

Tuesday, 19th March, 1929

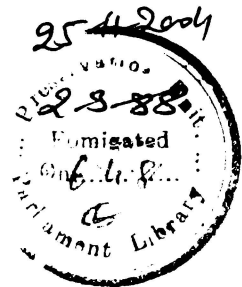
THE
COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

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SIXTH SESSION

OF THE
SECOND COUNCIL OF STATE, 1929



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COUNCIL OF STATE.

Tuesday, 19th March, 1929.

The Council met in the Council Chamber of the Council House at Eleven of the Clock, the Honourable the President in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

HORSE ALLOWANCE AND CYCLE ALLOWANCE OF SUBORDINATES IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.

145. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): Will Government be pleased to state (a) How many subordinates in the Delhi P. W. D. are getting horse allowances and how many cycle allowances? (b) What is the difference in the amount of horse allowance and cycle allowance per month? (c) How many subordinates getting horse allowances are living in Government quarters in New Delhi? (d) Do they go out of New Delhi on horses for duty? (e) What is the difference between the duties of subordinates getting horse allowances and those getting cycle allowances? (f) Why is horse allowance given to subordinates who work in New Delhi and live in New Delhi?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) Twenty-eight get horse allowances and the same number cycle allowances.

(b) Rs. 20.

(c) Fifteen.

(d) Such of them do whose works lie beyond the limits of New Delhi. They ride or drive to the works in their charge.

(e) There is no essential difference. Each case is considered on its merits with regard to the suitability of the mode of conveyance to the work to be done.

(f) To enable them to execute their duties.

CRACKS IN THE ROOFS, COLUMNS, ETC., OF THE BODYGUARD LINES, NEW DELHI.

146. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Are there cracks in the roofs, columns, lintels and terraces in the Bodyguard Lines, Delhi (now P. W. D. Offices)? (b) If so, why? (c) Under which Division has this work been done?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) There are no cracks of any structural importance.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Sixth Division.

MARBLE COLUMNS IN AND ABOUT THE DURBAR HALL OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, NEW DELHI.

147. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): Have the marble columns in and about the Durbar Hall of Government House, Delhi, uneven joints? If so, why?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: The reply is in the negative.

CHARGE OF SHORTAGE OF BRICKS AGAINST A SUBDIVISIONAL OFFICER OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.

148. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Is there a charge of shortage of many lakhs of bricks (pointed out by the Central Accounts Office, Delhi) against the S. D. O., 1/8 P. W. D., Delhi? (b) If so, will Government be pleased to state what action has been taken against him?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) The reply is in the negative.

(b) Does not arise.

NUMBER OF MUSLIM SUPERINTENDENTS AND CLERKS IN THE CENTRAL OFFICE, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.

149. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many Superintendents and clerks are working in the Central Office, Delhi P. W. D.? (b) How many of them are Muslims?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) Seven Superintendents and 73 clerks.

(b) Twenty.

EXAMINATIONS PASSED BY THE SUBORDINATES AND ENGINEERS SERVING IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.

150. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of subordinates and engineers serving in the Delhi P. W. D. stating

- (a) Number of subordinates and engineers who have passed the overseers' examination from a recognised college or university with the rates of their pay per month?
- (b) Number of engineers and subordinates who have passed the sub-overseers' examination from a recognised college or university, with the rates of their pay per month?
- (c) Number of engineers and subordinates who have passed no examination from any recognised college or university, with the rates of their pay per month?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: The information will be collected and furnished to the Honourable Member.

LAND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.

151. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Is there a Land Development Officer in the Delhi P. W. D. ? (b) If so, what are his duties ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) There is at present no separate post of Land Development Officer.

(b) The work formerly done by the holder of this post comprised the administration of Government land in the Raisina estate and the maintenance of records connected therewith. This work is now done by the staff of the Chief Engineer.

NAMES OF ENGINEERS AND SUBORDINATES SERVING IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI, WHO HAVE ACQUIRED PLOTS OF LAND IN THE NEW DELHI AREA.

152. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names of the engineers and subordinates serving in the Delhi P. W. D., who have been given plots of land in the New Delhi area on lease ? (b) Have they erected their buildings on these plots ? (c) Have they constructed their buildings according to designs approved by the Government Architect, New Delhi ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) The following have acquired plots at Auctions :

Engineers.—Messrs. Wazir Dayal, Bishan Singh and Bahadur Singh.

Subordinates.—Messrs. Abbasi, Durga Das, Mohan Lal, Tufail Mohammad and Ralla Ram.

(b) Four have completed their residences.

(c) Yes.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IN CHARGE OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, NEW DELHI.

153. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Was Sardar Bahadur Malik Teja Singh, Executive Engineer, given the chance of officiating as Superintending Engineer, Delhi, for six months in 1928-29 ? (b) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether any Executive Engineer was put in his place on the construction of Government House ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) and (b). Yes.

LIMES APPROVED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, NEW DELHI.

154. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): Will Government be pleased to state which lime is the approved one for the construction of the Delhi P. W. D. (i.e., Katni, Satna or Jeypore) ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: Various limes have been approved from time to time for different purposes.

NAMES OF ENGINEERS IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI, ON
DEPUTATION FROM OTHER PROVINCES FOR 10 YEARS OR MORE.

155. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): Will Government be pleased to state the names of the Engineers who have been on deputation in the Delhi P. W. D. from other Provinces for 10 years or more?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: Messrs. Rouse, Sale, Croad, Parker, Malik, Bishan Singh, Sham Lal, and Bahadur Singh.

SUPERSESSION BY BABU PIAREY LAL OF SUBORDINATES IN THE PUBLIC
WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.

156. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many subordinates were superseded by Babu Piarey Lal on his appointment in the Delhi P. W. D. as a regular subordinate on Rs. 200 per mensem in the month of November 1928? (b) Was Babu Piarey Lal a work-charged subordinate in the stoneyard, Delhi? (c) Were his services dispensed with by order of the Superintending Engineer, 11th Circle, Delhi? (d) If so, will Government be pleased to state the age and qualification of Babu Piarey Lal and the reason for appointing him on that pay?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) Babu Piarey Lal was brought on to the regular establishment from the work-charged establishment on a pay of Rs. 178. This pay is higher than that drawn by 38 subordinates in the regular temporary establishment.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) His age is about 31 years. He is a qualified sub-overseer from the Roorkee College. He was appointed on the same pay that he was in receipt of when his previous work-charged post was brought under reduction.

AMOUNTS PAID TO WORK-CHARGED MUSLIMS, HINDUS AND SIKHS IN
DECEMBER 1928 AND JANUARY 1929 IN THE 1ST DIVISION, PUBLIC
WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.

157. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): Will Government be pleased to state the respective amounts paid to work-charged Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs in the months of December 1928 and January 1929 in the 1st Division, P. W. D., Delhi?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: The information is not readily available, and I do not think any useful purpose would be served by compiling it.

COMPLETION OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, NEW DELHI.

158. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Will Government be pleased to state when the construction of Government House, Delhi, is to be completed? (b) What work remains to be done?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) It is expected that Government House will be ready for His Excellency the Viceroy to move into at the end of October 1929.

(b) The dome, floorings, finishings and furniture, remain to be completed.

TESTING OF LIME IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.

159. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Is lime tested in a lime testing machine in the Delhi P. W. D.? (b) If so, will Government be pleased to state what is the power of the lime used on the construction of Government House, Delhi?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) The lime is tested periodically.

(b) Government are not in possession of the detailed tests.

DUTIES AND EMOLUMENTS, ETC., OF THE SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE DELHI CITY MUNICIPALITY.

160. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): Will Government be pleased to state (a) the duties, length of service, pay and qualifications of the Assistant Secretaries of the Delhi Municipality? (b) The number of allowances, the amount of allowances, the pay, and the duties of the Municipal Secretary, Delhi?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR SIR MUHAMMAD HABIBULLAH: Enquiries have been made and the result will be communicated to the Honourable Member as soon as possible.

PAY OF DRAFTSMEN WORKING IN THE FIRM OF ARCHITECTS, NEW DELHI.

161. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Have some draftsmen working in the firm of Architects, New Delhi, been getting their pay for years from the Central P. W. D. Office, Delhi? (b) If so, why?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: (a) and (b). One draftsman was lent to one of the Architects in the interests of Government work. The question of the incidence of his pay is under discussion.

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE STANDARDIZATION BRANCH, RAILWAY BOARD.

162. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Was Mr. Magson, the officer in charge of the Standardisation Branch (Drawing Branch), Railway Board, in the year 1927? (b) If so, what was his qualification? (c) What is the qualification of the present officer in charge of the Standardisation Branch (Railway Board)?

THE HONOURABLE SIR GEOFFREY CORBETT : (a) and (b). No. Mr. Magson was not the officer-in-charge of the Standardisation Branch of the Railway Board. He was a draftsman designer engaged to assist in the design of structural steel work.

(c) The present officer-in-charge of the Standardisation Branch is a member of the Indian Railway Service of Engineers with special aptitude for the kind of work required.

NUMBER OF SIKHS, MUSLIMS, HINDUS AND CHRISTIANS EMPLOYED IN THE DRAWING BRANCH OF THE RAILWAY BOARD.

163. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy) : Will Government be pleased to state the number of Sikhs, Muslims, Hindus and Christians in the Drawing Branch of the Railway Board ?

THE HONOURABLE SIR GEOFFREY CORBETT :

Sikhs	--	..	..	..	6
Muslims	..	..	..	..	4
Hindus	..	..	..	..	2
Christians	..	..	..	..	Nil.

LENGTH OF SERVICE OF MR. E. W. GRINDAL, CENTRAL ACCOUNTS OFFICER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.

164. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the length of service of Mr. E. W. Grindal, Central Accounts Officer, P. W. D., Delhi, in the Delhi Province ? (b) Has Mr. E. W. Grindal been Chief Superintendent and Personal Assistant to the Chief Engineer, Delhi ? (c) If so, will Government be pleased to state (i) How long ? (ii) What his pay was when he joined the Delhi P. W. D. ? (iii) What pay he is getting now ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS : (a) His total length of service in Delhi is about 18 years. His service as Central Accounts Officer, Public Works Department, Delhi, is about 4½ years.

(b) Yes.

(c) (i) About 12 years.

(ii) Rs. 400.

(iii) Rs. 1,200 (being his pay in the time-scale as a member of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service). He also draws a special pay of Rs. 300 per mensem for carrying on the duties of Estate Officer, Delhi, as a temporary measure.

RULES FOR THE TRANSFER OF ACCOUNTS OFFICERS.

165. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy) : Will Government be pleased to state the rules for transfer of accounts officers from one place to another place (i.e., after how many years) ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. E. BURDON: There are no rules for the transfer of accounts officers from one place to another. Transfers are made as required by administrative considerations from time to time.

COUNTING TOWARDS PENSION OF SERVICES OF PERSONS SENT TO KENYA COLONY BY THE INDIAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES.

166. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): (a) Are the services of the persons who were sent to Kenya Colony (East Africa) in 1919 by the Indian military authorities reckoned towards pension? (b) If not, will Government be pleased to state under what rule? (c) Is such service service under the British Government of India?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. MCWATTERS: His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, who is unavoidably absent, has asked me to answer this question with your permission, on his behalf.

- (a) Yes, if they held permanent pensionable posts.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Yes.

SAFEGUARDING OF THE CLAIMS OF MUSLIMS IN THE INDIAN SERVICE OF ENGINEERS.

167. THE HONOURABLE SIR EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): With reference to the reply to my question No. 134 in the Council of State Debate on 21st September, 1928, in Volume II, No. 6, regarding statement showing percentage of Muslim and non-Muslim Engineers, have Government taken any steps to safeguard the claims of the minority community?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. MCWATTERS: The statement furnished in reply to the Honourable Member's question No. 134 in the Council of State on the 21st September 1928 showed the total number of officers in the Indian Service of Engineers and the provincial engineering services. The Government of India are, however, concerned only with recruitment to the Indian Service of Engineers, recruitment to the provincial engineering services being under the control of Provincial Governments. The exact position as regards the Indian Service of Engineers is as follows. Recruitment to the Service in England is confined to European British subjects. Appointments made in India to the Service have hitherto been reserved for students of certain engineering colleges and for officers promoted from the provincial engineering services. In the circumstances, it has not so far been possible to reserve any posts in the Service for minority communities. The guarantees of appointment to the students of the colleges having, however, recently expired, the question of the procedure under which direct recruitment to the Service in India will be made in future is under consideration. Due provision will be made in the rules for the reservation of certain appointments for the redress of communal inequalities if qualified candidates are available.

**SUSPENSION OF BABU CHAMPAT SINGH, CASHIER IN THE CENTRAL OFFICE,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, DELHI.**

168. THE HONOURABLE SIE EBRAHIM HAROON JAFFER (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy): Is Babu Champat Singh, Cashier in the Central P. W. D., Delhi, under suspension, and if so, why?

THE HONOURABLE MR. A. C. McWATTERS: He is under suspension pending investigation of certain matters the principal of which relates to a loss of Government money in his custody.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

COMMERCIAL TREATIES AFFECTING INDIA.

THE HONOURABLE SIR GEOFFREY CORBETT (Commerce Secretary): Sir, I lay on the table a list of further commercial treaties which affect India.

PART I.

The treaty mentioned in this Part provides for the grant of most-favoured-nation treatment to the products and manufactures of India on terms of reciprocity.

Country.	Nature of agreement.	Description.	Date.
Serb-Croat-Slovene State.	Treaty . . .	Commerce and Navigation.	May 12, 1927.

PART II.

India has* acceded to the treaty mentioned in this Part.

Country.	Nature of agreement.	Description.	Date.
Siam	Treaty . . .	Commerce and Navigation.	July 14, 1925.

*The accession under Article 34 was subject to the reservations :—

- (1) That the privileges granted by the said treaty in its application to any State in India shall be subject to such modifications as are necessitated by the laws and regulations in force in any such State or by reason of the legitimate exercise of the powers inherent in the ruler of any such State; and
- (2) that the right to appoint Consular Officers or Consular Agents under Article 27 of the treaty shall be restricted to seaport towns in British India.

**MOTION FOR THE ELECTION OF THE PANEL FOR THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON EMIGRATION.**

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR SIR MUHAMMAD HABIBULLAH (Education, Health and Lands Member): Sir, I move:

"That this Council do proceed to elect in the manner described in the Department of Education, Health and Lands Notification No. 114, dated the 7th February 1924, a panel of 8 members from which the members of the Standing Committee to advise on questions relating to Emigration in the Department of Education, Health and Lands, will be nominated."

Sir, I have merely to state that the House elects a panel every year before the close of its Winter Session. The members of the Committee who were nominated from it last year vacate their office on the 25th of this month, and it is therefore necessary that the next election to fill their places should take place immediately. I wish to express, Sir, that this Committee has all along been rendering very useful and helpful work in connection with the important and intricate problems which are referred to it for advice, and I should be sorry to allow any gap between the expiry of the term of the Committee and its reconstitution.

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: I hope to be in a position tomorrow to give directions as to the date for nominations and election for this panel.

INDIAN TARIFF (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE SIR GEOFFREY CORBETT (Commerce Secretary): Sir, I move that the Bill further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1894, for certain purposes, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration.

The small proposals embodied in this Bill are not, strictly speaking, protective, but they are designed to give what we call equality of tariff treatment. They arise out of a general reference that we made some time ago to the Tariff Board to examine representations to the effect that the development of certain industries in India is hampered by the fact that the duty on the finished article is lower than the duty on the materials which have to be imported for the manufacture of that article. These two particular cases are the outcome of our general tariff policy in respect of machinery. This policy was stated clearly not very long ago in our Resolution on the Report of the Tariff Board dealing with the cotton textile industry when, you may remember, the Tariff Board recommended, amongst other things, that the duty should be removed from machinery. We then said:

"The removal of the import duty on machinery was recommended by the Fiscal Commission and is in accordance with the principle of the Resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly on the 16th February, 1923, that the fiscal policy of the Government of India may legitimately be directed towards fostering the development of industries in India."

We then removed, or rather the Legislature removed, by the Act of September, 1927, with effect from the 1st October following, the duty on all machinery and component parts of machinery. But this again was subject to a certain definite proviso, as stated in this Resolution:

"The removal of the duty on machinery is subject to the proviso that it may be necessary to reimpose an import duty on particular kinds of machinery, if it appears, on a report by the Tariff Board, that it is desirable to encourage the manufacture in India of such machinery and that a protective duty is required for that purpose, or that the imposition of a duty is necessary in order to secure equality of tariff treatment and remove a handicap under which the manufacture of such machinery in India would otherwise suffer."

That is, the revenue duty of 2½ per cent. on machinery, which had been imposed a few years previously at a time of financial difficulty, was removed by the Act of September, 1927, subject to a proviso that the manufacture of machinery in India should not be prejudiced thereby. The two cases with which this Bill deals are both cases of the manufacture of certain machinery in India, for which equality of tariff treatment is required.

[Sir Geoffrey Corbett.]

The first deals with an application made by the Indian Cable Company of Jamshedpur. This Company is making two articles connected with electric installations. The first are hard drawn copper conductors, and the second rubber insulated wires and cables. I will deal first with the first item—hard drawn copper conductors. The raw material for this article is electrolytic copper rod, which is commonly known as “black rod”, and which is liable to the ordinary general rate of duty of 15 per cent. But the finished conductors, being machinery under the tariff as it now stands, are duty free. The Company has not been suffering from any particular hardship up till now, for since 1923 we have by executive order allowed the Company to import its requirements of black rod free of duty, and all that the Tariff Board now recommend in this respect is that the Tariff Schedule should be so amended as to remove the duty from black rod altogether. There are, however, certain difficulties in accepting this recommendation. In the first place, we are advised by our technical advisers that it would be very difficult to distinguish black rod from other copper rod. There would probably be continual disputes as to whether a particular consignment was black rod or not, and perhaps a good deal of stuff would come in duty free on which the Legislature intended that 15 per cent. duty should be paid. The second difficulty is this, that the relation of prices between black rod and other copper rod is such that if the duty were removed, it would probably be that a certain amount—perhaps a large amount—of black rod would be imported for purposes other than the manufacture of conductors for purposes which are now met by other kinds of copper rod. Taking into consideration these difficulties, the Government of India decided not to accept this particular recommendation of the Tariff Board, but to continue the existing practice of allowing the Indian Cable Company's requirements to be imported free of duty by executive order. That is, we do not in any way differ at all from the principle recommended by the Tariff Board that the Cable Company should get its supplies of black rod duty free. We have in fact been allowing imports duty free since 1923, but, for practical reasons, we thought it desirable to continue the present arrangement rather than make any amendment in the Tariff Schedule. So much for black rod.

The second article which this Company is manufacturing is rubber insulated copper wires and cables. The tariff position with regard to these is that the small cables, the small wires, which are really used for domestic purposes, pay the 15 per cent. duty, but the larger ones which are used for industrial installations come in free as machinery. The Tariff Board reported that there are actually 92 different items in the tariff which are used in the manufacture of these wires and cables on which varying rates of duty are levied. I think this House will agree that it would be really quite impracticable for us to consider the remission or reduction of duty on 92 different items for this purpose; and what the Tariff Board have recommended is this. They have calculated that, if an import duty of 5 per cent. were imposed on cables and wires which are now duty free as machinery, the tariff inequality would be fully wiped out. We have accepted this recommendation, and the amendment in the first item in this Bill is to give effect to it, that is, to impose a duty of 5 per cent. on rubber insulated copper wires and cables which are now duty free. For fear the House should think that this is inconsistent with our policy of encouraging industries in India, I may remark that the Tariff Board are firmly of opinion that this small duty will not materially affect industrial development, that is, the use of electric installations in industrial development, because it will work out at a very small amount of the total cost of electric installations. I think

the actual figure they have worked out in a specific case is only one-eighth of one per cent. of the total cost of the installation.

The second item with which I have to deal is printing type. Honourable Members may remember that, when the duty on printing machinery was removed by the Act of 1927, the existing duty of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on printing type was retained, because it was feared that the removal of that duty might prejudicially affect certain type foundries working in India. The present inquiry shows, however, that this $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is not quite enough in certain cases, that is, in cases of the cheaper type, to remove the tariff inequality in view of the fact that the imported metal, particularly lead and antimony, which are used in the manufacture of this type, is liable to a duty of 15 per cent. This position is rather unsatisfactory because it is against this cheaper type, which comes mainly from Germany and America, that the Indian type foundries are largely competing. The Board have calculated that the duty on the metal imported for the purpose of manufacturing type varies from about Rs. 4-8-0 to Rs. 5-8-0. per 100 lbs. They therefore recommend a specific duty of one anna a pound, that is 100 annas, or Rs. 6-4-0 on 100 lbs., which is rather more than the duty which the manufacturer of type will have to pay on the metals he imports to make 100 lbs. of type, and so leaves a reasonable margin for error or accident or for any fluctuations in values. Well, Sir, Government have accepted this recommendation, and the second item of this Bill is intended to give effect to it.

It is a little difficult to make these rather technical matters clear in a short speech, but if I have left any point doubtful, Honourable Members will doubtless raise it and I can then deal with it in my reply.

Sir, I move.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : The question is :

“ That the Bill further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1894, for certain purposes, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and Preamble were added to the Bill.

THE HONOURABLE SIR GEOFFREY CORBETT : Sir, I move that the Bill, as passed by the Legislative Assembly, be passed.

The motion was adopted.

The Council then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 20th March, 1929.