can call for and examine the record of any enquiry or the proceedings of any officer subordinate to them and pass such orders as they deem fit. The amendments in question were pending registration with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies. Representations were received by Government against the registration of the amendments. As the Government are giving financial aid to the Provincial Handloom Weavers Society and are consequently interested in the harmonious working of the society they issued instructions in the matter under the powers vested in them by Section 57 of the Co-operative Societies Act.

“ (f) The answer is in the affirmative.

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"(g) A deputation of the Provincial Society was informed on 1st August 1946 that the Government would reconsider the position if the amendments were reiterated at a second meeting of the general body meeting of the society.

"(h) The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has since been directed to register the amendments."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Sir, the Hon. Minister quoted section 57. Such interference under that section on the part of Government arises only if there is irregularity in the proceedings of such officers. Under Section 12 of the Act, Sir, the competent authority to register the amendment is the Registrar. And then, Sir, under Section 24 of the Act . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Is it a commentary that you are giving? (Laughter.) Or do you want any information?"

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Sir, the Hon. Minister is not giving the correct legal position as regards amendment. We have made representations to the Government regarding this. That is why I put the question. What I want to point out is to see that even under section 57 Government was not competent to interfere with the registration of amendments by by-laws."

THE HON. SR. K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"There were certain other irregularities also. That is why Government were forced to interfere."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Was the society informed of the existence of these irregularities?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"Notice."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Was it done on the initiative of Government or on the initiative of somebody else?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—"On the representation of the directors and others."

Assistant Superintendent of Stationery.

* 140 MR. K. O. ANTHONI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the post of Assistant Superintendent of Stationery was reserved for war-retained candidates and what the qualifications prescribed were;

(b) whether any suitable candidate had applied and had been selected by the Public Service Commission;

(c) if not, who has been appointed after the retirement of the permanent incumbent and what his qualifications are;

(d) whether the appointment has been made on a temporary or permanent basis; and

(e) if temporary, whether the Government propose to advertise the post and call for applications from candidates possessing the necessary qualifications?

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THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—

"(a) Yes. The method of appointment to the post is by direct recruitment but leave vacancies may be filled by transfer from any other service. A candidate recruited direct to the post must not have completed 35 years of age on 1st of July of the year in which selection is made and he must possess an intimate knowledge of the paper trade and wholesale stationery.

"(b) A certain number of candidates who are *prima facie* qualified have applied to the Madras Public Service Commission. A final selection has not been made.

"(c) & (d) Pending recruitment of a candidate by the Madras Public Service Commission, Mr. R.(?) Siddique, Assistant Superintendent, Government Press, has been appointed temporarily. He possess a Diploma in Printing, London, and a full Technological Certificate of City and Guilds of London Institute, London, besides other certificates in Printing and Allied Trades.

"(e) Does not arise in view of the answer to clause (b)."

Course of studies in the Veterinary College.

* 141 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that under the old regulations a student studying in the Veterinary College has to appear at the end of the year for both the Government Diploma Examinations and for the University Examinations in practically the same subjects;

(b) whether it is a fact that while the students failing to get a pass in the University Examinations alone in any year are allowed the option to give up the Degree Course and complete the Diploma Course, students failing to get a pass in the Diploma Examinations alone are not given the option to finish the Degree Course alone but are obliged to stay in the same class until they pass the Diploma Examinations;

(c) how many students were detained in each year as a result of the examinations held in March and October 1946;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Diploma Course has been abolished as a result of the new regulations;

(e) what remedy the Government propose to adopt in the case of students who appeared in the latest examinations under the old regulations and failed in the same, in order to enable them to further prosecute their studies;

(f) whether they will be allowed to join their next higher class and appear for the University Examinations; and

(g) whether the Government propose to make any temporary provisions to meet the needs of such failed students?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—“(a) Yes. The students under the old regulations except those of the final year (fourth year), Diploma course have to appear at the end of each year for both the Government Diploma Examinations and for the degree examinations. Some of the subjects for both the examinations are the same, but such subjects for the degree course have to be passed at the university standard.

“(b) It is a fact that the students who fail to get a pass in the University examinations alone in any year are allowed the option to give up the degree course and complete the diploma course while the students of the degree course who fail to get a pass in the diploma examinations are not allowed to do so as there are very many subjects for the diploma course which are not included in the degree course.

“(c) The table below shows the number of students failed in each of the I to IV year classes the diploma examinations held in March and October and degree examinations held in April and October 1946 :—

Diploma Examination.

	March 1946.	October 1946 (Supplementary).
I year ..	24 out of 53	9 out of 21
II year ..	19 out of 44	10 out of 17
III year ..	5 out of 14	3 out of 5
IV year ..	4 out of 24	2 out of 4

Degree Examinations.

	April 1946.	October 1946 (Supplementary).
Preliminary ..	34 out of 53	20 out of 31
Inter Part I ..	14 out of 30	5 out of 15
Inter Part II ..	2 out of 10	1 out of 2
Final year ..	4 out of 14	1 out of 4

“(d) Yes.

“(e) Provision has been made to enable the failed students of the diploma course to appear in the subject or subjects in which they have failed and complete the diploma examination by 1951-52 for the present. The question of continuing the diploma examination beyond 1951-52, till all the students pass the examination or absorbing them in the new degree course is under consideration of Government.

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“(f) Failed students of the degree as well as the diploma courses are permitted to study in the next year class and appear in the subjects failed. But if such students fail in two consecutive examinations they have to revert and put in additional terms in the subject or subjects in which they have failed before they can appear for the examination again.

“(g) To meet the needs of such failed students, the Government have ordered the following temporary provisions :—

- (1) Such students are allowed to pass the examination by parts; and
- (2) one more first year diploma examination was ordered to be held in March 1947.”

Malaria in Nellore district.

* 143 Q.—SRI L. SUBBARAMA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of attacks and deaths on account of malarial fever in the coastal villages of Gudur, Nellore, Kovur, Kavali and Kandukur taluks in Nellore district for the last three years from 1943; and

(b) what steps the Government propose to take to give aid to the affected areas?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“(a) No information is available. (Malaria is not a notifiable disease and attacks of malaria are not registered. Deaths from malaria are classified under the column ‘fevers’ in death registers.)

“(b) An anti-malaria scheme at Government cost is working in the Nellore district since 1944. There has been a distinct fall in malaria prevalence in the villages in Nellore district referred to, as a result of the anti-malarial operations carried on under the above scheme. The scheme will be continued.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know whether the Hon. Minister will consider it advisable to declare malaria a notified disease in Nellore district?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“Malaria is prevalent in many areas. I cannot understand why Nellore district should be singled out.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“He wants the disease to be notified.”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“Village officers will be asked to further classify deaths under fevers into malaria and other fevers.”

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know whether the village officers will be able to diagnose the particular kind of fever?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ As far as possible they will be asked to furnish the information.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ May I know whether the Hon. Minister for Public Health will take medical advice in the matter?”
(Laughter.)

No answer.

Deaths due to smallpox.

* 144 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that deaths due to smallpox in 1945 were higher than those in 1944;

(b) whether the Government have examined the causes for such increase;

(c) whether the staff employed for vigilant vaccination work has been increased;

(d) whether the Government have under consideration proposals for improving vaccination work; and

(e) whether the Government have under consideration proposals to improve the salaries and prospects of vaccinators and Health Inspectors and to increase the staff engaged in vaccination and supervision of their work?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ (a) Yes. There were 860 more deaths from smallpox in 1945 than in 1944. (Recorded deaths from smallpox in 1945 were 20,636 as against 19,776 in 1944.)

“ (b) The causes for the increased prevalence of smallpox in 1944 and 1945 were—

(i) Dislocation of vaccination work during the period 1942 to 1944 due to diversion of the vaccination staff to combat the widespread epidemic of cholera which was prevailing in several districts at the time on account of the abnormal movements of the population due to evacuation and war conditions, and

(ii) dearth of qualified candidates for appointment as vaccinators to vaccinate the large number of unprotected children left over as a result of the above.

“ (c) Yes. Special arrangements were made to train candidates in vaccination work and they were appointed temporarily in local areas wherever necessary.

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“ (d) & (e) Yes. Government have recently raised the scales of pay of vaccinators and health inspectors. Recommendations are being made to the district boards and municipalities to increase their vaccination staff according to requirements. Expansion of public health services including vaccination work has been provided for in the post-war reconstruction schemes. The number of admissions to the Sanitary Inspector's class in the Madras Medical College has been raised from 90 to 150.”

MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—“ Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to increase the number of women vaccinators?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ The matter will be considered.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—“ May I know how many women vaccinators are working at present?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ I have no information at present.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I ask whether the Hon. Minister considers the emoluments paid to the vaccinators and the Health Inspectors are sufficiently attractive to get the best men?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ Their salaries have been recently increased according to the recommendations of the Salaries Committee.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Will the Hon. Minister re-examine the question in view of the importance of the work done by the vaccinators and inspectors?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ It will be examined.”

Control of guineaworm disease.

* 145 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what measures have been adopted for the control of guineaworm disease;

(b) whether it is a fact that the conversion of step-wells into draw-wells is the most effective method for controlling guineaworm disease;

(c) if so, what steps, if any, have been taken to convert step-wells into draw-wells;

(d) whether conversion of step-wells into draw-wells finds a high priority in the rural water-supply scheme; and

(e) how many step-wells have been converted into draw-wells since the rural water-supply scheme was inaugurated?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ (a) The following measures have been adopted :—

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- (i) Conversion of step-wells into draw-wells,
- (ii) biological method, i.e., introduction of certain species of fish into wells which will eat away the cyclops and render the water safe,
- (iii) chemical method of treating infested drinking water with fresh lime, and
- (iv) intensive propaganda in infested villages with regard to the mode of infection and control of the disease; education of the villagers to prevent contamination of water by persons suffering from the disease and to strain drinking water through a piece of cloth to remove the cyclops.

“(b) Yes. It is the most effective and also a permanent method.

“(c) Collectors have been asked to take steps to convert step-wells into draw-wells wherever possible.

“(d) High priority is given for the conversion of step-wells into draw-wells in unhealthy localities where there is guinea-worm.

“(e) 316.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ In view of the fact that the number of step-wells converted into draw-wells is so small and that guinea-worm is prevalent in many parts of the Presidency, will the Hon. Minister draw the attention of the Collectors to give high priority to the conversion of step-wells into draw-wells?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ Yes, Sir.”

Recommendations of the Bhore Committee.

* 146 Q.—MRS. MONA HENSMAN (on behalf of Mrs. M. N. Clubwala) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state what action has been taken on the recommendations of the Bhore Committee and whether before finalizing their views the Government propose to constitute and consult a Committee of the Legislature?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ The Health Survey and Development Committee's recommendations on various public subjects require examination in the light of the orders passed by the Government on their post-war schemes relating to the subjects dealt with by the Committee, to see what action is called for on those recommendations. Such an examination has now been going on for the last six months in the Secretariat, and the examination so far made shows that in matters like the establishment of province-wide health organizations, health services for special diseases (like malaria, cholera, plague, etc.), water-supply and drainage (urban and rural), maternity and child welfare, nutritional research, the schemes which have already been

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formulated by the Government and are awaiting implementation or which are already in the process of execution either satisfy in essentials the principles recommended by that Committee or are more progressive than the schemes proposed by the Committee.

“ Wherever the recommendations of the Committee cover new ground, they are examined in consultation with the concerned heads of departments, and if in any case the nature of the recommendations calls for a consideration of the problems involved by an expert committee, the question of constituting such a committee will be considered by the Government.

“ A conference of Provincial Health Ministers which was held in New Delhi in October last has reviewed several salient recommendations of the Bhore Committee and has reached conclusions. More such conferences will probably be held in future.

“ The Government do not therefore consider that any useful purpose will be served by constituting a committee of the Legislature in connection with these recommendations. The orders passed by Government from time to time on the recommendations will be made available in the library of the Legislature.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Is it not one of the recommendations of the Bhore Committee that in regard to the admission of students to medical colleges, one-third should be recruited on the ground of merit alone?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ I have no information, now.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I ask, Sir, whether the answer given by the Hon. Minister is the considered opinion of this Government, or whether the answer has been merely prepared in the Secretariat and whether it is the individual opinion of the Hon. Minister?”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ We should not go into the authorship of the answer.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ The answer relates to policy on some important matter and therefore I want to know whether it is the considered opinion of the Government.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Sir, the answers given are always the considered opinion of the Government. I do not think the Government give answers in such a way as to rouse doubts as to their veracity or as to their application to the questions raised.”

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K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ A doubt arose in my mind out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister, because he said that these questions are being examined in the Secretariat for the past six months . . . ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ It was also said that the results were published and made available to the Members.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ It was said that they would be published and would be made available.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I draw the attention of the Hon. Minister that in view of what all he has said, very little provision has been made to carry out many of these items in the Budget for 1947-48 and in view of the strong feeling here and outside, whether he would see that some at least of the recommendations of which the Madras Government are in favour are given effect to in the near future?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ Whatever is possible will be done, Sir.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I want to say a word of explanation. These are extensive schemes of health services and from the point of view of finance, they come under a spending department. Therefore unless due provision is made in the Budget for the year, these schemes cannot be taken up as often as may be necessary or as often as one may wish. In this Budget, the allotment made is rather poor and I do not know whether the Government will be justified in accepting a proposition of that sort.”

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—“ May I ask, Sir, how many health centres are going to be started this year in this Province?”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The budget proposals must give some information to the hon. Membetr.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ As the Hon. the Leader of the House himself says that the provision made is poor, will the Government consider the matter again and bring forward some supplementary demands and we will be glad to consider them?”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member means perhaps pass them.” (Laughter.)

X-ray apparatus for Royapetta Tuberculosis Hospital.

* 147 Q.—MRS. MONA HENSMAN (on behalf of Mrs. M. N. Clubwala : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Tuberculosis Hospital at Royapetta is provided with X-ray apparatus;

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(b) whether even serious cases have to be sent to the General Hospital for obtaining X-ray photographs; and

(c) whether the Government propose to instal an X-ray apparatus in this hospital?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“ (a) The answer is in the negative.

“ (b) They are sent to the Tuberculosis Institute at Egmore and not to the General Hospital, Madras.

“ (c) The Government have already sanctioned the expenditure for the construction of four blocks of 18 beds each in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram, for transferring the patients in the Tuberculosis Hospital, Royapetta, and it is therefore not proposed at present, to instal an X-ray apparatus in this hospital.

“ After receipt of this answer, I understand that action has been taken to have a screening apparatus in the hospital at Royapetta.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ There are two questions, Nos. 122 and 123 left over from the 29th March on which we may be allowed to put supplementary questions.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ They concern the Minister for Education and the Minister for Public Information. Does the Hon. Minister agree to answer questions now?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ The answer has already been placed on the table.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ The nature of the work entrusted to the officers of this department is detailed in answer to clause (c). Is it the intention of the Government to set up another organization different from the existing district organization to collect the facts and submit them to the Public Information Officer here without any verification by the head of the district?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ Any information that will be collected will certainly be verified before it is issued.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Who is the verifying authority? Will these officers work under the Collector of the district?”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I may just inform the hon. Member that these staffs have not yet been appointed. There are proposals pending before the Government in the light of the Government Order already issued and appointments were proposed to be made but no decision has been taken.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I take it that the Government are not committed to this scheme, that it is still under their consideration and that no expenditure will be incurred by making these appointments? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ These are the appointments that have been suggested as per the proposals already made. And as per the proposals these appointments are expected to be made. But in view of the necessity for going into the question about the nature of the work they have got to do and several other matters, the question of appointments is now not yet completed. It will be taken up some time later if there is need for the appointment of these officers.”

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“ Certain appointments were referred to on the floor of the House on 10th February last as having been made, I mean the appointments of Deputy Directors.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I think the answer to clause (d) gives the information regarding the staff.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ The number of copies of the Urdu edition is not given. May I know the number, Sir? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member perhaps means the Hindustani edition in the Arabic script as distinct from the Devanagari script.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I want notice, Sir.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Sir, it is stated in answer to clause (h) that the Hindi portion is intended mostly to educate the public in Northern India regarding the work of the Madras Ministry and the cultural heritage of the South, may I ask, Sir, whether that purpose will be fulfilled if the Hindi edition alone is published without publishing an Urdu edition in view of the fact that a large proportion of the people in Northern India know Urdu rather than Hindi? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ The suggestion to publish an Urdu edition also will be considered if necessary. So far as I can see from the files, there is provision made to print an edition in Urdu script also. It does not state the number of copies printed. I shall see that sufficient number of copies are printed in that script.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are aware that the object of educating the public in Northern India regarding the work of the Madras Ministry and the cultural heritage of the South will best be achieved by the publication of ‘ Madras Information ’ in Urdu rather in Hindi? ”

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ That is a matter of opinion, Sir.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Which is the language which the population concerned knows better, Sir, and will not the object be better achieved . . . ? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ What is the hon. Member's question? Does he want the Government not to publish it in Hindi at all? ”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Not at all, Sir. It may be published in Hindi. But if the object is to educate the public of Northern India regarding the work of the Madras Ministry and the cultural heritage of the South, will that object be achieved by publishing a Hindi edition alone while a large proportion of the population of Northern India knows, speaks and writes Urdu rather than Hindi and the Hindi-speaking population is comparatively small? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think the Hon. Minister has already said that the journal is printed in Urdu script also.”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ I do not accept the proposition of the hon. Member that the people in Northern India who know Hindi are less than those who know Urdu and the Urdu script.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ It is a matter of census, Sir.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Is it a fact that only a small number of copies of ‘ Madras Information ’ are circulated and that the rest are allowed to lie waste in the office? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ All the copies are printed for circulation. I do not know whether copies are left over in the office. If my hon. Friend has any information and if he passes on the information to me, I shall see that such waste is prevented and that all the copies printed are circulated.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Because there is a general complaint that a number of copies are allowed to lie waste in the office and that there is a large waste of money, will the Hon. Minister kindly make enquiries? ”

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“ No waste of public money will be allowed. If there are copies that are not circulated, I can assure the hon. Member that they will certainly be circulated, and if there is no need for circulation, the number of copies printed will be reduced.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know why this Government are anxious to educate the public in Northern India regarding the work of the Madras Ministry and the cultural heritage of the South? ”

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THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" It is not anxiety, but necessity for the Government to see that the public in the North know what the Madras Government are doing."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know whether this Government are responsible to the public of Northern India or to the public of this Province, and whether this procedure is adopted by any other Provincial Government in Northern India or elsewhere? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I cannot say to my hon. Friend at once whether this practice is there in other Provinces or not. Any good practice, whether it exists elsewhere or not, should be started somewhere. If my hon. Friend is convinced that it is good, there is nothing wrong in Madras starting it."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether Hindi is the regional language of any area in this Presidency? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" So far as I know, no."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If the intention of the Government is to do propaganda in Northern India, is it worthwhile spending about Re. 1-1 lakh per annum on printing so many copies of the ' Madras Information? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" Only a thousand copies are printed in Hindi, Sir."

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

II.—MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have to announce to the House the following message, dated Fort St. George, 31st March 1947, received by me from the Hon'ble the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly :—

' In accordance with rule 108 of the Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Removal of Civil Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.C. Bill No. 1 of 1947), as agreed to by the Assembly without any amendment and signed by me.'

" I have to announce to the House the following messages, dated Fort St. George, the 1st April 1947, have been received by me from the Hon'ble the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly :—

' 1. In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly on the 1st of April 1947 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council.'

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' 2. In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 10 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly on the 1st April 1947 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council '."

III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS TEMPLE ENTRY AUTHORIZATION BILL, 1947 (AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY)

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I beg leave of the House to move that the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Bill,* 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" On a point of information, Sir. In the agenda, it is mentioned that the Hon. Sri O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar, Prime Minister, will move the motion."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I think it is open to any member of Government to deal with the Bill, even if the motion stands in the name of some other member on the agenda."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" In this case, you also happen to be a member of this House."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The agenda is intended to give information to the members of the House. It is not intended to be violated always."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not think it is an important point at all."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The Hon. Leader of the House was just saying that it was of no importance. The motion stands in the name of the Hon. Prime Minister. If he had any respect for this House, he could have asked the permission of the House to move the motion in the absence of the Hon. Prime Minister. The House will certainly agree."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That is what the Hon. Minister did."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It is not correct to say that in answering a question or moving a motion, the permission of the House should be taken by a Minister acting on behalf of an absentee Minister in whose name the question or motion stands. At the most, I may request you, as the President, that I may be permitted to move, as the Minister in whose name the motion stands is absent. But it is not the rule or convention that a motion should be moved and the permission of the House taken. Any member of Government can answer for any other member in his absence."

* Printed as Appendix III on pages 606-608 infra.

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"I do not think even the Hon. Leader of the Opposition says that a formal motion should be moved and the permission of the House taken. I think he just wants that any Hon. Minister functioning for any other Minister should inform the House about the need for doing so."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"That is all."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I did not intend any insult to the House when I moved the motion. Probably if I had said that I was moving it on behalf of the Prime Minister, that would have been quite in order. I do realize the fault is entirely mine, for this reason that I did not mention it to the House. But I took it for granted, having moved it in the other House without any objection to the propriety of my doing so. I meant no offence to the members opposite. In fact, I imagined that, because 'I begged leave of the House', my request for permission was implied."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"All this trouble could have been avoided, if you had given notice of the motion in your own name."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If the Hon. President had drawn my attention, I would certainly have done it."

"In moving for the consideration of this Bill, I want to say a few words. The question of Harijan uplift and eradication of untouchability came to be actively considered by the public of this country in the year 1932. The historic fast of Mahatma Gandhi in Poona drew the Hindus and the Harijans together for considering the question. As a result of the fast and the assurances given by the Hindu and Harijan leaders in the whole country, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya held a meeting and affirmed through a resolution the determination of the Caste Hindus to implement everything that was said on that occasion, including the removal of the bar to the entry of Harijans into Hindu temples. The movement having started under such auspices in the year 1932"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think you said in the other House that you had taken this duty upon yourself as a *Prayaschitha*."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am reserving it for a later stage. If the Hon. President wants me to repeat what I said in the other House, I shall do so."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Because the question had been asked, you may straightaway answer that."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is not a question of answering. It was a definite proposition."

"I simply go into the history of this question. I did not say this in the Lower House and so I thought I could complete the picture as to how it started and how it has come up before this Legislature. In fact, it was left to Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, our

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ex-Premier, to introduce the Malabar Temple Entry Bill in 1937. After it became an Act, many temples were thrown open. Consequent on the opening of temples, legal difficulties crept in. To remove those difficulties, the Madras Temple Entry Authorization and Indemnity Act was passed in 1939 preventing legal interference with matters consequent upon the opening of temples. Since 1937, this movement has gathered much strength. During the last few months since the Congress Ministry came into power, a good many of our temples have been opened, temples which are worthy of being opened—not that any temple is more worthy than the other—important temples at which people from all over India congregate in large numbers throughout the year. Such important temples have been opened. One important feature of the opening of these temples is the enormous enthusiasm shown and the warm welcome given by the Hindu public of this province. Taking a few temples in which I was present, I may say that thousands of Caste Hindus not only gathered together, but welcomed the Harijan leaders, who came for worship, with great regard, love and respect. What is more! They accompanied them in large numbers to the shrines and took them to the *sanctum sanctorum* where worship is offered by every Caste Hindu. As a consequence of this what appears to the orthodox mind to be the most revolutionary thing went off very smoothly. People took it as a matter of course as they know that it ought to have come much earlier. The hesitation on the part of the public was to a certain extent due to the many other political events that intervened and consequently came the delay. But when once the popular Government began to function the enthusiasm of the public grew rapidly in opening almost all the temples. There are still, Sir, a few temples, I am sorry to say, that are yet to be opened. It would have been well had this Government not come in with this Bill. But I must say to my regret that obstacles have been raised by the trustees and other interested parties in the opening of the temples. The object of this Bill is to enable those recalcitrant trustees to obey the law and see that those temples are also opened for the Harijans. Therefore it takes away that power of interference which the previous Bill gave. According to the previous Bill they were asked to take a referendum on the subject of temple entry and they had to follow up the referendum by an application for permission of the Government, and the Government had to satisfy themselves that the temple could be opened and whether they had an absolutely overwhelming majority of the Hindu public for it. All that responsibility was placed on the Government. But the events that have happened during these few months have convinced the Government that they need not wait for such dilatory processes in opening the temples and they have come to the conclusion that all the Hindu temples all over the Province should be opened. That is the scope of the present Bill.

"One other thing which is of great importance in this Bill is, while opening these temples the Government also have conceded the right to these excluded castes to bathe in all the sacred

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tanks, bathe in the rivers apurtenant to the temples, walk over the hills and reach the shrines on the top of such hills and take part in such rites and ceremonies as might be attached to the temples in the process of worship. In fact there is nothing to-day that could prevent any member of the Scheduled Castes from walking straight to any temple he likes provided that is a Hindu temple. To carry out the full intentions of this Act there are provisions made in the Act which make it an offence for any man who interferes with the lawful worship in the temples. This is really a great addition to-day, Sir. It is possible, Sir, that a worshipper may be prevented or otherwise interfered with in offering worship in a temple but according to this Bill he can apply to the law to get the security and guarantee under the law to protect him and allow him to worship. Of course he shall not have a more privileged position in the matter of worship than is conferred on other Hindus in general. Barring that, the Hindu temples are open to every member of the community who are Hindus. That is really the point, Sir. My contention is that there have been no statutory basis, statutory in the sense of Sastric injunctions or otherwise, for the prevention of these classes from worshipping in the temples. It has been a matter of custom and nothing more and, Sir, custom has often been thrown overboard by great men. From the time of Ramanuja down it has been the custom also that no Hindu whoever he may be, of whatever caste he may be, can be denied the right of worship in the temple. As early as the twelfth century when Ramanuja lived he was the foremost reformer of his times, and he did, in spite of the opposition he had to face, take a number of Harijans into the temple where he worshipped at Melkote in the Mysore State. Even to-day that great event is perpetuated and celebrated year after year in that temple by allowing free access to all Hindus on those days for worship. Sir, that is the history of the Vaishnavite cult which is in a pre-eminent position with regard to temples and the worship that is offered there.

" Temple worship is perhaps a peculiar property of South India. A large number of temples are strewn over the villages and the cities and trusts have been created. There have been in our history times when temples were razed to the ground, when temples were plundered and idols were trampled. All that had happened more than once in a number of Hindu shrines but it must be said to the credit of the Hindu religion that in spite of all that had happened temples have grown, temples have been rebuilt and temples have been built in such a way that any amount of destruction has not been able to prevent the growth and development of temples and the religion. To-day the number of temples are still growing. To-day, Sir, when we see the intention of consolidating the Hindu faith and the Hindu people by taking back to their faith millions of people whom they have neglected so far, it is a natural pleasure and joy to all of us, those who claim to be Hindus, to welcome this legislation. The legislation, Sir, is not in advance of public opinion but in fact it is in the wake of public opinion and it is being

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legalized. Therefore in this legislation there is no hurry. Full time has been given to the public and when once the public opinion has been ascertained the Bill has come in its wake. Sir, the Hindu faith, whatever may be the controversies about its nature to-day, is still a live faith and temple worship is a part of the Hindu faith. Sir, I know this also, that is, if a man does not go to the temple, there is no bar on his continuing to be a Hindu. Hindu philosophy and faith is such that a man who might even abuse and ridicule a temple is still allowed to remain a Hindu. The spirit of Hinduism is such that in spite of all those forces which operate against it, the Hindu faith has not thought it necessary to impose any ban on those Hindu devotees. Instead they allow a large amount of freedom of thought, freedom of action with regard to the faith and to the various restrictions placed upon following the faith. This very freedom of action in the Hindu religion appears to-day to be the safety valve of that faith. If to-day the Hindu religion exists as it is, it is because of that freedom that has been established in the Hindu religion. Any Hindu to-day can say: 'I do not worship this God, there is no God, etc.' By this I mean that even that amount of liberty has been given to him to say that, but still he is a Hindu and because of that freedom that has been granted to him, to-day Hindu religion is what it is. If on account of restrictions and other things he does not continue in the faith there will be nothing done to him. To-day the Hindu population might have decreased to a certain extent, but even in the face of it, Hindu reformers never said that a man should be refused the right of worship or the privilege of worship. I think, this opening of temples is in conformity with the thought that has been prevalent in the Hindu faith through ages and we are simply reaffirming the dogma that underlies the Hindu faith to-day. We do not mind if a man forsakes his own religion and takes to another religion. We have no quarrel with him. In fact we treat him just as he was treated before. It is on account of this freedom that we see the spectacle of people taking to other religion. Hindu faith is so sure of its own ground that we do not find any necessity for any restraint. We do not seek refuge in isolation and in putting restrictions on the activities of our people. That perhaps accounts for the development of the Hindu faith even to-day in its present form, in the number of temples that have been opened and in the number of worshippers that have gathered round. Our intention is to gather more worshippers and the fact that the scheduled castes who had been prevented from entering the temples have come in, shall not in my opinion, in any way diminish either the attendance at the temples, nor will it in any way affect the resources of the temple. It is not our intention by admitting these people to forsake the temples or make the temples deserted. Our intention is that these people who have been denied the right of worship must be allowed to worship and every orthodox Hindu who believes in temple should feel it his duty to take as many of the Harijans into the temples as possible and give them the privilege of worship. He should also see that the Hindu temples get more popular day by day.

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Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar when he put some restrictions on the temple said this: 'It is not our intention to desecrate the temples or make them deserted.' He said that the temples should continue and the worship must continue as a part and parcel of Hindu faith. Having said that it was his intention to assure that the Hindu public, the majority of them at least, would accept this proposition and admit the scheduled castes into the temples. Therefore he quoted that it was intentional not to make these temples available for those people who never believe in temples. Sir, even amongst the Hindus there is a section of the people who do not want temples, who say that idol worship is all nonsense and yet they are all Hindus and it shall not be given to them to invade the temples and make them deserted or desecrated by their thought or action. On the other hand it is the intention of this Government to enable all Hindus who feel that they have a right as Hindus to go and worship in a temple to do so. Therefore it is that this Bill was not proceeded with for the last 5 or 6 years. At last the Government have found the necessary public opinion for the enactment of this Bill and therefore we have brought it here to-day. Sir, this is the origin of the movement for the removal of untouchability. This is the biggest instrument for removing untouchability. Once the temples are opened, a thing in which we believe, a thing in which we want our brother Hindus to take part, then it is our intention that these temples shall be preserved and maintained and the Government shall see that such temples allow all the Hindus alike to come and worship as they choose. Sir, if before God, if before the shrine this vice of untouchability goes every Hindu will deal and move with every other Hindu just as if he were his brother. If every caste takes part in the worship then the biggest obstacle to the removal of untouchability is done away with. As I said in the other House, economically we may not have finances enough to give it to them, to raise them from their dependent position. With regard to their want of culture, of knowledge or education, they entirely rest with the Government and with the finances that are at the disposal of the Government. There has been change of heart on the part of Hindus on this question. There has been change of heart on the part of the Hindus just to show their own willingness to give to the Harijans the privilege of worshipping God. There has been change of heart that the stain of untouchability should be removed. If an Harijan is asked to-day to stand at a distance, he may retort and say 'I go to your temple; I go and worship your God and my God; where is untouchability?' This Bill gives us all an atmosphere of equality.

"After this Bill is passed into law, I know there may be a few village temples which may refuse admission to Harijans. If they do so, it is because they are ignorant of law and of the consequences of the infringement of law. The other day the Civil Disabilities Bill was passed by the other house. When it becomes law, there may still be found some cases in which Harijans are prevented from enjoying certain rights, by people who do not know law, villagers particularly. There may be a few temples whose

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trustees by their influence and by their position in particular villages may prevent Harijans from entering the temples. If temples at Tirupati, Srirangam and other places are thrown open, scheduled classes cannot have any grouse against the other members of the Hindu community. When big temples are thrown open even if a few village temples are not thrown open owing to ignorance of law—scheduled classes will have no reason to grouse against the other Hindus with regard to temple-entry. This temple-entry is a factor which goes to remove untouchability; this temple-entry has got a unique position in the Hindu community; this I want to bring to the notice of the House.

"We have not taken away the powers of the trustees with regard to the regulation of temple matters, admission into and worship in temples. To the extent to which Caste Hindus observe certain rules, Harijans also have to observe them. Trustees have been given certain powers under this Act. The trustee is given power to control the affairs of the temple, to maintain discipline and to maintain order. Consequent upon this Act, suppose one gentleman takes it into his head to knock at the temple at odd hours, says that the temple is not open and calls in the aid of the Police. He cannot interfere with the powers of the trustee. The trustee has got control over the temple; he regulates the affairs of the temple, takes disciplinary action and regulates worship in the temple. A temple is not built by one Hindu; it is built by all Hindus. Even the present Bill gives powers to the trustees to maintain order, etc.

"One other point. What was contained in the old Act is repeated in this Bill also. No suit for damages, injunction or declaration or for any other relief, no prosecution for any offence, and no application or other proceeding under the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1926, or any other law, shall be instituted in respect of any entry into or worship in any temple. No suit, prosecution, application or proceeding of the nature aforesaid, instituted before the commencement of this Act, shall be continued thereafter, without the sanction of the Provincial Government. If any question arises as to whether a place is or is not a temple as defined in this Act, the question shall be referred to the Provincial Government and their decision shall be final subject however to any decree passed by a competent civil Court in a suit filed before it within six months of the date of the decision of the Provincial Government. Whoever prevents a person belonging to any excluded class from exercising any right conferred by this Act or molests or obstructs any such person in the exercise of any such right shall be punishable, in the case of a first offence, with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees and in the case of a second or subsequent offence, with imprisonment which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees or with both."

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"There is one other point. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Provincial Government may, by order, do anything which appears to them necessary for the purpose of removing the difficulty.

"This is an enabling provision. It gives power to the Provincial Government to carry out the intentions of the Act. The Act is very clear. On the grounds I have mentioned, this Bill is one which the Hindu community needs, and needs very badly. Since public opinion is in favour of the Bill, there need be no difficulty in the minds of Legislators to give sanction to the passing of this Bill.

"In asking the leave of the House to introduce this Bill, I would like to state that the Hindus would be grateful to such of the hon. Members of this House who belong to other communities, to understand the implications of the Bill, to give their support to Hindus in their endeavour to consolidate themselves, and to help us to remove all difficulties in the way of our living as one community. I request hon. Members to give their wholehearted support to the Bill being introduced and passing through all its stages before this House.

"There is one point which I would like to report to this House. During the period of six months the Bill has been before the public, there has been only one representation from a few orthodox members who have asked the Government to exclude some temples so that in their opinion they may be reserved for them to continue their worship without the addition of these people. They say such permission may be given in the case of one or two temples. I am not at all unhappy over it, because I am surprised that there are not many such demands. After so many years of exclusion, only a small handful of people ask for this privilege. My surprise is that the demand is not made by numerous people belonging to orthodox society. Even the orthodox members of society have in a way compromised themselves to the situation. Perhaps only a very few people are against the Bill.

"I know the attitude of men like the late Srinivasa Sastri who some years ago pleaded that consideration should be given to the views of orthodox people who are representatives to-day of the old regime. Because Mr. Rajagopalachari wanted to make the motives of Hindus clear in modern times, he thought it his duty to bring forward such a Bill some years ago. I feel that the Government cannot, by any stretch of imagination, think that they are denying this privilege to the orthodox people. For, as I said in the beginning, the Hindu religion does not ask every one to go to the temple. It is open to some of them to have small temples in their own houses; they can allow only a few people. They will be private temples; they will not be temples recognized under this Act. According to the Hindu religion, everybody has the right to worship in his own particular way he chooses. As custodians of the rights of the citizens of this Province, the Government cannot

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exclude the public from entering public temples. It is with very great regret that the Government find themselves unable to meet the demands of orthodox people.

"With these words I introduce the Bill."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The question is that—
the Bill to authorize entry into temples in the Province of Madras and the offer of worship therein by certain classes of Hindus who by custom or usage are excluded from such entry and worship (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once."

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM:—"Mr. President, Sir, I cannot 12.45 p.m.
congratulate the Government on the legislation which they are seeking to place on the statute book. If this Bill—Temple Entry Authorization Bill, as it is called—has been motivated by a genuine feeling of repentance for the wrongs, indignities and injustices done to my community for ages past by the caste Hindus, and a sincere desire for social uplift, I should have rejoiced, and my community would have rejoiced that, with the withdrawal of alien rule from India, freedom has come to us just as much as to other communities inhabiting this land.

"But looking to the past history and antecedents of this measure, I cannot but regard it as a political stunt, got up at this psychological moment for propaganda and advertisement to the outside world that you are making amends for the age-long injustices inflicted on the Harijan community. We do not see any sign of a real change of heart.

"Sir, I would be failing in my duty if on this occasion, I do not recall the great services and the pioneering work done by two of the respected and revered leaders of the Scheduled class community. I am referring, Mr. President, to the late Dewan Bahadur M. C. Raja and R. Srinivasan. They were leaders born from our community: they understood the special problems and difficulties under which we were labouring, and with tireless zeal and energy, they set about on their mission for the amelioration of the lot of the untouchables. I am sure Government benches will bear testimony to their selfless work in the cause of Harijan emancipation. The Bill which the Government are now pressing forward, I consider, is a belated outcome of their tireless efforts to see the Harijans enjoy equal civil rights in common with the other members of the Hindu community. I am sorry they are not with us now to see the fruition of their labours. But their spirit is watching us telling the Government: 'We are glad you have realized the need for this measure; better late than never, and so we give you some measure of praise for this belated recognition of our rights.'

"The Leader of the House has admitted that the orthodox section—and let me remind the House that they are a powerful, rich and influential section, and are clamouring for setting apart certain temples exclusively for their worship. He also spoke of 'recalcitrant trustees' putting every kind of obstacle in the way of

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admission of the untouchables into the Hindu temples. Let me tell him, that is exactly what is happening now even in the case of the temples which you have already declared open to the Harijans with all the bombast and publicity given to such occasions by the highlights of the Congress Party. For the first time when he goes in the company of the big-wig, the outcaste is admitted, and you proclaim to the world that such and such a famous temple has been thrown open for the worship of the Harijan. But when the poor outcaste, the pariah or the untouchable goes next time, he is threatened, he is intimidated, and he is barred admission. That has been our experience, and there is nothing to enthuse us in this measure.

"It is true that you are prescribing penalties under the Law, but how can the poor man go to a Court of Law when he has no money to get his rights established? Sir, I will now come to the history of this Temple Entry business which has remained a mere paper agitation ever since the signing of the Poona Pact. I was one of the signatories of the Pact—I do not disguise from the House that fact, and I signed it partly under duress and partly because I was led to believe in the protestations of sympathy made by the caste Hindu leaders. Hon. Members will recollect that soon after the Poona Pact was signed, there was so much of lip sympathy expressed by the Congress leaders. The late M. C. Raja, with the approval and blessings of Mr. Gandhi and the support of no less a person than Mr. C. Rajagopalachari introduced a Bill in the Indian Legislative Assembly in September 1933. That Bill was in its intent, scope and purpose much more wide and comprehensive than the present measure.

"What happened to that Bill? It is a very instructive study of the psychology of mind of the caste Hindu leaders. No less a person than Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya opposed it tooth and nail. It was received with mixed feelings from Government Benches, and the then Law Member, Sir, B. L. Mitter, damned it with faint praise. But he did raise a very pertinent point which I would like to put to the Government in the present context. The Hindu social order is composed of four castes, i.e., Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaisya, Sudra and if there is to be no Sudra or untouchable, then they have to be brought under one or other of the three castes. If the outcaste ceases to be an outcaste, then to what caste are you going to assign him? I would like to have an answer from the Government on this point from to-day onwards. Sir, I am no more an untouchable and no more an outcaste, thereupon Sir, am I to be styled as Naidu, Mudaliyar, Pillai, Raju, Varma or Rao?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Does the hon. Member like to bring an amendment to the Bill? ”

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—“ Mr. President, while I do not for a moment underrate the importance of removing social inequalities and prejudices, I do say, Sir, that the question of bread and butter is of supreme concern to us. Our community being in

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the bottom of the economic ladder living the life of the slum dweller in the cities and landless labourers in the villages, we need special facilities for education, medical relief, and patronage from the Government. Give us lands for cultivation, give us schools and colleges for educating our children, reserve all the higher posts in Government service till the present inequalities are redressed.

“ There is no use in your throwing temples open to us and asking us to stick to the Hindu religion. The dynamic of bread and butter are too potent and powerful, and any appeal made on behalf of religion cannot make any impression when the body is not well fed, well clothed and well housed. The Great Mahatma has himself admitted that a people famishing and suffering for want of work, the only acceptable form in which God dare appear is work and promise of food as wages.

“ Mr. President, of the Four Freedoms which President Roosevelt enunciated in our view freedom from want and freedom from fear must proceed freedom of speech and freedom of worship. Speaking on behalf of the eight million untouchables in this Presidency, ‘ we can only think of entering into your temples and worshipping God, if our stomachs are full and if we are assured of freedom from want and freedom from fear.’ That ought to be your supreme concern, and objective, and temple entry only takes a secondary place in the eyes of the down-trodden masses of outcastes and untouchables. Let the Government address themselves to this supreme and urgent task. Mr. President, I think it is the Hindu way to worship God with empty stomachs.’

“ Mr. President, the Harijans are not the sole beneficiaries of this Temple Entry Authorization Bill. There are the so-called high caste Hindus who are styled as Nadars, Gramanias, Sanars, Vaniyars of Tamil Nadu, the Ezhavas and Thiyaas of Malabar. I do not grudge their getting the benefit in our name. Only I feel bound to request them not to harass my people in the villages, as they are now doing in several parts of the Province. In Malabar, Sir, not merely untouchability exists in virulent form, not merely are Harijans not allowed anywhere near the precincts of the temple, but there are much greater sins and social evils like unapproachability, unseeability and unthinkability. The eradication of these evils must receive the urgent attention of the Government, where is the justification for these customs and practices even in Hindu Sastras?

“ If I may quote the Smrithi, ‘ *Swapa, Chopi Mahee pala Vishnu Bhaktho Dwi Jathika-Vishnubhakathi Veheenasthu Ethhi Swapachadhama* ’ meaning thereby that even a Chandala if he is a devotee of God becomes greater than Dwij. If he is an *yati* who has no devotion to God he becomes a *Chandala*.

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"I hope and trust, Sir, that with the passing of this Bill there will be a real change of heart in our caste Hindu masters, and that the Government will address itself to the eradication of all social economic inequalities that exist to-day and elevate the Schedule Classes to their own level with these few words I request the Hon. the Leader of the House to give us food, clothing and house to live in."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not share the reaction created by the Bill in the mind of the hon. Member who has just sat down. I think this Bill is a great advance and a landmark in his history of social reform. I therefore congratulate the Ministry on introducing this Bill. Ministers are leaders of public opinion and I am glad and gratified that they have given a correct and good lead in this matter."

"I am also gratified, Sir, that the Leader of this House has given the lead himself. It is quite possible, Sir, that in his previous birth Dr. Rajan might have been a Brahman and might have been a tyrant too, and that is why, I think, he has been born again for the purpose of removing untouchability, because, I feel that what he said in introducing this Bill, came from the bottom of his heart."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I am glad to know that you believe in re-birth and re-incarnation."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Sir, there are many who believe in re-birth. (A voice: 'Do you believe in it?') I must say, Sir, that I am a great admirer of Hindu metaphysics and mysticism."

"Sir, having said that this is a Bill which we should all welcome, I regret to say that there is no evidence that the Government will establish an economic democracy in this Province—Social democracy and economic democracy are like the legs of a man. If you want to march forward, you should take one step forward with one leg and then you must move the other leg and place it in front of the first. Therefore, Sir, this step forward, this advance towards social democracy must at once be accompanied by another step towards economic democracy. I do not find much evidence of it in this Bill at all. Sir, I should have liked that the Government introduced a Bill in which they provided that all the surplus funds in the temples are given over to the uplift of Harijans, that a section of this Bill contained a provision that at least a portion of the funds of temple is utilized for the educational uplift of the Harijans. I do not find any such provision in this Bill. Nor do I find that this Government, which is a popular Government, a Democratic Government, a National Government has any plan at all to introduce economic democracy in this Province. Sir, unless you have a socialistic state, you can never make a real advance. This Bill whose object is to open temples to Harijans will not be of much benefit to the Harijans, unless you create a socialistic state, an economic democracy, that is a democracy based on a different economic structure, based not

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on exploitation and competition as it is to-day, but on co-operation and service. I hope, Sir, that the Leader of the House and other Members of Government will realise that the other leg also move and raise the economic condition of the Harijans."

"Sir, I would go further and say that in making this social advance, I would expect the Ministry to abolish caste system altogether. After all untouchability is one aspect of caste system. Then, why not abolish the caste system in this Province altogether? Why should not the Government, which with one stroke of the pen, changed 'Mr.' into 'Sri', order that nobody should be called with the appellations Menon, Reddiar, Mudaliar or Chetty or Ayyangar? Sir, the Muslim society is not like the Hindu society. It is a great social democracy. But the Hindu structure of society is like that of a brick wall in which bricks are placed one upon the other with the untouchable at the bottom and the forward few at the top. If you want to remove one brick, you must destroy the whole wall. Sir, we want to destroy that structure of the Hindu Society and by destroying it, we not only abolish untouchability, but we abolish the caste system altogether. I would therefore ask the Government to consider this suggestion seriously. Sir, the abolition of the caste system and the democratization of the Hindu society would not only solve the differences between the different castes among the Hindus, but it will also solve the difference between Hindus and Muslims. Once the structure of the Hindu society is revolutionalized, or at any rate, altered, then all communal problems will be solved and there will be peace all round. I hope therefore that the present Ministry will bear this in view and introduce a Bill in the near future, removing not only untouchability but the entire caste system altogether."

† Sir, coming now to the principles of the Bill, section 6 of the Bill states that if any question arises as to whether a place is or is not a temple as defined in this Act, the question shall be referred to the Provincial Government and their decision shall be final subject however to any decrees passed by a competent civil court in a suit filed before it within six months of the date of decision of the Provincial Government. Sir, the Government in the past—the present Government are not responsible for it—had an inclination to exclude the jurisdiction of the court in cases where the courts should have jurisdiction and were inclined to give jurisdiction to courts where the courts ought not to have jurisdiction. It is very difficult to find out whether a particular temple is a temple within the meaning of this Act."

"Now, Sir, I might bring in by way of analogy the law relating to market to explain the position. Legislation in England and in India attempted to define the term 'market' which a place where foodstuffs and other edibles are sold. But the attempt failed as it was impossible to give a correct and comprehensive definition of the term 'market'. At the end the question was left to the decision of the Government. Section 310-A of the City Municipal Act and the corresponding sections in the District Municipalities

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and Local Boards Act provides, that if there is any dispute or doubt whether a particular place where edibles are sold and where people assemble is a market or not, it is left to the decision of the Government which is final. Now a similar provision has to be made in this Bill also with regard to the question whether a particular place is a temple. What I therefore suggest is that jurisdiction ought not to be given to courts at all. This section does not say that the Government will be a party to the litigation. Now, Sir, when a Harijan enters a temple, he claims that that is a temple within the meaning of this Act. Suppose a trustee or somebody else connected with the temple contends that it is not a temple within the meaning of this Act, that is, a place which is dedicated to, or for the benefit of, or used as of right by the Hindu community in general, as the place of public religious worship, then what will happen? It is a very difficult thing, Sir, even for a court of law to find whether a particular place within the meaning of the word 'temple'. If there is litigation, the poor Harijan will find it very difficult, to prove that the place is a temple; he has not got the money, the means and the convenience to carry this matter to a court of law and fight it out. Therefore, Sir, I suggest that this section 6 ought not to have given jurisdiction to the courts at all. This is not a matter for the courts to decide. I suggest that the jurisdiction of the courts may be taken away. If the Minister finds that difficulties are experienced in the working of the Act he may as well get the Act as amended on the analogy of section 310-A of the City Municipalities Act which does not define what a market is; Government may as well in this case decide finally what a temple is. That will be very much better. The Government ought not to give jurisdiction to courts wherever it is not necessary and take away their jurisdiction when it is necessary. Sir, as a lawyer member of this House I regret to say that this is a clumsy piece of legislation. Section 1, sub-section (1) says: 'This Act may be called the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act, 1947'. Then sub-section (2) says: 'It extends to the whole of the Province of Madras'; and again in sub-section (3) we find 'This section shall come into force at once' and that 'the remaining provisions of the Act shall come into force on such date as the Provincial Government may, by notification appoint.' I do not know, Sir, why the first section alone should come into force at once. The Government ought to have been better helped in the drafting of this Bill. We are all parties to this piece of legislation, and I suggest that somebody looks up precedents in regard to provisions such as those embodied in clause 1 of this Bill.

"One more remark I want to make, Sir. That is with reference to the claim of a few people who say that this Bill ought not to have been introduced at all. Sir, I hold the view that a democratic form of Government, shall always follow one principle. And that is a minority one—whether it is communal, ideological, economic or social, a minority should never be oppressed at all. The minority must be treated very generously, very favourably,

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* DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—"Mr. President, Sir, I believe that great forces are on the move; there is something going on in time and space; no, I would say even beyond time and space something is going on. A marvellous story is unfolding itself before not only the physical and mental, but the spiritual eyes of men. In India we are living in very very stirring times. As such, Sir, this Bill which is going to emerge to-day taking a final shape and form, has not come I believe a day too soon, or rather I would say it has come a day later. But I suppose, 'better late than never'. I will characterise this Bill as 'open sesame' by virtue of which most of the shrines in Southern India if not all will be thrown open automatically—their gates and their doors will fly open as if by the magic word 'open sesame.' But I am not quite sure whether this Act is going to be observed by the hierarchy or the higher classes, I mean the touchables, the caste-people of this Province. Unless there is a change of mentality, change of heart, unless such a thing springs from the free will of the people who alone can give it life it will be only a dead letter. We have already seen what has been the fate of similar social Acts such as the Sarada Act and the rest of it.

"It is a mystery, Sir, to me and to many others why Gandhiji was unwilling to throw open the shrines for the use of the untouchables before 1932,—it is indeed a mystery. The other significant point is: he is totally in favour of the caste-system though totally against untouchability as he conceives it to be. This is a very inconsistent position, in my opinion.

"Hinduism can be compared to a chariot with two wheels, the one is untouchability and the other the caste-system; or, to vary the metaphor it can be likened to a structure subsisting upon two pillars, if you remove one of them the whole structure will topple down, because they are intimately interlinked with each other. Anyway, I hope and pray that the Congress party before long will bring in a measure to do away with this time-honoured caste-system which is like a canker or a cancer eating into the very vitals of the Hindu body politic. Sir, my belief is that, as the hon. Dr. John expressed, most of the Hindu-Muslim tangle is due to

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this caste-system. We, Muslims, are not treated in a better way in certain things, than the untouchables by the caste people. For the matter of that, even other minorities such as Christians share the same fate. I believe, Sir, that if the caste-system is done away with in this great country of ours, most of the troubles, social and political, will disappear in no time. I hope the Congress hierarchy will take it into their heads to bring in such a measure as soon as possible. Anyway, Sir, for the good beginning the Congress has made in this direction, they deserve a measure of praise and thankfulness.

"Sir, among the great leaders of Hindus, I think the great Nehru is neutral or colourless so far as religion is concerned; he is a devotee, I should say, in the shrine of the Soviet Russia; he believes more in socialism, if not in the other extreme form of socialism—communism: he has no fixed ideas about religion at all."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"But are we really concerned with that now?"

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB:—"In passing I say it, because he is not so much interested in these things unless it be for political purposes. It is only the other leaders who should come forward and understand the inner workings of the minds of the other communities and bring in such measures as will ameliorate the various conditions, troubles with which we are face to face in this country to-day."

"Sir, I have nothing more to say, except once again to thank the Government for bringing forward this measure in the way of breaking ice in this direction."

1-15 p.m. DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"On a point of personal information, Sir, may I know what the procedure is, in the absence of amendments, whether the Bill would be passed even at the first reading, or are you going to allow a third reading? That is what I want to know."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"We will go through the whole procedure. This is the stage of introduction of the Bill and the discussion on the principles will now go on. We will take up the amendments afterwards and then go on with the Bill clause by clause."

* SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, this is a very proud day in the history of the Government of Madras when they are introducing this Bill for the solidarity of the Hindu society. I think, Sir, on this occasion, we should not minimize the importance of this legislation. My hon. Friend, Mr. Jagannatham, felt very suspicious. I do not blame him because, by dint of long suffering, he still holds on to what has been going on but I can assure him that this bit of legislation must remove all such suspicions. Here, in this Bill, the most valued thing of the Hindu society, the temple, is now made equal to all. When that is done, suspicions must go. So, I feel, Sir, that this piece of legislation which has such an abundant volume of opinion in its favour will remove all such suspicions."

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"Secondly, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. John wanted social equality. That is a separate matter that will come in its turn. This Bill is a great step towards such social equality and hereafter the only difference will be the difference between the rich and the poor. Hereafter, there will be only two castes in Hindu society, the rich caste and the poor caste. I also welcome my hon. Friend Mr. John's suggestion that there should not be any more appellations attached to names. In fact, Sir, when I was a student, when I was a law apprentice, I was simply called by the name Venkataswami. My master, Late Mr. Ethiraja Mudaliyar, put the appellation 'Naidu' and since that time, I am having it. If I had a son, I would have certainly not given him this appellation. So, Sir, our children should not be called by these appellations but only as Mr. So and so, and it will be a great step towards unity. As scouts, we have grouped all boys together, whether they are Christians, Muslims or Hindus and we also know how proud we are in a Scout gathering. So, in society also, we will have similar groupings. This step will go a long way towards the solidarity of the Hindus and it will prove that the Hindus are one in the eyes of all. Sir, the other day my hon. Friend, Mr. V. I. Munuswami Pillai, and myself went to the Varadarajaswami temple at Conjeevaram. The previous day when everything was decided and when the time was also appointed to go into the temple, my hon. Friend told me in very touching words, 'Tomorrow Varadarajaswami is going to give us Darshan; he is going to take me into his temple.' Then, Sir, I would also like to mention the way in which thousands of Harijans are feeling and they are so much touched that they feel that they have got a great status now after this Temple Entry Act."

"Of course, Sir, there is a certain amount of opposition to this Bill from some other sections of the people but that is inevitable. It must be realized that when the Hindu society was about to be destroyed, three great sages, Madhwa, Ramanuja and Sankara came to resuscitate Hinduism. It was then that Ramanuja, a thousand years ago, took the Harijans into the temple at Melkote as was referred to by the Hon. the Leader of the House. My uncle is now at Melkote witnessing the Harijan entry festival at Melkote temple. So, for a thousand years, the orders of Sri Ramanuja were obeyed. But then things changed and that practice has not been followed in any other temple."

"Now, Sir, we have taken up a great piece of legislation which will save Hinduism. It is Mahatma Gandhi, the saviour of Hinduism, who has taken up this matter and has brought about a change in the minds of the Hindus. To-day he is living in a 'banghi' colony and it is simply to show that there is no difference between the Harijans and the Hindus. Then, in the year 1938, Sri C. Rajagopalachariar, when he was Prime Minister of this Province, brought in the Malabar Temple Entry Bill and he also promised a temple entry bill for the whole Province. He tried his level best to proceed with it but unfortunately, the Congress had to leave the office suddenly. Now it was left to his lieutenant, Dr. Rajan, to carry out the thing and we are sure this Bill will

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have less opposition now. We are to-day passing a grand piece of legislation and I am really proud that it has been given to us to pass this Bill. If this is done, we would have done a good service and deserved our name as legislators of this Province.

"Sir, one other thing more I want to say. Some of our hon. Friends said that this is a political stunt. I say it is not anything like that, because it is something that has been ordained by that great man, Mahatma Gandhi, and he makes no stunts. Those hon. Friends who call this as a political stunt must understand that this piece of legislation is something which would bring about the unity of the Hindus and so, we must all see that our less fortunate brethren are made equal to us in all respects so that Hindu society may be a solid one and there are great forces in this country to-day which are working towards this solidarity."

(*) * K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Mr. President, Sir, as a Muslim, I welcome this measure as it is intended to remove the inequality and the indignity to which a particular community is put to in a particular field of activity. Well, Sir, as I have told you, I belong to a religion which believes in complete equality of man. Not only it preaches this principle but it has been practising this equality from olden days. It is why, Sir, I welcome this measure as it intends to remove the social inequality and also the indignity imposed on a certain class of people, and that too, on account of birth. Sir, we Muslims, do not believe in any kind of inequality by birth or otherwise; because, according to our religion, every child that is born is free from any sin. Every child is born innocent whether its parent is Hindu, Muslim, Christian or Jew, and it is free from any kind of sin. My religion goes further and says that it is the parents that make the child a Christian, a Jew or a Muslim. So, Sir, perfect equality of man exists in our religion. From the very beginning this equality of man has been understood and practised by Muslims. In the days of the Second Caliph Omer the Great an incident took place: One day, a king who had become a Muslim just some time ago was performing a religious act within the precincts of Ka'ba, the place towards which Muslims turn their faces during prayer; another Muslim who was a commoner was also performing the same religious duty close to him. By accident the commoner touched the hem of the garment of the king. The king became enraged and struck him on the face. The commoner reported the matter to the Caliph and the Caliph sent for the king and asked him to explain his conduct. The king replied that the commoner had insulted him by touching the hem of his garment and that but for the fact that the incident took place within the sacred precincts of the Ka'ba he would have killed him with his sword. The Caliph at once reprimanded the king and told him that all were equal in the eye of the law, that as such he should make amends to the commoner for striking him and get himself pardoned by him and that if that was not done he would have to submit to the penalty prescribed by the law. This incident took

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place thirteen centuries ago and the same equality and brotherhood has existed throughout the centuries until to-day. You will see, Sir, this equality and brotherhood in action every day in every mosque when Muslims assemble for prayer. You will find the king and his barber standing shoulder to shoulder during the congregational prayer. Sometimes it happens that the barber or the washerman or the peon of the king stands for prayer in the row just in front of that in which the king stands and during the prayer the king places his forehead very near the feet of his barber or washerman or peon and the forehead may even touch the feet. But it is taken as quite natural. This is the kind of equality and brotherhood we are accustomed to. I am very glad, Sir, to see that this measure is trying to give some kind of that equality to all the communities belonging to the Hindu society. Some communities had been excluded from this kind of equality on account of their birth. But, Sir, as my hon. Friend has pointed out, the effect of this measure is problematical because it is doubtful whether all the several Hindu communities will be treated alike in the worship of their God within the precincts of the temples and in entering into the sanctum sanctorum. These are problems, Sir, which arise from day to day and they will have to be dealt with. Well, Sir, my hon. Friend, the Leader of the House said that Hinduism gives complete freedom of worship and that there are no restrictions. I would at once remind him of the religious persecutions that took place in the southern districts during the olden days, how those who followed the religion of Buddhism and Jainism were persecuted on account of their religious views in the days of Thirugnanasambandar and others."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"Does it refer to the worship? My reference was to the view held by the Hindu religion with regard to worship."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"What ever it is, Sir, my point is whether it is advisable that members on this side composed of different groups, holding different views and belonging to different communities, should be asked to concur in and enforce the policy with regard to religious practices by means of measures of this kind. That is a matter which, I hope, will be seriously considered and this suggestion of mine will give food for thought for the hon. Members opposite."

"One other point also, I would like to point out on the floor of the House and that is this. While speaking about these temples in the other House, reference was made to symbolic worship. As a Muslim, Sir, I cannot and do not believe in symbolic worship. Islam preaches unqualified unity of God and anything that savours of any departure from this unqualified unity is deprecated. Such being the case, my support to this measure should not be taken to mean that I support all that is taking place inside the places of Hindu worship. Sir, it was contended that Islam also allows of symbolic worship because the Muslims turn towards the west when they pray, and that is also a form of symbolic worship. Here, I would like to remove the wrong impression that might be produced by such a statement. We,

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Muslims, do not believe in symbolism in worship, but we believe in contemplating only the Supreme God without any symbol of any kind whatsoever. That is why even the taking of photos is prohibited by the Shariyat and Gandhiji himself has accepted the view of Islam in this matter some time ago.

"With regard to our prayers I may tell my hon. Friends that when we turn towards the west, we do not revere the direction. I may tell my hon. Friends that just as we in the east turn towards the west, the Muslims of the west turn towards the east, the Muslims of the north turn towards the south and the Muslims of the south turn towards the north. Why is it? It is for the sake of uniformity in worship resulting from the unity of God; unity of the human race and it is for that purpose that we turn in one direction, i.e., towards the Ka'ba where the first temple of God was built. It is towards the Ka'ba in Mecca that all the Muslims turn and that is done in order to produce in the mind of the worshippers unity of God and equality of all human beings. It is only for that that during our prayers no word is uttered and no praise is uttered either to the Ka'ba or anything else. We do not therefore have any symbols in our worship of God. We believe in complete unity of God and anything that savours of the slightest detraction from that unity is completely denounced and any edifice that is built upon it must be completely destroyed.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"You want to destroy this Bill?"

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"No. Sir, I support this Bill because it tends in the direction of Islam in giving all the sections of the Hindu society equality which was denied to certain sections on account of their birth and it is because that it is a step in the direction of Islam, I welcome a measure of this kind."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 2-30 p.m.

(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is with hesitation that I open my mouth in this debate. It is not very often that I hesitate, Sir, but I do so this afternoon because some might criticise me for sneaking on a subject with which I am not personally connected. But, Sir, I take it that you hold the larger view for, all of us are members of this House and members of a nation irrespective of any other consideration and if we have comments to make in a helpful and co-operative capacity then we are free to make them wherever we stand and it is in that spirit I would like to congratulate the document because we more than waited from 1937 when the other Bills were brought in, in 1939 and because this Bill that is before us gives us a clue to the labyrinth of social mis-wellbeing, shall I call it, not well-being but anything that prevents wellbeing, that has surrounded us for so many days.

"Sir, I would like to point out just two or three places where I hope that a Bill of my view will include, more than this Bill is doing to-day, that which I would like to bring up by the way of an amendment, perhaps to the point. I think this Government ought

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to march on cautiously. This is a cautious Bill welcomed by very many people, and more have given their voices of congratulations; all over the country people have welcomed this Bill, but still there will be a silent crowd, a crowd that has not been won over and not being convinced and I quite understand the policy of the Government, that they must go fairly slowly. For instance, clause (3), instead of saying: 'Notwithstanding any law, custom or usage to the contrary, persons belonging to the excluded classes shall be entitled to enter, etc.' I would have said 'to all the rights and privileges of the Hindu religion in full'. But, as I said, Sir, this has to proceed cautiously and I would like to point out a few places where the privileges and rights in full might in future be bestowed in amplification of what has already been given in this Bill.

"Now, Sir, there is nothing in this Bill about reservation of separate ceremonies and I do not know this applies to cases in general. In clause 4, there is power given to those who are in authority in the temples should prescribe what ceremonies and observances should take place. So, there is reservation to be had, but I trust the greater implies the less and that clause 4 means that there shall be nothing to prevent anybody from performing any ceremonies in any temple at any time. I just want to ask that as a warning because this question might be made clear and some people who might want to resort to certain ceremonies might be free to do so under the present Act.

"Then Sir, about the services of the temples, I gather if a person has taken the responsibility of the consecration of a performance, any man may be free to serve in the temple in any capacity. That, Sir, is not one of the privileges given under this Bill, but as I said about the other matter, this might be one of the few things to come. I hope that those who are serving the temple in the fullest and truest spiritual capacity might also be chosen free of castes and classes that have been by custom and usage functioning till now.

"Next, Sir, about the funds and allotments to the temple. I see nothing in this Bill that allows anybody of the classes who are now allowed to enter the temples, and no authority given to them, to distribute and have a voice in the distribution of the endowments and the funds of the temple. If that is still a reservation of custom and usage, then, Sir, I feel that there will be still a certain amount of disadvantage, or underprivilege, in the matter and I trust that now or at some future date, these will be removed. Of course, I do understand that in one of the final clauses of the Bill, i.e., clause 9, Government have taken power that if any practical difficulty arises, they may make whatever arrangements they may like to remove them and that they will be free to deal with any crisis that might arise in any manner they think fit. It may be in the matter of allotment of funds or endowments or moneys attached to the temples and I believe that the same privileges which the privileged classes were hitherto enjoying might be extended to these people also, not only in sharing them, but also to help in the distribution of the same. But, Sir, perhaps these may be covered later.

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"Then, Sir, burial grounds. I am not aware that entry into temples does not cover also burial. I take it that whether this clause covers every man and woman of this earth—they have existed together in birth, marriage and death—Sir, we all wish that at the time when we leave this world, we may be able to honour those who are near and dear to us in the fullest sense possible."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think it is there in the other Bill."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"But, Sir, I thought it did not make it clear enough that in any burial ground, irrespective of caste or creed, but if it is there, well and good."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"That is allowed for and no class will be excluded."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"Thank you very much. Then I stand corrected."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Moreover, I think, it is the complaint of those classes that they are buried already sufficiently deep." (Laughter.)

MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"Well, Sir, I am glad. We know that it extends not only to this life of the body but later on to the soul also."

"The last point of mine is, as I first began I will also end, that just entry, just bathing in the sacred waters and just passage into shrines is indeed, as far as any land is concerned, welcome and a law might be put on the Statute Book to that effect but we have to see that the people do all that. I trust that in the future more privileges than that will be given and indeed the full rights and privileges and that they will be extended to everybody in the Hindu religion."

"Then clause 5, should also read thus: 'whether before or after the commencement of this Act, such privileges be enjoyed to the fullest extent possible.' I trust that the clause I have mentioned will extend privileges of the fullest responsibility to all the members of a religion that has proved through the ages that it has got purity and reasonable sanctity in every walk of life and that this religion has entered every part of life, eating, sleeping and living. I congratulate the Government on trying to extend these privileges."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Sir, I also join the Hon. members of this House in congratulating the Government in bringing forward this measure which is long overdue. However, Sir, I fear there are one or two clauses in this Bill which might be nullified by decisions of courts of law. The hon. the Lady Member, Mrs. Hensman, referred to clause 4 where power is given to trustees to make regulations for the maintenance of order and decorum and the due performance of rites and ceremonies in temples. Sir, as far as I am aware, there was no such clause till now in any legislation to regulate the maintenance of order and decorum. Is it, Sir, because they feel that when these friends of ours are permitted to enter the temples, the need for maintenance of order and decorum arises? I do not know why this clause is put at all. Even now there are temples in which certain regulations

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do exist but they are more observed as conventions and do not find a place in any legislative measure as far as I am aware. I do not know, Sir, why this clause should find a place here when there is no need for it and this makes one naturally feel, if I were a member of the excluded classes, this clause is meant to cast an unmerited slur which we do not deserve. All the effect of the good intentions of this Bill are nullified by that, Sir.

"Then, I take clause 6. 'If any question arises as to whether a place is or is not a temple as defined in this Act, the question shall be referred to the Provincial Government and their decision shall be final.' It ought to have stopped there, but it goes further and says 'subject however to any decree passed by a competent civil court in a suit filed before it within six months of the date of the decision of the Provincial Government.' I am sure a number of civil suits will crop up because every temple authority will quote some ancient Smritis or Srutis, some documents or leases granted by ancient kings to show that that particular temple was intended to be used in a particular manner and for the benefit of particular communities and therefore, to allow these excluded classes would be violating the intentions of the original donors and so on. I wish, Sir, that the Government had not given this power to the courts to decide the disputes. Once you give this power to the courts, I am afraid, Sir, many of the temples will become involved in legal disputes. I say, Sir, that Government should have taken all the powers to themselves because their intention to throw open these temples to all communities may not be realized if they have to depend upon the decision of the law courts and we know, Sir, how people are prepared to spend lots of rupees perhaps to establish their right for a particular form of worship even and who will be prepared to spend much bigger amounts to prohibit the entry of certain classes of people into their temples. Then, Sir, I do not find any reference to clause 4 in clause 7. Whoever—(i) prevents a person belonging to any excluded class from exercising any right conferred by this Act, or 'and so on. Supposing some regulations are so framed as to prevent the excluded classes from going beyond the *dwajasthambam*, supposing there is regulation preventing one class from going beyond the *mantapam* and only certain classes can go up to the *sanctum sanctorum*. By giving the imprimatur of a statute by clause 4 it does not prevent them from doing it and still say that the temples have been thrown open. I wish, Sir, the Government had even the powers that these regulations are subject to confirmation by Government to prevent the trustees from exercising the power vested in them under clause 4 in a way detrimental to the interests of the excluded classes. I say, Sir, that if the temple authorities do that and persist in enforcing these regulations bring them under clause 7 and impose penalties on them. Sir, if this reform is to be carried out successfully, the courts should not be left to decide these matters and the executive orders must prevail and as the intentions of the Government are good and they intend to enforce rights which are denied to certain classes of the population, they should have the power in their own hands in order that they may see that their intentions are carried.

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I only want, Sir, that the interference of the courts should not interfere with the rights that are granted under this Act. I am making these remarks as a lay man pointing out what is likely to happen. I am very glad that this Bill has been brought forward and I am anxious, Sir, it should prove a success."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The Government have such powers under clause 9."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"What I am anxious, Sir, is that if any such occasion arises necessary amendments should be made so that the intention of the Government will be carried out."

"I congratulate the Government, Sir, for having found time to bring this Bill, the most important Bill. Without this Bill, Sir, the Removal of Civil Disabilities Act would not have been so very effective and now the excluded classes are entitled to all the privileges to which the caste Hindus are entitled to."

SRI MOTHEY NARAYANA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to express my word of appreciation for this very important legislation for the upliftment of the Harijan community. It is a very important social legislation. There is no doubt about it. All true exponents of Hindu religion have spoken against this curse of untouchability for ages and the Congress since 1920, under the leadership of that greatest man of the world, Mahatma Gandhi, had tried their best to extricate the downtrodden class from this curse and drive this demon of untouchability from this land of ours. This is called the holy land where rishis have lived and our religion is perhaps the oldest in the world and we can say without fear of contradiction that the other religions of the world have had their inspiration directly or indirectly from our religion. It is a very broad-based religion, most scientific, based upon the law of the spirit and the matter and what not? Such a beautiful religion, such a most cosmopolitan religion, a religion which gave hospitality to everyone in the world is looked down upon because of this untouchability. It is because of this we are looked down in the eyes of the world. Various reasons have been attributed for this custom that has been prevailing in this country for a long time. Some people say that the Aryans have come in and the owners of the land are the Harijans. The Harijans have been driven out of the towns, Aryans have ignored them and have put them into this humiliating condition. Now we are also in the eyes of the world slaves. 'As you sow, so you reap.' This is one of the greatest sins which we have committed. It is high time I think when we want freedom for our country, when we want to be free from all exploitation that we should behave ourselves properly and atone for our own faults. We have treated them very badly. It is the worst kind of exploitation that the world has ever seen. It is high time that the caste Hindu repents for his fault and says that this demon of untouchability should be got rid of from this country of ours. The Congress has been very sincere. My hon. friend Jagannatham, thinks this is merely a political stunt and a mere camouflage. It is not at all so. You cannot attribute such motives to Mahatma

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Gandhi. He has been in season and out of season and day in and day out labouring for this cause and trying to remove it from this land of ours. We have seen how from every quarter of this House there is only support forthcoming for this Bill. The Congress has been advocating this reform for the last 27 years and now after the new Congress Ministry, I mean the Prakasam Ministry, took office they have taken up this question with more earnestness and zeal. The Bill for the removal of the Civil Disabilities of Harijans and this Bill for temple entry and also the sum of a crore of rupees set apart for the uplift of the Harijans and the other schemes recently published will go a long way to remove this problem of the untouchability. The scheme which was recently published, the Colonization scheme, is intended to make the Harijans and caste-Hindus live together in some places. These will go a long way, a very long way in uplifting the condition of the Harijans. Mr. Prakasam with great courage and without fear or favour, took up boldly all these schemes and this Ministry has got a legacy which they can follow up usefully and serve the people. The hon. Mr. Farookhi Sahib said that the Prakasam Ministry had to go out of office because of its very revolutionary legislation. I have to differ from him. The Congress is committed to certain policies and Mr. Prakasam with courage had put them into practice. They form the items of the manifesto which was issued by the Congress during the elections. The Prakasam Ministry took this bold step for the removal of this curse of untouchability.

"As I said, Sir, we do not really understand for how long this custom has been in existence. The Upanishads describe a Panchama as one who is a downtrodden man, who is a liar and who does not act up to his dharma. There is no reason why he should be classed as an outcaste simply because he was born as a Panchama. We do not know when this evil has crept into this society. If people still believe that by allowing the Harijans to the temples they will be committing a sin, it is sheer superstition, ignorance and stupidity on their part. I think there is now a great change in the country and we see that not one of the archakas have resigned since the temples have been thrown open to the Harijans and if some act otherwise, it is only because of superstition. There are the caste-Hindus who say that the Harijans are not healthy, are not clean and do not lead a good life, they are immoral and drink and all other things. I would say to them that you should not judge such persons from their outward appearance and environment but see if they are pure in their hearts. There are many trustees of temples who are immoral and all sorts of things. The Harijans may be unclean but their hearts are pure and they go with that into the temples. Whereas the trustees and archakas who are clean and appear good in outward appearance but lead the worst kind of life, are allowed to enter the temples, the poor Harijan is not permitted to do so.

"All these will go a long way to blot out untouchability from our land; but still a lot has to be done and we are trying to find

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out where the citadel of untouchability is and we are trying to throw it into the Bay of Bengal. But we are not still able to find out. It is a fact that the economic condition of the Harijans should be improved side by side. I would suggest in that connexion that a boy and a girl from every Harijan family should be taken by Government and they must be educated in Gurukula Ashramam and by that means I am sure we would be able to achieve very good results. But the Harijans must be forced to give one boy or girl from each family to the Government so that he can be educated and brought under a particular system and discipline and then turned over to some service or other. Educational and economic improvement are the two things that are essential for the uplift of the Harijans. I say once more that this Government have done well in bringing this piece of legislation and I hope that the caste-Hindus at least now will wake up and see that there is no obstruction offered to any Harijan getting into the temples. If they want to find fault with this measure, they can do it. As my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao said there will be some difficulties and if you want to find out difficulties, there will be innumerable difficulties. As a matter of fact every new legislation gives rise to a crop of litigation and there is always room for it. Therefore, it is that I appeal to the caste-Hindus to take this law in the spirit in which it is given and see that there is no obstruction for the entry of Harijans into temples and that there is a real change of heart. Supposing this matter is taken to the U.N.O. with what face can we look at them? You have come into this land of theirs and we have been treating them with shame and humiliation, is it not better that before things get bitter there is a change of heart among the caste-Hindus. They must repent and they must atone for all the sins that they have committed and the wrong they had done to them. They toil for us from day-break to night and they give us bread and butter."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Mr. President, may I also express my gratification that at last this Bill has come before us and it will be law very soon. I am particularly thankful because of the conditions that prevail in the district of Malabar. Most of the important temples in the other districts have been thrown open to the Harijans but except for one temple in Malabar, namely, Lokanarkare temple in North Malabar, no other temple has been yet thrown open to the Harijans in spite of the fact that sufficient propaganda had been carried on and even a referendum was taken in that district some ten years ago. The reason for the state of affairs there is that, on account of the matriarchical system of inheritance that obtains there, almost all the trustees of important temples in Malabar are old by the time they come to the trusteeship of the temples. The zamorin is the trustee of most of the temples in Malabar and nobody becomes a zamorin before he is eighty-five. Can we expect a man of eighty-five to move with the times? My hon. friend Mr. Ibrahim Sahib was telling us that the Legislature should not

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interfere in such social matters. But how else can we deal with people who cannot move with the times—I do not find fault with them for they have been brought up in such an atmosphere of superstition and tradition that whatever we may be thinking of the hardship we have been causing to the Harijans it cannot appeal to them; the reason is they are too old to understand things and naturally the only way in which they can be relieved and helped is by the Legislature coming to their rescue. My friend must admit that even in regard to Muslim Wakfs it had to be taken up by the Legislature and legislated upon as the strongly orthodox would not allow reforms to come in. (K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur: 'They stand on a different footing.') The principle underlying legislation in both the cases is the same. In the interests of the Harijans and even in the interests of the endowments, apart from the question of atonement of past wrongs, it is necessary for the Legislature to come to the rescue of the people and help them. The Malabar Temple Entry Act was passed in 1937 which provided for a referendum being taken but adventitious circumstances did not allow us to proceed with things and the Government had to resign. Afterwards, nothing could be done and the conditions got very munities but even Brahmans are not admitted in Malabar temples. entry is denied not only to Harijans, Ezhavas or other communities but even Brahmans are not admitted in Malabar temples. Only the indigenous Brahmans and somehow or other the Tamil Brahmans are allowed entry. You may be surprised to learn that even Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya was refused admission in Guruvayoor temple. Such being the case a legislation of this nature is a much-needed thing, particularly in my district where untouchability, unapproachability and even unseeability obtains in a large measure. (An hon. Member: 'Unthinkability')—I do not know about that because we cannot know what the other person thinks. Even now, the Nayadi has to stand 2½ furlongs away and announce his presence by means of a sound with the result that they have developed a very fine voice which can be heard for a mile. The system is very conveniently arranged. In regard to blacksmiths, silversmiths and others, whom the caste Hindu requires for his service, their pollution is only five yards. But when the carpenter comes with his instruments for measurements and improving a temple, the temple is not polluted. Convenient arrangements have been made like this. Though this Bill may not completely eradicate the evil this is a step in that direction. Now we allow them to go into temples and they can claim the other privileges in course of time."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does the Hon. Minister mean that the definition will include the Brahman (Laughter) in Malabar? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" It includes all those who have been excluded from the temples.

" It is a very great pleasure and gratification to us in Malabar because the whole district is for the reform and it is the trustees

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who object and we thank the Government for having given us an opportunity to do our atonement for the wrongs we had done to the Harijans.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Jagannatham has made certain remarks which if anybody else had made I would have called them uncharitable. But the iron has gone too far into his heart and it corrodes it to think how we had treated them and I can appreciate his bitterness and I can understand and I can only appeal to him to accept our word, to accept our sincerity and not say that this is a political stunt. Let him ponder over what we would gain by this stunt, as he calls it. If he means that we want to get popularity among the Harijans, that shows that this is a thing that the Harijans like and if it is a political stunt to do something which will exalt them, I would even accept that it is a political stunt. If it is a political stunt to help them in that way, I accept it but in no other way can it be called a political stunt. I grant that you are entitled to think so far the way in which we have treated you before.

"He said he was sorry that he was a party to the Poona Pact. The number ten that was allotted to them for this Province rose to thirty and ask if it is a thing to be sorry for? Whatever you may say about it, the thirty members are there and their views will certainly matter and it will not be difficult for them to change in case they feel their voices had not been heard. I do not wish to speak more upon this particular point.

"Dr. John suggested that there is no good of social democracy unless it is accompanied by economic democracy. You cannot do all things at one and the same time. We must proceed step by step and I do feel that this is a step in the right direction.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao said that the regulations might be so framed as to nullify the provisions of the Act. But I have to point out that it has to be done under the orders and control of the Provincial Government. So far as regulations are concerned, taking my district for instance, nobody is admitted into the *sanctum sanctorum* except the pujaris and the priests and that is necessary because lakhs of worth of jewels are on the idol and can we indiscriminately allow everybody to go there, when that right is not being exercised or is denied even to the highest Brahmans? I am only pointing out to you, Sir, the necessity for such regulations in Malabar. There, nobody can enter the temple with a shirt on and no other dress is allowed except the dhoti. He enters the temple only after a bath, preferably in the tank in the temple. That has been the custom for so many generations. There are times of pollution to be observed and the protection of those customs is absolutely necessary not only in the interests of the sacredness of the temple but also the sanctity of the temple and the feeling of exaltation that they would experience in such an atmosphere. For the maintenance of the air of sanctity in the temples, regulations are absolutely necessary, without which our object in bringing this

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law will be nullified. I express once again my gratification and I support the Bill."

SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR :- "தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த பில் இதற்கு முன்னாலேயே கொண்டுவந்து பாசாகி இருக்க வேண்டியது. இது இப்பொழுது பாஸ் ஆகவேண்டியது ரொம்பவும் அவசியம். இருந்தபோதிலும் இந்த பில் வந்து பாஸ் பண்ணுவதற்குள்ளாகவே பல டிரஸ்டிகள் மனம் உவந்து அநேகம் கோவில்களை மனதாரவும் திறந்து விட்டார்கள். இது சட்டமாக வந்து திறப்பதற்குள் அவர்களாகவே மனதார வாழ்த்தி திறந்துவிட்டார்கள். இன்னும் சில கோவில்கள் தான் பாக்கி இருக்கிறது. அவைகளுக்காக சட்டம் பண்ணியாக வேண்டியதாக இருக்கிறது. அதற்காக சட்டம் செய்யவேண்டியது ரொம்பவும் அவசியமாக இருக்கிறது. இந்த சட்டம் மட்டும் அவர்களுக்கு போதாது. மனமும் விட்டுக் கொடுக்கும் தன்மை வேண்டும். இந்தியா தேசத்திலேயே எல்லாரும் ஒரு மதம் ஒரு ஜாதியாக இருந்தார்கள். காலப்போக்கில் இப்படி பல ஆபரணங்களாகவும் செய்து போட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். ஆனால் தங்கம் தங்கம் தான். அதைப்போல் தேசம் ஒன்றுதான் ஜாதி ஒன்று தான் மதம் ஒன்றுதான். இப்படியே அனுசரித்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். தான் மதம் ஒன்றுதான் என்று அப்புறம்தான் மாறி இருக்கிறார்கள். கிருஷ்ணதவர்கள் முஸ்லீம்கள் என்று அப்புறம்தான் மாறி இருக்கிறார்கள். எல்லாரும் ஒன்றுதான். மதத்தின் காரணமாகவும் கடவுளை வழிபடுவதில் வித்யாசம் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஒரு காலத்தில் ஒரே மாதிரியாக இருந்திருக்கிறார்கள். தெய்வ வழிபாட்டிற்காக மதத்தை புகுத்தியிருக்கின்றார்கள். அதனால்தான் சண்டை வருத்தம் உண்டாகிறது. பல மக்கள் மடிந்து விட்டார்கள். அந்த காலத்தில்

ஜாதி இரண்டொழிய வேறில்லை சாற்றுங்கால்
நீதி வழுவா நெறிமுறையில் மேதினியில்
இட்டார் பெரியோர் இடாதோர் இழிக்குலத்தில்
பட்டாங்கிலுள்ளபடி.

என்பதுபோல் இரண்டே ஜாதி தான் இருந்தது. தர்மம் கொடுக்கிறவர் ஒரு ஜாதி. தர்மம் கொடுக்காதவர் ஒரு ஜாதி. ஜாதிப்பிரிவினை என்பது ஒன்றும் இது வரையில் கிடையாது. அந்தந்த மதத்தில் பாசுபாடுதான் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் ஜாதி எல்லாம் ஒன்று என்று பண்ணுவது ரொம்ப அவசியம். எவ்வளவு அதற்காக செய்யவேண்டுமோ அவ்வளவு செய்யவேண்டும். ஆர்யனுக்கு எல்லாரும் ஒன்றுதான். மகராஜாவுக்கும் மற்றும் மற்றவர்களுக்கு ஒன்றும் கிடையாது. மகராஜாவுக்கு அதிகமாக வெளிச்சம் கொடுக்கவில்லை. இதுவரையில் தேசத்தில் தூர்ப்பாக்யமாக இருந்தது. இப்பொழுது சட்ட பூர்வமாக வருவதை எல்லாரும் ஒப்புக்கொண்டு ஒத்துழைக்கவேண்டும். அவர்களும் ஹிந்துக்கள் தான் என்று கருதவேண்டும். சட்ட சபை Election வரும்போது இனிமேல் தனித்தொகுதி என்று இல்லாமல் கூட்டுத் தொகுதியாக இருக்கும்படி செய்யவேண்டும். அப்பொழுதுதான் அவர்கள் நம்மோடு சேர்ந்து சிநேகத்தோடு வித்யாசம் இல்லாமல் இருப்பார்கள். இப்படிச் செய்யவேண்டியது ஒரு முக்கியமான காரியம். அடுத்தபடியாக அவர்களுக்கு எல்லா சௌகரியங்களையும் செய்யவேண்டும். அவர்கள் முன்னுக்கு வருவதற்கு என்னென்ன செய்யவேண்டுமோ அவைகளெல்லாம் செய்யவேண்டும் என்று எல்லோரையும் பிரார்த்தித்துக்கொண்டு நான் முடித்துக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :- "Sir, I am very glad to see the amount of goodwill displayed by the Members of this House in support of this Bill. In fact, I do not see any opposition at all for the passage of this Bill nor for the principles of this Bill. Some good criticisms have been offered by Members with the best of intentions. As far as possible, they will be looked into. With regard to the legal disabilities that have been pointed out 3-15 p.m.

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I can only say that such legal disabilities as may come up will surely be met by an amendment to this Bill if necessary, or by the exercise of such control as the Provincial Government have got under this Bill. Such amendments will be necessary not only for this Bill, but for many other Bills. In fact, with regard to temple entry we have had one, two or three amendments before the House to correct such irregularities as might happen. Dr. John has always got a legal mind when discussions of this sort take place, and as one belonging to that profession, he should have it. I may suggest to the hon. Member that as a lawyer his criticisms should have the greatest consideration at our hands. If in spite of that there are some lapses, it will not be very difficult to correct.

"There was a reference to social democracy and economic democracy. The Bill does not enter into that question at all. As I said in the beginning it is entirely a condition of the mind of the masses of the Hindu people with regard to their attitude towards the excluded classes, and which, as a symbolic performance, is now expressed by opening the temples to all those who have been excluded so far. Beyond that the Bill has no scope. Of course, there is the question of the funds in temples. The funds of temples have got to be utilized in the manner in which the donors have ear-marked them for the use of the temples. There has been controversy over this and legislation has been sought to be brought to clarify some of the points. In fact, I may say that these funds are to-day used for the educational uplift of our people—not only of Hindu community, but of all communities and all classes. The educational institutions maintained by the temple funds to-day act as public institutions rather than as communal institutions. There are some small institutions pertaining to temple services and so on, which are restricted only to particular classes. But, generally, high schools or colleges for instance, are open not only to Hindus but to all classes alike. A reference was made that funds of temples have been diverted to leprosy hospital and things of that sort to-day, and that necessarily permission has been got to utilize these funds in that manner. I cannot agree that these temples should be deprived of their finances and the money should be distributed to people who were refused entry into them till now. With regard to the question of funds, I am sure there are enough provisions in the law that a trustee can divert the funds for philanthropic purposes like education and medical aid.

"A lot of discussion took place on the caste system, and that it should be abolished. This is a big subject, Sir, and this does not come under the purview of the Bill. But in passing I might say that Mahatma Gandhi's name has been quoted and misquoted many times. His last declaration is this. 'If you want Hinduism to survive caste system must go. The same thing applies to untouchability. If untouchability exists Hinduism goes, and if Hinduism wants to survive, untouchability must go.' In the

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very same lines he (Mahatma Gandhi) substitutes caste system for untouchability. He is sincere in his views that caste system must go. How it will go, and what are the various processes in the complete destruction or removal of untouchability is a matter which comes more or less within the purview of the whole community, which is responsible for this caste system. But I know this much that caste system has no place in religion. Caste system is only a social development that was brought into being by the circumstances and environments that prevailed then. When social conditions are changed, when political conditions are changed, and administrations are also changed with the power from a group of people passing into the hands of elected representatives of the people, caste system has to undergo a vast change. Caste system does not have to-day the same meaning it had previously. It has greatly transformed itself. I consider that this Bill is one of the biggest moves for the eradication of the caste system.

"Some mention was made about the *sanctum sanctorum*. As far as this is concerned, I may say that all the excluded classes have got the freedom to go and the right to go to the innermost *sanctum sanctorum* to which all other Hindus can go. I am aware of what my Hon. Friend Mr. Madhava Menon was saying with regard to Malabar. There, it is not all Hindus that are privileged to go as far as the *sanctum sanctorum*. This Bill imposes no such conditions on the Hindus here and therefore to that extent there will be no restriction, and no trustee can put anything by way of restriction on their exercising that privilege.

"As regards the right of the trustee to order the conduct and discipline in temples, nobody can contend. This applies not only to the depressed classes that were excluded till now but to all. The trustee should have the right to order the conduct of the temple, so that while admitting a large number of people into the temple, whatever he does shall be applicable to all those that are admitted. To that extent the trustee's rights are protected here.

"With regard to the complaint of an hon. Member who said that this was all a political stunt and so on, I do not want to argue. It has been well answered, but I simply say this that I revere the memory of those who have suffered for Harijan uplift even amongst Harijans. I know the late Mr. Srinivasan. He was a particular friend of mine. It was a privilege to work with him. With him, temple entry was not the foremost idea. He had the social disabilities and the economic disabilities in his view more than temple entry. Evidently he was one of those who did not believe in temple entry nor did he think that entry into temples was going to raise them to a better stage. That is why, perhaps, he did not have this temple entry in view. Knowing him as I do, I make myself bold to say that this was his view. With regard to Mr. Rajah, whom also I know very well, he is inclined to be more orthodox than Mr. Srinivasan. In fact, I

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know, his contention during the passage of the temple entry bill in this House was that he did not want this limited provision. He wanted complete throwing open of the temples to all people, and if he were alive to-day, I am sure he would welcome this Bill just as all our friends have done.

With regard to the reference made to my speech by an hon. Member, I say it was not my intention to interrupt Muslim religion or faith. Far from it. My own view in this matter is that I consider man himself as a symbol of God. That symbolism is to concretize or visualize objects which are philosophically abstruse. Symbolism does find a place in Hindu worship. It is not my intention to say that east is turning west or west is turning east. It was only a casual remark. It was not made with any idea of interpreting Muslim faith. I hold the view that symbolism is part and parcel of human nature. Therefore, it is not with any view of interpreting Islamic religion—which I know would be highly resented both here and in the other House—but only as a sort of giving explanation for this bill, and particularly of Hindu temples, I spoke of symbolism. In Hindu temples the images are the symbols. Symbolism is something very abstract which cannot be easily conceived by human mind. Now I have to make a little divergence. It happened that one Maharaja of one of our States, who was an English educated man, and who did not believe in temples, was approached by Swami Vivekananda. The Maharaja argued and said 'what is the use of worshipping stones and copper images in temples; it is a very low form of evolution; all these must go.' Just to concretize the Maharaja's idea, Swami Vivekananda asked permission of the Maharaja to do one act in his Durbar, and the Raja permitted him. What is it the Swamiji did? There was an image of the father of the Maharaja hanging on the wall of the Durbar hall. He said 'Will you kindly remove that portrait of your father down here?' This was done. Then he stood up on his legs and addressed the Durbar in the following words:—

'Friends, your Raja has no faith in image worship. Here is the image of his father. I say it is nothing but a piece of cloth and what is painted over it is only a number of colours, and nothing more. Therefore, if all of you would care to spit on this you may do so. It is only on the cloth you spit.' That is how he wanted to illustrate the fact. But none in the Durbar hall would agree to do this. Again he said—

'All these people would not do this act. I tell them it is a mere piece of cloth and some colouring on it, still they would not spit.' The idea that the father was there was conveyed to them by the image and certainly out of respect, and out of a certain amount of regard to the Maharaja's father, they would not spit. It was not mere canvas cloth to them. Therefore, Sir, it is not the stone that matters; it is not the copper images that matter; it is something which cannot be visualized but still tried to be visualized.'

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The formless should be made into a form; the unthinkable should be made into something thinkable; the abstract should be made into something concrete. As the mass mind is accustomed to image worship this has to be done. Feeling as I do, we Hindus claim temples as a part of our culture. Not having had enough resources to go into the question of Harijan uplift in other ways, at least this thing has been done. So let nobody doubt our intention, our goodwill and sincerity. In temples we find solace. So it is not right to exclude a large number of people who claim it as their right. It is in that faith this Bill has been brought before this House. It is open to any Hindu reformer to pull down temples, break down all images and convert them into hospitals; but, to-day we have not reached that stage. I believe in temple worship; I have been living in a village from my infancy which has a temple. I have been going to the temple from my infancy onwards. And when I retire I wish to spend my remaining days in my village visiting temple till the last moment. (Interruption by Dr. V. K. John.) I do not propose to say anything about the next birth, though I believe in it. Sir, I believe this Bill as a prayaschitha for having excluded the Harijans so long from Hindu temples. Reference was made to Mahatma Gandhi; it was said, he was quite a different man some years back, and how different he is now; but all that is not relevant here; and more so when Mahatma Gandhi himself has admitted that. He himself has said, once he was a varnashramite, and to-day he is quite a different man. He has the intuition to see and the courage to speak out what he feels in a way in which no Hindu has dared. Therefore what he said before, and what he did not say before, is not relevant here. What he says to-day is the matter that should be quoted or mentioned. Some reference was made to burial grounds. It has no place here, as the question now refers to service in temples. If this Bill is accepted I am sure it will open the door to all classes to enter temples, and do service to God there. As for some of the defects pointed out, they will be rectified in the working of the Act."

The motion that the Bill be taken into consideration was put and carried.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, I move—
'that the Bill be passed into law'."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I purposely refrained from speaking on this Bill at its first reading because I was anxious that my support to the measure of temple entry should be wholehearted and unequivocal and not capable of misunderstanding. After having said that, I feel I shall not be entirely fair to myself, if in support of this

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Bill, which has got a vista of immense possibilities, I do not speak a few words to draw the attention of the House to some of the most serious problems this Bill brings to our notice. I believe that it has been most unfortunate for us that in this country there should have been such unfortunate trends in the past, that a section of humanity should have been deemed as being persons unworthy to be treated with ordinary human rights and human decency. I beg to assure this House that I deeply appreciate the passing of the Removal of Civil Disabilities Bill, the other day, and had I the opportunity of being in my place then, I would have without reservation offered my heartfelt congratulation on the Bill. There are other points which require consideration here. Let me at the outset assure the House that as I sat listening to Mr. Jagannatham I felt that we should not lay the flattering function to our soul that by passing this Bill we have done something substantial to the Scheduled Castes. I do feel that it will be an act to ourselves, if we stated that by giving Harijans the right of temple entry we are letting them into Hindu society. On the occasion of the Budget debate I told this House, that the opening of doors of temples did not mean opening of the hearts of the people. Let me explain that now, as I had not sufficient time then. I have been a regular visitor to that famous Madura temple almost every year. I know what temple even before it was thrown open to Harijans. I have been there even last year. And I have been very little convinced of the change of spirit which was supposed to be evolved almost unconsciously by the opening of the doors in regard to Harijans. Similarly I am sanguine that the removal of the disabilities by the present measure would not do any good without a change in the spirit of the people. Not only that. I come to another instance, even more painful. Though I do not wish to say that, yet I feel I cannot but say it. I had not an occasion to speak on that. It was the occasion of congratulating the Speaker of the other House on his election to that honourable post. It was a matter of humiliation to me to see member after member rising in his seat congratulating him on the fact that a Harijan had been elected as Speaker. I sat there painfully feeling that here was an illustrious person, who was the first citizen for sometime here was a person with high academic qualifications, and a person in touch with legislative work for several years, elected as Speaker: and we were all patting ourselves on our back saying 'what good boys have we been in electing a Harijan as Speaker. It reminds me of the nursery rhyme,

'Little Jack Horner,
Sat in a corner,
Eating his Christmas pie,
He put in his thumb,
And pulled out a plum,
And said, "What a good boy am I".

Members of the Legislative Assembly and in this House have been behaving very much like little Jack.

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"The third point I wish to deal here is this. I was deeply disappointed with the Budget details. Not only did it not provide something specific for Harijans, but even in regard to provisions made here and there I find all communities have been roped in together. We are to have community centres where everybody is allowed to go and live side by side with other community people. Sir, I do not want this House to practise self-deception with regard to persons who have been excluded from family rights of Hindus for a long time. Far from having these community centres I wish we take up first and foremost those settlements which are called *cheris*, of which we are all ashamed. I wish we ask people of other communities to go and dig wells there, build beautiful residential quarters there and live the life of all common men. It is only by that method we can hope to evolve certain dignity for these classes.

"My friend referred to the economic disabilities and said, unless there was economic salvation there was no use of removing these disabilities. I am one of those who believe in the significance of spiritual force, and yet I feel, it is the economic forces that rule the spiritual force. It is there the shoe pinches, and it is for that reason that I feel this question of economic development of these classes should not be taken out of the fringe of the most important subjects. I do not say that what we are doing is not good. But I do want to emphasize that this is most important. 3.45 p.m.

"Incidentally, Sir, I hope my hon. Friends on the Treasury Bench will not misunderstand me when I say this—for it is their business to apportion portfolios and it is not for me to question it—incidentally however, I felt surprised and rather sorry that the particular portfolio of Harijan Uplift should have been given to a Harijan member for I feel it should have been the other way. Even so, you are opening yourself to the possibilities of every community demanding that a member of that community should have charge of the particular affairs of that community. Tomorrow my Muslim friends may ask that Muslim education should be in the hands of Muslims. What reply can you give? On the other hand, I say that I am a better functionary for the interests of the Muslim community than even the Muslims and so it is that my Friend Mr. Madhava Menon should be trusted. I know he could do it, should he have that portfolio with him. I think he can fight not merely for the sake of the Harijans, but because of that urge that he has got to atone for the community, that is the Hindu community, and make leeway. It should not be left to an Hon. Minister to come and say: 'will you give for my community something more?' and beg of the Finance Minister for a thousand rupees here or two thousand rupees there. It must be somebody else. Hon. Members may not agree with me but that is the feeling I have.

"Coming to the Bill itself, let us see, that after all this is a socio-religious matter. There is no use trying to say, it is not. What were the methods adopted in regard to reforms in such socio-religious matters. Sir, everyone now realizes what a most

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unfortunate thing it was that that land which produced the Buddha, which had in the ancient days all the edicts of Buddha from the north to the south, which had so many memorable records of that great man Asoka and his teachings, that land should have been deprived of one of the greatest of religions with the unfortunate result that to-day Buddhism thrives everywhere except in India. We have shunted it out as we have often been shunting out all that is good from our own country. Buddhism thrives in Ceylon, Buddhism thrives in Siam, Buddhism thrives in Burma, Buddhism thrives in China, it is thriving in Sumatra and it is thriving in far off Japan but in India this Buddhism has been rooted out of the soil by an amount of implacable enmity which I find it difficult to conjecture even at this remote period. But, Sir, let it go. If only Buddhism had been allowed to thrive side by side with other religions, I think we should have done much better. Perhaps many of its fundamental principles we might have imbibed as we have a great measure of talent to imbibe. I think myself, we should have been much better. But my object is not to criticise.

"Now, whenever a big religious social reform is introduced there are four methods by which it may be introduced. The first and the most noteworthy method is a Royal Proclamation, or edict. Even now we remember that whenever there was a great religious movement which called for reform the Kings of old used to promulgate writs. To-day great men have sprung in our country, great men for whom the multitude of the people have got great reverence, who think that the monarchical system of the country is outmoded and we will have as probably one of their important reforms, that kings must be removed from their thrones. Sir, I am not going to be led into a discussion on that subject. I do want to be understood and clearly, that monarchy has served a very good purpose in the past and even in recent years; for who can deny the effect of that great Proclamation made by a monarch in the South, His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore. That Proclamation, Sir, was in the spirit of Hindu culture, of Hindu religion and the Hindu way of thinking. And, the moment that Proclamation was made all comment ceased to exist and everywhere it was accepted. Whether people afterwards went to these temples or not, whether some of them stayed away or not, it does not matter. But all agitation ended with the Royal Proclamation because to-day in our hearts there is that reverence for Royalty, that ingrained spirit of respect for an order or edict that has been promulgated by a Royal personage.

"The second way by which religio-social reforms have been effected in this country have been, by great reformers. From Ramanuja down to Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa there has been many great saints and divines who have come to lead. They have persuaded, they have controlled, they have guided these great movements and to-day we owe much—as the mover of the Bill ably referred—to the work of Ramanuja and to the great temple

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of Melkote. That is the spirit in which these great people have been trying to revivify society, to correct the errors that might creep into society from time to time.

"The third method has been by the executive authority laying down certain rules of conduct. That the executive authority has laid it down from time to time. This Government has laid down a number of such rules. It has laid down a number of principles. I am glad, Sir, that by such executive orders a very large number of temples have been thrown open. The issues of the *Fort St. George Gazette* will bear me out when I say that a very large number of temples, some very very great temples, as we understand them, have been thrown open to-day. I welcome that measure wholeheartedly.

"The last method of introducing religio-social reforms is by a Legislature elected on a democratic basis composed of divergent elements whose function it is to adopt a certain method of conduct for the democratic government of the country and which occasionally possibly takes on additional duties.

"Sir, I come to the basic principle of this Bill. Are we in this measure committing ourselves to anything that we have not yet visualized? Is this going to be a precedent for a method of reform which may ultimately bring many problems which we are not in a position to foresee at present? My hon. Friend Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim rightly referred to that statement. And if I do speak a word or two let me once again remind this House that it is not because I am behind anyone in my anxiety to have the temples thrown open to everybody but because this measure which is so widely accepted at present is being enacted as a legislative measure and forms a precedent for the future. Sir, to-day democracies are being ushered into existence on a wide franchise and naturally parties come into the democracy and into the Legislature on ideologies, on slogans, on certain principles which they consider as sacred. It may be that to-day, Sir, we are satisfied that this Legislature may not go off its feet in regard to these measures. But are we satisfied with the future? Events are happening in other parts of the country; great things are moving rapidly astride in different directions with the result that nobody can foresee what the tide of events will bring ultimately. I ask you to realize what it will mean when a different party is in this place with a different ideology. May it not be thought that I am trying to make any exaggerated statement when I say that that party may see differently. The Hon. the Mover of the Bill referred to it in his concluding speech in this House: 'It may be that symbolic worship will be anathema to some. We say that symbolic worship is good.' So we shall say that it is so with this party. What prevents another party to come and say 'Symbolic worship is not right. It more or less takes away from the person that particular mood which he should have for functioning as a true democrat.' And then when such a motion is made my

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hon. Friends here (the Muslims) will at once support him, because it is against their faith to do anything to encourage symbolic worship and my hon. Friends there (the Christians) will rise up and support it, because it is against their faith although some of them encourage symbolic worship. (Dr. V. K. John: 'Not me.') That is why I said, against the faith of some of them. I hope the hon. Member must have understood the term. I ask, Sir, "Is that the state of affairs which we should try to visualize?"

"Again, Sir, there are some persons to-day who do not believe in temples. My hon. Friend, the Mover also referred to them. Not only do they not believe in temples, but they believe that temples are anathema. The Hon. Mover knows about it, that there is a certain spirit abroad. Are we to allow the Legislature to be utilized to implement these various ideologies? I do not criticize them at present. I offer no opinion upon them but let us be rather on the guard as to what it is that we are ultimately driving ourselves into. Not only will it be the Hindu religion. Let me turn to my Christian friends. They know that there are different ways of life in their own religion. Suppose one of them were to come and say: 'This symbolic method of worship is not good; so it ought to be done away with!' And supposing all the representatives of that faith are in this House and they unanimously support, my friends there (the Muslims) may support them, they may get support from the other side, would they be very pleased if that method of settling one of the most difficult problems concerning the personal and communal life of the country were to be tackled on the floor of the Legislature? That is the reason why I said, I felt a little hesitation and I did not feel entirely happy to support a legislative measure in an enactment of this description.

"What does a political party stand for? I have here, Sir, some of the finest essays that have ever been described, by a person well known to several Members and to my hon. Friend here. We met him when he came over here. Dr. A. D. Lindsay, Master of Balliol College at Oxford. In these essays, described as 'The Essentials of Democracy' Dr. Lindsay says: Of course with your permission, Sir, I propose to read a few lines—

"This outstanding fact about the State—that its legislation and much of its activities appeal and seek to maintain a certain way of life—has been often taken to mean that the State's business is to make men good: It is an institution for the realization of morality. It was thus that Plato and Aristotle regarded the State. And if that is so it seems more difficult than ever to defend democracy. For do we not all recognize the existence of moral geniuses—of men of commanding moral insight? If the State is an instrument of morality, should it not be an instrument in the hand of Plato's philosopher king, or be ruled by its saints?"

It is the first principle, Sir, that people that are elected into this House are not elected on the ground that they are here to convert all people into one form of morality which they think is good. Therefore it can be on a different basis. Sir, he proceeds:

"Calvinism was not democratic. It demanded the rule of the saints. If moral knowledge and insight are to be in authority, if the State is to do moral tasks, ought it not to be ruled by moral experts? . . . Democracy rests on the

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principle, not that all men's views on what are right and wrong are of equal value, nor on the denial of the existence of saints and prophets, but on the doctrine that compulsory morality is a contradiction in term."

You may ask me, Sir: 'How is democracy or how is the State to bring assistance to these great moral forces that are necessarily to play a vital part in the public life of the country?' The answer is given here, Sir:

"... the best society is that which increases spontaneity and life and variety; and that that is not primarily done by the State but by all this rich complex of voluntary associations. The end of the State's compulsion is to give room for liberty—but not just for the independent liberty of individuals but for the kind of freedom and liberty which are possible only in social life. That the State cannot itself produce, but it can do an immense deal to foster the forces which do produce it, and by its power of regulation and adjustment it can keep this spontaneous life from losing itself in anarchy."

My object in drawing attention to this is to suggest for the consideration of this House the desirability of knowing its own limitations in regard to socio-religious reforms and legislation. I am not going to say that this legislation should at all be stopped. I have said that I wholeheartedly favour temple entry and I ask my Hindu friends, particularly the orthodox section to realize their responsibilities and duties. It is because they have not realized their responsibilities and duties that such a legislation has been made necessary. If they had been less conscious of their rights and privileges and more conscious of those of other men, if they had realized where the shoe pinches for the poor man who had suffered so long, I have no doubt that we would not have been forced to this unfortunate position where a legislature composed of Hindus, Muslims, Christians and others should come and enact a piece of legislation which is intended only for Hindus. I consider it a humiliation, Sir, and that is my reason why I once again appeal to the orthodox section of my Hindu brethren to rise betimes and realize what their duties are even after this piece of legislation has been passed. I appeal to them, Sir, to treat this Bill as a dead letter and give no cause for its provisions being applied. I hope that this legislation will be followed in letter as well as in spirit. And, Sir, if we recognize what it is that we are fighting for, and if this House will not be carried away by its power to think that it can pass any piece of legislation affecting the social, religious or other forms of life, if we can only become toned down in our enthusiasm, I shall feel that I have done my duty. I have nothing more to add, Sir."

*THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, Sir. I had no intention of intervening in this debate except for the speech which has just been delivered. I have great respect for my hon. Friend the Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University. He and I have been very great friends not to-day but for the last quarter of a century and for anything that comes from him I have great respect. But there are one or two things which we have got to work under and which I am sure he realizes we have to work under. In the first place, I agree with him when he said that it ought to be the duty of the Hindu community as a whole to have reformed itself and effected the temple entry of our depressed brethren and

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reform of other social customs. But years have passed and unfortunately the heart of our people has not been changed. He himself referred to the edict of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore. That showed that at least as far as that part of the country was concerned, it had to be done by an edict. We are not situated in the same position in this Province. His Excellency the Governor, even if he wished, cannot issue an edict, because there is the Proclamation of Queen Victoria saying that as long as the British Government are here, they will not interfere with the religious customs of the people of this land. Therefore the only way temple entry can be effected in this Province is by legislation, and that is what the Government are undertaking. I admit it would have been better if the people's mind could be changed, but that has not been found possible.

"My hon. Friend the Leader of the House talked of symbolism. He was correct in his estimate of what the ordinary orthodox Hindu feels over this and my hon. Friend the Vice-Chancellor said it might be that a day might come when people may sit on the treasury benches who would be against all kinds of symbolism and might have them abolished. Well, Sir, if we do have faith in democracy and believe in the power of the people, such times may come. As far as I am concerned, even though my faith in Hinduism is strong, as a citizen of the State which has come to this conclusion, I must accept the verdict of democracy. But I am sure that in this land such things will not come, because our people have an abiding faith in religion and I am sure when these shackles are thrown off, people who may have forward views in these matters will not necessarily interfere with belief, because it is a matter for individuals.

"There is only one thing more. My hon. Friend the Vice-Chancellor talked of the monarchical form of Government. It is not the intention that we should get rid of the monarchical form of Government. At the same time, I should like to bring to his notice that we should not place ourselves in the position of Bulgaria, Rumania and Greece and import kings from outside. We know the fate of these countries and the kings they have imported. I do not think there is any other possibility when we get independence except to form ourselves into a republic which was done by the great democracy across the Atlantic. We seem to be in the same position to-day. But it does not mean that we stand for the abolition of all monarchical forms, because within the republic, it is possible to have monarchies existing. It is in that spirit that the Constituent Assembly resolution was put forward. I should like to assure the hon. Gentleman that it is not the intention to put down monarchy. But as far as the Central Government is concerned, it must be a republic, it cannot be anything but a republic.

"Sir, I am glad that at least to-day we are passing this legislation, because in a way, I can claim myself to be the person who wanted this legislation in the old Legislative Council. As a non-official Member I gave notice of such a Bill, but it was not given

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permission by the Government of India at that time. I am glad that at least to-day after nearly twenty years this Bill is being passed into law."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I had not intended to take part in this debate on the third reading of this Bill but having heard Dr. Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, I should like to say a few words on the juristic point of view."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member may take just a few minutes."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar doubted whether it is the function of the Legislature to legislate on socio-religious subjects. The law is the idea of right or wrong held by the community. In England the common law was developed by judges who were in intimate touch with the people, who knew the ideas and the ideals of the people, their ideas of right and wrong, so that when ideas changed in the minds of the people, the judges accordingly brought the law into line. Even slavery was abolished not by legislation but by the judgment of the High Court of England. Sir, if our courts were constituted as in England and were composed of judges who were in intimate touch with the ideas of right and wrong held by the people, then we would not have required this piece of legislation at all. The judges would have said: 'We know the people very well, we know their ideas and therefore we rule that every Hindu has a right whether he is a Harijan or not to go into a temple.' But our courts are not constituted like that. Therefore the Legislature has to intervene and declare what is the idea of right and wrong among the people, and what is the consensus of opinion among the large majority of the Hindu population in the matter of allowing Harijans to enter temples. In this country, the legislature to some extent takes the place of the courts of law in England. We cannot therefore say that it is not the function of the legislature in this country to go into socio-religious questions. It is the function of the legislature and I am glad that this Bill has been introduced and will be passed into law."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"Sir, I am indeed thankful that the hon. Member the Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University has given us . . ."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I would deeply appreciate if hon. Members will refer to me by name. I am here as such and I just want to prevent a confusion."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"I take the clue from my hon. Colleague who just spoke—Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar . . ."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—"Thank you."

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ Dr. Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar has . . . ”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ No need.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ I am thankful to him for the elucidation of the place of socio-religious legislation which he has found time to give us. At the same time, I want him to remember a few facts because of the particular situation in which we are placed. I have already said in the beginning when I introduced the Bill that we have in a way secured the popular opinion, a very large volume of popular opinion, but in spite of it, we have introduced this legislation because we have found it not possible to carry the whole lot of our people to our view and get them to accept this. Therefore the necessity for legislation has arisen. The history of our country shows that whatever may be the amount of freedom that has been given to us by the powers who have ruled over us for so many centuries, the very fact that they have not interfered in our social and religious evolution, because of that very fact, we have degenerated from age to age and we are in the wretched position in which we are to-day. The large body of opinion beyond any shadow of doubt consider that this reform is necessary. But this legislation is necessary to compel those very few Hindus who would still go back to the old time. This would be an insult and disgrace to our society. Therefore, while I accept the fundamental principles which the hon. Member has so ably laid down in his speech, I must confess that the necessity has arisen for the Government to discharge their duties in accordance with public opinion in this matter.

“ Besides, we have our election pledges. The Congress Party has been irrevocably committed to the removal of untouchability and temple entry. If we fail in our duty, we would be failing in our promises to the electorate. Therefore, Sir, in view of the promises that we have made to the people, in view of the public opinion prevailing amongst us and in view of the past history of our religion and society owing to the utter disregard shown towards it by the rulers of the country, we are obliged to take up this position. We feel that this measure is absolutely necessary. While accepting the hon. Member's proposition we feel that in the circumstances we are fully justified in bringing this measure before this House.

“ The question that the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly, be passed into law was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.”

THE MADRAS PAYMENT OF SALARIES AND REMOVAL OF
DISQUALIFICATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947
(AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY)

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The next item on the agenda is the Bill to amend the Salaries Act. If the House should feel that my absence would conduce to the freedom of discussion, I shall have . . . ”

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN AND SEVERAL OTHER MEMBERS :—“ No, no, Sir.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ It is a short Bill and I do not think it will take long. I move—

“ that the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Bill ⁴⁻⁴⁵ 1947 (L.A. Bill No. of 1947) as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The question is that the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration at once.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Mr. President, Sir, we are thankful to the Government for bringing forward this measure which is long overdue. You may remember when the first Salaries Bill was moved in this House in 1946, members from all sides of the House expressed their desire that the status of the President of this Council should be at least equal to that of the Speaker of the Assembly. We again waited long to see if our wishes would be respected. One morning, on August 31st I think, a *Gazette Extraordinary* was issued in which the Bill further to amend the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications Act was published. We waited long to see if that Bill would be introduced in either of the Houses. You may remember my hon. Friend Mr. Farookhi somehow or other tried to bring this matter in discussion on other matters and asked the Government why they had not brought forward the Bill published in a *Gazette Extraordinary* months ago. Anyhow, we are thankful to the Government for bringing forward this Bill at least now. But the Hon. Home Minister has not explained why certain changes have been introduced in the Bill as introduced now.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Perhaps it will not short discussion if I intervene and explain. I understand the hon. Member's point, and that is: Why retrospective effect has not been given. As one versed in English jurisprudence, I am always against what, in English jurisprudence, is called *ex post facto* legislation, and that is the reason why retrospective effect has not been provided for. The amount involved may be very small in this case. But if we get into the morass of *ex post facto* legislation and accept the principle, we may come across other matters which will lead us into difficulties. Therefore, as far as I am concerned and as far as the Government are concerned, we are against retrospective effect being given.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Even if the Hon. Minister had done it, he would have given me the opportunity and the pleasure of disowning it.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Yes, Sir, the Hon. Minister has deprived you of that privilege. We are very glad the Hon. Home Minister has enunciated a principle which, we trust, they will follow, in respect of all matters where expenditure is involved.”

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ The hon. Member has misunderstood me. I said it was a principle of English jurisprudence, and not a matter of spending money. I will gladly give retrospective effect to your salary. But if this is introduced as *ex post facto*, there may come up other legislation wherein this may be demanded. I am talking of the legislative field only.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ I hope in every legislation which will be introduced in future, the Government will not attempt to give retrospective effect. We are very grateful for this assurance, because certain pieces of legislation are introduced in which Government seek to give retrospective effect. However, we are thankful not because of the emoluments which the Bill seeks to give to the President of the House but because of the status which it confers on him. I wish this Bill had been introduced long ago as soon as it was published and that the Government had not kept us in suspense compelling some of us to refer to this matter in our speeches on other occasions. I am sure I am speaking on behalf of all the hon. Members of this House when I say how very much gratified we are at the fact the Government have after all respected the wishes of the members of this House. With these few words I have great pleasure in supporting the Bill.”

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, it is a matter of very great gratification to us, members of the Opposition. From the very beginning when this House re-started, we have been bringing to the notice of the Government that they have done a great injustice to this House by not raising the salary of the President to the level of the salary of the Speaker of the Assembly. You remember, Sir, it is we that raised the point, not because you did not get more salary, but because we felt that the Government had not shown as much respect to this House as they ought to have shown. You know, Mr. President, that when this House re-started, there was no member of this House on the Cabinet. We felt that the Cabinet as it was then constituted might feel that they had no responsibility to this House. It is a matter of gratification for us that the Government have yielded to our demand. We are thankful to the Government and we congratulate the Hon. Home Minister for rectifying this mistake.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ I should think, Sir, that the President of the Upper House, whoever he be, should always be given a salary higher than that paid to the Speaker of the Assembly. In your case, Sir, it is all the more so. As far as we are concerned, you have been an ideal President. (K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur : ‘Hear, hear.’) You will be an ornament to any legislative chamber. It I may say so, your face is your fortune. You have smiled through, and sitting in this House made us smile through our deliberations. You have also maintained the high traditions and the dignity of your office. But I cannot say that you have been strictly impartial. We on this side of this House think that you

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have been partial to each and every one of us. But I understand from the other side that they also think that you have been partial to them (The Hon. Dr. Subbarayan : ‘Quite so’), with the result that you have been strictly impartial to every section of the House. You have created that impression and I say you have been an ideal President. We are all related not so much with the money that you get but with the feeling that the President of this House gets at least the same pay as the Speaker of the Assembly although my opinion is as I have already said, the President of the Upper House, whoever he be, should get at least one rupee more than the pay of the Speaker of the Lower House.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. President, Sir, perhaps this is one of the very rare occasions when we on this side of this House stand up to congratulate the Government on doing, though belatedly, their duty. Ever since this House was brought into being, we on this side of the House have been thinking that, apart from your personality, it must be given to this House to have a President whose status must be at least equal to that of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. We also felt that this House must have equal status, or at least, some status along with the other House in respect of Ministers. You may remember, Sir, that on account of some special reasons, I had to withdraw a resolution standing in my name with regard to appointment of Ministers from among the Members belonging to this House. All that shows not that particular individuals should be given the opportunity to serve as Ministers or that a particular gentleman occupying the high office of President should be given a few rupees, annas and pies more. Whether in the opinion of some there is necessity for this House or not, so long as this House exists, it should be given a status equal to that of the other House. Apart from abstract things as principles in certain cases, personalities do count as was pointed out very rightly by my friend Dr. John. The fact that Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, Janab Mohamed Ismail Sahib, who is also the President of the Provincial Muslim League, supported this measure and that there was no opposition in the other House goes a long way to show the popularity, high esteem and great regard in which your good self is held by members of both the Houses. For that reasons we are doubly gratified that the status of this House is raised to the status of the other House.”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ But it does not cease to be a Second Chamber.”

DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Second, but a higher Chamber.”

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Whether it ceases to be a Second Chamber or not, whether you call it a higher Chamber or not, we wanted that this Chamber should occupy a position equal to that of the other Chamber. Your personality, Mr. President, was to a great extent responsible for the manner in which this proposition was taken up by both the Houses.

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"I would like to mention one more point with regard to this. Of course I was feeling, along with my esteemed friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, that there seems to be some difference between the Bill as introduced in the House and the Bill that was formerly published. Both of us felt that retrospective effect should be given to this . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I think you need not refer to it."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"I am referring to the principle, not to this particular salary. My hon. Friend Dr. Subbarayan just now said that he was against retrospective effect being given and quoted some English law in support of it. I am not a lawyer, and therefore, I cannot cross legal swords with him. But I know that in a higher legislative body than this, which was presided over by no less a person than the late lamented Hon. Mr. Patel under whose Presidency I had the honour to be a member of the Central Assembly, a resolution was moved.

4.30
p.m.

"There was a resolution moved in the Central Legislative Assembly which was permitted by the President and accepted by the Government. The resolution came up before the Central Assembly on Wednesday, the 22nd January 1930. It was moved by my hon. Friend respected by most Members here, particularly by my hon. Friend Dr. Rajan, Maulvi Sayyid Murtuba Sahib Bahadur. The resolution is as follows :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Governor-General-in-Council that the stipends of the members of the Carnatic Family which were discontinued on account of their participation in the Khilafat movement be restored to them with retrospective effect."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"It is not legislation."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"What I wish to point out is this. Whatever may be brought before this House are executive acts of the Government. If Hon. Ministers do not want to bring any matter before this House, then we will be helpless. What is brought before this House is the executive act of the Government; it may take the form of a Bill; it may take the form of legislation. It is all the will and pleasure of the majority party who forms the Government. If the majority party thinks that any particular thing should be done, they can do so without any excuse. I do not want to say that the Government are wrong. I simply wanted to point out what has happened. I just want to point out that the resolution I have referred to was passed by the Central Legislative Assembly and it was accepted on behalf of the Government by Mr. E. B. Howell, Foreign Secretary of the Government of India. He accepted the whole resolution in toto without opposing the question of retrospective effect in the Assembly. Therefore I submit that, whatever be the intention of the Government in the present case, it should not be made a rule because there may be certain cases where retrospective

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effect may have to be given. It is unfortunate that in this particular case, the Minister in charge thought it fit that it should not be made a precedent. Anyhow as I have said just now, we are glad that this matter has been brought before this House.

"I want to refer to one more point. Apart from the increase in your salary, Mr. President, which is now taken for granted—as this Bill is going to be passed into law—in other matters also such as the question of sending the Speaker of the Assembly to England and other foreign countries to study Parliamentary procedure, I should like to impress upon the Hon. Ministers that they should also take into consideration the question of the status of this House and see that the same privilege is extended to this House also; I say not to you, because anything to the President is a privilege shown to this House. Therefore I feel grateful to the Government for having brought forward this measure; I feel they have done justice to this House, though it is belated justice."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The question is—

'The Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 10 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once.'"

The motion was put and carried.

Clause 2 was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Sir, I now move that the Bill be passed into law. In doing so, I am glad I have known you for 38 years since we joined the Christian College together in the B.A. class. I am glad you have made such an impression in this Council as to be regarded as its friend. As my hon. Friend, Dr. John, pointed out you seem to have a pleasing word to everybody, because hon. Members seem to think that not only to Members of the Opposition but also to Members of the Government, you are partial. I am sure you are not, because you are doing your duty of carrying out the traditions of the office of Presidents in this House. If it had been possible, I might have accepted the amendment with regard to retrospective effect of your salary. But I do not feel it is right that we should trench upon certain decisions with regard to retrospective effect. I hope my hon. Friends on the other side of the House will reconsider the matter because I do feel very strongly over this matter. I feel we shall be trenching upon the well-known principle of English jurisprudence which has been followed even on the other side of the Atlantic. My hon. Friend, Dr. John, was referred to it. As my hon. Friend, Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar whispered, Dr. John and I may lose our jobs because we depend on English Jurisprudence. We have to depend on it; we continue to depend on it for some time longer.

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Whatever may be the condition of the country, I hope what has been given to us of English Jurisprudence will be continued because we know what the Englishman has done in his long history is the rule of Law, which I think, helps the people a great deal. I hope whatever may be the situation we may find ourselves in we will act up to this ideal which has been put before us during the last 150 years. I am glad that a mistake which has been made is being rectified to-day. I entirely agree with hon. Members and I wish it had been done before. But there is the English proverb 'better late than never'."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

'The Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 10 of 1947) be passed into Law'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Hon. Members think that this is not really a personal matter; yet it is a matter which concerns the present occupant of the Chair. Therefore I ought to tell hon. Members how I feel on this occasion. First of all, I congratulate the Government, not only this Government but the previous Government also, for having corrected a mistake which crept in I knew very unintentionally. I am sure the previous Government had no intention of discriminating between this Chair and that of the other House. It was a real mistake which nobody noticed at the beginning. But when the matter was brought to the notice of the previous Prime Minister, he was willing to correct the mistake. But for various reasons for very good reasons, the Bill could not be brought before this House earlier than now. My thanks, also my gratitude, are due to both this Government and the previous Government for rectifying this obvious mistake.

" Secondly, I must thank all hon. Members who have spoken and also those who, by their silence, have given their hearty approval to this measure, for the very kind words they have expressed on this occasion. As I told hon. Members, ever since I took up this office, it has been my endeavour to deserve your confidence and your goodwill. To-day I feel God has vouchsafed to me such good fortune that I am able to hear some good words, kind words spoken of me. Though this is not an occasion for me to lay down my office, yet, an occasion has arisen when an opportunity has been given to hon. Members to express their opinion about me and my work. If I have done anything to deserve your confidence and goodwill, I feel that I have done my duty and in all humility I offer my thanks to Almighty who has vouchsafed such good fortune to me. I should not let this opportunity pass without thanking hon. Members of the other House. I know how hon. Members of his House have been feeling on this matter and it is but natural that they should be anxious to pass this Bill, and to see that the dignity of the Chair of this House is maintained in

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its proper level. That cannot be said of the other House. I am indeed very very grateful and highly thankful to hon. Members of the other House who have unanimously passed this Bill and expressed their goodwill and kindness they feel towards me. With these few words I once again thank the Government for having brought forward this Bill and I express my high sense of thankfulness to hon. Members of this House."

The House will meet again at 3 p.m. on Monday the 21st April 1947.

IV.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. G.O. No. 218, Finance, dated 29th March 1947, relating to the Schedule of Authorized Expenditure for 1947-8 as authenticated by His Excellency the Governor.
2. G.O. No. 223, Finance, dated 30th March 1947, relating to the Schedule of Supplementary Statements of Authorized Expenditure, for 1946-47 as authenticated by His Excellency the Governor.
3. G.O. No. 4678, Development, dated 23rd December 1946, relating to Khadi Scheme submitted by the Provincial Textile Commissioner.
4. The Madras Temple Entry Authorization Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 9 of 1947) passed by the Assembly and received therefrom in the Council.
5. The Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 19 of 1947) passed by the Assembly and received therefrom in the Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 131 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 3rd April 1947, page 527 supra.]

Statement showing the actual staff employed.

Serial number.	Name of the section.	District Officers.	Station Officers.	Sub-Officers.	Leading firemen.	Driver-mechanics.	Firemen-drivers.	Firemen.	Firemen-messengers.	Ambulance drivers.	Ambulance attendants.	Staff car drivers.	Telephone operators.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
I. WESTERN REGION.													
1	Bodinayakanur ..	..	..	1	2	..	2	6	2	2	..	..	..
2	Cannanore ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	18	4	..	..	..	3
3	Calicut ..	1	..	1	6	1	6	30	4	2	2	..	3
4	Cochin (British) ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	2	1	3
5	Coimbatore ..	..	2	3	10	1	8	46	4	2	1	..	3
6	Coonoor ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	3	3	..	..
7	Dharapuram ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	18	4	2	2	..	3
8	Mangalore ..	..	..	1	5	1	6	29	4	2	4	..	3
9	Madura ..	1	..	1	7	1	7	38	4	4	2	..	3
10	Ootacamund ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	2	..	..
11	Palghat ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	..	..	..
12	Erode ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	18	4	..	..	..	..
13	Palni ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	..	..	..	..
14	Pollachi ..	..	..	1	6	1	6	30	4	2	2	..	3
15	Tellicherry ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	2	..	3
16	Tiruppur ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	40	4	..	..	..	5
17	Tuticorin ..	..	..	1	8	1	7	18	4	2	1	..	..
18	Udumalpet ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	..	..	..
19	Udipi ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	..	..	..
		2	3	21	93	14	90	485	74	35	33	1	36

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II. CENTRAL REGION.

1	Arkonam ..	..	..	1	2	..	2	12	2	1	..	..	..
2	Chidambaram ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	17	4	1	..	..	..
3	Chingleput ..	..	..	2	4	..	4	18	4	1	..	..	..
4	Conjeevaram ..	..	..	1	4	1	3	18	4	2	2	..	3
5	Cuddalore ..	1	..	1	4	1	4	18	1	2	2	..	..
6	Karur ..	..	..	2	4	..	4	18	4	2	2	..	..
7	Kumbakonam ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	18	4	2	2	..	..
8	Mannargudi ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	18	3	2	..	..	..
9	Mayavaram ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	17	4	..	..	..	..
10	Nagapattinam ..	..	..	2	6	..	6	29	4	4	4	..	3
11	Ranipet ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	2	..	..
12	Salem ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	18	4	2	2	..	..
13	Tanjore ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	30	4	4	4	..	..
14	Tiruvallur ..	..	..	2	6	1	5	17	4	4	2	..	..
15	Trichinopoly ..	1	..	1	4	1	3	17	4	2	..	..	..
16	Villupuram ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	17	4	2	..	..	..
		2	1	20	66	10	63	302	58	31	33	2	14
	Total ..	2	1	20	66	10	63	302	58	31	33	2	14

III. NORTHERN REGION.

1	Nellore ..	..	..	2	4	..	2	18	3	1	..	..	3
2	Vizianagaram ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	18	4	4	4	..	3
3	Vizagapatnam ..	..	..	2	12	2	12	66	8	4	2	2	3
4	Peddapattanam ..	..	..	1	4	1	6	30	8	4	3	1	6
5	Ocanada ..	1	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	4	4	..	3
6	Rajahmundry ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	6	2	3
7	Ellore ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	2	..	3
8	Bezwada ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	2	2	..	3
9	Guntur ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	1	2	2	..
10	Masulipatnam ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	18	4	1	1	..	3
11	Tenali ..	..	..	1	4	1	4	17	3	2	1	..	..
12	Bellary ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	18	4	2	2	..	..
13	Cuddapah ..	..	..	1	4	..	4	18	4	2	2	..	..
		1	3	15	61	12	60	293	62	36	36	5	36
	Total ..	1	3	15	61	12	60	293	62	36	36	5	36

[3rd April 1947]

1)	Engineer Sub-Officers. (2)	Driver-mechanics. (3)	Carpenters. (4)	Painters. (5)	Blacksmiths. (6)	Fireman-labourers. (7)											
REGIONAL WORKSHOPS.																	
Western Region, Coimbatore.	1	1	1	1		2											
Northern Region, Bezwada	1	1	1	1		3											
Central Region, Madras.	..	..	..	..		..											
MADRAS CITY SECTION.																	
Serial number.	Stations.	District officers.	Station officers.	Sub-officers.	Engineer sub-officers.	Mechanics drivers.	Drivers.	Leading firemen.	Firemen.	Supervisors.	Telephone operators.	Fireman mechanics.	Fireman chucklers.	L. F. fitters.	F. M. fitters.	F. M. labourers.	Transport officers.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)
1 Fire Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	34	..	..	..	..	..	..
2 High Court.	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	6	36	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3 Seven Wells.	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	7	35	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
4 Waltax Road	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	7	43	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
5 Tondiarpet	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	4	28	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
6 Washermanpet	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	6	38	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
7 Rayapuram	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8 Triplicane	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	9	55	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
9 Pudupet	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	7	49	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
10 Egmore	..	..	..	..	..	2	7	7	42	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
11 Teyyanampet	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	5	24	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
12 Royapettia	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	12	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
13 Collector's office, Saidapet	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	36	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
14 Vepery	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	7	24	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
15 Kilpauk	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	19	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
16 Provincial Training School	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	15	51	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
17 Headquarters	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	6	26	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
18 Workshops	..	..	..	..	..	3	8	..	16	..	1	20	3	1	3	4	..
Total	..	4	1	11	3	13	66	102	556	3	79	20	3	1	3	4	1

3rd April 1947]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 136 asked by Sri B. Bhima Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 3rd April 1947, page 535 supra.]

		ACS.		ACS.	
(a) —		Bellary district —		Kurnool district —	
Hospet	..	8,066		Pattikonda	.. 7,850
Bellary	..	32,150		Kurnool	.. 61,839
Alur	..	13,832			
Siruguppa	..	93,007			
Adoni	..	77,475			
		Wet.	Dry.	Wet.	Dry.
		ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
(b) —		Bellary district —		Kurnool district —	
Hospet	..	720	7,346	Pattikonda	.. 7,850
Bellary	..	4,878	27,272	Kurnool	.. 61,839
Alur	..	5,154	8,678		
Siruguppa	..	4,248	88,759		
Adoni	..	—	77,475		
(c)		Information is not available.			
(d)		7,000 K.W. in the months of February to May and 20,000 K.W. in the remaining months.			
(e)		Information is not available.			
(f) & (g)		The question does not arise.			
(h)		No as the matter is confidential.			

[3rd April 1947]

APPENDIX III.

[Vide item III (1) at page 553 supra]

L.A. BILL No. 9 OF 1947

(As passed by the Assembly).

A Bill to authorize entry into Hindu temples in the Province of Madras and the offer of worship therein by certain classes of Hindus who by custom or usage are excluded from such entry and worship.

WHEREAS it is the policy of the Provincial Government to remove the disabilities imposed by custom or usage on certain classes of Hindus against entry into Hindu temples in the Province which are open to the general Hindu public;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government are satisfied, from the rapidity with which, under pressure of Hindu public opinion, a number of temples have been thrown open to those classes of Hindus in recent months, under the provisions of the Madras Temple Entry Authorization and Indemnity Act, 1939, that the time has now arrived for throwing open to such classes of Hindus all temples in the Province which are open to the general Hindu public;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government consider that the provisions of the said Act are inadequate for the early and complete implementation of the policy of the Provincial Government aforesaid;

It is hereby enacted as follows :—

Short title, extent and commencement.

1. (1) This Act may be called the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act, 1947.

(2) It extends to the whole of the Province of Madras.

(3) This section shall come into force at once; and the remaining provisions of this Act shall come into force on such date as the Provincial Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, appoint.

Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

(1) 'excluded class' means any caste or class of the Hindu community which, by reason of any established custom or usage, is excluded from entering the temple concerned or offering worship therein;

(2) 'temple' means a place, by whatever name known, which is dedicated to, or for the benefit of, or used as of right by, the Hindu community in general, as a place of public religious worship, and includes subsidiary shrines and mantapams attached to such place;

(3) 'worship' means such religious service as the bulk of the worshippers may offer, or participate in, in accordance with such rules and regulations as may be made under this Act.

3. (1) Notwithstanding any law, custom or usage to the contrary, persons belonging to the excluded classes shall be entitled to enter any Hindu temple and offer worship therein in the same manner and to the same extent as Hindus in general; and no member of any excluded class shall, by reason only of such entry or worship, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, be deemed to have committed any actionable wrong or offence or be sued or prosecuted therefor.

Right of excluded classes to enter and offer worship in temples.

[3rd April 1947]

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provision, it is hereby declared that the right conferred by sub-section (1) shall include the following rights if, and to the extent to which, they are enjoyed by Hindus in general, not belonging to the excluded classes :—

(a) the right to bathe in, or use the waters of, any sacred tank, well, spring or water-course appurtenant to the temple, whether situated within or outside the precincts thereof;

(b) the right of passage over any sacred place, including a hill or hillock or a road, street or pathway, which is requisite for obtaining access to the temple.

4. The trustee or other authority in charge of a temple shall have power, subject to the control of the Provincial Government and to any rules which may be made by them, to make regulations for the maintenance of order and decorum in the temple and the due observance of the religious rites and ceremonies performed in the temple, but such regulations shall not discriminate in any way against the members of the excluded classes.

5. (1) No suit for damages, injunction or declaration or for any other relief, no prosecution for any offence, and no application or other proceeding under the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1926, or any other law, shall be instituted in respect of any entry into or worship in any temple, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, on the sole ground that such entry or worship is against the custom or usage which excludes certain classes of Hindus from such entry or worship.

(2) No suit, prosecution, application or proceeding of the nature aforesaid, instituted before the commencement of this Act, shall be continued thereafter, without the sanction of the Provincial Government.

6. If any question arises as to whether a place is or is not a temple as defined in this Act, the question shall be referred to the Provincial Government and their decision shall be final subject, however, to any decree passed by a competent civil court in a suit filed before it within six months of the date of the decision of the Provincial Government.

Penalties.

7. Whoever—

(i) prevents a person belonging to any excluded class from exercising any right conferred by this Act, or

(ii) molests or obstructs any such person in the exercise of any such right

shall be punishable, in the case of a first offence, with fine which may extend to one hundred rupees, and in the case of a second or subsequent offence, with imprisonment which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees, or with both.

8. (1) The Provincial Government may make rules for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act in respect of temples generally or of any temple or class of temples.

Rules.

(2) All rules made under this section shall be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and, on such publication, shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.

Madras Act II of 1927.

[3rd April 1947]

9. If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Provincial Government, as occasion requires, may, by order, do anything which appears to them necessary for the purpose of removing the difficulty.

Madras
Act
XX of
1938.

Madras
Act
XXII
of 1939.

Madras
Act
II of
1927.

10. The Malabar Temple Entry Act, 1938, and the Madras Temple Entry Authorization and Indemnity Act, 1939, are hereby repealed.

Repeals.

11. In section 40 of the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1926, for the words and figures "Subject to the provisions of the Malabar Temple Entry Act, 1938, and the Madras Temple Entry Authorization and Indemnity Act, 1939", the words and figures "Subject to the provisions of the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act, 1947," shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 40,
Madras Act II of 1927.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide item III (2) at page 595 supra.]

L.A. BILL No. 10 OF 1947

(As passed by the Assembly).

A Bill further to amend the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications Act, 1937.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications Act, 1937, for the purpose hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Madras
Act IX
of 1937.

1. This Act may be called the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Act, 1947.

2. In section 4, sub-section (1), of the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications Act, 1937, which relates to the President of the Legislative Council, for the words "a salary of rupees five hundred per mensem", the words "a salary of rupees one thousand per mensem" shall be substituted.

Amendment of sec-
tion 4, Madras Act
IX of 1937.

Madras
Act IX
of 1937.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 21st April 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMA-KRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—SWEARING IN OF A NEW MEMBER.

Sir James Doak was sworn in.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Export of yarn outside this Province.

* 147-A Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether the system of giving special permits for export outside this Province either of yarn or cloth, mill-made and hand-woven, is still continued and if so, on what basis such exports are permitted and licences granted?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"No special permits for the export of yarn or mill-made cloth outside this Province are given by this Government. As regards hand-loom cloth all exgratia quotas and special permits for export outside this Province have been suspended until further orders."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know whether it is a suspension or stoppage of permits altogether?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—"As I have already stated that it is suspension until further orders for the present."

Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.

* 122 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of manuscript and printed books in the Madras Government Oriental Manuscripts Library;

(b) whether catalogues of manuscripts have been published for each of the languages and if so, what the number of catalogues is according to language;

(c) what the staff engaged in the preparation of the catalogues is and whether it is adequate to complete the work within a reasonable period of time;

(d) whether the Library is being utilized for consultation and if so what the average number of users is;

[21st April 1947]

(e) whether the staff employed is adequate to cope with the inquiries received;

(f) whether any charges are levied for supplying transcripts to scholars and institutions and if so what, they are and what the income has been during last year;

(g) what the number of the staff is with the qualifications and emoluments prescribed for each post;

(h) whether Sanskrit qualification is not insisted upon for the Curator's post;

(i) whether the Library has been located in a rented building and whether the accommodation provided is adequate;

(j) whether there are proposals before the Government to convert the Library into a Research Institute;

(k) whether the members of the staff are required to go out on tour to collect rare manuscripts and acquire them for the Library;

(l) whether adequate arrangements have been made to preserve the manuscripts in their original form or otherwise and whether rare works are being published and made available to the public as in the case of records in the Madras Record Office; and

(m) whether the Government have under consideration the whole question of the future of the Oriental Manuscripts Library with a view not only to promote the purpose for which it has been established but also make it more useful to the general public.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—“(a) There are 48,708 manuscripts and 9,251 printed books in the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, Madras.

“(b) Yes. The number of catalogues published in Sanskrit—55; Tamil—15; Telugu—16; Kannada—5; Malayalam—2; Arabic, Persian and Urdu—4.

“(c) There is no special staff solely for the purpose of cataloguing. A staff of one Librarian, two Assistant Librarians and eleven Pandits under the Curator, attend to the work of the preparation of catalogues, in addition to their normal duties. The sanctioning of an additional staff to complete the work of cataloguing in a reasonable time is under consideration.

“(d) Yes. It is consulted locally by visitors and by non-residence users through correspondence and loan of manuscripts. For the period from 1st April 1936 to 30th November 1946 the monthly average of users is 258.

“(e) Yes.

[21st April 1947]

“(f) Charges are levied for supplying transcripts to scholars and institutions at the following rates:—

Sanskrit, Kannada and Malayalam. Rs. 10 for copying 1,000 granthas. (A grantha is equal to 32 syllables.)

Telugu and Tamil .. Rs. 9 for copying 1,000 granthas.

Urdu and Persian .. Rs. 10 for copying 10,000 letters.

Arabic Rs. 10 for copying 45,000 letters.

“Besides, there are comparing charges at the following rates:—Charges for comparing 1,000 granthas in Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam and 60,000 letters in Urdu and Persian and 45,000 letters in Arabic are Rs. 2-12-0.

“The income received was about Rs. 939.

“(g) The number of the staff, with the qualifications and emoluments prescribed is as follows:—

Designation.	Number.	Qualifications.	Scale of pay.
			RS.
Curator	1	First or second class M.A. or B.A. (Hons.) of any British or Indian University in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Arabic or Persian with a working knowledge of Sanskrit.	200—30/2—260—40/2—500—50/2—700.
Librarian	1	B.A. (Hons.) or B.Sc. (Hons.) or M.A. or M.Sc. of a University in the Province and must possess a sufficient knowledge of Sanskrit and of at least one of the languages, namely, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada. Below 30 years of age. Account Test for Subordinate Officers—Part I.	100—10/2—150.
Assistant Librarian (one temporary).	2	Do.	70—5/2—85—7 1/2—100.
Clerk	1	S.S.L.C.	30—3/2—45—2/2—55.
Do. (Temporary)	1	Do.	30 per mensem (fixed).
Typist (Temporary).	1	S.S.L.C. with qualification in typing.	30—3/2—45—2/2—55.
Senior Pandit (one for Tamil).	1	Oriental Title of one of the Universities in the Province.	45—5/2—60.
Pandits (1 temporary), 3 for Sanskrit, 1 for Tamil, 1 for Telugu, 1 for Kannada, and 1 for Arabic, Persian and Urdu. (One of the Sanskrit Pandits efficient in Malayalam for Malayalam).	9	Oriental Title in concerned language of one of the Universities in the Province.	35—4/2—48—2/2—45.

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Designation.	Number.	Qualifications.	Scale of pay.
			RS.
Marathi Pandit (Temporary).	1	Proficiency in Marathi with sufficient knowledge of English and ability to read and write Marathi manuscript recorded in Nagari and Modi script. Preference to Oriental Title holders of graduates.	75 per mensem (fixed).
Attender	1	III Form	19 to 30.
Peons	3		12 to 18.
Dusting coolies for dusting manuscripts and books.	2		12 paid from contingencies.

"(h) Sanskrit qualification is not insisted upon for the Curator's post, but a candidate who knows to read and write Sanskrit is given preference for appointment to the post.

"(i) The library is not located in a rented building. At present it is housed in a portion of the University buildings on the western side. The accommodation provided for it is not considered adequate.

"(j) No.

"(k) On receiving information regarding the availability of rare manuscripts in any particular place, a member of the staff qualified to examine them is deputed with or without the Curator to acquire them for the Library.

"(l) Yes.

"(m) An Advisory committee has recently been constituted and it will be asked to go into the question of making the library more useful to the general public and submit its recommendations."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"As it is a long answer on which there are likely to be a large number of supplementaries, it will be convenient if the question is taken up when the Hon. the Minister for Education is present. If any other Hon. Minister answers the question, he may merely ask for notice in reply to supplementary questions. Of course, I do not blame him for, the facts are not within his knowledge as he is not in charge of those departments."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"I am prepared to answer supplementary questions."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"I think the answer need not be read. We can take it as having been read, because it is printed. May I know whether the present Curator of the Oriental Manuscripts Library is competent to handle Sanskrit manuscripts?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"I think so."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"I knew that would be the answer. My point is, is he really qualified in Sanskrit to handle Sanskrit manuscripts?"

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THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Yes, Sir. He has a working knowledge of Sanskrit."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Is a working knowledge of Sanskrit sufficient to deal with the ancient manuscripts in the Library?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"He has been handling the Sanskrit manuscripts for a long time and has been continuing to do so."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know how long he has been Curator of the Sanskrit Manuscripts Library?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"I have no information."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have prescribed any qualifications for the Curator and whether they insist upon his having a knowledge of Sanskrit or only on possessing a working knowledge or having passed some examination in Sanskrit?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"Whatever it is, the present Curator is having a working knowledge of Sanskrit."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I know the number of enquiries that come from foreign countries to the Curator of this Library? The fact of the matter is that the present Curator is a Muhammadan gentleman—of course, I have nothing against him—but, I am only pointing out that the manuscripts in this Library are mostly in Sanskrit."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"No, Sir, they are not mostly in Sanskrit."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Then, may I know how many manuscripts there are in Sanskrit and how many in other languages?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"You have asked a question and the answer is given. A number of catalogues have been printed and so I would like to have notice of this supplementary question."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Is it necessary, Sir, for the Curator to know all the languages of the manuscripts in the Library?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"No Sir. It is not necessary. He can get things done by his Assistants."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Is it not at least necessary that the Curator must possess a knowledge of the manuscripts which are in abundance in the Library? I do not say he should possess a knowledge of all the languages."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"It would be a very good qualification if he has got a working knowledge of Sanskrit also."

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Will it not be better if qualified persons are put in charge of this Library? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The question will be considered. If that is possible, Government will see that it is done. We have also recently done something for the Library.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ With reference to answer to clause (m), may I know what is the constitution of this Advisory Committee? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ I am not quite sure. The Government must have nominated the Advisory Committee.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know whether the Government cannot appoint another Committee to look into the oriental manuscripts in the Library with a view to make it more useful to the public here and abroad? Or, will the Government ask at least this Advisory Committee to examine its working and make recommendations to improve its utility? ”

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ The suggestion will be considered.”

* 148 Q.—

(The Hon. Prime Minister began to answer in Tamil.)

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR put a supplementary question.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Is it not possible for the Hon. the Prime Minister to read the answer in English? ”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ I think if supplementary questions are put, I will be unable to reply to them.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ So far as supplementary questions are concerned, he can reply in Tamil.”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ My fear is when once I begin to reply in English, I may have to answer the supplementaries in that language.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I do not take that stand. You can reply to supplementaries in Tamil. I would request you to read the main answer in English.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ It is better to give the Prime Minister the choice of the language in which he wants to speak.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think the main answers may be given in English and if supplementary questions are put, he may answer them in Tamil.”

(The Hon. the Prime Minister then read the answer in English.)

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Forest area in Gudapakkam village.

* 148 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the forest area in Gudapakkam village in Sriperumbudur taluk has been denuded and made fit for cultivation and residential purposes;

(b) whether it is a fact that this forest was the only available grazing ground for the cattle in the surrounding villages;

(c) whether it is a fact that, that act of the Government has deprived the villagers of the grazing ground as well as green manure;

(d) whether the supply channel of Gudapakkam tank was also filled up, thereby depriving the villagers of the source of supply for the tank;

(e) whether it is a fact that about 150 acres of the forest still remain undestroyed; and

(f) whether the Government propose to order the preservation of at least this portion of the forest?

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

“ (b) No.

“ (c) Only partially.

“ (d) The silting up of the channel was due to the neglect of the ryots. The crossing of the channel by military vehicles has caused some silting at the crossing only.

“ (e) The Government are calling for information.

“ (f) This will be considered on receipt of the report referred to in the answer to clause (e) above.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ It is very good. I do not think the Hon. the Prime Minister will have any difficulty in answering supplementaries also in English? ”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ Though for military reasons, they have done so, will it not be possible to utilize unoccupied waste lands for the purpose of military house building and utilize the forests for the purposes for which they are intended? ”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ அது விஷயமாகவும் கவனிக்கப்படும்.”

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—“ May I know whether undenuded forest area which is about 150 acres which is still there will be reserved for grazing and manurial purposes? ”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ அது விஷயமாக கவனிக்கப்படும்.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ May I know what steps Government have taken to clear the supply channel of the tank? ”

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THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ அது விஷயமாக அந்த டிபார்ட்மெண்டுக்கு தெரிவித்து அதற்குத்தகுந்த ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்படும்.”

Firka Development Officers.

* 149 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that no qualifications were prescribed for Firka Development Officers and that the posts were not advertised;

(b) whether it is a fact that jail qualification was considered one of the main qualifications for the post;

(c) the names of the Firka Development Officers with their caste, age and educational qualifications; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the Collectors were not given any choice in selecting the candidates?

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“(a) Yes. Although no specific qualifications were prescribed, the following considerations were borne in mind in selecting persons for the post of Firka Development Officers:—

(i) possession of necessary enthusiasm and aptitude for rural reconstruction work;

(ii) organizing capacity;

(iii) ability to feel at home in rural surroundings; study the needs of the villagers with sympathy and understanding and evoke their confidence and secure their willing co-operation in pushing through schemes of rural uplift.

The posts were not advertised; but selection was made from as wide a field as possible in consultation with leading non-official gentlemen interested in rural reconstruction.

“(b) No.

“(c) The names, community and educational qualifications of the Firka Development Officers are as follows:— (Information regarding the caste of these officers is not readily available).

Serial number, firka and district.	Name of the firka Development Officer.	Community.	Educational qualifications
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1 Hindupur (Anantapur)	Sri R. Balasankara Gowd	Non-Brahman Hindu	B.A.
2 Kalasapakkam (North Arcot).	K. Muniswami Mudaliyar.	Do.	S.S.L.C.
3 Kadambullyar (South Arcot).	T. S. Krishnamachari	Brahman	M.Litt.
4 Alur (Bellary)	B. Hanumantha Rao	Do.	Intermediate, Parts II and III only.
5 Tiruvallur (Chingleput)	C. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.	Do.	B.A., B.L.
6 Palladam (Coimbatore)	S. Subbian	Non-Brahman Hindu	B.A.
7 Nagari (Chittoor)	P. R. Kumaraswami	Do.	B.A. (Hons.).
8 Proddatur (Cuddapah)	B. Ramaswamy	Brahman	B.A.
9 Rajahmundry (East Godavari).	C. Hanumantha Rao	Do.	Intermediate
10 Dendalur (West Godavari)	J. A. Ramamurthi	Do.	B.A.
11 Polavaram (West Godavari)	K. Ch. Raghupathi Rao.	Do.	S.S.L.C.
12 Ongole (Guntur)	M. Satyanarayana	Do.	S.S.L.C.

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Serial number, firka and district.	Name of the Firka Development Officer.	Community.	Educational qualifications.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
13 Kumbia (South Kanara)	Sri. K. M. Babu Shetty	Non-Brahman Hindu	S.S.L.C. (Secondary Grade Trained Teacher's Certificate Holder).
14 Beawada (Kistna)	D. Suryaprasada Rao	Brahman	Intermediate. Has undergone the B.A. degree course but has not passed the B.A. degree examination.
15 Kurnool (Kurnool)	B. Ramakrishna Reddy.	Non-Brahman Hindu	Intermediate.
16 Tirumangalam (Madura)	N. Subbiah	Do.	Intermediate, Secondary Grade Trained Teacher.
17 Tellicherry (Malabar)	N. P. Damodaran	Do. (Tiya)	B.A.
18 Kanupur (Nellore)	G. Padmanabhaiah	Brahman	B.A.
19 Kundah (Nilgiris)	M. Halayya	Non-Brahman Hindu	M.A.
20 Malli (Ramanad)	V. Venkataswami	Do.	B.A., L.T.
21 Veerapandy (Salem)	V. Venkataramanappa	Scheduled Caste	S.S.L.C.
22 Saliyamangalam (Tanjore)	N. S. Krishnamurthi Ayyar.	Brahman	B.A., B.L.
23 Shermadevi (Tinnevely)	N. Tirumalachari	Do.	Intermediate. Has passed one part of B.A. degree examination.
24 Musiri (Trichinopoly)	J. Nataraja Ayyar	Do.	S.S.L.C.
25 Gara (Visagapatam North)	B. Krishnamurthy	Do.	Intermediate.
26 Pendurthi (Visagapatam South).	M. Kumaraswara Rao	Do.	S.S.L.C.
27 Madugula (Visagapatam Agency).	B. Dwaraka Dixit	Do.	S.S.L.C.
28 Vellakoll centre	K. C. Songappa	Non-Brahman Hindu	B.A.
29 Avansali centre	S. R. Wellington	Indian Christian	B.A., B.T.
30 Pullankurichi centre	V. O. C. Arumugam Pillai	Non-Brahman Hindu	S.S.L.C. Has passed the Government Technical examinations in Book-keeping, Banking, Auditing (Higher) and Co-operation.
31 Tuni (Uratla cum Tuni) centre.	Post Vacant		
32 Guruvareddipalem centre	Sri P. E. Bavaji	Non-Brahman Hindu	S.S.L.C.
33 Yerragundapalem centre	K. Chandramouleswara Rao.	Brahman	B.A.
Payyanur cum Nilleshwar centre.	A. Ananthan	Non-Brahman Hindu	S.S.L.C.

“The information regarding the age of the Firka Development Officers is not readily available. It will be obtained and furnished, if necessary.”

“(d) As the Government attach very great importance to the Rural Reconstruction Scheme, selection was made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister himself.”

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“As the answer has been printed and circulated to all hon. Members, may I suggest that the Prime Minister need not go through it again?”

MR. PRESIDENT:—“Yes.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know whether the Hon. the Prime Minister, before he made the selection invited through anybody applications before making these appointments?”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“முதல் மான டிபார்ட்மெண்டார் அவர்களால் தகுதியினால் அடைப்பற்றி வேண்டியவர்களை யோசித்துத்தான், அதற்கு முடிவு செய்திருக்கிறார்கள்.”

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K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"May I know whether one of the conditions insisted upon for appointment as Firka Development Officers was interest in Khadi? I mean that every candidate must show that he has got interest in Khadi which is after all only one of the cottage industries."

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"முதல் மாக எல்லா பிரக்காக்களிலும் கதர் அபிவிருத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்ற எண்ணத்தோடு கதர் விஷயம் தெரிந்தவர்களையும் கிராம புனருத்தாரணம் விஷயங்களைப்பற்றி தெரிந்தவர்களைச் சேர்த்து appoint செய்திருக்கிறார்கள்."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"In view of the fact that spinning and weaving is only one of the several cottage industries included in the rural development scheme, may I know why every candidate should be insisted upon to have an interest in Khadi?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"அம்மாதிரி ஜாதி மத பிரிவினைகளைப்பற்றிய விஷயங்களை மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு அவர்களை நியமிக்கவில்லை."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Is it not a fact that on account of this insistence on interest in Khadi, the candidates belonging to communities which do not believe in Khadi are completely excluded from being appointed as officers?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"அப்படி ஒன்றும் இல்லை."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"My question does not refer any distinction on the basis of caste."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"May I point out to the hon. Member that in a previous answer it is stated that interest in Khadi is essential. Therefore, this question does not arise."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"On account of the insistence on having interest in Khadi, are not persons belonging to certain schools of thought who do not believe in Khadi, excluded from being appointed as officers, though this Khadi scheme is only one of the several cottage industries included in the rural development scheme?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member may question it, but when once Government say that it is one of the important items of the rural development scheme, he cannot further go on putting questions on it."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I ask the Government whether aptitude for rural reconstruction work is confined to Khadi wearers only?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"நான் இதற்கு முன்னமேயே சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். ஆகையால் நான் இல்லை என்பது தெரியும்."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"May I know, Sir, which Prime Minister made these appointments, whether it is the present Prime Minister or the previous Prime Minister?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I suppose the hon. Member knows best."

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THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"நான் முன்னமேயே சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன் மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு, யார் யார் அதற்கு தகுந்தவர்களோ அவர்களை அதற்குத் தகுந்தபடி அப்பொழுது appoint செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறது."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"May I know whether the present Prime Minister will consider the advisability of appointing communities whose members have not been appointed to these posts?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"முன்னமேயே சொன்னேன் மனதில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு அதை appoint பண்ணியிருக்கிறார்கள் என்று. ஆகையால் நான் அதற்குமேல் ஒன்றும் சொல்ல தயாராக இல்லை."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"In view of the fact that this list does not contain a single Muslim, may I know whether all Muslims have been generally excluded from being appointed under this rural development scheme?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"I have nothing more to add."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"May I know whether according to this scheme, Government do not want to improve the conditions of Muslims in this Presidency?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"அப்படி ஒன்றும் இல்லை."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Is it a fact that there is no Muslim available who is competent to be appointed as a Firka Development Officer?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"அதை முன்னமேயே சொல்லிவிட்டேன். திரும்பத்திரும்ப பதில் சொல்ல தற்கு இல்லை."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I ask whether there are officers called village development officers working under the Firka Development Officers?"

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"பிரக்கா டெவலப்மெண்டு ஆபீசரைப்பற்றிதான் இப்பொழுது பேசப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. பிரக்கா டெவலப்மெண்டு ஆபீசர் காட்டேஜ் இண்டஸ்ட்ரீஸ் ஆபீசர்களைவைத்து appoint பண்ணியிருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது பேசுவது பிரக்கா டெவலப்மெண்டு ஆபீசரைப்பற்றி."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"May I ask whether the Collectors were consulted before these appointments were finally made?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I think it is part of the question. The answer must be there."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"The answer is there but the question is not as to who made the appointments but whether the Collectors were consulted."

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"I shall enquire into the matter but notice is required."

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ This is based upon the answer given already.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The Hon. the Minister says that if further information is required, he wants notice.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ The answer is that the Prime Minister himself appointed these officers. Does it not mean that the Collectors were not consulted?”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The hon. Member may have his own inference. But, if he wants confirmation, the hon. Minister requires notice.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ The answer given carries with it the necessary inference which must flow from it on a reading of the English language.”

Retired Gazetted officers re-employed after December 1946.

* 150 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of retired Gazetted officers who were continued under re-employment even after December 1946 in various departments under the Government;

(b) how many of them are Muslims and Christians;

(c) if the policy of the Government is not to keep any more retired officers after December 1946 why some officers were allowed to continue under re-employment;

(d) how long these officers will be allowed to continue under the re-employment rules;

(e) whether there are any special qualifications which entitled them to be continued in employment even in 1947; and

(f) whether any retired Muslim officer has been continued in service after 1946; and if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ (a), (b) & (f) In respect of seven retired and re-employed gazetted officers the Government sanctioned the continuance under re-employment after December 1946. Of them one is a Christian and none are Muslims.

“ Communal considerations do not come in, in re-employing retired officers of continuing them under re-employment.

“ (c) to (e) Retired officers had to be kept on in service as enough qualified and suitable candidates could not be secured in the ordinary way. These officers are being replaced as and when qualified and suitable candidates become available. They will be completely replaced when such candidates become available for all posts.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Is it not a fact that Muslim retired officers who were asked again by the

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Government to serve for some time longer were sent back in spite of the fact that the Prime Minister was pleased to say that Muslims were not intentionally excluded?”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ Notice, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Since a sufficient number of questions have been put both in this House and in the other House on this topic, will the Government consider the question of terminating the services of all officers re-employed or retained in service after having completed their period?”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ தருந்த ஆபீசர்கள் கிடைத்தால் அதன்பிறகு அவர்களை அனுப்பிவிடுகிறோம் என்று முன்னமேயே சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். ஆகையால் இப்பொழுது இந்த question தேவை இல்லை.”

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—“ Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. the Prime Minister, may I know how long will it take to get suitable officers?”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ எல்லாம் தெரிந்தகொண்டுதான் சொல்லமுடியும் இப்பொழுது சொல்ல முடியாது.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know, Sir, whether there are not juniors in service who are qualified to be promoted to these high appointments?”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ அப்படி இருந்தால் இந்த ஆபீசர்களை இப்பொழுது நியமித்து இருக்கவேண்டிய தில்லை.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Do the Government think that the junior officers are found to be inefficient and unable to discharge the duties which would be entrusted to them on promotion?”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I think here it is a matter of numbers not qualifications. They want more men, evidently.”

THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“ அதிகப் பேர்கள் வேண்டியதாக இருந்திருப்பதால் அப்படி நடந்திருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது அதைப்பற்றி யோசிக்கவேண்டியதில்லை.”

Audit objections on the accounts of Tirumalai-Tirupathi Devasthanam.

* 151 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints against the present Commissioner of Tirumalai-Tirupathi Devasthanam from the President of the said Devasthanam Committee regarding some audit objections against the said Commissioner;

(b) if so, when this complaint was received by the Government;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action on the complaint; and

(d) if not whether they propose to order an enquiry now at least?

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THE HON. SRI O. P. RAMASWAMI REDDIYAR :—“(a) The Audit Officer of the Devasthanams has made representations to Government about certain audit irregularities implicating the Commissioner, Tirumalai-Tirupathi Devasthanams.

“(b) December last.

“(c) Yes; the matter has been referred to the Collector of Chittoor for investigation and report.

“(d) Does not arise.”

Madras Vigilance Association.

* 152 Q.—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) what action is being taken on the scheme prepared by the Madras Vigilance Association for starting an Industrial Home in the premises of the Association for women who are convicted under the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act; and

(b) what steps are being taken on the suggestions made by the Women's Sub-Committee of the Post-war Reconstruction Committee for the employment of women police?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) The proposal has been treated as a Part II Scheme for 1947-48.

“(b) The matter is under consideration in consultation with the Inspector-General of Police.”

Chingleput Wholesale Stores.

* 153 Q.—SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chingleput Wholesale Stores have not been keeping proper accounts in their central office as well as in their sub-offices;

(b) whether it is a fact that a Co-operative department official is deputed to carry on concurrent monthly audit of the Chingleput wholesale societies accounts;

(c) whether that official has reported to the Government that the Chingleput wholesale societies accounts have not been properly kept for the last six months and that it was impossible for him to audit the accounts; and

(d) whether the Government propose to hold an enquiry into the matter?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“(a) The Chingleput Co-operative Wholesale Stores is maintaining the books and registers in accordance with the rules made under the Co-operative Societies Act. The accounts were posted up to 28th February 1947 in the head office excepting the striking of balances in the goods ledger. Regarding the branch accounts, those in the Uttiramerur branch are kept up to date while in the three other branches, viz., at Conjeevaram,

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Madurantakam and Chingleput, all accounts except the goods ledger are kept up to date. The arrears are due to the greatly expanding business of the stores and the dearth of qualified and trained men to fill up the posts.

“(b) There are two Senior Inspector auditors and one Junior Inspector auditor who are entrusted with the concurrent and final audit of the accounts of the head office and the branches of the Chingleput Co-operative Wholesale Stores.

“(c) One of the Senior Inspector auditors who is conducting the audit of the procurement branch reported on 10th January 1947 that much progress could not be made as accounts relating to Chingleput taluk depot were not up to date. Its audit was taken up soon after the accounts were brought up to date.

“(d) The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has enquired into the matter and has reported that lack of adequate number of qualified accountants is the main cause for the arrears in audit. To ensure prompt audit, the Co-operative Wholesale Stores have been advised to take one more Senior Inspector and another Junior Inspector at the cost of the Stores for a period of six months. The Government therefore do not consider it necessary to hold an enquiry into the matter.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“May I know whether Government received any memorial or representation from the President of the Chingleput Wholesale Co-operative Stores?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“As far as I know, no such representation has been received.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Is it not a fact that the President of the Stores has in his representation alleged that attempts were being made to discredit this wholesale stores with a view to constituting a producer-cum-consumer co-operative society in the locality?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“That petition might perhaps have gone to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies or some other person. I have already said that no such communication has come to the Government.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know whether the Producer-cum-Consumer Co-operative Society has also invaded the Chingleput district?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“No, not yet.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“Is this not, Sir, the first attempt or at least a preparation for such invasion?”

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—“How can the hon. Member come to that presumption.”

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is it not likely to invade, Sir?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Hon. the Minister cannot answer that question."

Appointment of Municipal Commissioners.

* 154 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether any appointments of Municipal Commissioners (Executive authorities under the Madras District Municipalities Act) have recently been made and if so, on what date;

(b) the names of the appointees, their qualifications, caste or community to which they belong and the districts they came from;

(c) how many of the appointees have been recruited from subordinate official ranks and how many appointed direct; and

(d) how many of the appointees are from the Rayalaseema districts?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" The word 'recently' in clause (a) is vague.

" The particulars required in clauses (a) and (b) are furnished below in respect of the appointments made from 1st February 1947 :—

Name of person.	Date of order of appointment.	Qualifications.	Caste or community.	Native district.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1. Sri M. Muthuveerappan (Manager, Coonoor Municipality).	7-2-47	(a) B. A. .. (b) Passed account test part I prescribed for subordinate officers. (c) Passed Book-keeping test prescribed for the Local Fund Audit Department. (d) Undergone three months training in Electricity Accounts at the Superintending Engineer's office, Mettur dam.	Non-Brahman, Hindu.	Coimbatore.
2. Sri V. D. Adisayamani (Manager, Chidambaram Municipality).	7-2-47	(a) B.A. .. (b) Passed Account test, Revenue test and Criminal and Judicial test.	Indian christian.	Tinnevely.

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Name of person.	Date of order of appointment.	Qualifications.	Caste or community.	Native district.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
3. Sri G. Nagarathnam (Officiating Superintendent, L. A. Department).	7-2-47	B.A. ..	Brahman.	Chittoor.
4. Syed Ahmed Sahib (Executive officer, Chirala Panchayat Board).	7-2-47	M.A. Trained as Panchayat Board Special officer (rendered war service.)	Muslim ..	Nellore.
5. Sri K. Immanuel (Manager, Palamcottah Municipality).	7-2-47	(a) B.A. .. (b) Account Test, Part I, prescribed for subordinate officers.	Indian Christian.	Tinnevely.
6. Sri V.P. Kanakaraj (Manager, Trichinopoly Municipality).	3-3-47	(a) B.A. .. (b) Passed Account Test.	Do.	Trichinopoly.
7. P. Rajagopala Rao, (Executive officer, Tadepalligudem Panchayat Board).		(a) B.A. .. (b) Account Test, Part I for subordinate officers. (c) Revenue Test, Parts I to III	Brahman..	East Godavari district.

" (c) All the appointees have been recruited from among persons who are in active Government, Municipal or Local Fund service as required by section 12 (c) (8) of the Madras District Municipalities Act. No one has been appointed direct.

" (d) None of the appointees is from the Rayalaseema districts."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Will the Hon. Minister expedite the appointment of some Municipal Commissioners from the Rayalaseema districts?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" I will surely consider the matter."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know Sir whether a Committee of Selection makes these selections and these Commissioners are appointed from such list?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" No, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know Sir whether there is no Selection Committee at all to make a selection for these appointments?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" No such Selection Committee has been appointed."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Do these appointees satisfy the rules governing the appointment of Commissioners?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Certainly, Sir."

[21st April 1947]

Irrigation facilities in Guntur district.

* 155 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government passed orders in September last to provide irrigation facilities for certain survey numbers in Garikapadu village, Bapatla taluk, Guntur district;

(b) whether ayacutdars have agreed to pay the cost of acquisition of lands required for providing irrigation facilities;

(c) whether any action has been taken so far to carry out the orders of Government;

(d) whether delay in this case as in the case of others has been brought to the notice of Government, and if so, what action they propose to take especially when the schemes affect "Grow More Food" campaign; and

(e) whether the Government have devised any method to ensure carrying out of such schemes without undue delay?

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“(a) Yes.

“(b) Some of the ryots are not willing to bear the cost of acquisition of the land and some are objecting to the acquisition itself.

“(c) No action can be taken in the matter unless and until all the ryots agree to bear the cost of acquisition *pro rata*.

“(d) No delay has been brought to the notice of the Government in this case.

“(e) No. Proceedings under the Land Acquisition Act in such cases are usually expedited wherever necessary and possible.

“The question of altering the procedure under the Act so as to expedite acquisition of lands required for Grow More Food schemes and the execution of such works is also separately under consideration.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“In view of the fact that the Grow More Food Campaign has become very important, I want to know, Sir, whether the Government to enact any statute and whether they will expedite its enactment?”

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—“The question is being examined by a separate committee and a special officer of the Government of India. As soon as the report is available, necessary provision will be made.”

Blake Choultry Inam Land in Bellary.

* 156 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) Whether what is known as the Blake Choultry Inam Land in Bellary Municipality forms part of any Town-Planning Scheme;

(b) whether the said land has been alienated in favour of the Municipality;

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(c) whether there is any proposal to convert the said land into house-sites and auction them; and

(d) whether the Collector of Bellary has sold any or all portions of the land as house-sites?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) A portion of the land comprising the Blake Choultry Inam forms part of the Satyanarayanapet Town-Planning Scheme, Bellary.

“(b) No. The Bellary Municipality is reported to have applied to the Collector for alienation of the land.

“(c) Yes.

“(d) No.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Will the Hon. the Minister state, Sir, whether a land already included in the Town-Planning Scheme can be alienated in favour of the Municipality or private party?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“The Municipality will have the priority.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“If alienation is made will the Government impose any conditions to see that it is used for house sites only?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“Yes, Sir.”

Government Royapettah Hospital, Madras.

* 157 Q.—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what the number of beds provided in the Government Royapettah Hospital, Madras, is;

(b) whether there have been complaints that neither the accommodation provided nor the number of beds is sufficient;

(c) what provision exists for X-ray treatment;

(d) whether the X-ray apparatus of the hospital was temporarily removed and if so, when it is proposed to be restored;

(e) whether the patients needing X-ray treatment have to be sent every day to the General Hospital;

(f) whether the staff employed, both honorary and paid, is qualified to deal with all cases both surgical and medical including those requiring X-ray treatment; and

(g) whether the hospital is provided with sufficient number of House Surgeons and House Physicians?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—“(a) The hospital has 150 beds.

“(b) In 1945, the Surgeon-General reported that the growing needs of the hospital necessitated an increase in its bed strength and he has been asked to submit definite proposals in the matter, in due course.

[21st April 1947]

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(c) whether any action has been taken so far to carry out the orders of Government;

(d) whether delay in this case as in the case of others has been brought to the notice of Government, and if so, what action they propose to take especially when the schemes affect "Grow More Food" campaign; and

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"(c) No action can be taken in the matter unless and until all the ryots agree to bear the cost of acquisition *pro rata*.

"(d) No delay has been brought to the notice of the Government in this case.

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(a) what the number of beds provided in the Government Royapettah Hospital, Madras, is;

(b) whether there have been complaints that neither the accommodation provided nor the number of beds is sufficient;

(c) what provision exists for X-ray treatment;

(d) whether the X-ray apparatus of the hospital was temporarily removed and if so, when it is proposed to be restored;

(e) whether the patients needing X-ray treatment have to be sent every day to the General Hospital;

(f) whether the staff employed, both honorary and paid, is qualified to deal with all cases both surgical and medical including those requiring X-ray treatment; and

(g) whether the hospital is provided with sufficient number of House Surgeons and House Physicians?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (a) The hospital has 150 beds.

"(b) In 1945, the Surgeon-General reported that the growing needs of the hospital necessitated an increase in its bed strength and he has been asked to submit definite proposals in the matter, in due course.

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"(c) No provision exists for X-ray treatment in the hospital.

"(d) The X-ray apparatus was removed in 1931 as a measure of retrenchment. Government do not propose to instal it in the hospital as the patients can be easily taken to the Government General Hospital, Madras.

"(e) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(f) The present staff is qualified to deal with Surgical and Medical cases but not cases requiring X-ray treatment as there is no X-ray Department in the hospital.

"(g) Seven House Surgeons have been sanctioned for the hospital and the number is considered sufficient."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, what is the meaning of "in due course" in the answer (b)?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The number of bed strength in the Tambaram Sanatorium is proposed to be raised, Sir, and it is proposed to shift the Royapettah Tuberculosis Hospital to that place."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will that mean that the Government are going to hand over present Tuberculosis Hospital at Royapettah to the Royapettah Hospital?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Yes, Sir. There is such a proposal."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know Sir how many Muslim House Surgeons are there?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I cannot give that information at present."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In view of the growing strength of the hospital, Sir, and in view of the fact that there was an X-ray apparatus already in 1931 and it was removed, will the Government consider the desirability of installing an X-ray apparatus again in the Royapettah Hospital?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think he has already given the answer."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In view of the distance between the Royapettah Hospital and the General Hospital and since patients have to be taken in vans for X-ray treatment even though they are in a bad condition, will the Government consider the desirability of restoring the X-ray apparatus to the Royapettah Hospital?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I agree, Sir, that it is necessary to provide X-ray apparatus in all important hospitals. The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

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Nurses' quarters of Stanley Hospital.

* 158 Q.—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is crowding in the nurses' quarters of the Stanley Hospital; and

(b) whether any provision has been made in the building scheme of the hospital for accommodation of the nurses as well?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(b) A programme of various items of extensions to the hospital which is under separate consideration provides for the construction of additional quarters for the nursing staff of the hospital. As it will take some time before the quarters are constructed, the Surgeon-General is taking separate steps for the provision of temporary additional accommodation to relieve the existing congestion in the quarters, by putting up Military A and B sheds which are being built by the Industrial Adviser."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the additional accommodation be for all the 127 nurses?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The additional accommodation proposed is for 50 nurses."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" The strength of the nursing staff seems to be 127 and the existing accommodation is for 50 and 50 more is to be added, where will the balance of 27 be accommodated, Sir?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" That is the report of the Surgeon-General, Sir. According to that report provision has been made."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the Government bring it to the notice of the Surgeon-General to provide accommodation for these 27 people also?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The matter will be considered."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Is there accommodation for male nurses also?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" If there are male nurses they will also be provided for."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Will there be separate accommodation for male nurses?"

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Did the Hon. Minister state that the accommodation is joint?" (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Separate accommodation will be provided."

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

III.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I have to announce to the House that the following messages, dated Fort St. George, the 7th April 1947, received by me from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly:—

‘ (1) In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules I transmit a copy of the Bar Councils and Legal Practitioners (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 11 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly on the 17th April 1947 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council.

(2) In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules I transmit a copy of the Criminal Tribes (Madras Repeal) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 12 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly on the 17th April 1947 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council.’ ”

IV.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE BAR COUNCILS AND LEGAL PRACTITIONERS (MADRAS AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947 (L.A. BILL NO. 11 OF 1947).

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ Sir, I move—

*‘ that the Bar Councils and Legal Practitioners (Madras Amendment) Bill *, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 11 of 1947) as passed by the Legislative Assembly be taken into consideration at once.’*

“ A Bill of this kind was introduced in the Central Assembly some years ago by my friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari but as there was no time at that time that Bill was not proceeded with. A similar Bill of that type has been given notice of in the Central Assembly. Now the Government felt that as far as this Province is concerned as we have the power under the Concurrent Legislative List to amend this Act, the Act may be amended in order to help those who held various political opinions. Decisions of various High Courts on this matter have differed also. For instance, the then Chief Justice of Bombay said that no one should suffer for political opinions sincerely held and therefore practitioners in Bombay who were guilty of such offences were not debarred but owing to different decisions of this High Court some practitioners have been debarred and it is to put them back into the same position, that this Bill has been brought up.

“ There is a second matter which the High Court themselves wanted and that was that while practitioners of other High Courts are entitled to practise before the various Subordinate Courts in this Province but when disciplinary action comes into consideration the High Court, though they can take action against any practitioner who has been enrolled as an advocate of this High Court, have no jurisdiction over those practitioners who practice in various subordinate courts but who have been enrolled in other High Courts in this country. The High Court naturally feels that

* Printed as Appendix I on pages 644-645 infra.

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[Dr. P. Subbarayan]

there should be one body which can take disciplinary action against all practitioners that practice in the High Court or in the Subordinate Courts in this Province and therefore a clause has been added to give this jurisdiction to our High Court.

“ These are the two main points of this Bill, Sir, and I hope the Council will take it into consideration and pass it into law.”

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Mr. President, I rise to support the Bill. The provisions of the Bill are necessary and salutary. All will agree on the question of the need for the provisions of the Bill; but I have to say a few words about a few sentences occurring in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. There has been a general feeling on the part of many members of the bar that legal practitioners who are not guilty of offences involving moral turpitude should not be debarred from practising, that is, that disciplinary action should not be taken against such people. I am glad that this Bill has been brought up by the Government so that persons who are not guilty of such offences are not debarred. But the motive of Government in bringing this measure seems to be not that all persons should be free.”

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“ As a matter of personal explanation the hon. Member may be saved the trouble of dealing with the question if I submit that he would have noticed that there is no reference in the Bill to 1942 at all. It refers only to political opinions held and therefore it covers all cases.”

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I can assure the Hon. Minister that I have read the Bill and I know there is no reference to the year 1942 in the Bill. But my complaint is against the Statement of Objects and Reasons. There it is said that the object of the Bill is to carry into effect the present policy of the Government that no person who took part in the 1942 movement should suffer in any way.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ May I point out to the hon. Member that he knows that the Statement of Objects and Reasons does not form part of the Bill and that he need not be worried over it.”

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Sir, the Statement of Objects and Reasons is placed in our hands and we are entitled to comment on it as to what is behind the mind of the Government.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ That only tells you the immediate necessity for the Bill. That is all. In its application, it applies to every body.”

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ I wish to point out that though we are agreed over the provisions of this Bill and we support it whole-heartedly, we do not support the Objects and Reasons given for this Bill because therein they have enunciated their present policy with regard to the movement of 1942. You know that, so far as the Muslims of this country are

[K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur.] [21st April 1947]

concerned, they have not been in the movement in any way nor have they supported it in any way as they have their own opinion on this question. The support that I am giving to the Bill should not be taken to mean that we the Muslims of this country agree in any way with the objects of the movement of 1942 or in any way associate ourselves with the activities of the people who took part in that movement of 1942. I wish to make that point clear."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5 and clause 1 were put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, I move that the Bill be passed into law."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

(2) THE CRIMINAL TRIBES (MADRAS REPEAL) BILL, 1947
(L.A. BILL NO. 12 OF 1947).

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, I move—

'that the Criminal Tribes (Madras Repeal) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 12 of 1947) "as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once.'

" This matter has a fairly long history. The classes that are concerned with this Bill feel rather strongly that a slur has been cast upon them. Of course in the old days when communications were hard and police stations were fewer, it was difficult to apprehend some offenders and so people belonging to certain classes who were generally described as having criminal tendencies were put under restraint by means of the provisions of this Act. Now, there is a feeling that there is more order and more peace and that a particular community or communities should not have a slur cast upon them by this wholesale stigma placed upon them. After full consideration, the Government felt that it would be better to repeal this Act and find some other methods or use the ordinary processes of the law for dealing with these classes of people. That is the reason for this Bill and I hope the House will take the Bill into consideration and pass it into law when the time comes."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Mr. President, I am sure almost all the members of this House would congratulate the Government on bringing forward this Bill. I wish the Hon. Minister for Home Affairs had explained to the House why the provisions of the Bill as published in the Gazette under Rule 78 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules differ from those of the

* Printed as Appendix II on page 645 infra.

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Bill introduced now in this House. The Bill was published on the 21st January 1947 in the *Fort St. George Gazette* to give effect to the intentions expressed by the Hon. Minister. It did not contain a very material addition which has been made by the Hon. the Minister and I wish he had explained why the Government felt the need for the addition. The addition runs 'except for the purposes of Section 3 of the Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act, 1943.' We want to know why the Government feel the need for this exception. Section 3 of Act XXX of 1943 passed by His Excellency the Governor who announced it by a proclamation under Section 93 of the Government of India Act reads 'If the Provincial Government are satisfied that any person is a habitual offender, they may by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, declare that he shall be subject to any of the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, and the rules made thereunder with such modifications and restrictions, if any, as may be specified in the notification and thereupon the provisions aforesaid as so modified and restricted shall apply to such person, as if he were a member of a notified tribe within the meaning of that Act.' My submission is I am not a lawyer. The position appears to me that you are repealing a certain Act and you want to take action under that very Act you are repealing, namely, the Criminal Tribes Act of 1924."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not think you are right. There is no question of repealing the Act of 1924. The present Bill seeks to take away Madras from the Schedule to the Criminal Tribes Act and the provisions of the Act will be there and will apply in respect of habitual offenders."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" As a lay man I wanted to be sure about the position, as there was a difference between the Bill before the House and the one published in the *Gazette*.

" The next point is the Government maintain a large number of criminal settlements and they are being managed for the past two years, I think, by the Police department. I would like to know whether it is the intention of the Government to abolish the criminal tribes settlement or to make use of them for the purpose of dealing with habitual offenders. Secondly I want the Government to consider whether the police officials are the people who are fit to reform these people. I know the change of administration was effected during the Adviser regime. For a number of years the criminal tribes settlements were managed by the Commissioner of Labour and for some reason during the Adviser regime, the management of the settlements was transferred to the Inspector-General of Police. I should like to know from the Government whether the use of the Criminal Tribes Act is to be restricted only for purposes of dealing with habitual offenders and whether the police are the persons most competent to reform these people."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Bill does not say so."

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* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ The settlements existed because of the Criminal Tribes Act and in that way I connect the criminal tribes settlements with the Act. When once that Act does not apply and their provisions are to be used only with reference to habitual offenders, I would like to know the intentions of the Government with reference to the reformatory process, about which the Government must be equally anxious in the case of habitual offenders. The Hon. Minister is also in charge of the Police and he may have great faith in their capacity to maintain law and order. But I submit, Sir, that I doubt whether they have the capacity to reform criminals. These reformatory settlements should be entrusted to social service bodies who will approach the criminals with a view to better them, to improve their character and to make them take to peaceful avocations. It is not fear of being punished under the Habitual Offenders Act that must form the basis of reformation for these people. I would like this point to be brought to the notice of Government. I do not know whether the Hon. the Minister for Home Affairs and Law knows that this transfer has taken place from the Commissioner of Labour to the Inspector-General of Police. There is the latest report issued by the department and it contains an account of a good deal of very useful work done even by the police official. Whatever the agency may be, the motive with which reformation is carried on is more important in matters of reformation like this. I would like the Hon. Minister to consider, even for these habitual offenders, whether these settlements, if they are to be retained, should be managed at all by the Police officers. Is it not wise to entrust them to organizations interested in social service? This is a question that has been considered at great length by the Government of Bombay. They have offered their management to social organizations, because they were aware—they were conscious—that the Police were the persons least competent to effect any reformation. It is the fear of the law, of the enforcement of the law, or, if I may say so, it is the fear of the rod and the law—here the rod itself—that cannot make a man reform himself. I do not think, Sir, even the Hon. Minister for Home Affairs believes that that is the best way of reformation. Then, Sir, if these criminal tribes settlements are to be retained—call them reformatory settlements, I hope they will be called so after the Act is removed from the purview of the Provincial statute—will admission into these settlements be permitted on a voluntary basis? Will the children of these so-called criminal tribes be taken care of either by the Police department if that department continues to manage these settlements or by the Commissioner of Labour in order that they may be educated and made to pursue peaceful avocation? All these problems naturally arise when we consider this Bill. The Government are perfectly justified in bringing forward this Bill, but they should also look to the reformatory side of these habitual offenders—even if we call them habitual offenders if not criminal tribes.

“ Then, Sir, some time ago, the previous Ministry appointed a committee called the Aboriginal and Backward Classes Committee. You may remember, Sir, that I gave notice of a resolution,

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and before that resolution could come up for discussion, the Government took the clue and on their own volition appointed a committee to deal with that problem. One of the terms of reference to that committee was—

‘ To consider and report on the changes necessary to be introduced in the policy relating to the administration of the Criminal Tribes Act with particular reference to the question of tackling the nomadic habit prevalent among several of the tribes and on such other matters as may be germane to the uplift of the said tribes.’

I hear, Sir, whether the information is correct or not, I am subject to correction, that the work of this committee has been suspended by this Ministry. I hope, Sir, . . .

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I am afraid the hon. Member is making a budget speech.”

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ No, Sir. I would like, Sir, as this forms part of the terms of reference to that Committee . . . ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ How is it relevant to the Bill? ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ When you repeal an Act, Sir, . . . ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ The Bill does not contemplate any proposals for reformation. It simply removes or amends . . . ”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ The intention of the Criminal Tribes Act was also to reform them. That is why these settlements are conducted, and to that extent I feel, Sir, I am justified in referring to the terms of reference to that Committee.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ All right. I do not mind.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ I would like when that Committee's report is out, the suggestions I have ventured to make in connexion with the reformation of these habitual offenders—I do not call them criminal tribes any more—will also be taken into consideration, and I hope that these unfortunate habitual offenders will reform themselves under better auspices than the Police. With these words, Sir, I support the consideration of this Bill, and I hope that the suggestions made by me will be borne in mind.”

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—“ Sir, I welcome the enactment of this Bill.”

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—“ Any more in this Bill, Sir? What is the principle of this Bill? Taking away the Criminal Tribes Act, what are you going to do with them? Are you going to deal with them as habitual offenders still under the same old law? What is it? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ May I take it that the hon. Member has finished his speech? ” (Laughter.)

* SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—“ Sir, it gives me great pleasure to support this legislation as it liberates from a century-old thralldom a large section of the community known as criminal tribes. As my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao pointed out, the term

[Sri P. R. K. Sarma] [21st April 1947]

criminal tribes is a misnomer. They are as civil as any other section of the population. On account of the legal disabilities, people coming under these criminal tribes have been subjected to all kinds of difficulties. They have not been able to even eke out their livelihood. There has been a system of forced labour. The people belonging to the criminal tribes have not had freedom to go about and earn an honourable living for themselves. They have been forced to work in the houses of Government servants and especially for the police officers who are supposed to take charge of them. Even now, Sir, in the villages these people have got to go and take their beds in the police station. While they are forced to go and sleep there, because they are regarded as criminal tribes, they have also to do there every work, every service, that is allotted to them not only by the Police Inspectors and other Police officers, but also by Revenue officers like Tahsildars and Deputy Collectors. I know thousands of these people. I have moved amidst them in Chingleput district, Nellore district and Chittoor district. These people live on uncertain occupations. Some of them go about tending geese. They have no homes. Some of them are still in migratory condition. They have no settled occupations. Some of them have taken advantage of educational facilities. Some have become industrial workers. Those who have become educated are really taking a living interest in the community to which they belong. I know of a particular instance where a worker belonging to the community has resigned a decent appointment and has been going about with the Aborigines committee from place to place, district after district, studying the present economic condition of the people who were regarded as criminal tribes. Even now, Sir, even after the enactment of this legislation, even after hope and succour have been brought to them, Police persecution has not ceased. I have brought to the notice of the Government and the Hon. Minister in charge of Law and Order hundreds of cases where Police Sub-Inspectors and Circle Inspectors have persecuted the poor people belonging to these communities. I know of a recent instance—I have brought it to the notice of the Government—where a man belonging to this community, who is attached to a Police Inspector, was not invited to a particular marriage in the community. The Inspector went to the spot where the marriage was taking place, caught hold of the marriage couple about to be married, and had them shut up in a room in the Police station."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think he did well." (Laughter.)

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" This reform has been long overdue and it is not enough if these people are given the freedom from the age-long thralldom. Their methods of living should be improved. They live in the backyards of landholders. They live at their mercy. They have no definite occupations. It is no use of giving them the freedom contemplated in this enactment. We have submitted large schemes to the Aborigines committee. Poramboke lands available should be allotted to them. Agricultural colonies should be started, and special educational facilities should be given to them so that the people who belong to this community

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may grow as an economically independent community and a useful community. My friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao referred to the criminal settlements. These criminal settlements were really made criminal by the Police officers who were in charge of these settlements. Some of these settlements have been entrusted in the past to Christian missionaries, who liberally converted them. I know, Sir, when strikes break out, it is from these criminal settlements—not only in this Presidency, but in the Bombay Presidency also, where they are called *harinchikaris*—hundreds and thousands are supplied as blacklegs. I have known an instance where in a huge strike, these *harinchikaris*, these so-called criminal tribes—residents of criminal settlements—refused to work as blacklegs. For that they were beaten, and taken to work as blacklegs. In spite of that, they refused. They are as self-respecting as anybody else. It is therefore necessary that Government should take very active steps to see that work is provided for them, educational facilities are given to their children, and that the community is enabled to develop as an economically independent community. A committee was appointed by the Government. One of the early steps taken by the previous ministry was to look into the conditions of these aboriginals and other allied communities. A committee was appointed, and that committee went about touring from centre to centre to find out the present economic condition of the community and their immediate needs. I was very sorry to hear that the activities of the committee have been orally suspended. It is very necessary, Sir, that the activities of that committee should be restored, and that the committee should be given every facility so that the interests of these people may be protected. Sir, this is a very essential measure. This will benefit thousands of people of this community who have been suffering all along from the Criminal Tribes Act. As this is a progressive measure I am sure every section of public opinion in this House will support it."

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, I want to say a few words in support of this measure. I sponsored a similar measure in 1938, but I was asked to withdraw it because, I was told, the Police were against it. I am very glad to see that the Government of their own accord have brought this measure to-day. I understand the previous sanction of the Governor-General has not been taken to bring forward this legislation under section 108 of the Government of India Act, 1935. Whatever that may be, under section 109 of that Act, sanction may be asked for to ratify the Act now and since the hon. Law Member is going to Delhi next week, I hope he will use his good influence there to get the approval of the Central Government. (Interruption by the hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan.) He says the previous sanction has been obtained, and I am glad, now there will be no difficulty in passing this legislation.

" As I said earlier, I wanted to sponsor this measure in 1930, as Mrs. Cousins was interested in the improvement of the condition of these tribes. But as it was thought by the Police that it would be impossible to reform these people without this Act, the matter could not be pursued. Now, Sir, it is well known, the conditions under which these people live are really deplorable. So

4-15
p.m.

[Sri B. Bhima Rao] [21st April 1947]

far as Bellary is concerned, I have seen members of this tribe being asked to sit in taluk office compound in hot sun all day where there is no shade or tree at all. It was only last week I had been to a village in my district, and there I found members of this tribe sitting between two villages, in hot sun where there were not trees at all. That is the way in which these people are being treated; and I am glad civilized society has come forward to get rid of this Act. The caste Hindus were responsible for the lot of Harijans till now. In this case it is the Central Legislature that has passed this enactment in 1924 empowering local Government to frame rules for enforcing provisions. Now the Central Legislature also is moving in the matter. They also have recognized the injustice done to these criminal tribes. They have recently passed Act I of 1947 amending the provisions of that atrocious section 23 of the Criminals Tribes Act, which prescribed a sentence of transportation for life on a third conviction, to one of imprisonment. I have seen judges who try these cases for a third conviction, even enough it be for theft of a fowl, or a small thing worth eight annas or one rupee, feeling uneasy, and much against their conscience in sentencing these poor people to transportation. And when they subsequently made representations to Government about the inequity of the punishment they only got the reply from the High Court that they could not interfere, and that it was a matter for fresh legislation. I am glad the Central Legislature has seen the gravity of the section and amended it to a punishment of not more than seven years' imprisonment. I am glad they have given the judge discretion to award a punishment of imprisonment of any term not exceeding seven years.

"I may also inform this House that a member from this province, Mr. Venkatasubba Reddiar, has introduced a Bill in the Central Legislature to repeal this enactment altogether. So I see the Central Legislature also is moving in the right direction. As observed by Mr. Suryanarayana Rao and Mr. Sarma there is something more to be done besides repealing this Act. Now these tribes are really under bondage and without freedom. When freedom is given to them, you must see that they are properly started in life, they get proper employment and proper means of livelihood. I see, advisedly it is put in one section of this measure, that a notification will be made, upon which this repealing Act will come into operation. I think, within that time, it may be three months or six months, I would request Government to take adequate steps for giving these people proper avocation to eke out their livelihood honestly."

* SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to say a few words in support of this measure. I am glad the hon. Minister has stated in his speech in introducing this Bill the circumstances under which the Act was made applicable to this province. But I am sorry to state, that whatever may be the original intention, in the practical application of the Act, very many inhuman atrocities have been committed, and therefore it is our bounden duty to see that this Act is not made applicable to the people of this province at all."

21st April 1947] [Sri N. Ranga Reddi]

"The first abominable feature in this Act is, without any evidence being recorded in a court of law, the personal freedom of a man could be restrained. He can be asked to appear in a Police Station at a particular hour, and this is done so, not because he has done any act against the State or any citizen, but because he is born in a particular tribe or in a particular family. When such is the case, it is for the members of this House to consider whether such an enactment should ever be allowed to remain any more on the statute book. Many will agree that if a person's freedom is to be restrained, it should be done on the ground that he has done something wrong or is about to do it; but not on the ground that he is born in a particular family or tribe. On that one ground alone the Criminal Tribes Act should be repealed forthwith. Mind you, Sir, whether at the time of the enrolment of a man's name in the list or at the time of removal, that man is not given an opportunity to have his say. All this is done on the basis of the police report. I am yet to see a District Magistrate who says, 'No, this man should not be brought under this Act.' As Mr. Suryanarayana Rao said, these people could be dealt with under the Madras Habitual Offenders Act. I know there is a difference between the two Acts. In the Madras Habitual Offenders Act we have to bring in some evidence to show why the freedom of movement should be curtailed. But even under that Act there is an obnoxious provision. No time limit has been fixed with regard to the "three convictions of non-bailable character". That is, no time has been fixed, within which these convictions should have taken place. Supposing a man has been convicted of non-bailable offences thrice within a period of fifteen or twenty years, is he to be put as a habitual offender on that score? I submit if a man's freedom is to be curtailed, it should be done so only after an open trial, in an ordinary court of law and after giving the man concerned an opportunity to defend himself. I submit therefore the sooner this Government brings forward a repealing measure even with regard to the Habitual Offenders Act the better. Otherwise there is still scope for abuse or harm to these people."

"Sir, I have nothing more to add. I only congratulate the Minister for having brought this Bill. I know very many people have been brought under the purview of this Act. Even people who have got plenty of property, even respectable people have been brought under this Act, simply because the Magistracy or the Police thought they should be brought under that enactment. That was what had happened in Cuddapah district. Very important and powerful Reddis, who own large properties in the district have been brought under the definition of gang. That way, this Act had been made applicable to those to whom it should not have been made applicable. I therefore welcome the move that this obnoxious measure should no longer be made applicable to these people."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, 4-30 p.m.
I shall first deal with my hon. Friend the member from Kistna. Evidently he has not read the Habitual Offenders Act though he is a very active practitioner and has even been a Public Prosecutor."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" I am not conscious of any member from Kistna having spoken."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" You think, Sir, he belongs to your district. He has moved away."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have not at all been conscious of his speech. He only put some questions."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" He called it a speech."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I wanted to gag him further."

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I want the hon. member to refer to the Habitual Offenders Act. It has nothing to do with criminal tribes but merely with habitual offenders. While His Excellency the Governor passed legislation under section 93, evidently he thought it was a convenient way of treating habitual offenders by referring them back to Criminal Tribes Act which gave certain powers. Therefore, as long as that Act remains, that Act has to be safeguarded. That is why a section in this Act, safeguarding the application of this Act to that Act, has been introduced. The whole question of criminal tribes goes with the repeal of this Act."

" The hon. member Mr. Suryanarayana Rao made various suggestions. I know at one time these criminal tribes settlements were under Labour department. And, as he said, in Bombay, some of the social service organizations are in charge of the settlements. With regard to Kallar reclamation, schools are run for the benefit of the children of the Kallars, but they also are under the Police department. The hon. member rather sneered at the idea that I have been defending the Police. It is really due to the fact that any man in my position who wants the loyalty of the forces has got to defend them, for the simple reason that otherwise discipline will suffer. After all, hon. members should realize that they are only members of the services and they have no seats in the Legislature. Unless the member in charge of the department is able to defend them, they will find it difficult to give real service which you expect of your servants. In fact, if they go wrong, it is for me to deal with them; it is for the Government as a whole to take the action which they deem necessary for the purpose of bringing them into proper order and to get the rightful service that you expect of them. I can tell hon. members here that, as long as I am responsible for the department in my charge, if there is any fault in anything that is done, I am prepared to bear it on my shoulders which are, I think, broad enough to bear such responsibilities. But it does not mean that I am giving a free hand to the police, because, after all, no Government will be worth their name as Government unless they are able to pull up their subordinates when they find anything goes wrong."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is the Hon. Minister taking responsibility for the use of tear-gas on the women workers the other day? "

* THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I take the responsibility. The hon. Member need not be solicitous about it. For anything done by the police, I take the responsibility. If the

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hon. member wants to find out the reasons, he can find them out from me if he has got the patience and the industry to find out why a particular thing happened."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Does the Hon. Minister mean that we in this House should not criticize the atrocities of the servants of the Government? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Hon. Minister only says: ' Do not sneer '."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am glad, Sir, you have caught my point."

" With regard to the Kallar reclamation schools, the Government are considering whether it will not be possible, now that the Criminal Tribes Act is going, to hand over the schools to the Education department, because most of the teachers in these schools are borrowed from the Department of Education and advice also is taken from the District Educational Officers concerned in the matter of running these schools. Perhaps, it would be better when this Act goes out of the statute book that the District Educational Officers be made responsible for the educational work among the Kallars."

" With regard to the question of criminal tribes settlements, the question will be considered by the Government as a whole. If the Government feel that the better authority for controlling these settlements will be the Labour Commissioner or the Labour department or even some social service organization, the Government will consider how best these settlements could be run."

" Mr. President, I was glad my hon. friend from Bellary referred to the question of sanction by the Governor-General. In a matter relating to concurrent legislation, as he himself pointed out, the Governor-General's sanction has got to be obtained. We have obtained that sanction. Besides, there is another safeguard in the working of the constitution, namely, such bills as relate to matters on the concurrent list are reserved for the consideration of the Governor-General before they become law."

The motion that the Criminal Tribes (Madras Repeal) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 12 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration at once was put and carried.

Clauses 2, 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I now move, Sir—
' that the Bill be passed into law. ' "

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" There is one other item on the agenda, the resolution on linguistic provinces."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I submit, Mr. President, that the matter may be taken up on the next official day."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I know why the Hon. Member wants that to be done? "

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K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" My reason is this. A similar resolution is being discussed in the other House. We have to decide our policy in this matter. Unless they decide the matter in the other House, it is difficult for us to take part in this resolution. I would request you and the Government also to take this up on the next official day."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" How does the Government feel about it? "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As the Hon. the Leader is not here, speaking on his behalf, I think, Sir, he will have no objection to taking it up on the next official day, in view of the request of the Hon. the Leader of the opposition."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Then this matter will be taken up on the next official day."

" I wish to point out to hon. Members that the office has not got the local addresses of hon. Members and therefore it finds difficult to send copies of agenda, resolutions and questions to hon. Members. I would request hon. Members to make it convenient to intimate their local addresses to the office. I wish that this defect may be remedied soon."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Even with regard to those who have given their local addresses, copies of questions, etc., are not sent."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" They are being sent."

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I can bear witness to the fact that they are not being sent. At least I have not been receiving these papers at my local address even on the day previous to the meeting."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, we have already given our addresses in the Government House. Until we change our addresses, that address may be continued and rooms will be reserved for us. That was the understanding. What we find is, that since we took up our quarters in the Government House, we are not getting the papers. We have already intimated to the Assistant Secretary our Madras addresses and we thought it was sufficient."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" There is no difficulty in the case of those who have already given their local addresses. But there are others who have not given their addresses."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" But even those who have given their addresses are not getting the papers."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That will be looked into."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, what is likely to be the official business before we adjourn? "

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THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I think, Sir, that the Tungabhadra Irrigation Bill and the Malabar Irrigation Cess Bill will be ready for consideration by this House after they are passed by the Lower House. Tomorrow the Assembly will be discussing the resolution on linguistic provinces. Any other work which will be finished by the Assembly will come up here. But I am not in a position to make any certain statement on this because, I do not know when the linguistic provinces resolution will be finished in the Assembly. I hope it will be over tomorrow afternoon. Two Bills will be ready to be introduced in this House on the next official day. Wednesday is a non-official day and the House will take up resolutions and bills of non-official members."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" For how many days will this meeting last? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is too much for anybody to say."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Till the 25th."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The other House is making serious attempts to finish the work tomorrow. "

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I do not think, it will finish to-morrow, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If it does, we can finish our work on Thursday or on Friday."

" The House will now adjourn and meet again at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 23rd April."

The House then adjourned.

V.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. A pamphlet on ' Thrift and Saving. '
2. The Bar Councils and Legal Practitioners (Madras Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 11 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly and received therefrom in the Council.
3. The Criminal Tribes (Madras Repeal) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 12 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly and received therefrom in the Council.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide item IV (1), page 630 supra.]

L. A. BILL No. 11 OF 1947.

(As passed by the Assembly.)

A Bill further to amend the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926, and the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, in their application to the Province of Madras.

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926, and the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, in their application to the Province of Madras, for the purposes hereinafter appearing; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Bar Councils and Legal Practitioners (Madras Amendment) Act, 1947.

(2) It extends to the whole of the Province of Madras.

2. In section 10 of the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926—

(i) in sub-section (1), after the words “any advocate of the High Court”, the words “or an advocate of any other High Court ordinarily practising in any subordinate Court or Courts in the Province of Madras” shall be inserted;

(ii) to the same sub-section, the following Explanations shall be added namely:—

“Explanation 1.—The holding of any political opinion, or the expression of it in any form or act not involving physical violence or incitement to or abetment of such violence, is not misconduct within the meaning of this sub-section.

Explanation 2.—Conviction for any political offence, under any general, special or local Law or Ordinance or any rules made thereunder, including conviction under section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code or the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908, where the person convicted has not been found guilty of physical violence or of incitement to or abetment of such violence, is no proof of misconduct within the meaning of this sub-section.”

3. In the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879—

(i) in Chapter III, after section 13, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

“13-A. Notwithstanding anything contained in sections 12 and 13, no pleader or mukhtar holding a certificate as aforesaid shall be liable to be proceeded against or punished under those sections—

(i) for holding any political opinion, or expressing it in any form or act not involving physical violence or incitement to or abetment of such violence, or

(ii) for having been convicted of any political offence under any general, special or local Law or Ordinance (including section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code or the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908) or under any rules made thereunder, where he has not been found guilty of physical violence or of incitement to or abetment of such violence.”;

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(ii) in Chapter IV, after section 22, the following section shall be inserted namely:—

“22-A. Notwithstanding anything contained in sections 21 and 22, no revenue-agent holding a certificate as aforesaid shall be liable to be proceeded against or punished under those sections—

(i) for holding any political opinion, or expressing it in any form or act not involving physical violence or incitement to or abetment of such violence; or

(ii) for having been convicted of any political offence under any general, special or local Law or Ordinance (including section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code or the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1908) or under any rules made thereunder, where he has not been found guilty of physical violence or of incitement to or abetment of such violence.”

4. Any disciplinary inquiry or other proceeding pending at the commencement of this Act against any advocate, pleader, mukhtar or revenue-agent, shall be continued under the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926, as amended by section 2 or, as the case may be, under the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, as amended by section 3.

5. If any advocate has been suspended or removed from practice under the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926, or if any pleader, mukhtar or revenue-agent has been suspended or dismissed under the Legal Practitioners Act, 1879, and such suspension, removal or dismissal is subsisting on the date of the commencement of this Act, then, the advocate, pleader, mukhtar or revenue-agent may, within one year from the said date, apply in writing under this section to the High Court or the Chief Controlling Revenue-authority, as the case may be, and the High Court or Chief Controlling Revenue-authority shall thereupon vacate the order of suspension, removal or dismissal, if such order could not have been passed after the commencement of this Act.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide item IV (2), page 632 supra.]

L. A. BILL No. 12 OF 1947.

(As passed by the Assembly.)

A Bill to exclude the Province of Madras from the operation of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924.

WHEREAS it is expedient to exclude the Province of Madras from the operation of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Criminal Tribes (Madras Repeal) Act, 1947.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Provincial Government may, by notification in the Fort St. George Gazette, appoint.

2. On and from the commencement of this Act, the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, as amended by the Criminal Tribes (Madras Amendment) Act, 1943, and the Criminal Tribes (Madras Amendment) Act, 1945, shall, except for the purposes of section 3 of the Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act, 1943, cease to be in force in the Province of Madras.

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 23rd April 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMA-KRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Boiler Inspectors in the Province.

* 158-A Q.—SRI P. VIRABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Boiler Inspectors have to make surprise inspection and if so, how many times a year;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of Inspectors;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase their status; and

(d) if so, in what stage it is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“(a) Yes; at least once a year.

“(b) The Chief Inspector of Boilers has reported that the question is under his examination and that he will submit proposals shortly.

“(c) & (d) The Chief Inspector of Boilers has reported that proposals for improvement in the conditions of service, salaries, travelling allowance and conveyance allowance are under examination and will be submitted to Government through the Chief Engineer (General, Buildings and Defence).”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know the number of boilers, Boiler Inspectors are expected to inspect at least once a year?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“Notice.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“May I know, Sir, whether the Chief Inspector of Boilers did not submit proposals for increasing the emoluments of the Boiler Inspectors to the Cabinet Sub-Committee on the revision of salaries?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“No, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—“Were not the Heads of Departments invited to send their proposals for the revision of salaries to the Cabinet Sub-Committee on the revision of salaries?”

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—“Yes, Sir.”

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Admission into Medical Colleges.

* 158-B Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Sri B. Bhima Rao): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to implement the recommendation of the Bhore Committee with regard to admission of one-third of the students into the Medical Colleges on grounds of merit only; and

(b) if so, whether instructions have been issued to the Principals of the various Medical Colleges to the above effect?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“(a) & (b) Pending final decision on the recommendation of the Bhore Committee, Government ordered that, in connexion with the admission to the Medical Colleges (as well as the Engineering Colleges), during 1946–47, 20 per cent of the seats should be reserved for candidates selected on grounds of merit. The question whether such reservation of seats should be continued for 1947–48 is under consideration.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, when the Government hope to arrive at a decision in this matter?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“Early in June, Sir.”

[*Motor Transport Co-operative Societies.*]

* 159 Q.—SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have a scheme for starting motor transport co-operative societies for ex-servicemen; if so, what are the details and what is the financial guarantee offered to Scheduled Banks by the Government for such schemes;

(b) whether it is a fact that jeeps are proposed to be used as taxis in such service; and whether the Government have satisfied themselves that the use of jeeps as taxis is in accordance with Motor Vehicles Act;

(c) whether it is a fact that ex-servicemen are asked to invest moneys for such a scheme, and if so, how much per man; and

(d) whether the Government have considered the question whether such new transport services will throw any of the existing lorry and taxi-drivers and other staff connected with the operation of these out of employment, and if so, whether the Government propose to provide alternative employment for such persons?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) The Government have generally approved a scheme submitted by the Regional Director of Resettlement and Employment for the formation of 20 District Motor Transport Societies, one for each district, except in Chingleput, Ramnad, The Nilgiris, Cuddapah and South Kanara and one Central Society at Madras for ex-servicemen. A brief note giving details of the scheme * is

* Printed as Appendix I on pages 715–717 infra.

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placed on the table of the House. The Government have guaranteed an overdraft of Rs. 32 lakhs with the Indian Bank, Limited, Madras.

“(b) Yes.

“(c) A member must pay Rs. 50 for each share taken by him.

“(d) The Government consider that it is unlikely that any person will be thrown out of employment since the ex-servicemen's Transport Co-operatives will only supplement and not replace the present transport services.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“In view of the poor response from ex-servicemen to various schemes of rehabilitation undertaken by the Government, will the Government consider the desirability of getting all schemes, especially this matter of transport scheme, re-examined and altered, wherever necessary, so that public funds may not be wasted?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“The Government have accepted the scheme and they do not believe that public funds are being wasted on this.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know what is the staff employed under the Directorate of Resettlement for this particular purpose of motor transport?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“Notice.”

Textile bribery case.

* 160 Q.—SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR: Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the appeals against acquittal preferred by the Government in Textile bribery case were dismissed by the High Court;

(b) the amount spent in respect of this case both in the Magistrate's Court and in the High Court;

(c) who advised the appeal in the case in the face of strong judgment of the trial court;

(d) whether the Government would place on the table of the House my letter to the Hon. Minister, dated 19th May 1946, strongly advising against the filing of an appeal against the acquittal and state what steps were taken in pursuance of the facts stated therein; and

(e) why the Government allowed an appeal to be filed and public funds wasted to the extent of about Rs. 10,000 in spite of the facts disclosed in the lower Court's judgment?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

“(b) There was no expenditure to Government by way of fees to their Law officers in connexion with the prosecutions in the

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Chief Presidency Magistrate's Court. The fee payable to the Law officers concerned for the appeals in the High Court has not yet been settled.

"(c) & (e) The appeal was filed after consultation with the Advocate-General.

"(d) No letter from the hon. Member, dated 19th May 1946, was received by the Government."

(Sri S. A. S. Rm. Ramanatham Chettiar wanted a Tamil translation of the answer.)

MR. PRESIDENT:—"You know English. If you want, I shall ask the Hon. Minister to read out the answer again."

(The answer was read out a second time.)

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, if the Advocate-General advised the Government to file an appeal against the decision of the Chief Presidency Magistrate?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"That is the presumption."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Who appeared on behalf of Government in the appeal, Sir?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"The Advocate-General, Sir."

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR:—"எனது 19-ம் தேதி லெட்டரை மந்திரிக்கு அனுப்பி காப்பி வைத்திருக்கிறேன்."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"அந்த லெட்டர் வரவில்லை என்று சொல்லுகிறேன்."

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR:—"இந்த கேசுக்கு பணம் சிலவாகவில்லையா?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"முதல் கேசுக்கு பணம் சிலவு இல்லை என்று சொல்லுகிறேன். அப்பீலுக்கு எவ்வளவு பணம் சில வாக்கும் என்று இன்னும் தெரியவில்லை."

SRI S. A. S. Rm. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR:—"அதற்கு எவ்வளவு சிலவாகும் என்று தெரியுமா?"

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"அதைப்பற்றி நான் பதில் சொல்வதற்கு தயாராக இல்லை."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The intention of the question seems to be whether Government was justified in preferring the opinion of the Advocate-General." (Laughter.)

Court of Enquiry to enquire into Labour disputes.

* 161 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Sri P. R. K. Sarma): Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether a Court of Enquiry has been appointed to enquire into the conditions of the workers in the Motor Transport Engineering, Type-casting and other allied concerns and make recommendations to the Government;

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(b) if so, what the scope and terms of reference of the enquiry are;

(c) who are the persons constituting the Court of Enquiry and what is the immediate necessity for the constitution of the Court of Enquiry;

(d) whether the constitution of this Court of Enquiry is intended to suspend or put an end to all conciliation proceedings and negotiations between various organized Trade Unions and employers in the industries that have been going on;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Madras Provincial Foundry, Smithy and General Engineering Works Union, representing the workers employed in about thirty engineering firms gave notice of a strike of definite demands;

(f) whether the notice of strike was withdrawn on the assurance of the Commissioner of Labour to intercede and bring about a settlement;

(g) whether negotiations between the said Union and the concerned employers have been going on with the help of the Commissioner of Labour for the last six months and final agreement was about to be reached when the Court of Enquiry was announced by the Government;

(h) whether the said conciliation proceedings and negotiations between the Union and Engineering employers have been given up by the Commissioner of Labour;

(i) whether the said Union has objected to the stopping of the conciliations and negotiations by the Commissioner of Labour and has intimated that in view of his attitude the Union would call for a strike as per notice kept under suspense in view of the conciliation proceedings; and

(j) at whose request the Court of Enquiry was constituted?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) The object of the enquiry is to have a comprehensive picture of the conditions of service of the workers in the motor transport services, motor transport workshops, engineering firms and type foundries in the province in order to standardize them as far as possible.

" (c) Sri Rao Bahadur M. Venkataramayya, Retired District and Sessions Judge, is the Court of Enquiry and it was constituted on the report of the Commissioner of Labour that the conditions of the workers in these concerns are unsatisfactory.

" (d) No, Sir.

" (e) No, Sir.

" (f) The question does not arise.

" (g) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative and to the latter part in the negative.

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"(h) Conciliation in respect of general matters such as rates of wages, bonus, etc., will be given up but matters relating to individual foundries and points not covered by the Court of Enquiry will continue to be looked into.

"(i) It is understood that no notice of strike has been served but that the hon. Member in his capacity as the President of the Madras Provincial Foundry Smithy Workers' Union, has written to the Commissioner of Labour, that the Union would serve notice of strike if the demands were not settled immediately.

"(j) The Court of Enquiry was appointed at the instance of the Commissioner of Labour."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government will resort to the appointment of a Court of Enquiry only when all methods of conciliation have failed? Am I right in thinking so?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I do not concede that proposition, as a rule. But wherever there is difficulty, and nothing less than a Court of Enquiry would settle the matter. Government will always appoint a Court of Enquiry."

Producers'-cum-consumers' societies.

* 162 Q.—K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur): Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether the organization of the producers'-cum-consumers' societies was opposed by the public in the delta and that the share capital was collected by official pressure and not paid voluntarily by the members;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Co-operative department expressed no great hopes about the working of these societies;

(c) why the Co-operative department was not asked to lend the services of experienced Co-operative officials for the posts of secretaries;

(d) why no Muslim was selected as secretary of any of the societies;

(e) whether it is a fact that the secretaries were selected mostly from amongst Congressmen;

(f) whether it is a fact that the ration shops that were hitherto managed by other co-operative societies and retailers were also being forced to be taken up by these new societies; and

(g) whether it is a fact that the Muslim retailers and Harijan retailers were not exempted from such coercion?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—" (a) Share capital was not collected by official pressure. It was obtained on a voluntary basis. There was no general opposition but certain sections of the public who were likely to be affected by the formation of the societies did not welcome the scheme. No

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official pressure was used to collect share capital. Officials assisted the non-officials in the propaganda for the collection of shares.

"(b) No.

"(c) The Co-operative department is short of hands and could spare with difficulty only the staff required for supervision.

"(d) The posts were advertised. Only four Muslims applied and of them three were selected for training and were posted as secretaries. But all of them left the posts voluntarily as they did not find the work congenial.

"(e) No.

"(f) Under the scheme, wholesale, as well as retail distribution has to be done by the societies. There is, therefore, no question of forcing the societies to take up retail ration shops.

"(g) No exemption has been made in regard to ration shops run by Muslims or Harijans or any other community. Instructions have been issued to absorb as many retailers as possible in the scheme provided they are willing to come in and have a good record."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that share capital is collected by official pressure?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"No, Sir."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, that Revenue Divisional Officers, Tahsildars and even Stationary Sub-Magistrates have closed their offices and went out on collecting shares in my district?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The Government are not aware, Sir."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Will the Government make an enquiry into this in view of the allegations now made in this House?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"If particular instances are brought to the notice of the Government, they will be looked into."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know whether the Government have received complaints that mill-owners in Nidadavolu were coerced to join these societies on pain of cancellation of their licence?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I have no information on that point."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—"Are the Government aware how many single shareholders there are in these societies?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Notice."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—"Are the Government aware that one family was made to subscribe as much as Rs. 2,000?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"Notice."

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that most of the shareholders of these societies are persons other than ryots? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" There is no special provision made for ryots only. Whoever subscribes to these societies, become members, whether they are producers, merchants or mill-owners."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Are the Government aware that in these societies actual consumers like mill-hands are not shareholders? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will please repeat the question."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that in these societies there are no shareholders who are real consumers like mill workers? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not know what the hon. Member means. Mill workers alone are not consumers. Whoever gets the benefit of a ration shop is a consumer. I do not think that mill-owners and mill workers alone should be classed as consumers."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In view of the Government's practical admission on the floor of the other House that these co-operative societies have failed in their objective . . . "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I draw the attention of the hon. Member that we are not aware of any such admission here to permit a supplementary question on that basis? "

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In view of the fact that these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies have failed in their objective, will the Government think of revising their policy in regard to these societies? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" We have stated the fact that these societies have failed in procurement. But the Government have made no further admission in this matter. It is too early to give out the intentions of the Government before they are in full possession of the facts."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" In view of the fact that one of the two main objectives of the societies, namely, procurement, has failed, will the Government think of abolishing these societies and restore the *status quo* before the societies were formed? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Is there a general admission that the societies have failed *in toto*? There is no such admission."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" That is the inference that one can naturally draw from what all has happened, Sir."

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Whatever the hon. Member may infer, the Government have so far admitted that in Guntur district the societies have failed in procuring the full target amount. No further inference is necessary or called for."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that in these societies every producer and every consumer is entitled to become a member and there is no ban on anybody becoming a member, and the share is fixed at as low as Rs. 5 per share? "

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" The share is Rs. 25."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Anybody who subscribes can become a member."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the affairs of these societies are conducted by officials and the managing committees are there only in name? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" They are managed by directors elected by shareholders. The Co-operative department has been asked to lend their officers for the supervision of these societies."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the directors are recruited only from a single political party in the Congress, I mean from within the Congress? (Interruption.) I mean from those belonging to the ex-Ministerial Group? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The directors are elected by the shareholders. That is the rule. In regard to particular groups of people becoming directors, they should have had the votes of shareholders for that. The shareholders should have voted for them."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the rate of procurement for cholam is Rs. 15 while the controlled market rate is Rs. 16? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I am not aware of the details."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask whether the Government have deputed a special officer to study the working of these societies, and if so, whether his report will be placed on the table of the House? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Is that a separate question? "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" It arises out of the working of the co-operative societies."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" But anything connected with the co-operative societies will not arise out of the question."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that some of the secretaries of these societies have had only four days' training in the training camp? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" No, Sir, a training for one month was given to these secretaries in various subjects."

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SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU :—" May I know who bore the charges of the training camp? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I can find out later on. "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the directors of these societies are nominated, and if so, who nominates them? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" To start with the first set of directors have been nominated by the authority on the spot. It is only a temporary arrangement. As soon as the societies are able to stand on their legs without any further help, election will take place according to the rules. "

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the great ignorance that prevails in the House on this subject, will the Government publish a statement explaining the genesis of these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, the persons who are responsible for the creation of the present societies, the method of election of directors by shareholders, the method by which secretaries to the various societies were appointed and also give a brief report on the working of each one of these societies up to 31st March of this year? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Government have laid before the Assembly yesterday the whole of the procurement figures for Guntur till nearly the end of this month. "

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" When I was referring to that subject, I was asked not to refer to it. "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Because it was specifically asked, I said we have placed a copy on the table of the other House. Certainly we will place a copy of the same on the table of this House also. But with regard to the working of the whole scheme as demanded by Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, I should ask for some time. I shall certainly call for a report and give all the information asked for. "

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" It will be very helpful to decide the issue with regard to these societies. "

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Can we get an assurance from the Government that the request of the hon. Member will be complied with? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I said that the Government accept the suggestion and will certainly comply with the request. "

Permits to motor cars.

* 163 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) the number of new motor cars which became available for distribution since 1st May 1945 and the number distributed in the city and the districts (districtwar figures);

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(b) the names of applicants who secured permits since 15th January 1946;

(c) whether before granting permit the fact that the applicants already possess cars is verified and if so, who the verifying authority is;

(d) whether it is a fact that people owning cars in good condition have been granted permits;

(e) whether there is any objection to the grant of permits to owners of cars of make of particular year or years;

(f) whether it is a fact that application for permits from persons such as Presidents of Co-operative Wholesale Stores who have to supervise and control procurement and distribution operations have long been pending;

(g) what steps are taken to prevent the sale of new cars by permit-holders and whether there have been any prosecutions for the violation of the rule relating to the sale of new cars without permission; and

(h) whether the Government will place on the table of the House the instructions issued by Government to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller from time to time relating to grant of permits of new cars?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" (a) 960 new cars became available for distribution during the period from 1st May 1945 to 3rd March 1947. (Under clause 7 of the Madras Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1947, fourteen new cars out of 142 imported into this Province have been reserved up to date for distribution by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller.) The number of new cars distributed in the city and the districts is given below :—

Vizagapatam	...	...	...	...	15
East Godavari	...	...	...	...	11
West Godavari	...	...	...	...	8
Kistna	...	...	...	...	12
Guntur	...	...	...	...	14
Nellore	...	...	...	...	10
Anantapur	...	...	...	...	7
Bellary	...	...	...	...	8
Cuddapah	...	...	...	...	8
Kurnool	...	...	...	...	1
Chittoor	...	...	...	...	10
Chingleput	...	...	...	...	9
North Arcot	...	...	...	...	19
South Arcot	...	...	...	...	8
Salem	...	...	...	...	16
Trichinopoly	...	...	...	...	19
Tanjore	...	...	...	...	7

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Tinnevely	...	...	...	...	...	9
Madura	...	...	...	...	...	34
Ramnad	...	...	...	...	...	8
Malabar	...	...	...	...	...	45
South Kanara	...	...	...	...	...	10
Coimbatore	...	...	...	...	...	75
The Nilgiris	...	...	...	...	...	32
Madras	...	...	...	...	...	572
Total	...	...	...	...	...	960

"(b) A list* of persons to whom permits were issued from 1st January 1946 is placed on the table of the House.

"(c) The applicants were required to furnish this information in the printed form of application used for the purpose but the statements were not verified unless the Provincial Motor Transport Controller had any reason to doubt their authenticity.

"(d) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (f) of question No. 23 (starred) answered on the floor of the House on 8th August 1946.

"(e) Government had issued instructions that it should not normally be considered as a genuine reason that a owner wanted a smaller car or that a car of 1939 or later model was not sufficiently dependable.

"(f) Among businessmen, co-operative wholesale stores and presidents of such stores have been given preference in granting permits for new cars. Ten applications were received from co-operative societies or presidents of such societies of whom six have been granted permits so far. Of the four remaining, one application was in September 1946, two in October 1946 and one in December 1946.

"(g) The Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1945, was amended in November 1946 to prevent transfer of ownership of cars bought under permit. There have been no prosecutions for violation of clause 9 (a) of the Civil Motor Cars Control Order, 1945.

"(h) Instructions were issued to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller from time to time. Government do not consider it desirable that such instructions, which are confidential, should be placed on the table.

"For the information of the House, I shall read the answer given to clause (f) of question No. 23 referred to in the answer to clause (d) of this question—The question was—

"(f) whether it is a fact that permits have been issued even to persons having one or more cars in good condition."

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 717—756 infra.

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"The answer was as follows:—

"(f) Permits have in some cases been issued to persons having only one car registered in their name. In most cases, their existing cars were old and some of those cars though in fair condition were stated to be uneconomical and undependable. In the case of big firms and institutions, permits have been issued, even though they were owning more than one car in fair condition, considering their needs."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I am very grateful to the Hon. Minister for having given us so many facts and figures. May I know why only one car has been allotted to Kurnool district and whether the allotment depends upon the number of applications or the discretion of the Provincial Controller?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"The number of permits issued in any one district depends upon the number of applications and the urgent needs of the several applicants who apply."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Is it the opinion of the Government that the needs of Malabar received 45 cars and Nilgiris which received 32 are more than those of Kurnool where railway communications are very defective?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"There can be no standardization in these matters."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Is the Government aware that when persons who owned cars, when they got permits for new cars they sold away their old cars for high prices?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"That was why the control orders were amended to prevent such abuses."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"Are the Government aware of the report widely prevalent in the City that a payment has to be made before getting a permit?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I will be grateful if a specific case is brought to the notice of the Government."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"Will the Government make an enquiry if facts are placed before them?"

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS:—"As I have already said, if a specific case is brought to the notice of the Government, the Government will make an enquiry."

Appeals against the order of Rent Controller.

* 164 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are still entertaining appeals against the orders of the Rent Controller;

(b) whether the Rent Control Act has taken away the jurisdiction of the Government and vested the power to redress entirely in the courts;

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(c) whether in the case of one P. L. M. Muthiah Chettiyar, No. 45, Tiruvottiyur High Road, Washermanpet, the Government issued directions interfering with the execution proceedings of the City Civil Court; and

(d) if so, under what authority?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“(a) & (b) Appeals against the orders of the Rent Controllers lie only to the appellate authorities appointed by Government under section (12) (1) (a) of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946 and not to the Government. Only revision petitions in respect of orders passed by Rent Controllers and Collectors before 1st October 1946, i.e., before the Act came into force, lie to Government. No revision petition lies to Government in respect of orders passed by Rent Controllers or appellate authorities under the Act after 30th September 1946.

“(c) The Government have only granted extension of time to the tenant to vacate the premises. They were not aware that the owner had taken execution proceedings in the Civil Court against the tenant when they granted the extension of time.”

“(d) Under sub-clause (2A) of clause 8 of the Madras House Rent Control Order, 1945.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know whether the Madras House Rent Control Order, 1945, lapsed as soon as the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1946, was passed?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“There are two aspects of the question. One is that the actual operative portion of the House Rent Control Order lapsed on 30th September 1946. The other is that certain rights conferred under that order are renewed for the benefit of the people.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I invite the attention of the Hon. Minister to section 18 of the Madras Buildings Act which ousts the jurisdiction of the Government?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“That is with reference to the position on and from 1st October 1946.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“Is it the contention of the Government that in respect of orders passed before 1st October 1946 they can still exercise revisionary powers?”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“Legal pandits including the highest authority, the Advocate-General, have advised that there are certain powers and rights conferred which would have to be renewed even subsequent to 1st October 1946.”

Abolition of petrol rationing.

* 165 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state the reason for the continuation of petrol rationing and when the public may expect the abolition or relaxation of this control?

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“The Government of India is the controlling authority for petrol rationing. The main reasons for the continuance of petrol rationing are, apart from general shortage, inadequate transport capacity and bulk storage facilities. The Government of India have recently stated that it will not be possible either to abolish or relax petrol rationing in the near future.”

Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners.

* 166 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether in pursuance of G.O. Ms. No. 4653, Development, dated 19th December 1946, Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners have been appointed for each district;

(b) what the qualifications and emoluments prescribed for these posts are;

(c) who the appointing authority is;

(d) whether the posts were advertised and applications invited for the same.

(e) whether the appointments have been made and who the persons are together with their qualifications and the districts to which they belong; and

(f) what the functions of these Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners are?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—“(a) Yes.

“(b) No qualifications are prescribed for the posts of the Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners. The scale of pay sanctioned for the post is Rs. 250—50/2—700 per mensem.

“(c) The Government.

“(d) No.

“(e) Yes. Nineteen Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners were recently appointed. The persons appointed, their qualifications and the districts to which they belong are furnished in the statement placed on the table of the House.

“(f) Consequent on the reorganization of the Textile Control Department ordered in G.O. Ms. No. 4653, Development, dated 19th December 1946, the Collectors are made fully responsible for all items of work relating to textiles in the districts concerned. The Collectors are responsible for the following items of work :—

(1) All licensing;

(2) enforcement of all textile control measures; and

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(3) distribution, in consultation with the District, Taluk, Town and Village Committees of the district quota of cloth and yarn.

The Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners are the Special Assistants to the Collectors for the textile control work detailed above."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—" May I know whether there is any proposal to appoint more Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners in the near future? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" There is no such proposal, but if there is need, the Government will certainly consider."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—" If the need arises, will the Government call for applications and then choose? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI:—" The suggestion of the hon. Member will be borne in mind."

Saraswathi Mahal Library, Tanjore.

* 167 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO (on behalf of Sri K. Natarajan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether a memorial has been received by the Government from the Secretary, Tanjore Maharajah Serfoji's Saraswathi Mahal Library, Tanjore, praying for a grant of an annual subsidy of Rs. 11,000 to be utilized for the preservation and publications of rare and valuable manuscripts in the Library;

(b) whether it was originally a private library belonging to the reigning Princes of Tanjore who maintained the Library, and added books and manuscripts thereto from time to time;

(c) whether after the claimants to the private properties of the last Raja of Tanjore agreed to the preservation of the Library as a Public Library, and set apart one lakh of rupees for its upkeep, the Government in G.O. No. 1306, Home (Education), took over the management under the Charitable Endowments Act and framed a scheme for the management of the same;

(d) whether that one lakh of rupees was originally invested in 5 per cent Government of India loan which investment continued till 1939;

(e) whether afterwards on account of the termination of the 5 per cent loan, the amount was reinvested in 3½ per cent Government of India non-terminable loan;

(f) whether, therefore, the income of Rs. 5,000 derived by the Library till 1939 was reduced to Rs. 3,500;

(g) whether even the 3½ per cent loan was terminated by the Government of India on 16th September 1946;

(h) whether the endowment of the library had therefore to be invested in 3 per cent loan, and hence the income reduced by another Rs. 500;

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(i) whether between the years 1927-1933 the Government had been making grants to the Library;

(j) whether in 1940 another grant was made by the Government to the Library for adjusting the expenditure on account of the fall in the income of the Library from 1939;

(k) whether the memorial of the Honorary Secretary refers to the fact that the present income of the Library of Rs. 3,000 from the investment is not sufficient to meet the establishment charges of the Library;

(l) whether the Bhandarkar Oriental Institute, Poona, is receiving an annual grant of Rs. 1,000 from the Government of Madras;

(m) whether in view of the necessity for the preservation and publication of the very valuable manuscripts and in view of the Library being the only manuscripts library of the Presidency, barring the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library, the Government propose to sanction suitable annual grants to the library as per the request of the memorialist; and

(n) whether the Government will be pleased to make provision for grants in the next budget?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) to (e) Yes."

" (f) Yes; from Rs. 5,232 to Rs. 3,750."

" (g) Yes."

" (h) Yes. The income was reduced to Rs. 3,222."

" (i) Yes."

" (j) Yes; a recurring subsidy of Rs. 1,500 was applied for, a sum of Rs. 1,250 was sanctioned as a special case only for the year 1940."

" (k) Yes."

" (l) Yes, for the specific purpose of preparing a critical edition of the Mahabharata."

" (m) & (n) The proposal is under consideration."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO:—" May I know whether a majority of the books in the Saraswathi Mahal Library are in Telugu? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" Notice, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO:—" May I know whether it is a fact that there is no Andhra on the committee appointed to enquire into the library, although a large number of books are in Telugu? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" The Government will consider whether there is any need for the inclusion of an Andhra member."

SRI A. GOVINDACHARYULU:—" Since there are very many manuscripts in Telugu, why should not research scholars in Telugu be appointed and put it in Supplementary Budget? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" No assurance can be given, but the suggestion will be considered."

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AN HON. MEMBER :—“ Is it the presumption that only Andhras know Telugu? ”

SRI S. A. S. RM. RAMANATHAM CHETTIYAR :—“ தெலுங்கு உள்பா தற்கு தமிழில் இருக்குமா என்று கேட்கிறேன் ”.

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“ Notice.”

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

New well-subsidy scheme.

12 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to place on the table of the House, particulars of wells sunk districtwar, the amount of loans sanctioned, the amount of subsidy disbursed, the number of wells completed and the number under construction and the acreage brought under cultivation ?

A.—The statement * below gives the latest information available in respect of the first three well-subsidy schemes introduced by this Government. (A new scheme has been sanctioned with effect from 1st March 1947 in supersession of the three earlier schemes.)

Tour of Hon. Ministers.

13 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of days each Hon. Minister has been on tour (monthwar) since the Ministry assumed office and the districts visited by them; and

(b) the amount of travelling allowance drawn by each Hon. Minister (monthwar)?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement ^b showing the number of days each Hon. Minister was on tour, the places visited and the travelling allowance drawn in respect of those tours during the months May 1946 to January 1947 is appended.

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

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I have to announce to the House that the following message, dated Fort St. George, 22nd April 1947, received by me from the Hon. Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly :—

In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly on 22nd April 1947 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council.”

* Printed as Appendix IV on pages 758-759 infra.

^b Printed as Appendix V on pages 760-765 infra.

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III.—GUNTUR FOOD POSITION.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ I am told that a statement on the Guntur Food Position has been placed on the table of the House.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Can we ask questions on the statement now or on a subsequent date? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ Not to-day at any rate.”

IV.—NON-OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

A.—BILLS.

THE MADRAS CITY TENANTS' PROTECTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“ Mr. President, Sir, it is with a feeling of some trepidation that I rise to move the motion standing in my name for leave to introduce the Bill. That is because the Government adopted a somewhat curious attitude when Bills were introduced by private members in this House on the last occasion. I hope that the appeal that we made on that occasion that a convention should be established that at the stage of introduction the Government should not oppose, reserving to themselves the right to take up any attitude they like afterwards, would be followed and that I will be permitted to introduce this Bill.

“ My Bill seeks to amend an Act of 1921. I hope you will allow me the indulgence to give in a few words the history of this legislation. If the Preamble to the Madras City Tenants' Protection Act is read, it will be seen that this legislation was undertaken by the Government to give protection to tenants in many parts of the City of Madras who had constructed buildings on others' lands in the hope that they would not be evicted so long as they paid a fair rent for the land. Then it was my privilege to work under the guidance of the late Diwan Bahadur Varadarajulu Naidu and set up an agitation for the promulgation of this legislation. We were ably assisted by Dr. Besant who was then editing 'New India'. When the facts were brought to the notice of the then Law Member, late Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar, he immediately wanted to go to the succour of the unfortunate tenants who were being evicted from lands occupied by them and on which they had built superstructures in the hope that they would not be evicted so long as they paid fair rent for the land. These were the hey-days of the Justice Party. The Justice Party occupied every place of power and authority; almost all public bodies were monopolized by them. Even in the Justice Party, as in any party, there were vested interests and there was a certain amount of opposition to certain clauses of the Bill. But realizing that the main object would be frustrated if he persisted in giving the relief that was demanded by us on behalf of the tenants, Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar compromised on many points and yielded to the agitation of those who had a voice in shaping the legislation, and the Bill emerged from the Council in its present form. As is usual with legislation of this kind, a great deal of case law has grown and

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in a number of decisions on various points, the Hon'ble Judges of the Madras High Court have indicated that the Act was defective and that it could not fulfil its object of affording real protection to the tenants. My main object in sponsoring this Amending Bill is to rectify the defects pointed out by the Hon'ble Judges of the Madras High Court so that the Act can afford to the tenants the protection they deserve. I am sure you will not permit to go into the details of the Bill at this stage."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection provided you give up the other items."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I will leave aside the minor amendments that I have suggested and draw the attention of the House only to two important amendments. Clause 5 of the Bill proposes to amend section 2 (3) of the Act making it applicable to Crown lands and lands belonging to trusts and corporate bodies. It is a well-known fact that in this City, the Government trusts and corporate bodies own large tracts of land. There have been cases in which even the Government without any mercy have taken advantage of their privileged position and evicted the tenants. The Hon'ble Judges of the High Court have decided in appeal cases that the Act cannot be applied to Crown lands. 3-45 Under the present Act, power is given to the tenant to ask for P.m. sale of the land, only if a suit for ejectment is filed by the landlord. If the landlord chooses to evict his tenant and if he files a suit for eviction, then the privilege of asking for the sale of the land can be exercised by the tenant. It often happens that landlords file suits knowing that the tenant will not be in a position to offer to take the sale of the land. My object has been to leave undisturbed people occupying land who have built superstructures so long as they pay fair rent. My object is that the exercise of the privilege of purchasing the land should be given to the tenant and the fair price will be settled by the Court. He should be given this option as the landlord enjoys other options. Whenever it is possible for the tenant to ensure his fixity in the land that he is occupying and on which he has built his superstructure, he should be enabled to go to a Court of Law and ask the Court of Law to settle the price of the land to enable him to purchase it. These are the two provisions of the Bill to which I would like to draw the attention of hon. Members of the House.

" Sir, as you are aware, it has been my special good fortune that, whenever I give notice of a Bill, the Government themselves come forward with a similar Bill. This has not only lightened my task but also indirectly assisted me to serve the cause along with them. How I wish that on this occasion also when I am asking for leave to introduce the Bill, the Government themselves make this Bill as theirs? It would ensure easy passage of the Bill through this House. I trust I shall receive the unstinted co-operation of the Government in seeing to the passage of this Bill through this Council as well as through the other Chamber of the Legislature, so that the tenants who are in need of this assistance may secure it, and they may be prevented from being

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harassed not by all landlords but by unscrupulous landlords. I am not in a position to quote any judgments of the Privy Council, because most of the tenants are so poor that they could not go to the Privy Council to obtain any decisions on points of law on many judgments of the High Court. I request the Government to be considerate and charitable. Though they could not make this Bill their own, they can assist me and this House to have this Bill passed without much trouble. With these words I seek the leave of the House to introduce the Bill."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" I second the motion."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" What is the view of the Government on the Bill? "

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" The Government have decided to oppose the Bill. The word tenant used in this connexion by my hon. Friend does not carry the ordinary terminological meaning. In some cases certain people want to squat on others' lands and raise buildings there. Later on they seek the protection of law to stay there. Of course certain protection was given to such tenants in 1921 under exceptional circumstances. Now my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao not only wants this protection to continue but he also wants tenants to encroach and squat not only on private lands but also on Government lands as well as on lands belonging to the Madras Corporation. That will be the effect if this Bill is passed into law . . . "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does the Hon. Minister oppose leave to introduce the Bill? "

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Yes, Sir. If a tenant builds a house or superstructure on a land belonging to another man . . . "

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" On a point of information, Sir. The motion before the House is for leave to introduce the Bill. Am I to understand that the Hon. Minister is opposing the motion for leave for introduction of the Bill? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member heard my question to the Hon. Minister. He is opposing the motion for leave to introduce the Bill."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I wish to ask whether this Government is not going to adopt the usual procedure in all Parliamentary Bodies that at the stage of asking leave for introduction of a Bill, it should not be opposed. Is not this Government going to adopt that procedure? It is surprising that the Bill should be opposed even at this stage."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" At any rate, the Government are consistent."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" At present there is no such convention in this House as is stated by the hon. Member. It can be followed if there is agreement between the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition. In the

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absence of such an agreement, the useful time of this House need not be spent on Bills which are not going to be ultimately adopted, when the Government oppose the Bills."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" On a point of information, Sir. If hon. Members had known that the Bill will be opposed even at the stage of asking for leave to introduce the Bill, they would have come prepared for it. Now we have to make our minds on the spot after hearing the speeches of the hon. Member who asks for leave and of the Hon. Minister on behalf of the Government. Such Bills are not circulated earlier because it is expected that the Government would not oppose the Bill at this stage."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Copies of the Bill have been circulated to hon. Members."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" We got copies only yesterday."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, the procedure laid down in Rule 72 of the Council Rules may be followed. You can ask the Mover of the Bill and the Hon. Minister to make brief statements."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member who moved the motion has made his statement. The Hon. Minister is making a statement now."

* THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" I will not go into the details of the provisions of the Bill. The only position that the Government take is this; if clause 5 is amended and people are allowed to squat on others' lands and on lands belonging to the State, there will be trouble not only to the Government but to all residents of Madras City. The Government are really prepared to consider if there are complaints for housing people of the Madras City on any land belonging to the Government. I can inform the House that, as a matter of fact, the Government have already appointed a Committee to go into this question. The Committee consists of experienced officials in the first instance, including also representatives of the Corporation of Madras, the Revenue Department, the Town-Planning Department, etc. The Committee will go into the question and report within a short time what are the lands and building sites in the City of Madras and how these can be utilized according to plans. The Government are not opposing any plan for housing. What we seek to oppose is unilateral action on the part of certain persons going and squatting on other people's lands. It will be very difficult if legal protection is given to such occupation. If this Bill is passed, somebody will go to the foreshore and put up a superstructure. Later on he has got a claim on that land, and the Government cannot eject him from that place. These things cannot be allowed to happen. I do not refer to other clauses of the Bill. We are not agreeable to clause 5 of the Bill both on account of public reasons and of the statement I have made already. The Government are already aware of the keenness of the situation with regard to housing in

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the City of Madras; the Government are already taking steps to solve the problem. I think it will be better if we oppose the Bill at this stage itself."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I am afraid, Sir, that the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue does not know the provisions of the City Tenants' Protection Act. It is not a fact that anybody can go and put up a superstructure on the foreshore and then seek protection. If any person is receiving rent from the man who has put up a superstructure, he gets the right of asking him to have the land sold to him. If the Hon. Minister had read the proceedings of 1921 which are in three volumes, he would have realized that the Act does not confer the right to any one to put up a hut in any place. It confers a right on the tenant to ask for the sale of the land on which he has put up a structure if he is paying rent regularly. There is presumption also that he would not be disturbed as long as he pays rent. If the Government have been collecting rent from the tenant, the tenant has a right to go to a Court of Law for the sale of the land to him. I am afraid the Hon. Minister has not read the Act—excuse me for being plain—it does not confer the right to anybody to squat anywhere not paying rent and then secure sale of the land."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—" Some of us know how things happen in the mufassal as well as in the City. A person puts up a small structure on a land. He gets hold of a low-grade official and pays him Rs. 5 and gets an encroachment certificate. Then he gets the right to the land as my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao says. It is true I am not completely conversant with all the three volumes to which my hon. Friend has referred. I can straightway say that the distinction he tries to draw, does not serve his purpose nor the cause which he tries to espouse."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I state the procedure that is usually followed in such cases? Both in this case and on previous occasions the Government opposed the motion for leave to introduce the Bill. It is the convention that a Bill is not opposed at this stage. I suggest that much time of the House should not be taken up by discussion on this motion. The Bill has not actually come before the House. It is still possible that my hon. Friend Mr. Suryanarayana Rao may not introduce the Bill at all. It is still in the hands of the mover to proceed with this Bill and then the Government may point out its defects. It is against convention to oppose the Bill at this stage. If it is done the right of private Members to introduce Bills would be very much curtailed. To introduce a Bill, we have to carry on previous propaganda. We will have to study the provisions of the Bill even before it comes before the House. Discussion at this stage is a waste of precious time of the House. So, I request that we might follow the convention—the long-standing convention—of all Legislative Bodies in this country of not opposing a Bill at the stage when leave is asked to introduce it. I request the Government to grant

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to the non-official Members of this House, at least as much right of asking for leave to introduce a Bill. That is my appeal to the Government."

4 p.m. MR. PRESIDENT:—"Is the Hon. Minister convinced?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"It is not a question of my being convinced, Sir. The Cabinet has passed a resolution to oppose the introduction of this Bill and I have to follow it. As regards the convention to be established that leave for introduction of non-official Bills should not be opposed, it is a matter of agreement between the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition and I cannot do anything in the matter now, Sir."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"May I suggest, Sir, that an opportunity be given for discussion before it is opposed . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. Minister for Revenue referred to some agreement; may I know what is the agreement that he referred to?"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"In future if the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition talk among themselves and come to an agreement that at the stage of the introduction of a Bill, it need not be opposed, and if such a convention is established, naturally the Government will follow it. That was the agreement that I referred to, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"There is such a convention in the legislatures."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"As a matter of fact, two Bills prior to this Bill have been opposed by the Government. Therefore, I am not the first man to oppose this Bill, Sir. There is already a history behind this."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The only question is whether it was a special case of opposition in the case of those two Bills, or whether the Government are going to adopt that policy for all future Bills."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"It is a matter for future consideration, Sir. Now, the point is that we have considered this Bill in the Cabinet and have come to the conclusion that the Bill should be opposed and I have to follow the direction given to me."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I suggest, Sir, that steps be taken to revise the rules regarding opposition to non-official Bills at the stage of introduction?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"If the hon. Member wants that a rule should be introduced that no Bills should be opposed at the stage of introduction, then he may bring it before the Rules Committee which are considering the revision of the rules. But, so far as the rule at present stands, the position is, that if a Bill is opposed, on the motion for leave to introduce it, the President after permitting a brief explanatory statement from the Member

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who moves and from the Member who opposes the motion, may without further debate put the question thereon. I have decided to put the question now. The question is—

'That the Madras City Tenants' Protection (Amendment) Bill, 1947, sought to be introduced by the hon. Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao, will be given leave by this House.'

The question was put and lost.

Poll was demanded by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. | 7 Mrs. Mona Hensman. |
| 2 K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. | 8 Mrs. M. N. Chubwala. |
| 3 Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu. | 9 S. K. Sheik Rowther Sahib. |
| 4 Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib. | 10 Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao. |
| 5 Dr. Syed Tajuddin Sahib. | 11 Mr. K. O. Anthoni. |
| 6 Sri M. D. T. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar. | 12 Dr. V. K. John. |
| | 13 Sri D. Krishnamurthy. |
| | 14 " H. M. Jagannatham. |

Noes.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan. | 12 Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. |
| 2 The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon. | 13 " T. Purushotham. |
| 3 Sri K. Venkataswami Nayudu. | 14 " N. Ramabhadra Raju. |
| 4 " B. Bhima Rao. | 15 " A. Govindacharyulu. |
| 5 " L. Subbarama Reddi. | 16 " A. K. A. Ramachandra Reddiyar. |
| 6 " S. A. S. Rm. Ramanathan Chettiyar. | 17 " S. Jayaram Reddiyar. |
| 7 " S. K. Satagopa Mudaliar. | 18 " N. Ranga Reddi. |
| 8 " M. Narayana Menon. | 19 " G. Venkata Reddi. |
| 9 " M. Narayana Rao. | 20 " P. R. K. Sa. ma. |
| 10 " N. Sankara Reddi. | 21 " S. B. Adityan. |
| 11 " N. Venkatachalamaji. | 22 " C. Veerabhadra Rao. |

Neutrals.

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1 Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. | 2 Sir James Doak. |
|--|-------------------|

Ayes 14; Noes 22; Neutrals 2.

The motion was lost. The leave to introduce the Bill was not granted.

B.—RESOLUTIONS.

- (1) UNIFORM SCALES OF SALARIES TO THE SUBORDINATE AND INFERIOR SERVICES.

* MR. PRESIDENT:—"The resolution of Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao left over for discussion will now proceed.

"I need not point out to hon. Members that there are nine items in the Agenda and we have not got much time before us and I, therefore, request all hon. Members to be very brief and quick."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Before proceeding further, Sir, may I point out that we are very much handicapped on account of the fact that we are having only two or three hours for non-official business and we are having very few non-official days during these sessions."

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* MR. PRESIDENT :—" The House is very conscious of that fact and I am sure the rules will be amended making provision for separate days for non-official business for the House and the other House. Till then we must get on with the present restriction."

* MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" When are we rising to-day, Sir? "

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" As soon as we finish the business."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, when I spoke about this resolution on the last occasion, hon. Members who are occupying Ministerial Benches now, were ordinary members of this House and, Sir, at that time they sympathised with the object of the resolution so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. R. Suryanarayana Rao. Now, that they are occupying places of responsibility and it is in their hands to give effect to this resolution and I am sure, Sir, that a patient hearing will be given and due consideration will be shown to the object of this resolution so that people who are suffering for want of adequate salaries will be given sufficient amount so that they might not continue to suffer under the same difficulties under which they are suffering at present. One other thing I have to mention, Sir, and that is the feelings of those for whom this resolution has been moved. They feel that in spite of the fact that the new Ministry has come into office, nothing substantial has been done to increase the salaries of low-paid Government officials.

" No consideration, Sir, has also been given to the long years of service that have been put by these people. When I spoke last, I referred to the house-rent allowance given to the Government servants. House-rent allowance is given to people getting salaries up to Rs. 80 per mensem but people who are getting a few rupees more than Rs. 80 are not given that allowance. We can imagine, how, in these difficult days, when everybody knows that prices are going up every day—and there is no limit to the increase in prices—it is possible for these low-paid Government servants to pay the house-rent and meet the educational expenses of their children, besides the doctor's bill on account of the deterioration in health and on account of the fact that they are not able to get food, and also meet the expenses connected with cloth which is rising every day. Sir, it is perhaps no secret to say that if a man wants some more cloth, he has to pay the black-market price for it and Government servants who are getting low salaries cannot be expected to be an exception to this rule. They have to go along with other people and have to pay more and, therefore, Sir, whatever salaries they are getting are not adequate for them."

4-16 p.m. * MR. PRESIDENT :—" May I take it that all these Members who have given notice of their resolutions are anxious to get their resolutions done to-day? "

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I am very anxious, Sir."

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* MR. PRESIDENT :—" So, I suppose you will support me when I say that I will fix a time-limit, not more than ten minutes, for each speaker. I will be very strict, I warn all of you. Five more minutes for Mr. Farookhi."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I know the anxiety of all non-official members to see that their resolutions are moved. Being myself one of them, I know how keen non-official members are to see that somehow or other the resolutions are taken up by this House and therefore I will not take much of the time of the House.

" I now come, Sir, to the salaries of the peons. According to the revised scale, they get Rs. 16— $\frac{1}{2}$ —25. Sir, with a basic pay of Rs. 16, a dearness allowance of Rs. 16 and a house-rent allowance of Rs. 5 in the Madras City it is not possible for a peon to pull on. We do not know how this Rs. 5 has been fixed by the Government as house-rent allowance. It is almost impossible—I have the recent experience of a teacher who was not able to get a room for even Rs. 7 and when after great difficulty he was able to get one for Rs. 7, the owner of the house told him that he wanted something mittaikhana—i.e., something for buying sweets—which he won't adjust towards the rent. Such being the case, anybody who has got some experience of the difficulty of getting a room in the City can understand how this Rs. 5 is insufficient even for a peon to pay as rent for his house. Therefore, Sir, it is essential and absolutely necessary that the Government which has recently come into office should show its sympathy with the peons whose salary is very small and who are coming to their offices from long distances. As their houses are far away, they cannot walk all the distance to their offices particularly in these hot days, and they have to pay their bus or tram charge, and therefore this Rs. 16 going up to Rs. 25 with a small dearness allowance and a smaller house-rent allowance can never be sufficient for them, if we all want that they should live as human beings.

" Sir, the scale of pay that has been fixed for the non-gazetted officers was fixed in the year 1920 and the revised scale—or whatever is contemplated to be fixed by the Government which is appearing in the papers—cannot be commensurate with the rise in the prices which, as I have already pointed out, are soaring up every day. Therefore, Sir, the non-gazetted officers have a right upon the Government, have a right upon the country, have a right to ask the people for a living wage. They quite understand that there may not be sufficient money with the Government, that there is not sufficient provision in the budget; but, Sir, the question is, are these poor people to suffer on account of the fact that the Government feel there is not sufficient money with them? The Government can raise money by some means or other; Government when they want to do something, they do it somehow; people feel that the Government do not care for what the people feel, they do not care to know how this House regards the items of their expenditure, how many items are unnecessary and all that—in spite of all this, the Government go on doing what they want.

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Sir, it is necessary that some provision should be made for an increase in the salaries of these people. Let me point out here that ordinary labourers in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills who still have grievances and who say they are not prepared to work, get much more than what the peons, the duffadars and even sometimes attenders, and perhaps also sometimes the clerks in Government service get. Along with what they get as regular pay, they get bonus, they get more leave, they work for less number of days in a month than do the Government servants, and they also get other amenities. And yet you find they go on strike now and again saying that they are not getting enough. Such being the case, I would like to request the Government to examine the case of these people, see how people outside in commercial firms are being paid, how in spite of that they are agitating for more—of course I do not say their agitation is wrong; I even feel they are still getting less. Let the Government find out for themselves whether it is not a fact that the persons employed in commercial firms are getting more than what the non-gazetted officers and the attenders and peons in Government service are getting. Such being the case, the Government should pay heed to their requirements and see that they get as much as is needed for the maintenance of themselves and their families.

"Sir, only one or two sentences with regard to teachers. When I spoke last, I pointed out their difficulties; and in spite of the Hon. the Education Minister's promise, as reported in the papers, that the condition of the teachers will be examined and more pay will be given to them, I think nothing has been done in their case up till now. In regard to the case of teachers in aided schools, their lot is as unenviable as the lot of teachers in Government schools. Their case also should therefore be considered.

"I thank you, Sir, for the time you have given me as I know every member is anxious to have an opportunity to speak, I now second the resolution and finish my speech."

* MR. PRESIDENT:—"May I point out to hon. Members that they have got a definite scheme of the Government before them; and if any definite criticism of that scheme is forthcoming, the Government will take it as a help in coming to a decision. Instead of making general observations, I wish hon. Members would give definite criticisms of the scheme put forward by the Government."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know if it is with regard to the salaries?"

* MR. PRESIDENT:—"Yes."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"If the Government say that they are not able to pay more than a particular limit of pay and if they want the assistance of the Members to show to them by what means money can be raised to meet the legitimate demands of these people, I think it will be possible for Members of this House to show to Government how best the Government can raise money to meet the demands of these people. But the Government

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* MR. PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has not caught my point. Instead of saying 'pay more,' 'pay more,' it is better you refer to a particular item mentioned in the scheme drawn up by the Government. There is the Sub-Committee's report, and they say there that various services in the various departments have to be paid in a particular manner. If you refer to that scheme propounded by the Government and say how it is defective in any particular, it will be really helping them to come to proper conclusions."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Mr. President, Sir, in my opinion this resolution does not even touch the fringe of the problem which it is supposed to touch. The Finance Minister may say that he has so much money at his disposal and he must spend it in the best way he can. But in my opinion, this House is not particularly concerned with the standard of living of only the subordinate and inferior servants of Government; this House is concerned with the standard of living of every man and every woman in this Province. What the Government ought to do is to provide means for raising the standard of living of everybody and see that every person born in society has the minimum standard of living, that he is in possession of the minimum amount of the good things of the world, that he is fed, clothed, educated and medically attended to. Now, Sir, this can be done not by merely distributing what the Government collects to Government officers in priority to others, but this can be done only by a new orientation, by a new policy which we find introduced in a socialistic State. I may ask the Minister concerned here to have an economic policy, say a five-years' policy, not only for Government servants, not only for teachers, but also for men who are employed and those who are unemployed, in fact for everybody born in society, and see that everybody is able to maintain a minimum standard of living. It is the duty of the Government to put up a plan for a new economic structure of society under which everybody will have a minimum standard of living."

"With these observations, Sir, I support the motion before the House."

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to touch upon the Education Department in regard to salaries. But before doing so, may I be permitted to offer a few general remarks?"

"Sir, it seems to me that, on the question of the reorganization of the services and the salaries to be paid, the Government have to take into consideration the exact position as it is to-day and see what the effect of their proposals are on other agencies which have also to engage labour for various purposes. I am one of those who feel that this question of dearness allowance has to be tackled by the Government. Have they any definite idea as to when dearness allowance will cease; have they any idea at all, taking the economic factors into consideration, of a date by which dearness allowance will not become necessary? In spite of the fact that there has been some little improvement in pay and that dearness allowance is being given to these employees, why is it that there is so much of dissatisfaction among all grades of Government servants? The dissatisfaction is quite legitimate because if

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you take into consideration the cost of living from time to time, the surprising fact will be found that with each increase in dearness allowance, the cost of living has gone up. The reason is simple; the dearness allowance has only given rise to an inflation in the market, to an increase in black-market processes and to an extended use of hoarding amongst the people that are accustomed to hoard. Therefore, although the Government are trying to take such steps as are necessary for stopping this black-marketing and this hoarding, the dearness allowance that is being paid to these unfortunate people, on which naturally the Government feels a little sour, is a step which the Government are taking to inflate the market and really to encourage the black-marketers. That is the feeling, Sir, among the people which I think can be understood. I realize that so far as black-marketing is concerned, and so far as dearness allowance is concerned, it is a heritage that this Government have got from the Government of India. The step that might have been taken was entirely different; the control of prices and the regulation of the commodities necessary for life, must have been the primary object both of the Government of India and of the Provincial Government. Having failed to do that, they have now taken to that vicious process of trying to meet as far as possible the inflated prices. I would not confine the blame to some of those who wish to sell at higher prices; but if you ask for instance any person who deals in chillies as to why he sells at higher prices, he gives the answer 'I cannot but sell at higher prices because I cannot get my rice, my tamarind and my various other articles except at exorbitant prices.' So, we are going on from vicious circle to vicious circle, and somewhere this ought to be broken. And I suggest to the Government to consider seriously the steps by which, with the concurrence and with the co-operation of the Government of India whenever they have these respective food conferences, they can bring down the prices without doing any injustice to the producers concerned.

"Sir, my next point is in regard to the dearness allowance. While Government is prepared to pay their employees dearness allowance temporarily, they are putting a very heavy strain on organization which have not got the capacity which the Government has got in the matter of increasing their revenues. Many institutions have got very little funds but since Government is paying dearness allowance to their employees, organizations like the University of Madras have naturally to follow the example of Government in this matter. So far as the University of Madras is concerned, it costs them a lakh of rupees for a year. This is really a heavy burden on a University like the Madras University which is struggling to make both ends meet in order to increase the utility of the student population to-day in regard to research and other matters. So, we are heavily handicapped for want of funds and we have to depend upon external sources to supplement our funds. Similarly, there are many other institutions and organisations which find it difficult to meet their increasing expenditure.

"Sir, in referring to the Educational department in my last Budget speech, I had said that it was unfortunate that at present the staff in the Education department were more or less under-paid.

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and that it was not possible to get the type of recruits that we required. We must get the right type of men at least for the higher posts in the educational service, such as the Assistant Professors and Assistant Lecturers. The existing scale for this class of Government servants is Rs. 100—10/2—200 and the Salaries Sub-Committee of the Cabinet recommended a scale of Rs. 125—5—170—7—240 plus Rs. 5 for L.Ts. The increase recommended is not much. In this connexion, I would like to bring to the notice of Government that as they put an absolute ban on what is known as Grade I because, the majority of those who are promoted to this grade from the lower grades of the teaching profession are on the old scales of pay and so they are not materially benefited on promotion. Under those circumstances, some of these persons who could be very much more advantageously recruited to the Education department are not willing to take up the posts and we are very much handicapped for want of competent personnel.

"Coming to the question of the teachers' pay, I should like to mention the scales of pay suggested for the lower elementary grade teachers, the higher elementary grade teachers and the secondary grade teachers. They are Rs. 20—35, Rs. 25—40 and Rs. 80—140 for B.A., L.Ts., respectively. These scales are very unattractive and Government are not able to get sufficient number of recruits for these posts whereas the number of vacancies that are likely to arise is very great. So, unless the different grades of teachers are adequately paid, it will not be possible for us to get teachers in sufficient numbers to man the existing institutions as well as the institutions which we will develop in future. I hope Government will replace these scales by better scales on a reconsideration in the light of some of the facts that I have mentioned and that they will take the necessary steps as early as possible. I would suggest a re-examination of the whole question by a really large and representative committee so that they could not only meet the immediate needs but also the future needs based on what the ultimate policy of the Government with regard to education is going to be. I need not speak on the question of salaries of Government servants in general, because many hon. Members have dealt with that subject."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, I rise to support the resolution. When one goes through the Press Note issued by the Cabinet Salaries Committee of the Government, one feels that the basis of the Salaries Committee's Report is not sound and correct because they have based their increments on the salaries originally fixed for the various services and these scales have been very low. They had simply thought that it would be all right if they proposed some increments to the original scales of pay. I think that is not the proper course that they should have adopted. The proper course would have been to find out the salaries which would be sufficient for these officers to maintain themselves. For example, Sir, we find that the salaries of certain persons start from Rs. 16 and the maximum salary is Rs. 25. I would like to ask how on earth these people, whose salary is Rs. 16 and who will

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ultimately draw a salary of Rs. 25 after a long period of service, will be able to maintain themselves, not to speak of their capacity and ability to maintain their families consisting of five or six or even ten members. Therefore, Sir, the proper method for the Government would have been to find out the amount required for a man to run his family under existing circumstances and then to proceed to fix the increments and also the scales for the several kinds of officers according to other factors like nature of work, qualifications, etc. This incorrect perspective vitiates the entire scheme.

"Sir, in several departments, you find that there are officers whose salary is fixed at Rs. 16, Rs. 25 and so on. This is not sufficient even to meet the cost of the food and clothing of that particular officer, not to speak of the food and clothing of the members of his family. So, the whole scheme must be revised. Unless, it is revised, we cannot expect these inferior officers to be honest and not to resort to other methods of supplementing their income to maintain themselves and to find food and clothing and residence for their families.

"Coming to details, Sir, I would first take the Government Press. I find that with regard to the salaries of the lino operators and mono operators in the Government Press, the Salaries Sub-Committee have not made any appreciable increments in their salaries. Originally there were three grades. It began from Rs. 45 and ended with Rs. 95. Now, the three grades are abolished and there is only one grade, the grade now starts from Rs. 45 and ends with Rs. 105 with efficiency bar at Rs. 75. We find here that the minimum start is not increased while in regard to the maximum, there is only an increment of Rs. 10 extra. I cannot understand why these monotype operators and the linotype operators should not be given increments commensurate with the increments given to other officers to the same Press. On the other hand, these poor people deserve better consideration because a man who starts as a linotype operator or a monotype operator has to retire as such and he cannot hope to get promotion to any other branch. I must also mention that many of the operators die while on duty because the nature of their work is such that they are more often infected with lead poisoning and other similar diseases as the direct result of the atmosphere in which they have to work. So, it is but natural that there must be a proper revision in their salaries. The other officers in the Government Press, such as binders, etc., can hope to be promoted to other grades whereas the lino operators and the mono operators must retire as such. So, it is but mete and proper that they must be given proper increment in their salaries.

"Then I would like to draw the attention of the Government in regard to another type of officers, namely, the Executive Officers of Panchayat Boards. Only Graduates are selected for appointment to these posts and they were given training for two months in or about 1941. Originally there were three grades. The scale of the first grade was Rs. 80—5—100, the second was Rs. 65—3—80 and the third was Rs. 50—3—65. Now, a person who is entertained as a third grade Panchayat Officer will take 48 years to reach the

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maximum of Rs. 100. These officers are put in charge of particular villages and are entrusted with responsible work. Some officers who work under them such as the Sanitary Inspectors, draw higher salaries than these Executive Officers. This is a very anomalous position. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to see whether it is not necessary to revise their salaries also.

"Sir, my hon. Friend, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, has spoken about teachers and hence it is not necessary for me to refer to them in detail. Still I want to say one word about the elementary school teachers. The lower grade elementary school teachers start on Rs. 20 and when they retire they receive the glorious salary of Rs. 35. How can they maintain themselves? How are they to give education to their children? Again, the higher elementary grade teachers are given a scale of Rs. 25—45 and the secondary grade teachers are given a scale of Rs. 60—80. Even there, a discrimination is made between the teachers in Government service and teachers in municipal and local board service. I ask, why should there be this difference between the salaries of teachers under Government and those of the teachers under local bodies. They have got the same qualifications; they have got to do the same kind of work and so their salaries must be the same. Above all, the teachers must be given living wages taking into consideration the cost of living at the present time and also the fact that they are charged with the education of our children who are to be the future builders of the nation. If you are paying them like this, how can you expect them to do their work satisfactorily? Unless they are paid adequately, they are compelled to find other methods of supplementing their income, they must be above want.

"Freedom from want must be the aim of the Government so far as the officers of the Government are concerned. Unless you make them free from want, how can you expect them to do their duty properly? I have seen with my own eyes in the Secretariat some of the Government servants, the lower division clerks and even the upper division clerks, are receiving money orders from their homes in order to maintain themselves. Their parents send them money in the hope that their sons would be able to earn adequate afterwards. That may perhaps be a foolish hope. (Interruption.) I feel for these poor parents who send money to these people, and so I am saying this."

* MR. PRESIDENT:—"There is nothing wrong; parents like to send money to their children."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What about the children of those people, who now receive money from their parents? They must also be able to send money to their children in their turn and they will be paupers according to present circumstances. That is why I say that the whole frame-work of this salary revision is entirely wrong and the Government must give at least a minimum living wage for those under their employment. Otherwise, they will be forced to supplement their income by other sources, legal or illegal."

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4-45
p.m.

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of my intention to move a resolution with special reference to the salaries of teachers. I understand that there is a sort of feeling that this question is connected with the resolution that is now under discussion and that I may have to face the eventuality of my resolution being ruled out. (Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao : ‘ You need not bother about it. ’) My hon. Friend, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao says I need not bother myself. But, Sir, I am really bothered in view of the agitation that exists among the teachers. I am not convinced that this question is substantially identical with the resolution we are now discussing, but in any case, since several speakers have referred to the subject, I want particularly to bring to the notice of this House, I think, that it is as well I shall take this opportunity of speaking on this resolution.

“ Sir, the resolution that I have given notice of is—

that this Council is of the opinion that the revised scales of salaries announced in respect of non-gazetted services of Government and local bodies in the Education department and those recommended for the teachers of aided educational institutions are not consistent with the increased cost of living and rise in the standard of life and recommends to the Government that the minimum scales of equal pay on the basis recommended by the Central Advisory Board of Education should be immediately sanctioned to all teachers whatever may be the agency under which they are employed.

“ Sir, before speaking on this resolution, let me say one or two things about the gravity of the situation with regard to this matter. While reporting on the problem of education in Great Britain a few years ago, the Committee report began with these words: ‘ Upon the education of the people of this country the fate of this country depends. ’ Those are the words with reference to Great Britain which spends £33.2 per head of the population on education. In our country the comparable figure for 1938-39 was Re. 0-8-9. I need not tell you what is the state of literacy in Great Britain and in India. India to-day is on the threshold of Independence and if the democratic basis on which we are going to work our country's salvation were to prove a success and, it has to be worked on some system like adult franchise, it is highly necessary that education should be much more widespread in the country. Otherwise, chaos and confusion are sure to result.

“ Now, before spreading education further, I think it is quite necessary that we should consolidate our position with regard to education in this Province. From all the reports received from the different parts of the province, especially with regard to the salaries of teachers, I think, we are passing through a very critical stage. It is not a secret that I am divulging to the House when I say that teachers in different parts of the country have already threatened direct action. The Hon'ble Mr. Fisher speaking in the House of Parliament said that ‘ the anxious teacher is a bad teacher, the embittered teacher is a social danger. ’ I think our teachers

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will become enemies of society if this question is not tackled in a satisfactory manner. I deplore the tendency to direct action on the part of the teachers and it looks as if our national industry is going towards direct action—there are already strikes and things of that sort—in the near future. But, one thing, I cannot but remark here with regard to teachers. There has been no social justice meted out to them. The salary paid to them does not create an impression in the minds of honest people that they had a fair deal. Now the general complaint is that the teaching profession has not been given the same consideration as men of similar qualifications in other Government service have had.

I shall now deal, for brevity's sake, with secondary and elementary education teachers' grievances. First, in regard to secondary school teachers, the Government have prescribed one scale for teachers in Government schools and a lower scale for teachers in local bodies and no scale is prescribed for teachers in private-managed institutions, but there is an inducement given to managements of private schools to pay less to their teachers. The inducement comes this way. If the managements are unable to pay the same scales as local bodies, the Government offer to pay half the difference between the scales that obtain in the local bodies and the scales that obtain in the private-managed schools. Therefore, the natural tendency on the part of the private managements will be to pay less than the local bodies. I therefore suggest that the pay of the Government school teachers should be enforced on local bodies and private managements. The Government's explanation is that, if Government scales are prescribed, the local boards and private managements will be forced to close down their schools because they would not be able to pay that much of salary to their teachers, in the result, Government might be forced to take over those schools. This raises a very fundamental question. After all, whose financial responsibility is it to run the secondary education institutions? I categorically say that it is beyond the capacity of private managements. Private agencies come into the picture only in order to help the Government in their running a national service, but that does not absolve the Government of their responsibility to see that the private managements are helped to pay their teachers adequately. Equal work should be paid in equal manner; equal work and equal pay should be the rule. There are about 600 secondary schools in the province of which somewhere about 300 are private-managed schools, 250 under local board managements and 40 to 50 are Government schools. Sir, private managements are levying higher fees from their pupils to pay their teachers. It is an injustice done to the tax-payer and there is no reason why the tax-payer should pay more in the case of aided schools where the amenities provided are considerably less than those in local board schools or Government schools. So, unless the Government fix the scales on Government school basis, the private managements will not pay in spite of the Government offering to pay half as dearness allowance. Now, if the private managements have not adopted the Government scales, it is because they have not got the money.

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The Government take their stand on the Code. Then, Sir, this Code is a very old Code and I think it was framed some 50 years ago, if I am not mistaken. So, Sir, Government must immediately revise the Code and if that be not possible, they must at least come out with an interim relief to private managements in order to enable them to pay their teachers on the Government scales.

"I understand, Sir, that the additional expenditure involved in paying the teachers of local board and private-managed institutions on the basis of the Government scales will be somewhere in the neighbourhood of 15 crores of rupees. I am not sure the Hon. Minister for Education will not take objection if I were to say that it is a flea-bite on the budget of 50 crores.

"Sir, another contention of the Government is that the teachers in the Government schools have administrative and executive work. On close examination by people competent to speak on the subject, this has been considered a fallow argument. In their recently published Press Communiqué, the Government have also stated that in filling up the vacancies in the administrative staff, the teachers of local boards and private managements also will be given a chance. After all, what is the number of such vacancies that would arise. Apart from all that, what the teacher wants is adequate pay on the basis of the Government scale.

"The salaries paid by private managements are from grants paid by the Government. Higher elementary grade teachers in private-managed schools are paid Rs. 20—1—25; local boards Rs. 25—1—40; and Government Rs. 25—1—45. The secondary grade teachers under private managements Rs. 25—1—35; local boards Rs. 35—1—65; Government Rs. 40—3—55—2—85. Again, Sir, there is a very unjustifiable differentiation shown between the teachers in the Government schools and those in local boards and private managements.

"Now, with your permission, Sir, I will just quote a sentence or two from the Sargent Scheme, because my resolution refers to that, in order to show what scales have been recommended by that important document.

"The Sargent Committee reports says:

"The minimum national scale for teachers in Junior Basic (Primary) Schools (including Infants and Nursery Schools) should be Rs. 30—1—35—3 (biennially) 50 per mensem. The same scale is recommended both for men and women. The Committee regard it as essential that teachers of village schools should have free houses, where this is not possible, 10 per cent should be added to their salaries. This scale, which has been framed for what may be described as normal in rural areas, may be increased up to 50 per cent to meet the needs of areas where the cost of living or other factors necessitate a more generous scale, for example, in Delhi or one of the Provincial capitals, the initial salary for primary teachers may be raised to Rs. 45 and the maximum to Rs. 75.

For teachers in Senior Basic (Middle) Schools, the minimum scale recommended is Rs. 40—2—80 per mensem with the same provision as in the case of primary teachers for increasing it to meet the needs of more expensive areas. Here also the Committee see no reason for differentiating between men and women.

The scales prescribed above are for ordinary assistant teachers in the different types of school.

"The Committee have also held out hopes for improvement of the scales of salaries of all headmasters.

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"So then, Sir, the scales that the Government teachers have been getting in this Province are much below than what the Sargent Committee have themselves adopted. But, if the Sargent Committee recommendation cannot be given effect to now, the minimum that the teachers would want is the Government scales to be adopted and that on a uniform basis both in the local boards as well as in private-managed institutions.

"Once again, I bring to the notice of the Treasury Bench that there is a keen feeling on this matter that it is very unsafe to leave such an asset of the nation of to-morrow in the hands of the people who would be discontented as teachers. I support the resolution."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"Sir, the arguments advanced by the various speakers are well known and I am sure hon. Members must be awaiting my well-known answer. So soon after the budget session, I did not expect that I will be confronted with a resolution from this learned House regarding the question of salaries. During the budget session, Sir, under the various demands moved by the Ministers in the other House, Member after Member raised the question of salaries of the various non-gazetted officers and gazetted officers in various departments. So it is my very unpleasant duty to say that while I sympathize with every argument advanced by them, I can only say at this time that the whole matter can be considered if there is any necessity for reconsideration in the light of the various remarks made. After all, it is a question of the taxable capacity of the people, the per capita income of the people and I fail to see how best we can meet these various demands from the various departments. I was listening with great attention, Sir, to the hon. Members of this House in the hope that they will give some suggestions to the Government how best they could augment their resources so that these legitimate demands from these various services could be met but no Member, including my learned Friend, Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, chose to suggest how best we can meet these various demands."

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR:—"You can raise the Excess Profits Tax by 50 per cent."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"I am asking my colleagues to call for an early session of both the Houses so that they can consider some of the taxation methods. After hearing these arguments, I am doubly reinforced that something urgently should be done, viz., to impose more taxation. If that will suit the convenience of the Members and if that can give some money to the Government whereby we can meet some of these demands, we shall certainly do something and try to please these unfortunate subordinate services.

"But I am yet to find an officer, whether he is in the highest rung of his career or in the lowest rung, who is satisfied with his own salary. I have talked to many of the I.C.S. people and they are not satisfied with their own emoluments in spite of the very lavish scales sanctioned by the Secretary of State. So it is a very

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unfortunate situation and year after year, the Member in charge of Finance will have to say 'I am sorry my budget does not allow me to relax the rules any further.' So these matters have to be borne by the Members and the press in regard to the claims made by the subordinate officers and the teachers.

"With regard to the teachers, I would say that I have every sympathy for them and the Education Minister and myself are trying our best to see what we can do within the limited provisions of the budget. We are also trying to press on the Government of India if we can get something from them so that we can raise the salaries of the teachers but I do not know what the Hon. Member in charge of Education in the Government of India will say about it."

"Sir, so soon after our assumption of office, we had to raise the salaries of constables. The constables, also as the teachers, were threatening to strike and if the police people go on strike, it would be a very alarming situation and we had to take him by the forelock and do something to raise their salaries. We did raise the salaries at a cost of something like 17½ lakhs to the Government and when the salaries of constables have gone up naturally the poor workers in the jails are pressing for their claims and they want a similar treatment. That matter is under the consideration of the Government. It will again cost the Government some Rs. 1,19,000 to give this parity treatment for these 1,500 workers. Whatever we do, even a small gesture will mean lakhs of rupees to the Government and hence our difficulty to comply with these demands straightaway. Last year, the Salaries Sub-Committee has revised the scales. They have taken great labour in going into the whole question, complicated questions, and they have done something to raise the standard of living of these unfortunate officers. I do not know whether so soon after that revision this Government should undertake a thorough revision of the whole question and straightaway increase their salaries. The position with regard to the cost of living index is rather clumsy. The index is going up and down as a barometer in a stormy weather. So we had to take the normal period and fix the prices. It was fixed up at 80 per cent over and above the pre-war, i.e., 1939 level. So this is the standard on which the salaries were based and I hope it will come to that level in the very near future."

"A point was raised whether we could not give the salaries to our staff on the lines that the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills or some other commercial firms are doing. I do not know whether Government can compete with these companies who are profit-earning institutions like the textile mills and automobile companies. Ours is not a profit-earning institution. We have to get the money from the very unfortunate people who are toiling in the villages unable to bear the heavy taxation that is imposed by the Government. So, Sir, Government cannot compete with Buckingham and Carnatic Mills, or the Madura Mills or any other private company in paying wages to their subordinates."

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The question of house-rent allowance was also raised by hon. Members. The matter is under consideration. We are thinking of raising it from 80 to 100 per cent. We have not taken any definite decision about it but we hope to arrive at a decision ere long.

"In conclusion, Sir, I have every sympathy with the resolution. What best we can do within the limited provisions, we will do. I request the hon. the Mover of the resolution not to press this resolution to a division."

* Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"Mr. President, Sir, I listened with rapt attention to the pronouncements of the new Minister for Finance. I must confess, Sir, I am sadly disappointed. In the course of my speech commending this resolution to this House, I pointed out that such increases as the Government have given to certain services were not based on any scientific data or any known basis. Neither the cost of living has been taken into account nor any other consideration had entered. As I showed to you, Sir, in some cases the increase was 133 per cent rise while in other cases it was 9 per cent or 7½ per cent. I wanted, Sir, the Government to give us an undertaking that they would look into these anomalies first of all and see that justice is done to the services which have been badly treated."

The Hon. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—"I am prepared to give that consideration. Sir."

* Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"I may tell at once, Sir, the Government as such will not be in a position to look into these things. If only the Leader of the House had been good enough to supply the Members of this House with a copy of the Cabinet Sub-Committee Report, which unfortunately is still considered confidential, we would have shown them under each service how the Cabinet Sub-Committee was influenced in giving certain increases in some cases and not giving increases in other cases. Sir, you may remember during question time to-day the question of the Boiler Inspectors and the staff employed under them came up. I put a pointed question to the Hon. the Minister in charge of the Boiler Inspectorate whether the Cabinet Sub-Committee had received any proposals from the head of that department with regard to the emoluments of his employees and he said they did not. Sir, the Cabinet Sub-Committee yielded where departmental heads pressed the needs of their staff and where the departmental heads did not do justice to the staff employed under them, they had to suffer under the recommendations of this Cabinet Sub-Committee. I mentioned, Sir, in my opening speech to-day of an example. No proposals were sent to the Sub-Committee to raise the salaries of the peons. I may mention, Sir, they ought to have been more vocal than they have been. Unfortunately, Sir, though they have been, day in and day out, serving the Hon. Members who sit on these Treasury Benches, who know their trials and difficulties perhaps much more intimately than we do, why did not this Cabinet Sub-Committee, Sir, at least

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consider the case of these peons? As regards attenders, Sir, I am informed the previous Ministry has revised their salaries after we made out a case in February when I made the motion. The increase given is so small that, compared with the work which these attenders have to do, it is practically nothing.

If the Hon. the Minister for Finance, Sir, had only stated that the Government would appoint a Pay Commission or some committee to go into the whole question of salaries to see that justice is done to these people to the extent possible and the finances of the Province permit and see that all services got equal treatment, equal work and equal and adequate pay, I would have certainly, Sir, withdrawn my resolution but the Hon. Minister still says he will consider the matter. In the midst of the heavy work which the Hon. the Finance Minister has, he will not have the time to look into these individual cases of services. Sir, with due deference to the capacity of my Friend, the Finance Minister, I may submit this is a very complicated subject. The question of services, their emoluments, the grades to be fixed and the ultimate limit to which these services can reach, are all very technical and only one well versed in administration can look into these.

5.15 p.m. "Secondly, Sir, with regard to the unfortunate teachers, my Friend, the Finance Minister, said he and the Minister for Education have been straining their nerves to see where to find the money. Sir, I show them the money. Have they not so far withdrawn from the reserves?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"They have withdrawn from the reserves on account of the food problem."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I can say as I have also shown to the Hon. the Minister for Finance during the discussion on the supplementary demand that if they manage their affairs well, there is enough money even with prohibition. I maintain you have enough money. But because you are engaged in sponsoring so many wild schemes for which you are making provision in lakhs but whose progress is not what the amounts spent on them would warrant, it is because of this that the case of people, who work and need adequate salaries, is not considered. I do not think that the amount required to give adequate salaries to teachers would exceed fifty lakhs of rupees. Why should the Government of India give money for elementary education which is a Provincial subject? Have you put into effect the post-war education schemes which have received their assent to justify your asking them to give you the promised help? You do not want to put into effect the post-war education schemes but introduce all kinds of new things into the educational system and ask the Government of India to come to your aid. I shall not be surprised if the Member in charge of Education of the Government of India turns the request down. After all elementary education is a charge on the revenues of this Province and why should the Government of India help you with funds for the sake of elementary education? Why should you not find the money required from retrenchment? There again a Cabinet Committee on retrenchment is sitting. I

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submit that in the midst of their onerous duties, it will not be possible for the Hon. Ministers to work on this Committee and do justice to the task. Let them entrust that work to some Committee in whom they have absolute faith and let them sit in judgment on their recommendations. I am sure, if the Retrenchment Committee is appointed, much more money can be saved by abolishing unnecessary posts and withdrawing all unnecessary schemes. But that apart, the situation in the educational service is very serious and if you do not do proper justice to these teachers before the re-opening of schools after the vacation, you would be faced with an awkward position. You have taught them that you are afraid of strikes and that you are afraid of demonstrations. They know how the Secretariat staff was appeased when they led a demonstration and they threatened to strike. It looks as though even the Police constables threatened strike and they were appeased. So you have taught all services that the only method of obtaining appeasement is by having recourse to that weapon of strike. If they strike, it is not the teachers who suffer but it is the education of our children. Let us remember that we must not play with this question especially with salaries of teachers as this Government is trying to do. Let us be fair to the teachers and let everybody engaged in education be given equal treatment, be he employed under Government, local boards or an aided management. Supposing the teachers strike, you cannot put them in jail as the Central Provinces Ministry did. If they merely demonstrate, you may use the lathi charge and you may arrest some people and have them convicted. But that is not the way you should treat a profession which has been on its bended knees making representations to this Government that their case should be considered. To ask the lower elementary teachers in the City of Madras or in any place to live on Rs. 25 a month is to ask him to do the impossible. I have written a letter which, if I read, will, I know, bring tears in the eyes of even the Hon. Minister for Finance. It is the heart-rending tale of a man who is forced to make his women wear torn rags stitched in hundreds of places. He is not getting the money with which to buy clothes. You may give him the ration card but he has not even got the money to feed a number of souls in his house? He has given up all his luxuries. I do not want to tire the patience of this House though I know that the reading of my letter may have effect, unless the party whip has been issued already. I do not want to do it. I want the Government to do bare justice to these low-paid employees who have been patiently bearing the burden. The Hon. the Minister said that the cost of living index is going up and down. I can certainly say that it has never gone down. Let us look into the cost of living index figure, in spite of the very doubtful character of the figures, the figures that have been supplied show everywhere an upward tendency and what is the meaning of saying that it is going down? We must state things as they are and as practical men see to what could be done to save the lives of these unfortunate men, to whose hands we have committed our children. My hon. friend, Mr. Anthoni, quoted the Rt. Hon. Fisher as saying that a discontented,

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disgruntled and a hungry teacher is a menace to the community. Are we going to entrust our children into the hands of these people who will be the harbingers of Communism? That is the ground where Communism will take easy root. What will happen if you do not do justice to this class of people but at the same time demand from them services and do not pay enough for their services? I beg of the Hon. the Finance Minister not to simply give the answer of the kind which I expect a bureaucrat to give; I beg him to enter into the minds of these long suffering teachers and see how their suffering can be alleviated. Our finances, I maintain, are not bad. You may retain Prohibition; but give up all your wild schemes. If only money is saved by proper adjustment of expenditure, we have enough. That is why I begged the Hon. the Minister for Finance to be the watch dog of the finances of this Province."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think he has not disappointed you."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" He has disappointed me in being the watch dog in respect of the services over which he should not have exercised so much concern."

" I once again implore that this question should be discussed anew, that the Cabinet Sub-Committee's report should be scrapped though it may form the basis for further consideration by a Committee consisting of two or three persons as the Ministers with their onerous duties will not be able to do justice to that work. The sooner they do it the better but let them finish their work and announce their decision before the schools re-open after the vacation. Otherwise they may be faced with schools which may become pandemonium; there may be some boys in the schools but the teachers will not be there. I warn the Government that as a well-wisher of this Ministry they should tackle this question so that people may realize that their woes are known to those that ought to know them and got them redressed by them and thereby the well-being of the community may be promoted. I do not propose to withdraw the resolution."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" All the powerful advocacy of the hon. Member will not be wasted on the Government. But what is the purpose of your pressing this resolution? I am sure the Hon. Minister has not read your speech moving the resolution and he will do it hereafter and if he assures that he will review the matter, where is the harm in withdrawing it? You must also know that the Hon. Minister has taken charge of his portfolio very recently and if he is able to assure you that he will look into the whole matter, need you press the resolution?"

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" The Minister for Education has been a great disappointment to us. I am afraid he has not been pressing the case of the teachers as he ought to have done before the Cabinet Sub-Committee. I had occasion to discuss the question with him. He did not seem to realize the gravity of the situation and he seems to feel that they can be got for five and ten rupees as people engage them for private tuition. The Government have no conception of the kind of education that

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our children should receive and their conception of the teacher is wrong. I wish the Hon. Minister for Education were present here. Unless the Government assure that the whole question will be reviewed and that it will not be confined to a Cabinet Sub-Committee's report but that a fresh approach will be made and the whole thing will be considered anew and that as far as possible they would do their best before the schools re-open especially with regard to teachers and other services, I must press my resolution. I know this is not going to be carried and we will be defeated. I press this resolution not in a spirit of triumph. I must satisfy my conscience whether in all fairness I have put forth their case so that at least my conscience is free and I may have the feeling that I have not let down people who deserve better."

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" After the powerful appeal of the hon. Member, I would beg of him not to press the resolution. I think its very object will not be served by following that course. I feel that what he has said about the teacher is correct and the effect of it will be far greater if you give a chance for the Government to see what they are going to do."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" I would also add my appeal to my hon. friend not to press the resolution. Every one has deep sympathy with the principle of the resolution and the object of the resolution will be defeated if pressed to a division."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I hope, Sir, that the Hon. Minister for Finance will take up this matter in hand and have it examined in an impartial manner and see that justice is done to all classes of employees. There has been an increase of 133 per cent in the case of some and a bare 7½ per cent in the case of others. It is impossible for me to reconcile these variations. I wonder if the basic salary of those that got an enhancement of 133 per cent was so low. If he will give me an assurance that the whole thing will be examined and will not harp on what the previous Sub-Committee has done, I have no objection. As I said, I know the fate of this resolution."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" That is far too much to expect of the Hon. Minister. I am sure he will give due consideration to this subject. I believe the hon. Member has the leave of the House to withdraw the resolution."

The resolution was by leave of the House withdrawn.

(2) MEASURES FOR THE UPLIFT OF THE SCHEDULED CASTES.

* SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—" I beg to move—

that this Council recommends to the Government that a committee be appointed to examine the adequacy of the existing measures for the uplift of the Scheduled castes

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and make recommendations to quicken the pace of progress so that the Scheduled castes may occupy an equal place with other sections of the community within a definite period of time.

"The resolution is so simple and clearly worded that it is not necessary for me to make a speech by way of explaining its objects and I do not anticipate either a difference of opinion much less an objection from the members or from the treasury Benches to this very innocuous resolution."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I suppose the Hon. Sri Kurmayya is in charge of this subject. Has he any objection to the resolution as it stands."

5-30 p.m.

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Mr. President, all the points raised by the hon. Member in his resolution are going to be taken up by the Government in connexion with the uplift of Harijans and the scheme is awaiting the approval of the Hon. the Premier. In effect, the subject-matter of this resolution is already under the consideration of the Government and thus there is no necessity for the discussion at length of this resolution."

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM:—"There can be no two opinions on the need—the urgent need for implementing the ever so many promises and pledges that this and the previous Ministry and by the Hon. Minister for Harijan uplift, who, by his simplicity and sincerity had succeeded to find a place in that office whoever the Prime Minister.

"The resolution that I have just now moved seeks to do no more than help in the early implementation of the much needed and long neglected ameliorative measures to the eight million Harijans in this Province.

"It seeks, Mr. President, the appointment of a non-official committee of men and women consisting of members of my own community and others really interested in the upliftment of the depressed and oppressed people of my community to examine the adequacy or otherwise of the measures, if any, taken so far by the Government since they took up the administration eleven months back. The committee so appointed would no doubt make suitable and appropriate recommendations as to the method and manner in which the uplift measures ought to be given effect to.

"I need not take up the time of the House in enumerating the grievances and hardships of my community. They are so well known and so much discussed by hon. Members on all sides of the House on more than one occasion. On the Temple Entry Bill, on the Removal of Civil Disabilities Bill, on the question of admission to Secular Institutions, on the question of prohibition on the floor of not only this House and the Lower House but on all public platforms men of all shades of political creed, have spoken a great deal about the depth to which my community had sunk. I shall not here, Mr. President, seek to go into the causes, that had kept us so low nor shall I proceed to apportion blame on this or that community. This is not the occasion which would allow of such diversion.

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"I am nevertheless one of those who sincerely believe that politics had had considerable share in keeping us down so far. Politics had to a great extent dictated to interested parties the desirability of keeping us economically, socially and educationally backward.

"I also have come to realize, I must admit, that there is a growing anxiety on the part of those who to-day are on the Government Benches to expiate for the past wrongs and to help the Harijans to come up from the degrading depths to which they have been allowed to sink.

"I know, Mr. President, that the Hon. Sri V. Kurmayya himself, a Harijan, is anxious to do his best for the communities which he represents in the House. But, I regret to say, that I also know that in spite of his very good intentions and perhaps those of his colleagues, the pace in which this matter is progressing does not convince us, of the efficiency with which the machinery is working.

"You know, Mr. President, and so do hon. Members, that a crore of rupees was set apart for Harijan uplift last year. Again a similar amount is provided this year. But no one knows what steps have been taken. What plans have been chalked out, what schemes worked out for the effective amelioration of the Harijans in this Province? No one knows how much of the allotted amount had been spent and in what manner, and on what measures.

"Mr. President, Sir, coming as I do from a community long neglected and much ill-treated, I am naturally impatient and critical of the somewhat leisurely manner with which this very urgent matter is being handled. I do not accuse any one of want of heart. But I must lay the charge that the Government machinery moves disgustingly very slow. The Hon. Minister Sri Kurmayya ought to be more concerned with the speed with which the measures are given effect to. He must try to understand the psychology of a section of human beings who so long suffered through man-made social barriers, though the arrogance and social bigotry of a class of men, more educated and more wealthy and powerful. They except the Congress Government, naturally to right the wrongs, to fulfil their pledges and to make them the equal to everyone else in society. And eleven months have passed, with no perceptible or solid measures taken to spend the amount provided for the purpose. The longer it is delayed, the stronger will become the bitterness of the community. Schemes on paper, funds under budget heads alone cannot lead the community to a haven of peace and plenty. Throwing temples open can at best be only a gesture of good will and not the road that would lead the thousands of the community to an economic betterment of their lot.

"Sir, I must point out to this House that more than all the Bills which the Government have passed through, the most urgent and vital factor that is needed to be done is the economic emancipation of the community. Spiritual emancipation can afford to wait a little longer at least till we are able to get a better wage, live in healthy surroundings and in decent houses, breathe the

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air as equals till our children got all facilities of lower and higher education, till our women and children have the necessary medical aid, till our young men have equal opportunities with others in all spheres of life, till we are no more looked down by our own countrymen. Mr. President, you will please forgive me for the warmth of my expressions. I am not trying to exaggerate facts, and you will agree with me that I am not.

"But in a matter like this, I cannot help urging on the Minister and his Colleagues, the urgency with which relief measures ought to be set up. My community is no doubt grateful to all, individuals and parties, for all they have done to help them. There had been many eminent men in our own Province like the late lamented Dr. Nair, who felt that unless untouchability was wiped out and the so-called untouchables brought up to a plane of equality with others, India did not deserve to be free and would not be worthy of it. He fought and championed our cause with a great fervour.

"Apart from whatever political differences I and my party may have with Mr. Gandhi, I must openly admit that it was due to his sincerity that removal of untouchability came to be included as a plank in the Congress programme."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"What is your party?"

* SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM:—"Scheduled Class Federation, Sir.

"Prior to Mr. Gandhi's advent, even Congressmen opposed even discussing the question in their meetings. I am sure that the millions of Scheduled Castes men would be grateful to Mahatma Gandhi for his glorious service.

"It is a sad story that though Mahatma Gandhi meant well with us, the Hindu society which must ultimately realize its faults had kept us down to Mahatma's sorrow and our bitterness.

"But march of events had vastly changed men's hearts though in our own Province there is need for a greater change of heart.

"As I said, Mr. President, economic emancipation ought to be the first duty of this Government and I must repeat that in spite of hopeful words and speeches nothing seems to have done so far. The pace is dead slow and to quicken it, I suggest the formation of a non-official committee immediately. There can be no objection to this request. I request the Hon. Minister not only to accept this resolution but see that something is done forthwith.

"Before I sit down, I would also request him to appoint senior Deputy Collectors of my community to the posts of Executive Officers for this work so that they may take a personal interest in the matter and help their own community men to get the benefits of a generous scheme."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Do you object to Collectors coming from community of the Hon. Minister?"

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* SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM:—"Once again I request the Minister and the House to unanimously accept my resolution."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"Sir, I rise to second the resolution that has been moved by the Hon. Member, Sri H. M. Jagannatham. We had two pieces of legislation recently in the interests of the so-called depressed classes—one on the Removal of Civil Disabilities and the other on the Temple entry question. When those Bills were discussed, I, as one who had worked amongst the depressed classes for a considerably long period, felt that it was in the economic sphere that their salvation lay. Economic improvement of the depressed classes should precede all other reforms. The temple entry that has been made much of may be after all an empty thing if what we hear as happening in a neighbouring State is true. It is said that temples that are thrown open to Harijans there are now visited only by Harijans and not by the Caste Hindus. Anyway I am not to quarrel with that measure. Any measure that stands for the economic improvement of the masses, especially of the depressed classes, must be a measure that must enlist the support of people who are interested in social welfare. There is another aspect of the question which I would like to bring to the notice of this House. I have said in connection with the proposal to set apart one crore of rupees for Harijan uplift that it is not only the Hindu Harijans who should be entitled to that amount, who should be the beneficiaries of that scheme, but it should entitle all people who are economically poor and miserable. There is hostility particularly among the Harijan leaders themselves for including converts to Christianity to the benefits of this amount. I can understand the hostility from militant Hinduism, because they are afraid of Christianity making headway in this country. They are afraid on political grounds. But let me tell them that the fight that is gathering strength in this country is not between Hinduism and Christianity, is not between Hinduism and Islam, but it is between people who believe in God and people who do not believe in God. It is Communism, it is the ideological groups that have come into this country that are going to prove a menace to the society. Let my Hindu leaders take it that we are not out for power in this country. Indian Christians believe that they have got a mission to play and that they have got a mission to perform in this country. So, I say that any scheme that you devise for the economic improvement of the masses should be devised in such a way that it is not based on religion. If the allotment of one crore of rupees is made as a measure of expiation by the Caste Hindus for the sins they have committed to these depressed classes in the past that money must come from the caste Hindu pockets, and not from the public exchequer. I say that the Christians, converts from the depressed classes, should be as much entitled to this relief as the Hindu depressed classes. In connexion with the educational stipends that were granted, I understand that the Hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan, in 1937-38, devised a formula by which converts to Christianity from Depressed classes were made entitled to some extent to this benefit. I hope that the Hon. Sri Kurmayya will bear that in mind and see that this is not treated on a religious basis, but on the economic basis."

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* THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—“ Mr. President, Sir, I have to oppose this resolution. My friends do not know that there are already advisory committees, attached to the Collectors as well as to the Commissioner of Labour, which are working for the uplift of Harijans. These non-official committees were started in 1939 by the late Congress Ministry under the leadership of Sri C. Rajagopalachari. These committees have been advising the Collectors and the Commissioner of Labour, who is responsible for the welfare of Harijans, in all measures that are taken up by the Government for the welfare of Harijans. Under the present rule, the Commissioner of Labour is attending to the ameliorative measures for the Harijans as mentioned below :—(1) Provision of house-sites. This is one of the things which is very badly needed in districts. The Harijans very badly require house-sites, and for this purpose there is a committee. The Collector is there to sanction or acquire the house-sites for Harijans.

5.45 p.m. “ Sir, I must say in this connection one thing. The money provided each year in the budget is limited, and so the Collector and the labour officers are not able to cope with the demand that is made by Harijans in general. The Commissioner of Labour every year gets sufficient money according to the proposals sent by the Collectors and district labour officers. With this, house-sites are acquired on a limited scale. Besides, Government is running hostels to-day in addition to schools, grants of scholarship, Boarding Grants to Boarding Homes and grants for purchase of books, etc. Government to-day is running four hostels in the Presidency. They are in Madulipatam, in Madras, in Calicut and in Salem. These four hostels are run entirely by the Government of Madras. From 1938 all the hostels, run till then by the Harijan Sevak Sangh, are subsidised by this Government. You know, Sir, after 1932, when Mahatma Gandhi started Harijan Sevak Sangh in the whole of India with provincial branches, schools were started, free boarding homes and orphanages, where thousands of Harijans were fed, were started. Though these schools and hostels were started then, it was only in 1938, the first time the Congress Government subsidised those institutions. To-day hon. Members may not know how many Harijan students are fed by the Harijan Sevak Sangh. This Government have been in office since eleven months, and in addition to the amount budgeted in 1946-47, this Government have sanctioned nearly 2½ lakhs for both boarding and schools. Further the Government have sanctioned 100 scholarships to students studying in various colleges including Christian converts with retrospective effect. Mr. Jagannatham, as he belongs to the Federation, may criticise us and say, it is all on account of party politics it is all done. (Mr. H. M. Jagannatham : ‘ Certainly not. ’) I know the criticism that is levelled against the Congress by Federationists.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ May I point out to the hon. Minister that the resolution says that the existing measures are not adequate and so the mover of the resolution wants a central committee should go into the question and examine whether existing measures are adequate or anything should be done to improve them.”

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* THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—“ I am explaining to hon. Members what are the things that are being done by the present Government so that they might judge for themselves whether a committee is necessary at all. Mr. Jagannatham has been working for the uplift of Harijans for several years, and he was there in the field long before I came in. You know the Labour Department was started in 1925, and from that time onwards every year the grant was enhanced either for building houses or for scholarship. It was started by the Justice Party and from 1937 it has been continued by the Congress Government. From 1936 onwards the amount spent on scholarships and schools and hostels have been annually increased. Of course it is high time to see that the housing condition of the Harijans should be improved. This Government are as equally anxious as Mr. Jagannatham, to uplift Harijans and to give them an equal status with that of the Caste-Hindus. This Government, with the help of this House and the other House, passed two Bills, in this behalf, the Temple Entry Bill and the Social Disabilities Removal Bill. The first Bill gives them a higher position to worship God on a par with other communities. I realize their economic position may not be raised by temple entry. But why are the Harijans to-day degraded in economic position. It is because of untouchability; it is because of the stigma that was there for centuries that they have not been able to rise to the position of independent living. That is why you see in the village to-day people who have come from the north are rich. A Harijan is not allowed to run a hotel to-day. Further I must explain to hon. Member that Harijans as a whole are agricultural labourers. Hence his position is different from that of ordinary labourers, whether they work in mills or in city. The improvement of the position of the agricultural labourer has to go with the improvement of the lot of the ryot. This Government, within the last eleven months, have framed several schemes to improve the conditions of the agriculturists. I do not know what is the purpose of constituting the committee proposed by the mover. Does he want to advise the Government to introduce socialism straightway in this country to improve the conditions of the agricultural labourers? It is only in that way the object can be achieved immediately. This Government is not prepared to take up that suggestion. The time may perhaps come after the next elections when adult franchise is given. I do not want to enter into that topic now. I will advise Mr. Jagannatham this thing; there are 31 members from this community in the Legislature. They can constitute a committee themselves and take up this question. I may tell him there are already district committees and the provincial committee working for the amelioration of Harijans advising Government in which direction the work should be done. So there is no need for a separate new committee to go into this question. The district committees and the provincial committee are working under the control of the Commissioner of Labour, who is wholly responsible for the uplift of Harijans. That Committee may be reconstituted under a Minister to advise Government. This is now under consideration; and very shortly the names of members of this committee will be announced.”

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" That means you are thinking of constituting a committee."

* THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—" It has already been created in 1938. These committees have been functioning since that year. Every year, in the month of December or January, new members are being nominated to it."

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Is the Hon. Minister quite satisfied with the work of these committees? Will he tell us whether those committees in those areas have worked well for the elevation of the condition of these classes? "

* THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—" I am not satisfied with the work carried on by them. I already explained to hon. Members that these committees are only advisory bodies without any power. Now the Government is seriously thinking to give power to them. I must also say the Collector in charge of this work as well as the District Labour Officers in charge of upliftment of Harijans are not able to serve the community adequately either because of want of power or otherwise. That is why this Government is considering to have District Labour Officers with a gazetted rank instead of deputy tahsildars."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think the Hon. Minister said he is reconstituting the central committee."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—" Yes, provincial as well as district committees."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" On a point of order, Sir, then why not Government accept this resolution? " (Laughter.)

* THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA :—" This is not a new thing. There are already committees working in the district; also there is a provincial committee. Under the scheme under contemplation new spirit is to be infused in the new members of the committee to make them work properly for the upliftment of the Harijans. A new spirit and a missionary zeal are sought to be infused in members. Hitherto such a thing was absent. So I request the mover to withdraw his motion. He will be one of the members of the committee that is proposed. (Laughter.) With these words I oppose the resolution. (Interruption by Mr. H. M. Jagannatham.) I know you have been working for the community even from the time while I was a student in 1932-33. I know yourself and Mr. M. C. Rajah were in the field at the time; and I have often come to you for advice. In view of these things I request my friend to withdraw his resolution."

6 p.m. MR. PRESIDENT :—" What the Hon. Minister means is there is already a committee which is going to be reconstituted and there is going to be new blood and enthusiasm. I think that is the object of the resolution. I therefore request Mr. Jagannatham not to jeopardise his chances of being on the Committee by pressing the resolution to vote."

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* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I had no intention of intervening in the debate. I am sorry the Hon. Minister did not take the clue you gave him more than once and what the hon. Member, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, told him. We are not at all blaming him for not doing anything. The Labour Department has been in existence for some years. We want to review the work of that department so that a programme of work may be laid down which the committees he proposes to set up may see it is carried out."

" Sir, I have been a member of the Provincial Advisory Board since it was instituted. I feel, Sir, such an examination is absolutely necessary. I will give only one instance. Time after time, the Provincial Board sends up proposals for increase in the number of scholarships and boarding grants. The Commissioner of Labour takes particular care to verify facts and figures. If he sends up proposals for 300 scholarships, the order will come for 50 or 100. I brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister by means of an interpellation that there should be a progressive increase in the number of scholarships and boarding grants irrespective of the financial position of the province. This expenditure should be the first charge on the revenues of the province as expenditure on Anglo-Indian education is a first charge on the revenues. Let the Hon. Minister appoint whomsoever he likes. Let a small committee be set up to examine the progress that has been made. Take the case of assignment of land. How much of land assigned has been cultivated by the members of the depressed classes? What are the difficulties? The late Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah moved a resolution in the old Council suggesting that certain measures should be taken. No measures have been taken. It is said that if any land is not brought under cultivation it would be resumed. That is all the help that is got from the department. While we all heartily sympathise and like to assist the Hon. Minister as you suggested, this Committee will sit and examine what has been done and on what lines the future work should be done. If the Hon. Minister wants to sit in judgment over the committee, he may consult any committee he likes. But I suggest that a committee of 31 members will never be able to go into things and arrive at any decision. By all means let the Hon. Minister have any standing advisory committee he likes. But this examination should be done by a few people getting the statistics and examining the question closely. He himself will be surprised at the slow progress made."

" The Provincial Advisory Board has not been functioning for the past one year. Why did not the Hon. Minister reconstitute it? He was a Member of the Government all the time. There was some hitch among themselves and the Board has not been reconstituted and it has not been functioning for the past one year. I got an invitation to serve and I accepted it, but no meeting has been held. All these things will be stopped if a programme is laid down and the Hon. the Minister and the Cabinet make depressed classes education and their economic uplift a first charge on the revenues of the province. Otherwise

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Sir, the members of the Scheduled Castes Federation would be perfectly justified in asking that as in the case of Anglo-Indians a certain amount should be set apart for them in any new constitution that may be passed so that their interests do not suffer and they are not made the playthings of party politics. Sir, we all want to assist the Hon. Minister. Sri Jagannatham is not opposed to him and he wants to assist him. I wish he accepts the resolution. After all the purpose is the same . . .

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I suppose we all understand each other very well. The Hon. Minister is as jealous of the interests of his community as the hon. Member, Sri Jagannatham, or as anybody else. He is as jealous of maintaining his credit for taking all necessary ameliorative measures for the depressed classes. The House will have no objection to give him credit and let him constitute the committee as he pleases. I suppose the hon. Member Sri Jagannatham, is withdrawing his resolution."

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM:—"No, Sir, I want it to be put to vote."

* THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have already replied to the points raised by Mr. Jagannatham. Now the hon. Member, Sri Suryanarayana Rao, has raised some other points. I am aware, Sir, that the Provincial Advisory Committee attached to the Commissioner of Labour has not done much. That is why I have been thinking of having a committee under a Minister and not the Commissioner of Labour. The hon. Member said that certain proposals sent up by the Commissioner of Labour for increased grants were held up. There was a rule made by the Advisers' Government that in any year, in regard to the proposals sent up by the Commissioner of Labour only one-third should be sanctioned. If the Commissioner asked for Rs. 100, only Rs. 33 should be sanctioned. This year after Congress assumed office, we have broken that rule. We have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 2½ lakhs for the uplift of the eligible communities. The amount provided for scholarships did not ordinarily exceed Rs. 25,000, but this year we have sanctioned Rs. 33,000 with retrospective effect. It has been laid down that there should be no rule fixing the amount to be allotted under Part II schemes for the next year. I know, Sir, the Provincial Advisory Board attached to the Commissioner of Labour has not got power to do much to the communities, but its function is only to advise the Commissioner."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"On a point of order, Mr. President. We are not concerned with the working of this Board or with what the Hon. Minister has been doing or will be doing. The Hon. Minister is simply side-tracking the resolution."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"I have to reply to the points raised by the hon. Member."

* DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"The question for consideration is whether a special committee will be appointed for the purpose and whether the Minister thinks that the Provincial Board which is going to be reconstituted will do

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the work. My hon. Friend, Sri Jagannatham, wants a special committee for a specific purpose and for a limited period. Is the Hon. Minister opposed to it? Nobody questions what has been done in the past. The resolution is limited to this point: whether a special committee can be appointed for a limited purpose for a limited period. Is the Hon. Minister prepared to accept it or not? That is the question."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I think the Hon. Minister was endeavouring to point out to hon. Members that no special committee was necessary because there was already a Provincial Board which was going to be reconstituted with new Members—fresh blood and enthusiasm. He said that that Committee would do all that was necessary and all that was contemplated by the resolution. That was what I thought the Hon. Minister impressed upon the House. If that is so, the Hon. Minister can make a statement and satisfy the House."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"The resolution before the House asks for a Committee to be appointed to examine the adequacy of the existing measures. It contemplates an altogether different committee for a different purpose."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I do not know what the hon. Member wants. Does he want the Hon. Minister to say, 'No' and have the resolution put to vote and defeated?"

* THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Since there are 30 M.L.As. and some M.L.Cs. there is no necessity of appointing a special committee. I oppose the resolution. As regards the points raised by Mr. Suryanarayana Rao, the Committee that is going to be renominated will certainly look after the interests of Harijans. All the M.L.As. are *ex-officio* members in the District Committees. The presidents and secretaries of the Harijan Sevak Sangh are also members of the District Committees. We have passed an order in 1938 that all the Harijan M.L.As. of the district and the Secretary or President of the Harijan Sevak Sangh should be *ex-officio* members of these committees. That was how the real Harijan problem was tackled in this Presidency. There is a rule that the Secretary or President of the Harijan Sevak Sangh which is a non-political body should be a member of that committee. We constituted these committees in 1938. But then the Congress Government resigned and members went to jails and these committees were not working properly. I assure the hon. Members of this House that these committees will hereafter look after the welfare of the Harijans. On account of our absence from the Legislative Assembly and the Council and the Government, this work was neglected. But this year there has been increased work done. The Government have also set apart one crore of rupees for the uplift of Harijans. My hon. Friend, Mr. Jagannatham said that he did not know the plans and the schemes intended for the expenditure of one crore of rupees. It is not an easy thing to spend one crore of rupees in six months or ten months. This is a Government. If this is a zamindari, or if I were a zamindar, I would be able to spend a crore of rupees in three days! But to spend a crore of rupees of tax-payers' money, a proper and useful scheme should be prepared."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"I know the Government can spend it in a minute."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The Government cannot spend it in a minute. Schemes have to be drafted and they have to be examined and approved by the heads of departments and by the Secretariat and they have to be approved by the Cabinet."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I request the Hon. Minister to finish soon, say, by 6-15 p.m."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"May I ask, Sir, whether it is all relevant?"

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"Whether it is relevant or not, I have to reply to the points raised. One hon. Member said that this one crore of rupees should also be spent for the uplift of the Christians also. Sir, not a pie of this money should be spent for Christians. I know the Christians must get something set apart for the Christian community, but the money set apart for Harijan uplift should not be spent for any other community. If it is done like that, it would amount to misappropriation. This question was raised long ago and answered on the floor of the House by me and by the ex-Prime Minister that this money is purely meant for Harijan uplift. I will give you one example."

DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Relevancy is a rule which ought to apply to the Hon. Minister also. I do not know why the Hon. Minister should go on speaking about these things."

THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"These are quite relevant, Sir, because the hon. Member, Mr. Anthoni, raised the point . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"May I request the Hon. Minister to finish soon. His time is up."

6-15 p.m. [THE HON. SRI V. KURMAYYA:—"The Justice Party Government set apart lands for depressed classes, but they were not given really to them. All the lands set apart for Harijans were taken away by the Hindu Harijans whom the Christian missionaries converted to their fold. Not only lands but even appointments set apart for Harijans were taken away by Christians in the name of Harijan Christians. As a Minister representing the Harijans, I will not allow such a thing in future. If there are no Harijans for whose uplift the money can be spent, let it be divided among all communities. I have no objection to giving to Christians, but let the amounts set apart for the Christians and the Harijans be separate. I oppose the resolution moved by Mr. Jagannatham."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Does the hon. Member want to press it to a division?"

SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM:—"Yes, Sir."

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The resolution was put and declared lost. A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur. | 6 Mrs. M. Hensman. |
| 2 K. T. M. Ahmed Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur. | 7 Mrs. M. N. Clubwalla. |
| 3 Dr. Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar. | 8 Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao. |
| 4 Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu. | 9 Mr. K. O. Anthoni. |
| 5 Sri M. D. T. Kumaraswami Mudaliyar. | 10 Sir James Doak. |
| | 11 Dr. V. K. John. |
| | 12 Sri H. M. Jagannatham. |

Noes.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. Rajan. | 9 Sri N. Venkatachalamaji. |
| 2 The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon. | 10 " C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar. |
| 3 Sri K. Venkataswami Nayudu. | 11 " A. Govindacharyulu. |
| 4 " B. Bheema Rao. | 12 " A. K. A. Ramachandra Reddiyar. |
| 5 " L. Subbarama Reddi. | 13 " S. Jayaram Reddiyar. |
| 6 " S. K. Satagopa Mudaliar. | 14 " N. Renga Reddi. |
| 7 " M. Narayana Menon. | |
| 8 " M. Narayana Rao. | |

Ayes 12; Noes 14.

The resolution was lost.

(3) REFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT BILLS TO JOINT SELECT COMMITTEES.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Sri P. R. K. Sarma is not in his place. The hon. Member's resolution is deemed to have been withdrawn."

(4) REVISED SCALES OF SALARIES FOR NON-GAZETTED SERVICES IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Mr. K. O. Anthoni does not intend to move his resolution?"

MR. K. O. ANTHONI:—"Yes, Sir."

(5) DECISION OF HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT TO TRANSFER POWER TO INDIAN HANDS.

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Sir, I am thankful to you and the Members of the House for giving me this opportunity at this late hour, and I shall not take up more than five minutes. I move—

'This Council recommends to the Government to convey to the Secretary of State for India that this Council heartily welcomes the decision of His Majesty's Government in Britain to transfer power to Indian hands by a date not later than June 1948.'

Sir, I consider it a privilege to move this resolution. As far as I know, no legislative chamber has considered this momentous declaration of His Majesty's Government. This House is considering it first. Three effective causes have contributed to this declaration. One is the sufferings undergone and the sacrifices made by the great political party, the Congress. They have not only sacrificed their comforts and conveniences; they have also sacrificed very much in property and even in life in the struggle for the freedom of the country under the leadership of the modern apostle of truth, non-violence and love—Mahatma Gandhi. The

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second effective cause is that the other great political party in this country, whatever might have been its differences with the Hindus, has always stood for the freedom of this country. I mean the Muslim League. The third effective cause is the change that has come over the present generation. In introducing the Temple Entry Authorization Bill, the Leader of the House said that the present generation of Caste-Hindus were atoning for what they did in the past. Similarly, the present generation of Britishers are atoning for what was done in the past. The lead is given by the Labour Government that is in power to-day.

"I am sure that every effort will be made by the British Government that, when they quit, they will quit in such a manner that there will be peace in this land, and no civil war or bloodshed. If this is done, I have every hope that Indians will reconcile themselves to the Britisher and remain within the British Commonwealth of Nations under the Statute of Westminster which, in my opinion, confers on the units concerned all advantages without any disadvantage whatsoever. It may be that the British Commonwealth of Nations may change its name in due course and it may be called the Indian Commonwealth of Nations, India being the major unit.

"A great responsibility rests upon every member of this House and the elected representatives of the people in other legislative chambers to see that the transfer of power from British to Indian hands will be peaceful, and that the differences between the various communities are solved in such a way that there will not be civil war or bloodshed, but peace and prosperity.

"We shall be witnessing the birth of a new India, a free India. I feel that all the troubles between the various communities and between the Congress and the States are like the pangs of pain before the birth of a free India. I am sure that responsible members of this House and others will see that the child is not born dead but that it is born alive. Even if there is more than one child—I wish there will be born only one child—I am sure the child will be brought up in health and vigour and it will lead the world when grown to manhood.

"I want to add a word to the members of the minority communities, and that is that communalism is fast dying out. As far as I can see, Hindu leaders have almost given up communalism. I put the question to every member of this House whether any of the Hon. Ministers now in power can be said to be communal-minded. Even Muslim leaders also are discarding communalism, and it is quite possible that the Muslim brethren will feel that they can trust the Hindu leaders and that there will be no reason for communal clashes both before the surrender of power to Indian hands and after.

"I commend this resolution for the acceptance of the House."

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SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—"I second the resolution. When I was a school boy I have heard of Lord Morley saying that to ask for the independence of India was to ask for the moon. That was at the beginning of this century. We are now in 1947. Whether we get the moon or not, there is the offer of the moon by the Secretary of State for India. Since the time Lord Morley made that statement, events have moved very rapidly. Even after the sacrifices made by Indians in the first European war, the British Government went only to the extent of saying that their goal in India was progressive realization of responsible Government as an integral part of the British Empire. That was in 1919. It was Lord Lloyd George's Government that made the declaration. Then we come to the year 1931, when it was the privilege of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald to announce that India might attain Dominion Status—nothing more than that. Then we come to World War No. 2 in 1939 when the Atlantic Charter was formulated. Mr. Churchill was asked the question whether it applied to India. He said no. Mr. MacDonald announced that Dominion Status was the goal of India with the consent of the Conservative Party. Now we have the Labour Government. The announcement was made 'Dominion Status if you wish' or 'Independence if you wish'. Whatever you wish it is for you. Whatever a man wishes to be, he is. The present freedom movement is recognized by the Secretary of State. All that is history. But one thing I wish to place before the House. The declaration of the independence of India has been made by the British Parliament and by the Secretary of State. This announcement must receive the greatest appreciation from us, because the struggle for freedom movement in this country has not culminated in a revolutionary movement of wresting power from England but because of the sagacity and statesmanship of the British people to part with power when they know they cannot hold India. I do not know whether the credit is due to what my hon. Friend was saying. Whatever the reasons may be, the statesmanship of the British people has recognized the fact that they cannot any longer hold India by force. India can now be an independent country. The credit for the declaration—without causing any bloodshed must be on the British people. They have thrown the responsibility on us for maintaining the nation, for maintaining the freedom of the various communities inhabiting this part of the world. Sagacity and statesmanship must inspire the people of India also for creating a friendly spirit, for creating an amiable spirit to advance the freedom of India in an orderly manner so that we can deserve freedom."

SIR JAMES DOAK :—"Mr. President, Sir, I most wholeheartedly support the resolution. It is probably too soon to expect any real appreciation of the past British record in India. I feel that political passions and conflicts have been so recent, that probably the next generation will be able to view things in their real perspective. When the time comes I think England's record in India will be found to be better than what most people think

[Sir James Doak]

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of it to-day. I for one am very proud of England's record in this great country. In supporting the resolution may I express the hope that a political solution may be forthcoming in the very near future? Politics fill men's minds and have done so for far too long now. My great fear is that we may find independence come too late.

"Where is the industrialization we are all looking forward to? Where are the nation-building schemes which will quicken India's economic pulse? Planning for which we have been clamouring has been discarded because revenues have been thrown away needlessly in matters of Excise and Prohibition. Our greatest need is increased production in all spheres. Without that, we re-enter the vicious circle of increasing population, lower living standards, malnutrition and chronic unrest. May a spirit of compromise animate our leaders; may they rise to greater levels of toleration than have thus far been in evidence, so that a solution in the political field may be found and the urgent task of building a new and prosperous India get speedily under way."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—"Sir, we Muslims are second to none, are second to nobody in our desire for freedom. We were struggling for the freedom of India with every one else in this country. We have been with the Congress fighting for the freedom of India shoulder to shoulder. But of late, have to separate ourselves from one another for reasons best known to all which I do not wish to deal with on the floor of this House.

"Regarding this resolution it is good that the Britisher has done his duty. But we have to make a long headway before the Britisher will be able to leave India peacefully. Now, as it stands, the Party to which we belong, the Muslim League Party has not come to any decision regarding the announcement of the British Government. So, as members of the Muslim League, we feel we are not in a position to completely endorse all the sentiments expressed in the resolution."

THE HON. SRI T. S. S. RAJAN :—"Sir, on behalf of the Government I accept this resolution moved and supported in this House. All of us are in agreement, who are the sons of the soil, who claim this country as ours and who hope to live in this land for ages to come. We cannot but express our feelings of joy and pleasure at the assurance given by the Secretary of State in his statement, in spite of our doubt whether it is necessary to express such sentiments we are actually feeling. In fact the statement of the Secretary of State is to-day the subject-matter of our discussion. While passing from one stage of political rehabilitation to another, we have tremendous difficulties of our own which we have to contend against. I foresee the future prospect of a strong and united India which will find not only a place with the rest of the nations of the world, but will be a place of record, merit and service. I had my own doubts whether I should accept this resolution on behalf of the Government, because it expresses the most patent fact which all of us acknowledge. I had my own

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[Dr. T. S. S. Rajan]

doubts whether the passing of this resolution is at all necessary. But knowing my hon. Friend, Dr. John, as I do, I know he had no motives in moving this resolution, other than the highest of motives expressing the sense of appreciation of this House of the act done by those who are in power just now. The evidence of the truthfulness of the fact underlying the resolution is before our eyes now. One Viceroy has gone; another Viceroy has come. On behalf of the Secretary of State and of Englishmen, he has made more than one declaration with regard to their intentions. No Political Party can doubt those statements; nor can anybody fail to see the events that are following the statements. It is perfectly clear that the intentions of the British Government are being faithfully carried out. The present Viceroy has not in any way failed to carry out our expectations. All of us know that it is a very difficult task. Even so he has proved himself very successful in trying to transfer power from England to India. These few months of his stay here, have brought our freedom much nearer and we know that the day of our freedom is not far off. We know at the same time that tremendous responsibility rests with us. Perhaps real freedom will come to us only when we become, are found capable of and prove ourselves fit to undertake the task before us. In their generosity England may give away their responsibility. But in our strength alone lies our capacity to maintain the freedom that we get. It is a very complex problem that a nation of 300 or 400 millions comes into its own. When they come into their own, we understand the tremendous national re-actions that may take place. Whether we shall be able to tide over them, is a matter on which I do not wish to prophesy. I do feel that our nation which has survived and survived successfully has proved its capacity and it hopes to get through the remaining portion of the struggle successfully. Times are quite promising and let us not forget the good offices which people in power over us have been showing in this matter. This resolution expresses our national goodwill. In our national life this is a matter of very great importance. On behalf of the Government I feel justified in accepting this resolution and conveying it to suitable quarters."

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Mr. President, Sir, I would not have intervened in this debate, but for some words which have fallen from the hon. Member who represents Europeans in this House. He talked of what Great Britain had done to this country. I am sure he realises that I owe a great deal to the English people and my education has been entirely under English hands. But at the same time I cannot forget the fact that whatever might have been Britain's work in this country, in spite of 150 years of British rule in India, illiteracy remains where it was, national advancement has not taken place as we would have liked; industrial planning of which the hon. Member talked of, still remains neglected. Take for instance Australia. She has gone forward during the war and I feel we too could have gone forward if only a helping hand had been given. In spite of the obstacles that have been put in our way, we were able to put

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in the field over 2 million men equipped and armed and I am glad to say that much of the small arms were also produced in this country. What is more? Our people both in Burma and on the deserts in Egypt proved themselves capable of not only defending their country, but also defending other peoples in trouble. The exploits of the Indian army in the deserts of North Africa will always remain as a bright chapter in this war. At one time it was thought that Indians were not capable of leading men in the field. I remember when the Simon Commission visited this country, one of the points I made before them was that we had men, we had educated men, we had men with brains, men capable of leading an army in the field, but then there was this shibboleth of martial and non-martial classes. I am glad, Sir, that during this war, the British Government have at last found their way to give a go-by to this shibboleth. Therefore, whatever my hon. Friend might think of England's past, still I feel that no colonial power can claim credit for anything that it has done to its colonials. But I can give this credit to the Englishmen that they are the least objectionable of the colonial powers. At the same time I cannot get away from the feeling that whatever might be the capacity of a colonial power, whatever might be its inherent strength, still there remains this blot. They are merely birds of passage in this land, and they are here not as trustees, which they have often claimed to be, but because it suits them to be here, because it pays them to be here, and because of power politics, which has been the bane of Europe, and it is this which has led to many wars. But Mahatma Gandhi has been able to make this greatest gift to the world, viz., that you can settle your troubles not by means of sword, but by means of soul force. And I am glad that to-day the struggles which India has put up for the last 25 years under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi has begun to bear fruit, and what is more, this great man who has been born in this land and who can be compared only to Buddha, has been able to see in his own lifetime the fruits of his labours. I hope he will live to see India as a land of peace, because, I feel, as Dr. John has pointed out, there are these birth pangs of a free nation, that is about to be born. I hope, the child when born, will be strong and healthy and that the birth pangs would have resulted in producing a child which will take its place among the great nations of the world. I know that there is also a message which India has given to the world and that is the message of truth and non-violence. If only this message could pervade round the world, I am sure all the ills of the world can be solved and what is more, a settled and ordered civilization might emerge out of this chaos.

"I have great hopes of the United Nations Organization. But I know unless India is free—India, as a great nation, and is able to play her part in the deliberations of the United Nations, the power politics of the United Nations will make the United Nations Organization go the same way as the League of Nations has done. We know, people talk of collective security. It was a word used commonly in all meetings of the League of Nations in the

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olden days. But, what has become of collective security? Collective security really became security of individual nations, security of people who want still to continue their own colonial system. I hope at least now, this war has taught them a bitter lesson and I am sure, Great Britain has done a great thing in the announcement that she has made on February 20th and for which we are happy to-day. This announcement has been brought about, not merely by the generosity of Great Britain but because of the logical sequence of the international situation. I do feel that people have begun to realize that a great nation in Asia will be a bulwark of world-peace, and it is that feeling and that alone which has made the generosity of great Britain possible. I am not, of course, questioning her generosity, but what I wish to point out is that the international situation and the way in which the world is moving have made British people think that unless there is a free and great India, it is not possible to preserve the peace of the world. I hope that when matters have come to pass and India has gained her full freedom, she will prove herself worthy of the freedom and prove herself worthy of leading all Asiatic countries towards the haven of peace, happiness and prosperity."

SIR JAMES DOAK :—"Sir, I do not think I have said anything on this occasion to give rise to these remarks of the Hon. Minister. I am not a debator, but I don't think I ever attacked either this or that party and certainly I would not dream of attacking India and I also would not certainly dream of saying anything against the fine men who fought through the deserts in North Africa and in the jungles of Burma and in many other theatres of the war. I have nothing but admiration for them. Sir, as I said, I am not a debator, and I am at a loss to know what I have said, to give rise to, what I may call an outburst from the Hon. Minister. But I still maintain, Sir, that a generation afterwards, there will be something said of Great Britain of what I have referred to, namely, the growth of a moral conscience in England during the last 25 years and about what she had given to India. That is all I want to say, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I now put the resolution to the vote of the House."

The resolution was put and carried.

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Sri S. Rm. Ramanathan Chettiyar and Sri Manjappa Hegde are not in their seats and therefore their resolutions are deemed to have been withdrawn. Does Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar wish to move his resolution?"

SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—"I don't move my resolution now, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"Mrs. Clubwala will now move her resolution."

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(6) COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO DELINQUENCY AMONG CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS IN THE PROVINCE.

* MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—“ Mr. President, Sir, in moving my resolution recommending to the Government ‘ that a committee be appointed to enquire into the extent of delinquency among children and young persons in the Province and to examine the adequacy of the existing reformatory measures and making suggestions to promote the welfare and reclamation ’ I would like to say from my personal experience of 11 years as a Magistrate sitting in the Juvenile Court and as the Honorary Secretary of the Children’s Aid Society, that the delinquency amongst the children is growing every day. It is mostly due to poverty and broken homes. There are naturally more delinquent children in the poorer classes but we also find it in the middle class children too. Boys naturally form the larger majority of delinquents. There is one Borstal School in Palamcottah and there was a second school in Tanjore which has subsequently been closed. I would earnestly request the Government to open a second Borstal School as there is need for the same. There is one senior certified school for boys in Chingleput and three junior certified schools for boys in Ranipet, Bellary and Tanjore, one junior and senior certified school for boys and girls under the age of 10 in Madras and there is a junior and senior certified school for girls attached to the Madras Children’s Aid Society now located in Tanjore. Other schools such as Seva Sadan, Salvation Army Homes, Avvai Home, the Muslim Orphanages, Anjumans, Sarada Vidyalaya and a few convents take some of these cases. There is the Stri Sadana Rescue Home in Madras and there are Rescue Shelter homes in Madurai, Tanjore, Salem, Virudunagar, etc. Trichinopoly, Nellore and Vizagapatam have devised homes housed in a portion of the hospitals and other institutions. All these institutions are doing good work and serving a useful purpose for delinquent children but they are always overcrowded and therefore, with the best will in the world the authorities cannot pay due attention, as they should to these delinquent children and, naturally, these children need for more care and attention. The junior and senior certified schools for girls is now overcrowded. It is imperative that we should have another school for girls. In the year from 1942 to 1945, 684 girls have appeared before the courts. Five hundred and ninety-two have been restored to their parents, 89 sent to certified schools, 45 sent home to the mufassal and 75 undergoing treatment in the hospitals and a few others sent to the institutions as I have stated before. Of course, the Stri Sadana Rescue Home has also sheltered and educated 2,395 girls. I would call on the Government to have more Rescue and Training Homes under the Madras Vigilance Association.

“ We have probation officers who were formerly attached only to the Children’s Aid Society. These officers had studied child delinquency but unfortunately with the new Government Order, the same probation officers attend to both the adult and juvenile probation. To my mind this is not feasible. Juvenile probation is tackled in a manner different to that of the adult probation.

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The probation work is most useful and its need is imperative and it is the means of reforming the delinquent children or of those who are on the verge of delinquency. The probation officers regularly visiting the homes of the children have a setting effect on the children and also make the parents realize their responsibilities and make them feel that their attitude to the children is being watched and guided. Children on probation are also found employment and sent to night schools. Many a wavered child who would find its way into the certified school is improved in the first stages by probation. I request the Government to increase the strength of probation officers for juveniles both in the city and in the mufassal, both men and women probation officers. Since the probation system has been in force we have sent fewer children to certified schools than we did in the past. There should be juvenile courts and probation officers in at least all the important towns and chiefly in the industrial towns in the Province. Delinquent children, if they had the right line of approach, are won over and prove very often to be more intelligent and much inclined to kind treatment. Lieut.-Col. Thompson, a child psychologist and the Officer Commanding, the Military Hospital at Avadi, has adopted 12 boys from the Remand Home of the Children’s Aid Society and his methods of approach to the problem deserve our attention.

“ In several of the schools children are taught weaving, carpentry, smithy work, etc., but the inclusion of simple industries would serve a useful purpose and these children could, as they grow up, earn a living. I refer to mat and rope-making, spinning, dyeing and other simple arts, easy to master, but at the same time the initial outlay costing very little.

“ Government institutions should be asked to employ young boys in offices such as peons, letter boys, clerks, etc.; and girls as Red jackets in hospitals as well as teachers and companions.

“ I would also take this opportunity to suggest to the Government the need for the appointment of a psychologist for this work. His guidance and expert advice would be of immense value to the authorities running the various reformatory schools and for those have taken an active interest in this work.

“ In these various juvenile courts and also when the Woman Welfare Worker of the Madras Vigilance Association tours the district often she finds both boys and girls who are mentally backward. Unfortunately there are no places to send these children. Their condition is not as bad as to warrant their admission into a Mental hospital but at the same time they are mentally backward and are often the subject of ridicule in the ordinary school. The Madras Children’s Aid Society, after several years of working, obtained the Government’s permission to start a home for mentally backward children for 20 children. Unfortunately, due to want of accommodation the Home has not been started. It is imperative to have the Home for boys and girls started as early as possible and I hope the committee will take this aspect also into consideration.

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"When one travels on the railway, I am sure that many of the hon. Members of this House will agree with me, the children begging for either money or food, or trying to pilfer from compartments are growing in number. The Police authorities in Madras round up these boys and send them up to the various juvenile courts for disposal. We often find among these children boys from the mufassal and return them to their parents. Perhaps if we had more schools there are several children who could go to an institution instead of their homes but want of space restricts our hands.

"In the Reception Home for boys and girls the total admitted was 5,096 boys and 198 girls. Of these 2,817 were Hindus, 318 Muslims, 157 Indian Christians and 2 Anglo-Indians. The causes of detention were theft uncontrollables, kidnapping, found wandering, destitutes, pick-pocketing, solicitation, gambling and immoral surroundings. The causes were disposed of as follows:—

Restored to parents	2,748
Sent to certified schools	145
Sent home (mufassal)	77
Handed over to police	111
Sent to Vigilance Association	13
Found Work	39

The rest were sent to other homes who receive children, and remaining still at the end of the year in the homes were 163 boys and 21 girls.

Stri Sadana—

Number of girls since its inception	2,393
Medically cured	1,536
Marriage performed	45
Trained for teachers (all employed)	18
Trained as nurses (")	25
Trained as cooks and maids	74
Restored to parents or husbands	1,257

- 4 girls are undergoing teacher's training.
- 3 " " weaving training.
- 3 " " needle work training.
- 2 girls are in the High School.
- 3 girls are undergoing midwifery training.

"I give these figures to show the House how the belief that girls who have been unfortunate can have a new lease of life if a proper approach is made.

"May I urge the House to adopt this resolution to appoint a committee to go into the matter in detail about the need for more certified homes, larger number of probation officers and wider scope to deal with delinquent children? I would also like to take this opportunity to suggest to Government that the committee should consist of people who have experience and knowledge of this work and are connected with the running of these institutions. The Government are in correspondence with several of the

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societies to provincialize these homes. Public support is lacking and hence the state will have to shoulder the responsibility but I trust there will always be a representative body of non-officials, who have studied these problems and have a practical knowledge, that will be appointed. In connexion with the Vigilance Association as has been repeated in this House and outside it, our work is increasing daily and so is the strength but funds are wholly inadequate; both, those given by the Government and public support. Yet, I would say—though I know several will not agree with me, let this association be state-aided but run the non-officials for the work here is entirely of the different nature to others—and lastly the Vigilance Association should come under Public Health and Certified Schools under Education and not the Jail department. Innocent children because they happen to be orphans are clubbed together with criminal and delinquent children. Why should those children have to appear before a court and all their life have this stigma?

"Also, the Government may be requested more scholarships in hospitals, technical schools, training schools, etc., for boys and girls from the certified schools to continue to become citizens on the same footing as any of us. What is the use of independence if we know that thousands of our children, future citizens of a Free India, should be uncared for."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I second this resolution." 7 p.m.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I expected you to second it."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN:—"I am glad, Sir, to hear you say that; because that shows that you have anticipated what we wanted to be done. In regard to this resolution, Sir, I trust the Government will have no objection to having a committee on the lines that Mrs. Clubwala the hon. Mover of this resolution has proposed. This committee will not be a new one except from the aspect of being a Government Committee; because in the year 1932 at the request of Mr. — afterwards Sir—Frederick James, who was at that time in this House—I think he was in the Legislative Council as it was then called and not the Assembly—there was an idea of bringing up a Beggar Bill. In 1932 all the Women's organizations in this city took up the work of making a survey of the position at that time and collected figures for giving effect to the provisions of the Bill in regard to the housing of the poor men, women and children also. This was entrusted to some of us in the All-India Women's Association and Mrs. Cleetus, especially, who is a great economic expert, took the lead in this matter and she was asked to report on it. We were all allotted different districts for doing the work and she got the report ready and co-ordinated it and I think it would be a very sound foundation if the Government starts with that committee's work as the foundation of its investigation because that report is a very true and faithful picture of conditions as they existed in the year 1932.

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I think there will be a great many of those associations still alive and working and of course also vastly improved in this interval of time.

"Now, Sir, I have noted that in the absence of a better solution, the hon. Mover has suggested that the Education department may take over this reform of children rather than Jails and Prisons. As you know, Mr. President, the Jails and Prisons department has more money than Education has and we have seen and heard many things about this subject more frequently of late and that is why the Jails and Prisons department was given the care of these children. In the view of the Government, as far as I can make out—I stand open to correction—there is a great need for the opening of a welfare department which will be fed direct from Government sources, i.e., from the Budget. Instead of entrusting these young children and growing citizens to the mercy of a department which has no finance or to a department which will be treated with a stigma, it may well be that a social service department is opened. And this committee that is suggested will be able to lay down constructive proposals on that behalf. I need say no more because I know time is going; I do not think I need add anything to what Mrs. Clubwala has so ably put forward with the help of facts of figures to show that the children in the city and in the whole Presidency need the attention of a committee and that such a committee must be appointed immediately by the Hon. Minister in charge who is noted for his commonsense, for his interest in social service, and for his care for the future citizens of the country. I am glad that he is in charge of this particular portfolio, and Sir, we have great hopes which I am sure he will not dash to the ground, that he will not disappoint us, but will agree to appoint the right committee for this work and press forward their work to completion by July next perhaps or even earlier."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"Mr. President, Sir, indeed I am in a very delicate and difficult situation. The hon. Mover, Mrs. Clubwala, has been doing so much disinterested and very good work on these lines and she is so interested and earnest about this matter that it is very difficult to say 'no' to anything that Mrs. Clubwala asks for. But I am afraid, Sir, I have to be a bit of hard-hearted in this matter."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I thought there was some kind of understanding between you two. You were sitting with her."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON:—"I am sorry I cannot accept this resolution to have a committee appointed just at the present moment. I have listened very carefully to the very able speech full of facts and figures made by Mrs. Clubwala. She has had intimated association with various associations working for the emancipation of juvenile offenders and she has stated exactly the position prevailing in the province regarding the treatment of

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juvenile offenders. She has in her speech made various suggestions for the improvement of and for the proper conduct of existing juvenile offenders' institutions and also the changes required therein. I have had occasion to go with her to the Stri Sadhana where the Rescue Home and the Shelter are being conducted and I have had also occasion to discuss with Lieut.-Col. Thompson who is a child psychologist, to whom she has referred in her speech. As a matter of fact, I may tell Mrs. Clubwala that it is already under consideration to appoint Lieut.-Col. Thompson, if the Government of India and the military authorities would permit, as Adviser to the various certified schools that are being run by the Government, to make suggestions as to how they should be improved on the model of the twelve boys whom he had taken and improved, in the words of Mrs. Clubwala 'beyond recognition.' She told me rather mischievously that she sent away the most mischievous and the worst boys to Lieut.-Col. Thompson and the result, when she afterwards visited them, was that they were changed 'beyond recognition.' Sir, Government are already considering the question of appointing him as Adviser to the various certified schools.

"There is considerable juvenile delinquency prevailing and something should of course be done in the matter. I do not want to speak much upon the matter, but I wish to assure Mrs. Clubwala that her resolution, as also the speech she has made in support of it, will be examined by me and anything that Mrs. Hensman has said will also be considered. Mrs. Hensman, the hon. Seconder of the motion, has credited me with considerable commonsense and sympathy in the matter. If that is so, she can certainly expect that Government will closely consider this matter. But at the present time, I may tell the House that the Government have already completely divided the reformatory or certified schools and taken them away from the Jail department and have placed juvenile offenders in charge of a Senior Inspector of certified schools—that special appointment has been made and a person who is a good scholar in psychology and has had considerable experience of jail life, who knows that it is very bad to give the idea of a jail atmosphere in treating children, has been put in charge. The various improvements and reforms suggested by the hon. Mover in her speech are also under consideration by the Government. The question of appointing a committee to enquire into the extent of delinquency and the adequacy of existing measures, I cannot accept now because I have not had occasion to examine the financial and other implications of a committee like that. Government will certainly examine the financial implications and do what is possible in the matter. I therefore appeal to Mrs. Clubwala not to press her resolution to vote, in which case I may have to oppose and vote against it, but I am anxious to assure her that the whole question will be examined with as much sympathy as I can be credited with, and I hope she will withdraw the resolution and not press it to a vote."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" She can bring it up once again if you fail in your duty."

MRS. M.N. CLUBWALA :—" Yes, Mr. President, I withdraw the resolution on the assurance given by the hon. Minister; but as you say, if we do not get satisfaction, I may have to bring it up once again."

The resolution was by leave of the House withdrawn.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The work on the agenda is over; non-official days are few and far between and I really congratulate the House on having gone through the whole agenda so creditably, though it is in a way due perhaps to two or three members not moving their resolutions."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, may we have to sit on the 26th? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The idea is: instead of sitting both here and there on the same day—which means both of us will not be able to do enough work—it has been agreed that the other House will sit to-morrow and if necessary the day after to-morrow till lunch time and finish its work. Then we will be sitting here the day after to-morrow from 3 p.m. If we finish the work that day, then we will not have to sit again; but if we do not finish on that day, I propose to request you to sit from 9 a.m. on the next day, the 26th, and finish the work by noon and go home."

The Council then adjourned to meet again at 3 p.m. on Friday the 25th April 1947.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 159 asked by Sri H. M. Jagannatham at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 23rd April 1947, page 648 supra.]

Brief note on the Co-operative Motor Transport Societies for ex-servicemen.

The scheme for the formation of Motor Transport Societies for ex-servicemen is one of the various schemes submitted by the Regional Director of Resettlement and Employment for the resettlement of ex-servicemen. The scheme was generally approved by Government in December 1946.

Brief particulars of the scheme are as follows :—

Reasons.—About 20,000 ex-servicemen of this Province who were employed during the war as motor drivers, mechanics, etc., are being demobilized. It has not been possible to absorb them in the existing motor transport services as the owners are not willing to replace their present personnel by ex-servicemen. During the war there was a stoppage of imports of motor vehicles although Government have been able to obtain a few vehicles for essential purposes. The normal expansion of motor transport has, therefore, been arrested. Since 1939 there has been a fall of 14 per cent in the animal power available for unit of cultivation and there has also been the difficulty for obtaining timber and steel required for the manufacture of bullock carts. The demand for lorry transport has, therefore, increased. Further, the shortage of railway wagons accentuated this demand. On account of the home requirements of the manufacturing countries such as England and the United States of America, it will not be possible to obtain supplies of motor vehicles in the near future in adequate numbers to meet the heavy demand. The few vehicles that may be imported will be required to replace the older model vehicles and the passenger transport services will have a priority over goods services. Thus very few vehicles may be expected to be available for the expansion of goods transport to the extent necessary to meet the demand. Fortunately, the Government of India have agreed to allot some surplus reconditioned transport vehicles at concessional rates for the purpose of the re-employment of ex-servicemen.

In the Punjab, some Co-operative Motor Transport Societies have already been organized for ex-servicemen taking advantage of the allotment of surplus vehicles by the Government of India.

Set up.—The Regional Director of Resettlement and Employment proposes to form twenty societies in all districts except Ramnad, the Nilgiris, Cuddapah, Chingleput and South Kanara. Each society will have a membership of about 250 with a registered share capital of Rs. 2.5 lakhs divided into 5,000 shares of Rs. 50 each. The employees of the societies will also be permitted to take shares. The Government have ordered that the societies should be started first only with 100 jeeps and 500 lorries.

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It is proposed to have only goods transport and public taxi service. It is not proposed to enter the field of passenger transport as there is a possibility of nationalizing it in the near future.

The management of each society will vest in a Board of five Directors. The entire Board will be nominated by the Registrar of Ex-Servicemen's Co-operatives from among Government officials and non-officials including members of the society. At the end of three years the Board of Directors will consist of three persons elected by the members from among themselves and two persons nominated by the Registrar of Ex-Servicemen's Co-operatives.

The capital expenditure of the societies will be met from the share capital of the members and also loans from authorized scheduled banks and Central Co-operative Banks. It is not proposed to grant any contribution either from the Central or Provincial Governments or Post-war Services Reconstruction Fund to these societies, since the transport business is highly remunerative and can establish itself. It is expected that the societies will be able to make a profit of more than six per cent.

It is also proposed to form a Central Society at Madras to supervise and co-ordinate the activities of the district societies, the membership of which will be confined to the district societies. Each member-society will send one representative to the general body and contribute Rs. 5,000 towards share capital. The functions of the society are—

(1) to make bulk purchases of vehicles, spare parts, tyres, petrol, lubricants and other materials required for the member-societies. Reserving a small amount for handling charges, the bulk of the discounts on purchases will be passed on to member-societies;

(2) to purchase tools, equipment for repairs and renewals;

(3) to ultimately establish Regional and Central Workshops for major repairs and to fabricate spare parts;

(4) to organize agencies for booking goods and co-ordinating inter-district and inter-provincial transport;

(5) to take up agencies to insurance companies and do all kinds of insurance including motor vehicles, goods, persons, fire-risk, accident and ultimately to do insurance on its own account;

(6) to secure agencies for motor vehicles of all descriptions, spares, oils, petrol, lubricants, greases and other requirements of motor business;

(7) to take deposits from the public and member-societies;

(8) to provide technical assistance and expert advice to the member-societies;

(9) to borrow money from institutions registered under the Co-operative Societies Act, the Indian Companies Act and the Societies Registration Act for carrying out any or all the objects of the Central Society or member-societies;

(10) to supervise and guide the working of member-societies;

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(11) to make free grants to any of the member-societies who make losses for reasons beyond their control; and

(12) to make grants in furtherance of schemes for the training education, housing and providing other benefits to members of member-societies.

The Central Society is expected to make a profit of more than 5 per cent.

Government concessions.—The Government have guaranteed an overdraft of Rs. 32 lakhs with the Indian Bank, Limited. It has been ordered that the overdraft should be repaid as and when recoveries are effected from the societies within a period of three years from the date of drawal of the amount.

The Government have asked the Provincial Motor Transport Controller to show consideration to these societies in regard to the issue of permits without prejudice to the provision of the Motor Vehicles Act and Rules as this is one of the resettlement schemes intended for the benefit of ex-servicemen. The Government have also agreed to give temporary lease or licence for occupation of Government lands in places in which they are required on application. The Government have also ordered that the Indian National Army personnel should be allowed to participate in the scheme equally with other ex-servicemen.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 163 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 23rd April 1947, page 658 supra.]

List of persons to whom permits were issued from 1st January 1946 up to 21st March 1947 by the Provincial Motor Transport Controller to buy new cars.

1. Dr. G. Narayanaswami, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
2. Messrs. Binny & Co., Ltd., Businessmen, Madras.
3. Mr. H. B. Swallow, Assistant, Messrs. Binny & Co., Ltd., Madras.
4. Messrs. Soora Bros., Businessmen, Madras.
5. The Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, Businessmen, Madras.
6. Sri A. Shanmugam, Regional Honorary Cement Adviser, Coimbatore.
7. Sri C. Jinarajadasa, President, Theosophical Society, Adyar.
8. Sri Rao Bahadur C. Karunakaran Nair, Deputy Provincial Motor Transport Controller, Chepauk, Madras.
9. Messrs. Madura Mills, Limited, Textile Mills, Madura.
10. Messrs. Wilson & Co., Businessmen, Madras.
11. Sri Rao Bahadur J. C. Ryan, Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Madras.
12. Captain The Earl of Shannon, A.D.C. to His Excellency, Madras.

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13. The Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society, Businessmen, Madras.
14. The Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, Businessmen, Madras.
15. The Madura Mills, Limited, Textiles Mills, Madura.
16. Dr. J. A. S. Masillamani, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
17. Messrs. Rali Bros., Ltd., Businessmen, Madras.
18. Messrs. Parry & Co., Ltd., Businessmen, Madras.
19. Messrs. Parry & Co., Ltd., Businessmen, Madras.
20. Dr. R. M. Alagappa Chettiar, Mill-owner, Madras.
21. Dr. U. Sreenivasa Rao, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
22. Lieut.-Col. H. C. Dean, Planter, Harleypet Post.
23. Dr. V. R. Thayumanaswami, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
24. Dr. O. G. C. Vaz, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
25. Mr. R. A. Mackay, Planter, Arrapatta Estate, Meppadi Post.
26. Mr. I. D. N. Sahi, I.C.S., Municipal Commissioner, Madura.
27. Sri P. Appu Nair, C.I.E., O.B.E., Administrator-General, Madras.
28. Sri M. Balasundaram, C.I.E., Businessman, Madras.
29. Lady Willingdon Leprosy Sanatorium, Tirumani.
30. Khan Bahadur Javad Hussain, Member, Madras Public Service Commission, Madras.
31. Major E. C. Sreenivasan, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
32. Mr. J. W. Pritchard, Secretary to Government, Home Department, Madras.
33. Major P. A. B. Sheppard, Superintendent, Government General Hospital, Madras.
34. Sri G. Venkateswara Ayyar, I.C.S., Secretary, Board of Revenue, Madras.
35. Sri K. N. Anantaraman, Joint Secretary, Board of Revenue, Madras.
36. Dr. U. Krishna Rao, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
37. Lieut.-Col. C. H. P. Allen, I.M.S. (Retired), Medical Practitioner, Coonoor.
38. Rev. T. R. Foulger, Principal, Meston Training College, Royapetta.
39. Sri G. Shanmugam, Businessman, "Gurubhavan," Kilpauk, Madras.
40. Sri R. Aiyadurai, Assistant, Messrs. Richardson & Cruddas, First Line Beach, Madras.
41. Sri V. S. K. Duraiswami Nadar, Income-Tax Officer, Madras.

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42. Dr. C. Miss K. Kantamani, Medical Practitioner, Murrays Gate Road, Teynampet, Madras.
43. Major-General D. A. Wade, Commandant, H.Q. No. 105 (Madras) Area, Madras.
44. Messrs. George Oakes, Limited, Madras.
45. Messrs. Garage, Limited, Transport Contractors, Madras.
46. Messrs. Madura Mills, Limited, Textile, Madura.
47. Messrs. Wilson & Co., Madras.
48. Messrs. B. & C. Mills, Madras.
49. Messrs. General Electric Co. (India), Ltd., Madras.
50. Mr. S. Zamen, Member, Income-Tax Appellate Tribunal, Madras.
51. Mr. O. L. Burrell, I.P., Assistant Inspector-General of Police, Madras.
52. Mr. D. F. Mistry, Manager, Singer Sewing Machine Co., Madras.
53. The Imperial Tobacco Company of India, Limited, Madras.
54. Mr. Th. A. Lykiardopulo, Businessman, c/o Ralli Bros., Limited, Madras.
55. Messrs. South Indian Corporation (Madras), Limited, Madras.
56. Mr. A. J. Platt, I.C.S., Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras.
57. Dr. A. V. S. Sarma, Medical Practitioner.
58. The Rt. Rev. A. M. Hollis, Lord Bishop of Madras, Madras.
59. Principal, Women's Christian College, Madras.
60. Mr. W. M. Livingston, Businessman, Madras.
61. Mr. F. E. Hitchin, Assistant Inspector-General of Prisons, Madras.
62. Mr. D. M. Amalsad, Principal, Government Textile Institute, Washermanpet, Madras.
63. Sri K. V. Venkatachala Ayyar, Secretary to Government, Legal Department, Madras.
64. Rao Sahib V. Aiyaswami Nayudu, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Madras.
65. Captain W. S. Ramaswami, District Health Officer, Mangalore.
66. Chief Medical Officer, Moses Gnanambaram Eye Hospital, Coimbatore.
67. Dr. P. A. Mathew, Medical Officer, City Police, Madras.
68. Mr. M. A. Billimoria, Bank Official, Central Bank of India, Coimbatore.
69. Captain D. S. McIntyre, Planter, Madras.
70. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.

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71. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
72. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
73. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
74. Mr. K. Moller, Royal Danish Consul, Madras.
75. Mr. I. Rhys Jones, I.C.S., Board of Revenue, Madras.
76. Major P. J. Kelly, District Medical Officer, Coimbatore.
77. Dr. R. V. Rajam, General Hospital, Madras.
78. Mr. A. Dorairaj, Special Assistant Collector, Madras.
79. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
80. Hon'ble Sri T. Prakasam.
81. Lieut.-Col. J. Eapen, Government General Hospital, Madras.
82. Sri Diwan Bahadur T. Anantachari, Special Officer for Departmental Enquiries, Thyagarayanagar, Madras.
83. Sri V. Govindarajachari, B.A., B.L., Advocate and Judge designate, Madras.
84. Mr. E. H. Colebrook, C.I.E., M.C., Commissioner of Police, Haddows Road, Madras.
85. Sri V. Dattatreyan, Deputy Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras.
86. Mr. J. F. Jamieson, National Bank of India, Madras.
87. Sri N. Tirumurti, I.F.S., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tiruppattur.
88. Khan Bahadur Zinda Sahib Bahadur, Special Officer for Training of Clerks, Thyagarayanagar, Madras.
89. Sri Rao Sahib E. Virabhadra Pillai, Deputy Controller of Food Rationing, Madras.
90. Mr. J. Franco, Principal, Teachers' College, Saidapet.
91. Principal, Loyola College, Madras.
92. Dr. H. Bartlet, M.D., Medical Practitioner, Cathedral P.C., Madras.
93. Lieut.-Col. C. K. Prasada Rao, Government General Hospital, Madras.
94. Mr. P. W. S. Skinner, Chartered Bank, Madras.
95. Sir Gerald Priestley, Board of Revenue, Madras.
96. Mr. R. L. Molloy, I.S.O., Assistant Engineer, Highways Subdivision, Nilgiris.
97. Mr. J. U. Body, Rousdon Mullai Estate, Devala P.O., Wynaad.
98. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
99. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
100. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
101. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
102. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.

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103. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
104. Sri Rao Sahib C. H. Venkateswaran, Assistant District Medical Officer, Coimbatore.
105. Dr. Willoughby Grant, Kempstone, Nursing Home, Ootacamund.
106. Dr. M. K. Saraswati, Medical Practitioner, Gray Town, Coimbatore.
107. Sri A. T. Devaraja Mudaliyar, Government Contractor, Coimbatore.
108. Mr. N. Cottrell, Planter, Richmond Estate, Mango Range P.O., Nilgiris.
109. Mr. W. A. Holmes, Planter, Cardoor Estates, Meppadi, South Wynaad.
110. Khan Sahib E. K. Hajee Md. Meera Sahib & Sons, Peria Agraharam, Erode.
111. Col. G. B. Howell, M.V.O., M.C., Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor of Madras.
112. Major-General J. B. Huban, O.B.E., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
113. Khan Bahadur Sir Bazl-ul-lah, C.I.E., O.B.E., St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.
114. Mr. R. M. Sundaram, I.C.S., Additional Secretary to Government, Development Department, Madras.
115. Mr. E. S. Treasure, Commandant, Malabar Special Police, Malappuram.
116. Sri K. Sankaran Nayar, Indian Police, Madras.
117. Lt.-Col. C. R. Krishnaswami, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
118. Dr. R. Subramaniam, Assistant Director of Public Health, Madras.
119. Dr. S. Ramakrishnan, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
120. Messrs. Phipson & Company, Wine Merchants, Madras.
121. Messrs. Crompton Engineering Company (Madras), Limited, Madras.
122. Messrs. India Cements, Limited, Madras.
123. Messrs. Ajax Products, Limited, Madras.
124. Atta Hasan Sahib, Representative to the Board of Trade, Madras.
125. Sri M. N. Nair, Businessman, Kerala Textiles, Kallai.
126. Sri V. V. Natham, Businessman, Ralli Brothers, Madras.
127. Sri Rao Bahadur K. Gopala Ayyangar, General Superintendent, P.W. Workshop, Madras.
128. Sri T. M. Veeraraghavan, Assistant Engineer, Highways, Salem.
129. Mother Superior, Good Shepherd Convent, Madras.
130. Sri G. Janakirama Chetty, First-class Bench Magistrate, Saidapet, Madras.

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131. Sri R. N. Manickam, Personal Assistant to the District Superintendent of Police, Madura.
132. Khan Sahib G. Abdul Sattar Sahib Bahadur, Joint Secretary, Board of Revenue, Chepauk, Madras.
133. Sri P. N. Chamu Nair, Secretary to the Commissioner for Government Examinations, Madras.
134. Commercial Union Assurance Company, Limited, Madras.
135. Mr. R. E. Chambers, Businessman, Chrome Leather Company, Madras.
136. Sri S. Ramasam Sarma, Assistant Chief Operating Superintendent, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Madras.
137. Sri R. K. Murthi, Businessman, Director, c/o Messrs. Taylor & Company, Madras.
138. Lieut.-Col. A. A. Russel, Resident, Gwalior States, Ootacamund.
139. Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.
140. Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.
141. Sri Diwan Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai, Member, Madras Public Service Commission, Madras.
142. Mr. A. R. Jakeman, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Licensing, Madras.
143. Lt.-Col. S. P. Sarbhadhikari, Postmaster-General, Madras.
144. Dr. P. Rama Rao, Radiologist, Madras.
145. Col. P. A. Clausen, Deputy Chief Engineer, Headquarters, Madras Area.
146. Dr. C. M. Burnie, Medical Officer, Bombay Burma Trading Corporation, Mudis P.O.
147. Mr. P. C. Mathew, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Pollachi.
148. Dr. S. Ganapathy, Medical Practitioner, Coimbatore.
149. Syed Bashiruddin Sahib Bahadur, Division Engineer, Highways, Erode.
150. Haji P. I. Kunnamekutti Sahib, Businessman, Calicut.
151. Lt.-Col. O. Garrett, Planter, Kilkunda P.O., Nilgiris.
152. Mr. R. C. C. Hunt, I.C.S., Board of Revenue, Madras.
153. Sri S. Rajagopalan, Executive Engineer (Public Health), Madras.
154. Sri Rao Bahadur K. Gangadhara Rao Nayudu, Assistant Commissioner of Excise, Madras.
155. Sri S. Ramachandran, Sanitary Engineer to Government, Madras.
156. Sri C. Karunakara Menon, Personal Assistant to the Director of Agriculture, Madras.
157. Lt.-Col. M. K. Krishna Menon, Raja Sir Ramaswami Mudaliyar Hospital, Madras.

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158. Messrs. Eason Engineering Company, Madras.
159. Sri R. M. Koppikar, Manager, Reserve Bank of India, Madras.
160. Messrs. Jupiter General Insurance Company, Limited, Madras.
161. Messrs. Maconochie & Company, Madras.
162. Sri P. Kota Reddi, Mica Miner, Gudur.
163. Mrs. P. Parijatham Nayudu, Commandant, Indian Women Civic Corps, Madras.
164. Rafiuddin Ahmed Sahib Bahadur, Chief Judge, Small Cause Court, Madras.
165. Mr. N. St. Claire Browne, Businessman c/o E. Barnes, Opticians, Madras.
166. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
167. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
168. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
169. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
170. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
171. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
172. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
173. Mr. A. Mc. M. Webster, I.C.S., District Supply Officer, Coimbatore.
174. Mr. N. Subramanyam, I.C.S., Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Trichinopoly.
175. Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. C. Horwill, Madras.
176. Hon'ble Mr. Justice J. A. Bell, Madras.
177. Sri K. Raja Ayyar, Advocate-General, Madras.
178. Major Sangham Lal, General Hospital, Madras.
179. Dr. S. Rajagopal Nayudu, Chemical Examiner to Government of Madras.
180. Dr. (Mrs.) N. Ganapathy, Government Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore, Madras.
181. Messrs. Caltex (India), Limited, Madras.
182. Sri Rao Bahadur V. Natesa Ayyar, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Madras.
183. Mr. S. Y. Krishnaswami, S.B.E., I.C.S., Additional Secretary, Development Department, Madras.
184. Sri K. Hariharan, Secretary, George Oakes, Limited, Madras.
185. Sri P. Rathnavelu Thevar, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Trichinopoly.
186. Mr. S. Ranganathan, S.B.E., I.C.S., Board of Revenue, Madras.
187. Mr. J. P. L. Shenoy, I.C.S., Commissioner, Corporation of Madras.

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188. Mr. C. K. Vijayaraghavan, I.C.S., Commissioner of Labour, Madras.
189. Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Chandrasekhara Ayyar, Madras.
190. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Shahabuddin, Madras.
191. Mr. J. A. Master, Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras.
192. Mr. A. N. Sharma, District Forest Officer, Anantapur.
193. Mr. R. Hume, C.I.E., O.B.E., I.P., Commissioner of Police (on leave), Ootacamund.
194. Mr. D. C. T. Cameron, Indian Police, Central Intelligence Officer, Madras.
195. Sri Rao Sahib M. Krishnamurthy, Assistant Commissioner, Traffic and Licensing, Madras.
196. Sri K. Achuthan Nair, Assistant Commissioner, Income-tax Appellate Tribunal, Madras.
197. Sri V. A. J. Vasnaik, Director of Telegraphs, Madras.
198. Sri Rao Bahadur P. V. Raju, Superintending Engineer, Madras.
199. Sri Rao Bahadur G. Sundaram, Chief Engineer for Electricity.
200. Sri P. Subba Rao, Assistant Engineer (Highways), Cojaveeram.
201. Sri C. Ramasubban, Agent, Imperial Bank of India, Guntur.
202. Major E. E. Copcutt, Medical Officer in charge, Government House Hospital, Government House, Madras.
203. Capt. R. D. Rao, District Medical Officer, Anantapur.
204. Dr. R. Venkata Rao, District Medical Officer, Guntur.
205. Dr. R. K. K. Tampan, Stanley Hospital, Rayapuram.
206. Dr. (Miss) A. Marikar, Superintendent, Government Hospital for Women, Vizagapatam.
207. Dr. A. Srinivasan, General Hospital, Madras.
208. Khan Bahadur J. D. Bhote, Deputy Chief Accounts Officer, M. & S. M. Railway, Madras.
209. Manager, "The Hindu", Madras.
210. Sri G. A. Natesan, Editor, "Indian Review", Mylapore, Madras.
211. Sri S. Vijayakumar, Personal Assistant to General Manager, "The Mail", Madras.
212. Messrs. Sripada Narasimham Brothers, Cocanada.
213. Mr. M. S. P. Rajes, Planter, Yercaud.
214. Mr. C. Stewart, Planter, Tharangel Estate, Thalapaya P.O.
215. Mr. B. C. E. Earle, Businessman, c/o Binny and Company, Madras.

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216. Messrs. Western Indian Match Company, Limited, Madras.
217. Messrs. Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Company (India), Limited, Madras.
218. Sri V. R. Ramanatha Ayyar, Proprietor, Sriramakrishna Lunch Home, Madras.
219. Messrs. W. A. Beardsell and Company, Madras.
220. Messrs. Blue Mountain Estate, Limited, Madras.
221. Messrs. Asbestos Cements, Limited, Madras.
222. Messrs. Indian Sugars and Refineries, Limited, Hospet.
223. E. A. Sathar Sait Sahib, E. A. Watch Company, Madras.
224. Principal, Missionary Medical College for Women, Vellore.
225. Messrs. Royal Cycle and Motor Company, Madras.
226. Sri C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar, M.L.A., Madras.
227. Sri T. T. Krishnamachari, Businessman, M.L.A., Central, Madras.
228. Hon'ble Sir N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Businessman and Member, the Council of State, Madras.
229. Lady C. Balasundaram Naidu, Social Worker, Madras.
230. Mayor of Madras, Madras.
231. Sir Sidney Burn, Chairman, Madras Public Service Commission, Madras.
232. Lt. R. Chastel, Consular Agent for France, No. 6, 20, North Beach Road, Madras.
233. Sri Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar, O.B.E., Mill Owner, Coimbatore.
234. Mr. M. Seshadri, Collector, Cuddapah.
235. Mr. R. P. Kapur, Additional District Magistrate, Malabar district, Calicut.
236. Mr. J. C. Griffiths, Sub-Collector, Coonoor.
237. Mr. T. A. Varghese, Collector, Trichinopoly.
238. Mr. H. Keene, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Western Range, Ootacamund.
239. Mr. K. M. Unnithan, I.C.S., Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards, Madras.
240. Mr. H. D. Latham, Commandant, Malabar Special Police, Malappuram.
241. Sri Rao Bahadur P. K. Monnappa, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Crime Branch, Madras.
242. Rajah of Challapalli, Zamindar, Challapalli, Kistna district.
243. Mrs. C. Ammannappa Raja, Deputy Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Fort St. George.
244. Sri J. Sivanandam, City Rationing Officer, Madras.
245. Sri M. Sreenivasa Rao, Personal Assistant to the Hon'ble the Premier, No. 2/13, Sripuram First Street, Royapetta, Madras.

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246. Mr. T. S. Swaminathan, Joint Secretary to the Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Board of Revenue, Madras.
247. Mr. I. H. Usmani, Sub-Collector, Madanapalle.
248. Mr. B. Gordon, Manager, Eastern Bank, Limited, Oriental Buildings, Armenian Street, Madras.
249. Mrs. V. Lakshmi Ammal, M.L.A., Kallidaikurichi, Tinnevely district.
250. Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, M.L.A. (Central), Race Course Road, Coimbatore.
251. Sri V. Suryanarayana, Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department, Rajahmundry.
252. Sri A. Ramaniah, Executive Engineer, Bezwada.
253. Rao Bahadur N. J. Joseph, Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore.
254. Sri K. L. Rao, Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Triplicane, Madras.
255. Sri Y. Padmanabhan, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Parvatipur.
256. Sri T. N. Raja Ram, District Board Assistant Engineer, Dindigul.
257. M. E. Hussain Sahib Bahadur, Assistant Engineer, Tungabhadra Project, Hospet.
258. Sri K. Lakshmiah, Local Fund Assistant Engineer, Gun-
tur.
259. Sri T. Duraiswami, Assistant Engineer, IV Circle, Gun-
tur.
260. Sri Rao Bahadur P. K. Gnanasundara Mudaliyar, Mem-
ber, Madras Public Service Commission, Madras.
261. Mr. A. Majeed, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Gudur.
262. Mr. Talat Baig Sahib Bahadur, Assistant Engineer, High-
ways, Nuzvid.
263. Sri V. S. Sankaran, Deputy Postmaster-General, Madras.
264. Mr. H. J. Gassan, Deputy Commissioner of Excise, Mad-
ras.
265. Mr. T. K. Jones, Trade Testing Officer and Workshop
Superintendent, Government of India, Department of Labour,
Messrs. P. Orr & Sons, Madras.
266. Khan Bahadur Khaja Mohideen Hussain Sahib Bahadur,
I.P., District Superintendent of Police, East Godavari, Cocanada.
267. Sri C. D. S. Chetti, Deputy Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.
268. Habib Bank, Limited, No. 304, Linghi Chetti Street,
Madras.
269. Sri R. Surya Rao, Director, Reserve Bank of India,
Madras.
270. Mr. A. D. Buckley, Imperial Bank of India, Madras.

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271. Miss E. Morgan, Principal, Deaf and Dumb School,
Palamcottah.
272. Mr. J. B. Trafford, Planter, Eddison Estate, Nilambur
P.O.
273. Mr. W. B. Cooke, Planter, Selalipuram Estate, Valparai
P.O.
274. 'Dinasari' Daily Newspaper, Poonamallee High Road,
Madras.
275. Sri Rao Sahib M. Duraiswami Pillai, Public Prosecutor,
Ramnad district.
276. Dr. P. Subbarayan, Bar.-at-Law, Advocate, Whites Gar-
den, Royapetta.
277. Mr. G. S. Marwath, District Transportation Superinten-
dent, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Madras.
278. Sri K. R. Ramanujam, District Engineer, Madras and
Southern Mahratta Railway, Rayapuram, Madras.
279. Sri B. Venkatachalam Pillai, Parliamentary Secretary,
Fort St. George.
280. Begum Sultan Mir Amiruddin, M.L.A., Gulistan, No. 1,
Moore's Road, Cathedral P.O., Madras.
281. Sri D. K. V. Raghava Varma, Secretary, Madras Legis-
lature, Fort St. George.
282. Sri K. M. Desikar, M.L.C., Valivalam Post, Tanjore dis-
trict.
283. K. Muhammad Hussain Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., Advocate,
Courtalam Road, Tinnevely town.
284. Mr. L. S. A. Jones, Manager, Messrs. Harrison and Cross-
field, Contractors and Engineers, Madras.
285. Messrs. Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company,
Chirala.
286. Messrs. Scindia Steam Navigation Company, Vizagapatam.
287. Madras Co-operative Milk Supply Union, Madras.
288. O. S. Sathak Tambi Maricair Sahib, Merchant, No. 71,
Sembudoss Street, Madras.
289. Mr. R. E. McLellan, Businessman, Messrs. Binny and
Company, Madras.
290. Messrs. McDowell and Company, Limited, Madras.
291. Messrs. Heatley and Gresham, Limited, United Indian
Life Buildings, Madras.
292. Sri Gokuldas Tulsidas, Merchant, Post Box No. 45,
Coimbatore.
293. Messrs. Cherian Brothers, Planters, Madras.
294. Sri P. K. Narayana Ayyar, Merchant, Lakshmi Nivas,
Palghat.
295. Messrs. Dunlop Rubber Company (India), Limited,
Madras.

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296. Messrs. South Indian Export Company, Limited, No. 4, McLean Street, Madras.
297. Mr. H. I. Wonfer, Director, Messrs. Parry and Company, Limited, Madras.
298. Mr. M. W. Lowder, Managing Director, Bombay Company, Limited, Madras.
299. Mr. J. S. Nicholson, Manager, Anamalais Ropeway Company, Limited, Attakatti P.O., Pollachi.
300. Messrs. India Tyre and Rubber Company, Limited, Madras.
301. Sri T. K. Narayanan, Lorry Transport Contractor and Cloth Merchant, Tellicherry.
302. Dr. (Mrs.) P. N. S. Ayyar, Medical Practitioner, No. 2-A, Murrays Gate Road, Teynampet, Madras.
303. Dr. M. A. Joseph, Medical Practitioner, Kotagiri, Nilgiris.
304. Dr. W. Happer, District Medical Officer, Madura.
305. Dr. B. V. Sundara Babu, Assistant Health Officer, Corporation of Madras, Madras.
306. Dr. N. R. Menon, Medical Practitioner, Poonamalle.
307. Capt. J. Packiam, Assistant Resident Medical Officer, General Hospital, Madras.
308. Dr. J. Ingram Cotton, Dental Surgeon, Milford, Coonoor.
309. Capt. T. S. Balasubramaniam, Medical Practitioner, Andi Street, Teppakulam, Trichinopoly.
310. Capt C. S. Vijayaraghavan, Municipal Doctor, Gopalapuram, Coimbatore.
311. Rao Bahadur Dr. T. Satagopan, Medical Practitioner, No. 14-A, Ritherdon Road, Vepery, Madras.
312. Dr. T. V. Sivanandham, Honorary Assistant Surgeon, Government Headquarters Hospital, Coimbatore.
313. Dr. (Mrs.) Lilian Singer, Medical Practitioner, Kotagiri, Nilgiris.
314. Dr. C. S. Ramachandra Rao, Provincial Blood Transfusion Officer, King Institute, Guindy.
315. Dr. R. G. Cochrane, Missionary Medical College, Vellore, North Arcot district.
316. Dr. M. D. Anantachari, Medical Practitioner, No. 4/16, Sullivan Garden Road, Mylapore, Madras.
317. Major M. A. Nair, Medical Practitioner, No. 49, Poonamallee High Road, Vepery, Madras.
318. Capt. K. M. Meeran Rowther, Civil Assistant Surgeon, General Hospital, Madras.
319. Capt. P. O. Qammen, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Government Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram.

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320. Capt. P. O. Kuriappan, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Government Hospital, Madanapalle.
321. Dr. M. A. Latif Khan, District Medical Officer, Chittoor.
322. Dr. P. K. M. Raja, Medical Practitioner, No. 4, Purasawakam High Road, Madras.
323. Dr. S. A. Khani, Medical Practitioner, No. 64, Walajah Road, Madras.
324. Dr. R. N. Reddi, Medical Practitioner, Salpelt Road, Cuddapah.
325. Dr. Walter Ludnousky, Medical Practitioner, Race Course, Coimbatore.
326. Dr. T. K. Sundaram, Government General Hospital, Madras.
327. Sri V. Balakrishnan, Proprietor, Allied Merchantile Agencies, No. 12, Thambu Chetti Street, Madras.
328. The Raja of Vizianagram, Madras.
329. Mr. E. W. D. Jeffares, Businessman and Assistant Messrs. Binny and Company, Madras.
330. Mr. T. N. S. Raghavan, I.C.S., Additional Secretary, Finance Department, Fort St. George.
331. Sri Swami Venkatachalam Chetti, Merchant, Thyagarayanagar, Madras, Madras.
332. Sri K. P. Velu Pillai, Deputy General Manager, Road Transport, South Indian Railway, Trichinopoly.
333. Messrs. Gordon Woodroffe Leather Manufacturing Company, Limited, Pallavaram.
334. A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, M.L.A., Advocate, No. 96, Sandaipettai Street, Madura.
335. Mr. R. T. Tandon, Indian Government Trade Commissioner in Ceylon, No. 12, Sri Vikrama Road, Colombo, Ceylon.
336. Sri L. S. Karayalar, Parliamentary Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister for Education, Fort St. George.
337. Sri A. K. Kunhiraman Nambiar, I.P., Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Mylapore, Madras.
338. Sri M. B. Sarangapani, Division Engineer, Telegraphs, Trichinopoly.
339. Sri G. F. Amalanathan, Assistant Superintendent, Government Press, Madras.
340. Dr. W. A. N. Marrow, Surgeon to His Excellency the Governor, Government House, Ootacamund.
341. Khan Sahib V. S. Muhammad Ibrahim Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., Tanner, Palakara, Trichinopoly.
342. Sri C. R. Srinivasan, Editor, *Swadesamitran*, Whites Road, Madras.
343. Sri P. H. Rami Reddi, C.I.E., Additional Regional Food Commissioner, White Lodge, Chetput, Madras.

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344. Sri E. Jagannatha Rao, Managing Partner, Hope Timber Syndicate, No. 5, Sarangapani Street, Thyagarayanagar, Madras.
345. Sri A. N. Parasuraman, Minerva Educationist Publishing House, Halls Road, Madras.
346. Sri S. V. Subramanyam, Personal Assistant to District Superintendent of Police, Malabar district, Calicut.
347. Mr. J. D. Watson, Deputy Chief Engineer, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Madras.
348. Sri C. V. D. Upadhyaya, Officer-in-charge, Lignite-Investigation, Cuddapah New Town.
349. Sri Linga Raju, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George, Madras.
350. Abdul Latif Farookhi Sahib Bahadur, M.L.C., Journalist and Skins and Hides Merchant, Pallavaram.
351. Sri R. V. Swaminathan, M.L.A., Kamala Vilas, Paganeri, Ramnad district.
352. Sri Rao Sahib Dr. W. V. Perumal, Assistant Director of Public Health, No. 3/47, Royapetta High Road, Madras.
353. Sri T. Viswanathan, Chief Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George.
354. Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George.
355. Brigadier H. N. Piroquet, Headquarter, Madras Area, Mylapore, Madras.
356. *Indian Express*, Mount Road, Madras.
357. Major V. Hariharan, Municipal Health Officer, Coimbatore.
358. Mr. H. Gerry, M.L.A., Stanmore (Anamalai) Estates, Walparai Post.
359. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras.
360. Adi Raja Abdul Khader Sahib Bahadur, son of Sultan Adi Raja Mariamma Bibi of Arakkal Palace, Cannanore, Landlord.
- AB361. Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Kunhiraman, High Court, Madras.
- AB 362. Hon'ble Justice Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, High Court, Madras.
- AB 363. Sir Henry Howard, Consulting Engineer to the Government of Madras.
364. Mr. C. R. F. Williams, Conservator of Forests (on leave), care of Chief Conservator of Forests, Egmore, Madras.
- A 365. Sri S. Krishna Rao, Deputy Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Southern Range, Coimbatore.

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366. Capt. W. K. Buckley, A.D.C. to His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Madras Governor's Camp, South India.
367. Sri N. Ramaiah Pillai, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Crime Branch, C.I.D., Madras.
368. Dr. K. Ramaswami, District Health Officer, Nellore.
369. Sri A. M. Saverinathan, Revenue Divisional Officer, Vellore, North Arcot district.
- B 370. Mr. J. R. de Chazel, I.P., officiating District Superintendent of Police, Madras.
371. Sri S. Ramanuja Ayyangar, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Crime Branch, C.I.D., Mylapore, Madras.
372. Mr. C. O. Coorey, I.C.S., Deputy Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Fort St. George, Madras.
373. Mr. S. M. Hasan, I.C.S., Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras.
374. Mr. B. A. Harvey, I.P., District Superintendent of Police, South Kanara district, Mangalore.
375. Mr. A. E. D. Frederick, I.P., District Superintendent of Police, South Arcot district, Cuddalore.
376. Mr. V. Ramakrishna, C.I.E., I.C.S., Regional Director of Resettlement, Madras.
377. Sri Rao Sahib A. Venkataramanan, Deputy Chief Engineer (Irrigation), Chepauk, Madras.
378. Sri C. G. Reddi, Divisional Inspector of Factories, Chepauk, Madras.
379. Dr. S. E. D. Masillamani, Medical Officer for Health, Corporation of Madras, Madras.
380. Major K. Jayaram, Postal Superintendent, 6-A, Sriramnagar, Teynampet P.O., Madras.
381. Mrs. L. Raja Urs, Guindy Lodge, Guindy, Senior Commander, W.A.C. (I).
382. Rao Bahadur Lt.-Col. S. Paul, Professor, College of Engineering, Guindy.
383. Sri Mundukur, Agent, Imperial Bank of India, Pollachi.
384. Mr. L. S. Trasy, Branch Secretary, Union Life Assurance, 79, Sembudoss street, Madras.
385. Secretary, Christian Literature Society, Madras (Educational Publishers).
386. Bursar and Procurator, St. Joseph's College, Trichinopoly.
387. Headmaster, Madras Christian College High School, Madras.

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388. Elak Rubber Estate, Olavakkot (Planter).
 389. Mrs. C. K. Short, Planter, Nagalam, Yercaud.
 390. Fress Press Journals, Mount Road, Madras (Newspaper).
 391. Sri P. Chandra Reddi, Crown Prosecutor, Nilakanta Mehta street, Thyagarayanagar.
 392. Sri Diwan Bahadur V. Bashyam Ayyangar, Vardhini, Kilpauk, Madras (Retired Judge).
 393. Sri Rao Bahadur S. J. Eapen, Chief Medical Officer, M. & S.M. Railway, Sterling Road, Cathedral P.O., Madras.
 394. Khan Bahadur D. J. Batliwala Sahib Bahadur, Loco Works Manager, M. & S.M. Railway, Perambur, Madras.
 395. Mr. R. D. Walter, Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer, S.I. Railway, Trichinopoly.
 B 396. Mrs. H. Krishnamurti, Kesava Bagh, Whites Road, Royapetta, Madras (Social worker).
 397. Dr. (Miss) E. Maduram, Superintendent, Government Victoria Caste and Gosha Hospital, Triplicane, Madras.
 B 398. Mrs. H. Krishnamurti, Kesava Bagh, Whites Road, Hindupur.
 399. Mrs. G. F. Seymoor, Dental Surgeon, Coonoor.
 400. Capt. K. Satyanarayana, Andhra University, Physician, Maharani Peta P.O., Vizagapatam.
 401. Dr. P. K. Kalyanaraman, Honorary Assistant Medical Officer, Government Hospital, Coimbatore.
 402. Dr. K. S. Sanjeevi, 114, Mowbrays Road, Teynampet, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
 403. Dr. G. V. Rajammal, Secretary, The Kasturba National Memorial Maternity Home, Singanallur.
 404. Dr. M. Narayanan, Private Medical Practitioner, Felli-cherry.
 405. Rao Bahadur Dr. A. K. Raghavan, Municipal Chairman, Palghat.
 406. Dr. (Mrs.) F. Mathuranayagam, 30, Giri Road, Thyagarayanagar, Madras (Assistant Surgeon).
 407. Dr. N. Ramanathan, Honorary Civil Assistant Surgeon, Government Hospital, Tanjore.
 408. Dr. (Miss) B. Aranha, Assistant Surgeon, Women and Children Hospital, Egmore, Madras.
 409. Union Mission Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Arogyavaram, Chittoor district (Medical Institution).
 410. Major W. H. G. Reed, District Medical Officer, North Arcot district, Vellore.

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411. Dr. M. Gopalan Nair, Registered Medical Practitioner, Rose street, British Cochin.
 412. Mr. Fred Kershaw, Manager, Cambodia Mills, Limited, Coimbatore.
 413. Messrs. Liptons, Limited, 14, Periana Maistry street, G.T. Madras.
 414. Messrs. Richardson & Cruddas, First Line Beach, Madras.
 415. Messrs. William Jacks & Co., Ltd., 37, Second Line Beach, Madras.
 416. Sri Rao Sahib C. N. Suganandha Mudaliyar, Kallai (Timber merchant).
 B 417. Chittoor Co-operative Wholesale Stores, Limited, Chittoor.
 418. Mr. Fazl Karim Sahib Bahadur, Skins and Hides Merchant, Madras.
 419. Coimbatore Central Co-operative Stores, Limited, Vysial street, Coimbatore.
 420. Messrs. Tide Water Oil Co. (India), Ltd., c/o Parry & Co., Ltd., Madras.
 421. Mrs. F. Reynolds, Secretary to the Branch Manager, Burmah-Shell Oil Co., Ltd., Madras.
 422. Sri Rao Bahadur V. K. Eradi, Timber Merchant and Railway Contractor, Chalapuram, Calicut.
 423. Sri A. S. Rm. Subbiah Pillai, Bazaar street, Turaiyur, Trichinopoly (Merchant).
 424. Sri S. Ramanathan, Proprietor, Screen Prints, 8, Broadway, Madras.
 425. Sri T. Raghavachari, Honorary Secretary, Co-operative Stores and Bank, Limited, 87, Sullivan street, Coimbatore.
 426. V. Hameed Sultan Maricair Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., Naga-patam.
 427. Sri K. K. Subbanna Goundar, M.L.A., Kugalur P.O., Coimbatore district.
 428. Sri T. S. Pattabhiraman, M.L.A., Advocate, Tiruchengode, Salem district.
 429. Mrs. M. N. Clubwala, M.L.C., Philroy, Nungambakkam High Road, Madras.
 430. Sri Guntur Narasimha Rao, M.L.A., 3, Balfour Road, Kilpauk, Madras.
 431. Sri H. Sitarama Reddi, M.L.A., Hanumantha Vilas, Krishnamachary Road, Bellary.
 432. Sri N. Ranga Reddi, M.L.C., Cuddapah.

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[23rd April 1947]

433. Sri R. Subbier, M.L.A., Parliamentary Secretary to the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Fort St. George, Madras.
- B 434. Sri C. Perumalswamy Reddi, M.L.C., Chittathurai village, Devikapuram Post, North Arcot district.
435. Sri M. K. Jinachandran, M.L.A. (Central), Landlord and Planter, Kalpatta P.O., Malabar district.
436. Srimathi Allum Sumangala Amma, M.L.A., Gadigai Buildings, Bellary.
437. Md. Rafeeuddin Ahmed Ansari Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., Advocate and Government Khazi, Nellore.
438. Sri M. Thirumala Rao, Member, Council of State, Editor, "New Times," 2-A, Poonamallee High Road, Madras.
439. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
440. Chief Secretary to Government of Madras, Madras.
441. Sri S. Parthasarathy, 30, Luz, Mylapore, Madras (Director, Prithivi Insurance Co., Ltd.).
442. Sri P. Dharmadas, 2/200, Mint Street Madras (Proprietor, Karachi Confectionery).
443. Mr. C. E. M. Barret, Retired Textile Expert, Coonoor.
444. Messrs. South India Motor Co., Mount Road, Madras. For demonstration purposes. (Issued under instructions from War Transport Department.)
445. Messrs. South India Motor Co., Mount Road, Madras. For demonstration purposes. (Issued under instructions from War Transport Department.)
- A 446. Mr. I. P. McFarlane, Assistant, Mercantile Bank of India, Madras.
447. Mr. T. J. M. Wilson, M.L.A., Advocate, Masulipatnam. (Issued under instructions from War Transport Department).
- A 448. The Most Rev. Dr. Louis Mathias, Archbishop of Madras, Madras.
- C 449. Sir P. T. Rajan, "Palayam House", Tallakulam P.O., Madura.
- C 450. Mr. R. M. Mahadevan, I.P., District Superintendent of Police, Vizagapatam.
- C 451. Sri S. Rajagopalan, Assistant Engineer, P.W.D., Tanjore.
- C 452. Sri V. N. Swami, Government Electricity Department, Vellore.
- C 453. Sri Rao Sahib K. Muthukrishnan, Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Chepauk, Madras.
- B 454. Sri V. Ramakrishnan, Inspector of Steam Boilers, Rajahmundry.

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455. Mr. C. G. Thurley, Deputy Director of Survey, No. 7, McNichol Road, Kilpauk, Madras.
- B 456. Sri H. R. Sayoji Rao, Divisional Engineer (Highways), Bellary.
457. Sri C. Raghunathan, Additional Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.
458. Sri Rao Bahadur M. A. Kuttalalingam Pillai, No. 3, Vaidirama Ayyar Street, Tyagarayanagar, Madras (Provincial Controller of Food Rationing).
459. Sri B. K. Sundaram, Municipal Health Officer, Ootacamund.
460. Sri C. N. Thirupuvanam, Divisional Engineer (Highways), Tinnevely.
461. Sri Rao Bahadur K. K. Menon, Assistant Collector of Customs, Madras.
462. Sri Rao Bahadur N. Venkataramayya, Court of Enquiry, Room No. 98, New Wing, Secretariat Buildings, Fort St. George, Madras.
463. Sri P. Viswanathan, Drainage Superintendent, Corporation of Madras, No. 9, Thandavaraya Mudali Street, Washermanpet, Madras.
464. Sri G. S. Rama Ayyar, Divisional Engineer, Pykara Electricity System, Coimbatore.
465. Mr. R. C. S. Bell, I.C.S., Collector, North Arcot district, Vellore.
466. Sri V. K. Raman Menon, District Educational Officer, Chingleput district, Saidapet.
467. Sri S. R. Mandalam, c/o Hercules Insurance Company, Dare House, Madras (Insurance business).
468. Mr. K. A. Anderson, c/o The Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, P.B. No. 58, Madras (Bank official).
469. The Rev. C. R. Wierenga, Secretary, Reformed Church, Vellore.
470. Deaf and Dumb School, "Priory," Cathedral P.O., Madras.
471. Mr. Henderson, "Fairview," Kokkada Estate, Kotagiri (Planter).
472. Stanmore (Anamalai) Estates, Limited, Valparai P.O. (Planters).
- B 473. The "Mail," Mount Road, Madras (Newspaper).
474. Sri Rao Bahadur V. T. Rangaswami Ayyangar, "Sura-bhi", Balajinagar, Royapetta, Madras (Advocate).

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[23rd April 1947]

475. All-India Radio, Trichinopoly.
476. Messrs. Addison & Co., Ltd., Wellington (for demonstration and company's use).
477. Messrs. West Ramnad Electric Distribution Company, Limited, Rajapalayam.
478. Messrs. Burmah-Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Company of India, Limited, Post Box No. 157, Esplanade, Madras.
479. Sri B. Ramachandra Reddi, C.B.E., Mica Miner, Buchi-reddipalayam, Nellore district.
480. Mr. G. N. Tod, C.B.E., c/o Assistant Manager, Parry & Co., Ltd., Madras.
481. Manager, Messrs. Rashid & Sons, Army Contractors, Renigunta.
482. Air India, Limited, Civil Aerodrome, St. Thomas' Mount, Madras.
483. Mr. H. W. Hurton, c/o Tea Estates (India), Limited, Coimbatore (Planter).
484. Dr. (Mrs.) Lillian Singer, Kotagiri, Nilgiris (Medical Practitioner).
485. Major G. B. Thomas, Superintendent, Government Hospital for Women and Children, Egmore, Madras.
486. Dr. P. Krishnaswami, No. 231, Poonamallee High Road, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
487. Dr. P. Balakrishnan, No. 220, Mint Street, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
488. Dr. (Miss) U. Kareema Begum, No. 32, Old Jail street, Georgetown, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
489. Captain Korula Jhon, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Gudalur, Nilgiris.
490. Dr. A. E. Sundaresan, No. 7, Bishops Lane, Vepery, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
491. Major R. B. Reddy, Assistant Physician, Government General Hospital, Madras.
492. Dr. H. V. Kamalammal, Lady Superintendent, Child-Welfare Scheme, Corporation of Madras, Madras.
493. Dr. C. Desikacharlu, No. 79, Gopathy Narayanaswami Road, Tyagarayanagar, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
494. Dr. Lakshmi Swaminadhan, "Gilchrist Garden," Chetput, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
495. Lieut.-Col. J. A. Hamilton, c/o The Madras Chamber of Commerce, Post Box No. 35, "Dara House," Madras (Medical Practitioner).
496. Dr. H. A. Fernandez, Dental Surgeon, No. 42, Perambur Barracks, Vepery, Madras.

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497. Sri S. C. B. Mazumdar, No. 49, Constable Road, Railway Quarters Colony, Perambur (District Electrical Engineer, M. & S.M. Railway).
498. Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar, M.L.A. (Central), Race Course Road, Coimbatore.
- B 499. Sri B. Parameswaran, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George, Madras.
500. Srimathi V. Seethamahalakshmunamma, M.L.A., Zammigelve-palli, Kistna district.
501. Hajee K. M. Ahmed Kutti Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., Beach Road, Calicut.
502. Sri M. Venkataraju, M.L.A., Bapatla, Guntur district.
503. Sri D. Dorairaj Pandian, M.L.A., Elanji, Tenkasi, Tinnevely district.
- B 504 K. M. Rahimatullah Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A. (Central), Landholder, Anantapur.
505. Sri R. Ramakrishna Naidu, M.L.C., Perianaickenpalayam, Coimbatore.
506. Sri W. S. Srinivasa Rao, M.L.A., No. 11, Kalamman Koil street, Arni, North Arcot district.
507. Sri M. Pallam Raju, M.L.A., Cocanada.
508. S. Jalaluddin Sahib Bahadur, Proprietor, Messrs. Jalal & Sons, No. 46, Rattan Bazaar, Park Town, Madras.
509. Mr. W. Watson, c/o Messrs. Binny and Company, Limited, No. 7, Armenian street, Georgetown, Madras.
510. Sri Rao Bahadur S. Seetharama Patrudu, Headquarters Deputy Director of Agriculture, Madras.
511. Dr. P. N. Ramasubramanian, Madura (Medical Practitioner).
512. Messrs. Trojan and Company, Madras (businessman).
513. Dr. A. V. Avadhani, No. 137, Brodies Road, Mylapore, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
514. Sri Narasa Raju, Advocate, Madras.
515. Sri C. Subramanyam Chetti, Councillor, Corporation of Madras, Madras.
516. Sri K. Narayanan, Oppanakara street, Coimbatore (cloth merchant).
517. Messrs. Kalladi Kammappa and Brothers, Firewood Suppliers, Olavakkot.

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[23rd April 1947]

518. Messrs. Kannaiyal Ishwarlal and Company, No. 253, Govindappa Naicken street, Georgetown, Madras (diamond merchants).

519. M. Sirajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Superintendent of Police, Railways, Madras.

520. Sri M. Sivaraman, Mechanical Engineer, Corporation of Madras, Madras.

C 521. Mr. G. E. Hoover, Merchant, No. 22, Mada Church street, Rayapuram, Madras.

C 522. Zamindar of South Vallur, No. 12, Srikrishnapuram street, Royapetta, Madras (landholder).

C 523. Mr. W. T. Williams, Managing Director, Gordon Woodroffe & Co. (Madras), Ltd., Madras.

524. Sir C. R. Reddi, Vice-Chancellor, Andhra University, Waltair.

525. Sir Henry Howard, Consulting Engineer to the Government of Madras.

526. Zamindar of Andhra, Andhra P.O., Vizagapataun district (landholder).

527. Mr. V. Ramakrishna, C.I.E., I.C.S., Regional Director of Resettlement, Madras.

528. Mr. J. R. Bett, I.C.S., Collector of South Kanara, Mangalore.

B 529. Mr. A. S. Naik, I.C.S., Under Secretary to Government, Development Department, Fort St. George, Madras.

530. Sri K. P. R. Menon, Deputy Superintendent, Government Press, Madras.

531. Sri M. A. S. Jeddy, Prohibition Officer, Arni, North Arcot district.

532. T. T. P. Abdulla Sahib Bahadur, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Tirukkoyilur, South Arcot district.

533. Sri C. P. Subbiah, Deputy Chief Engineer, Madras.

534. Mr. C. R. F. Williams, Conservator of Forests, Ootacamund.

535. Sri R. Rangachari, Deputy Manager, Employment Exchange, Madras.

536. Sikandar Pasha Sahib Bahadur, Income-tax Officer, Salem.

537. Sri K. S. Vaidyanathan, District and Sessions Judge, Kurnool.

538. Sri P. T. Narayanan Nayar, Divisional Engineer (Highways), Coimbatore.

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[23rd April 1947]

539. Mr. H. J. Godwin, Bank Manager, c/o Grindlay & Co., Ltd., No. 9, McLean Street, Madras.

540. Dr. M. Damodaran, No. 2, Mantapam Road, Kilpauk, Madras (Educationist).

541. Mrs. S. G. Parthasarathi, "Heathning," No. 4, Pattulla Road, Mount Road, Madras (Lecturer, Queen Mary's College).

542. Theosophical Society, Adyar.

543. Mr. Thorne, Manager, Pierce Leslie & Co., Ltd., Calicut.

544. Major J. W. Haywood, c/o Messrs. T. Stanes & Co., Ltd., Coimbatore (Planter).

545. Mr. R. G. Pierce, Government Tea Inspector's Office, British Cochin.

546. Sri K. Srinivasan, Managing Editor, *The Hindu*, Mount Road, Madras.

547. Sri A. A. Nayar, Assistant Editor, *The Mail*, Mount Road, Madras.

548. Sri Rama Vilas, Limited, Mount Road, Madras.

549. Sri Bajrang Jute Mills, Guntur.

550. Mr. S. A. Minkley, New Hope Estate, New Hope P.O., The Nilgiris (Planter).

551. Sri P. Ananda Rao, 155-57, Poonamallee High Road, Kilpauk, Madras (Business Manager, X-Ray Institute).

552. Mr. A. C. King, c/o A. & F. Harvey, Limited, Madura (Mill official).

553. Mr. A. V. Thomas, c/o A. V. Thomas & Co., Ltd., Madras (businessman).

554. South Indian Flour Mill, 31, Govindappa Naicken Street, Madras.

555. Sri Ramaswami Gounder, President, Co-operative Society, Tiruppur.

556. Messrs. Kanderia, Limited, Mint Street, Madras.

557. Sri P. R. P. Kandaswami Chetti, Yarn Merchant, Gugai, Salem.

558. Sri Rao Bahadur P. Govinda Reddi, President, District Board, Nellore, Allur, Kovur taluk.

559. Sri C. C. Ghandy, Manager, Adair Dutt & Co., Ltd., Post Box No. 327, Mount Road, Madras.

560. Lieut.-Col. Pythan Adams, "Wichcombe," Kalhatti P.O., Nilgiris (Social worker).

561. Sri S. P. Adityan, M.L.A. (Central), 5, Thanikachala Mudaliar Street, Tyagarayanagar, Madras.

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562. Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder, M.L.A., 438/C, Tatabad, Coimbatore.
563. Mohamed Razakhan Sahib Bahadur, M.L.A., 55, Peters Road, Royapetta, Madras.
564. Sri S. C. Balakrishnan, M.L.A., Railway Feeder Road, Palni.
565. Sri P. R. Kandaswami Gounder, M.L.A., Chairman, Municipal Council, Pollachi.
566. Sri M. A. Eswaran, M.L.A., 113, Kutcheri Street, Erode.
567. Mr. J. L. P. Roche Victoria, M.L.C., "Suthasthan," Beach Road, Tuticorin.
568. Sri R. Nathamuni, M.L.A., Narasingapuram P.O., Chandragiri, Chittoor district.
569. Sri Pydah Venkatanarayana, M.L.A., Zamindar and Banker, Cocanada.
570. Sri S. Paramananda Rayair, M.L.A., Kuruswami Rayair Street, Porto Novo.
571. Major G. E. S. Stewart, District Medical Officer, Guntur.
572. Dr. N. A. Abraham, Badagara, North Malabar (Medical Practitioner).
573. Dr. G. Zackria, 16, Marshall's Road, Egmore, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
574. Rao Bahadur Dr. T. S. Thirumurthi, "Sevagram," 1, Krishnamachari Road, Nungambakkam, Madras.
575. Lieut.-Col. G. V. Satyanarayanamurthi, Medical Officer, Madras City Police, Madras.
576. Dr. Mrs. Sosa Philip, Woman Assistant Surgeon, Government Tuberculosis Institute, 22, Nowroji Street, Chetput, Madras.
577. Major N. Krishnaswami, "Srivas," R.S. Puram, P.O., Coimbatore (Medical Practitioner).
578. Dr. L. K. Muthuswami, Medical Practitioner, Erode.
579. Dr. K. S. Ayyar, "Sundara," Thanikachalam Chetti Road, T. Nagar, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
580. Dr. K. V. Ramakrishna Rao, 3, Iyah Mudali Street, Chintadripet, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
581. Dr. Arthur Daniel, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Vepery, Madras.
582. Sri R. Rajamanickam Mudaliyar, Taxi-owner, 6, Rajagopala Naicken Street, Chintadripet, Madras (for taxi purposes).
583. Muhammad Ismail Sahib Bahadur, 3, Hussain Ali Khan Bahadur First Street, Peters Road, Royapetta, Madras (for taxi purposes).

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584. Sri N. R. Purushothama Naidu, 5, Mowbrays Road, Mylapore, Madras (Merchant).
585. Sri S. A. Sesha Iyer, Chairman, Palni Municipality, Palni.
586. Major C. Raman, Central Jail, Cannanore (Jail Surgeon).
587. Sri E. V. Srinivasan, "Dvaraka", Edward Elliotts Road, Mylapore, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
588. Sri K. S. Krishnan, 13-A, MacNichols Road, Kilpauk, Madras (Chief Pilot Instructor).
- C 589. Sri V. Kalidas, 1, Lodi Khan Street, T. Nagar, Madras (Editor, *Anandavani*).
590. Dr. A. Vasudevan, Honorary Physician, Government Royapetta Hospital, Royapetta, Madras.
- C 591. Sri Rao Bahadur C. Gopala Menon, Member, C.R.T. Board, "Romola," Spur Tank Road, Egmore, Madras.
592. Lieut.-Col. V. B. Stock, General Manager, Messrs. Simpson & Co., Ltd., Madras.
593. The Rev. A. J. Boyd, Principal, Madras Christian College, Tambaram.
594. Dr. P. B. Anangarachari, Medical Practitioner, Madras.
595. Messrs. Muller and Phipps (India), Limited (businessmen), Madras.
596. Dr. T. M. P. Mahadevan, Reader in Philosophy, University of Madras.
597. His Grace the Archbishop of Pondicherry, Pondicherry.
598. Lieut.-Col. L. T. Wilcock, Military Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.
599. The Most Rev. Mar Thoma Dionysius, Metropolitan Bishop of the Syrian Orthodox Mission in South India, Bishop's House, Hiruthayapuram, Trichinopoly district.
600. Bishop Abraham, Metropolitan of Malabar, Madras.
601. Sri S. R. Nayudu, Divisional Engineer, Tanjore.
602. F. V. Arul, I.P., Deputy Commandant, Malabar Special Police, Malappuram.
603. P. Kuppuswami, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Madanapalle.
604. Sri Rao Bahadur P. Ramadoss, Collector of Ramnad at Madura.
605. Sri V. D. Masilamani, Revenue Divisional Officer, Devakottai.

Explanatory note.—'A' denotes that a permit issued before 12th September 1946 was surrendered by the allottee and was reissued subsequent to that date to the person against whom the letter stands; 'B' denotes that a primary or a surrendered permit issued after 12th September 1946 was surrendered by the allottee against whom the letter stands and was reissued to persons marked 'C' at the last moment to avoid unfreezing.

[23rd April 1947]

606. Mr. C. E. Prager, Divisional Electrical Engineer, Vellore.
607. Sri P. Ethirajulu Nayudu, Assistant Engineer (Highways), Tadepalligudem.
608. Sri B. V. Krishna Rao, Commissioner, Hindu Religious Endowments Board, No. 42, Mowbrays Road, Teynampet Post Office, Madras.
609. Sri K. V. L. Narasimham, District Judge, Kistna district.
610. Mr. M. A. Mohajir, Inspector of Excise, Salem.
611. Sri B. S. Kesava Vittal, District Forest Officer, Chittoor.
612. Mr. B. W. Day, I.C.S., Provincial Controller of Food Rationing, Madras.
613. Sri A. Srinivasan, Assistant Engineer, Public Works Department, Nilgiris Subdivision, Ootacamund.
614. Sri K. Shivaram Ballal, Assistant Engineer (Highways), Coimbatore.
615. Sri V. Satyavagiswara Ayyar, Personal Assistant to the District Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore.
616. Lieut.-Commr. B. K. Gupta, Mercantile Marine Department, P.B. No. 268, Madras.
617. Major H. A. Sujan, Deputy Regional Commissioner (Disposals), United India Life Buildings, Esplanade, Madras.
618. Mr. R. S. Brown, District Forest Officer, Soil Conservation Division, Ootacamund.
619. Mr. S. A. Iyengar, I.C.S., Additional District Magistrate, Vizagapatam.
620. Sri K. Sankaranarayana Rao, District Forest Officer, Pyrethrum Division, Nilgiris, Fernhill Post Office.
621. Sri T. N. Ramanathan, Resident Engineer, Guntur Power and Light, Limited, Guntur.
622. Sri R. M. Kumaraswamy Goundar, Vice-President, District Board, Coimbatore district, Palladam Post Office.
623. Mr. E. R. Logan, Chairman, Municipal Council, Kodai-kanal.
624. Mr. H. J. Godwin, Bank Manager, care of Grindley Company, Limited, No. 9, McLean Street, Madras.
625. Sri T. G. Loganathan, Chief Cashier, Chartered Bank of India, China and Australia, Madras.
626. Sri M. Mahanmall, Banker, No. 48, Nattupilliar Koil Street, Georgetown, Madras.
627. Sri P. Rangaswamy, Branch Manager, Prithivi Insurance Company, Limited, Peace Cottage, Saidapet, Madras.
628. Sri A. Subbiah, No. 289, Linghi Chetti Street, Georgetown, Madras (Insurance Manager).
629. Sri N. Ramarathnam, Proprietor, Madras Law Journal Office, Kaumudi, Warren Road, Bhimannapet, Mylapore, Madras.

23rd April 1947]

630. The *Indian Express*, No. 100, Wallajah Road, Mount Road, Madras-2.
631. Reverend Albert Cappele, St. Mary's Church, Ootacamund.
632. Mother Superior, Presentation Convent, Madras.
633. Sri Rao Sahib N. K. Thirumalachari, No. 11, Edward Elliotts Road, Mylapore, Madras-4 (Advocate).
634. Sri K. Sivaramakrishna Rao, Principal, Hindu College, Masulipatam.
635. Khan Bahadur H. M. Abdul Rahim Sait, Landlord and Planter, Southwick, Ootacamund.
636. The Waterfall Estates, Ltd., Oriental Buildings, Armenian Street, Madras (Planters).
637. Mr. T. C. Hutchinson, Caroline Estate, Mango Range Post Office, Nilgiris (Planters).
638. Mr. R. H. C. Allen, Kadalaparai Estate, Mudis Post Office, via Pollachi (Planters).
639. Sri S. Lingayya, Coffee Merchant, Main Road, Mettupalayam.
640. Sri A. L. Sahasranamam Ayyar, Banker, Palghat, South Malabar.
641. Sir G. K. Ranga Rao, the Raja of Bobbili, Bobbili.
642. Messrs. Nelson & Co., No. 62, Swami Pillai Street, Choolai, Madras (Businessmen).
643. Sri K. N. Narayanan Ayyar, Manager, Murugappa Agencies, Limited, No. 106, Armenian Street, Georgetown, Madras.
644. Co-operative Society, Tiruppur.
645. Sri S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiar, Senior Steward, Madras Race Club, Guindy, Saidapet Post Office.
646. Sri V. Ramaswami Reddi, Sadam, Chittoor district.
647. Mr. J. Malvenan, Assistant Manager, South Indian Export Company, Limited, No. 4, McLean Street, Madras.
648. Coramandel Company, Limited, Vizagapatam (Businessmen).
649. Sri K. N. Palanisami Gounder, Chairman, Municipal Council, Tiruppur.
650. Sri V. R. Radhakrishnan, Army Contractor, No. 8-E, Landen's Road, Kilpauk, Madras.
651. Messrs. A. S. Krishna & Co., Tobacco Exporters, Guntur.
652. Sri V. M. Prakash, Assistant Works Manager, Ordinance Clothing Factory, Madras.
653. Sri Rao Bahadur S. Chellam Ayyar, Proprietor, Messrs. South Indian Saw Mills, Kallai.
654. Indian Tea Market Expansion Board, Arasaradi, Madure.

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655. Mr. I. D. Edward, c/o Messrs. Pierce Leslie & Company, Limited, Calicut (Business official).
656. Mr. J. J. Grant, c/o Madura Mills Company, Limited, Ambasamudram, Tinnevely district (Business official).
657. Messrs. D. C. Johar & Sons, Army Contractors, Wellington, the Nilgiris.
658. Mr. S. M. Syed Khader & Co., Tajmahal Beedi Factory, Madras.
659. Messrs. Syed Abdus Samad, Handloom Cloth Merchants, Jumma Masjid Road, Mangalore.
660. District Manager, Telephones, Madras district, China Bazaar Road, Madras.
661. Mr. P. Graham, c/o Imperial Tobacco Company of India, No. 8/9, Thambu Chetti Street, Madras (Business official).
662. Mr. P. H. D. Carmichael, Assistant, Binny & Company, Limited, Madras.
663. Mr. A. M. M. Abdulla, Sappani Labbai Street, Triplicane, Madras (Businessman).
664. Coimbatore Pioneer Mills, Limited, Coimbatore.
665. Sri B. S. Murthi, M.L.A., Parliamentary Secretary to the Honourable the Minister for Labour and Industries, Madras.
666. Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George, Madras.
667. Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, M.L.A., Advocate, No. 96, Sandaipettai Street, Madras.
668. Sri K. K. Subbanna Gounder, M.L.A., Kugalur Post Office, Coimbatore district.
669. Sri A. B. Shetty, M.L.A., No. 48, Harris Road, Mount Road, Madras.
670. Srimathi Bhupathiraju Bangarayya, M.L.A., No. 1, Coats Road, Thyagarayanagar, Madras.
671. Sri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, M.L.A. (Central), Race Course Road, Coimbatore.
672. Kalluri Chandra Mouli, M.L.A., Mopparu Post Office, Tenali, Guntur district.
673. Sri B. V. Subramaniam, Advocate, Mylapore, Madras.
674. Dr. G. S. Dugal, c/o the Punjab National Bank, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
675. Dr. C. R. Thiruvengadam, A.D.M.O., No. 6, Williams Road, Trichinopoly.
676. Miss M. E. Hampton, Acting Honorary Superintendent, Bethesda Leper Hospital, Narasaraopet, Guntur district.
677. Dr. K. Ramachandran, Lecturer in Anaesthetics, Stanley Medical College, Madras.
678. Captain N. Samuel Reddi, A.D.M.O., Cocanada, East Godavari district.

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679. Dr. Abdul Sathar Ismail Sait, Civil Assistant Surgeon, Dindigul.
680. Dr. Mrs. Siebers De Valois, Head of E.N.T. Department, Missionary Medical College, Vellore.
681. Dr. H. M. Rao, Dental Surgeon, Mount Road, Madras.
682. Dr. A. S. Ramakrishnan, No. 497, Mint Street, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
683. Dr. T. Muthuswami, Private Medical Practitioner, Virudunagar.
684. Dr. B. H. P. Pai, Physician, Government General Hospital, Madras.
685. Dr. B. Sitaramayya, Assistant Surgeon, Local Fund Dispensary, Samalkot, East Godavari district.
686. Dr. C. Raghavachari, No. 4, Lady Desikachari Road, Mylapore, Madras (Medical Practitioner).
687. Lieut.-Col. M. V. Ramanamurthi, Professor of Surgery, Andhra Medical College, Chatrajuvari street, Vizagapatam.
688. Sri V. Guruswami, Panruti, South Arcot district (Businessman).
689. Sri M. N. Aswatanarayana, Hindupur.
690. Messrs. A. P. Chirukandan & Sons, Engineering Contractors, Chalapuram Post Office, Calicut.
691. Messrs. Madras Electric Tramways Company, No. 1, Rundall's Road, Vepery, Madras.
692. Col. R. H. P. Cumming, Col., i/c, Administration Sub-Area, Coimbatore.
693. Sri N. S. Seshachalam, Assistant Traffic Superintendent, South Indian Railway, Trichinopoly.
694. Dr. R. Venkata Rao, District Medical Officer, Kistna district.
695. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Kunhiraman, Judge, High Court, Madras.
696. Mrs. H. Krishnamurthi, Kesava Bagh, Whites Road, Royapettah, Madras (Social worker).
697. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali, Judge, High Court, Madras.
698. Rao Sahib Dr. K. S. Raju, Hindupur (Civil Assistant Surgeon).
699. Sri C. Perumalswami Reddi, M.L.C., Chithathurai village, Devikapuram P.O., North Arcot district.
700. Mr. K. M. Rahimtullah, M.L.A., Central Landholder, Anantapur.
701. Sri V. Ramakrishnan, Inspector of Steam Boilers, Rajahmundry.
702. Sri Rao Bahadur V. T. Rangaswami Ayyangar, "Surabhi", Balajinagar, Royapetta, Madras (Advocate).

[23rd April 1947]

703. Sri H. R. Sayaji Rao, Divisional Engineer (Highways), Bellary.
704. Sri B. Parameswaran, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George, Madras.
705. Messrs. Kalladi Kammappa Bros., Olavakkot (Businessmen).
706. Mr. M. A. S. Jeddy, Prohibition Officer, Arni, North Arcot district.
707. Sri C. N. Tirupuvanam, Divisional Engineer (Highways), Madras.
708. Sri C. P. Subbiah, Deputy Chief Engineer (Highways), Madras.
709. Sri S. A. Sessa Ayyar, Municipal Chairman, Palni.
710. Mr. P. Sikanda Pasha, Income-tax Officer, Salem.
711. Mr. P. L. P. Roche Victoria, M.L.C., "Sukasthan", Beach Road, Tuticorin.
712. Sri S. Paramananda Rayar, M.L.A., Kuruswami Rayar street, Porto Novo.
713. Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder, M.L.A., 438-C, Tatahad, Coimbatore.
714. Zamindar of Andhra, Andhra P.O., Vizagapatam.
715. Sri M. A. Easwaran, M.L.A., 113, Cutcherry street, Erode.
716. Dr. V. K. John, M.L.C., "Dadnor", 7, Nungambakkam High Road, Madras.
717. Mr. H. E. Wilson, Sales Supervisor, Caltex (India), Limited, 16, Armenian street, Madras-1.
718. Sri P. N. Menon, c/o Best & Co., Ltd., Madras (Business official).
719. Sri N. Ramiah Pillai, Deputy Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Madras.
720. Mr. C. B. F. Williams, Conservator of Forests, Salem.
721. Sri K. R. Sampath, Assistant Registrar, Income-tax Appellate Tribunal, Madras.
722. Dr. Kalamegam, Trichinopoly.
723. United India Fire and General Insurance Co., Madras.
724. Mr. M. H. Kasinalli Sahib, 6, Thayar Sahib Street, Mount Road, Madras.
725. Sri C. V. Hanumantha Rao, Director of Publicity, Madras.
726. Messrs. L. K. Shahul Hameed & Co., 23, Surappa Mudali street, Triplicane, Madras.
727. Messrs. K. P. V. Shaik Mohamed Rowther & Co., Shipping Agents, Madras.
728. Mr. Samuel Aaron, ex-M.L.A., and Proprietor, Textile Mills, Pappanasseri.
729. Mr. S. V. Ramaswami, Barister-at-Law, Salem.

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730. Sri P. R. Nambiar, Proprietor, Nambiar Service, Guruvayur.
731. Mr. P. P. Hassan Koya, M.L.A., Calicut.
732. Raja of Ramnad, M.L.A., Ramnad.
733. Mr. G. V. Røge, Assistant Foreign Trade Controller, Madras.
734. Mr. T. Sivasanker, I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Development Department, Madras.
735. Lieut.-Col. M. C. Menon, Guindy Institute, Guindy.
736. Dr. E. V. Kalyani, Edward Elliotts Road, Mylapore, Madras.
737. Dr. E. M. Sundaravadanam, 187, Poonamallee High Road, Madras.
738. Dr. P. K. K. Raja, 20, Egmore High Road, Madras.
739. Sri D. S. Naidu, Section Manager, Caltex (India), Limited, Madras.
740. Sri M. Siva Rao, President, South Kanara Central Co-operative Wholesale Stores, Limited, Mangalore.
741. Sri A. C. Subba Reddi, President, Wholesale Stores, Limited, Nellore.
742. Mr. H. S. Hussain, M.L.A., Karkal.
743. Sri G. Kumaraswami, M.L.A., Chicacole.
744. Sri N. V. Naidu, Kisan Congress, Pakala.
745. Sri N. M. R. Subbaraman, M.L.A., Madura.
746. Sri Rao Bahadur K. V. Krishnaswami Ayyar, Advocate, Madras.
747. Sri T. S. Manicka Mudaliyar, Thirumuzhi P.O., Chingleput district.
748. Sri P. M. Natarajan, Assistant Transportation Superintendent, M. & S.M. Railway, Madras.
749. Sri M. Shanmugam Chettiar, 285, Linghi Chetti street, Madras.
750. Sri B. M. Lakshmipathi, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Madras.
751. Sri P. Govinda Menon, Crown Prosecutor, Madras.
752. Sri T. M. Kasturi, Advocate, Madras.
753. Dr. C. R. Krishna Pillai, Royapetta, Madras.
754. Mr. Kasim Kaleeli, Madras.
755. Mr. A. A. Khan, Deputy Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Madras.
756. Mr. Jamal Moideen, M.L.A., Madras.
757. Sri R. K. Venkataswami, Erode.
758. Sri C. Sankaran Nambiyar, Sub-Judge, Calicut.
759. Sri A. Rajagopalan, Member, Food Committee, Chingleput.
760. Sri V. C. Palaniswami Gounder, M.L.A., Coimbatore.

[23rd April 1947]

761. Mr. P. Sikandar Paksha, Income-tax Officer, Salem.
762. Sri K. K. Subbanna Gownder, M.L.A., Kugalur P.O., Coimbatore district.
763. Dr. H. M. Rao, Mount Road, Madras.
764. Sri V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Parliamentary Secretary, Fort St. George, Madras.
765. Sri K. Shivaram Ballal, Assistant Engineer, Coimbatore.
766. Sri K. N. Palaniswami Gounder, Municipal Chairman, Tiruppur.
767. Mr. K. M. Rahimatullah, M.L.A., Central, Anantapur.
768. Sri A. Vaidyanatha Ayyar, M.L.A., Madura.
769. Dr. (Mrs.) Seibers De Valois, Katpadi.
770. Waterfalls Estates, Limited, Madras.
771. Sri A. B. Shetty, M.L.A., Mangalore.
772. Messrs. D. C. Johar & Sons, Wellington.
773. Sri C. Perumalswami Reddi, M.L.C., Chithathurai.
774. The Most Rev. Mar Thoma Dionysius, Trichinopoly.
775. Dr. Abdul Sattar Ismail Sait, Dindigul.
776. Sri P. Kuppuswami, Deputy Superintendent of Police, C.I.D., Madras.
777. Mrs. M. N. Clubwala, M.L.C., Madras.
778. Lieut.-Col. R. K. Chettur, District Medical Officer, Anantapur.
779. Sri K. Parthasarathi Nayudu, Appah Gardens, Madras.
780. Sri K. Krishna Rao, "Woodlands", Madras.
781. Dr. M. K. Subramaniam, Kumbakonam.
782. Mr. K. Imppichamed, Malabar.
783. Messrs. M. N. A. Ahmed Rowther & Bros., Malabar.
784. Khan Sahib T. V. Koyamu Sahib Bahadur, District Registrar, Tellicherry.
785. Sri P. Ramakrishna Ayyar, District Judge, Ramnad, at Madura.
786. Maharani of Vizianagram, Nungambakkam High Road, Madras.
787. Sri K. S. Sambasiva Ayyar, Mirasdar, Kunniyur, Mannargudi taluk.
788. Sri M. Kesava Unni Nayar, Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Egmore, Madras.
789. Sri S. L. Sastri, Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax, Ormes Road, Madras.
790. Dr. J. C. David, Madras.
791. Messrs. Cresham Life Assurance, Madras.
792. J. P. L. Gwynn, Esq., I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Malapuram, Malabar.

23rd April 1947]

793. Mr. L. D. P. Phillips, Executive Assistant, Burmah-Shell Oil Co., Madras.
794. Mr. H. Woodroffes, Madras.
795. Mr. A. R. Liddire, Madras.
796. Mr. G. S. Bede, Madras.
797. Sri V. S. Krishnaswami Ayyangar, Madras.
798. Mr. W. F. Hamilton, O.B.E., I.P., Madras.
799. Mr. M. B. Chaplani, Madras.
- * 800 Mr. J. M. Mortimer, Malabar.
801. Sri V. K. Krishnamurthi, Madras.
- * 802. Sri V. K. Krishnamurthi, Madras.
803. Mr. A. K. G. Hogg, Madura.
804. Sri T. Sekharan, Bellary.
805. Sri C. Sivaji Rao, Madras.
- * 806. Sri G. Satyanarayana Choudry, Chittoor.
- * 807. P. M. John, Esq., Coimbatore.
808. Messrs. Firestone Tyre & Rubber Co. of India, Limited, Madras.
- * 809 Sri Rao Sahib C. Narasimham, Madras.
- * 810. Sri K. S. Krishnan, South Kanara.
811. Rao Bahadur P. Ramdoss, I.C.S., Ramnad.
812. Sri P. Rajagopalan, I.C.S., Madura.
- * 813. Mr. B. C. Panchanatham, Madura.
814. Mr. S. Thayappa Tevar, Tanjore.
- * 815. Mr. M. Jacob, Madras.
- * 816. Mr. B. K. Manjunathayyar, Madura.
817. Sri V. Duraiswami, Madras.
818. Dr. G. S. Dugal, Madras.
- * 819. Mr. A. W. Strang, Trichinopoly.
- * 820. Sri R. Jayaram, Madras.
821. Dr. A. K. Subba Raman, Kistna.
- * 822. Sri M. V. Venkataraman, Madras.
823. Messrs. The Mahalakshmi Bank, Limited, Madras.
824. Dr. R. Sudarsanam, Madras.
- * 825. Messrs. British Insulated Callendar's Cables, Limited, Madras.
826. Mr. K. M. Kuruvilla, Tanjore.
827. Mr. N. J. Dadhabhoy, Madras.
- * 828. Dr. V. Rama Ayyar, Tanjore.
- * 829. Sri M. S. Raju Pillai, South Arcot.
830. Major A. Lakshminarayanan, Trichinopoly.

* Persons marked with asterisks returned the permits issued to them.

[23rd April 1947]

- 831. Dr. (Miss) Kalavathi, Madras.
- 832. Dr. H. C. D. Souza, South Kanara.
- * 833. Dr. N. Rajamanickam Pillai, Anantapur.
- * 834. Dr. R. Lakshmanan, North Arcot.
- * 835. Dr. P. D. Kannivelu, Madras.
- * 836. Dr. N. Satyanarayana Rao, East Godavari.
- 837. Dr. C. V. Krishnaswami, Coimbatore.
- 838. Dr. M. Venkatachalam Chetti, Madura.
- * 839. Dr. B. C. Smith, Madras.
- * 840. Capt. S. Sethurama Rao, Trichinopoly.
- * 841. Dr. (Mrs.) V. C. Anguli, Madras.
- 842. Capt. S. Jagannathan, Madras.
- 843. Capt. K. G. Menon, Madras.
- * 844. Major R. S. Rao, Coimbatore.
- * 845. Dr. S. Srinivasachari, Madras.
- 846. Dr. A. N. K. Menon, Madras.
- * 847. Dr. K. Bhaskaran, Madras.
- * 848. Dr. P. R. Kalyanasundaram, Madras.
- 849. Messrs. Zaccaria Sait & Sons, Madras.
- 850. Mr. T. Murli, Madras.
- * 851. Sister M. Elizabeth, Kistna.
- * 852. Mr. D. D. Sabnis, Madras.
- 853. Sri M. A. Chidambaram, Madras.
- 854. Sri K. R. K. Iyengar, Madras.
- 855. Messrs. Carr & Co., Ltd., Madras.
- 856. Mr. B. E. Lobo, South Kanara.
- * 857. Messrs. Spencer & Co., Ltd., Madras.
- 858. Mr. F. W. Bayley, Madras.
- * 859. Sri Ch. Subba Rao, Madras.
- 860. Mr. N. A. Wilks, Coimbatore.
- * 861. Mr. N. Sivaraj, M.L.A. (Central), Madras.
- 862. Mr. A. L. E. Hooper, Kistna.
- * 863. Major W. A. Fosberry, M.B.E., the Nilgiris.
- * 864. St. Joseph's Industrial School, the Nilgiris.
- 865. Sri S. Doraiswami Mudaliar, Madras.
- * 866. Messrs. The Reliance Motor Co., Ltd., Madras.
- * 867. Mr. A. M. Campbell, Madras.
- * 868. Diwan Bahadur N. Ramaswami Ayyar, Trichinopoly.
- 869. Mr. W. G. Tomlinson, Madras.
- 870. Sri T. V. Muthukrishna Ayyar, Madras.

* Persons marked with asterisks returned the permits issued to them.

23rd April 1947]

- * 871. Mr. A. J. C. Harvey, Madura.
- * 872. Messrs. The Indian Hume Pipe Co., Ltd., Madras.
- 873. Messrs. The Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Co., Guntur.
- 874. Messrs. National Tobacco Co. of India, Ltd., Guntur.
- * 875. Mr. Manilal R. Mehta, Madras.
- * 876. Sri C. K. Gurunathan, Madras.
- * 877. Messrs. P. B. Sudry & Sons, Madras.
- * 878. Sri N. Narayanamurthi, M.L.A., Madras.
- 879. Mr. F. J. Hughes, Coimbatore.
- 880. Messrs. The Indian Cements, Ltd., Madras.
- * 881. Dr. U. Thrivikrama, Malabar.
- * 882. Dr. A. V. Krishnamurthi, Coimbatore.
- * 883. Captain S. Asirvatham, Tinnevely.
- * 884. Captain T. M. B. Nedungadi, Madras.
- 885. Dr. K. R. Doraiswami, Madras.
- * 886. Sri T. K. Raghavan, Malabar.
- 887. Sri K. Krishnaswami Ayyangar, Madras.
- 888. Lieut.-Col. E. W. Fletcher, Pondicherry.
- 889. Major W. P. Lappin, Madras.
- * 890. Rajah of Ramnad, Madras.
- 891. Sri N. V. Nandu, Chittoor.
- 892. Messrs. Dodajee Dhackjee & Co., Ltd., Madras.
- 893. Sri P. M. Natarajan, Madras.
- * 894. Major W. P. Lappin, Madras.
- 895. Sri Rao Sahib E. M. Annamalai Pillai, Coimbatore.
- 896. Sri K. Nagarajan, Madras.
- * 897. Stanmore (Anamallay) Estates, Ltd., Coimbatore.
- 898. Sri Manilal M. Mehta, Madras.
- 899. Mrs. Sunithi Rao, Madras.
- 900. Mr. M. K. Belgamwala, Madras.
- * 901. Mrs. S. N. Khan, Madras.
- 902. Mr. N. K. U. Kunhamed, Malabar.
- * 903. The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, Madras.
- 904. Sri C. K. Velayutham, Madura.
- 905. Burmah-Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Company of India, Limited, Madras.
- 906. Sri G. Kumaraswami, Madras.
- 907. Mr. H. R. Lafa, Madras.
- 908. Sri C. Perumalswami Reddi, M.L.C., North Arcot.

* Persons marked with asterisks returned the permits issued to them.

[23rd April 1947]

909. Sri P. Govinda Menon, Crown Prosecutor, Madras.
 910. Sri B. Venkataratnam, Madras.
 911. Mrs. Suniti Rao, Madras.
 912. Dr. (Miss) P. Neelavathi, Kistna.
 913. Sri T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
 * 914. Diwan Bahadur Sir Gopathi Narayanaswami Chetti, Kt., C.I.E., J.P., Madras.
 915. Sri Raja N. Venkata Ranga Rao Bahadur, Raja of Mungala.
 916. Mr. J. Kuriyan, Madras.
 917. Sri K. K. Nambiar, Madras.
 * 918. Mr. R. R. B. Truscott, the Nilgiris.
 919. Mr. S. M. Gupta, Madras.
 920. Mr. J. R. LeFevre, Madras.
 921. Sri K. S. Krishnan, Madras.
 922. Sri V. P. Nair, Ramnad.
 * 923. Mr. S. W. W. Wright, Bellary.
 924. Mrs. Sataya Bhama Achuthan, Madras.
 * 925. Mr. M. Ramabrahmam, Madras.
 * 926. D. N. Achuthan, Malabar.
 927. Captain S. Jagannathan, Madras.
 928. Dr. P. Venkateswara Rao, Madras.
 929. Dr. (Mrs.) D. Shantasundari, Madras.
 930. Dr. (Mrs.) V. C. Anguli, Madras.
 931. Dr. K. Vasudeva Rao, Madras.
 932. Dr. H. K. R. Jayachandran, Coimbatore.
 933. Dr. T. M. Srinivasan, Madras.
 * 934. Major R. V. N. Naidu, Coimbatore.
 * 935. Dr. S. Balasundaram, Madras.
 * 936. Dr. P. Arunachalam, Madras.
 937. Dr. S. C. Alagappan, Madras.
 * 938. Mr. S. C. Mitra, Madras.
 939. Mr. K. Lakshmanan, Madras.
 940. Mrs. T. N. Ramamurthi, Madras.
 941. Sri Kasa Subba Rao, Madras.
 942. Mr. B. D. Goenka, Madras.
 * 943. Sri M. Subbaraya Ayyar, Madras.
 * 944. Sri Rao Sahib S. Malakonda Reddi, Nellore.
 945. Sri Ch. Raghava Rao, Madras.
 946. Sri Diwan Bahadur N. Ramaswamy Ayyar, Trichinopoly.

* Persons marked with asterisks returned the permits issued to them.

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- * 947. Sri P. Ponnambala Gounder, Trichinopoly.
 948. Sri A. B. Shetty, M.L.A., Madras.
 949. Sri Ramabadra Raju, M.L.C., East Godavari.
 950. Sri P. Natesan, M.L.A., Madras.
 951. Sri Alluri Satyanarayana Raju, M.L.A., West Godavari.
 952. Sri M. Bapineedu, M.L.A., Madras.
 953. Sri B. Gopal Reddi, M.L.A., Nellore.
 * 954. Sri Maddi Sudarsanam, M.L.C., Guntur.
 * 955. Kumararaja Sir M. A. Muthiah Chettiar, M.L.A., Madras.
 956. Sri C. K. Loganatha Mudaliar, Madras.
 957. Messrs. Madura Mills, Limited, Madura.
 958. Tungabadra Industries, Limited, Madras.
 959. Textile Workers' Union, Singanallur, Coimbatore.
 960. Sri R. R. B. Jesudasan, Madras.
 * 961. Sri M. Shiva Rao, South Kanara.
 962. Sri A. M. M. Murugappa Chettiar, Madras.
 963. Mr. C. H. Shaik Mohammed, Madras.
 964. Sri G. A. Phadke, Madras.
 965. Messrs. James Finlay & Co., Ltd., Vizagapatam.
 966. Messrs. Indian Leaf Tobacco Development Company, Limited, Guntur.
 * 967. Sri D. Kesava Reddi, Madras.
 * 968. Sri C. Y. Anjaneyulu Chetti, Madras.
 * 969. Brooke Bond, India, Limited, Coimbatore.
 * 970. Sri V. V. Dhanushkodi, Tinnevely.
 * 971. Messrs. Pierce Leslie & Co., Malabar.
 972. Mr. A. G. Langdon, Madras.
 * 973. Sri P. Nachimuthu Gounder, Coimbatore.
 974. The Western India Match Company, Limited, Madras.
 975. Sri Kisandos Girdhardoss, Madras.
 976. Sir Lionel Gasson, the Nilgiris.
 * 977. Mr. Mohammed Ali, Madras.
 * 978. Messrs. Parry & Co., Ltd., Madras.
 979. Dr. N. Seshadrinathan, Madras.
 * 980. Kumararaja Sir M. A. Muthiah Chettiar, M.L.A., Madras.
 981. Mr. M. Kazim Khaleeli, Madras.
 982. Mrs. Kathemar Lakshminathamma, South Kanara.
 983. Sri Rao Bahadur S. R. Krishnamurti, Madras.
 * 984. Mr. A. E. Thompson, M.L.A., Madras.
 * 985. Miss P. V. Rajalakshmi, Vizagapatam.

* Persons marked with asterisks returned the permits issued to them.

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- * 986. Sri Dinavathi Hanumantha Rao, East Godavari.
- * 987 Sri R. Jogidasan, Madras.
- * 988 Mr. M. C. Chandy, Madras.
- 989. Sri M. A. Chidambaram, Madras.
- 990. Mrs. M. N. Clubwala, M.L.C., Madras.
- 991. Messrs. Sundaram Motors, Ltd., Madras.
- 992. Dr. T. V. Venkatesan, Madura.
- 993. Sri S. S. Raghavachari, Madras.
- * 994. Sri R. K. Venkatasami, Coimbatore.
- * 995. Mr. D. D. Sabino, Madras.
- 996. Mr. H. S. Macqueen, Madras.
- 997. Sri M. C. Varadachari, Madras.
- * 998. Dr. K. R. Hariharan, Salem.
- 999. United Fire & General Insurance Co., Ltd., Madras.
- * 1000. Sri N. C. Thimma Reddi, Madras.
- 1001 Sri A. V. Venkataswami, North Arcot.
- 1002. Mr. Usman A. Balvich, Madras.
- * 1003. Dr. L. S. Shenoy, Malabar.
- * 1004. Dr. K. Rajagopal Naidu, Salem.
- * 1005. Dr. S. R. Rajaram, Salem.
- * 1006. Dr. S. Narayana Ayyar, Trichinopoly.
- * 1007. Dr. T. S. Venkataramayya, Madras.
- 1008 Dr. A. P. Gopalan, Vizagapatam.
- * 1009 Dr. B. R. Kulasekhar, Cuddapah.
- 1010. Dr. M. G. Nair, Coimbatore.
- 1011. Dr. G. M. Stephones, Coimbatore.
- * 1012. Sri Kanisetti Venkata Seshaiiah, Nellore.
- 1013. Mr. A. F. Mascarenhas, Bellary.
- 1014. Sri D. Raja Ram Reddi, Nellore.
- 1015. Capt. C. H. Katre, Kistna.
- 1016. Sri V. Gururaja Rao, Madras.
- * 1017. Mr. G. A. Fonceca, Madras.
- * 1018. Sri N. Subramaniyam, Madras.
- 1019. Sri D. Manjappa Heggade, M.L.C., South Kanara.
- 1020. Dr. R. Kalamegham, Trichinopoly.
- 1021. Kaiser-i-Hind Insurance Company, Ltd., Madras.
- * 1022. Sri A. C. Krishnaswami, Madras.
- 1023. Sri K. M. S. L. Sundararaman, Madura.
- 1024. Dr. T. M. Srinivasan, Madras.
- 1025. Mr. I. R. Cleghorn, Madras.

* Persons marked with asterisks returned the permits issued to them.

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- 1026. Sri P. V. Ramani Chetty, Madras.
- 1027. Capt. Miss C. N. Rukmini, Madras.
- 1028. Capt. Meaney, Madras.
- 1029. Mr. P. P. Nair, I.C.S., Anantapur.
- * 1030. Sri T. Rajamannar, Madras.
- 1031. Sri P. L. Chockalingam Chettiar, Coimbatore.
- 1032. Mr. J. R. LeFevre, Madras.
- * 1033. Messrs. Brooke Bond India, Ltd., Coimbatore.
- 1034. Sri Rao Bahadur T. G. Sanjivi, Madras.
- 1035. Regional Director of Resettlement, Madras.
- 1036. Dr. S. Nagaswami, Madras.
- 1037. Sri C. Krishnaswami Naidu, Madras.
- 1038. Sir Mohamed Usman, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., Madras.
- 1039. Sri N. Venkatasubbiah, M.L.A., Madras.
- 1040. Dr. B. Seshagiri Rao, Madras.
- 1041. Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, Madras.
- 1042. Major K. V. Sankunni Nair, Madras.
- 1043. Mr. C. V. Narasimhan, M.B.E., I.C.S., Madras.
- 1044. Capt. K. S. Viswanathan, Madras.
- * 1045. Khan Sahib N. Durrani Sahib, Madras.
- * 1046. Sri K. S. V. Krishnan, M.L.A., South Arcot.
- * 1047. Mr. C. P. Fernandez, Coimbatore.
- * 1048. Sri A. Kameswara Rao, M.L.A., Guntur.
- 1049. Kumararaja Sir M. A. Muthiah Chettiar, M.L.A., Madras.
- 1050. Sri M. Subbaraya Ayyar, Madras.
- 1051. Sri A. Royappan, M.L.A., Madras.
- 1052. Sri Rao Bahadur P. V. Subba Rao, Madras.
- 1053. Dr. V. C. Chakrapani, Madras.
- * 1054. Sri K. Balakrishna Menon, Salem.
- 1055. Sri V. I. Munuswami Pillai, M.L.A., Madras.
- 1056. Sri V. C. Vellingiri Gounder, M.L.A. (Central), Coimbatore.
- 1057. Dr. U. S. Raghunathan, Madras.
- 1058. Capt. V. R. Naidu, Madras.
- 1059. Dr. S. Maragathavel, Madras.
- 1060. Capt. K. Venugopal, Chittoor.
- 1061. Dr. C. Kunjunni Nair, Malabar.
- 1062. Dr. S. Thurimappa Kambli, South Kanara.
- 1063. Dr. K. Venugopal, Malabar.
- 1064. Dr. (Mrs.) M. Devanesan, Salem.

* Persons marked with asterisks returned the permits issued to them.

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1065. Dr. John Prianathan, South Arcot.
 1066. Dr. A. R. Rangaswami, North Arcot.
 1067. Dr. V. Vijayaraghavan, Madras.
 1068. Dr. E. L. Rajagopal, North Arcot.
 1069. Dr. L. Munuswami, Coimbatore.
 1070. Dr. (Miss) M. Chacko, the Nilgiris.
 1071. Dr. D. A. Dandayuthapani, Madura.
 * 1072. Sri P. R. Ramanathan, Madras.
 1073. Kaleswari Colour Match Works, Ramnad.
 1074. Messrs. Mahomed Ibrahim & Co., Madras.
 1075. Sri M. G. Venugopal Rao Pillai, Madras.
 1076. Messrs. Jeewanlal (1929), Ltd., Madras.
 1077. Pandit E. S. Gopan, Madras.
 1078. Dr. (Miss) L. Janaki, Madras.
 1079. Sri S. L. Sastri, Madras.
 1080. Dr. R. Krishnaswami Ayyar, Trichinopoly.
 1081. Dr. M. Sambhasivan, Madras.
 * 1082. Dr. K. C. Chacko, South Arcot.
 1083. Dr. P. Sadasivan, Madras.
 * 1084. Sri S. G. Appa Rao Nayudu, Madras.
 1085. Sri K. Gummurthi, Madras.
 * 1086. Sri T. R. Sadasivan, Madras.
 1087. Sri K. Venkatasami Reddi, Madras.
 1088. Sri A. B. Kannabiran Mudaliyar, Chingleput.
 1089. Lieut.-Col. D. Subramania Ayyar, Madras.
 1090. Sri M. N. Sarma, Kistna.
 * 1091. Sri Maddi Sudarsanam, M.L.C., Guntur.
 1092. Mr. B. W. Lane, Malabar.
 1093. Sri R. Raghava Menon, M.L.A., Madras.
 1094. Dr. L. T. Shenoy, Malabar.
 1095. Sri W. S. Krishnaswami Naidu, Madras.
 * 1096. Sri Kissendas Girdhardas, Madras.

* Persons marked with asterisks returned the permits issued to them.

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APPENDIX III

[Vide answer to starred question No. 166 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 23rd April 1947, page 661 supra.]

Statement showing the names of persons recently appointed as Inspecting Assistant Textile Commissioners, their qualifications and districts to which they belong.

Serial number and name of the I.A.T.C.	Qualifications.	Districts to which they belong.
1 Sri N. Ramachandra Rao ..	LL.B. ..	Guntur.
2 „ V. L. Sastri ..	B.A. ..	East Godavari.
3 „ P. Seetharama Chetty, Tahsildar, South Kanara.	S.S.L.C. ..	South Kanara.
4 „ Y. Venkanna Dora ..	B.A., B.L. ..	East Godavari.
5 Dr. G. Narayana Murthy ..	L.M. & S. ..	Vizagapatam.
6 Sri K. L. Narasimha Rao ..	B.A., First grade Vakil.	Kistna.
7 „ G. K. Somayajulu ..	M.A. (Economics) ..	East Godavari.
8 „ M. Muthukrishnan ..	B.A., B.L. ..	North Arcot.
9 „ P. V. Avadhani ..	M.A. (Mathematics) (Penares Hindu University) and M. A. (Telugu) (Madras University).	West Godavari.
10 „ K. Subba Rao ..	B.A., B.L. ..	Vizagapatam.
11 „ T. Prakasarayudu ..	M.A. ..	West Godavari.
12 „ S. R. Sampath Thathan ..	B.A., B.L. ..	Trichinopoly.
13 „ N. Kesavan Chetti ..	M.A. ..	Chingleput.
14 Mr. G. M. Kuraisy ..	B.A. ..	Madras.
15 Sri P. Srinivasan ..	B.A., B.L. ..	Madura.
16 „ R. Kolandavelu ..	B.A. (Hons.). ..	Coimbatore.
17 „ C. Prabhakara Menon ..	B.A., B.L. ..	Malabar.
18 „ R. Balakrishna Ayyar ..	Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies.	Tanjore.
19 Mohammed Azizullah Shetiff Sahib Bahadur.	Revenue Divisional Officer.	North Arcot.

APPENDIX IV

Vide answer to unstarred question No. 12 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 23rd April 1947, page 664 supra.]

Statement showing the amount of subsidies paid, number of wells completed, etc., under the Well-Subsidy Schemes in each district.

I.—OLD (1944) SCHEME.

Serial number and district. (1)	Amount of subsidies paid.		Amount of loans granted.		Number of wells completed.		Number of wells in progress.		Additional area brought under cultivation.	
	New wells.	Old wells.	New wells.	Old wells.	New wells.	Old wells.	New wells.	Old wells.	New wells.	Old wells.
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1 Anantapur ..	Rs. 20,164	Rs. 4,340	Rs. 20,245	Rs. 4,940	23	..	60	24	ACS. 70	ACS. ..
2 Bellary ..	3,975	710	6,540	3,760	..	..	26	6	..	..
3 Chingleput ..	740	80	1,000	..	4	..	..	..	2	..
4 Chittoor ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5 Cuddapah ..	(a) 9,870	..	6,000	..	(a) 14	..	24	..	15	..
6 Kurnool ..	55,446	..	6,400	..	80	..	82	..	160	..
7 Madura ..	..	100	..	..	3	1	..	..	4	1
8 North Arcot ..	537	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9 Rannad ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10 Salem ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11 Tinnevely ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	90,732	5,230	40,185	8,700	124	1	168	30	236	1

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II.—ACCELERATED SCHEME.

1 Anantapur ..	2,58,093	1,09,896	17,340	..	542	518	312	206	900	652
2 Bellary ..	77,370	35,219	48,720	..	136	193	128	52	552	614
3 Chingleput ..	26,74,753	4,34,059	3,24,170	4,350	3,771	1,482	4,298	1,243	3,071	589
4 Chittoor ..	18,06,236	5,26,651	4,15,996	64,986	2,121	1,532	3,304	1,557	3,172	2,093
5 Coimbatore ..	7,66,875	2,48,160	95,500	..	(b) 1,023	800	1,457	530	519	542

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6 Cuddapah ..	2,33,845	24,045	..	..	404	145	355	72	1,089	315
7 East Godavari ..	1,83,450	7,000	..	..	278	38	241	7	234	34
8 Guntur ..	1,87,198	46,332	700	..	281	165	271	117	224	161
9 Kistna ..	1,29,235	22,937	..	..	104	53	305	88	273	140
10 Kurnool ..	1,17,482	62,646	..	..	37	76	312	299	74	150
11 Madras ..	7,58,670	1,87,215	23,100	1,450	1,025	684	818	520	1,519	391
12 Madras ..	38,972	9,016	..	..	94	49	88	25	84	44
13 Malabar ..	8,59,848	3,61,295	16,800	..	989	611	1,676	1,329	627	205
14 Nellore ..	32,04,910	12,24,35	(b) 2,17,500	..	6,734	5,382	3,429	2,262	6,277	2,874
15 North Arcot ..	13,42,155	1,09,365	77,850	3,950	2,691	454	1,563	205	986	267
16 Rannad ..	13,42,155	8,73,570	25,350	11,490	1,043	2,626	2,628	2,787	900	1,200
17 Salem ..	11,81,953	1,21,020	2,27,145	11,300	2,814	687	830	125	2,821	604
18 South Arcot ..	11,13,750	1,21,020	..	..	44	10	10	9	1	..
19 South Kanara ..	8,155	2,080	..	..	1,070	143	118	8	1,050	75
20 Tanjore ..	3,77,338	24,050	98,500	600	1,264	213	2,357	607	675	115
21 Tinnevely ..	10,71,580	1,11,375	2,500	6,550	1,264	619	5,527	69	1,606	277
22 Trichinopoly ..	10,34,775	1,09,362	12,000	1,140	2,602	215	1,488	88	4,137	150
23 Vizagapatam ..	11,16,660	52,295	3,62,290	3,860	2,006	..	..	..	4	..
24 West Godavari ..	150	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1,85,52,433	47,12,323	19,93,141	1,09,676	31,674	16,669	26,599	12,215	30,805	11,282

III.—CANNED DISTRICTS SCHEME.

1 Anantapur ..	3,16,350	33,065	..	..	5	18	201	326	..	..
2 Bellary ..	2,44,392	25,975	..	..	11	1	124	38	170	..
3 Cuddapah ..	1,08,590	1,800	..	..	..	..	227	6	..	..
4 Kurnool ..	62,490	26,950	..	..	..	..	36	16	..	..
Total ..	7,30,822	87,790	59,800	..	16	14	588	386	170	..

(a) Relates to new and old wells; separate figures not received.

(b) Relates to new and old wells; separate figures under each head not received.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to unstarred question No. 13 asked by Sri R. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 23rd April 1947, page 664 supra.]

Statement showing particulars of travelling allowance and places visited by the Hon'ble the Ministers during May 1946 to January 1947.

NOTE.—Figures of expenditure on travelling allowance have been given as shown in the registers, but are approximate as the previous months' travelling allowance. Bills are adjusted invariably in the succeeding month's accounts. Where expenditure has not been shown in a month though tours have been performed the travelling allowance has been adjusted in the following month.

	May 1946.				June 1946.				July 1946.			
	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Rs. A. P.	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Rs. A. P.	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Rs. A. P.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)	(9)	(10)	
1 Hon'ble the Prime Minister.	Beavada	2	345	4 0	Ootacamund and Bangalore.	7	453	15 0	Vaniyambadi ..	1	132	8 0
2 Hon'ble Minister for Education.	Coimbatore, Salem and North Arcot	90	9 0		Coimbatore, East Godavari and Coimbatore.	11	683	14 0	Coimbatore, Anantapur, Bombay, East Godavari, Vizagapatnam, Bangalore and Poona.	11	1,141	0 0
3 Hon'ble Minister for Revenue.	Malabar and South Kanara.	5	657	0 0	Anantapur and Bellary.	4	403	2 0	Chittoor, Anantapur, Bangalore and Nellore.	10	420	0 0
4 Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Department.	Chingleput and North Arcot.	4	410	4 0	Nellore, Coimbatore, Salem, Chittoor, Bellary, Anantapur and The Nilgiris.	18	424	3 0	Madura, North Arcot, Guntur and Tinnevely.	8	661	1 0
5 Hon'ble Minister for Industries and Labour.	Bombay and Delhi.	18	1,145	11 0	Coimbatore, Guntur, Nellore, Chingleput (Poona-mallee) and Madura.	10	265	9 0	Salem, Madura and Delhi.	11	608	7 0

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	August 1946.				September 1946.				October 1946.			
	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Rs. A. P.	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Rs. A. P.	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Rs. A. P.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)		(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)	(9)	(10)	
1 Hon'ble the Prime Minister.	Madura, Rannad, Trichinopoly and Karur.	3	299	4 0	Delhi	7	869	4 0	Cuddapah, Mahe, Olavakode, Manargudi, Calicut, Tellicherry and Delhi.	13	..	..
2 Hon'ble Minister for Education.	Madura, Rannad, Trichinopoly, Tinnevely, Trichinopoly, Chingleput, North Arcot and Coimbatore.	8	1,036	15 0	North Arcot, Nellore, Guntur, Kistna, Delhi, Coimbatore and Salem.	14	359	3 0	Rannad, South Arcot, Kanara and Coimbatore.	6	583	7 0
3 Hon'ble Minister for Revenue.	Madura, Rannad, Trichinopoly, South Arcot, Kistna, West Godavari and East Godavari.	..	..	..	Ootacamund, Rannad and Bellary.	16	225	13 0	Bellary, Bombay and Delhi.	10	390	4 0
4 Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Department.	Madura, Rannad, Trichinopoly, South Arcot, Kistna, West Godavari and East Godavari.	10	624	14 0		..	..	..	Vizagapatnam, Tanjore, North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore and Madura.	15	547	15 0
5 Hon'ble Minister for Industries and Labour.	Coimbatore, North Arcot.	9	633	8 0	Kistna, East Godavari, Vizagapatnam and Coimbatore.	10	319	8 0	Coimbatore, Delhi and The Nilgiris.	14	375	3 0

November 1946.				December 1946.				January 1947.			
Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.		Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.		Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	
(20)	(21)	(22)		(23)	(24)	(25)		(26)	(27)	(28)	
1 Hon'ble the Prime Minister.	Delhi	..	7	RS. A. P.	Delhi, Watarr and Delhi.	14	..	RS. A. P.	Delhi, Coimbatore, Salem and Delhi.	12	1,800 0 0 (including Decem-ber also).
2 Hon'ble Minister for Education.	South Kanara, Madura, Tinnevely and Coimbatore.	9	323 1 0	Coimbatore	..	6	202 3 0	Bombay and North Arcot.	4	476 0 0	
3 Hon'ble Minister for Revenue.	South Kanara	10	408 14 0	Salem, Trichinopoly and Tanjore.	5	Not avail-able.		Tanjore, Guntur and Bellary.	9	Not avail-able.	
4 Hon'ble Minister for Public Works Department.	South Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly, South Kanara and Malabar.	9	1,190 5 0	Chingleput and other places.	8	149 0 0		Kurnool, Cuddapah and Bellary.	7	1,172 2 0	
5 Hon'ble Minister for Industries and Labour.	Chingleput, Malabar and South Kanara.	7	360 0 0	Delhi and Tinnevely.	16	910 12 0		Madura, Trichinopoly and Delhi.	12	366 12 0	

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May 1946.				June 1946.				July 1946.			
Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.		Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.		Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		(8)	(9)	(10)	
6 Hon'ble Minister for Public Health.	..	..	RS. A. P.	South Arcot, Tinnevely, Guntur, Kistna, Vizagapatam and The Nilgiris.	14	517 14 0	RS. A. P.	Rannad, Chingleput, Coimbatore and South Arcot.	11	395 7 0	
7 Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration.	Tinnevely, Madura, Trichinopoly and Tanjore.	9	398 5 0	Kistna, West Godavari, Guntur, Chingleput, Tinnevely, Rannad and South Arcot.	18	979 7 0		Chingleput, Coimbatore, Salem, Tinnevely, Madura and Rannad.	9	586 4 0	
8 Hon'ble Minister for Law.	Tanjore	3	50 14 0	..	..	..		Tanjore, Nellore and Tinnevely.	5	719 0 0	
9 Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture.	Rannad and Madura.	2	326 7 0	Rannad and Madura, Rannad and Guntur.	14	625 10 0		Rannad, Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Madura, Tinnevely, Coimbatore and Chingleput.	19	769 0 0	
10 Hon'ble Minister for Public Information and Harijan Uplift.	Kistna and Guntur.	6	669 6 0	Kistna, Guntur, Vizagapatam and East Godavari.	11	819 10 0		Nellore, Bellary, Kistna, Madura and Rannad.	13	728 2 0	
11 Hon'ble Minister for Motor Transport and Food.	..	..	..	..	..	..		Malabar and Tanjore.	8	338 5 0	
12 Hon'ble Minister for Forests.	..	..	..	..	..	..		Coimbatore	3	215 14 0	
13 Hon'ble Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments.	Anantapur, Bellary and Guntur.	4	218 3 0	Cuddapah, Anantapur, Kurnool and East Godavari.	8	553 12 0		Chittoor	3	116 0 0	

[23rd April 1947]

	August 1946.			September 1946.			October 1946.		
	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.
6 Hon'ble Minister for Public Health.	(11)	3	201 9 0	Nilgiris, Trichinopoly and North Arcot.	10	462 14 0	Anantapur, Kistna, Delhi, Madura and Bellary.	17	440 5 0
7 Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration.	North Arcot and Tinnevely.	7	332 12 0	North Arcot, The Nilgiris, South Arcot, Guntur and Salem.	11	1,198 3 0	North Arcot, Chittoor, Malabar, Trichinopoly, Bangalore, Tanjore West, Godavari and Salem.	17	174 1 0
8 Hon'ble Minister for Law.	Salem, Bangalore and South Arcot.	4	304 4 0	Chingleput and West Godavari.	2	449 12 0	Rannad, Trichinopoly, Coimbatore, Chittoor, Bangalore, Karur, Madura, Rannad and Bellary.	15	503 15 0
9 Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture.	North Arcot, Salem, Trichinopoly and Nellore.	4	209 0 0	Chingleput, Madura, Rannad and South Arcot.	9	703 0 0	North Arcot, Tanjore and Madura.	15	405 10 0
10 Hon'ble Minister for Public Information and Harijan Uplift.	West Godavari, Kistna and Coimbatore.	4	..	Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, South Arcot and West Godavari.	18	..	Kistna, Guntur, Nellore, South Arcot and West Godavari.	18	..
11 Hon'ble Minister for Motor Transport and Food.	Delhi, Nellore and Kistna.	11	863 2 0	Delhi	8	318 14 0	Orissa, Malabar, Salem and East Godavari.	20	1,371 13 0
12 Hon'ble Minister for Forests.	East Godavari ..	11	472 2 0	Started for East Godavari and stayed at Taipaka (25th September 1946 to 10th November 1946) on account of ill-health.					
13 Hon'ble Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments.	Tanjore, Kistna, Chittoor and Nellore.	7	475 7 0	Salem, Coimbatore, Vellore, Chittoor, Anantapur, Bellary, Kurnool, Cuddapah and Nellore.	9	185 7 0	Coimbatore and Chittoor.	3	..

	November 1946.			December 1946.			January 1947.		
	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.	Districts visited.	Number of days.	Amount of travelling allowance drawn.
6 Hon'ble Minister for Public Health.	Malabar, Madura and Kistna.	10	1,376 3 0	Chingleput, Nidabrolu and Mangalore.	1	175 0 0	Delhi and back to Madras.	..	1,594 12 0
7 Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration.	Tinnevely, Tanjore, South Kanara and Nagpur (United Provinces).	11	253 2 0	Trichinopoly, Tinnevely and Bangalore.	8	368 0 0	Trichinopoly, Cuddapah, Kurnool, West Godavari, Salem and Bom-bay.	11	423 13 0
8 Hon'ble Minister for Law.	Rannad and Tanjore.	3	1,200 12 0	Madura	1	590 0 0	Tinnevely, Delhi, Coimbatore, Rannad, Coimbatore, Malabar and Bangalore.	16½	216 12 0
9 Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture.	North Arcot and Trichinopoly.	3	203 13 0	Trichinopoly, Pudukottah, Rannad and Vizagapatnam.	10	897 1 0	West Godavari, Rannad, Madura, South Malabar and West Godavari.	22	1,217 2 0
10 Hon'ble Minister for Public Information and Harijan Uplift.	Kistna, Madura and Nagpur.	9	2,516 14 0	Coimbatore, Kistna, Cochin, Travancore, Tinnevely, Madura, Coimbatore and October 1946).	9	Not available.	Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Kistna, Guntur, East Godavari, West Godavari, Kharagpur (Calcutta).	19	Not available.
11 Hon'ble Minister for Motor Transport and Food.	East Godavari and Delhi.	14	..	Coimbatore and Malabar.	11	531 0 0 (including November).	Guntur, West Godavari, East Godavari and Delhi.	18	118 1 0
12 Hon'ble Minister for Forests.	..	..	145 14 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
13 Hon'ble Minister for Hindu Religious Endowments.	Coimbatore, Salem and Guntur.	9	216 15 0	Madura, Tinnevely and Kistna.	3	284 7 0	Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Nellore, Cuddapah, Guntur, Trichinopoly, Rannad, Tinnevely, Tanjore and Cuddalore.	18	788 2 0

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 25th April 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Muslim High School, Bellary.

* 167-A Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Advisers' Government sanctioned the establishment of a separate Muslim High School in Bellary; if so, when;

(b) (i) whether the Executive authority of the Bellary Municipality permitted the occupation of one-half of the premises of the present Municipal High School, Bellary, for the purpose of housing the Muslim High School;

(ii) if so, the authority under which this was done;

(c) whether, on account of such occupation, the lower classes of the Municipal High School are now located in the Prince of Wales choultry, Bellary, where a number of beggars and vagrants gather every day; if so, what the Government propose to do to set right this matter;

(d) whether, on account of such occupation, the Headmaster of the Municipal High School was obliged to refuse admission to as many as three hundred non-Muslim students last year; and

(e) whether the Government propose to take any action to house the Muslim High School in a separate building from June 1947?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—“(a) Yes; the order was issued on the 1st April 1946; the sanction was to take effect from the school year 1946-47.

“(b) (i) Yes; purely as a temporary measure till a suitable rented building is secured.

(ii) The Government have no information.

“(c) Yes; three lower classes are located in the Rani choultry; but the Government have no information that beggars and vagrants are allowed to gather in the choultry.

“(d) Only 133 students were refused admission for want of accommodation.

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"(e) The Municipal Council is the authority responsible for making the necessary arrangements; it has taken steps to house the school in separate buildings from the next school year."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know who is responsible for the inconvenience that is caused to many students who have been refused admission? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Municipality wanted to open a new Muslim High School. They had to locate it somewhere."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If I make an application to open a school, is it easy to get permission to open it unless all the conditions governing recognition are satisfied? Have the Municipal authorities satisfied all the conditions for recognition? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Director of Public Instruction accepted the conditions for opening the school. They had to locate the lower classes of the Municipal High School in the Rani choultry. I do not think much inconvenience was caused."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether it is easy to get permission to open a school when there is no accommodation? Why were the lower classes of the existing school turned out in order to open a new school? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Municipality wanted to open very urgently a separate High School for Muslims. The Director of Public Instruction sanctioned the scheme."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask whether the Hon. Minister knows if the Director of Public Instruction agreed to the location of this High School in the building of the Municipal High School? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I have no information."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the Hon. Minister call for a report on this matter whether there is any overcrowding in the existing schools, whether there is accommodation for two High Schools in the same building and whether the present arrangement is causing considerable inconvenience to the students? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" At this distance of time, there is no use calling for a report now; but if the hon. Member wants information, I shall call for it."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know whether a new building has been found for housing the new school from next year? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" As I have already stated, the Municipality has taken steps to have a new building for the school from the next school year."

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SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" The Municipality has been taking steps to acquire a building from June 1946 for this purpose. Has it been able to do so? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Municipal Council informs the Government that it has found some suitable building for the purpose."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If no suitable building is available for the Muslim High School, will the Government order that High School to be closed till it finds accommodation instead of grouping the two schools together in one building? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I am unable to give the assurance asked by the hon. Member."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know whether the students who are studying in the Muslim High School are students of the locality and are entitled to be admitted into the schools run by the Municipality and whether any case has been made out for closing the Muslim High School? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Perhaps the hon. Member is right in assuming that the Muslim School admits non-Muslim students also."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Municipal High School admits Muslim boys also and whether instruction is given in Urdu to Muslim students? May I know whether there is not an Urdu section in each class of the Municipal High School? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" There were Urdu sections in the Municipal High School. The Director of Public Instruction sanctioned the opening of a separate high school."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know whether Urdu is the medium of instruction in the Muslim High School? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I have no information."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I ask whether there was not a separate section for each form in the Municipal High School for giving instruction in Urdu by Urdu teachers? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I think instruction was given in Urdu for Muslim boys in every class."

Officers in the Madras Fire Service.

* 168 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of European and Indian Officers in the Madras Fire Service;

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(b) whether all officers, Indian or European, hold the same rank and draw the same emoluments;

(c) whether any qualifications are prescribed for the officers and, if so, whether all the present incumbents possess these qualifications;

(d) what the special qualifications of the present Director of Fire Service are;

(e) what steps, if any, are being taken to train Indian officers; and

(f) whether initial recruitment is by the Public Service Commission as in the case of other services?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) Eight European officers and ten Indian officers.

“(b) No.

“(c) No qualifications as such have been prescribed. It is proposed to issue statutory service rules for all the posts in the service shortly, wherein specific qualifications will be prescribed.

“(d) (1) Officers training course, Woodford and Wanstead Fire Brigade, London.

(2) Patrol Officer, Woodford and Wanstead Fire Brigade, until formation of N.F.S.

(3) Company Officer, N.F.S., until joining duty in Madras.

(4) Passed Officers' qualifying course, N.F.S., London, 1941.

(5) Experience in London during the Blitz and in India since 1942 as Divisional Officer, Chief Fire Inspector and D.F.S.

“(e) A Provincial Fire Service training school is established in the Madras City. Candidates for appointment to the executive posts in the Madras Fire Service are trained there.

“(f) No. All the previous appointments were made during war time. The last six appointments to the rank of District Officers (Gazetted) were made with the concurrence of the Madras Public Service Commission.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“With reference to answer (b) that Indian and European officers do not have the same rank and the same emoluments, may I know why this distinction is maintained?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“Recruitment was made during war time and these European officers were imported from England at the time of a crisis; so we had to pay the price; therefore there is difference in status and emoluments.”

3-15 P.M. SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, whether they are on contract, or on permanent service.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“They are on contract, Sir, for four years.”

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, Sir, whether the appointments of District Fire Officers recently made were advertised in papers?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I am not aware of the details, Sir.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know, how many of those appointed are trained in fire service and how many are untrained?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“They are all untrained and they are now being trained in the Training School.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I give the information to the Hon. Minister that both trained and untrained candidates applied for these posts. May I know whether the Government satisfied themselves why untrained candidates should be appointed when trained candidates were available?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I do not know whether there were trained candidates in sufficient numbers?”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“Will the Hon. Minister look into this matter, Sir.”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“Yes, Sir.”

Midsummer vacation to Courts.

* 169 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR : Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the period during which—

(i) the High Court, Madras;

(ii) the City Civil Court, Madras;

(iii) the Court of Small Causes, Madras;

(iv) the District Courts in the Province;

(v) the Subordinate Judges' Courts in the Province; and

(vi) the District Munsifs' Courts in the Province;

remain closed for mid-summer vacation;

(b) in case there is disparity between the periods during which these courts remain closed, what is the justification for such disparity; and

(c) what steps the Government propose to take to remove the disparity, if any?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—“(a) (i) About seventy days.

(ii) to (v) One month and twenty-six days.

(vi) Five weeks and three days.

“(b) As Judges of the superior courts are generally older men and as the work they have to do is more difficult and exacting, the Government consider that they need a longer vacation to recover from the strain of the work.

“(c) Does not arise in view of the answer to clause (b).”

[25th April 1947]

Control of cattle feed.

* 170 Q.—MR. K. O. ANTHONI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(a) whether any arrangements have been made by the Government to control cattle feed under the Essential Articles Control Act and, if so, what they are;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Madras Milkmen's Union have notified the Government about their intention to strike between 7th and 15th March 1947;

(c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, what the demands of the Milkmen's Union are;

(d) whether the Government cannot control and ration cattle feed of all forms to all milkmen in the city; and

(e) whether the Government have taken any steps to call the representatives of the Milkmen's Union for effecting a settlement?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“(a) ‘Cattle feed’ was not declared to be an essential commodity under the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946 (Central Act XXIV of 1946). The Madras Government requested the Government of India to declare the commodity to be an essential article under the Central Act by moving the Secretary of State to take necessary steps to secure parliamentary legislation in the matter. Meanwhile, with a view to facilitate immediate action to improve the unsatisfactory position of supply in regard to the distribution, prices, etc., of cattle feed, the Government have declared the commodity to be an essential article under the Madras Essential Articles Control and Requisitioning (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946, and have delegated powers to the Commissioner of Civil Supplies and to all Collectors to control its movement, supply, distribution, etc., and also to requisition stocks if necessary.

“In order to ensure supplies of cotton seed to the consumers in the deficit districts a ban has been imposed on the inter-district movement of cotton seed except under permits from Collectors. The Collectors of Madurai, Ramnad and Tinnevely have been instructed to allow exports of cotton seeds on permits to the deficit districts of Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and Tanjore in the proportion of 2:1:1. The Collectors of other districts have been asked to allow merchants in their districts to export on permits to deficit districts of their choice within the Province if they had excessive stocks. All Collectors have been strictly ordered not to allow any exports outside the Province.

“(b) Yes. The Government received a notice of direct action, dated 18th February 1947, from the President of the Madras Milkmen's Union.

“(c) The demands of the Milkmen's Union are—

(1) control and rationing of all cattle feed by Government;

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- (2) railway priorities for transport of cattle;
- (3) abundant credit facilities to milkmen for purchase of cattle through co-operative organizations; and
- (4) subsidy at 25 per cent for purchase of cattle fodder.

“(d) The Government have their hands full trying to enforce control of cereals, sugar and jaggery and it is not considered advisable to embark on statutory rationing of cattle feed at the present time. A system of informal rationing in Madras is considered sufficient and a scheme put forward by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for the distribution of certain specific items of cattle feed to milkmen in the City is engaging the attention of the Government in the Development Department.

“(e) Yes. A conference was held on 8th March 1947, in which Hon. Minister (Food) and Hon. Minister (Industries and Labour) and the President of the Milkmen's Union were present. As a result of the discussions, the Collector of Madras has been asked to issue immediate instructions to the wholesalers in imported grams and pulses and other dhal merchants who hold stocks of husks of pulses, to sell their stocks at reasonable prices fixed by him exclusively to Madras Milk Supply Union to the full limit of its requirements, the balance only being allowed to be sold in the open market. The Government are investigating also the possibility of importing on their own account quantities of wheat bran at reasonable prices for distribution to the milkmen in the City. The following proposals of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies since received are under the active consideration of the Government:—

(a) that the Government may fix maximum ceiling prices of gingelly cake and issue instructions to the Collectors of surplus districts, viz., Coimbatore, Salem, Ramnad, Madurai and Tinnevely to fix their district rates and to instruct the wholesale dealers in the districts to hand over the quantities required to the Madras Milk-supply Union through its local agents, and

(b) that the Madras Milk-supply Union may be given permits for the purchase of groundnut oil cake from two of the important mills in Madurai, viz., Messrs. East Asiatic Co., Ltd. and Ralli Brothers.”

SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR:—“May I know whether the Government have taken steps to import cotton seeds to this Province from outside this Province?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—“I have made a statement, Sir, that cotton seeds can be transported from district to district under permit. If the supply of cotton seeds runs short, and if procurement by Government becomes necessary, the Government will certainly approach the available markets outside the Province and import them.”

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SRI K. MANATHUNAINATHA DESIGAR :—“ Do not the Government consider that there is an acute shortage of cotton seeds in the Province at present, and will they consider the urgent necessity of importing them from other Provinces? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ If the Government are informed of the shortage, they will adopt the procedure of buying cotton seeds from outside the Province and distribute them to the deficit areas.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ Cannot the surplus cotton seeds available in the Bellary district be transported to the Tanjore district? ”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“ The surplus districts have been asked to supply them to the deficit districts if the demand is made by the Collector of the deficit district.”

Employees in State Transport Bus Service.

* 171 Q.—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR. Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have supplied uniforms to drivers and conductors employed in the State Transport buses plying in the City of Madras;

(b) if so, the number of such sets supplied to each employee;

(c) the quantity of cloth used for making each such set; and

(d) whether the cloth used is mill-made, handloom or khadi?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ (a) Both the drivers and conductors employed in the Government Bus Service are supplied with uniform at State cost;

“ (b) Two sets are supplied to each employee;

“ (c) The quantity of cloth used for each ranges from 7 to 8 yards including sash, according to the individuals concerned including cap;

“ (d) The cloth used is mill-made (khaki obtained from B. & C. Mills, Madras).”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know, Sir, how the Government who are wedded to the policy of khadi, have allowed mill cloth to be used by its servants? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ The Government are at the same time committed to the policy of freedom of choice and so far as khadi cloth is concerned, hon. Members are aware that a certain quota of handspun yarn should be provided before khadi could be purchased. The Government are implementing an intensive campaign for the propagation of khadi and when that bears fruition, we hope and trust that the position will be improved and that the Government will be able to supply khadi to all its employees.”

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SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ May I know, why Government cannot purchase khadi and supply it to these conductors? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ If they could produce sufficient quota of handspun yarn, we shall do so, Sir.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know why these conductors have been allowed 16 yards of mill cloth for each conductor and driver, when the Government have allowed only 5 yards to other people? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ They are given two sets of uniforms of 7 to 8 yards, Sir.”

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—“ May I know why exemption cannot be sought for from the A.I.S.A. for purchase of khadi cloth without the production of yarn? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ I do not know whether it will be proper for the Government to apply for relaxation of the general rules, Sir.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ When the Government thought that more than five yards of mill cloth should not be given to other people, how could they give 16 yards to each conductor and bus driver? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ This State uniform has to be uniform, so far as the individual is concerned. If they are given 8 yards, it means 5 yards of mill cloth and 3 yards of handloom cloth.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Does not the Government think that the same quantity of cloth is necessary for other people also? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ The Government are implementing a policy in order to enable people to get more cloth.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I take it, Sir, that the Government are going to increase the mill cloth quota? ”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“ As soon as sufficient mill cloth becomes available.”

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ Will the Government instruct these people that they should only have 5 yards of mill cloth and for the rest they should go in for handloom cloth? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ The Government do not want to dictate people in the matter; but I do not know whether it is a question of economy that they have been allowed so much mill cloth.”

ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—“ May I know, Sir, what is the reason for discarding khadi? ”

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—“ I have already given my answer to this question, Sir.”

[25th April 1947]

Grants to aided elementary schools.

* 172 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) what the allotment made for grants to aided elementary schools during 1946-47 is;

(b) what the total assessed grant for the presidency was;

(c) whether the assigned grant was less than the assessed grant and, if so, what the amount is;

(d) what the actual amount disbursed is;

(e) how the difference in allotment between the assessed and assigned grants has been disposed of;

(f) whether increased grants were given to certain elementary schools and, if so, what principles governed such increased grants;

(g) whether teachers drawing fixed salaries were benefited by these increased grants; and

(h) if the answer to (g) is in the negative, what was the reason for paying increased grants for the benefit of managements?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) Teaching grant Rs. 95,00,200.

Dearness allowance, Rs. 48,99,800.

“(b) Rs. 82,81,413

“(c) No.

	RS.
“(d) Day schools	94,70,407
Night schools	1,949
Arrear grants	17,682
Total	94,93,038

“(e) & (f) Increased grants were given to all deserving schools for efficiency.

“(g) & (h) Eighty-five per cent of the grant received by the school should be paid as salary to teachers employed in the school while the manager may keep the balance for defraying expense on the school other than salary of teachers.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“If increased grants were given, as stated in answer to clause (f), may I know whether the increased grants were meant for teachers or whether managements also are allowed to take 15 per cent out of them?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“I have no information, Sir.”

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Revision of Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination time-table.

* 173 Q.—SRI H. M. JAGANNATHAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of the resolutions passed at one of the recent meetings of the City Headmasters' Association, one of which related to the heavy strain that would be caused to the candidates on the third day of Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination by having to answer four papers from 10 a.m. in the morning to 5-45 p.m. in the evening; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make any revision of the time-table?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) Yes.

“(b) The time-tables have been suitably modified as from the examinations of 1947.”

Tuberculosis Institute, Egmore.

* 174 Q.—MR. K. O. ANTHONI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of out-patients treated in the Tuberculosis Institute at Egmore in 1946;

(b) how many had applied for admission in the Tuberculosis Hospital at Royapetta and Tambaram in 1946;

(c) whether the hospital at Tambaram is fully equipped for operation and other kinds of treatment;

(d) if not, what steps the Government are going to take in the matter;

(e) whether it is a fact that there is considerable dissatisfaction over the situation of the Temple Garden Hospital, Royapetta, in a crowded locality;

(f) whether the Government have any plans for increasing the number of beds in the Tuberculosis Hospital; and

(g) whether the Government have any long-range policy in the matter of treatment of tuberculosis?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“(a) The number of out-patients treated in the Tuberculosis Institute, Egmore, in 1946 was 12,517.

“(b) The number of persons who made written application in 1946 for admission in the Tuberculosis Hospital, Royapetta, was 92 and in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram, was 109. Besides these applications, 3,249 persons who attended the out-patient department at Egmore asked orally for admission in the two institutions.

“(c) All operations except thoracoplasty are done at the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram.

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"(d) The proposal for the construction of an up-to-date theatre, laboratory, etc., in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram, was deferred on account of financial stringency. The Government are drawing up a general building programme for the Medical department and these proposals will be assigned appropriate place in the programme.

"(e) & (f) The Government have already sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 3.5 lakhs for the construction of 12 blocks of 18 beds each in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram. Eight of these blocks are intended for providing additional accommodation in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram, and the remaining four for transferring the patients in the Tuberculosis Hospital, Royapetta.

"(g) The answer is in the affirmative. The Government have included in their post-war scheme for the first five years proposals for—

(i) Provision of 100 additional beds in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Tambaram.

(ii) Provision of 100 additional beds in the Tuberculosis Sanatorium Perundurai.

(iii) Opening of a new Sanatorium at Waltair with 100 beds.

"In addition to these the Government are examining the question of taking over the Wellesley Sanatorium, Bellary, by the Medical Department the opening of Tuberculosis Sanatoria at (i) Perapalli, Kurnool district, (ii) Salem, (iii) Madanapalle, Chittoor district, and (iv) Vallam, Tanjore district. The proposals of the Bhore Committee for dealing with tuberculosis are also under examination, with a view to implementing them as far as possible."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" Sir, in view of the large number of poor tuberculosis patients who could not find admission in hospitals, will the Government consider the desirability of constructing thatched huts in some suitable place for segregating these people and thereby saving the lives of other people? Have they got any immediate measures on hand? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I would like to inform the hon. Member that tuberculosis is not an infectious disease as many people take it to be. Isolation and segregation are not applied to T.B. as it is applied to certain infectious diseases. In fact, there are T.B. patients in certain houses, where a number of people also live, but they do not get infected by it, although they move closely with them and sleep in the same room. Therefore it cannot be classified as an infectious disease. That is why Government consider that no such serious measures are necessary.

"With regard to the question of provision of funds for suitably accommodating them, even now huts are constructed to accommodate patients who seek admission in the Tambaram

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Sanatorium. But the pity is that these huts are not water-proof and they are not satisfactory in the long run. That is why the Government have sanctioned the construction of a number of buildings in addition to those that are already there at Tambaram."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" I am glad to be enlightened by the Hon. Minister for Food on this matter; anyhow, the point is, if there is a tubercular patient in the house, whether there is any likelihood of the infection spreading. I am asking the Hon. Minister for Public Health, in view of the very large number of poor patients who are now walking about the streets in the City of Madras with tuberculosis, cannot something be done in their case to prevent infection spreading? That is what I want to know, Sir."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is a question of finance primarily. The Government know that people are going about; but they are not so dangerous to the public health of the people at large, although if they go on sleeping in crowded places, etc., no one can prevent infection from spreading. So far as housing is concerned, it is a much bigger problem than isolating them. The Government will have to incur a large expenditure if they are to be housed properly and they have taken the trouble of simply making a survey. It is in that view, Sir, that a large provision has been made. More than that, I do not think it is possible for any Government to house all the tuberculosis people in a city or in a town. That means it will be beyond the Public Works Department to provide accommodation for all the people. But in the meanwhile, house segregation and treatment in the house under the circumstances in which patients live is the only other alternative which is being pursued in regard to tuberculosis in the Madras City and will certainly be pursued until such time when accommodation will be made available; and I think this is the next best step the Government could adopt."

' DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB :—" In view of the fact that raw milk is a fruitful source of tuberculosis, will the Hon. the Minister see that milk supplied in the cities, if not in the rural parts also, is pasteurized milk? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, pasteurized milk-supply in quantities is practically impossible. The Co-operative Milk Supply Union does supply pasteurized milk; but it is not milk that brings in tuberculosis; it is only in the case of a very very small percentage of animals that their milk contains this tuberculosis bacilli. It is not as if all milk contains tuberculosis bacilli and becomes dangerous on that account. In fact the whole country is being fed with milk that is available; but in this country there is one safety. Generally our habit is to boil the milk and then take it and our children also are accustomed to taking boiled milk. So there is less chance of infection by tuberculosis bacilli and greater chance of its prevention. In other countries where

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milk is not boiled, of course the danger is much greater than it is in our country. This is our safety valve. The only alternative is perhaps, on a national scale, to boil the milk before taking it; that could be practised."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister for Public Health whether the Wellesley Sanatorium which he mentioned in his reply will be converted into a civil tuberculosis hospital? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Government have already decided to take it over and convert it into a civil T.B. Sanatorium."

War service candidates for Medical service.

* 175 Q.—**SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO** : With reference to answer to question 3 answered on 31st January 1947 will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that war service candidates in the medical service were asked to apply to the Federal Public Service Commission for posts;

(b) whether the applicants belonging to this Province were interviewed by the Madras Public Service Commission in October last;

(c) whether the Government have received from the Public Service Commission the approved list of candidates;

(d) whether any, and if so, how many of those candidates have been appointed;

(e) the names and the districts to which these appointees belong;

(f) whether the temporary appointments made of candidates during the war are still treated as temporary;

(g) whether there are still many vacancies in the Medical Department which remain unfilled, and if so, when it is proposed to fill them up; and

(h) whether it is a fact that there are hospitals in the Province without medical personnel or understaffed?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) Applications for the posts of Civil Assistant Surgeons were received by the Federal Public Service Commission up to 1st April 1946 and subsequently by the Chief Secretary up to 1st November 1946.

" (b) The Commission interviewed some of the applicants for Provincial services in October last.

" (c) The answer is in the negative.

" (d) & (e) No one has been appointed. No information can therefore be furnished.

" (f) The answer is in the affirmative.

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" (g) There are a few vacancies in the Medical Department and they will be filled up shortly as soon as candidates are available.

" (h) None of the hospitals sanctioned to be in charge of Civil or Sub-Assistant Surgeons is without medical personnel at present. There is no information as to whether any of the existing medical institutions is understaffed."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister for Public Health whether he would ask the Public Service Commission to expedite their recommendations, as a number of demobilized medical men have been waiting to be absorbed in the medical service? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The orders of Government fixing the proportion of candidates to be recruited from the war service personnel and other people were issued only a few days ago. So, the selection is expected to be published soon."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know whether any I.N.A. men have been recruited to these jobs? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No information, Sir."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I suggest to the Government that as it is the first time after fifteen or sixteen years that they are recruiting permanently to the medical services, they might consider the conditions under which recruitment should be made, keeping in view the recommendations of the Bhore Committee and the method in which that committee has suggested recruitment should be made to the teaching staff, to the honorary services and the various other posts? Also may I suggest the appointment of a Committee for considering all these aspects of the matter and then coming to a final decision, before recruiting these people on a permanent basis? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The suggestion will be considered, Sir."

Maternity and Child-welfare Centres in the Province.

* 176 Q.—**MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA** : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of maternity and child-welfare centres run in the Province (districtwar);

(b) the amount of grants made from Provincial funds and the rules governing such grants;

(c) whether the Government have under consideration any programme for increasing the number of maternity and child-welfare centres, and if so, what the programme is;

(d) whether private bodies such as Red Cross Society and other associations are also assisted to run these centres;

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(e) what is the nature of help given to these private bodies; and

(f) whether the Government have under consideration proposals to co-ordinate the work of all organizations to obtain maximum results?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“(a) The following statement will show it :—

Districts.	Number.	Districts.	Number.
Anantapur	6	Madura	15
Bellary	4	Malabar	10
Chingleput	23	The Nilgiris	6
Health Unit (Government)	4	North Arcot	11
Chittoor	5	Ramnad	7
Coimbatore	24	Salem	23
Cuddapah	3	South Arcot	13
Godavari, East	9	South Kanara	10
Godavari, West	14	Tanjore	21
Guntur	8	Tinnevely	14
Kistna	14	Trichinopoly	9
Kurnool	1	Vizagapatam	7
Madras City	21		
Total ..		291	

“(b) The following amounts of grants were made from Provincial funds during the past five years :—

Year.	Amount of grants.
	Rs.
1941-42	84,031
1942-43	98,427
1943-44	1,04,150
1944-45	1,22,797
1945-46	1,49,160
1946-47	1,99,200 (Budget Estimate 1947-48).

“A grant equivalent to one-fourth of the actual expenditure incurred by the local bodies on maternity and child-welfare work during the previous year is given.

“(c) Yes. Under the Post-War Scheme No. 92 it is proposed to open one hundred and fifty primary health centres in the first five-year period. Each primary centre will have a staff of one Health Visitor, two midwives and a maternity home of four beds. There will be a Woman Medical Officer (Maternity and Child-welfare) for maternity and child-welfare work in connexion with ten such centres. Post-War Scheme No. 37 provides for the training of 100 Health Visitors in each of the first five post-war years. Government proposes also to lower the qualifications of candidates for appointment as Health Visitors and provide for their training on a linguistic basis. In 1947-48 three centres for the training of Health Visitors—one at Guntur for 25 Telugu candidates, one at Madura for 25 Tamil candidates and the third at Madras for 50 candidates of all linguistic groups—are proposed to be opened.

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Government have also decided to increase the existing maintenance grant for maternity and child-welfare centres run by local bodies from 25 per cent to 50 per cent of the expenditure incurred, in the case of local bodies which cannot meet three-fourths of the cost from their own funds.

“(d) Yes.

“(e) The information is furnished below :—

Name of the private body.	Amount of grant.	By whom given.
	Rs.	
Red Cross Society M. & C.W. Centre ..	200	District Board, Nellore.
St. Mary's Convent Criche, Nellore ..	1,300	Government.
Indian Red Cross Society Voluntary Health Centre, Cocanada.	100	Municipal Council, Cocanada.
Mettur Township Committee	87	Government (1944-45).
Do.	253	Do. (1945-46).
Saidapet Health Association	350	Municipal Council, Saidapet.
Baby Welcome Home, Trichinopoly ..	300	Municipal Council, Trichinopoly.
Tuticorin Ladies' Association ..	1,200	Municipal Council, Tuticorin.
M. & C.W. Centre.	200	District Board, Tanjore.
St. Anne's Ayyampet Child Welfare Centre.	328	Government.
Servants of India Society, Puduponnani.		

“(f) The question is not clear. If the question is whether the Government will give grants to all approved private institutions for running the centres, the answer is ‘Yes’. No one can possibly object to co-ordination in principle.”

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—“May I know from the Hon. Minister for Public Health whether the post-war period has begun in respect of this scheme, or is it yet to begin?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“It has begun, Sir.”
(Laughter.)

Improvement of the Stanley Hospital, Rayapuram.

* 177 Q.—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have received any comprehensive programme for the improvement of the Stanley Hospital to make it fit to be recognized as a collegiate institution; if so, what part of the scheme is to be taken up in 1947-48;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Stanley Hospital cannot expand without acquiring the site of the Monegar Choultry;

(c) whether any scheme is under consideration of the Government for housing chronic invalids of the Stanley Hospital by utilizing the Monegar Choultry as the nucleus of the scheme;

(d) whether it is a fact that if the site of the old Monegar Choultry is alienated to the Stanley Hospital, it is proposed that

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the old Civil Jail buildings should be acquired for housing the inmates of the choultry and converting it into an infirmary for the chronic invalids;

(e) which was the first institution to apply for the acquisition of the old Civil Jail buildings, and

(f) whether the Government have given priority to the Stanley Hospital in its expansion schemes and whether provision has been made in the scheme for the acquisition of the Monegar Choultry?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“(a) The Surgeon-General has submitted a programme of improvements to the Government Stanley Hospital, Madras, to make it conform to the standards required of a collegiate institution. The programme is under the consideration of the Government. If and when the programme is finally approved, it will be decided what part of the scheme should be taken up first.

“(b) & (c) The scheme is under consideration and no purpose can be served by giving the details of the proposals made by the Surgeon-General.

“(d) The old Civil Jail buildings have been allotted to the Industries Department for a School of Technology and are not available to the medical department. The Surgeon-General has been asked to report what modification the scheme requires in view of the above fact.

“(e) The Joint Director of Industries and Commerce addressed the Government in the matter earlier than the Surgeon-General.

“(f) The scheme, as stated in answer to (a) and (b) above, is still under consideration, and provision can be made for any parts of it only after the scheme is finally sanctioned.”

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—“May I know what part of the scheme will be taken up in 1947-48?”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“The Government are calling a conference on the 2nd May and this matter will be considered at that conference.”

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—“May I mention, Sir, that the Rayapuram Hospital is one of the oldest hospitals and is now having a college also; I think they find it very difficult to expand their work in this respect unless they can provide accommodation for patients in the old Jail Buildings and the Monegar choultry. I hope the Government will take this into consideration and take the necessary steps, as the Rayapuram Hospital has been pressing for a long time for expansion.”

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—“It is exactly for the reason stated by the hon. the lady Member, Sir, that this programme of improvement is now being considered.”

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

II.—MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE *RE* GUNTUR FOOD SITUATION.

MR. PRESIDENT :—“I have received notice of the following motion from the hon. Sri B. Narayanaswami Nayudu :—

‘I move that the business of the Council do stand adjourned for the purpose of discussing the statement of the Government regarding the Guntur food situation laid on the table on 23rd April 1947.’

May I request the hon. Member to say how it is urgent?”

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—“Sir, the statement itself says that the rural rationing system in Guntur has broken down. This is what the statement says:

‘What has really happened is that the rural rationing has partially broken down and grain is not readily available to the poorer classes at reasonable prices.’

“Later on it states:

‘The situation at the end of March was therefore very serious. Still the situation is being managed with considerable difficulty. Statutory rationing has been maintained in all the five statutory rationed towns and in the rural areas no one has starved though he might have had to buy his needs in the blackmarket or live on what he had stored.’

“That is the position as stated in this note, we want to know how this position has been met or what measures the Government are proposing to meet the situation and whether steps for relief and remedies have been taken.”

MR. PRESIDENT :—“May I know what the Leader of the House has got to say?”

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—“Sir, the urgency of the situation as envisaged in that statement was to draw the public attention to a very important food situation that has arisen in Guntur. In that statement, the Government drew the attention of the public to the difficult situation and have appealed to the public to part with the hoarded grains. The Government also wanted to find out what the reasons were for this hoarding of grains and how this hoarding became possible in Guntur. From the latest information that is available, it is understood that the situation has eased to a certain extent and that considerable quantities of grain have been released. Therefore, Sir, the Government took the trouble of putting this hard situation clearly in the form of a statement and drew the attention of this House. The Government also wanted to give briefly an account of the working of the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. These societies which were responsible for procurement hitherto have been dissolved and a new agency has been set up to procure enough of the food, that is available. Sir, information from the Collector reached the Government yesterday that the food situation there, is now satisfactory and that considerable

3.45
p.m.

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quantities of food-grains have been secured and that rationing is working satisfactorily. That is the latest information I have got. In view of the serious food situation in Guntur, a discussion was expected in the other House and as a matter of fact, it became the subject-matter of a series of interpellations in the other House and they have been duly published. So, I really do not understand the urgency for discussing this matter now."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Sir, I do not know why the Hon. Member sitting opposite should publish the statement at all if we are not to be given an opportunity to discuss the matter on the floor of this House. The Hon. Minister has not given full details of the present situation in that district but he has simply said that a report has been received yesterday that everything is all right there and that the situation has now become satisfactory."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does the hon. Member want to press his motion to discuss the subject? "

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Yes, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The statement regarding the Guntur food situation is laid on the table of the House. May I know whether this House gives leave for discussing this question? "

[Some hon. Members of the Opposition :—" Yes, Sir. "]

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I do not see anybody rising."

[Then, several hon. Members of the Opposition stood up in their seats.]

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Now, the question for consideration before the House is which is the time to be allotted for this discussion. We are rising at 5 o'clock for a very important business. It is possible that we may meet again at 6 o'clock. There are three Bills for discussion in this House. I hope, with your co-operation, to finish one Bill by 5 o'clock and the other two Bills between 6 and 7. Therefore, the only time for discussing this motion is after 7. That is the position. So, I will fix 7 p.m. for this debate."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" What about the resolution on Linguistic Provinces? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That will have to be taken up afterwards."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" On a point of order, Sir. The time stipulated is 5 p.m. So, if the motion regarding the Guntur food situation is to be taken up for discussion after 7, that is, after the business regarding Bills is over, it will not be an adjournment of the House. It will only be an extension of the House."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" ' Any time after 5 ' means extension of the House."

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III.—GOVERNMENT BILLS.

(1) THE MADRAS CITY MUNICIPAL (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 1947
(L.A. BILL NO. 5 OF 1947).

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

that the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947, as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration.

The objects and the reasons stated in the Bill are quite clear and a similar Bill has already been taken up here. So, I do not want to take much of the time of the House. What was proposed in the other Bill is generally applied in this Bill also. But there are certain changes and they are intended to carry out the proper directions of the Madras City Corporation. The first change that was made is about the several areas that have been newly brought into the City limits. These are Amjikalai and Sembiam panchayats, the Saidapet Municipality including fourteen villages and portions of Velacheri panchayat area and Chingleput District Board. Also some of the existing divisions in the City Corporation have been found unwieldy and as such, instead of forty divisions that exist now, fifty divisions have been proposed and also the strength of the Corporation has been increased to 85. Sir, another reason for this amending Bill is that certain other additions have been in the number of seats owing to reservation of certain seats. Hitherto, there has been no reservation for women, Indian Christians and Muslims under the previous Act. So, to bring these classes also in line with Scheduled classes and others, reservation of seats have been made for these communities. Again, hitherto Labour was given only two seats. Now two more seats have been added to Labour.

" Sir, there is one point upon which I want to say something. There was a certain amount of criticism by certain sections of the people as regards the increase of reservation of seats for women from three to four. I do not want to claim any magnanimity by increasing the number of seats for women. I do not also want to claim any credit for that. But, I can say that it is a step in the right direction however tardy it may be. I expect that the matter should be taken in the spirit in which it was moved.

" Sir, there is also another side of criticism that is levelled against the reservation of seats for the several members separately. There was already reservation of seats for the South Indian Chamber of Commerce, and there was already reservation of seats separately for the Madras Chamber of Commerce and the Madras Trades Association. I find nothing wrong in giving separate representation for the trade because it is one of the important items which affects the civic life of the people. Sir, hitherto, two seats were reserved for Railways. But, since the Railways have now

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been nationalized, it is considered that it is no longer necessary to provide for their representation in the Council. As far as other items are concerned, I think the Bill itself is self-explanatory and I request the House to accept the Bill."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The motion is that the Bill further to amend the Madras City Municipal Act, 1919 (L.A. Bill No. 4 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly, be taken into consideration at once. In view of what I have stated previously, I hope hon. Members will be as brief as possible."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" We are always in that unfortunate position."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I cannot congratulate the Ministry on introducing this Bill. It has no principle nor is there any broad policy on which it is based. In certain respects, it is retrograde. Before I pass on to the general provisions of this Bill, I ask leave to make a general remark on the introduction of Bills like this and the procedure adopted in introducing Bills by Members of the Government amending previous Acts. They do not supply the relevant sections of the previous Acts to the Members of the House. They do not print the original sections on one side and the amendments on the other. It would be very helpful to Members if old sections were printed on one side and the proposed amendments on the other so that Members may know clearly what the old sections are and what the new amendments are. When an amending Bill comes up for discussion, Members have to study the previous Acts and some of them are not obtainable. Fortunately, as a lawyer, I am able to get at the volumes and able to study the sections. But there are some hon. Members who may not be in the same position. So, I want to ask you, Mr. President, to give a direction to the Government that whenever they bring in an amending Bill, they should print the sections of the existing Act on the one side and the amended sections on the other side for the information of the hon. Members."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have no objection to do this, but does the hon. Member think that printing of isolated sections or part of sections will be helpful to hon. Members? I think it would be possible for hon. Members to get possession of the relevant Acts whenever necessary."

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I would suggest that a large number of copies of the amended Acts may be made available to the hon. Members, if required. Unless the copies of the old sections of the Act which are amended are placed on the table of the House, it would not be possible for any hon. Member to follow the proceedings. That is my submission, Sir."

4 p.m. " Now, Sir, having said that, I want to say that the Hon. Ministers do not seem to have studied the purpose of the City Municipal Act. They propose to raise the number of seats in the

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City Council from 65 to 85. Now, the City Council is not merely a deliberative or legislative body, but it has also executive functions. For instance, it makes appointments, it enters into contracts, it approves of the defence of proceedings in courts and has other various matters to attend to. Now, to increase the strength of the Council to 85 and make it a huge body is not conducive to the easy or convenient discharge of the duties enjoined upon it by the City Municipal Act. Therefore, I think it is a great mistake to have increased the number of members from 65 to 85; on the other hand, they should have reduced the number and clubbed together many of the divisions so that they might be able to create a Council to discharge its duties and responsibilities given to it under the City Municipal Act. If only the Hon. Ministers had taken the trouble of carefully studying the provisions of the City Municipal Act they would never have dreamt of increasing the number to 85.

" Now, under the City Municipal Act there are three authorities for executing many of the provisions of the Act; one is the Council, the other is the Standing Committee and then the Commissioner; and one of the authorities being the Council, it should not be so huge a body for carrying out the executive functions under the Act.

" Then there is also no appreciation of the functions of the Corporation and if they had some idea of the functions of the Corporation they would not have treated it a museum of communities of men and women. Schedule V of the City Municipal Act enumerates the various functions which are entrusted to the Corporation of Madras and for which the Corporation may incur expenditure. You will find that the Corporation is charged with the responsibility of providing for public health, public convenience, amenities and education. Sir, it is permitted to incur expenditure connected with public safety, public convenience, amenities, education, etc., for the lighting of public streets, extinction of fires, for the construction and maintenance and alteration of buildings, running transport services, maintenance of public libraries, reading rooms, waiting places, construction and maintenance of schools for primary education, training of teachers, rest-houses, choultries, maternity and child-welfare and rescue homes. These are the duties which the Corporation is charged to perform for the safety, health and amenities of the public. Now, if the Hon. Ministers had carefully studied the functions of the Corporation then they should not only have given representation to the various territorial divisions, they would have not only have a few councillors for what you call territorial representation, but they would have provided for persons who supplement the services which the Corporation is expected to do. For instance, they would have given representation to owners of public halls and theatres, of transport services, dairies, public bakeries, and those connected with public utility services, public libraries, reading rooms, museums, art galleries, public baths and bathing places and also given representation to those who have constructed and are maintaining schools for primary education

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and for training of teachers and those who have constructed rest houses, almshouses, poor homes and those conducting maternity the child welfare centres and rescue homes. Sir, there are a large number of hospitals run by private persons and also nursing homes run by private persons. Now, Sir, representation should have been given to doctors who are running nursing homes and conducting primary, secondary and high schools and to persons maintaining rescue homes, maternity and child welfare centres. Instead of doing this, what they have done is they have given representation to various communities, Muslims, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians and Scheduled Castes. They have also provided for representation to Chambers of Commerce, the Andhra Chamber of Commerce, the Muslim Chamber of Commerce and the Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association. I suggest, Sir, that none of those for whom they have given representation on the Council is rendering any service, or any function which the City Municipal Act charges the Corporation to do or discharge. The best way of given representation would have been quite different if they had carefully studied all the functions and responsible duties which the City Corporation is expected to discharge under the Act. Then they would never have thought of giving representation to various persons in the amending Act and even under the old Act. It is callous on the part of the Ministers not to have studied the Act since they have not given representation to those who are supplementing the services which the Corporation is expected to do. These services are mentioned in Schedule V.

"Now, Sir, in giving representation to communities, I see the Ministers have not got a mind of their own. If they had a mind of their own, they should not think in 1947 of communal representation in local bodies. Once we start with this, we are finished. We should always look forward to a future in which all of us would feel that we are not members of particular communities but citizens of Madras and not Muslims, Indian Christians, Scheduled Castes or others. Now, Sir, what did they do even in regard to giving this representation. This would have been evident if sections sought to be amended were printed side by side. Section 46-A of the Act provided for effective representation for the Scheduled Castes, if such representation was found to be necessary. Section 46-A says:

"In each of the three divisions in which a seat is reserved for members of the Scheduled Castes the electors of such castes voting separately from the other electors shall elect a councillor who shall be a member of any such caste to fill the seat so reserved, while all the electors including the electors of such caste jointly shall elect a councillor to fill the other seat. In each of the remaining divisions, all the voters in the division voting jointly shall elect a councillor."

Sir, one seat is to be filled by the exclusive vote of the members of the scheduled castes. Now, they have changed it. They say, we give you not one seat, but five seats but who are the electors. The Congress vehemently protested when the Executive Councillors were previously nominated to the Government of India by the

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British Government and although the British Government claimed that they had Indians on the Executive Council, the Congress Leaders said, though they were nominally Indians, they were the nominees of the British Government, that the British Government had confidence in them, that the Indians had no confidence in them and therefore it was immaterial whether they were Indians or not and that sometimes they were worse than Europeans. Now, what is the Congress Government doing with regard to these representations here. They say we will give so many seats to Muslims, although Muslims could get into the Council because there are various divisions in the City in which there are more Muslims than non-Muslims. They say, we will reserve five seats for the Scheduled Castes. How? They cannot elect their own representatives at all. There is not even a provision that they will be elected from a panel selected by the various communities. I say this is a camouflage which even a child can see. I am surprised how Hon. Ministers who are certainly intelligent gentlemen could provide for such representation for minorities. You are providing for the representation of minorities, but the Hindus, the major community, will elect the minority representatives. I say it is not representation at all. I am not, of course, pleading for representation of this or that community. I say there should not be representation of any minority community in the Council. If the Government consider that representation is required, you may do so, but do not say, we give you representation but we elect our nominees as your representatives. They will mean representation for the majority community by persons calling themselves Scheduled Caste, Muslim, Anglo-Indian and Indian Christian. I, therefore, say that the provisions of this Bill are retrograde and it is nothing but a camouflage. The only motive for increasing the number of representatives of the minorities is to ask the minorities boldly, if you want to get into the City Corporation, you should become Congressmen; otherwise you members of the minority communities can never get into the Corporation where the majority, the Hindus, will be Congressmen. You will be only putting dummies

MR. PRESIDENT:—"May I know whether the hon. Member has any brief from the hon. Member, Mr. Jagannatham. He is so very jubilant over the speech."

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"No, Sir. I did not look behind, for I have no eyes on my back, but I am only pointing out an intelligent conception of what will be the result of this amending Bill. You want a principle; you want a broad policy in regard to this matter. Instead, the Congress Government are saying, we are amending the Bill in order to give more representation. It amounts to this, they are providing for representation with one hand and with the other they are taking it away by saying they should be their representatives in whom they have confidence and not men in whom we have confidence. I do not know whether it

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would be unparliamentary if I say, when you provide for one thing you really provide for the opposite. The real effect of the Bill is, they are not providing for the representation of minorities but they are providing for special representation of the majority community. They want some more seats for themselves and they want to put in their dummies. Sir, in the City Municipal Council we need not necessarily have been belonging to particular communities and ladies.

In section 5, there is provision for one woman. Now we have four plus one of the other sex in the Council. Now, Sir, there is nothing in the functions of the Council which a lady must attend to. It is quite true that in a House of 85 or 65 or less if there are young ladies, fair ladies dressed well, it may remove the monotony of the business in the House. We may be looking at them. I do not understand, Sir, why the Congress Government should feel that they must raise the number of Muslims, Christians, and raise the number of Scheduled Castes and then provide for the fair sex as well. I find nothing in the City Municipal Act which necessitates the presence of ladies, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Does the hon. Member feel that the City is populated only by men?"

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"No, Sir, we want the best available men and women in the City Corporation. If there is really a woman coming up to the front she will certainly be returned by men, I say, Sir, not only the Members of the Government but the voters are also generous and chivalrous. When an honourable and a competent lady stands for election to the City Municipal Council, they will elect her. But, suppose, Sir, they are incompetent, do we want five women merely because they are women? Are they providing for competent ladies who can get in as Muslims, as Indian Christians and Scheduled Castes? If such ladies are forthcoming and will help us in our work we must elect them."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"On a point of information, Sir, the hon. Member wanted occupational representation and pleaded for it eloquently and now that he does not want a lady, does it mean that the occupation of child-welfare and maternity should be taken up by men?"

* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Sir, I suggested that persons who are responsible for child-welfare and maternity should be represented. Ladies may come naturally in such a case but in such a case she may not come in merely as a woman."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am afraid the hon. Member has raised a number of foes in this House and he should give them an opportunity."

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* DR. V. K. JOHN:—"Only one word I should like to say is about clauses 13 and 14. Sir, I thought the present Ministry will be a little different from the old Ministry. Every time, they come forward with two provisions in every Bill. Clause 13 says—

'If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of the said Act as amended by this Act, the Provincial Government may, as occasion may arise, by order do anything which appears to them necessary for the purpose of removing the difficulty.'

I suggest, Sir, that it is a very undesirable provision in an Act to give the executive wide and arbitrary powers to remove difficulties which arise by executive orders. Why cannot the Legislature be consulted? Do the Government want us to abdicate our functions? Sir, if there are any difficulties why not bring them before the House when we can pass a resolution or pass an amendment. Now, Sir, about the removal of doubts. I do not know who the draftsman of these is. For removal of difficulties an executive order can be passed but for the removal of doubts it is not the case. There is some other procedure. Sir, this House should not be a party to clauses 13 and 14."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I had no intention to speak on the first reading of this Bill."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am sorry you got the intention subsequently."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"After hearing the hon. Dr. John, I feel, Sir, even Dr. John is infectious when he begins to talk. As it so often happens every one of us on this side like to say something though at the time before he began his speech nobody thought of saying anything."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"It is a great compliment to Dr. John."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I am very glad to find the Hon. Daniel Thomas in the House because, Sir, he is practically the author of this Bill. It will enable us to get some explanation for some of the provisions he has introduced. Sir, the main object of this Bill I take it is as the limits of the City have been extended adequate provision should be made for representation for these extended limits but if the Hon. Minister had contented himself with that and had introduced or changed the figures wherever they are necessary and introduced the Bill, perhaps, Sir, there would have been no cause even for my hon. Friends of the Muslim League to take exception to that. But I think, Sir, the Government have gone out of the way and tried to put some more ideas into this Bill and thereby created a hare's nest."

"Sir, if I wanted to introduce a Bill of this kind, introduce some changes, Sir, I would have given adult franchise immediately. What place is better suited for the introduction of adult franchise than the City of Madras? Why should not the Government introduce adult franchise and thereby give a quietus to all the fears entertained by Dr. John. If there had been adult franchise, Sir, all the troubles envisaged by Dr. John would not arise. The

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troubles arise because the votes are conditioned on certain circumstances which are not possessed by all voters. This City would have been the best place for the functioning of adult franchise. Secondly, Sir, which place is better suited than Madras City to try the system of proportional representation as a solution for communal representation? Sir, if proportional representation had been introduced and adult franchise had also been granted, every community would have secured representation according to its strength, they would get representation according to the adult population each community has. I wish, Sir, they had done that also. Otherwise, Sir, they could have merely introduced a provision increasing the number of Councillors in view of the extended City limits. Then, Sir, I do not know why the Ministry is so anxious to placate these vested interests like the Chambers of Commerce and now, Sir, the Piecegoods Merchants' Association also have found recognition."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" That was in the old Act."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I do not know what new interest has come to be represented by these six Councillors."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" The Muslim Chamber of Commerce."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I do not know, Sir, so long as each division is represented by a Councillor, why these special interests should find representation in the Council. I do not understand what is the contribution these bodies specially make, Sir, for civic problems. What other interests have they apart from the interests of ordinary citizens, ordinary voters in the City, Sir? I think, Sir, I am not sure, nowhere in the world this special representation is given to such special interests in a Municipal Council. I am yet to know of it, Sir."

DR. SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I may tell the hon. Member, Sir, as a point of information that such representations are given in places like Leeds, Manchester and Sheffield in England."

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" We have also such a system here in Bombay."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I am sure, Sir, if a Bill is brought forward to amend the Liverpool Municipal constitution people will not hesitate to say that these special interests have no business to secure special representation. What is the extra contribution these special interests make for the good of this City? After all, Sir, they will be all voters. They will have a voice in returning the Councillors in the divisions in which they live. Why should they have special representation, Sir? I feel, Sir, that this Bill has created a large number of difficulties about some of which I think my hon. Friend, Dr. John, gave expression to. Sir, indirectly Dr. John was pleading for separate electorates. I do not know why he did not directly say so."

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DR. V. K. JOHN :—" No, Sir. Far from it. I did not plead for communal electorates at all."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" That is only a commentary upon your speech."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I thought, Sir, that was the impression produced on the Chair, when you congratulated Mr. Jagannatham for securing a champion of his views in Dr. John."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Do not take me seriously. Dr. John says that he did not mean it."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I only said that if communal electorates are granted, this is not the way to do it. This is not effective. This is only representation for the majority community."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I do not propose to move the amendment standing in my name. Sir, I shall refer to it now only. I have suggested an amendment which the Hon. the Minister for Revenue has accepted in all the Bills in the Select Committee of which he was the Chairman. That is when a notification is to be made, it should be placed before both the Houses to secure their approval. Here is a provision, Sir, by which the Provincial Government may, by a notification, increase or reduce Councillors. By this they are taking to themselves, Sir, power which is dangerous to be allowed to be exercised by the executive Government. Unless such a notification is placed before both the Chambers of the Provincial Legislature and the approval of the Chambers obtained, I do not think it is a democratic procedure. The provision made by Hon. Minister for Revenue is a good feature and I wanted to congratulate him when his Bills come up. But since I find him in the House now, I congratulate him on being so accommodating and on recognizing that the voice of the Legislature in such vital matters should have to prevail as this is a vital matter. To-morrow the Hon. Mr. Chandramouli may take it into his head to reduce 65 divisional councillors to fifty because he has taken powers to reduce or increase the number. To do that without reference to the Legislature is very dangerous and that provision is very dangerous. I am very sorry the Hon. Daniel Thomas introduced it and Mr. Chandramouli is only fathering it. I wish these powers were exercised subject to the Legislature. Even now it is not too late. After all this Bill can wait for the next session. I suggest that he accepts my amendment so that the Bill may go to the other House and he might get credit as the Hon. the Revenue Minister has got."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, the Hon. Minister while introducing the Bill stated that the intention of the Bill was to bring the Muslim community into line with the Scheduled classes. I cannot really understand what he meant by that statement."

" The other day when the District Municipalities Amending Bill was under discussion before this House, we, the members of

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the Muslim League Party, pointed out our grievances. We also felt that our voices would be a cry in the wilderness as none of our amendments was accepted. Since this Bill is framed on the same lines and since we know what would be the fate of any amendments that we might give notice of, we have not tabled any amendment. That does not mean that we agree with the provisions of the Bill. But we thought that it would be enough if we just mention our grievances and put forth our objections to some of the provisions of the Bill. I am glad that Dr. John in his own inconsistent manner has pleaded the case of the Muslims so far as separate electorates are concerned. He began last time while speaking on the District Municipalities Amending Bill by espousing the cause of the Muslims for separate electorates and ended with a complete denunciation of the case for separate electorates for Muslims. But this time he has explained his case better and I am, therefore, thankful to him. Moulana Muhammad Ali stated that the persons elected from the general electorate would be men of straw; Dr. John has used an equally strong word; he has called them dummies. I am glad it is quite correct. Muslims returned through the process of reservation of seats in a ward where Muslims are not in a majority would be only representatives of the majority that returned him and by no stretch of imagination can such a person be called a representative of the Muslims. The person elected would naturally reflect only the views of the majority in that ward and not those of the Muslims who form the minority. It is only on this ground that we have been pleading for the introduction of separate electorate in district boards and municipalities. We are having the system of separate electorate so far as representation to the Legislatures is concerned and Muslim representatives are functioning quite properly. Therefore, there is no use of reserving a seat for Muslims in a joint electorate constituency especially when the majority of the voters are non-Muslims. It will be some improvement if seats are reserved in wards where the majority are Muslims and Muslims in the ward may then be able to elect their own representatives. It would have been better had the Government added a proviso to clause 4 to the effect that seats which are reserved for particular communities should be reserved in wards where the members of that community are in a majority. It would then be some slight improvement. As it is, the wards in which seats are reserved are left to be determined by the sweet will and pleasure of Government. By means of the improvement I have suggested, Muslims will be able to get representatives who will reflect the views of the community. Dr. John said again that persons who are elected from the wards in which

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I think we are concerned with what the Bill says and not what Dr. John said."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Dr. John said this with reference to the Bill and I have to refute some of those arguments since they are vitally concerned with the provisions of the Bill."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" I may tell the hon. Member that we are not concerned with refuting of Dr. John. Please refute the Bill if you can."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" He said rightly that such persons would only represent the views of the majority community and that is why we want that Muslim representatives should be elected through the separate electorate. If it applies to those wards where seats are reserved, much more so does it apply and with greater force it applies, to representatives who would be elected through a general electorate where there is no reservation and such a person would much less represent the Muslims."

" He spoke of Muslim wards in the City of Madras. But even there such areas have been tacked on to neighbouring areas where the Hindus are in a majority with the result that in many wards where Muslims ought naturally to be in a majority, there are Hindu majorities. I would, therefore, appeal to Government to consider the necessity of re-forming these wards so that contiguous areas where Muslims are in a majority may not be divided for political purposes in order to reduce them to a position of minority. I have mentioned some points while discussing the District Municipalities Amendment Bill and I have to repeat them here because I have been receiving representations from almost all the districts about these grievances, from which the Muslims of the Province are suffering. Dr. John spoke of panels and we know what the experience of the Scheduled classes is, from what Mr. Jagannatham and others feel about them."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I wish you confine your remarks to the Bill and deal with the Bill. As it is, it does not speak of panels. Please excuse me if I have to be stiff in this matter. We have not much time before us."

* K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" These are the main points on which we, the Muslims, are very much interested. First, we want that separate electorate should be provided for the Muslims, secondly even where reservation is provided the seats reserved for them should be in wards where Muslims are in a majority and thirdly, there must be a re-division of wards so that natural division may be restored and Muslims may not be split up."

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" Mr. President, I will not take much time for I will not attempt to review any of the allegations or assertions or statements that have been made by certain hon. Members regarding my sex."

" But, Sir, I would say that a very grand future has been forecast for us, women, by the hon. Member who spoke first. He said there was no necessity for reservation of seats for women, because if a woman sets up a claim, a woman well-dressed and with a sweet smile—any man would stand out for her. I will bear this in mind at the next election for my particular seat or for the hon. Member's seat for the Council—by his fish-pond, around his house."

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near his flower beds, and on his cement walk, members of my sex, chosen for their beauty, wit and eloquence will wait on Dr. John. in order to persuade him to give up his seat and his vote and you may be sure that Dr. John will not sit again in this House in his own right."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I am not sure if he would not like the bevy in his house; he would prefer it to sitting in this House."

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" They would all be young and beautiful and Dr. John and I will sit and admire them from the veranda and gallery.

" Again a suggestion was made that women would be dumkies but I join issue with him in that opinion. Really, it is the other way about and women are bringing to bear a dynamic view of things. So, it will not be quite as he said. Again, I see that four seats have been reserved for women out of a total of 66 seats, which works out to one woman's seat for every 16½ men. I stand by arithmetic and not anything else and this proves that in this Province one woman will be counted equal to sixteen and-a-half men.

" I shall close my remarks with a congratulation to the Government on clause 6 of the Bill, which foretells what the future holds for us. This is the first time that I have seen in print in any Bill or Resolution recommended to a Legislature in this country that elections should be on a basis completely void of sex distinctions and of communal distinctions. The candidates would know the people in their wards and we, the electors, would know who are the people who deserve support and that is guaranteed in addition the seats reserved for the different sections. This is a section which enables us, women, to choose those people whether men or women of whatever community they may belong, in addition to the seats reserved for us. I must congratulate the Hon. Minister on having introduced this provision in the Bill which will bring us all into very much closer unity and of finding out who are the best people irrespective of the other divisions that this Bill has for the present put forward. I say 'for the present' advisedly. I think that the former Bill was very, very bad and poor and this is certainly many steps better and this clause 6 points the way to something better still that we would attain in the not too distant future for distinctions of all kinds must be removed in order that unity may be established in our Province and the Country."

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THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" Mr. President, Sir. I would just mention to you, and through you to this Council, that this bill is a necessary and a salutary piece of legislation. Somewhere in 1933, a committee was appointed by the Government which contained many eminent men to go into the question of the Madras City Municipal Act. The committee consisted of persons like Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Swami Venkatachalam Chetti and several other distinguished public men of this Province. It was therefore plain that in the City Corporation all minority communities should be represented by reservation of seats. That report was not immediately put into legislation so far as the Madras City Municipal Act was concerned. The recommendations of the

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committee were adopted in the provisions of the District Municipalities Act. In 1934 a Bill was brought into the statute book whereby reservation of seats was made for Indian Christians, Muslims, Adi-Dravidas and women in joint electorates for all the district boards of the Province. That system has been working very satisfactorily for the last 12 years. So far as Madras was concerned, it was thought desirable that this provision should be included in the City Municipal Act. India is a country of all communities and classes. These minority communities are now conscious of their position as minorities. I submit the Congress party and the Congress Ministry are anxious to safeguard and protect the interest of the minority communities. It was said that representatives elected by joint electorates from minority communities were not really representative. I absolutely repudiate that suggestion. There are many municipalities in this Province, and hundreds of members have been elected by joint electorates to represent Indian Christians, Muslims and Adi-Dravidas. I would submit the records of municipal administration and local boards for the last 12 years will belie the suggestion that has been made that those representatives are not the real representatives of the community. (K. Uppi Sahib Bahadur: Question.) Of course members represent not only their own community, but that particular area also. I submit the object and purpose of reservation of seats for certain communities in these areas is not that there should be different and there should be communal representation for these communities, but that people of these seats should be associated with the administration of these bodies. For example, from 1941 onwards, in the Madras City Corporation, there has been no woman. I submit that the present Bill makes such a position impossible. The object and policy of the Bill is that Government are anxious that representation for minority communities should be given, but that representatives of minority communities should represent not only their own communities but the particular area also. They should work together in union for the civic welfare of the entire people of the area.

" One more word, and I shall finish. My hon. Friend, Dr. John, said that the number of members provided in this Bill was too large, and that as a matter of fact, it should be less. The City of Bombay with 15 square miles has over 100 members. Our old Madras was 13 square miles in area. Now we are raising it to 50 square miles. Moreover he said, that the largeness of the number should be an obstruction. As a matter of fact, there are a number of standing committees and each standing committee has a right to opt out by letting in particular interests. For example, if there is a committee in charge of education, it can take in as members of the standing committee, members of private institutions. I would therefore submit the enlargement of the numbers is a very desirable and satisfactory feature of the present Bill, and it is not at all clear how it will clash with the competent discharge of the executive functions of that body. I would therefore submit that so far as that provision is concerned, namely, enlargement of

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the Council, and the representation of minority communities, I submit both are desirable features. I no doubt agree that reservation of seats for minorities, and reservation of seats for certain classes such as women is not ideally desirable. But we are not living in an ideal country. Therefore, so long as the committees are there, I would submit that it is desirable that that provision should be made. Recently even in the United Provinces a similar provision providing reservation of seats for minority communities by joint electorates was brought before the Legislative Assembly."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, Sir, but for the speech of the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas, I would not have taken part in this debate." (Laughter.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" It is unfortunate."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Even this learned gentleman, after experience as a mufassal member and as the Chairman of some representative bodies, has to admit that reservation of seats for the minority communities is absolutely necessary. I thank the Hon. Mr. Chandramouli for God-fathering this Bill. The father of the Bill is the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas. The Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas has drawn up this Bill and left it for nursing to the Hon. Mr. Chandramouli. This Bill is really a step in the right direction. Mr. John has given expression to some feelings for which we are thankful to him. He is true to himself. He is true to realities to-day. He had been advocating in a general way the necessity of representation of minorities. But he said he is not for separate electorate. He goes half way and halts. I do not agree with him. So also the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas. Both these gentlemen want separate representation. Mr. Daniel Thomas belongs to a minority community. I ask Mr. Daniel Thomas 'If you are true to yourself, if you are true to this House and to India, you ought to keep the real fact before you'. The real fact is that communal representation is there in this country. You cannot by mere advices and preachings wipe it out of this land. Sir, we Muslims are branded as communalists. But, in fact, in this Presidency, it is not the Muslims that started this communalism. The Non-Brahman movement came from the Hindu section. At that time, we were Congressites believing in joint electorate. With my hon. Friend, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar's brother—I have great admiration for him—I had to cross words even in private talk. In those days we were all nationalists. But realities forced us to change our view. Now one cannot wipe it out of India by mere words. To-day, I have to submit to Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar—I take off my hat, rather my cap—and declare that he was right and I was wrong. That is the position, Sir. I might ask Hon. Members as well as the Hon. Mr. Daniel Thomas, 'let us take facts and prove as practical statesmen'. Communalism in this country you cannot wipe out by mere preaching . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Bill does not seek to wipe it out."

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K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" As a matter of fact, the Bill provides for special representation for Muslims, now, Sir. But it is only half measure."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" You want a better thing? That has been put ably by Mr. Ibrahim."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" I once again request Government to reconsider and have a clear Bill giving separate representation for Muslims and other communities, like scheduled classes, elected by themselves, brought forward at an early date, realising the real position of the community and not have this camouflage of communal representation and hoodwink them."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Does the Hon. Minister propose to reply? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" I will say only one or two words, Sir."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" My community has been referred to, Sir."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Your community has been amply provided for."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" I want to repudiate that impression."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Nobody has got any impression that your community has been treated badly."

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry to say that a gentleman like Dr. John should put forward self-contradictory suggestions, one following the other, without bringing or giving any helpful suggestions. He advocated that the Corporation Council should be composed of a small number of people. At the same time he wanted representations to be given to each and every profession. This cannot be done. Secondly, I can say one thing to Dr. John regarding the executive functions. So long as there is the Commissioner, so long as there are committees, the Corporation is also expected to carry on the executive functions. They are there to formulate certain policies. So long as the civic interests of all the people are to be represented, you cannot ask a few people to sit there and represent the feelings of all the civic needs of the population. I can say that it is also contradictory to the spirit of the Bill. Then, Sir, I will say one thing regarding Muslims. The hon. Mr. Ibrahim told that reservation of seats was made where there were not Muslims in a majority. I can assure him that reservation of seats for Muslims is made where Muslims are in a majority. As for the powers taken by the Ministry under sections 13 and 14, I will say, this is only a provision for meeting an emergency and not to take wide powers. I can assure Mr. Suryanarayana Rao that every care will be taken not to abuse such powers, and that so long as the executive is there,

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such powers are necessary; for every small thing you cannot expect us to come to the Legislature for its sanction. Then, Sir, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao has advocated adult franchise, proportional representation and other such things. I can say, adult franchise is necessary, and I assure him that that is a thing for which the Congress has always stood. As this is an emergency bill introduced to meet an emergency, only small amendments have been made in the present Bill. With these words, Sir, I commend the Bill for the acceptance of the House."

The motion was put and carried.

Clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and clause 1 and the Preamble were put and carried.

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'that the Madras City Municipal (Second Amendment) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 5 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly be passed into law.'

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn for tea."

A VOICE:—"May I know when we re-assemble, Sir?"

MR. PRESIDENT:—"As soon as it is over." (Laughter.)

(After tea—5-37 p.m.)

IV.—MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce to the House the following messages, dated, Fort St. George, the 24th April 1947, received by me from the Hon. the Speaker of the Madras Legislative Assembly:—

"In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules I transmit a copy of the Tungabhadra Project (Prevention of Speculation in Land) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 13 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly on the 24th April 1947 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council."

"In accordance with rule 94 of the Madras Assembly Rules I transmit a copy of the Malabar Irrigation Works (Construction and Levy of Cess) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 14 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly on the 24th April 1947 and signed by me for the concurrence of the Council."

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GOVERNMENT BILL—cont.

(2) THE TUNGABHADRA PROJECT (PREVENTION OF SPECULATION IN LAND) BILL, 1947 (L.A. BILL NO. 13 OF 1947) (AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY).

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'that the Tungabhadra Project (Prevention of Speculation in Land) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 13 of 1947), as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration.'

"Sir, it has undergone some important changes in the select committee in the other House."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"On a point of order, Sir, the Hon. Minister should first move to suspend standing order."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"What standing order?"

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"He has to ask you permission to suspend the standing order . . ."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"You mean leave to waive three days' notice?"

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Yes."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Government have already asked for that. That is why, I consulted you, as the Leader of the Opposition, before bringing this measure, whether you have any objection. (The hon. Member nodded assent.) The Hon. Minister may continue his speech."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, the Bill seeks to prohibit large extent of land in the Tungabhadra project area being purchased in the expectation of a rise in price of land when the project comes into operation, and to resell them at a profit. The list of villages attached in the schedule of this Bill defines the area of operation of this Bill. All hon. Members know that this area is a famine area, and for the first time something is being done to bring water to these villages which are in the famine area. But, Sir, when certain people got knowledge that a project is coming into being, they began to purchase land, from Rupees five to Rupees fifty an acre, the purpose being that on a future date when the project comes into operation, the price of these lands will go up, and then by selling them they can make a profit. As a matter of fact otherwise one cannot see any reason why lawyers from Bapatla, Guntur and Tenali should go there and purchase land, which can never be for agricultural purposes. Even some of the commercial magnates of the locality who have nothing to do with agriculture have consistently purchased land under this project area. These gentlemen rely upon their business concern than upon agriculture as their profession. Therefore Government thought it necessary, that there should be a Bill which should prevent this speculation in future, and so under the new clause 3

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they propose to take over such lands as are in excess of fifty acres at the price at which they were purchased and then disposed of them in the best interests of the locality and the country. Clause 9 of the Bill deals with an important aspect. It says that when a man has purchased a land in the project area, it cannot be alienated for thirty years. It is a beneficial provision which will go a long way to keep land from slipping into others hands. I must say this Bill is due to the efforts of Mr. Suryanarayana Rao. My record shows that he is one of the earliest few to bring this measure. I am glad that I have got the chance of bringing this measure, and I do hope the people of the locality will get the desired effect out of this Bill. I need not say anything more. I request this House to give this Bill a speedy passage."

* SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, in supporting this measure I would say a few words. The complaint is that it is not as comprehensive as it should have been, in two or three respects, and I hope the Ministry will take these points, which I am going to mention presently, and attend to them. The first complaint with regard to this Bill is that my electorate consider it to be very limited in scope and that Government have not brought within its ambit the huge acreage which landlords in general, whose lands will be irrigated by this project, have in their possession. Some of the landlords have got two to three thousand acres, which will be benefited by this project. And I know when the Famine Code Revision Committee met, they gave an assurance, that when this project was brought into execution, they would give up lands in excess of fifty acres; and they have given that assurance, some orally, and some in writing. At that time it was thought the whole area will be irrigated with wet crops. But now, we see, for some reason or other, of which we are not aware, this project will irrigate only 15 thousand acres of wet crops and 2½ lakhs of acres with dry crops. At the time when we were proceeding with that committee, it was stated that ten lakhs of acres will be brought under cultivation under this project. It is not known why this acreage has been reduced from ten to three lakhs of acres, of which five per cent is to be irrigated with wet crops. Sir, this is nothing when compared with Kistna and Godavari delta.

" Sir, some people have been complaining and what they say has also been printed in a pamphlet, a copy of which I have given to the Hon. Minister for Public Works, that it is only a limited quantity of water that is to be impounded by this dam, and most of it is to be let down into the Kistna river, so that the ryots in that delta may have the benefit of this project. They complain this project has been undertaken not so much in the interest of the Rayalaseema districts as for the benefits of the ryots in the Kistna delta. It is for the Public Works Minister to answer those complaints, and I understand they are going to issue a Press Communiqué to-morrow, and not to-day, answering these objections. Anyhow the project is quite welcome, though no doubt it is limited in scope.

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" The other complaint is they have not taken up what is called high canal project, I mean, the high level channel. If it had been undertaken it would have brought under irrigation at least double the acreage. Well, Sir, whatever it may be, we must be thankful for small mercies. From 1943 onwards several merchants have purchased thousands of acres which come under this project and as the Hon. Minister stated, some of them are from Guntur district and Kistna district, and as was pointed out by the Hon. Minister several lawyers including two or three lawyers from Bellary have purchased four thousand acres. Of course they have not purchased them for raising dry crops. Now they are disappointed; at least they are not so elated as they were when they purchased the lands.

" As I said, Sir, we are thankful for small mercies; and I hope in due time Government will bring in legislation to reduce the acreage of big landlords who own two thousand to three thousand acres. On the other hand they are entitled to purchase in addition not more than 50 acres. Under clause 4 (2) their present extent of land is secured and they too can purchase not more than 50 acres. I do not want to take up much time of the House, and I hope Government in due time will bring a comprehensive measure. With these words I support this measure."

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am very happy that at last this measure which vitally affects the Tungabhadra Project area has been brought forward in this House. I am very grateful to the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue for associating my name in initiating this idea of restricting the extent of acquisition of lands under the project. Sir, on this occasion, you will forgive me if I indulge in speaking at some length which may appear to be delivering a budget speech. Sir, this project has been one of the dreams of many of the people of Rayalaseema. As Mr. Bhima Rao pointed out this scheme has undergone various changes. From the time of Mackenzie down to the time, if I may say so, of Dowley, it has undergone so many changes; and one wonders, why after all a scheme of this restricted kind has been adopted by Government. When the Famine Code Revision Committee considered this project—and I was one of its members—we recommended what we called the Swaminatha Ayyar's scheme, which consists of a low level canal and a high level canal, and it was estimated to cost, at that time, about 16 crores. But later on, there must have been some trouble with the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad on the question of sharing of waters. The enormous cost involved in bringing a high level canal without adequate supply of water made Mr. Dowley, who was then the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to think of this alternative scheme of the low level canal. It is true, Sir, those of us who have studied the Swaminatha Ayyar's scheme felt hopeful that both the low level canal and the high level canal would form part of this project, irrigating a large extent of land. We were all greatly disappointed; and as soon as we learnt that there was this

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restricted proposal, the present Minister for Industries and myself ran up to Tanjore, consulted Mr. Swaminatha Ayyar and presented a memorandum to the Adviser in charge of Irrigation, who was pleased to order that both the original scheme and the proposed scheme should be examined from all points of view. The Tirumalai Ayyangar report gives figures and facts relating to both the schemes. But, as I said, the difficulty seems to have arisen on the question of distribution of waters with the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad and wisely, Sir, I believe, instead of waiting for a decision the Madras Government decided that we should proceed at least with the low level canal, at the same time not giving up their right for waters which would enable them to have the high level canal. When this question came up before the Ceded Districts Economic Development Board, the Special Chief Engineer for Irrigation for the Project assured us, that in the dam that he was putting up he was providing sluices for the high level canal also, so that, and if at any time it came into being—we hope it will come soon—by coming to an agreement with the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, they would also take up the high level canal. Therefore for the present it is a restricted scheme.

“Another feature to which Mr. Bhima Rao referred is, while the reservoir is at one place the benefits accrue from it to taluks situated far away from the reservoir. That is one of the reasons why there is opposition to the scheme. I feel, with due deference to Mr. Bhima Rao, who seems to share these misgivings of the misguided opposition to the scheme,—that all this opposition is because of the Minister for Land Revenue and his friends who are talking of linguistic provinces. The idea is, while the reservoir is located in the future Karnataka province, the waters therefrom are to irrigate the so-called Andhra districts of the Andhra province. (Laughter.) I wish this question of linguistic provinces is not brought up at this stage.

“Another point I want to deal with is the pamphlet about which Mr. Bhima Rao spoke. I have a copy of that pamphlet with me. It is but natural for people of Karnataka to feel as they do. By the way, I will go into the Karnataka province, when it is formed; because I come from a village situated in the Karnataka area; and I am not at all sorry for it. But the main objection behind this opposition to the scheme is due to the fact that the reservoir and the large number of villages and lands that will be submerged by the reservoir and the thirty thousand population that will be affected by this submersion belong to the Karnataka province; while the benefits therefrom will accrue to the Andhra districts of the so-called Andhra province. I am not worried about this at all. For when schemes of this large kind are undertaken some have to suffer so that a larger number may reap the benefits thereof. It is in this way the Hon. Minister for Public Works, when he visited some time ago those beautiful villages which will be submerged by the reservoir recently, brought home to the people

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of their unreasonableness. He said, ‘it is true, you are going to suffer; but remember the very large number of people who will be benefited, and with the lands you have to give up, other taluks will become prosperous and that will also bring prosperity even to those who are now affected by it.’

I am very sorry that the Government have delayed in issuing⁶ p.m. the promised communiqué on the subject. In fact, Sir, this Government has not taken the trouble to educate even the legislators about the Tungabhadra Project, its potentialities and its possibilities, though they have a big publicity department. Even my hon. Friend, Mr. Farookhi Sahib, who represented these districts in the Central Assembly does not know where Mallapuram is which is the area proposed to be submerged under water, where the water will flow and so on. Sir, the legislators have a right to know all these. It is the duty of the Government to educate the legislators first and then the public as to what this project stands for. The Government will issue a communiqué to-morrow as suggested by Mr. Bhima Rao, but the mischief has already been done. This leaflet I have in mind was issued two months ago and we have been asking the Government to counteract this propaganda. This leaflet is a conglomeration of exaggeration of facts and suppression of facts, but I do not blame the authors. It is a propaganda leaflet on behalf of the Karnataka province. In propaganda we have to take the weakest points in the opponent and make much of them. I am very sorry that this Government communiqué has been delayed. But I hope the communiqué when it is issued, will satisfy at least my friend, Mr. Bhima Rao, who has to plead with the voters in his constituency and satisfy them and tell them that the fact that they would belong to the Karnataka province or that they would not belong to an Andhra province should not influence them in anyway and prevent them from using their judgment in assessing the value of this project. Who knows, my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhima Rao, may be aware—that if a plebiscite is taken many of the taluks which are now claimed by people who want them to be included in an Andhra province may form part of the Karnataka province? Because, Sir, the other day, when the hon. Member, Mr. A. B. Shetty, when he was not Minister, put a question in the Assembly asking for a list of places in which Kanarese is the regional language, I was surprised to find that many of the taluks for which a claim is laid on behalf of the Andhra province are bilingual, and if a vote is taken many of the villages, perhaps whole taluks, may go into a Karnataka province. Unfortunately, Sir, I have to refer to this contentious question, but there it is. All this trouble is due to the fact that a proper appreciation of the benefits expected to be conferred by the project has not been brought home to the minds of the public.

“Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Bhima Rao, referred to a recommendation of the Famine Code Revision Committee relating to the restriction of holdings. It is true, Sir, the Famine Code Revision Committee suggested—they did not fix 100 acres though some of us fought for it—the Committee suggested that if within 10 years

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after the waters of the Tungabhadra is supplied for irrigation, the lands are found uncultivated, the Government should take the land from the landholders at the price at which lands were sold before the water was available and parcel them out among landless labourers. Sir, that was the idea at that time. And I am glad that in this Bill, fifty acres is considered to be a fairly economic unit under the Tungabhadra Project.

"Sir, I was one of those few people who were present on the occasion when His Excellency the Governor of Madras laid the foundation stone of this dam. I went up the hill where the foundation stone was laid and looked round, I was told that for the distance as far as my eye could reach, water would be impounded. It was a glorious sight for one to imagine what it would be when it became a fact. But I was wondering why, when so much water could be impounded, the waters could not be utilised from the beginning of the reservoir by the lands about the reservoir right up to the end of the Kurnool taluk in Kurnool district. Unfortunately, Sir, the contour of the land is such that it is not possible for lands very near the dam site to be irrigated. Secondly, Sir, the level of the land is such, though the canal is running by its side, it is only on one side irrigation is possible and not on the other side. It is unfortunate, for in a place like Kistna district the waters would have irrigated both sides of the channel bringing more land under irrigation.

"Another fact which hon. Members must know is, if I am not mistaken and I hope I will not be corrected as I was done when I spoke on the Madras City Municipal Amendment Bill—for the first time, Sir, in the history of the world, what is called 'dry irrigation' is being adopted in this project area. The water is being let in to grow dry crops and not wet crops. Only a small percentage of the project area will be under wet cultivation growing wet crops. Most of the land, in fact 85 per cent of it, will be only dry-irrigated area growing dry crops like cholam, commercial crops like cotton, and perhaps in some areas where water is more easily available, indigo and other crops. Therefore, Sir, I do not think that 50 acres provided as the maximum extent of project land which a person may acquire is high.

"There is a point that was not made clear in the other House and might now be cleared by the Government. Why did not the Government accept all the points announced in the communiqué of the Madras Government, dated 7th February 1946. In this communiqué, the then Government laid down the principles on which they would bring forward legislation. I expected, Sir, to have all these points incorporated in this Bill, but I find, Sir, that it has not been done. One of the points made there was that a man may acquire up to 50 acres, but no person after the Act came into force could acquire more than 50 acres of the project land without Government's permission and such permission would only be given to those who satisfy the authorities that they are genuine agriculturists. No such condition exists here and anybody may now acquire 50 acres under the project. And then it was said: 'And

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undertake not to dispose of the land until a certain number of years after the water is made available.' That has been accepted. But we do not find here the provision that if land is acquired in contravention of the provisions it will be liable to be confiscated. All that the present Bill says is: If a man acquires more land, within three years the Government can exercise the right of purchasing the land at rates at which the man purchased it. But the Advisers' regime had come to the conclusion that if anybody purchased more land than 50 acres after a particular date, all that land would become confiscated to Government, may I remind Sir, without compensation. In order to discourage persons from speculating in land before the Act came into force, all purchases of land between a date to be prescribed in 1944 and the commencement of the Act would be set off against the limit of 50 acres mentioned above and water would not be allowed for irrigating more than the restricted extent of the holding so acquired. This principle also has not been introduced. The Bill, Sir, seeks to take power for Government to acquire project land in certain areas, if a person has acquired more than 50 acres after 1st October 1944, but it does not penalise him to the extent the Advisers' Government wanted to do. It does not prevent a man who already has a thousand acres from acquiring 50 acres more, and if he is influential enough to get a permit, for acquiring 100 acres even. (Interruption) Yes, with a permit. I know he can manage to get a permit, Sir. It should have been made penal for any man who already has land to acquire even this 50 acres, because the land he already has will give him enough trouble to bring it under cultivation when the water flows down the canal.

"Sir, if only the good rule that we have suggested to the Government of having joint committees when bills of this kind are introduced had been followed, it would have enabled some humble people in this House also to have brought to the notice of the Government certain factors which should be taken into account when a Bill of this kind is introduced. Let it be remembered, Sir, that this Bill is of a socialistic nature: restricting a man from purchasing more than a certain extent of land tends toward socialism. Let us not fight shy of it. If we go further and prevent people from owning more than a certain extent, that is real socialism. Let nobody be sorry that we are proceeding along these lines, when the Advisers' Regime was prepared to go so far.

"Then, Sir, before I close I want to say one thing more. I have not given notice of any amendment because I want this Bill to be passed as soon as possible. After the communiqué was issued by the Adviser Government people who were sending out agents from far off Tenali and Bapatla ceased to do so and people who had bought lands even parted with them fearing that water would not be available or their lands would be confiscated. That apart, I appeal to the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue—I am glad the Hon. the Prime Minister is here—this project presents problems which are very big and perhaps only of the kind which arose under the Tennessee Valley Authority. Here I have the reports of the

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Special Officer covering hundreds of pages, dealing with every problem connected with the Tungabhadra Project, and the problems are many. There is the question of population at the area which is sparsely populated; there is the problem of cattle, manure, etc. There are also other problems connected with the bringing of land under cultivation, such as coaxing the ryot till now accustomed to depend on rain to make use of the canal water when the rains fail and also when the rains come in order to grow some other subsidiary crop. Then, Sir, it may be necessary to change the agricultural practices of the tract. The water can flow along the canal during certain periods only. What crops can best be grown, what proportion food crops should bear to commercial crops—these are some of the problems, which you come across in this project and which would not arise in a project intended for wet cultivation like the Ramapadasagar project. We have many such projects for dry irrigation in these areas such as the Gandikotta project. Therefore I would like the Government not to be satisfied with what they have done, but to take in hand and redeem the pledge given by the previous Prime Minister to appoint a high power executive who will be in a position to take decisions on the various problems raised by the Special Officer and devise methods to solve them, so that when the waters flow along the canals, the lands may not remain barren as they are but become smiling fields."

6.15 p.m. THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, both the speakers that have spoken on this proposition have spoken on subjects many of which do not belong to my portfolio. But nonetheless one or two points, I am bound to answer.

"With regard the need for a high power executive to deal with the general, social and economic advancement of the area, I may state that the matter is under the consideration of the Government, and when the time comes, Mr. Suryanarayana Rao will be more than satisfied in the matter.

"As a matter of fact, the only criticism that requires answer is that the big landlords still subsist in that area. People who own more than fifty acres of land not by purchase but by owning them for years have not been penalized. It is true. But such a type of legislation, when it comes, must be one which will be applicable to the whole presidency. We cannot start with that kind of legislation for a limited area which the present Bill will cover. When the Government feel the need and when people demand, such questions can be considered in the context of the whole presidency and decided. We have to judge this Bill by the immediate need, the need for preventing speculation, and I hope that the Bill satisfied that test.

"In the event of the High Level Channel scheme coming into existence, the area covered by this Bill will have to be extended beyond Bellary and Kurnool districts. Hence the new section 1 (2) (b) (ii) was added by the Select Committee. The Government are aware of any possible development that may occur, and they have provided for that also.

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"With regard to confiscation to which Mr. Suryanarayana Rao referred, that point was raised in the Select Committee also, but it did not find agreement. A day may come when we will have to deal with these things with a wider outlook and with an eye to a more equitable system of owning lands. Till then, my hon. friends must be satisfied with the present measure which will fulfil the immediate object for which it was intended. There was no criticisms about that matter. I hope the hon. members will pass the Bill with all possible speed."

The motion was put and carried.

Clauses 2 to 16 were put and carried.

The Schedule was put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I beg to move—
'that the Bill be passed into law'."

The motion was put and carried.

(3) THE MALABAR IRRIGATION WORKS (CONSTRUCTION AND LEVY OF CESS) BILL, 1947 (L.A. BILL NO. 14 OF 1947) (AS PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY).

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"I beg to move—
'that the Malabar Irrigation Works (Construction and Levy of Cess) Bill, 1947 (L.A. Bill No. 14 of 1947) as passed by the Assembly be taken into consideration at once.'

"Malabar is a big district with a big population and also a big rainfall. As all know, the rivers flow directly into the sea and there are few irrigation works in the area. (The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon:—No irrigation works.) I can say that there is at least one irrigation work in Malabar. It was purchased from a private owner in 1902 for Rs. 3,152. It yields a net revenue of Rs. 240 per mensem. It is in Palghat taluk. Except this, the record shows that Malabar has no public irrigation work. The Bill provides for the acquisition of lands for the construction of reservoirs, tanks, dams, etc., in Malabar. The post-war schemes contain a few such proposals. But objection has been taken that the land in that area belongs to the janmis and not to the State. The object of the Bill is to confer on the Government powers necessary to acquire such private rights. Under clause 3 power is taken for the construction of irrigation works on Government or acquired lands.

"Another important feature is the levy of water-cess, which will be the first charge on the land and the crops raised thereon.

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" Another important clause is that which does not pass off the benefit of the increased yield due to the supply of water from any irrigation work to the landlord. Whoever cultivates the land will get the benefit, and the janmi cannot claim any enhancement of rent.

" Therefore, this is a start, a good start I should say, for constructing irrigation works in Malabar, an area which, as I said in the beginning, has got a big population but which is deficit so far as food is concerned. Malabar is claiming to be a new linguistic province and that province ought to be self-sufficient in food. This Bill may help in the realization of that ideal. No objections have been received to the Bill which was published as early as January. I hope that this Bill will receive the general approval of the people of Malabar and that the House will accord its sanction to the legislation in as speedy a manner as possible.

" (Replying to an interruption) The new irrigation works have not yet been planned. First of all, it is necessary for the Government to acquire lands which form part of the bed of watercourses after paying compensation which shall not exceed the value of an equivalent extent of land on either bank of the watercourse adjoining the land acquired. More than dams, we have to construct tanks and reservoirs. I hope that a close investigation will be made and the works planned soon after we get the power that we want under this Bill."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" This is the first occasion when the Government of Madras have ever thought of constructing irrigation works in Malabar. We have been crying for irrigation facilities in Malabar all these years, and it is gratifying that the Government have heard our cry and come forward with a Bill like this. We from Malabar are thankful that we also come under the scheme for the provision of irrigation works. (Interruption by Dr. V. K. John).

" We are talking about irrigation works. If my hon. Friend wants us to talk about Moplasthan, we are only looking for an opportunity to talk about it. My hon. Friend might nooh-nooh or talk in a spirit of levity. But many a thing which was talked of in such a spirit has become an accomplished fact. I will leave that matter at that for the present, and talk about irrigation.

6-30
p.m.

" I hope my hon. Friend, the Revenue Minister, will not sleep over the Bill but will go ahead with the Bill, will not allow the Act to be a dead letter but will give effect to it and show some signs of activity in that part of the world. We the people of Malabar are thankful to him and to the Government for showing so much consideration to Malabar."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, I rise to support the Bill and thank the Government for bringing forward the Bill. I want to assist them by making one suggestion. Under section 4 of the Act the Government have to make and publish a declaration under

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section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act without following the procedure laid down in sections 4 (1) and 5-A of that Act. A notification under section 4 (1) is necessary so that the market value of the land may be fixed. According to the Land Acquisition Act a date has to be fixed. No date is apparently fixed. It has been skipped over. I suggest that the Government might examine the position and find out whether a date should not be fixed on which the market value is to be fixed for land to be acquired. I have studied the Land Acquisition Act. I am very familiar with it. I suggest that the Government might examine this question. If they find that they have to fix a date, they might introduce an amending Bill which might fix the date from which this Act should come into force, so that there may not be speculation and high values are not paid. I have referred to this point because people must know when this Act will come into force."

* SRI M. NARAYANA MENON :—" Sir, I rise to thank the Government for bringing forward this Bill which is in fact, long overdue. For the last 150 years we have been crying " water, water." Though water is available, the people of Malabar are not benefited by it. The British Government was not pleased to provide us with irrigation facilities. Now this Government has come to our rescue and this Bill is the first step in that direction. So far as the rights which the Government has to acquire for the building of an anicut or a reservoir, I agree the provisions are unobjectionable. I have nothing to say about them except to point out a lacuna—as stated by my hon. Friend, Dr. John—that under section 4 a date has to be fixed. It is a small matter which may be got over by making proper rules.

" I wish to refer to some of the other provisions of the Bill. In Malabar river-beds belong to the owners of the banks on either side. If the bank on one side belongs to a person the river-bed adjacent to that bank belongs to him. If both the banks belong to the same person the river-bed between them wholly belongs to him. In Malabar the Government has no proprietary right over the land as in the ryotwari tracts. This point has been raised several times in courts and even the earliest decisions of the Madras High Court have upheld it. In the cases that have gone to the Privy Council the decisions are to the effect that the Government has no proprietary right over the lands in Malabar and consequently has no proprietary rights over river-beds. Even in the case of zamindars, this principle has been invariably applied though their proprietary rights over the banks are said to be derived from the Government. In Malabar this principle applies with greater fitness as individuals and not the Government are the owners of the lands.

" I shall refer to clause 5 of this Bill. Under that clause the Government have claimed much more than they ought to. I am pointing out this fact, so that the Government might explain

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their intentions or correct the mistake. In clause 5, sub-clause (1) what the Government claims is that all the water in the water-course and all tributaries and branches thereof should become the property of the Government, when the Government constructs an irrigation work on the said watercourse. If the claim of the Government is to all the water in the watercourse, tributaries and branches up to the irrigation work one can understand it because the Government cannot distribute water properly when there is third party intervention with the water-supply. If water is allowed to go down to the river and to the sea, landowners on either side of the river must be entitled to use it as they have been doing prior to the passing of this Act. There is no justification on the part of the Government to claim their water also. It must be clearly expressed in the sub-clause that the water which the Government claims is water up to the irrigation system, and that all the rest of water flowing down the river might be made use of by people as they have been doing before. Otherwise the result will be this; petty landowners will have to go to Government officials, Revenue Inspectors, Tahsildars or Collectors and get permission from them to make use of the water. It is very difficult for them to approach these officials to get permission. I submit therefore that the Government should at the earliest opportunity definitely declare their rights with reference to the said sub-clause. I think the Government can do so in the rules they are making under the Act. Again, clause 6 says that any person who suffers loss on account of material diminution in the supply of water after the construction of the irrigation system shall be entitled to compensation for such loss. Of course it is quite clear that some compensation must be given. The compensation is provided at 15 times the loss in the case of lands which have been deprived of water and only 12 times in the case of other undertakings. In the Bill which was published originally it was only 12 times in both the cases. The Select Committee raised it to 15 times in the first case. I feel that the compensation provided is not sufficient in either case. I shall illustrate the point. Suppose the loss incurred every year by a landholder is Rs. 100. The compensation to him will be 15 times Rs. 100 that is Rs. 1,500. What is the interest he will get on this Rs. 1,500? What is the interest that the Government give? What is the ordinary bank rate? The bank gives 3 per cent. Government investments are giving $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 per cent. The man loses every year more than Rs. 50. This is a public undertaking; it is done on behalf of the people. Why should particular individuals suffer under such a provision? I hope the Government will consider the point and make necessary changes.

"The most obnoxious clause is clause 14 under which the rights which the owner has to enhance the rent on account of the irrigation system, have been taken away. This legislation is concerned only with the rights of the Government for taking powers in their hands in order that an irrigation system may be constructed. It is convenient to read clause 14 at this juncture—

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"Any increase in the yield of the land or in the extent of land cultivated by reason of the supply of water from any irrigation work shall not entitle a landlord as defined in the Malabar Tenancy Act, 1929, to claim any enhancement of the rent or renewal fee payable to him nor shall such increase be taken into account in determining fair rent under that Act."

I submit the money that is used for the construction of the irrigation system is not the money belonging to the tenant only, it is the money belonging to the people including the landowners. In fact the irrigation systems are constructed for the benefit of the land and of the persons owning the land. The cultivator also must get a portion of the benefit. To deny absolutely any benefit to the owner is neither fair nor equitable. I have been approached by many people in Malabar, by many landowners to submit to this House that this is an act of injury done to them, and of unfairness shown to them. The best course, therefore, is to drop clause 14 now but this point may be taken up when the tenancy legislation is attempted. If the House is not pleased now to fix a due proportion of the benefit to the landowner, let there be legislation after full and open discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of the course suggested. There is no point in the argument that people have not raised any objection to the Bill although it was published two months ago. Nobody ever expected that such a provision as clause 14 would be introduced in a legislation claiming river-beds for the construction of our irrigation system. Therefore people have paid no attention to this legislation. Suppose people have been negligent hitherto and suppose the difficulty is pointed out now only can we in fairness deny the right to them. My humble submission to the House is that this is a matter which the Government must take into consideration when the Tenancy Act is revised in the course of the next few months.

"This clause cannot be legally sustained with reference to the provisions in the Malabar Tenancy Act. Under that Act, for the calculation of fair rent and renewal fee, the gross yield of the property for three years immediately preceding the date of ascertainment must be taken into account. But under clause 14, in order to fix fair rent, we have to take into consideration what the annual gross yield of the land was prior to the construction of the irrigation work. It is very difficult even for the cleverest Commissioner or Revenue officer to do this. This Bill directly comes into conflict with the provisions of the Malabar Tenancy Act and Malabar Compensation for Tenants' Improvement Act. This point also may be considered when the revision of the Malabar Tenancy Act is taken up.

"One thing more I wish to point out. Under clause 6 some compensation is payable. To whom is this compensation payable? Is it payable to the landowners? Is it payable to the kanam tenant? Is it payable to the cultivating tenant? These are the three questions I wish to ask. If it is made payable to the cultivating tenant, it is a grave blunder. Under the Malabar Tenancy Act the tenant may give up the land at any time and may get away with the compensation amount. The landlord who is there to

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cultivate the land, has to suffer every year as the tenant has gone away with the money. The compensation cannot therefore be given to the cultivating tenant. If the compensation amount is given to the kanam tenant he should be asked to return it to the landlord when the property is redeemed. If it is given to the janmi, he will reduce the rent to the extent of the loss which the cultivating tenant suffers on account of not getting sufficient water from the irrigation system. The compensation amount cannot be paid to the cultivating tenant because he can surrender the land at any time under a registered notice. The landlord will have to find another tenant. These are some of the defects which may be considered and rectified when the tenancy legislation is taken up. It is absolutely necessary that these defects should be removed. I hope the Hon. Revenue Minister will look into them with an impartial mind.

"Because under the Tenants' Improvements Act, even if a tenant makes an improvement at the time of redemption or at the time of commencement of ejection, the jenmies are entitled to get a commission. Hence my above submission, Sir."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—"Mr. President, I would not have intervened in this debate at all, but for the speech of my hon. friend Mr. Narayana Menon which is likely to give an impression that the whole of Malabar agrees with him in the views he has expressed just now on this matter. Sir, I too have known many people in Malabar and I have also known their opinion in regard to this matter and I can say that their views are not in accord with those just now expressed by Mr. Narayana Menon.

"With regard to the defects pointed out by him in clauses 5 and 6 of the Bill, I think those can be rectified by an executive order enabling the riparian owners to make use of water from these irrigation sources.

"In making certain observations about clause 14 of the Bill, and pointing out certain defects therein, I think my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayana Menon, was really viewing it from the point of view of the landlords and pleading their cause in this respect. If Government construct any irrigation work, it is in the land which is in possession of the tenant and not the landlord. I cannot find any logic or reason in my hon. Friend's argument about the landlord's claim for any enhanced rent. The policy of the Congress Government is that the intermediaries must go, as far as possible. Apart from that, so far as I know about the minds of the people in Malabar, I can boldly say that it is not their view that clause 14 should be so amended as to entitle the landlord to claim for an increase in rent or for a share in the benefits accruing out of the land on account of the irrigation work, for which he has not contributed anything. I do not want to say anything more on this.

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except that it was my wish that the views expressed by my hon. Friend on behalf of the people of Malabar should not go unchallenged."

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—"Mr. President, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition appealed to me as Revenue Minister not to allow this Bill to die."

MR. PRESIDENT :—"I think what he said was, 'Let not the Minister sleep over the Bill.'"

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO :—"I think he also used the word 'die,' Sir. Very well, Sir, I can promise him that when one is made responsible for the administration in a popular Government, he cannot in the least afford to sleep over any matters, and much less over this and I hope that Malabar will get the benefit under this Bill.

"Sir, the implications of my hon. Friend Mr. Narayana Menon's remarks with reference to irrigation projects were that if he were to be in charge of the treasury or to be on the Finance Committee, he would not let sleeping dogs lie, but he would wake them up, if at all that was needed.

"Then my hon. Friend Dr. John has pointed out a defect in clause 4 with reference to the prescription of date for the land to be acquired. I shall get the matter further examined by the Legal Department and other legal experts concerned and, if necessary, we shall get it amended at a later stage.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Narayana Menon, has pointed out a number of things to which my hon. Colleague has replied. With reference to the defect pointed out in clause 5, as has been said by my friend Mr. Madhava Menon, it can be rectified by an executive order. With reference to the rate at which compensation is to be paid, he had also some complaints to make. I have explained the same thing yesterday in the Assembly. This 15 times the reduction in the net annual profits of the land caused by the diminution in water-supply on account of the construction of the irrigation work, was arrived at after full discussion at a conference. The question was asked, while under the Land Acquisition Act the landlord is entitled to compensation at 20 times the annual rental value, why should it be only 15 times in the present case? The answer is, that simply because the man to whom this compensation is going to be paid is also one who is going to get the benefit of the irrigation work, he should forego a portion of the compensation. That is why we have cut down the compensation from 20 to 15 times in case water was used from the irrigation work for irrigation purposes and raised it from 12 to 15 times in case water was used for other than irrigation purposes, which is a fair compromise.

"With regard to clause 14, what my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayana Menon, said in effect was that the benefits accruing from the improvements should also be shared by the landlord. I can say this straightaway that this enactment does not confer any new rights

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nor take away any old rights that were in existence at the time when this Act comes into force. It only seeks to see that any benefits accruing out of the State money being spent on the irrigation works, to the enhancement of the value of the land, should not go to the landlord. It is a negative provision inserted in this clause and it is there in order to help the tenant who is the actual cultivator.

"With reference to his question, to whom is this compensation payable, I would invite Mr. Narayana Menon to refer to sub-clause 5 of clause 6 which, I think, must satisfy him, because under this clause, it is the tribunal that is to apportion the compensation that is to be paid to the owners of areas to be acquired. A special Act always supersedes a general Act and this being a special Act, even if it injures any of the provisions of the general Act, it should be deemed to be an improvement. The whole question should be looked at from the point of view of the benefit that it will confer on the people of Malabar and it is in that light that the Bill has been conceived and framed, and if anything more is to be done, it will be done at the proper time.

"Sir, I thank the House for the support it has accorded to this Bill and I request it to pass it into law immediately."

The motion was put and carried.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I shall now put the Bill clause by clause to vote."

Clauses 2 to 20 of the Bill were put and carried.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

The Preamble was also put and carried.

THE HON. SRI KALA VENKATA RAO:—"Sir, I move—
'that the Bill be now passed into law'."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE RE
GUNTUR FOOD SITUATION—cont.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Mr. B. Narayanaswami Nayudu will now move his adjournment motion regarding the Guntur Food Situation."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, with regard to the motion for adjournment regarding the statement of Government on the Guntur Food Situation, before taking it up directly, I shall just say one word at the outset. Unfortunately this statement has been given under the authority of the Government, or the Secretary, and I don't think it was their intention that a debate should be raised on it."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"This is the Government statement that was presented in the other House, Sir."

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MR. PRESIDENT:—"What the hon. Member says is that it is not so said on the face of it."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"Well, Sir, there are three questions which I wish to raise with regard to this statement. The first question is the abandonment of rural rationing about which, what the statement says is this: 'Rural rationing has partially broken down and grain is not readily available to the poorer classes at reasonable prices.' Sir, though figures have been given, unfortunately the figures really relating to rural rationing have not been set out in the statement. What I have been able to gather from the statement is that the Guntur district is a surplus district and can export some rice, besides feeding the non-producing population. All that I can gather from the figures furnished in the statement is that in the previous year a total amount of 93,464 tons of rice was procured and for inland consumption 43,613 tons were used, and 49,820 tons were exported. Those are the figures with regard to the previous year. In the present year, it is estimated that there will be available for procurement 81,200 tons of rice of which 42,000 tons are for export and 39,000 tons for inland consumption. Thus practically the quantity of rice which is available for export is also necessary for inland consumption in the district. The first point you will notice is, whereas in the previous year, the inland consumption was 43,643 tons of rice, the present estimate covers only 39,000 tons. I do not know how this inland rice quantity has been reduced by an amount of 4,643 tons of rice. That is one thing. The procurement in the previous year for January 1946, February 1946 and March 1946 are given in this note. They amount to 57,619 tons of rice; that is, last year, so much quantity was procured from the ryots. But this year, for the same months, the procurement both through the societies and through the millers amounted to 14,389 tons of rice. Fifty-seven thousands six hundred and nineteen tons last year but this year only 14,389 tons. The point I wish to know from the Hon. Minister for Food is—though I put a question, and no doubt it was late in the evening, but I expected him to give the information in this note—it is not however stated in the note—how much of these 14,389 tons of rice that has been procured has been sent over for export and how much of it has been retained for inland consumption. Even now, if the Minister gives the information, I will be grateful. I just wait to take an answer from him, if he has one."

"The next question I would like to put is: 'during these months of January, February and March, how much of this procured rice was given away last year for export and how much of it was consumed inland.' That will enable us to know whether there was really a good supply so far as internal needs required, i.e., what was the supply, what was the demand, how it was met, or was it not met at all. The two important points therefore which are necessary to be cleared are: was there any export of rice, and was there anything at all supplied to the rural areas."

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Of course, they say that the statutory rationed areas, i.e., the urban population, has been given, but as regards the rural population, evidently they were starved outright. I would come to it later on. But the points I wish to know from the Hon. Minister are, what was the amount procured, and did you give anything at all to the rural areas. Did you export any portion of it to other districts; if that had been allowed, who was responsible for it? I do not mind whether it was during the time of the present Ministry or the previous Ministry; has it been brought to the notice of the Government by the officers concerned that the rural areas have not been given rice, that they were left to shift for themselves, but that the urban areas were supplied plentifully with rice, at least to the maximum amount for which they were eligible. Who is responsible for it; how did it occur; what steps did this Ministry take in regard to this matter? It is a plain question I am putting and I hope the Minister will find it possible to give the reply. After all, will it be impossible for this Government to know what was supplied in January, February and March; what was the export during those months and what was the supply made previously by the societies. Is it difficult to get this information? Even now I wait for an answer from the Hon. Minister.

"The next point I would like to raise is this: a very serious statement has been made in this note as regards the attitude that was taken by the ryots with regard to paddy. Here you have the situation where the urban population has been supplied plentifully, and we have the rural population practically not supplied with anything at all. We have also a producing population in existence. What will happen? Does the Minister expect that these persons who have stocks of paddy or rice in their hands will refuse to give to the inland consumers, does he expect them merely to keep quiet? The reason for the failure of the societies to get sufficient paddy for the requirements of the district is said to be that the ryots with paddy in their hands sold it in the black-market at the highest price. May I know if the Minister challenges the equity of the proceedings that took place in Guntur? Rationing might have worked alright in the urban areas; but in the rural areas what were they doing? Did they not create a situation which obliged the producers to part with their stocks when practically the people were left without anything at all? And what is the next remark in this note: they say the tobacco ryot has got plenty of money and therefore he goes and buys it. Here it is:

"Undoubtedly, a large quantity of paddy and rice has been sold to the upland taluks; it is impossible to estimate this amount. This state of affairs was aggravated by the partial failure of millet crops in the upland parts of the district and by the amount of money which the ryots in the upland taluks have got from such paying commercial crops as tobacco."

I am very glad, Sir, that on the Treasury Bench, there are now certain persons who know what these commercial crops are, why these ryots are growing these crops and what money they are making on tobacco. Do we not know how many ryots make money from tobacco in order to have a rice meal? Does the Minister grudge the tobacco man having a rice meal? Why should

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he not go and buy rice, why should he go and buy cholam and maize? Why should he be found fault with for it? If he wants to grow a tobacco crop, is it a sin? And what is the result of it all? The rice-eating ryots have less to eat. Sir, there is a proverb in Chittoor which says: 'పరి రోజు భూమివాస్తవం'. On the Amavasa day only these unfortunate ryots eat rice; on the other days they take only ragi in the Chittoor district. Does the Minister want that the peasant should continue to eat ragi and give *tharpanam* only with *perugu* and *pappu* on *Amavasya* days? Does the Minister want the poor ryot to eat ragi only on Amavasa days because he cannot get rice in sufficient quantity? Sir, it is most iniquitous and I wish to make the strongest condemnation of the statement made here that rice-eating people have been deprived of their rice because the tobacco people have gone and bought the rice for themselves.

"Again, Sir, it is clearly iniquitous to say that the situation has been met in the most natural manner. Water finds its level. We have a producing population who have got stocks, and instead of blaming the Government officials, you want to blame the ryots who grow the paddy and you want to blame the consumer when you say that the tobacco people go and buy rice. All this is really curious. This is a very serious statement made by a responsible Government. It says there are two main causes for the producers withholding their stocks:

"The first is that the ryots expected that the price of paddy would be raised or that the Government would give a bonus.

"Repeated declarations were made that neither would be done because the Government of India had ruled against an increase as a matter of all-India policy. But the ryots still seem to hold that there might be some increase in the offing."

Then reference is made to Dr. Ranga and the note says:—

"Dr. Ranga is reported to have stated that he advised the ryots if necessary to resort to *satyagraha* by not yielding their stocks to the Government and letting it be acquired by force. Then Dr. Rajan, the Food Minister, would be forced to fly to Delhi and fight for increasing paddy price."

Sir, the central point on which the whole thing turns is whether the Government are going to say finally 'no' or reserve it as a matter of expediency or what may be called 'practical politics' so that the ryot may go on getting only Rs. 11 or Rs. 12 and not more. If there is any attempt by the ryots' associations to ask for to agitate for and to get an increase in the paddy price, is that going to be called a crime and is that going to be penalized by this Government? That is the plain result of this statement here. Mr. Ranga, as a leader, has perhaps indulged in irresponsible talk; let us call him an irresponsible leader; but does the Government want to penalize the ryot if he asks for an increased price for paddy? I am asking the Government, if they think like that, the reason for it. In the speech of the Premier there was statement regarding this price of paddy. With an individual like that as Prime Minister, at the top of the Government, with the declarations that have been made previously and with the action of the

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previous Ministry—with all these things before them, the Government have thought it fit to announce an additional payment of As. 8. Is this Government going to sit tight on the ryot and see that he accepts this Rs. 5-7-6 and tell him: 'If you ask for more, please note the Public Safety Act will be applied to you' or something like that? Sir, my submission is: the question of the agriculturists' prosperity is the one thing on which the existence of a Ministry depends here or elsewhere. If Delhi does not come to the rescue, are you so helpless in the matter of meeting a legitimate demand? If you want to satisfy the consumer, by all means do that. I do not want you to raise the price so far as the consumer is concerned. But is there any other way to assist the agriculturists? Time and again, member after member from this side of the House has cited the case of the poor elementary teacher getting Rs. 25 and asked how he could be expected to live upon that. I ask the Prime Minister, and there is Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar also who knows the difficulties of these ryots, how many of these ryots can live on Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 per month? In each village you can count the ryots who get an income of Rs. 30 and less per month. Have they got a provident fund system to help them in their later years? Have they got a pension; have they not got their women and their children to support; have not they got their children to educate? Do they get dearness allowance as many others do and how are they to get anything at all which they need? I ask the Members on the other side: Is there not a pledge on your part to make the ryot class a prosperous class and in these days when the prices of all things are going up, when you are also satisfied that these prices will not go down in the near future, are you not entitled to draw upon your reserves or raise further taxation in order to meet the legitimate demands of the ryots? Sir, that is the central position, and that is the position which I wanted to explain, though it be at this late hour of the day. Sir, there is a set of creatures in the world who always think that the tail it is that moves the head and the head does not move the tail. Sir, this cannot be called a democratic government if this state of things is to continue. I do hope, Sir, that this Government, headed as it is by a man like our Premier will see to it that it is the head which moves the tail and not the tail that moves the head."

7-15
p.m.

* SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Mr. President, Sir, I should really congratulate Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu on the telling way in which he has put the case of the Guntur people. I only want to say a very few words, Sir. We would like to hear from the Hon. Minister for Food what the present situation in that district is. For, I thought, from the statement which the Hon. Minister has presented to the House, that rural rationing has failed, but now I understand from the Hon. Minister that the situation has now become favourable and that there will be no further breakdown in rural rationing. Sir, we want to know whether, from the official information that Government have received, they

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have been convinced that this new experiment of producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies has failed to come to the rescue of Government in the matter of procurement. Now, Sir, even the millers may find it increasingly difficult to procure enough of the grains because the increase in the cost of living still shows an upward trend. Even for the ryot, the cost of living has increased and so, the producer has to be paid a little more, and not the middleman, Sir. When there is an increase in the cost of living all round and when people working in offices are given increased wages and salaries, is it not necessary that the ryot who produces food should be paid a little more in order that he may maintain his standard of life which is already low? I ask, Sir, should he not be given a little more money for the amount of grain that is taken from him. While far from being an inducement to the producer, I think it is an important point to be considered. Unfortunately, Sir, we are tied down with the Government of India and I do not know when the Commodities Board set up by the Government of India will report and will fix the prices of grains. I think, Sir, the Government of India should fix the prices in such a manner as to enable the actual producer to get a little more in order to make him keep up his standard of living. This would perhaps induce the people to part with their grains, and they generously come forward without any coercion on the part of the officials. Sir, now that the producer-cum-consumer co-operative society is out of the field and that the old machinery of procurement has been installed in Guntur and other districts—of procurement has been installed in Guntur and other districts—deficit districts only depend on procurements through agencies—we would like to be assured that not only stocks for internal consumption but also supplies for deficit districts will be ensured. I am sure the object of my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu is merely to elicit information from the Government and to allay the fears that may be in the public minds as regards the alarming situation in Guntur. Especially, Sir, by the series of supplementary questions that were put in the Assembly, people were under the impression that it was something alarming. I am sure that Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu's object is merely to elicit information so that the fears of the public may be allayed. With these few words, Sir, I request the Hon. Minister for Food to enlighten us on the points that I have mentioned."

* ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Mr. President, Sir, the statement of the Government placed on the table of the House reveals more than one alarming feature. At the very outset, it points out that there has been no general and widespread failure of crops to apprehend a famine. Then, Sir, it points out that the trouble is largely due to the inability of the new procuring agency. It also states, Sir, that the target figures were reached last year in spite of a bad season, but this year, it was not only not possible to export but there was not sufficient paddy for the people of the district itself. It also states, Sir, that there has been blackmarketing and people were getting paddy at the highest price at which they were able to get. It also states

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that a responsible Congress Leader, Mr. Ranga, threatened the Food Minister by stating that if necessary he would advise the ryots to resort to satyagraha by not yielding their stocks to the Government and letting it be acquired by force.

"Now, Sir, I would like to know from the Government why the method adopted by the previous Ministry of paying bonus to the paddy-grower was not adopted by this Ministry also. The fact is this: Let me not mince matters. The real cause for this grave state of threatened famine in Guntur is not to be found either in the failure of the procuring agency or in the failure of the Government to pay bonus or in the refusal of the Government of India to increase the cost of paddy. Now, Sir, what the man in the street feels is this, and we want a reply from the Hon. Minister on this point. Is it not due to the cliques, if I may say so, that exist in the Congress Party and about which Gandhiji also has mentioned? Is it not due to the rivalry in the various groups in the Congress Party that this state of affairs in Guntur has been brought about. Sir, it is said that some Congressmen induced the paddy-growers not to part with their paddy in order that he may bring discredit on the present Government. We want to know from the Government what the real state of affairs is. Is it a fact that some gentlemen was instigating the people not to part with their paddy? In the statement placed on the table of the House, Government have stated that there is sufficient quantity of paddy in the district. Such being the case, what is the cause for the refusal on the part of the people to part with their paddy? Again, there is another point, Sir. It is stated, Sir, that the millet-eaters are not prepared to eat the imported millet.

"So, Sir, I think that this Government is responsible for the state of affairs in the Guntur district because people outside feel and the people in the district also feel that they are made to suffer on account of the bickerings in the Congress Camp. I also feel, Sir, that these people ought not to suffer on this account and that a state of famine ought not to be brought about on account of differences in the Congress Camp. So, I ask, why Mr. Ranga, being a responsible Congress Leader and the President of the Andhra Provincial Congress Committee, should go to the Food Minister, a Tamilian gentleman and say, 'if necessary, I would advise the ryots to resort to satyagraha by not yielding their stocks to the Government and letting it be acquired by force.' Therefore, Sir, this Government is responsible for this state of affairs. Let the Government place all the facts before the public, let them place all their cards before the table in order that we, belonging to the other party, should know what the real state of affairs is. Government admit that there is sufficient paddy; they admit that blackmarketing is going on in the districts; they also admit that people who are accustomed to eat rice have now to take to millets. In view of these things, Sir, it is necessary for people outside to know whether there is really a state of actual famine or not.

"Sir, the other point is about the failure of the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. Sir, much was said about these

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societies in previous speeches and in previous meetings. That these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies have failed is admitted even by the Government. Now, having found out their lot, what are the Government going to do with these societies? Is it only in the Guntur area or only in particular areas that the Government are going to take action against these societies by handing over the machinery of procurement to other agencies or are the Government going to continue these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies in others parts of the Province in order that there may be famine on some other occasion in those parts? Is it only then that they would like to take action with regard to these societies in those parts of the Province? I simply suggest that it is necessary to take drastic measures against these societies. (The Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon:—"No, no.") There is difference of opinion. Sir, in regard to this matter, there is no unanimity of opinion. My hon. Friend on the other side may say that it is untrue. We hope that it is so; but I have heard that hundreds and thousands of people sent memorials to the Prime Minister against these societies. So, Sir, we want a categorical reply from this Government whether they are going to continue these societies which were the pet societies of the previous Government and particularly of my-hon. Friend, Mr. Prakasam, the ex-Premier. Are they going to continue these societies, or are they going to say good-bye to these societies handing over the work of procurement to experienced agencies?

"Now, Sir, there was a great clamour formerly against merchants. We do not know the reason why the Prakasam Government was so much against the merchants. It was on account of the feeling that this merchant community should not exist that the previous Ministry wanted these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies to come into being. Sir, some people thought that these societies were instruments in the hands of the Congress Party to strengthen their position. But, now we find that the present Ministry is going to do away with these societies at least in one or two districts and so it is not a party question. So, the question is not really understood by the people at large. Therefore, we have got a right to know from the Hon. the Minister for Food whether they are going to put an end to the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, whether they are not going to allow the usual and normal channels of trade to continue the work of procurement and ease the situation or whether they are going to allow this experiment to continue in other parts of the Province and make those districts also face a situation similar to that of Guntur. We hope, Sir, that the Hon. Minister in charge of Food will make a clear statement with regard to these matters and will allay the suspicion that is lurking in the minds of the people. In spite of the fact that there has been a change-over in the Ministry, in spite of the fact that the old order has changed and given place to a new order and that the present Ministry was

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expected to rectify the defects of the old Ministry, nothing has been done in the matter of procurement of food. Nothing has been done to see that a situation such as the one which has arisen in Guntur is prevented from doing harm. I hope, Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Food will try to do his best to see that the suspicion of the people is removed."

7.30
p.m.

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:— "Mr. President, Sir, again and again I went through the statement on the Guntur food situation that has been placed on the table of the House, but I have not been able to find out from it what the exact position is, and whether the people will get sufficient food in the ordinary way or not. The first paragraph of the statement says that rural rationing has partially broken down and grain is not readily available to the poorer classes at reasonable rates and the sentence following it gives the reason for it, viz., 'The trouble is largely the result of the inability of the new procurement machinery to cope with the work'. What is it that the Government have done to remedy this evil? What have they done in the matter? They say that paddy has been found to be plenty there. The last sentence of paragraph 2 of the statement says; 'that neither the target figure for procurement this year nor the amount estimated as exportable surplus can be regarded as excessive or beyond the capacity of the district to attain'. That being the case, why were you not able to procure the necessary paddy; why did this rural rationing break down and what steps the Government have taken to prevent the breaking down of rural rationing and to alleviate the suffering caused to the people on account of the breaking down of rural rationing. They admit that the cause of this failure was primarily the inefficiency of these famous producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, to do their work. Secondly, they say that as a result of their inability to cope with the work, the grains went underground and people had to go to the blackmarket to purchase the foodgrains. Well, Sir, they feel a sort of consolation that since the ryots have plenty of money earned out of the commercial crops they can afford to purchase grains in the blackmarket and they mean by implication that they need not take any steps to prevent this blackmarketing. But, I want to know, Sir, just as my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu, how many of these ryots have this tobacco money with them. I do not know whether the majority of the ryots being poor, will be able to procure paddy in the blackmarket. I ask whether there is sufficient money with the masses to purchase paddy in the blackmarket? It is admitted there is paddy there. Then what steps did the Government take to make those foodgrains released to the people. If they found it difficult to get them released what steps have they taken to satisfy the immediate wants of the people. The statement says there is plenty of paddy in the district, and they say they did not want to bring in paddy either from Kistna or any other adjoining surplus district, because the incentive to procurement within the district would have gone. Do they want the people to suffer then?

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You have not been able to make the ryots surrender their paddy immediately and you say that paddy has gone underground. Until you are able to make the people surrender their paddy, is it not your duty to see that paddy from other districts is brought in order that people may not suffer. On the other hand, you say, there is no necessity for it and if you have done it there would be no incentive for the local ryots to surrender their paddy. Does it not amount to doing things in a bureaucratic way?"

"What is the situation now? I find from the statement that the situation in the district, however, is slowly improving and stocks are now being sent in small quantities. I ask, is it sufficient? Is the despatch of paddy in such small quantities to the rural areas sufficient to meet the needs of the people? Will the people be saved from starvation as a result of the despatch of such small quantities of paddy? We want an answer to these questions. In this connexion, I have to refer to a supplementary question I put on the 23rd April. In that question I asked the Hon. Minister for Food whether in view of the fact that these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies have failed in their objective, the Government would think of revising their policy in regard to these societies? At once came a categorical reply that it was too early to give out the intention of the Government before they were in full possession of the facts. Therefore, I thought that the Government had not come to any conclusion in regard to that matter. I went home that evening and found from the papers that the Government had issued a Press Communique stating the intention of the Government, adopting the very words of the Minister contained in his answer. I put also a question whether the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies in the four districts were suspended. When I put these questions on the floor of the House, could not the same answer be given to the House? Is it the way that Government want to treat this House? When I put the question in the morning, we were told that nothing was decided, but in the evening we found a Press Communique issued on the very same subject. I submit, Sir, that Government have not been fair to this House in withholding information and making us to rely on the statement issued to newspapers."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I thought your question referred to the general policy."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"It is not a general one, Sir. I shall leave it at that, Sir, and come to the other points."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"Oh! You have other points?"

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, when the Government wanted to give up the ordinary trade channels so far as the procurement and distribution of foodgrains were concerned, we on this side of the House cried hoarse, we

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implored the Government and even entreated them not to experiment with the lives of human beings when they were in mid-stream. They said, 'we have a very splendid plan and we are sure to succeed.' Now, they admit in three or four places of the statement that 'they have failed because the trouble was largely due to the inability of the new procurement machinery to cope with the work.' Then they say that 'the second cause was the change-over of the agency of procurement from the millers to the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, and again they say, 'the fact that the societies have proved inefficient as procuring agents in Guntur district could not be disputed'. It is also stated, that the result of the failure of the societies to procure sufficient paddy for the requirements of the district, much less for export, was that the ryots with paddy on their hands sold it in the blackmarket at that highest prices they could get for it. In the end what had they to do? They had again to go to the normal trade channels which they condemned at first and said that they should not be entrusted with the work. As a matter of fact, they condemned the entire trading community. Of course, they may be blackmarketing among some of them, but you should treat them in the best manner possible and not condemn the whole community. They have got very great experience and you should try to utilize their experience. Do not entrust this work to this new machinery however efficient that may be in your own opinion. Our opinion is quite the contrary and our representations in this regard to Government have proved abortive. What is the result? In the words of the Press Communiqué issued on 23rd April by the Government, the position in the deficit districts continues to cause anxiety and that Guntur which is a surplus district is facing a crisis. It is also stated that on account of the failure of the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies, the situation in the Circars gives room for anxiety. If only, Sir, the Government had the sense or had given some weight to the representations made from this side of the House, this situation would not have arisen in those districts, especially in Guntur. Now, what have you done in respect of the matter? You have gone back to the very people whom you condemned as very unfit and therefore, our complaint has been entirely justified by the situation created by your conduct. (Interruption by the Hon. Sri K. Madhava Menon 'Live and learn.') Sir, this situation would not have arisen if you had listened to us and you would have eased the anxiety of these unfortunate people. Well, Sir, after all we live to learn, and since you say, we live to learn, would you allow yourself to be benefited by the experience in the four districts of the Circars? With regard to the policy in the other districts I am not aware of, but I would suggest your waiting for some time more in view of the experience of the working of the new machinery you have set up, so that people may not suffer. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to be benefited by the experience they have gained in those four districts and try to revise their policy with regard to these societies, and restore the ordinary trade channels.

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In this connection, I would like to draw the pointed attention of the Government to one more sentence that occurs in the statement. The reason given, or one of the reasons for inadequate procurement is, that Dr. Ranga is reported to have stated that he advised the ryots if necessary to resort to Satyagraha by not yielding their stocks to the Government and letting it to be acquired by force."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"It has been referred to by two hon. Members already."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Here, I am asking the Government to take a different view of the matter."

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—"It is not 'an extract from the statement, but an extract from the *Indian Express*.'"

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Yes, but Government have not contradicted it and so I take it that they rely on that extract."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"How can the Government contradict that statement?"

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"I thought Government had taken it for granted and if they think that it is not true, it is up to the Government to take a different view. But, what steps have they taken to prevent instigations of such responsible persons? Dr. Ranga has instigated the ryots, in the words of the *Indian Express*, not to surrender paddy to the Government. Does it not constitute an offence on the part of any ryot to withhold paddy and not surrender according to the orders issued by the Government. Here is a responsible person, a top-ranking Congress leader, who is instigating the people to commit an offence. What steps have Government taken against that gentleman, who is responsible for the present troubles in Guntur, according to this uncontradicted statement, which is extracted in this statement. Why is it they have not taken any action against him? Is it because he is a top-ranking leader that he should go scot-free? Is it not necessary on the part of the Government to take action against him so that such offence may not be committed not only in that district but in every other district also, especially when they have given publicity to it? I would ask Government to ponder over the matter and take necessary steps before it is too late."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I am sorry I gave you some tea."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"What 7-45 p.m.
we want, Sir, to know is what steps have the Government taken to alleviate the sufferings of the Guntur people. Neither the statement nor the Press Communiqué makes the position clear. What is the present position, Sir? What steps have the Government taken?"

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" You will hear it from the Hon. the Minister if you allow him to reply."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" What are the steps they are taking and is there any possibility of starvation and consequent deaths? What steps are they going to take with regard to the other districts as a result of the experience that they have had in this part of the country or do they want Guntur to be repeated in other parts of the Province also in order to revise their policy? I want a reply for all these, Sir."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" My hon. Friend over there and I belong to Malabar. He and I come from that place which is the first victim of these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I hope the Hon. Mr. Madhava Menon will be more prudent not to tickle his friends."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" The first victim is Malabar. But it is far away from Madras, from Andhra Desa and other places. It is behind the Western ghats and nobody knows what is taking place there and people who come from there like Mr. Madhava Menon make much of these producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies. It is not true that the scheme is a success because they are making huge profits. Anybody can make profits in the circumstances in which these societies are placed. I would make in one year with a few thousands lakhs of rupees if monopoly is given. You do not know, Sir, what is taking place there. In the area in which I live there is a co-operative society with Rs. 65,000 capital and they may have made a net profit of 1 lakh of rupees within a short period. It is a monopoly. The food supply has been made the monopoly of a society and there is pilfering, stealing and all sorts of things. My hon. Friend might deny but I can prove everything, Sir. The persons hit by these societies are the poor Mappillas. I may quote one instance about these societies in the area in which I live and about their employees. In this area there were 42 rationing offices before the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies came into being. After the coming into existence of producer-cum-consumer co-operative society it reduced these ration shops to 32 out of 42. Before the producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies came on the scene 27 shops were in the hands of the Muslims. They reduced these to 8 from 27. Seventy-one Muslims were engaged in these shops and they were reduced to 11 Muslims. These unfortunate Muslims have been the sufferers because of the political split between one party and another. Mr. President, Sir, in the election of Directors in Manjeri in Moplahnad this was evidenced. I think my hon. Friend, Dr. Rajan, knows about it. Out of about 2,800 share-holders approximately, 900 are non-Muslims and 1,800 are Muslims. But the election of Directors were manipulated in such a way that no Muslims except two were elected."

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MR. PRESIDENT :—" My hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, will kindly allow me to make an observation. The Hon. the Leader of the Opposition has spoken about producer-cum-consumer societies and given all facts when the budget was under consideration. The producer-cum-consumer co-operative societies are not as such before the House now. We are only concerned with the food position in Guntur. I want to request the hon. the Leader of the Opposition that if he has got to say anything regarding Guntur I have no objection to his going on. I only request him to stop his statement about the conditions in Malabar and confine himself to Guntur."

K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" These co-operative societies are not ideal institutions. They must be scrapped everywhere. The Hon. Dr. Rajan who is now having the portfolio of Food has himself given an indirect warning to the ex-Prime Minister at its very inception and the only hope now is that himself and the Hon. the Prime Minister have given a warning in an indirect way in those days. Now it is left to the new Ministry to remedy the situation by going into the whole matter. Not only myself but everybody wants the Government not to launch on this scheme and now that it has almost been scrapped in Andhra Desa, we hope that it will also take place in Malabar."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, I do not want to keep the House longer than it is absolutely necessary. When the need for this adjournment motion was brought to my notice, I did not feel it so very urgent as it was urged to be. I did make a statement on the Guntur situation at the latest I could get it. I tried to avoid an adjournment motion if it were meant to elicit the facts of the case as it prevails to-day by making such a statement but I did not succeed. If the hon. Gentleman would have gone through the statement not as a critic but as one who wanted to understand the efforts of the Government to tackle the situation that has come up before them so suddenly he would have realized that we did put into it all the efforts that were necessary to tide over the difficulty. This afternoon Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu wanted some information but I could not give the information at once. He did suggest that I could get it from the Secretariat even at that late stage but since I could not quite grasp the details of what he said, of course I did not take that advice. Even now if that piece of information which he wanted would help me to clarify the situation I shall certainly do so. The statement made by the Government was an honest and downright statement for which they should have credit. By various stages we told clearly the steps we have taken to deal with the breakdown and we have also not hesitated to say how it broke down and have laid the blame on the doors responsible. Therefore, there is nothing to worry about. Surely the present situation as it is to-day is changed, Sir. The report deals with the position five days ago. Since then the anxiety which the Government had is now completely more or less gone. Procurement has increased, ration

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depots have been provided with paddy and storage is getting accumulated gradually.

"No doubt the difficulty in procurement is still there but one factor which I would like to place before the House is there is complete failure of millet crops. Guntur is divided into two areas, one is upland dry area where commercial crops like tobacco and other things are grown. The other is delta area where paddy alone is grown. Generally in normal years what happens is the upland lands grow their own millets which is the staple food of the people and whether they produced tobacco or millets, the Government did not envy them and had no intention of asking them to do this and that. Now when even millets have failed and these people in the uplands who used to grow and eat millets did not get their food and finding sufficient money in their hands to pay enhanced price for paddy, there was nothing wrong in their coming and taking over the available paddy in the low lands. There is nothing to be envied here. The Government were giving only a statement of bare facts as it existed. They were describing the position step by step to lay the blame at their proper source. When they were mentioning these they had naturally to mention about the difficulty in procurement and about people who hindered the same. A few important Congressmen did as a matter of fact hinder such work. There is nothing to defend for their actions and the mere fact that I have failed to make mention of such a fact is proof positive that we recognized the fact and if things would become necessary of course whatever action should be taken shall be taken. There is no use of my thundering here or on the platform 'I shall do this and that.' The other day it is to my great regret the ex-Premier in the Assembly made a statement. He says that if Dr. Rajan touches Ranga, a series of Rangas will come. There is no use of talking like that. There is no need for that. I even asked Dr. Ranga to help me with his propositions. It is not as if we are trying to quarrel with everybody. The ex-Prime Minister said that we must give Rs. 5 more for each bag of paddy. There were also many other suggestions made.

8 p.m.

"But the Government of India have instructed the Madras Government on the price of paddy. I had been to Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the Food Member of the Government of India, to discuss with him and in fact Dr. Ranga was a little prophetic in saying that Dr. Rajan would fly to Rajendra Prasad. I did go and apprise him of the situation and asked him whether he could not enhance it in any way. But he said he could not find his way to do it both for reasons, national and international. But he did not stop there and we set to work to find out some way of raising the price of paddy for the producer. The Press Communiqué that was issued would have convinced anybody as to the efforts made in devising methods by which we could put another eight annas into the pockets of the producers. We worked up at the rate of a half and quarter anna for the various transactions in the process where in the paddy passed from the producer to the consumer and by a

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series of stemming up, we were able to scrap up about half a rupee in the whole transaction. But this means that we have cut down the middlemen's profit terribly and it would not be worthwhile of any man to enter into the transaction. We have fixed the prices in such a way that the middlemen's profit would but cut, though they had come to our rescue and at last half a rupee was procured to the producer. Also we have asked the producers not to give paddy but to give it in the shape of rice so that they might have the bran and other minor items and in that way he stands to gain. We have done our best under the existing circumstances to put as much as possible into the pocket of the producer. Nobody seems to have recognized the efforts we have made nor at least appreciated what we have done and it is a misfortune that the public at large could not actually understand the way in which this eight annas per maund has been arrived at. They imagine that the price of paddy has been raised and it is all wrong. The price remains the same but by some adjustments which neither enhances the price of paddy nor materially reduces the margin of profits, we have given annas eight to the producer. That is really the position that we have endeavoured to do. We have not hesitated at the voices of objection which will be raised against us when we touch the producer-cum-consumer societies; we did not flinch. We openly said that these societies have failed. Not only did we say so but we stopped the activities of the societies and on the day before the issue of the press communiqué, the procurement work by the co-operative societies had come to a standstill. More than that, a Government of any guts cannot do. If our actions are the subject-matter of criticisms, I regret to say that what all we had done had not been appreciated. While you are entitled to criticise, I at least expected, from the knowledge of the fact that we have stood up to our conviction, appreciation that the way in which we had proceeded is a right one and that is the best that could be done in the circumstances. The question was asked whether we are going to give a bonus as was given last year. I may say that the Government of India took the Madras Government to task for it. The Assam Government said that they must provide for a bounty and they started an agitation and the Central Government had to pull up the Madras Government. Therefore, it is not possible. Even if it were possible, supposing it were possible, what would be the cost involved; it would amount to nearly 10 crores of rupees, if we were to give two or three rupees for each bag. Food, I agree, is worth any thing but the situation has not become so critical as to drain the coffers of the Government to the last pie. The fact is that we have tided over the situation and I say that there is nothing in Guntur that we need worry about. This fact is proof positive of the fact that our steps are correct and the indictment that we displayed in this matter is entitled to the consideration of the public at large.

"Reference has been made to the differences in the Congress camp. In any party, there are differences of opinion but that does

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not necessarily mean that as a consequence of it, we must have only famine. Feeling ran high on certain questions and opinions also were expressed strongly but on that account, have we flinched from doing the right thing? We have stopped the activities of the societies in that district because we felt that that was the only solution. We have stopped that in the ceded districts because we felt that that was the only solution. We had information from the Collector of East Godavari with whom I had a conversation at four o'clock while the House was sitting and he expressed to me how they were able to get along and how the situation has come back to normalcy. It was a good assurance to hear from him and I can give that information to hon. Members of this House. I assure them let them not be frightened that something very serious has happened and that the Ministry has not done the right thing in dealing with the situation. We have done everything possible though it meant causing unpleasantness in four or five districts in which this scheme has been put forward and worked for the last two or three months. Large amounts of money have been involved in those societies. We also know how these societies failed. We cannot allow that money, the people's money, to go like that. The fact of the matter is that the scheme was put into operations at a most awkward time and that is really the cause. The harvest is yet incomplete; paddy is coming and the societies were asked to start their operations. The result was that while they wanted to buy, they had to buy large quantities, they had only a few lakhs where crores were wanted. The result was that they told the agriculturists to keep on paddy while they would arrange for money with which to buy the stock. The producer kept it with him but only for a time. He had calls on his money for payment of taxes and for other things. He was pressed into a situation wherein he was forced to part with his paddy as quickly as possible so that he might realize the amount as he could not hold over his stocks till the societies came to him. That is reason No. 1. Reason No. 2 is they had not enough godowns where they could keep their paddy in and they had not the mills necessary for the purpose and they had to go to the millers to get the paddy husked. There were so many obstacles inherent in suddenly starting on a new venture and things would have been difficult even with the best of staff. But here the staff were quite inexperienced in buying and milling. They were graduates and literature M.As. but they were not the best men suitable. Inexperience of these people added to the difficulty and especially at the infant stages of the operations, all these things accounted for the failure of the scheme. There is nothing very wonderful or defeatist about the failure. It was a venture which was started without proper precautions and without being assured of sufficient capital and experience and the result was they were unequal to the task. We had therefore to revert to the old machinery as quickly as possible to retrieve the situation. We have saved the situation. On behalf of the Government, I have placed my cards on the table and I am glad

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the motion has provided me with an opportunity of explaining the position in a clear manner. I want people to understand the attitude of Government and I want hon. Members opposite to appreciate our difficulties and to help us in our attempts to tide over the unfortunate situation which will affect you and everybody in the country. We are glad that the grave situation has been tided over and the hon. Members may rest assured and leave the situation to us to solve."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Who does the Hon. Minister mean by producer, is it the person to whom eight annas is given?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"It is the person who produces the grain."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In that case the actual cultivator will not be able to have any for his own purpose."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"The hon. Member does not understand what I have said. The producer is whoever gives paddy for procurement."

SRI M. D. T. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"The tahsildars and the deputy tahsildars do it differently."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN:—"I am afraid I cannot go into a review or an explanation of the definition of who is the producer and how the matter could be dealt with."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"This is a matter which can be decided by Government by executive action and ensure that proper steps are taken to see that money reaches the proper person."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU:—"The real crux of the position is the price the societies were paying. While the millers were paying, say Rs. 10, the societies were prepared to give only Rs. 9, the balance of Re. 1 constituting their profits. In other words for every bag of paddy they sold to the society they were asked to lose Re. 1 but they were getting it in full in days when the miller was the procurer. The real question is what the ryot gets for the rice, I do hope that this Government will not stand on prestige and will come to a quick decision regarding the question of the subsidy to be given."

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I declare the motion talked out."

V.—HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

MR. PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce to the House that the following message has been received by me from His Excellency the Governor:—

"In pursuance of clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 62 of the Government of India Act, 1935, I, Archibald Edward Nye, Governor of Madras, hereby prorogue this session of the Madras Legislative Council with effect from the conclusion of business on 25th April 1947."

The House stands prorogued."

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