THE

COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

(Official Report)

Volume I

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FIRST SESSION

OF THE

COUNCIL OF STATE, 1921



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COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION)

VOLUME I.

FIRST VOLUME OF SESSION, 1921.

COUNCIL OF STATE.

Thursday, 3rd February, 1921.

The Council met in the Assembly Chamber at Eleven of the Clock, being the first day of the meeting of this Council, pursuant to S. 63D (2) of the Government of India Act, and the President (the Honourable Mr. Alexander Phillips Muddiman, C.S.I., C.I.E.) took the Chair.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: As Honourable Members are aware, every Member of the Council of State must, before he takes his seat, make oath or affirmation in the prescribed form. I propose, therefore, in the first instance to take the oath myself and thereafter to invite Honourable Members to present themselves at the table for the same purpose in the order in which their names may be called by the Secretary.

The Honourable the President then standing, subscribed the Oath and signed the Roll.

MEMBERS SWORN:

His Excellency General Lord Rawlinson, G.C.B., G.C.V.O., K.C.M.G.; the Honourable Sir George Barnes, K.C.B., K.C.S.I.; the Honourable Sir William Vincent, K.C.S.I.; the Honourable Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Shafi, C.I.E.; the Honourable Rao Bahadur B. N. Sarma; the Honourable Maharaja Bahadur Keshava Prasad Singh, C.B.E. of Dumraon; the Honourable Maharajadhiraja Sir Rameshwara Singh, G.C.I.E., K.B.E. of Darbhanga; the Honourable Sir Zulfiqar Ali Khan, Kt., C.S.I.; the Honourable Colonel Sir Umar Hyat Khan, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., M.V.O.; the Honourable Raja Sir Harnam Singh, K.C.I.E.; the Honourable Raja Moti Chand, C.I.E.; the Honourable Raja Sir Rampal Singh, K.C.I.E. of Kurri Sudhauli; the Honourable Khan Bahadur Ebrahim Haroon Jaffer; the Honourable Mr. A. H. Froom; the Honourable Sir Dinshaw Wacha, Kt.; the Honourable Sir John Wood, K.C.I.E., C.S.I.; the Honourable Mr. Denys des. Bray, C.I.E., C.B.E.; the Honourable Mr. C. A. Barron, C.S.I., C.I.E.; the Honourable Major-General W. R. Edwards, C.B., C.M.G., K.H.P.; the Honourable Major-General W. R. Edwards, C.B., C.M.G., K.H.P.; the Honourable Ms. E. M. Cook, C.I.E.; the Honourable Mr. J. A. Richey, C.I.E.;

the Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee, C.I.E.; the Honourable Mr. H. Moncrieff Smith, C.I.E.; the Honourable Mr. Ganesh Srikrishna Khaparde; the Honourable Sir Manakjee Byramjee Dadabhoy, Kt., C.I.E.; the Honourable Mr. E. L. L. Hammond, C.B.E.; the Honourable Khan Bahadur Saiyid Zahir-ud-din; the Honourable Nawab Sir Bahram Khan, K.C.I.E., K.B.E.; the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Elliott, C.B.E.; the Honourable Sardar Jogindra Singh; the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Ramsaran Das, C.I.E.; the Honourable Mahamahopadhyaya Dr. Ganganath Jha; the Honourable Lala Sukhbir Sinha; the Honourable Nawab Muhammad Abdul Majid, C.I.E.; the Honourable Khan Bahadur Aminul-Islam; the Honourable Mr. C. N. Seddon; the Honourable Mr. Lalubhai Samaldas Mehta; the Honourable Mr. K. V. Rangaswamy Ayyangar; the Honourable Mr. E. S. Lloyd; the Honourable Rao Bahadur S. Rm. M. A. Annamalai Chettiyar; the Honourable Maung Po Bye; the Honourable Mr. E. J. Holberton, C.B.E.; the Honourable Mr. Altaf Ali; the Honourable Mr. G. M. Bhurgri; the Honourable Mr. Waman Govind Kale; the Honourable Khan Bahadur A. K. G. Ahmedthamby Maricair.

The Honourable the PRESIDENT: I have to intimate to the Council that I have received two messages under the Sign Manual of His Excellency the Governor General of India which it is my duty to communicate to this Honourable Council. Honourable Members will doubtless desire to receive this intimation in the usual manner by rising in their places. I will ask Honourable Members now to resume their seats in order to hear in a more convenient manner the messages that I have to deliver.

The first message runs as follows :-

"In pursuance of sub-section (3) of section 63A of the Government of India Act, I, Frederick John Napier, Baron Chelmsford, hereby require the attendance of Members of the Council of State in this Chamber at 10-30 O'Clock on Wednesday, the 9th February, 1921."

With reference to this message, I need only inform the Council that as they know, it refers to the inaugural ceremony which will be performed by His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. Honourable Members have already, I understand, been supplied with copies of the programme of the procedure to be observed on that occasion, and I will only add that, by carefully complying with the directions therein contained, they will not only study their own convenience, but contribute to the success of the function. I would particularly call their attention to the fact that they are requested to take their seats by 9-35 in the morning.

The second message runs as follows:-

"In pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 63A of the Government of India Act, I, Frederick John Napier, Baron Chelmsford, hereby nominate the following Members of the Council of State to be on the Panel of Chairmen of the said Council of State:—In the first place, the Honourable Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri; in the second place, the Honourable Sir Alexander Robertson Murray; in the third place, the Honourable Sir Manakjee Byramjee Dadabhoy; and, lastly, the Honourable Sir Dinshaw Wacha."

With reference to this message, if it would be not impertinent for me to remark thereon, I am sure I should be giving expression to the riews of this

Honourable Council when I say we may well congratulate ourselves on the Panel of Chairmen we have secured. Our new Chairmen are all men of great experience, well versed in affairs, and zealous in the public service.

It only remains for me now, before I adjourn this Council, to explain to Honourable Members that the meeting of the Council on the 5th of this month will be held not only for the purpose of taking the ball of resolutions, but also to enable certain Members who have been prevented by public duties from attending to-day, to make the necessary oath.

The Council is adjourned till Saturday, the 5th, at 11 A.M. in this Chamber.