

Wednesday, 8th March, 1933

THE
COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

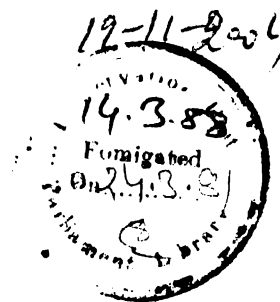
VOLUME I, 1933

(16th February to 15th April, 1933)

FIFTH SESSION

OF THE

THIRD COUNCIL OF STATE, 1933



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CONTENTS.

	PAGES,
Thursday, 16th February, 1933—	
Members Sworn	1
Notification of the appointment of the Honourable Sir Maneckji Dadabhoy as President of the Council of State	1
Congratulations to the Honourable the President	2—5
Questions and Answers	6—13
Statement laid on the table	13
Messages from His Excellency the Governor General	14
Committee on Petitions	15
Governor General's Assent to Bills	15
Bills passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the table	15
Congratulations to recipients of Honours	16—17
Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Bill—Introduced	17
Presentation of the Railway Budget for 1933-34	18—24
Death of Sardar Bahadur Shivdev Singh Uberoi	24—25
Statement of Business	25
Saturday, 18th February, 1933—	
Questions and Answers	27—50
General Discussion of the Railway Budget	51—70
Monday, 20th February, 1933—	
Questions and Answers	71—73
Statement laid on the table	73—74
Motion for the election of three Members to the Standing Committee for Roads—Adopted	75
Motion for the election of six non-official Members to the Central Advisory Council for Railways—Adopted	75
Indian Marine (Amendment) Bill—Considered and passed	75—78
Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Bill—Considered and passed	78—80
Children (Pledging of Labour) Bill—Considered and passed	81—84
Indian Forest (Amendment) Bill—Considered and passed	84
Tuesday, 21st February, 1933—	
Member Sworn	85
Resolution <i>re</i> Purchase of stores through the Indian Stores Department—Withdrawn	85—93
Resolution <i>re</i> Restoration of the cut in salaries only when the surcharge of 25 per cent. is abolished—Negatived	93—100
Statement of Business	100
Tuesday, 28th February, 1933—	
Member Sworn	101
Ottawa Trade Agreement Rules, 1932, laid on the table	101—09
Presentation of the General Budget for 1933-34	110—19
Nominations for election to the Standing Committee for Roads	119
Nominations for election to the Central Advisory Council for Railways	119—20
Statement of Business	120

	PAGES.
Saturday, 4th March, 1933—	
Questions and Answers	121—42
Motion for the election of four non-official Members to the Standing Committee on Emigration—Adopted	142
Motion for the election of two non-official Members to the Standing Committee to advise on subjects, other than "Indians Overseas—Emigration" and "Haj Pilgrimage" dealt with in the Department of Education, Health and Lands—Adopted.	142
General Discussion of the General Budget	142—206
Monday, 6th March, 1933—	
Questions and Answers	207—17
Short Notice Question and Answer	217
Congratulations to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief on his promotion to the rank of Field Marshal	218
Resolution <i>re</i> Reference of important Government Bills to joint select committees of both Chambers—Negatived	219—25
Resolution <i>re</i> Increase in the present number of cadets annually admitted to the new Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun—Negatived	226—33
Wednesday, 8th March, 1933—	
Questions and Answers	235—37
Resolution <i>re</i> Telegraph poles—Adopted	237—44
Resolution <i>re</i> Representation of the Council of State on the Indian Delegation to the Joint Select Committee of Parliament—Withdrawn	244—53
Election of four Members to the Standing Committee on Emigration	253
Election of two non-official Members to the Standing Committee for the Department of Education, Health and Lands	254
Statement of Business	254
Monday, 13th March, 1933—	
Questions and Answers	255—75
Resolution <i>re</i> Papers of the third Round Table Conference and White Paper to be laid on the table—Withdrawn	276—78
Resolution <i>re</i> Scales of pay and allowances of future entrants to the Superior Services—Negatived	278—88
Wednesday, 15th March, 1933—	
Resolution <i>re</i> (1) Withdrawal of the notification exempting salaries from Indian income-tax and (2) imposition of Indian income-tax on Indian sterling loans—Negatived	289—302
Resolution <i>re</i> Grant of a lump sum gratuity to families of non-gazetted Government servants who die while in service—Withdrawn	303—11
Resolution <i>re</i> Preference to Indian steamship companies for the carriage of mails on the coast—Withdrawn	311—18
Resolution <i>re</i> Abolition or reduction in the posts of commissioners of divisions—Negatived	318—35
Resolution <i>re</i> Withdrawal or reduction of the surcharge on the carriage of coal—Withdrawn	335—45
Monday, 20th March, 1933—	
Questions and Answers	347—50
Legal Practitioners Amendment Bill—Introduced	350
Resolution <i>re</i> Amendment of the Imperial Bank Act, 1920 (XIV of 1920)—Negatived	361—35

Monday, 20th March, 1933—*contd.*

Resolution <i>re</i> Appointment of a Committee to enquire into and report on the working of and results achieved from the Ottawa Agreement—Adopted, as amended	365—69
Resolution <i>re</i> Reduction of sterling commitments and replacement thereof by rupee commitments—Adopted	369—73
Resolution <i>re</i> Increased seats for landlords in the reformed central and provincial Legislatures—Withdrawn	373—76
Statement of Business	377

Wednesday, 22nd March, 1933—

Member Sworn	379
Questions and Answers	379—82
Bills passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the table	382
Motion <i>re</i> Amendment of Standing Orders 22 and 54 of the Council of State—Negatived	382—88
Motion <i>re</i> Amendment of Standing Orders 16 and 70 of the Council of State—Negatived	388—97
Ballot for the election of three Members to the Standing Committee for Roads	397
Ballot for the election of six non-official Members to the Advisory Council for Railways	397
Statement of Business	397—98

Friday, 24th March, 1933—

Cotton Textile Industry Protection (Amendment) Bill—Considered and passed	399—403
Wheat Import Duty (Extending) Bill—Considered and passed	403—12
Elections to the Standing Committee for Roa's and the Central Advisory Council for Railways	412—13
Statement of Business	413

Monday, 27th March, 1933—

Questions and Answers	415—19
Statements laid on the table	419—41
Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the table	442
Motion <i>re</i> Consideration of the White Paper on Indian Constitutional Reforms— <i>not concluded</i>	442—72

Tuesday, 28th March, 1933—

Questions and Answers	473—75
Motion <i>re</i> Consideration of the White Paper on Indian Constitutional Reforms	475—513
Statement of Business	513
Appendix	514

Wednesday, 29th March, 1933—

Member Sworn	515
Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the table	515
Salt Additional Import Duty (Extending) Bill—Considered and passed	515—23
Statement of Business	523—24

Friday, 31st March, 1933—

Indian Finance Bill, 1933—Considered and passed	525—67
Statement of Business	567

Wednesday, 5th April, 1933—

Questions and Answers	569—73
Statement laid on the table	573
Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the table	573
Statement of Business	573—74

Friday, 7th April, 1933—

Indian Tariff (Ottawa Trade Agreement) Supplementary Amendment Bill—Considered and passed	575—78
Statement of Business	578

Saturday, 8th April, 1933—

Question and Answer	579
Statement laid on the table	579—82
Bills passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the table	582

Monday, 10th April, 1933—

Provincial Criminal Law Supplementing Bill—Considered and passed	583—90
Auxiliary Force (Amendment) Bill—Considered and passed	591—92
Statement of Business	592

Tuesday, 11th April, 1933—

Short Notice Question and Answer	593—94
Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the table	594
Statement of Business	594

Wednesday, 12th April, 1933—

Bill passed by the Legislative Assembly laid on the table	595
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Saturday, 15th April, 1933—

Indian Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill—Considered and passed	597—606
Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Bill—Considered and passed	606—14
Safeguarding of Industries Bill—Considered and passed	614—20
Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill—Considered and passed	626—27

COUNCIL OF STATE.

Wednesday, 8th March, 1933.

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.

STOCKS OF CINCHONA BARK.

139. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS :

(a) Will Government please state the quantity of cinchona bark belonging to the Government of India that is in store in Calcutta ?

(b) What was the quantity in store for the last five years ?

(c) Will Government please state how much they have lost in the shape of interest on the capital locked up in this cinchona bark ?

(d) Is it a fact that the quantity of quinine deteriorates if it is kept for a long time ?

(e) Has the attention of Government been drawn by the Public Accounts Committee to the question of disposing of this stock of cinchona ?

(f) What steps have Government taken during the last few years to reduce the quantity ?

(g) Is it a fact that, apart from the capital locked up in this store a large amount of money is spent in warehousing this cinchona ?

(h) Why is not this cinchona sold by public auction or distributed to the Local Governments for being sold to tradespeople at a reasonable price ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN.

(a) and (b). Cinchona bark of the Government of India is not stored at Calcutta but at Mergui (Burma) and at Mungpoo (Bengal). The figures of the stock are :

	Lbs.
On the 31st March, 1932	7,15,087
On the 31st March, 1931	6,30,256
On the 31st March, 1930	6,70,653
On the 31st March, 1929	5,94,664
On the 31st March, 1928	4,89,290

(c) The stocks were accumulated for public benefit and not for pecuniary profits. No account of loss of interest has, therefore, been maintained.

(d) No.

(e) Yes.

(f) Orders have been issued forbidding extension of the Government of India's cinchona plantations and measures for reduction in the production of bark are proceeding as quickly as considerations for capital value, represented by a developed area, would allow.

(g) No.

(h) The question of selling the surplus stocks of quinine is already under consideration.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : The Honourable Leader has told us what the stocks were up to 1932. May I know what are the present stocks?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : I am afraid I must ask for notice of that question.

REVENUE REALIZED FROM THE ADDITIONAL SALT DUTY.

140. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS :
(a) Will Government please lay on the table a statement showing the amount of money realised from the additional salt duty and the amount distributed to the Local Governments concerned, year by year?

(b) Did the Local Governments spend their quotas for the purpose of encouraging indigenous salt manufacture? If so, to what extent?

(c) Has it been represented to the Government of India that there is a very strong feeling among the people and the Governments of Bengal and Bihar against the imposition of this additional salt duty?

(d) Is it a fact that a large amount of money goes to the pocket of Aden manufacturers at the cost of consumers in Bengal and Bihar?

(e) Has Government considered whether the rate of Rs. 66 per 100 maunds of salt is now in excess of a fair price for salt?

(f) What steps Government propose to take in this matter?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) The Local Governments have not spent their quotas so far in encouraging indigenous salt manufacture.

(c) Yes.

(d) This is a matter of opinion.

(e) Yes.

(f) The question is at present under consideration by Government in consultation with the Salt Industry Committee of the Legislative Assembly.

Statement showing the amounts of additional duty on foreign salt collected and distributed.
(Figures rounded to hundreds of rupees.)

	1930-31 and 1931-32 (from 18th March, 1931).	1932-33.	
		First half of 1932-33.	From 1st October, 1932, to 31st January, 1933.
Total duty collected	15,99,200	9,10,900	7,44,500
Amounts distributed to Local Governments :			
Bengal	5,36,600	3,59,100	Not yet distributed. Distribution is made once each half year.
Bihar and Orissa	2,83,500	1,89,700	
Assam	64,400	43,100	
Bombay	16,700	11,200	
United Provinces	8,500	5,700	
Central Provinces and Berar	900	600	
Madras	200	100	
Burma	4,88,500	1,87,500	

DEVELOPMENT OF AN INDIAN MERCHANT MARINE.

141. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD:

(a) Is it a fact that it is the accepted policy of the Government of India to develop an Indian Merchant Marine by providing for an adequate participation of Indian shipping in the coastal and overseas trade of India?

(b) If so, what steps are Government taking to give effect to this policy?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. C. B. DRAKE: (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) In pursuance of the policy of assisting the development of an Indian Merchant Marine the Training Ship "Dufferin" has been established at Bombay for the training of deck officers. Government have also granted scholarships to nine Indian boys, tenable in the United Kingdom, for training in Marine Engineering, and the question of providing facilities in India for such training is under consideration. As regards further steps in the direction particularly indicated in the question, the attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the replies given by Sir George Rainy to somewhat similar questions asked in the Legislative Assembly by Messrs. S. C. Shahani and B. Das on the 29th January, 1931, and the 29th March, 1932, respectively. The whole question is still under consideration.

RESOLUTION RE TELEGRAPH POLES.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS (Punjab : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I rise to move the Resolution which stands in my name and which reads as follows :

" This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that additions to or replacements of telegraph poles carrying wires be of timber purchased in India or Burma where this would be in every way economical. "

Sir, my object in moving this Resolution is two-fold. The first object is to effect a saving in the expenditure of the Department by replacing metal with timber poles. Secondly, to find additional employment to many people in the forests. As far as my information goes, we have over 106,000 miles of telegraph lines, and in each mile we have on an average 22 posts. The average price of a metal tubular pole is about Rs. 20-8-0. Timber poles are very much cheaper, and so far as I have been able to find out, their prices are as noted below :

Chir poles, 14 to 16 ft. long and 5 to 5½ in. in diameter at Rs. 1-4-0 each at Sihala railway station near Rawalpindi.

Chir poles, 14 to 16 ft. long and 6 to 8 in. in diameter at Rs. 1-8-0 at Sihala railway station.

Chir poles, 18 ft. long and 6 in. and over in diameter are sold at Rs. 1-8-0 to Rs. 1-10-0 at Nagrota station (Kangra Valley Railway).

Sal poles, 18 ft. long, 6 in. bottom diameter, 4 in. at 16 ft. and 3½ in. on top are Rs. 1-9-0 at Dehra Dun station.

Sal poles, 14 to 18 ft., 6 in. diameter at the bottom and tapering to 4 in. at 16 ft., then to 3½ in. at 18 ft., respectively, are 10 to 12 annas at Sheramon station (Rohilkund and Kumaon Railway).

Central Provinces *teak* poles, 18 ft. long and 5 to 6 in. in diameter are Re. 1 and Rs. 1-4-0 in the Central Provinces.

[Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Saran Das.]

Central Provinces *teak* poles, 18 ft. long and 6 to 7 in. in diameter are Rs. 1-4-0 and Rs. 1-8-0 in the Central Provinces.

These rates are in quantities of a full railway wagon load, but a reduction of 10 to 15 per cent. may be anticipated if they are obtained in large quantities from the Government Forest Department or big forest contractors. As regards poles in Burma, I have no quotation but I understand that they are available for about Rs. 6 each. Sir, in Kashmir, timber poles are in use on the line from Domel to Srinagar, and we find that there timber poles have done very well, except that some trouble was experienced with the portion of the pole which is embedded in the earth and replacements were required for that reason after 15 years' use. But in these times when science has made such progress, many methods have been devised to protect timber from the effects of soil and white ant depredations and other things. I understand that the Railway Department have succeeded in creosoting sleepers of soft timber and these are now being used on an increased scale. In case, however, this is a serious difficulty in the way of replacing metal with timber poles, I would suggest that that portion of the poles which is buried in the soil, be chemically treated with either creosote or something else. If that is not possible then I would suggest that the bottom portion for timber poles be of cast-iron, as is in the case of the metal poles. Sir, in this way we shall be able to effect a great saving. A point can be raised that timber poles are heavy and the cost of carriage will come to a good bit. As far as that point is concerned, I might mention that almost all over India, barring Rajputana and Sind, we have got very good forests near by. We have forests starting from Peshawar right round to Patna and we have timber suitable for poles in the near hills, and if arrangements are made so that the supply can be procured at certain points alongside the railway line, great economy can be effected. My Resolution does not mean that metal poles should be replaced by timber poles everywhere. I leave the choice to the Government. Wherever they find that my proposal leads to savings, the proposal might be adopted. As far as I understand, Sir, the Telegraph Department has not gone seriously into this question at all. If they had gone into this question, perhaps they would have adopted the proposal which I now put forward in my Resolution long ago. All over the Continent of Europe I am told that timber poles are being used. Timber poles are being even used in places where metal poles are manufactured and there is no reason why we should not use timber poles in India. The price, as I have already said, of an A. B. metal pole is approximately Rs. 20 and that of a timber pole is approximately Rs. 1-8-0 to Rs. 2. I am told that the life of a metal pole is 45 years and that of a wooden pole 15 years. Sir, that has been determined on the practical results of the bottom portion of the timber poles. If the bottom portion is treated with chemicals or are replaced by cast-iron bottoms, their life will be practically as long as that of metal poles. We see, Sir, that timber in many old buildings does survive though it has been in use for over a century. The difference in price of timber and metal is so big that the Department ought to examine this question very seriously and in case they find that they can effect a saving and also find more employment for Indian labour thereby, I would request the Government to accept my Resolution.

With these words, Sir, I commend this Resolution for the favourable consideration of the House.

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. MEHTA (Bombay : Non-Muhammadan) :
Sir, I have every sympathy with the Resolution moved by my friend, the

Honourable Lala Ram Saran Das, but I think there are very many practical disabilities in having wooden poles instead of steel poles. First of all, my friend the Honourable Lala Ram Saran Das quoted the price of several poles of different dimensions and lengths. I must inform the House and also my friend, the Honourable Lala Ram Saran Das, that tensile strength of the wooden poles is not the same as the tensile strength of the steel poles. If a steel pole is of 4 or 5 in. diameter, we require for the same strength a wooden pole of nearly double the size. Then the question of length comes in a great deal. My friend has quoted for 14, 16 or 18 ft. All these lengths are absolutely useless, because the least length that is required—and I have electrified many towns and I know it—to give proper strength for straining the copper wire on the poles, is that you must at least have 6 to 9 ft. underground. In the case of steel poles it is about 6 to 8 ft. according to the size. I cannot say with any certainty how much it would require to put wooden poles underground for that purpose. That being so, you have another 17 or 18 ft. at the least in height above the ground. Therefore the poles required are generally at least 30 ft. in length and go up to 42 or 45 ft. above. Now, my friend, the Honourable Lala Ram Saran Das, observed that compositions have been found that would save the poles from white ants and other insects. If that is not possible, he suggests the putting of cast-iron poles underground and to put wooden poles on the top. I do not think that is feasible either, because white ants and other insects in this country, being a naturally warm country, can affect the wooden parts in spite of all that you may apply to save them and the life of the wooden pole would be much less than that of steel poles. But the cost of the wooden pole is not the whole thing. There is the cost of laying the lines and the copper, and if any basement goes rot then you have to pull down the whole structure, replace the pole and get on to the whole structure above and re-line the whole line. That is far more expensive than the cost of the pole itself. I perfectly agree with my friend, the Honourable Lala Ram Saran Das, that in Europe and in England there are wooden poles to a great extent, but I may inform him why it is so. When those poles were laid steel poles were not in existence, and they are also of oak timber which is a very hard wood and the danger of white ants and other insects in Europe on account of the cold climate is far less than it is here. Still, I may inform my friend, the Honourable Lala Ram Saran Das, that when they find these oak poles going rot, they replace them now by steel poles which they find far more cheaper in the end. Now, the suggestion of my friend, the Honourable Lala Ram Saran Das, is to have cast-iron poles underground and wooden structures on the top. I do not think that also is feasible looking upon it with an engineering eye, because you have to drive the wooden pole inside the cast-iron socket and bolt it by some means. That would make the pole far weaker and it would not stand the straining of the copper wire.

THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE (East Bengal : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I accord my hearty support to the Resolution of the Honourable the Leader of my Party which has been so ably moved and explained by him for the acceptance of this House. A Resolution of this nature must meet with the approval of this House, Sir, in as much as it aims at effecting considerable economy and therefore in these days of the economy campaign and cry for retrenchment of expenditure, Government, I hope, will have no hesitation in accepting this Resolution. Moreover, if this Resolution is accepted by Government and its implications given effect to, the Indian and Burmese timber trade may shew a marked improvement because along with others there is a remarkable slump in this trade owing to the economic crisis all the world over.

[Mr. Jagadish Chandra Banerjee.]

Sir, it is not uncommon that the telegraph poles carrying wires may be of timber because I have come to learn from some of my friends that there are wooden poles in Great Britain. If in a country like Great Britain there can be wooden poles for carrying telegraph wires and if those poles can stand the cold climate of that place, then I do not see why timber poles for carrying telegraph wires in India should be unsuitable for India's climatic condition. And as regards economy, the House will certainly agree with the mover of this Resolution that if the additions to or replacements of the telegraph poles be of wood they would undoubtedly make for a great saving to the Posts and Telegraphs Department. But before I record my vote in favour of this Resolution I should like to point out one particular thing which, it seems to me, the Honourable the mover has not considered at all. In many parts of the country in Bengal, Sir, the lands are low and the country is flooded in the rainy season and remains submerged in water for about six months in the year. In these circumstances, Sir, the timber poles for carrying telegraph wires have every chance of rotting if they remain exposed in water for such a length of time in the year. Then, in that case, the timber poles will be false economy, Sir. I would, therefore, ask Government not to disturb the existing arrangements in Bengal as regards the poles and not to replace them by timber ones; but when new poles will be required either for replacements or additions, those should be purchased from the Tata Iron and Steel Company who, I think, can manufacture the materials for the poles that are required by the Posts and Telegraphs Department at cheaper rates than those of British manufacture; and tenders should be called for from Tatas before placing such orders. However, Sir, while supporting the Resolution, I would, in the name of economy and expedience, ask this House and Government to adopt it without any objection.

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. A. NATESAN (Madras : Nominated Non-Official): Sir, my Honourable friend, Lala Ram Saran Das, is such a big business man and his reputation is so well known and if I am not mistaken he has had a special training in an engineering office, that I shall with very great hesitation try to lay before him certain doubts that I have. From my very small knowledge of buildings from opportunities which I have had of considering tenders for big buildings for the Corporation of Madras and the Senate of the Madras University I can say this that it has often been pointed out to us, and I think by expert engineers and others qualified to advise us that as regards even rafters, sleepers and posts for the inside of buildings, not only from the view of economy but largely from the point of view of durability, it is better to replace timber with iron or steel. I may state at once that there are many people, at least in my own province, who when they are asked to fence their compounds—and the compounds are very big indeed—they have found from experience that timber even of the best kind is not suitable. In the first place, they perish very easily. Secondly, almost annually you have to get them painted. Now, it strikes me that my Honourable friend Lala Ram Saran Das gave the case away when he said that it might very legitimately be objected that if timber posts are to be substituted for iron posts for telegraph wires, the bottom would be eaten away and you would have to take precautions and instead of saying that a certain chemical could very easily be found to remove the defect he wants the Department to find out a certain chemical mixture which might be put over the bottom of the pole, and apart from that, as was pointed out by the Honourable Mr. Mehta, what would be the cost of having posts underground in iron or steel and then

having proper sockets to fit up these timber posts. Then he said in England and other countries timber posts are used. One explanation for that was given by the Honourable Mr. Mehta. But we must also remember that in a tropical country like India timber posts are likely to be more easily affected by the hot weather which is very predominant in this country. Now, if private landlords and others who have to do with houses and those who have had experience in giving contracts for very big buildings have been advised that in general it is cheaper to have iron posts, I should certainly hesitate before giving my vote for the Resolution.

I would also point out one thing more, that even when timber rafters are used nowadays in buildings because some people are somewhat orthodox in that way, we are asked to take particular precautions to leave a considerable amount of space in the walls on either side and to see that the timber ends on either side which are left open are painted properly from time to time. These are the difficulties which people who have to do with big buildings have experienced and as I have said before I speak with considerable hesitation on a question like this but these are the practical difficulties and if my Honourable friend Lala Ram Saran Das is able to convince me in regard to these difficulties, I shall be glad to vote in favour of his Resolution as it stands but not otherwise.

***THE HONOURABLE SIR EDWARD BENTHALL** (Bengal Chamber of Commerce): Sir, unlike one or two Members who have spoken I can claim no special knowledge of telegraph poles but it seems to me that this Resolution divides itself into three principles. It says that the poles carrying wires should be of timber, that they should be purchased in India or Burma, and that they should be of the most economical sort available. As to the question of their being purchased in India or Burma I am entirely with the Honourable mover. As to the question whether they should be timber or not, I have not made up my mind because it seems to me that this is a technical matter which should be decided by the technical experts. Nothing that I have heard has convinced me, for instance, that timber is necessarily the most economical substance. Mr. Mehta has pressed for steel. Mr. Banerjee argued for timber, I think. There is also a third possibility—that of cement poles which in certain conditions might, I think, be the most economical of all. If, however, we look closely at the Resolution it really boils down to the third principle of what is the most economical and it boils down to this, I think, that Government should buy the most economical poles possible from indigenous material: if it is timber so much the better. On that understanding, that Government should buy the most economical poles, and if that is timber then Government should buy timber poles, I see no objection to the Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. SHILLIDY (Industries and Labour Secretary): Sir, I am very grateful to the Honourable Sir Edward Benthall for elucidating this Resolution. I do not think it was entirely understood by everybody or that people had scanned it very carefully. Government have no difficulty in accepting this Resolution because it really embodies nothing more than the practice of the Department. What it says is that if timber is found to be the most economical material then use it. Well, that is exactly what we do. Where we find timber most economical we do use it. Where we find another material more economical we use that. Consequently it is only the practice of the Department which this Resolution is asking us to accept,

* Speech not corrected by the Honourable Member.

[Mr. J. A. Shillidy.]

and therefore I have no difficulty in accepting it. But, on the other hand, I should like to make it very clear I do not accept the arguments that have been put forward by the Honourable Lala Ram Saran Das. I do not think it is necessary for me to go into all his arguments. They seem to me to have been very fully discussed. The Honourable Lala Ram Saran Das gave a whole lot of figures and he suggested that the Telegraph Department had never gone into the question of cost. I can assure him that they have gone into this question and since he mentioned Kashmir, I have an estimate here showing what would be the cost of having wooden and tubular post lines from Domel to Srinagar, which is a distance of 112 miles, with a life of 15 years for timber. I may say a lot of people think that excessive and some people have put the life of timber down as low as four or five years. But even allowing for a life of 15 years, and allowing for a life of 45 years for tubular posts,—I think the Honourable Member accepted 45 years as the life of tubular posts—timber would cost us about Rs. 1,13,000 more than tubular post lines. I merely mentioned these figures as an estimate and to meet the Honourable Member's argument that we had not gone into the figures.

The Honourable Member went on to suggest the treatment of the posts. He referred to the custom of the Railway Department. He referred particularly to treatment of the ends of poles which have to be underground. I have not yet heard—I believe the Chief Commissioner will bear me out—that the Railway Department are running underground lines with wooden rails on which their trains run. And yet that seems to me to be the argument which he could make on the analogy he mentioned.

The only other point that I have got to make is with regard to his statement that timber gives large employment to many people in the forests, and, therefore, if we should use it, we should be giving help to an Indian industry. Now, Sir, we get these tubular posts from plates provided by Tatas and prepared in our workshops. That seems to me to be an Indian industry too, and I cannot see why, on the ground of helping industries we should buy timber, and not help this other Indian industry, the Tata Iron Works and our own workshops which also employ Indian labour.

Sir, there is really very little left for me to say. Honourable Members have shown themselves that the arguments which the Honourable Member puts forward in favour of timber cannot be accepted. I accept the Resolution as it stands, but I must make it clear that I cannot accept the arguments which the Honourable Member put forward to show that timber was necessarily the better and cheaper material.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS: Sir, I thank my friend the Honourable Mr. Shillidy for accepting this Resolution, though he does not feel that my arguments have much convinced him. However, my request is that the Department should go into this matter more fully than it has done in the past and in case they do so, the object underlying my Resolution will be achieved. My friend the Honourable Mr. Mehta observed that the tensile strength of the timber pole is not the same as that of steel poles. That everybody admits to be the case, size for size. He indicates that the timber pole ought to be double the size of the steel pole, but the price of even a double size timber pole is much cheaper than that of the steel pole of half the size. Then the Honourable Mr. Mehta said that wooden poles ought to be about 30 ft. long. His experience of poles for carrying electric wires is different from telegraph poles, because under the

Electricity Act, the electric poles must be much longer than the telegraph poles. As far as I understand, the telegraph poles are generally 18 ft. long.

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. MEHTA : Am I to understand 18 ft. above the ground or altogether 18 ft ?

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS : Altogether 18 ft. Then, as regards the attack of white ants on these poles and as regards their life, the Telegraph Department themselves say that as far as the timber poles in Kashmir are concerned, the replacement was due to the poles underground being affected which defect can be removed by treating chemically the bottom of timber poles or having cast-iron bottoms made for them. My friends says that this is not practicable. There I disagree with him. It is practicable, and it can be very easily done. We have oak in India and oak posts can be used where oak is cheaper.

Sir, my friend Mr. Banerjee has said that in Bengal the climatic conditions are different. Sir, I do not advocate that everywhere timber poles are to be used. I say that they must be used only where they are found to be economical. In case they are not found economical in Bengal, they need not be used there. But my friend perhaps does not know that every year there is replacement of poles for about 1,500 miles. In case I am wrong, I am open to correction.

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. SHILLIDY : We shall adopt the more economical way of replacement.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS : Certainly. That is what I expect from my Honourable friend.

My friend, the Honourable Mr. Natesan, has paid me a compliment and I am obliged to him for that. But I might assure him that the use of timber in the case of buildings is vastly different and there very much superior timber is used. There of course we have to see which of the two is cheaper, generally the use of steel beams or steel angles is cheaper than timber. Wherever wood is economical, it is being used even now.

My friend, Sir Edward Benthall, has advocated the use of cement poles wherever they are found economical. I can say that as far as cement poles are concerned, they will not be so cheap as timber poles, and besides, there is one great difficulty with cement poles that whenever there is any collision with them, they shatter up and break, reinforcement being exposed bends.

THE HONOURABLE SIR EDWARD BENTHALL : Not if they are properly made, I think.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS : I am giving my experience of the poles that were used in Lahore Cantonment, and which were manufactured under expert supervision. Whenever there was any collision with them they broke up.

THE HONOURABLE MR. H. M. MEHTA : My Honourable friend will understand that it requires iron rods binding inside the cement poles, and they are dearer if they have to be of the same tension strength as the steel poles.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA RAM SARAN DAS : I believe the Government engineers there went thoroughly into the question of these cement poles and the metal reinforcements that were put therein. I simply wanted to point out the defect with regard to concrete poles.

[Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Saran Das.]

My Honourable friend Mr. Shillidy says that in the line from Domel to Srinagar the cost of the timber poles will be much higher than that of the metal poles. That is a case, Sir, where timber can be had cheap and has not to be carried over a long distance. I wish this matter be fully re-examined. I thank my Honourable friend Mr. Shillidy and the Government for accepting my Resolution. I wish the telegraph and forest experts should go deeply into this question and adopt the course most economical.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: May I put a question?

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: You cannot put a question. If you wish to address the Council you can do so.

The Resolution before the House is:

"This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that additions to or replacements of telegraph poles carrying wires be of timber purchased in India or Burma where this would be in every way economical."

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR HAFIZ MUHAMMAD HALIM (United Provinces West: Muhammadan): Sir, I am not going to move my Resolution.*

(The Honourable Khan Bahadur Chaudri Muhammad Din, in whose name stood the next Resolution,* was absent.)

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: I would like to say a word about this Resolution. Notice was given of three Resolutions which are identical in character. Two of the Honourable Members in whose names the Resolution stood are absent and one Honourable Member has refused to move the Resolution. I may point out that Honourable Members should kindly bear in mind that Resolutions of this character involve considerable expenditure of time and trouble to the department to which it refers and it is scant courtesy to that department that when the Resolution comes up for discussion it should not be moved and no explanation given as to why the Resolution has not been moved. I would only request Honourable Members to bear that fact in mind.

RESOLUTION *RE* REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE ON THE INDIAN DELEGATION TO THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD (United Provinces Northern: Non-Muhammadan): Mr. President, I beg to move the following Resolution:

"This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council to take steps to secure that this House is adequately represented in the delegation which is to be sent out from India to sit with the Joint Select Committee of Parliament for examining the proposals for Indian constitutional reform."

*"This Council recommends to the Governor General in Council that in the gradation lists of each postal circle, the names of all the inspectors, whether employed in towns of first class head offices or in the mufasil, who from various time-scales of pay were brought on to the revised uniform scale of pay, viz., Rs. 160—10—250 by Government Order 11-P. T. E., dated the 5th August, 1927, be serially arranged strictly in order of the dates of their substantive appointment to an inspector's post prior to the revision of 1927."

Sir, it is a well-known fact that the public do not view this Council with favour, because they think that, composed as it is, this House does not voice popular opinion. On the other hand, Government do not much care about this Council, to which belief some of the non-official Members gave expression the other day, apparently because the Government are sure of a comfortable majority in this House. The non-official Members therefore feel as if they are between the devil and the deep sea. On the one hand, they are not as a body respected by the public, and, on the other hand, their claims are not infrequently ignored by the Government. Now, the question is : which of the two parties, namely, the Government and the general public, should be more regardful of the interests and claims of this House ? And I think the question admits of but one answer, and it is this. The party which is more benefited by the existence of this House should have more regard for the claims and interests of the House. And, knowing as we do that it is the Government whom this House almost always supports through thick and thin, it is up to the Government to show proper consideration for the prestige and privileges of this House. Some examples were given the other day of the fact that the Government had not in the past always shown proper consideration to this House. I may quote another instance today in support of that belief. Although the Legislative Assembly was represented at all the three sessions of the Round Table Conference, if my memory serves me right, this Council was represented only at the first two sessions and no Member of this House was selected for the third session of the Round Table Conference. Now a fresh opportunity is in sight. We know that a Joint Select Committee of Parliament is going to be constituted to examine the proposals for Indian constitutional reform, and we know that a delegation will be sent out from India to sit with that Joint Parliamentary Committee. His Excellency the Governor General in the course of his inaugural address to the Assembly last month gave an assurance that places would be found for some representatives of the Indian Legislature among the persons to be called into consultation with the Joint Select Committee ; which means that some representatives of the Indian Legislature will be included in the delegation which is to go out from India. My only request is that along with the representatives that might be selected from the Legislative Assembly for the purpose, some representatives should be selected from this House also on this important occasion. The question of the prestige and dignity of this Council is involved in this matter. It is simply in the interests of the prestige and dignity of this House therefore that I have ventured to bring forward this Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE SARDAR BUTA SINGH (Punjab : Sikh) : Sir, I think the Government will readily agree that the claims of the Council of State will be fully recognized in considering the representation of the Central Legislature to the Joint Select Committee. The Council of State represent large agricultural and industrial vested interests and deserves at least equal representation with the Legislative Assembly. I think we can safely rely on His Excellency the Viceroy safeguarding the interests of an order to which he himself belongs.

Sir, with these words I have great pleasure in supporting the Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE (East Bengal : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, in view of the fact that the demand in the Resolution of our friend, the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Jagdish Prasad,

[Mr. Jagadish Chandra Banerjee.]

is so well-grounded, so sensible and so legitimate, I will most gladly lend my unqualified support to it. Sir, when the Joint Select Committee of Parliament will examine the proposals for India's further constitutional reforms which are expected to be of far-reaching importance and consequence, it would be doing an injustice to this Honourable House, if it is not adequately and properly represented in the delegation that is to be sent out to sit with that Committee. There can be no denying the fact that the Upper House of the Central Legislature in India should have a voice in framing the future constitution of India ; otherwise what is the necessity for such a House if its opinion is not consulted in a matter that will bring in a new order of things in our country ? It will be tantamount to treating this House with scant respect if it is not properly represented in the proposed Indian delegation. In the third Round Table Conference, Sir, our House was not represented and therefore it is of the utmost necessity that the Indian delegation should consist of some representatives of this House to lay before the Joint Parliamentary Committee our views on such matters that will come up for discussion before it. Sir, the examination of the proposals for future Indian reforms would be incomplete if this House is not given its rightful place in the Joint Select Committee because of the fact that it is a representative House of the men of light and leading who have sufficient stake in the country and who by their birth, education and culture are the natural leaders of the country. I would like to remind the Treasury Bench of this aspect of the question to which I hope they will give due consideration before saying no to this Resolution. In consideration of this particular fact and in view of the importance of this House in the present constitution of India and the position the Members of this House hold in the country it is but natural that they must have a hand in the shaping of the future destiny of India. Our grievance will be aggravated if this time this House is not represented in the Indian Delegation which will sit with the Joint Parliamentary Committee. Ours is not an absurd demand, Sir. What we want our Government to do is that they should render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's.

In conclusion, I would ask this House to accept the Resolution and request Government most earnestly that they should not relegate this House to the cold shade of neglect while selecting the Indian Delegation that will sit with the Joint Parliamentary Committee.

With these few words, Sir, and fully subscribing myself to the views of the mover of the Resolution I should like to resume my seat hoping that our just demand will be fulfilled by Government.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA (United Provinces Central : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by my Honourable friend, Rai Bahadur Lala Jagdish Prasad. The meaning of the Resolution as I understand it is not that this House may be represented in a way which is comfortable to the Government. By the words "adequately represented" is meant that it should be represented by men who could put the nationalist point of view before the Joint Parliamentary Committee. Sir, here I am reminded by the definition of "statesman" and "politician" that was revealed by His Excellency the Governor of the United Provinces, in his address to the King George's Medical College the other day. But when I say that this House should be represented by a statesman, I mean to stick to the definition that we have already been following, that is, the statesman is one who keeps the cause

of the country above himself and does not think of self-aggrandizement or gaining the good wishes of the Government ; and the politician is one who is ready to sacrifice the country for the sake of his aggrandizement. So, Sir, I stick to this definition when I say that this House may be represented by statesmen who are prepared to make sacrifices for themselves in the cause of the country, and I hope that if the Government choose to recommend Members of this House they will keep this point in view and hence I whole-heartedly support the Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (Bihar and Orissa : Muhammadan) : Sir, I am not very optimistic and I am not deluding myself with the hope that the Government will ever think it proper to uplift this House in any way in the esteem of the people. I should just like to recount a short history of the representation of this House in the Round Table Conferences that have preceded this Joint Select Committee. In the first Round Table Conference this House was represented by two Honourable Members and I remember, in 1931, when I brought forward my Resolution in February about direct or indirect system of election to this House, I had to state, even in those days, that this House was not adequately represented, and my colleague, our very dear friend, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, took some exception to this. In the second Round Table Conference we fared little better. In addition to those two Members, three additional Members were selected from this House and a would-be Member of this House, Sir Edward Benthall, was also included in the list. In the third Round Table Conference after having got five Members, we all of a sudden dropped from the Government's favour and not a single Member of this House was deemed fit to sit on the third Round Table Conference. There was some resentment among the Members on this side of the House and we would have given expression to it by moving an adjournment of the ordinary business of the House, had it not been for the fact that our strength did not allow us to go in for a fight with the Government. This will show that this Resolution has not been brought in by mere whimsical fear. We have actual experience of the neglect of the Government during the third Round Table Conference and that has awakened us to see if we cannot impress on the Government the necessity of sometimes palliating this House, if not always, as they do the Assembly. I am aware, Sir, that the usual reply which used to be given during the Round Table Conference will be given now, that it is not primarily the concern of the Governor General in Council to select representatives for these Committees. Be that as it may, no one can gainsay that the advice of the Governor General in Council counts for much. It is almost 9 points out of 10, and if anything is strongly supported by the Government of India it is bound to have a strong effect in Whitehall, although technically they are not the people to select representatives, but they are advisers, whose opinion counts for much. Therefore, Sir, although I am sure the Government will in its usual way reply about this being impossible and circumscribing the choice of the Government in England, we should like to know our fate beforehand rather than be disappointed afterwards by non-inclusion.

Sir, I support the motion.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN
(Education, Health and Lands Member) : I feel, Sir,
12 Noon. unhappy hearing this debate as it has followed so soon after

[Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

the debate we had only two days ago. I have said I feel unhappy. The reason is not that the Honourable Members displayed a certain amount of activity or a certain amount of zeal to promote what they consider their privileges and rights but I very much regret that I detect a certain note of dissatisfaction in the speeches of the Members, dissatisfaction with their lot, in the assertion of their position with reference to light and leading and statesmanship and nationalism and their stake in the country. I, in my present position, Sir, being Leader of the House would be the last one in any way to challenge any one of these assertions. But what India needs today, more than ever is to level up these distinctions, if not in reality, at all events in public assertions, in places like legislatures. Such an outburst of class claims, the Honourable Members I trust will be good enough to bear in mind, is bound to annoy hundreds, thousands, millions, perhaps hundreds of millions of Indians who are not by Providence favoured to the extent to which we in this House are favoured and it is not right to go on time after time asserting that we have a stake in the country and therefore we must mould its future. Those who are not blessed with the wherewithal to have that stake do not like it and it is not wise of those who have it to always thrust it down the throats of others, and say "We have a stake and you have not". No, Sir, that is not statesmanship. I assure those of my colleagues in this House who aspire to be politicians that it is not wise on their part from their point of view to take up that attitude. Those favoured by fortune keep their advantage longest who never mention it; not those who talk a great deal about it. So, Sir, it is that aspect of the debate today and two days ago which caused me a great deal of trouble and I trust I will be able to have some talk with various Members of this House in the near future in order to assure them that as long as they do their duty as citizens of this great country and as Members of this House their rights and their privileges are absolutely safe and Government cannot possibly ignore them or overlook them and naturally would be ready to promote their interests as long as they are the interests of the country as well. But these are not methods which one need discuss at any great length.

Now, Sir, coming to this particular Resolution, I fully appreciate the desire of this House to see that the representation of India at any future meetings convened with the object of framing India's constitution should be of the best and I have no doubt to that extent it is but natural that every institution in the country should feel that they have to contribute a fair amount to the personnel of the Committee which may eventually be invited by the Joint Committee of the two Houses of Parliament. But I trust the Honourable Members will agree with me that the Joint Committee in devising means to secure the best Indian representation could not really concentrate their minds on what representation should go to our House, what representation should go to the Assembly and what representation should go to the local Legislatures, and so on, because that would not be the right way to set about it. Then there may be interests or at all events schools of thought which are outside this House. One of the Honourable Members said if Government is to select a representative of this House, they should select a Nationalist. Well, Sir, if by any chance the Joint Committee entrusted the work of selection of a Nationalist to represent the Council of State to my humble self I very much doubt whether I would be prepared to undertake that onerous duty. Even if I took time to think over the matter—whether I would be able to discharge that onerous duty, and took all the Members of this House into my confidence,

do you think I would get much help out of my colleagues to find out the best Nationalist to represent this House? I doubt very much. Some Honourable Members may be self-sacrificing enough to say that they want the best Nationalist who in the ordinary parlance has sacrificed his all to do what that school of thought imagines is serving the country. I am afraid I and most of my colleagues would stand a very poor chance of being selected. There are many more difficulties in the way. The task of selection is by no means easy. Still I trust when Members think deeply over these particulars, they will realise that it is one thing to desire a suitable representation and another thing to suggest a way in which the selection could possibly give satisfaction to all. I have seldom found any selection do that, even when it is a selection of the President of the National Congress by the Congress Committee.

Now, Sir, this Resolution I should very much have liked to proceed to accept, but it really is—and I suppose as a Resolution of this House it had to be—a recommendation to the Governor General in Council. Well, the Governor General in Council is not in the picture at all. It is true that when the Joint Select Committee desires a selection or suggestion of Indian names for the purpose, they could not very well obtain it without getting themselves into touch with the authorities here. But that will be entirely in personal relationship with the Governor General and not with the Governor General in Council. I trust the Honourable Members have realised the distinction between the two. So far as the Governor General in Council is concerned, I hope the Honourable Members will take it from me that he is in no way in the picture, and as a matter of fact this idea was expressed many times over in the other House, namely, that this is not a matter in which the Government of India is concerned or the Governor General in Council has a hand. Invitations to Indian representatives to confer with the Joint Select Committee of Parliament to examine the proposals of His Majesty's Government no doubt will be issued by the Committee itself, and as such, you will realise that the Governor General in Council is not primarily responsible for the selection of Members of the Indian Legislature.

THE HONOURABLE MR. G. A. NATESAN : Primarily ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : His Excellency, in his address to the Members of the Legislative Assembly on the 1st February, 1933, said :

“ The procedure Parliament will follow, once the White Paper has been presented, is of course a matter for Parliament itself to decide. But I have no doubt that the Secretary of State will shortly make clear the exact intentions of His Majesty's Government as regards the lines of future procedure and I am confident that places will be found for some representatives of the Indian Legislature among the persons to be called into consultation with the Joint Select Committee.”

What His Excellency the Governor General has said ought to satisfy any fair-minded person. To add to it ; certainly I consider it unfair on the part of my Honourable colleagues to expect me to do. Speaking in the House of Commons on the 22nd of February, the Secretary of State reiterated the above statement in the following terms :

“ Government's proposals would in a few weeks' time be circulated as a White Paper which would go to Select Committee empowered to confer with them. The Select Committee would be master of its own procedure and be able to present its own report ”.

[Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

This House, so touchy on points of procedure and about its own dignity and privileges, I have no doubt will appreciate the desire of the Mother of Parliaments to have the same feelings which you have inherited. So, remembering that I have nothing further to add to these two statements, what I am prepared to say is this, that a very casual glance at what has happened in the past ought to be a reminder to the Honourable Members that they should not indulge in what is called in Urdu "Kufran-i-Namat" which means—

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : We remember the last Round Table Conference.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN—
 "lack of appreciation of good fortune". What I mean is—that an elected Member of this House was in the first Round Table Conference, also in the second. There was your present President in the second Round Table Conference ; also a few elected Members whom I see seated in the House, and it would appear, Sir, that those who were not at the time Members of this House, went to the Round Table Conference and returned and found constituencies which would send them to this House thinking that they were statesmanlike people who sought to be sent up. I think Honourable Members will find that one of them, now sitting in this House, Sir Edward Benthall, went to the second Round Table Conference, and has since been found as the right person to sit with us. I have mentioned the names of five persons who attended the first and second Round Table Conferences. That is not all. Members who adorned this House in the past—the mere fact that they were not sitting then, last year or the year before does not in any way reduce the strength of my argument—those who have sat in this House or who are sitting in this House, or, if I may add to it, will sit in this House in the future have all found places at the Round Table Conference. Among those who sat in the past in this House is the Right Honourable Srinivasa Sastri. Could any one say that a more self-sacrificing patriot could have been nominated to the Conference ? Then we have Sriji Chandra Barooah. It has been said, "It is all very well ; these are the people who sat in the first and second Round Table Conferences. What about the third ?" Again and again, I am asked, "What about the third ?" Well, what about the third ? Is it alleged, Sir, that no one who was a Member of this Council was at the third Round Table Conference ? Is that the allegation ? If it is, then I must say that the memories of the Honourable Members sitting opposite are much shorter than one can expect them to be even in political life. Was not Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan a Member of this House ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Government Member.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : Was he not a Member ? And was he not at the third Round Table Conference ? I am astonished, Sir. I really feel unhappy. Are the Honourable Members going to say—

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : He was not then a Member.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : Am I not a Member of this House ? Is that the reward I am going to get for all the trouble I am taking ? Surely, that is not playing the game. No, no.

Even if I happen to be an official, Sir, I trust my non-official colleagues will not disown me on that account, as I do not intend disowning them because they do not happen to be officials. We must have mutual trust. You cannot say that the third Round Table Conference was without a Member of this House. You must be fair. In argument, if you feel that you have miscalculated, you must be generous and admit it. There is nothing more in it.

Now, Sir, as to the future, I am sure the Honourable Members will agree with me that it is not right to make divisions and sub-divisions and sub-divisions. His Excellency has promised that the Central Legislature will find representation on this occasion. Let us hope and trust that the choice falls on one of us in this House.

*THE HONOURABLE SIR DAVID DEVADOSS (Nominated Indian Christians): Sir, I rise to support the Resolution. My complaint is that there was no representative of the Indian Christians at the last Round Table Conference. During the two previous sessions, two men represented our community, but on the last occasion, there was not one to represent us. My main reason for asking for representation is that there are a number of questions affecting the community which are peculiar to themselves. In the first place, there must be freedom to profess their religion, and, in the second place, whenever occasion arises or opportunity offers, to proselytise. It is feared that these two things might be taken away from them unless they are safeguarded. There is also another thing. Foreign missionaries have been coming into this country and have been helping us in many ways, in Madras especially. Only the other day the Right Honourable Srinivasa Sastri and others bore witness to the fact that education owes a good deal to foreign missionaries. Well, would they be prevented from coming in and giving us their help? Their object may be to proselytise, but what is the real benefit which they bestow upon the country? Most of the depressed classes, men belonging to the lower orders, have been helped by these people and they now occupy good positions in life. Education is their main watchword. We want to make sure that these things are not taken away from us. Then there is another question also connected with this. The Catholics feel very strongly that their canon law should be allowed to be followed in this country. Sir, I am not sure as regards the facts, but I was told only the other day that the Advocate General of Madras gave his opinion that no foreign body could possess property in this country. Sir, I appeal to you as a lawyer that many Catholic bodies possess churches and other properties in this country, and if it is held that foreign missionary bodies—by foreign I mean not British—cannot hold property, then what is to become of all the properties that Catholic missions and Catholic bodies, French and Italian for instance, possess in this country.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: I would request the Honourable Member to restrict himself to the Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE SIR DAVID DEVADOSS: Sir, I am only referring to this to show that there are safeguards to be considered in connection with the welfare of our community and I am only emphasising my argument that

*Speech not corrected by the Honourable Member.

[Sir David Devadoss,]

these are things which have to be put before the Committee, and that is why we want proper representation at the coming Joint Select Committee which will draw up the Indian constitution. I only mention these things because, in the way things are going on, they are likely to be ignored. Sir, it is not necessary for me to make any statement which might wound the feelings of others, but these things require to be settled. Christians are sometimes looked upon as professing a foreign religion and that therefore they are not interested in the welfare of India. Sir, that is a mistaken idea. I as an Indian Christian say that the Christians are as patriotic as any other people in this country. The trouble is that sometimes people are blinded by religious fanaticism, and go so far as to say, "Those who are not with me, are against me." That is not so.

With these few words I have much pleasure in supporting the Resolution.

THE HONOURABLE MR. Y. RANGANAYAKALU NAIDU (Madras : Non-Muhammadan) : Although I am not a statesman or a great speaker, I want to express my views. Janani janmabhūmischa swargadapi gareeyasi—that is, the Mother and the Motherland are greater than Heaven itself. I am sorry the Honourable the Leader of the House confined his remarks to Nationalists. I do not make any distinction between Christians and Mussulmans and other communities. They may all be Nationalists and may desire to be represented.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA JAGDISH PRASAD : Sir, I am grateful to those of my Honourable friends who have lent their support to this Resolution. At the same time, Sir, I confess that I am a little surprised at one or two points in the Honourable Sir Fazl-i-Husain's reply. In the first part of his speech he made out that the subject-matter of this Resolution was not primarily the concern of the Governor General in Council. I am under the impression, Sir, that had the subject-matter of my Resolution not been primarily the concern of the Governor General in Council, then you, Sir, or the Governor General would have disallowed it. And since it has been admitted by you and not been disallowed by the Governor General either, I believe that the subject-matter of this Resolution is in some sense at least the concern of the Governor General in Council. Even supposing for the sake of argument that it is not primarily the concern of the Governor General in Council, the recommendations of this House being addressed to the Governor-General in Council the latter can certainly bring those recommendations to the notice of the Governor General in matters which are mainly the concern of the Governor General. So, I rely on the fact that this Resolution, if carried by the House or even if withdrawn, will be brought to the notice of His Excellency the Governor General by the Governor General in Council.

Then, Sir, I am still more surprised to find my Honourable friend the Leader of the House saying that it is not quite correct to say that this House was entirely unrepresented on the third Round Table Conference. My Honourable friend says that Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan, who was a Member of this House, attended the third Round Table Conference. But if I remember correctly, Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan was no longer a Member of this House when he was sent to the third Round Table Conference. If he was, then I will refer Sir Fazl-i-Husain to another statement he made. In reply to my question the other day he laid a statement on the table, giving the names of

those persons who were Members of this House and who were sent to the three sessions of the Round Table Conference. The statement runs as follows :

First Round Table Conference . . .	1. The Honourable Sir Phiroze Sethna.
Second Round Table Conference . . .	1. The Honourable Sir Maneckji Byramjee Dadabboy.
	2. The Honourable Nawab Sahibzada Sir Sayad Mohamad Mehr Shah.
	3. The Honourable Saiyed Mohamed Padshah Sahib Bahadur.
	4. The Honourable Sir Phiroze Sethna.
Third Round Table Conference. . .	Nil.

Mark the word "Nil." Now, Sir, may I remind my Honourable friend that this statement was laid on the table by the Leader of the House himself. If he had this point in view that Chaudhri Zafrulla Khan was a Member of the House when he was sent to the third Round Table Conference, he should have given the Chaudhri Sahib's name in this statement. I therefore think that the statement made by the Honourable Member today is simply an afterthought and is at variance with his previous statement.

I am glad, however, that my Honourable friend, Sir Fazl-i-Husain, has sounded a note of optimism at the end of his speech. He has expressed the hope that in selecting persons from the Indian Legislature for the delegation which will be sent out from India to sit with the Joint Select Committee of Parliament representation would be given to this House. In view of this statement, Sir, I think it is needless for me to press my Resolution. His Excellency the Governor General's statement in this behalf is in unequivocal terms. He said :

"I am confident that places will be found for some representatives of the Indian Legislature among the persons to be called into consultation with the Joint Select Committee".

My only request is that in case places are found for some representatives of the Legislative Assembly, the claims of this House should not be ignored, and some representatives from this House also should be selected to serve on that delegation. I hope, Sir, that this request of mine will be carefully considered by the authorities. If, however, unfortunately no one from our House is selected to serve on the delegation, then the Government will be furnishing a fresh proof to the belief which the non-official Members hold that this Council is not unoften ignored by the Government.

The Resolution was, by leave of the Council, withdrawn.

ELECTION OF FOUR MEMBERS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON EMIGRATION.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : I have to announce the names of Members nominated for election to the Standing Committee on Emigration. They are :

The Honourable Mr. G. A. Natesan.
The Honourable Mr. Bijay Kumar Basu.
The Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Saran Das.
The Honourable Mr. Mahmood Suhrawardy.

As there are four vacancies and only four candidates, I declare them duly elected.

ELECTION OF TWO NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS.

I have also to announce the nominations for election to the Standing Committee for the Department of Education, Health and Lands. They are :

The Honourable Sir David Devadoss.

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Chaudri Muhammad Din.

As there are two seats and only two candidates, I declare these Honourable Members duly elected.

STATEMENT OF BUSINESS.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN (Leader of the House) : I have only to say, Sir, that there will be no business until Monday next which is a non-official day.

The Council then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 13th March, 1933.