

1st March, 1924

**THE**  
**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES**  
**(Official Report)**

---

**FIRST SESSION**  
**OF THE**  
**SECOND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1924**



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

*Saturday, 1st March, 1924.*

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Eleven of the Clock,  
Mr. President in the Chair.

## MEMBER SWORN.

Mr. A. V. V. Niyar, C.I.E., M.L.A. (Finance Department: Nominated Official).

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### ACQUISITION BY THE RAILWAY AUTHORITIES OF GARDENS IN THE VICINITY OF DELHI.

528. **\*Lala Piyare Lal:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the railway authorities have proposed to acquire gardens in the vicinity of Delhi under the Land Acquisition Act?

(b) Are Government aware:

(i) that the large population of Subzimundi in Delhi in one way or other depends for its living upon the existence and maintenance of these gardens;

(ii) that these gardens are market gardens and the supply of fresh fruits for the Delhi city comes mainly from these gardens?

(c) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, do the Government propose to direct the railway authorities to acquire purely agricultural lands?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** (a) No decision has yet been arrived at as to the necessity for and the site of the proposed goods interchange yard, for which land may have to be acquired.

(b) and (c). The points brought to notice by the Honourable Member will be considered before deciding the question finally.

### ISSUE OF TICKETS FOR SHAKURPUR STATION.

529. **\*Lala Piyare Lal:** (a) Are Government aware that there is a station called Shakurpur on the Southern Punjab Railway line 4 miles from Delhi at which all the trains including mail trains stop but for which no tickets are issued by the railway authorities?

(b) Do Government propose to bring the matter to the notice of the S. P. Railway and direct them to open booking for the station?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** (a) Yes. The station is now known as Shakurbasti at which all down trains stop on account of speed restrictions.

(b) Facilities for passenger traffic do not exist and there is no intention at present of opening it for public passenger traffic.

### OVERBRIDGE BETWEEN HAMILTON ROAD AND DELHI CITY.

580. **\*Lala Piyare Lal:** (a) Are Government aware that the temporary overbridge between Hamilton Road and the city of Delhi was built more than 40 years ago and that with the increase of population in Delhi it is not sufficient or suitable for the increasing traffic of the town?

(b) Is it a fact that representations were made by the Municipal Committee of Delhi to the East Indian Railway on this subject but to no avail?

(c) Will Government be prepared to arrange for the construction of a broad and proper bridge over this place in the near future?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** (a) The foot overbridge in question was constructed in 1877 and was subsequently repaired in 1902.

(b) Yes.

(c) It is considered that the existing bridge is sufficient for present requirements.

#### TRANSFER OF THE DELHI FORT TO THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES.

531. **\*Lala Piyare Lal:** Will the Government be pleased to state if they intend to hand over the fort of Delhi to the civil authorities following the example of the Lahore Fort? If so, by what time? If not, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for its retention by the military authorities?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** The civil authorities already administer the buildings in the Delhi Fort which are of historical interest; but it is not intended to hand over the Delhi Fort to the civil authorities, as was done in the case of the Lahore Fort, the reason being that the Delhi Fort is still required for military purposes.

#### JAIN REPRESENTATION.

532. **\*Lala Piyare Lal:** (a) Are Government aware that the Jains form an important and influential minority in India but they have no representation on the Legislature or Commissions or Committees?

(b) Do the Government propose to take into consideration their claims and take early steps to safeguard their interests?

(c) Are Government aware that very few appointments at present if at all are held by them in the superior ranks of services?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Halley:** (a) Government are aware of the importance of the Jain community and they are also aware that no special communal elected representation for the community has been provided in the legislative bodies in India. Commissions and Committees are not appointed on communal lines, and Government are unable to say whether Jains have been included in the membership of any Commissions or Committees or not.

(b) It is impossible to provide for the communal representation of all important minor Communities in India on legislative bodies or on Commissions or Committees, but I would add that I am not aware of any special need for the safeguarding of Jain interests.

(c) Government have no information on the subject.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** But the Jains are Hindus, are they not, and their claims along with Hindus are considered already, and there is an overflow of members of that community already in the Government services of all ranks and stations. Is that so?

PERSONNEL OF THE NEW CAPITAL COMMITTEE.

538. \***Lala Piyare Lal:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the personnel of the Imperial New Capital Committee?

(i) the total number of meetings held of the said Committee and work disposed off?

(ii) the functions and executive powers of the Committee?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons why no representative of Delhi has been placed on the New Capital Committee?

(c) Are Government aware that there is a general feeling of resentment on that account?

**The Honourable Mr. A. O. Chatterjee:** (a) The President of the Committee is the Honourable Member of the Executive Council of the Governor General in charge of the Department of Industries and Labour, the Vice President is the Chief Commissioner of Delhi, and the other members are the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Labour, the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India, the Chief Engineer, and Mr. A. F. L. Brayne, I.C.S., who represents the Finance Department. Twenty-nine meetings have been held, and 477 Resolutions passed. The Committee exercises the full powers of the Government of India in respect of works appertaining to the construction of the New capital and allied works in the Delhi Province.

(b) The Committee is an executive body, exercising, as I have already explained, the full powers of the Government of India and organised mainly with a view to the expeditious despatch of work. Consequently it has no non-official member and no representatives of any special interests.

(c) No.

PUSA RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

534. \***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Will the Government be pleased to state since when the Pusa Agricultural College has been opened? And also supply information on the following points:

(a) the syllabus of the College, and the courses of study?

(b) how many years' course of study does the College provide?

(c) how many classes there are?

(d) the number of students in each class?

**Mr. M. S. D. Butler:** The Pusa Research Institute, as its name implies, is a place for research. It is not an Agricultural College. Regular courses are not given to students as in the provincial agricultural colleges, but facilities are provided for post-graduate workers in laboratories in association with and under the guidance of the research specialists employed. The total number of persons who have availed themselves of these facilities since the inception of the Institute in 1908 amounts to 124. At present six such persons are under instruction, namely, 2 in entomology, 2 in bacteriology, 1 in mycology and 1 in general agriculture.

2. Recently a departure has been made from previous practice. With effect from 1st November 1928 arrangements have been made for giving post-graduate courses of the highest standard in agricultural chemistry, botany, mycology, bacteriology and entomology qualifying Indians for appointment in the Indian Agricultural Service. There are no hard and fast courses of studies and the Heads of Sections are empowered to arrange them in the best possible manner. The period of each course is two years. Two students, one in entomology and the other in botany, are now taking this course.

## SUPPLY OF SEEDS BY THE PUSA AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE.

535. \***Mr. Geya Prasad Singh:** Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the quantity of different seed grains supplied by the Pusa Agricultural Institute to the different Provinces in India, or abroad, year by year since its foundation, together with the rates at which they were sold?

**Mr. M. S. D. Butler:** A statement is laid on the table from which it will be seen that 21,194 maunds of seed, sufficient to sow 2,63,063 acres, have been distributed from the Botanical Section of the Institute. 7,400 maunds of seeds of various crops have also been distributed during the period by the General Farm Section. It is calculated that by subsequent multiplication over a million acres must be under crops grown from seed of Pusa origin.

Sales were made at market rates.

*Statement showing quantity of seeds distributed by the Botanical Section of the Pusa Institute.*

Year.	WHEAT.		TOBACCO.		GRAM.		FIBRES.	
	Quantity.	Sufficient to sow.	Quantity.	Sufficient to sow.	Quantity.	Sufficient to sow.	Quantity.	Sufficient to sow.
	Mds.	Acres.	lbs.	Acres.	Mds.	Acres.	Mds.	Acres.
1908 . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1909 . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1910 . . .	12	15						
1911 . . .	61	81			...			
1912 . . .	155	206		...	4	6		
1913 . . .	34	45	6	190	2½	4		
1914 . . .	1,215	1,620	2	60	5	8	...	
1915 . . .	1,877	2,502	56	1,800	...		9	9
1916 . . .	6,114	8,151	545	17,450	25	42	20	20
1917 . . .	4,651	6,201	536	17,160	5	8	8	8
1918 . . .	3,863	5,150	778	24,900	15	24	8	8
1919 . . .	2,448	3,268	834	26,870	8	13	17	17
1920 . . .	120	158	538	17,210	10	16	2	2
1921 . . .	214	285	1,875	60,000	35	57	13	13
1922 . . .	129	171	2,166	69,300	11	18	2	2
Total	21,938	27,848	7,336 lbs. or 92 Mds.	2,34,940	120½	196	79	79

Total quantity of seed distributed . . . . . 21,194 Mds.

Area of land directly affected by distribution . . . . . 2,63,063 acres.

NOTE.—The above includes wheat seed grown under the supervision of the Imperial Economic Botanist on Bihar estates between 1914 and 1919 before seed farms in provinces were in working order.



PUSA AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE.

536. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Has the Retrenchment Committee made any recommendation for the curtailment of any expenditure in the Pusa Agricultural Institute? And if so, has such retrenchment been effected? And if not, why not?

**Mr. M. S. D. Butler:** Yes.

The Honourable Member is referred to the remarks against items 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200 and 244 of the revised statement laid on the table on the 1st February 1924 in reply to a question by Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao.

LOCATION OF TROOPS AT MUZAFFARPUR.

537. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** With reference to part (b) of my Question No. 31 of the 1st February, 1924, regarding the location of troops in Muzaffarpur, is there anything on record to show that the Right Honourable Lord Sinha was personally consulted, and that he gave his consent to the proposal? If the answer be in the affirmative, are the Government prepared to place such materials on the table?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** The Government of India deal with Governments and not with Governors, and, as I said before, the application which the Government of India received was from the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** My question remains unanswered. I asked if Lord Sinha was consulted in the matter.

**Mr. E. Burdon:** For the reason which I have given there is nothing in the records of the Government of India to show whether the application for troops made by the Government of Bihar and Orissa was or was not the personal decision of Lord Sinha.

**Mr. K. J. Roy:** Is it not a part of the Internal Securities scheme originally drafted by the General Staff for the location of troops in Bihar?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** It is now, but it was not before the Government of Bihar and Orissa made the application.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Will the Government of India write to the Government of Bihar and Orissa asking whether it is now necessary to locate troops at Muzaffarpur at such a high expenditure of over 5 lakhs?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** No, Sir.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** Why?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** Because from recent correspondence with the Government of Bihar and Orissa, it is evident that the opinion of the Government of Bihar and Orissa remains unchanged.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** Are Government satisfied that the opinion held by the Government of India was arrived at after consultation with the local bodies or with any non-official concern?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** The Government of India are satisfied with the correctness of their own opinion.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** Is it or is it not the fact that in arriving at this decision the Government of India or the Government of Bihar and Orissa consulted no non-official body or person?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** The Government of India certainly did not consult anybody. What the Government of Bihar and Orissa did I am unable to say.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** Will the Government of India be pleased to inquire if the Bihar and Orissa Government consulted anybody?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** No, Sir.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Will the Government of India state why they refuse to ask the Local Government to consult local bodies regarding the location of troops in Muzaffarpur?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** Because the Government of India do not wish to interfere to the extent which the Honourable Member suggests with the principle of provincial autonomy.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** Do Government wish to interfere if non-official bodies themselves make a representation?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** Surely I am not required to answer a hypothetical question of that character.

**Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether the cost of their maintenance is debited to provincial funds or to the Government of India?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** The cost is included in the Army estimates. They are part of the existing establishment.

#### FRICION BETWEEN SOLDIERS AND THE INHABITANTS OF MUZAFFARPUR.

538. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** With reference to the answer given to part (c) of my Question No. 33 of the 1st February 1924, will Government be pleased to lay on the table all papers in connection with the fracas mentioned therein, after the close of the investigation?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** The investigation has not yet been completed and Government are not in a position to give the Honourable Member an answer until they have themselves received and considered the final reports.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** May I take it that the Government refuse to commit themselves to any course of action without the receipt of papers in connection with the fracas which took place in Muzaffarpur?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** Yes, Sir.

#### SLAUGHTER HOUSE AT MUZAFFARPUR.

539. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) Will Government be pleased to state if the plan of the proposed barracks for the soldiers in Muzaffarpur includes the construction of a slaughter house also?

(b) And if the answer be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state if the slaughter house will be located inside or outside the Municipal limits, in view of the fact that the Muzaffarpur Municipality has already passed a Resolution to close the existing slaughter houses?

(c) Are the Government aware that the opening of a slaughter house is repugnant to the feelings of the bulk of the inhabitants in the locality? And are the Government prepared to ascertain their views before sanctioning the slaughter house?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** (a) and (b). Provision has been made for a slaughter house which will be located outside municipal limits.

(c) The plans for the barracks have been prepared by the Local Government who have presumably satisfied themselves that the project is not open to any reasonable objection and the Government of India do not propose therefore to make the inquiry which the Honourable Member suggests.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** What do the Government mean by "reasonable objection"?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** Reasonable in the opinion of the Local Government, Sir.

**Mr. Gayā Prasad Singh:** Will the Government be pleased to write to the Local Government of Bihar and Orissa asking them to invite local bodies and private individuals to give their opinion whether the location of a slaughter house within the limits of Muzaffarpur is open to objection or not from the point of view of the bulk of the population?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** No, Sir.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Will the Government of India be pleased to state their reasons for refusing to write?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** The reason I gave before—it would be interfering with the functions of the Local Government.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Have the Government of India no control over the Local Government of Bihar and Orissa?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** Yes, Sir, they certainly have control over the Local Government of Bihar and Orissa just as they have control over other Local Governments, but they show proper discretion in exercising that control.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** Are Government aware that in reply to a question asked in the local Council of Bihar and Orissa, it was stated that they could not do anything because the matter was wholly under the control of the Government of India?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** No, Sir.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** Will the Government of India look up the records of the Local Council and ascertain if it is correct?

**Mr. E. Burdon:** No, Sir.

#### LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL, B. N. W. RAILWAY.

540. **Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** 1. With reference to the answer given to my Question No. 118 of the 4th February 1924, will the Government be pleased to state (a) how and under what circumstances the Local Advisory Council has come to be established at the B. N. W. Railway, and what is its status? (b) Since when, and where has it been established? Who are its members, and who is the official authorized to receive complaints?

2. Have the Government, or the Local Advisory Council taken any steps to inform the public (through notices, time tables, press notes or otherwise) of the existence of such a Council to which complaints may be addressed? If the answer be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to indicate precisely what steps have been taken, and when? And if not, why not?

3. Will the Government be pleased to call for, and lay on the table a copy of the proceedings of the Local Advisory Council, since its establishment?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** 1. (a) Local Advisory Committees have been established by the Bengal and North Western Railway Company at the suggestion of Government arising out of the recommendations of the Acworth Committee. These are consultative bodies and advise the Agent on matters affecting public, commercial and other interests concerned.

(b) Local Advisory Committees for the Bengal and North Western Railway have been established at Gorakhpur and Muzaffarpur and their first meetings were held on the 9th May 1923 and 27th April 1923 respectively. As regards the names of the members of these Committees an inquiry has been made and the result will be communicated to the Honourable Member in due course. Complaints may be addressed to the Agent, Bengal and North Western Railway, or any member of the Committees.

(2) Inquiry has been made and the result will be communicated to the Honourable Member.

(3) It was suggested to Agents that a summary of the proceedings should be given to the Press and it will again be suggested to the Agent that he should adopt this procedure, if he has not already done so.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** May I, Sir, in this connection ask whether the Government of India refuse to entertain complaints against the B. N. Railway or any other railway for the matter of that.

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** No, Sir, certainly not. The point I tried to make the other day was that such complaints could be much more speedily dealt with by these Advisory Committees.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether or not the recommendations of the Committee appointed by the Bihar and Orissa Government to inquire into the working of the North-Western Railway were placed before these Advisory Committees, and if so, what action they took on those recommendations?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** I must ask for notice of that question, Sir.

#### REPRESENTATION OF BERAR ON THE LOCAL AND CENTRAL LEGISLATURES.

541. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** (a) How many representatives has Berar got the right to elect to:

- (i) the Council of State?
- (ii) the Legislative Assembly?
- (iii) the local Council.

(d) Is it a fact that the representative or representatives elected by Berar has, or have, to be nominated by the Government before he or they are admitted into the Legislature?

(e) If the answer be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Halley:** (a) The numbers of persons nominated to be Members of the Council of State, the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council of the Central Provinces as a result of elections held in Berar are one, one and seventeen, respectively.

(b) Yes.

(c) Berar is not a portion of British India, and the Government of India Act does not itself apply to elections in Berar. The elections are held under rules framed under the Indian (Foreign Jurisdictions) Order in Council, 1902, whereas the composition of the legislative bodies in question is determined by the various Electoral Rules made under the Government of India Act. It is therefore only possible for the persons elected in Berar to take their seats in the legislative bodies in virtue of nomination by the Governor or the Governor General as the case may be.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh:** Will the Government kindly state what is the administrative connection of Berar with the Central Provinces?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Halley:** The administrative connection of Berar with the Central Provinces is a matter which needs a somewhat careful statement. I do not think it arises out of this question which refers primarily to legislative arrangements and in any case it would be difficult for me to give offhand a precise statement of the nature desired.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** Are the Government aware that His Exalted Highness the Nizam is ready and willing now to grant autonomy to the Province of Berar after its recovery?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Halley:** I have seen certain correspondence in the papers; but, I am not aware that His Exalted Highness has authority at present to grant autonomy to Berar.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** Is it not a fact that Berar was a province of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad and it is now in British possession under certain terms and conditions, and is it not a fact that the Government of India is considering the question of handing over the province to His Exalted Highness?

**Mr. President:** That does not arise out of this question.

#### ALLEGED OUTRAGE BY ANGLO-INDIANS ON AN INDIAN WOMAN.

542. **\*Mr. T. C. Goswami:** With reference to the reply given by Government to my unstarred Question No. 61, on the 7th February, about the alleged incident of outrage on a woman passenger at Ramrajstola station, will Government be pleased to state:

- (i) whether the police investigation has led to any prosecution;
- (ii) what steps Government propose to take in this matter;
- (iii) whether it will eventually be hushed up?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** The Police returned the case with a final report "False" and the Magistrate accepted this report.

EMPLOYMENT OF ENGLISH REPORTERS BY THE PUBLIC SERVICES  
COMMISSION.

548. **\*Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar:** (1) Is it a fact that the Royal Commission on the Public Services sitting in India at present have brought out their reporting staff all the way from England, at the cost of the Indian tax-payer?

(2) Will the Government of India be pleased to state the terms on which the said staff has been brought out and the total expenditure incurred on this account up to date classified under various heads?

(8) Were the Government of India consulted, before the contract for reporting was given to the English Reporters and if not, why not?

(4) Are the Government aware that there are Indian Reporters, working in connection with the Central Legislature and the Provincial Councils, whose services could have been availed of, if the Government wanted to?

(5) Are the Government aware that several Commissions of inquiry, e.g., the Industrial Commission, Fiscal Commission, the Reforms Commissions, the Hunter Commission and various other Committees utilised the services of Indian Reporters at much less cost and to their complete satisfaction?

(6) Are the Government aware that in November last, a public meeting was held in Madras to protest emphatically against the bringing out of the English Reporters?

(7) Will the Government be pleased to state if it is the intention of Government to see that in future no reporting staff shall be brought out from England and that indigenous talent shall always be utilised and will the Government be pleased to make a statement as to their future policy in this connection?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** (1) Two shorthand writers and two assistants were brought out by the Royal Commission from England. One of the assistants has since been permitted to return Home on account of illness.

(2) The terms sanctioned for the reporting staff by the India Office so far as the Government of India are aware, are as follows:

*While in India:*

One guinea a day for each of the two shorthand writers and five guineas a week for each of the two assistants.

*For the period spent on voyages between India and the United Kingdom:*

A salary of nine guineas a week for each shorthand writer and six guineas a week for each assistant.

The above payments are made direct to Messrs. Reed and Company, a firm in England, by the India Office.

The concessions allowed in India are:

Free board and lodging with Rs. 8 *per diem* for incidental expenses; actual travelling expenses at first class rates when not travelling by special train, with gharry hire and portage; first class accommodation in special train, with gharry hire and portage; also Rs. 25 a month each for four servants together with their travelling expenses.

It is not possible at the moment to say what has been the expenditure up to date.

(3) The Government of India were not consulted before the appointment of these reporters was decided upon.

(4), (5) and (6). Yes.

(7) The Government of India will point out to the India Office that fully qualified reporters are available in India and that it is unnecessary to send out reporting staffs from England for duty with Commissions or Committees.

**Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar:** May I ask if it is a fact that separate transcript charges are also made in addition to these?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** I should have to ascertain that. The terms I have read out are those reported to us.

**Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar:** Will the Government of India advise the Secretary of State or address him that such financial burdens should not be imposed without the consent of the Government of India?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** I think the course that I suggest in the last section of my answer is preferable, namely, that we should say that we believe that the work can be satisfactorily done in India without importing reporters from England.

**Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar:** Do the Government recognise that it places the Legislature in an awkward position, if it is to be voted?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** I fully recognise the position.

**Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** May I ask what the total amount which will be incurred upon these shorthand writers will come to?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** I am afraid I shall not be able to say without knowing exactly how long the labours of the Commission will take. I may point out that in reports of all the Commissions we publish details of the total expenditure.

**Mr. Shambhu Dayal Misra:** Is the Government of India aware if there was any special purpose in getting out these English reporters, and, if so, has that purpose been served?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** I have no personal acquaintance with the actual work of the Commission; the question could only be answered after ascertaining from the Commission itself whether it thought that the work could have been done in India. As I have said before, we have always held ourselves that adequate reporting can be obtained in India.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** With regard to the first-class accommodation, do I understand that the Government of India allowed it or the Government at Home? Was it made a point that, unless first class accommodation was given to these people, i.e., the shorthand reporters, they would not come out to India?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** I think my answer has already made it clear that the terms which I read out to the Assembly were arranged at Home and not here.

## MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

544. \***Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan:** (a) With reference to the reply given to starred Question No. 12, on the 1st February, do Government propose to frame an official estimate of the average income per head of population in India?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for the increase of the charge per head of population for military expenditure from Rs. 1.25 in 1914 to Rs. 2.51 in 1923?

(c) Do Government propose to take steps to bring down the military charge to the level of the year 1914?

**The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett:** (a) No.

(b) I would refer the Honourable Member to the two memoranda dealing with the subject of the growth of military expenditure since 1913-14 which he received as a Member of the last Assembly and to the Finance Chapter in the book recently published, entitled "The Army in India and its Evolution".

(c) I am afraid this is not within the bounds of possibility in the near future.

PREDOMINANCE OF EUROPEAN OFFICERS IN THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
AT PUSA.

545. \***Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan:** (a) With reference to the statement laid on the table in reply to starred Question No. 27, on the 1st February, 1924, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for the predominance of the number of European officers over that of the Indians in the Research Institute at Pusa?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to say whether applications for filling each of the posts mentioned were called for in India and how many Indian applicants came forward for each of such posts?

**Mr. M. S. D. Butler:** (a) The reason for the predominance is that the original appointments were made when there were no Indians available with the necessary qualifications. As each appointment falls vacant the claims of Indians with the necessary seniority and experience are considered. It is only recently that Indians have begun to be recruited in any numbers for the Indian Agricultural Service. Since 1921 only two appointments have been made to the staff of the Research Institute of which one was an Indian.

(b) No. The ordinary practice is to recruit the best men available from the Indian Agricultural Service.

STATE PRISONERS IN THE CENTRAL JAIL, ALIPUR.

546. \***Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan:** (a) With reference to the reply given to parts (b), (c), and (d) of Question No. 29, on the 1st February, will the Government be pleased to state (a) the number of Political prisoners in the Central Jail, Alipur?

(b) the number of blankets or quilts as the case may be, supplied to each one of them at the beginning of the present cold weather season?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to state the hours during which they are allowed to join games?



(d) the number of meals they are supplied with, and the approximate cost of each of such meals?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** (a) Eight.

(b) Government have no information as to the number of blankets supplied to each man. Under the rules prisoners use their own bedding and any deficiency in the prisoners' bedding is made good at Government expense.

(c) At least one hour in the morning and evening is allowed each prisoner for out-door exercise.

(d) Three meals a day at a cost of Re. 1-4.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** For want of this out-door exercise our political prisoners, I suppose, have suffered from time to time; and it was owing to this cause that Mahatma Gandhi himself got ill and had to undergo an operation for appendicitis . . . . .

**Mr. President:** That does not seem to me to be a question.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** Is it not a fact, Sir?

#### SUPERIOR APPOINTMENTS HELD BY INDIANS IN THE SECRETARIAT.

547. **\*Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan:** Will the Government be pleased to state the number of Indian Under Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, Additional Deputy Secretaries, Secretaries, Joint Secretaries and Additional Joint Secretaries, before and after the Honourable Mr. Sastri's Resolution was adopted by the Council of State, on the subject during the last Delhi Session?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** A statement is laid on the table giving the information asked for.

*Number of Indian Under Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, Additional Deputy Secretaries, Secretaries, Joint Secretaries and Additional Joint Secretaries before and after the Honourable Mr. Sastri's Resolution was adopted by the Council of State during the last Delhi Session.*

	Before.	After.
Under Secretaries . . . . .	1	2
Deputy Secretaries . . . . .	2	2
Additional Deputy Secretaries . . . . .	1	1
Secretaries . . . . .	Nil.	Nil.
Joint Secretaries . . . . .	1	1
Additional Joint Secretaries . . . . .	Nil.	Nil.

#### RETRENCHMENT OF SUPERIOR APPOINTMENTS IN THE SECRETARIAT.

548. **\*Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan:** Will the Government be pleased to state the number of posts of Secretaries, Joint Secretaries, Additional Joint Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, Additional Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries and Registrars recommended to be retrenched in each of the Departments of the Government of India by the Retrenchment Committee, and how many of each of such posts have actually been retrenched, and the names of the departments where such posts have been retrenched?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** A statement is laid on the table giving the information asked for.

*Number of superior posts retrenched from Departments of the Government of India.*

Departments.	NUMBER OF POSTS RECOMMENDED TO BE RETRENCHED BY THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE.							NUMBER OF POSTS ACTUALLY RETRENCHED.								
	Secretaries.	Joint Secretaries.	Additional Secretaries.	Deputy Secretaries.	Additional Deputy Secretaries.	Under Secretaries.	Assistant Secretaries.	Registrars.	Secretaries.	Joint Secretaries.	Additional Joint Secretaries.	Deputy Secretaries.	Additional Deputy Secretaries.	Under Secretaries.	Assistant Secretaries.	Registrars.
Army	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(a) 1	(a) 1
Commerce	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Finance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	Converted into Assistant Secretary ship.
Legislative	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(b) 1	..	..	..	1
Education, Health and Lands.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	Converted into Assistant Secretary ship.
Industries and Labour	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	2	..
Railway	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Foreign and Political Department.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1*	..
Home	..	..	..	(c) 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	(c) 1	..	..	..	..

\* formerly held by a covenanted officer of the Political Department, now held by an uncovenanted officer at a saving of expenditure.

(a) A new appointment of Establishment Officer has been created as compensation in part for these reductions.

(b) Held in abeyance from 3rd April 1923 but revived as a temporary measure for 4 months from 18th December 1923.

(c) Inspector of Office Procedure who held the status of a Deputy Secretary.

\* formerly held by a covenanted officer of the Political Department, now held by an uncovenanted officer at a saving of expenditure.

COMPLAINTS BY INDIANS IN KENYA.

549. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** With reference to the reply given to starred Question No. 6 on the 1st February, will the Government be pleased to state whether postal censorship has been put on complaints coming from Indians in Kenya to the Government of India?

**Mr. M. S. D. Butler:** No. The Government of India have exercised no such censorship.

STORAGE OF COAL AT BALLYGUNGE RAILWAY STATION.

550. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** (a) With reference to the reply given to part 2 (b) of the unstarred Question No. 3, on the 1st February 1924, will the Government be pleased to state whether coal is stored in the railway yard of the Ballygunge railway station (E. B. Railway)?

(b) If so, will the Government be pleased to state whether such storing is permitted in consideration of any money received by the railway?

(c) If so, will the Government be pleased to state the amount of gross receipts by the E. B. Railway from Ballygunge railway station during the year 1922-23 from the storage of coal in the station yard?

(d) If the answer to part (b) is in the negative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons why such storing of coal is allowed in the station yard?

(e) Is this system of coal storing in the yard permissible in all Railway station; if not, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for this differential treatment to the Ballygunge station?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** (a) Yes.

(b) Prior to 1st February 1924 coal was stored at the Ballygunge yard under Wharfage Rules. Since 1st February 1924 some railway land has been licensed to importers of coal for storage.

(c) Rs. 73.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Land is leased out at certain stations where considerable quantities of coal are received. At other stations coal is stored under ordinary Wharfage Rules.

COST OF COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES.

551. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** Will the Government be pleased to state the total cost incurred from the revenues of India on Committees and Commissions during the year 1923-24; and mention the names of each of such Committees and Commissions with dates when they commenced their deliberations?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Halley:** The information asked for by the Honourable Member is being collected and will be laid on the table when ready.

REPORTS OF COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES.

552. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether in appointing Committees and Commissions any date is fixed for the presentation of their reports to Government?

(b) If not, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** (a) and (b). No definite date is ordinarily fixed for the presentation of its report by a Committee or Commission, as it is usually not possible to say beforehand when exactly a Committee or Commission will be able to complete its inquiries and to report.

#### GRANTS FOR COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES.

553. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether a lump sum grant is provided to each of such Committees and if so, on what basis and calculation such sums are fixed for each of such Committees and Commissions?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any programme of tour is outlined before the appointment of such Committees?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** (a) The answer is in the negative. A detailed estimate is prepared of the probable expenditure of a Committee or Commission under detailed heads of expenditure.

(b) A rough forecast is made of the places which a Committee or Commission might visit, but it is left to the Committee or Commission to prepare a definite itinerary.

#### RAILWAY QUARTERS FOR INDIANS.

554. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of rooms provided in each of the classes of Indian quarters built by Railways for their Indian staff?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to give the dimension of each of the rooms?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to state the dimension of the enclosed court yard provided in each of the different classes of quarters?

(d) Is it a fact that Indian quarters are constructed in such a way that one room is behind the other?

(e) If so, are the Government aware that tenants have to pass one room to get into the other and thereby are put to great inconveniences.

(f) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any rent is charged from the Railway servants occupying either Indian quarters or European quarters?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e). The Government cannot answer the question. The types of quarters adopted by the various railway administrations are not uniform.

(f) Rent is charged from employees, both European and Indian, who are not entitled to rent-free quarters under the rules.

#### RAILWAY QUARTERS FOR EUROPEANS.

555. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of rooms in each of the classes of European quarters for railway staff?

(b) the dimensions of rooms in each of such classes of quarters?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to state whether furniture is supplied to European staffs of Railways occupying railway quarters? If so, will they be pleased to state the varieties and the number of pieces of furniture supplied to them?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** (a) and (b). The answer is the same as in the previous question.

(c) No furniture is provided at the cost of railways for European or any other staff occupying railway quarters.

“ C ” AND “ D ” TYPE UNORTHODOX QUARTERS, RAISINA.

556. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** (a) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of C type and D type unorthodox quarters already built and occupied in Raisina?

(b) the number of each of the types mentioned under construction?

(c) Is it a fact that Government are building only D type quarters?

(d) If so, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for constructing a large number of D type quarters?

(e) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of rooms and sitting rooms provided in each of the types of quarters mentioned?

**The Honourable Mr. A. O. Chatterjee:** (a) and (b). The number of C type unorthodox quarters built and occupied are 66 and 37 respectively. The number under construction is 2. There are no D type unorthodox quarters built, occupied or under construction.

(c) No; but the large majority of quarters now under construction are D type orthodox quarters.

(d) The number of quarters in each class has been provided with regard to the number of clerks falling therein. Out of a total of 680 clerks, belonging to Departments and offices that will be permanently located in Delhi, there are 614 who fall in class D. The provision of a large proportion of quarters in this class was, therefore, necessary.

(e) Class C Unorthodox—1 Dining Room, and 3 Bed Rooms.

Class C Orthodox—1 Sitting Room, and 2 Bed Rooms.

Class D Orthodox—1 Sitting Room, and 2 Bed Rooms.

SIZE OF ROOMS IN ORTHODOX AND UNORTHODOX QUARTERS AT RAISINA.

557. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** Will the Government be pleased to state the following (1) dimensions of each of the rooms in a C type and a D type orthodox quarters; (2) the number of classes of unorthodox quarters at Raisina; (3) the dimension of each of the rooms in each of the classes of unorthodox quarters?

**The Honourable Mr. A. O. Chatterjee:** (1) and (3). The dimensions of the rooms vary, and it would be impossible to give details within the scope of an answer to a question. The plans of these quarters have been placed in the Library, and the Honourable Member will be able to get the information he requires from them.

(2) Three.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** Sir, I suppose in these orthodox quarters the electric current and bulbs are given by the Government?

**The Honourable Mr. A. O. Chatterjee:** I could not say.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** But there is nothing in the circular notice issued from the department to each and every member that they will be separately charged?

**The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee:** That question does not arise, so far as I can make out.

#### SIZE OF BED ROOMS IN D TYPE QUARTERS.

558. **\*Mr. Bhabendra Chandra Roy:** Is it a fact that the dimensions or the space area of stables provided in Bungalows at Raisina are equal to, if not bigger than, that of the bed rooms provided in D type quarters?

If so, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for making the rooms so small?

**The Honourable Mr. A. C. Chatterjee:** The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative.

The second part does not arise.

#### CONTROL OF TRANSFERRED DEPARTMENTS.

559. **\*Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar:** (a) With reference to the answer to my unstarred Questions Nos. 56, 57 and 58 of the 5th instant, has the attention of the Government been drawn to the answer given by the Government of Madras to a question put to them in the Legislative Council on the 7th instant regarding the extent of application of the Devolution and Fundamental Rules to the power of appointment and control by ministers over the offices and posts in the Transferred Departments?

(b) Do the specimen Rules referred to in the answer to my question No. 58 maintain in force the general orders and directions contained in the Despatches of the Court of Directors and Board of Control as to the powers of the Governor General and Governors and their Councils, notwithstanding the transference of authority and control over Provincial and Transferred Subjects to the Provincial Governments in accordance with the Rules referred to in (a)?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** (a) Government have seen a newspaper report of the question and the reply referred to.

(b) There is no connection between the specimen rules and the general orders and directions mentioned by the Honourable Member.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS TO NEWSPAPERS.

560. **\*Mr. Alimuzzaman Ohowdhry:** Will the Government be pleased to state how many copies each of the following newspapers are subscribed for the Government of India in the

(a) Home Department.

(b) Finance Department.

(c) Department of Industries and Labour.

(d) Department of Education, Health and Lands.

(e) Legislative Department.

(f) Foreign and Political Department.

- (1) The " Amrita Bazar Patrika " (Calcutta).
- (2) The " Bengalee " (Calcutta).
- (3) " Forward " (Calcutta).
- (4) The " Servant " (Calcutta).
- (5) The " Mussulman " (Calcutta).
- (6) " Progress " (Calcutta).
- (7) The " Leader " (Allahabad).
- (8) The " Tribune " (Lahore).
- (9) The " Muslim Outlook " (Lahore).
- (10) The " Hindu " (Madras).
- (11) The " Bombay Chronicle ".
- (12) The " Servant of India " (Bombay).
- (13) The " Search Light " (Patna)?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** A statement containing the required information is laid on the table. The Honourable Member will of course understand that this excludes the copies taken by our Public Information Bureau.

*Number of copies of certain newspapers subscribed for, for the use of the Departments of the Government of India specified.*

Name of Newspaper.	Home.	Finance.	Industries and Labour.	Education, Health and Lands.	Legislative.	Foreign and Political.	Total.
1. The " Amrita Bazar Patrika."	1	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	3
2. The "Bengalee."	Nil	1	1	1	1	Nil	4
3. " Forward "	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...
4. The " Servant."	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
5. The " Mussulman "	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...
6. " Progress "	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	1
7. The " Leader."	2	1	1	2	Nil	Nil	
8. The " Tribune."	2	Nil	Nil	2	1	Nil	5
9. The " Muslim Outlook "	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	1
10. The " Hindu ".	Nil	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	
11. The " Bombay Chronicle "	1	1	1	2	Nil	1	6
12. The " Servant of India "	1	Nil	1	1	1	Nil	4
13. The " Search Light "	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	...

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** What is the criterion adopted by Government in the matter of selecting the newspapers for which they choose to subscribe?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** I do not think there is any criterion adopted. I give here information as to the copies taken by each department, and I think each department decides for itself what newspapers it needs for its own purposes.

**Mr. Devaki Prasad Sinha:** Do I understand there is no circular or order directing the departments to subscribe for particular newspapers or not to subscribe for particular newspapers?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** Certainly it is the case.

**Diwan Bahadur T. Rangachariar:** May I ask, Sir, if Government have any objection to consult the Publicity Advisory Board in this matter?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** None whatever. It will be competent for any department to receive the assistance of the Publicity Advisory Board in this matter and to ask for their advice.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** Are the Government aware of the fact that the public have got a strong suspicion that Government are in the habit of giving subsidies—subscriptions or a lump sum of money—to certain newspapers?

**Mr. President:** The question refers to subsidies. It does not arise out of newspapers subscribed for by the various departments of the Government of India.

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey:** You will be kind enough to allow me to add, that no subsidy is given to newspapers.

#### EUROPEANS, HINDUS AND MUHAMMADANS IN THE SUPERIOR AUDIT SERVICE.

561. **Mr. Alimuzzaman Chowdhry:** Will the Government be pleased to state how many officers of the Superior Audit Service employed at the headquarters of the Central Government are

- (1) Europeans,
- (2) Hindus,
- (3) Muhammadans?

**The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett:** The following figures show the number of officers belonging to the Indian Audit and Accounts Service and the Military Accounts Department, employed in the Departments of the Government of India and attached offices, i.e., offices moving between Simla and Delhi, under each of the three categories mentioned by the Honourable Member:

Indian Audit and Accounts Service.	Military Accounts Department.
(1) Europeans 8	(1) Europeans 8
(2) Hindus 9	(2) Hindu 1
(3) Muhammadans Nil	(3) Muhammadans Nil.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** Do Government propose to remove the zero or fill in the blank by appointing a Muhammadan?



**The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett:** I think that depends entirely on the Muhammadan community, Sir.

**Mr. K. Ahmed:** What are the tests imposed on a candidate? If the Honourable the Finance Member chooses to tell me, I shall, representing the community, supply one according to his liking.

**The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett:** I was not able to catch the question, Sir, but I am sure I do not know the answer.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### BOLSHEVIK ACTIVITIES IN INDIA.

169. **Mr. T. C. Goswami:** Will the Government of India be pleased to state:

- (i) whether they possess direct evidence of Bolshevik activities in this country?
- (ii) whether a considerable number of influential Indians are engaged in Bolshevik activities (a) in India, (b) outside India?
- (iii) whether Bolshevik activities, such as Government have evidence of, is not almost exclusively confined to distribution of propaganda literature?

**The Honourable Sir Malcolm Halley:** Government are about to institute judicial proceedings after obtaining legal advice against certain persons accused of complicity in a conspiracy of the type known as Bolshevik. In these proceedings the points raised in the Honourable Member's question will be in issue. They are therefore not prepared at this stage to make a statement on the subject.

### AGENCY FUNCTIONS DISCHARGED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

170. **Diwan Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao:** Will the Government be pleased to state the agency functions which the Secretary of State is still discharging on behalf of the Government of India and whether the Secretary of State has considered the desirability of transferring those functions to the High Commissioner in England?

**The Honourable Sir Charles Innes:** On his appointment, the High Commissioner took over from the India Office the work connected with the Stores Department, the Indian Students' Department, the offices of Trade Commissioner and the official Agent to the Administrators-General in India and those sections of the Accountant-General's Department which were concerned with making payments for stores and with the issue of civil leave pay and pensions. As it was essential that the proper organisation and effective assimilation of duties already transferred should precede any assumption of fresh duties, it was left to the High Commissioner to initiate action in regard to the fresh transfer of agency work on behalf of the various Governments in India from the India Office. In accordance with this procedure, the further duties enumerated in the attached list have since been taken over by him. As regards the last item, the actual services and appointments for which the High Commissioner shall recruit on behalf of the Governments in India is still under consideration.

2. Agency work still remaining with the India Office relates mainly to subjects intimately connected with questions of policy and the issue of military leave pay and pensions in the Accountant-General's Department. The transfer of the last mentioned item is at present considered impracticable as likely to lead to administrative difficulties and also to heavy expense on account of accommodation which will have to be provided in the High Commissioner's Office for the very large staff employed on the work.

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*List of subjects transferred from the India Office to the High Commissioner for India.*

1. Detailed arrangements in connection with training in England or abroad under standing regulations of recruits or probationers selected under proper authority, e.g., Indian Civil Service and Indian Forest Service probationers.

2. Arrangements in connection with civil officers (including Indian Medical Service officers in civil employ) on deputation or study leave from India, and facilities therefor.

3. Disposal of inquiries from and regarding India, which do not raise issues of policy.

4. The provision of steamship passages for civilian personnel.

5. Purchase of quinine on behalf of the Government of India.

6. Actual arrangements in connection with exhibitions.

7. Work in connection with the Imperial Mineral Resources Bureau.

8. Work connected with destitute Lascars.

9. Imports into India of cocaine, morphia, etc.

10. Letters of request

11. Royal Humane Society medals.

12. Repatriation of criminal lunatics.

13. European's departure from India under the European Vagrancy Act, 1874.

14. Relief of repatriation of destitute persons (in and from the United Kingdom).

15. Purchase of bulls, stallions, etc., for military purposes.

16. Arrangements for the sale of Government publications, including maps.

17. Distribution of Government publications to departments, institutions, and individuals to whom a regular supply is made.

18. Supply to India of Parliamentary papers and Stationery Office publications.

19. Arrangements for publication in England of works on behalf of the Indian Governments.

20. Receipt and shipment of currency notes and payment therefor, arrangements for design and supply still remaining with the I. O.

21. All business arising in England out of the Administration of the General, or any other Civil, Provident Fund.

22. Recruitment for certain Services and appointments.

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MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

**Secretary of the Assembly:** Sir, the following Message has been received from the Secretary of the Council of State:

"I am directed to inform the Legislative Assembly that the following motion was carried in the Council of State at their meeting on the 29th February, 1924, and to request the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly in the recommendation contained therein, namely:

'That this Council do recommend to the Legislative Assembly that the Bill to consolidate the law applicable to intestate and testamentary succession in British India be referred to a Joint Committee of this Council and of the Legislative Assembly, and that the Joint Committee do consist of 12 Members.'

## AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDERS.

### ELECTION OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

**Mr. President:** I have to inform the House that up to 3 p.m. on Thursday, the 28th February, which was the time fixed for receiving nominations, only seven nominations were received for election to the Select Committee on the amendment of Standing Orders. As the number of Members nominated for election is equal to the number required, I have to announce that the following seven Members are declared to be duly elected to serve on the said Select Committee:

1. The Honourable Sir Malcolm Hailey.
  2. Sir Henry Moncrieff Smith.
  3. Mr. E. G. Fleming.
  4. Mr. K. Ahmed.
  5. Sir Chimanlal Setalvad.
  6. Sir P. S. Sivaswamy Aiyer.
  7. Mr. M. A. Jinnah.
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### THE INDIAN FINANCE BILL.

**The Honourable Sir Basil Blackett** (Finance Member): Sir, I introduce the Indian Finance Bill, 1924.

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### THE REPEALING AND AMENDING BILL.

**Sir Henry Moncrieff Smith** (Secretary, Legislative Department): Sir, I move that the Bill to amend certain enactments and to repeal certain other enactments be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2, 3 and 4 were added to the Bill.

The Schedules were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and Preamble were added to the Bill.

**Sir Henry Moncrieff Smith:** Sir, I move that the Bill be passed.

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 3rd March, 1924.

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