

16th July 1930

**THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES**

**(Official Report)**

**Volume IV**

*(7th July to 18th July, 1930)*

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**SEVENTH SESSION**

**OF THE**

**THIRD LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**1930**

*Chamber Fungayod.*



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1930**

## CORRIGENDA.

In the Legislative Assembly Debates, Simla Session, 1930—

- (1) Vol. IV, No. 3, dated the 10th July, 1930—
  - (i) page 69, line 4 from the bottom, for "catchwards" read "catchwords".
  - (ii) page 72, line 7 from the bottom, for "conceciably" read "conceivably".
  - (iii) page 91, line 14 from the bottom, for "I do not.....Resolutions" read "I do not want to read to you all the recent Resolutions".
  - (iv) page 93, line 10, for "if your please" read "if you please".
- (2) Vol. IV, No. 4, dated the 11th July, 1930, page 129, line 22, for "those are in favour" read "those who are in favour".
- (3) Vol. IV, No. 6, dated the 14th July, 1930—
  - (i) page 291, line 13, for "I am aware" read "I am not aware".
  - (ii) page 306, for the reply to unstarred question No. 53, substitute the following :—
    - " Mr. G. M. Young : (a) Yes.
    - (b) A copy of my letter, dated the 24th March, 1930, to Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava is in the Library "
  - (iii) Page 340, line 20, for "inimport-ance" read "importance".
- (4) Vol. IV, No. 7, dated the 15th July, 1930, page 464, from the first subject-heading delete the word "Ajmer-Merwara".
- (5) Vol. IV, No. 9, dated the 17th July, 1930, page 610, line 18, for "Mr. S. C. Mitra" read "Mr. B. N. Misra".
- (6) Vol. IV, No. 10, dated the 18th July, 1930, page 661, after the reply to part (c) of starred question No. 296, insert the following reply to part (d) of the same question :—
  - " (d) Certain concessions were given in the 1929 examination which was for departmental candidates only."

# Legislative Assembly.

## *President.*

*Sir*

THE HONOURABLE MAULVI MUHAMMAD YAKUB.

## *Deputy President.*

SIR HARI SINGH GOUR, KT., M.L.A.

## *Panel of Chairmen.*

MR. M. A. JINNAH, M.L.A.

MR. M. R. JAYAKAR, M.L.A.

SIR HUGH COCKE, KT., M.L.A.

NAWAB SIR SAHIBZADA ABDUL QAIYUM, K.C.I.E., M.L.

## *Secretary.*

MR. S. C. GUPTA, BAR.-AT-LAW.

## *Assistant of the Secretary.*

RAI SAHIB D. DUTT.

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 16th July, 1930.

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

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### REFUSAL OF POSTMEN IN BENGAL TO DELIVER LETTERS TO UNTOUCHABLES.

171. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government please state if they are aware that any postmen refused to deliver letters to untouchables in the Presidency of Bengal ?

(b) If the reply to part (a) be in the affirmative, where, when, in how many cases, and what are the castes of the addressees of those letters ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will the Honourable Member please refer to the Simon Report, Volume I, page 39, lines 13 and 14, and enquire wherefrom they got this fantastic information ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** Yes, Sir.

### OWNERSHIP OF SALT AT DHARSANA.

172. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government please explain why, in the Government communiqué, they declared that salt at Dharsana was not Government property, while in the latest "Report on the Administration of Salt Department of the Bombay Presidency" for the year 1928-29 at page 2, paragraph 7, it is stated "The factories at Dharsana and Chharwada at the southern end of the Gujerat Coast near Bulsar are both Government property and worked departmentally" ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** The salt manufactured at Dharsana is the property of the agarias or salt workers, though the works are the property of the Government. These works were described as departmentally worked in the Administration Report evidently in order to distinguish them from private works and works leased out as a whole by the Government. The Department control the output and the sale price at Dharsana. They also collect the price of the salt from purchasers and pay it to the agarias.

### "MURABIT" PAINT AND VARNISH.

173. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that the Alipore Government Test House issued a circular letter No. 12588, dated the 16th March, 1927, to all the dealers and manufacturers

of paints and varnishes in India, asking for the supply of samples of bituminous paint for two years exposure test ?

(b) If so, is it a fact that bituminous paint "Murabit" of Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., 137, Canning Street, Calcutta, was supplied to the Alipore Government Test House for two years' exposure test under cover of their letter No. 1458, dated the 5th April, 1927 ?

(c) If the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether any record of the examination of the test was maintained in the Alipore Government Test House ; if so, is it a fact that Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., asked for a copy of such report and offered Rs. 500 to the Government for a copy of such Report ?

(d) Is it a fact that such a copy of the Report was refused to them even after a period of two years when the exposure test was over ?

(e) Is it a fact that the Government purchased a sufficient quantity of bituminous paint "Murabit" from Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., 137, Canning Street, Calcutta, for the three years, viz., 1928-29, 1929-30 and 1930-31 ; if so, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for their such purchases ?

(f) Are Government prepared to give a certificate to Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd. ; if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a), (b), (c) and (d). The Superintendent, Government Test House, Alipore, addressed various manufacturers and importers of Paints in India, including Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., Calcutta, asking them to submit standard samples of their products for test against the Indian Stores Department specifications. The firms were informed that the standard samples would be registered and that the test results would constitute a permanent basis of reference when they were invited to tender for Indian Stores Department orders. They were further informed that detailed results of tests on standard samples would not be communicated to them, but that they would be informed in due course whether or not their samples satisfied the respective specifications, and if they failed to do so the respect or respects in which such samples failed would also be indicated.

In development of this scheme, samples of revised grades of bituminous solutions were invited in March, 1927, and Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., among others, submitted a sample of their solution in that connection in April, 1927.

A record has been maintained at the Government Test House of the examination of the samples and the general results obtained were communicated to the firms concerned, including the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., in terms of the arrangement under which the samples were invited. The latter firm asked to be furnished with a copy of the complete report stating that they were willing to pay "a fancy price, say Rs. 500, to secure the recommendatory report." They were told in reply that the sample had been examined for purely departmental purposes, that they had been informed before it was received that a detailed report would not be supplied, and that their request could not, therefore, be acceded to, in fairness to the other firms who had sent

samples at the same time and under the same conditions. They were further informed that it was open to them to submit another sample and obtain a detailed test certificate on payment of the prescribed fee. This they have not done up to now.

(e) Over the period in question the Indian Stores Department has purchased three different makes of bituminous paints and included among these three was the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works brand "Murabit". Their tender for "Murabit" bituminous paint was accepted, because the price and quality were acceptable.

(f) That a contract was placed with the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works for "Murabit" bituminous paint indicates that the price and quality were considered to be satisfactory. In such cases where price and quality are acceptable, contracts are placed to cover current demands and the question of granting certificates does not arise. The award of the contract is in itself sufficient evidence that the particular products are considered to be comparatively satisfactory.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** May I ask the Honourable Member what stands in the way of the Government Test House disclosing the result when they are prepared to pay the charges and when a test again means another two years' time ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** My Honourable friend has evidently not listened to my reply. I have pointed out that under the rules in force if this Company is prepared to pay the normal charges for such tests, the tests will be carried out and a certificate given. The Company was so informed, but up to the present time the Company has not asked for a certificate under those conditions.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** It seems the Honourable Member has not followed my question. Does he take into consideration that it will take another two years to get the same result, while this Test House is meant only to help indigenous industries ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I am not aware that it will take two years.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will the Honourable Member please enquire about this matter whether it will take another two years to come to a conclusion ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** It is open to the firm in question to make representations on that basis.

#### TENDERS FOR WHITE LEAD.

174. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that the Indian Stores Department called for tenders for the supply of "White Lead Dry" and "White Lead Stiff" in the Tender No. H.-6040, dated the 11th November, 1929 ?

(b) Is it a fact that Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., quoted Rs. 31 and Rs. 32 per cwt. f. o. r. Calcutta for "White Lead Dry" and "White Lead Stiff", respectively ?

(c) Is it a fact that Messrs. Martin and Company, Calcutta, the Managing Agents of Messrs. the Bangalore Syndicate, originally quoted

Rs. 32-4-0 and Rs. 34 per cwt. f. o. r. Bangalore, respectively, for the same articles ?

(d) Is it a fact that the tenders were opened by Mr. C. A. Williams of the Indian Stores Department and the respective rates mentioned above were read out in the presence of all the representatives of different firms on 20th December, 1929 ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons why the lower original quotations of Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., were refused ?

(f) Is it a fact that Messrs. Martin and Company, Calcutta, Managing Agents of Messrs. the Bangalore Syndicate were requested by the Indian Stores Department to resubmit their tender owing to their certain omissions in their original tender ; if so, will Government be pleased to state the reasons why the Indian Stores Department requested them to resubmit their tender by quoting lower rates than their original rates ?

(g) Is it a fact that, as per the rules for the submission of tenders, a tender is liable to be rejected for any omission on the part of the tenderer, and if so, why this rule was not applied in the case of Messrs. Martin and Company, Calcutta ?

(h) Do Government propose to enquire into the matter ; if not, why not ?

(i) Will Government be pleased to state the number of cases in which particular individual tenderers were requested to resubmit tenders on account of certain omissions in their original tenders on the part of the tenderers since the creation of the Indian Stores Department ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhole :** (a) Yes.

(b) The Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Limited, quoted as follows :

For imported white lead dry Rs. 31 per cwt. in 2 cwt. casks.

For imported white lead stiff Rs. 32 per cwt. in 56 lbs. drums.

The delivery terms were f. o. r. Calcutta in both cases.

(c) Messrs. Martin and Company, Calcutta, the Managing Agents of the Bangalore White Lead Syndicate, originally quoted as follows :

For white lead dry made in India from Indian materials Rs. 30|10 per cwt. in 2 cwt. casks.

For white lead stiff made in India from Indian materials Rs. 34 per cwt. in 56 lbs. drums.

The delivery terms in both cases were f. o. r. Calcutta and not f. o. r. Bangalore.

(d) The tenders were opened by Mr. C. A. Williams and the rates read out were those mentioned at (b) and (c) above.

(e) The reason why the rates quoted by the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works were not accepted is because theirs was not the lowest satisfactory tender. Moreover, under the rules for the supply of articles required for the public service, the Chief Controller of Stores gave preference to the Indian made white lead tendered by Messrs. Martin and Company on behalf of the Bangalore White Lead Syndicate.

(f) Messrs. Martin and Company were not asked to resubmit their tender. In their original tender they quoted prices f. o. r. Calcutta, and in these prices railway freight from Bangalore to Calcutta was calculated by the firm at public tariff rates.

The white lead stiff was purchased for the use of State Railways and would, therefore, be despatched at railway material rates. In order, therefore, to ascertain the actual cost to Government at destination, Messrs. Martin and Company were asked to quote their price f. o. r. Bangalore.

(g) The liability to rejection for omission of any tender would naturally depend upon the nature and importance of the omission. The rejection of the tender submitted by Messrs. Martin and Company would not have been justifiable.

(h) The answer is in the negative and the reason is self-evident.

(i) The Government have no information of any such cases.

#### REPORTED WHOLESALE ARRESTS IN THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.

175. \*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : (a) Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the statement of Jamiat-ul-Ulema, Hind, published in the *Tribune*, dated the 2nd July, 1930, in which it is stated that in Bannu, North West Frontier Province, " The present activities of the Jamiat-ul-Ulema have resulted in the wholesale arrests of not only volunteers but also of prominent Members, Khans of the Frontier, and of influential persons. Imams of Mosques who preach prohibition of liquor in accordance with the admonitions laid down by the Holy Quaran and the Holy Prophet, are also being arrested under section 40 of the Frontier Act. It evidently means interference in religion. Those who believe in the vitality of co-operation with Government, should take a lesson from these happenings. Even congregational prayers have been rendered impossible, for all the Imams are being arrested " ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether Imams who preach in the mosques the prohibition of liquor are arrested and imprisoned ; if so, why ; and are regular trials held in such cases ?

The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig : (a) The attention of Government has been drawn to the statement, but the allegations contained in it are not true.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : Is this statement absolutely incorrect or merely exaggerated, or may I know if any part of it is true ?

The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig : The reply we received from the Chief Commissioner was that the information was completely untrue.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : Completely untrue ?

The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig : I imagine that what he was mainly referring to was the allegation that Imams of mosques have been arrested and imprisoned for preaching prohibition of liquor. It is entirely without foundation.

## REPORT OF INQUIRY INTO THE INCIDENTS AT PESHAWAR.

176. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state when the Official Report of the Suleiman Inquiry Committee into the happenings at Peshawar is likely to be published ; and what is the total cost of the inquiry ?

(b) Why was Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya prevented from going to Peshawar to give relief to the distressed ; and under what law ? And why was the non-official Inquiry Committee under the presidency of Mr. V. J. Patel, not allowed to visit Peshawar ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) The Report was published on the 7th July. The Chief Commissioner's calculation of the cost of the inquiry has not yet been received.

(b) The Chief Commissioner considered that, in view of the conditions then prevailing in the province, the visit was likely to be prejudicial to peace and good Government and he accordingly took the necessary action under the North-West Frontier Province Security Regulations of 1922. Similar action was taken in the case of Mr. Patel's Committee for the same reason.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Are Government aware that the prohibition of entry of these gentlemen into Peshawar has resulted in one-sided evidence being placed before the Suleiman Inquiry Committee, and which to some extent vitiates the conclusions at which the Committee has arrived ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** These gentlemen were not personally acquainted with the events which took place on the 23rd April, and I do not see why the prohibition of their entry into the province should have prevented those who were acquainted with the events coming forward to give evidence.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** May I take it that this prohibition was confined only to these two gentlemen and to nobody else ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** As far as I know.

**Mr. N. G. Ranga :** In view of the fact that in that Report it is stated that some people who were slightly injured did not like to come before the Committee lest they should be charged with having something to do with the rioting, did the Government take the necessary steps to assure them that there would not be any action taken against them if they had gone before the Committee and given their evidence ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I think a definite assurance was given that nobody would be proceeded against on the basis of any evidence that he might give before that Committee.

**Mr. N. G. Ranga :** Arising out of the answer given by the Honourable Member, had they been assured that no action would be taken against them for their presence at the rioting, if they appeared before the Committee and gave their evidence ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I think an assurance to that effect was given, but I should like to have notice of that question to be able to answer it quite positively.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad :** The Honourable the Home Member said yesterday that the Report of the Suleiman Inquiry Committee would be made available to the Members of this House.....

**Mr. President :** It has been made available. We got it last night.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** I do not propose to put question No. 177.

177.\*

# NEWSPAPERS SUPPLIED TO POLITICAL PRISONERS.

178. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it a fact that in the Punjab Jails, the *Civil and Military Gazette* is supplied to some political prisoners ; the *Statesman* in Bengal and Behar and the *Times of India* in Bombay ? If so, why only these papers are supplied, and not Indian papers ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply which I gave on the 14th July to Mr. S. C. Mitra's question on the same subject.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it not within the power of the Government to call for a statement from the Local Governments to ascertain whether the statements contained in my question are correct or not ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I think, Sir, this is essentially a matter which must be left to the discretion of the Local Governments.

# DECLARATION OF THE ALL-INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE AS AN UNLAWFUL ASSOCIATION.

179. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that the Working Committee of the All-India Congress Committee was declared an unlawful association at 4 A.M., on the 30th June, and Pandit Motilal Nehru and Dr. Sayed Mahmud were arrested after 5 A.M., on the same date, under section 17 (1) of the Criminal Law Amendment Act ?

(b) Are Government prepared to publish the correspondence that passed between them, and the Government of the United Provinces, with regard to the declaration of the Working Committee of the All-India Congress Committee as an unlawful association ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) So far as the Government of India are aware, the facts are correctly stated.

(b) No, Sir.

# CONGRESS PROPAGANDA AMONGST TRANS-BORDER TRIBES.

180. **\*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government kindly state what is the evidence in support of the official statement issued by them that " it is believed that persistent propaganda among the trans-border tribes of the North West Frontier inciting them to attack British India has been instigated by Congress organisation " ?

And are Government prepared to place such materials on the table ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** The Government of India reached this view after full consideration of the information in their possession. I regret that I am not prepared at present to place that information on the table.

### COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCE FOR POSTAL EMPLOYEES IN MADRAS CITY.

181. **\*Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chettiyar :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that compensatory allowance is paid to postal officials in the selection grades in Calcutta and Bombay while it is denied to the similar class of employees in Madras City ?

(b) Is it a fact that a certain class of officials of the Local Government in Madras whose scale of pay is the same as that paid to similar employees in the mofussil get compensatory allowance on account of the costliness of living of the City ?

(c) Is it a fact that the late Member-in-charge of the Department of Industries and Labour, the Honourable Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra, replied as follows to a deputation of Postal officials of Madras at Madras City on the 19th December, 1929, which is published at page 400 of the general letter of the Madras Circle Postal Union :

"He said that a departmental committee which was once appointed by the Government of India to inquire into the question of the grant of compensatory allowances to certain classes of gazetted officers reported that there was no necessity for compensatory allowance in the case of officers serving in Madras City. When it was pointed out to him that the Local Government are granting such compensatory allowances he said that the rates of pay in the two cases were not comparable."

(d) Will Government be pleased to state when the Committee was appointed and who were the members of the Committee ?

(e) Did they visit Madras and make personal investigations as to the cost of living at Madras and compare them with the cost of living at Calcutta and Bombay ?

(f) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the Report ?

(g) With reference to the concluding portion of the Honourable Member's reply, are not the rates of pay of postal officials in Calcutta and Bombay different from the rates of pay granted to the employees of the Local Government at the respective stations and, if so, why should postal employees in Madras City alone be treated exceptionally ?

(h) Have Government reconsidered their decision, and are they prepared to grant the allowance early ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** (a) and (b). The Honourable Member is referred to the replies given by Sir Bhupendra Nath Mitra to parts (a) to (c) of Mr. Abdul Latif Sahib Farookhi's starred question No. 491 in the Legislative Assembly on the 11th February, 1929.

(c) Yes.

(d), (e) and (f). The Committee was a departmental Committee and Government are not prepared to furnish the information asked for.

(g) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, the rates of pay of postal officials in the ordinary time-scale in Madras have been fixed after due consideration of the cost of living, among other things, in that place. As regards officials



in the selection grade, their rates of pay have been fixed at an all India rate and Government do not consider that the cost of living in Madras is so much above the general average of the cost of living throughout India as to justify the addition of any compensatory allowance to these rates.

(h) No.

**CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MINT BUILDINGS POST OFFICE AT MADRAS.**

182. \***Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chettiyar** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the strength of the clerical establishment of the Mint Buildings Post Office, including the Sub-Postmaster ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Presidency Postmaster, Madras, has been sending proposal after proposal for the last two or three years to the Postmaster-General, Madras, asking for additional establishment as the work of the office has enormously increased ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Postmaster-General, Madras, has been returning such proposals each time, asking the Presidency Postmaster to submit fresh proposals ?

(d) Is it a fact that one reserve clerk and sometimes two reserve clerks have been permanently attached to the Mint Buildings for the last few years to cope with the increased work pending sanction of additional establishment by the Postmaster-General, Madras ?

(e) Are Government prepared to direct the Postmaster-General, Madras, to expedite his inquiries regarding the justification of additional establishment ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams** : (a) to (e). The necessary information is being collected and will be communicated to the Honourable Member in due course.

**CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HIGH COURT BUILDINGS POST OFFICE AT MADRAS.**

183. \***Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chettiyar** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the strength of the clerical establishment of the High Court Buildings Post Office, Madras, including the Sub-Postmaster ?

(b) Has the Director-General sanctioned that the Sub-Postmaster be placed in the selection grade ? If so, when ?

(c) Is it not a fact that the sanction has been kept in abeyance ? If so, why ?

(d) Do Government propose to give effect to the sanction early ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams** : (a) Seven, including the Sub-Postmaster.

(b) Yes, in March last.

(c) and (d). The required information is being collected and will be communicated to the Honourable Member in due course.

**CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FOREIGN MONEY ORDER DEPARTMENT IN THE MADRAS GENERAL POST OFFICE.**

184. \***Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chettiyar** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of clerks in the Foreign Money Order Department in the Madras General Post Office ?

(b) What is the average number of Money Orders disposed of by the Department every day and what is their total value ?

(c) Does not the Head Clerk check all the entries and stamps on the money orders and is he not immediately responsible for the correctness of the preparation of the amounts ?

(d) Has not the Head Clerk got to advise all the Money Orders received daily, arrange for the proper distribution of work among the staff, prepare advices of payment, and despatch of outward Money Order lists, refund statements, void statements, dispose of the innumerable correspondence received on the subject from the foreign administration, payees and various post offices in India and Burma ?

(e) Are not similar appointments in Calcutta and Bombay placed in the selection grade ?

(f) Do Government propose to raise the appointment of the Head Clerk, Foreign Money Order Department, to the selection grade ? If not, why not ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** The required information is being collected and will be furnished to the Honourable Member in due course.

#### POSTAL OFFICIALS DOING FOREIGN MAIL SORTING WORK AT MADRAS.

185. **\*Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chettiyar :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they are abolishing the Foreign Mail Division which performs sorting work of overland mails in the mail van attached to the special train running from Bombay to Madras, and if so, from what date and why ?

(b) Is it a fact that the sorting work is proposed to be done at Madras by the staff of the Madras General Post Office out of their usual office hours by payment of overtime allowance ?

(c) What is the allowance paid to postal officials in Bombay when they perform a similar class of work on foreign mail days ?

(d) What is the allowance proposed to be paid to the postal officials in Madras ?

(e) If the overtime allowance proposed to be paid to the postal officials at Madras is lower than that paid at Bombay, what is the reason for paying lower allowance at Madras ?

(f) Is the lower allowance due to lower cost of living ? If so, is the difference in the cost of living so great ?

(g) Do Government pay different rates of pie money to the telegraphists at Calcutta and Bombay owing to the difference in the cost of living ?

(h) If not, are Government prepared to pay the same rate of overtime allowance to postal officials doing foreign mail sorting work at Madras as at Bombay ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** (a) No : only a section of the Foreign Mail Division has been abolished from the 11th July, 1930, from which date the Bombay-Madras Express train is being utilised for transmission of inward foreign mails in order to accelerate the service.

(b) Yes, in respect of the sorting work of the town of Madras.

(c) and (d). Statements containing the required information are being supplied to the Honourable Member.

(e) As the overtime to be performed by the staff of Madras is expected to last only half as long as the overtime in Bombay, and as the rates of pay of the former are lower than those of the latter, the rates of overtime proposed for the Madras staff are less than the rates sanctioned for the staff in Bombay.

(f) As explained in the reply to part (e) of this question, the difference in the rates of overtime is not solely due to the difference in the cost of living in Madras and Bombay as reflected in the difference in the time-scales of pay for the two places. It is chiefly due to the difference in the duration of the overtime duties.

The last part of this question does not, therefore, arise.

(g) No, because the rates of pay of the staff concerned and the standards which determine pie money earnings are the same at both places.

(h) No, for the reasons given in my reply to parts (e) and (f).

#### LOWEST SELECTION GRADE EXAMINATION OF THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

186. \***Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chettiyar** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they intend holding the lowest selection grade examination of the Postal Department this year also and if so, when, and if not, why not ?

(b) If the examination is to be held this year also, do they propose to exempt the officials who are more than forty years old from appearing in parts 3 and 4 as was done in the first examination ? If not, why not ?

(c) Do they propose modifying the rules and the syllabus of the examination and if so, what are they ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams** : (a) Yes. Probably in December, 1930.

(b) No. The officials have had ample notice that the examination would be held yearly ; and even the older members of the staff, in whose favour a concession was allowed on the occasion of the first examination, should now have no undue difficulty in preparing for the examination which relates in the main to business with which they are familiar.

(c) The question is under my consideration.

#### CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CORRESPONDENCE DEPARTMENT OF THE MADRAS GENERAL POST OFFICE.

187. \***Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chettiyar** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of clerks in the Correspondence Department, Madras General Post Office ?

(b) Is it a fact that there is only one selection grade appointment in the Correspondence Department ?

(c) How many clerks are there in the Correspondence Departments of the Bombay and Calcutta General Post Offices and how many selection grade appointments are there in each of those offices ?

(d) Is it a fact that one single Head Clerk is in charge of the correspondence work of the offices of the two City Superintendents of Post Offices of Madras City ?

(e) Are Government prepared to consider the matter ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** (a) to (e). Necessary information is being collected and will be communicated to the Honourable Member in due course.

#### UNSUITABLE QUARTERS OF THE MINT BUILDINGS POST OFFICE AT MADRAS.

188. **\*Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chettiyar :** (a) Are Government aware that the Mint Buildings Post Office is located in an ill-ventilated and low building putting the staff to serious inconvenience ?

(b) Is there any proposal to remove the office to a better building, and if so, when ? If not, why not ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** (a) and (b). The Postmaster-General, to whom I have referred, reports that the building is neither ill-ventilated nor low and that there is therefore no proposal to move the post office to another building.

#### CONGESTED QUARTERS OF THE GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDINGS AT MADRAS.

189. **\*Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chettiyar :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the total area occupied by the different Departments of the Madras General Post Office in the Madras General Post Office buildings ? Will Government be pleased to place on the table the orders passed prescribing standard minimum space requirements for each clerk or department ?

(b) Is it a fact that judged by the above standard the space of the General Post Office buildings is insufficient ?

(c) Is it a fact that certain Departments of the General Post Office, such as Correspondence, Delivery, etc., are very congested ?

(d) What is the total area of the Correspondence Department and what is the number of clerks and menials working in the Department ?

(e) Is it a fact that all the records of the Department are kept in the Department itself ?

(f) Is it a fact that the post boxes in the Madras General Post Office are situated in a dark room in the ground floor and the officials are made to work in the Department throughout the day under electric lights and fans ?

(g) Is it a fact that some of the officials working in that Department are frequently absenting themselves falling ill ?

(h) Is it a fact that a site has been purchased for constructing Madras General Post Office buildings ; if so, when and where, and at what price ? Has the site been let out to any body ? If so when, for what rent and for what period ?

(i) Do Government propose to take steps to erect a suitable building for the General Post Office early and take immediate steps to obtain a rented building near the General Post Office to transfer some of the Departments ?

(j) Is it a fact that about a sum of Rs. 60,000 was spent last year to effect some improvements to the buildings of the Central Telegraph Office, Madras, which forms part of the General Post Office buildings and nothing has been spent for the improvement of the building occupied by the post office proper for a very long time ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** (a) 28,836 square feet plinth area. A copy of the orders prescribing, as a guide, the standard space for each postmaster, clerk and department will be sent to the Honourable Member. The standard laid down for a clerk is 75 square feet. No standard is prescribed for a Department as the size of a Department varies with its personnel.

(b) and (c). Information on these points is being collected and will be communicated to the Honourable Member.

(d) 2,240 square feet. 29 clerks and 6 menials work in that Department.

(e) Yes.

(f) The post-boxes in the Madras General Post Office are in a room on the ground floor, but the room is spacious and well ventilated. The long range of post boxes necessitates the use of electric light when work is in progress. Fans are also used for the convenience and comfort of the staff.

(g) No. Absenteeism in the Correspondence Branch is about the same as in other Departments of the General Post Office, Madras.

(h) The site known as Taylor's yard on Mount Road was purchased in 1915 for Rs. 1,31,614 for a building not only for the Madras General Post Office, but to accommodate also the Executive and Administrative offices. A portion of the site was sold to the Madras Corporation in 1924-25 for Rs. 3,438 and another portion has been let out to the Madras City Mail contractors at Rs. 219 per mensem, as assessed by the Public Works Department. The period of the lease is being ascertained and will be communicated later to the Honourable Member.

(i) The Government of India do not propose to erect a new building for the General Post Office, Madras, nor to hire a rented building until they are convinced of the necessity to do so.

(j) A sum of Rs. 56,597 was spent last year for improvement of the Instrument Room of the Central Telegraph Office, Madras. No extensive improvements are necessary to the General Post Office building, but several internal alterations have been made to meet the requirements of every Department as necessity arose.

**REFUSAL OF PERMISSION TO GHULAM KASIM KHAN, ex-NAWAB OF TANK, TO RESIDE IN THE NORTH WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.**

190. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that Ghulam Kasim Khan, ex-Nawab of Tank, District Dera Ismail Khan, North West Frontier Province, was deported during the great war ?

(b) Is it a fact that the order of deportation regarding the Nawab of Tank was cancelled several years ago by the Government of India after consulting the Chief Commissioner, North West Frontier Province ?

(c) Is it a fact that soon after the cancellation of the said order of deportation the said *ex-Nawab* wanted to go to his native place Tank and live there at his home for the rest of his life ?

(d) Is it a fact that the Government communicated to him an executive order that if he were to enter the North West Frontier Province he would forthwith be turned out of that province under the Frontier Crimes Regulations of 1901 ? If so, will Government give reasons for such an order ?

(e) Is it a fact that the said Nawab is about 60 years of age, and despite his repeated memorials to the Government of India through the Chief Commissioner, North West Frontier Province, he is not permitted to enter the North West Frontier Province and reside at Tank or Dera Ismail Khan ? If so, will Government be pleased to state the reasons for such refusal ?

(f) Are Government prepared to permit the said *ex-Nawab* to enter the North West Frontier Province and reside therein on the fulfilment of any condition or conditions ? If so, what are those conditions ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** (a) to (e). Yes. The presence of Nawab Ghulam Qasim Khan in the North West Frontier Province was considered to be undesirable.

(f) Enquiry is being made from the North West Frontier Province authorities and an answer will be given to the Honourable Member in due course.

**Maulvi Abdul Matin Chowdhury :** Why was the presence of the gentleman considered undesirable ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** Does the Honourable gentleman know the Nawab in question ? Is he acquainted with the Nawab ?

**Maulvi Abdul Matin Chowdhury :** No, Sir.

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** If the Honourable Member were acquainted with the Nawab in question, he would not have put this question.

**Maulvi Abdul Matin Chowdhury :** I want the information from the Honourable Member. Why was his presence considered undesirable ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** The presence of the *ex-Nawab* in Tank puts it within his power at any time to make the existence or at any rate the tranquil existence of the present Nawab a matter of impossibility. If he exercises all the powers that he has in that direction, he can make the present Nawab's life unbearable.

†191.\*

#### LATE ARRIVAL OF THE GRAND TRUNK EXPRESS AT THE CENTRAL STATION, MADRAS.

192. **\*Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah :** (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that the Up Grand Trunk Express almost daily arrives late at the Central Station, Madras ?

(b) Is it a fact that, as a consequence thereof, through passengers from Northern India to places south of Madras on the metre gauge section are unable to catch the Ceylon Boat Mail at the Egmore station ?

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†Not put by the questioner.

(c) Are Government aware that, even otherwise, the interval of 25 minutes between the arrival of the Up Grand Trunk Express at the Madras Central Station (8-15 P.M.) and the departure of the Ceylon Boat Mail at Egmore (8-40 P.M.) is so short that it is physically impossible for through passengers from Northern India to catch the Ceylon Boat Mail at the Egmore Station? Is it also a fact that the interval is only thirty minutes between the arrival of the Ceylon Boat Mail at the Egmore Station (7 A.M.) and the departure of the Down Grand Trunk Express from the Madras Central Station? Have the Railway Department considered the advisability of addressing the Railway Administrations concerned to allow at least an interval of two hours between the arrival or departure of the Grand Trunk Express and the departure or arrival of the Ceylon Boat Mail respectively?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** (a) I regret to say that this train is at present frequently running late, though Government are not aware of the actual number of times on which it has arrived late at Madras.

(b) Yes, frequently, as the interval between these trains at Madras is only 25 minutes.

(c) The facts are as indicated in these questions. Revised timings for the Grand Trunk Express trains are to be introduced from the 1st September and the Railway Administrations concerned will be asked to consider the advisability of extending the interval between these and the Ceylon Boat Mail trains.

#### HALT OF THE GRAND TRUNK EXPRESS AT STATIONS BETWEEN BEZWADA AND MADRAS.

193. **\*Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah :** Will Government please state if it is a fact that on the section Bezwada and Madras the Grand Trunk Express makes a halt of only a few minutes in the intermediate stations, and are Government aware that passengers are put to a lot of difficulty in getting water and refreshments from the platforms? Have the Railway Department considered the question of arranging for the halts to be longer, especially at breakfast, lunch and dinner times?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** Between Bezwada and Madras the majority of the halts made by the Up and Down Grand Trunk Express trains are limited to a few minutes and it is no doubt correct that passengers experience difficulty in getting water and refreshments during such halts.

Revised timings for these trains are to be introduced from 1st September and the Agent of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway will be asked to see what can be done to improve conditions in this respect.

#### RUNNING OF A THROUGH TRAIN BETWEEN DELHI AND MADRAS.

194. **\*Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah :** (a) Will Government please state if they are aware that the through route between Northern and Southern India has become very popular and that consequently there is a lot of overcrowding in the through carriages? Have Government considered the question of the advisability of running a through train from Delhi to Madras and *vice versa* instead of running only two through carriages?

(b) Are Government prepared to issue instructions to the Railway Staff to see that the through carriages contain only through passengers?

(c) Have Government considered the question of the advisability of providing intermediate accommodation also on the through carriages ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** (a) Government are not aware that these through carriages are generally overcrowded, but as these trains are to be run as through trains between Delhi and Madras from the 1st September the number of through coaches will then no longer be limited to two as at present.

(b) I am afraid it is not practicable to prohibit local passengers from finding accommodation in the through carriages when they are not fully occupied.

(c) Intermediate class through tickets cannot be issued for this train as intermediate class tickets are not sold on the Nizam's State Railway which forms a portion of this route.

#### PROVISION OF BUFFET CARS IN THE GRAND TRUNK EXPRESS.

195. **\*Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah :** Have Government arranged for the provision of buffet cars in the Grand Trunk Express for the convenience of the long distance passengers who are mostly Indians, just as they have done on the Lahore-Delhi section ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** A dining car for Indians is run on this train on the North Western Railway and an ordinary restaurant car on the South Indian Railway. The Agents of the Great Indian Peninsula, Nizam's State and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railways will be asked whether it will be possible to run a buffet car on this train over their lines.

#### OVERCROWDING OF THROUGH THIRD CLASS CARRIAGES BY INDIAN SEPOYS.

196. **\*Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah :** (a) Are Government aware that the through third class carriages are often overcrowded with Indian sepoys on their seasonal moves ?

(b) Have Government considered the question of providing them with separate compartments so as to relieve the congestion in the ordinary through third class carriages ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** (a) No.

(b) With the present arrangement of only two through coaches, it is not possible to reserve any of the accommodation therein for sepoys. From the 1st September when the whole train will run through between Madras and Delhi it should not be necessary to reserve special accommodation for sepoys.

#### PROVISION OF BETTER TYPE CARRIAGES FOR THROUGH SERVICE IN THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA AND SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAYS.

197. **\*Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah :** Are Government prepared to instruct the Madras and Southern Mahratta and South Indian Railway authorities to provide a better type of carriage for the through service than they do at present ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** It is understood that of the through coaches required for the present service those provided by the Nizam's State Railway are not in very good internal condition, and the Agent of that Railway has been asked whether he can replace them with better ones.



**CARRIAGE OF MAILS BETWEEN NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN INDIA BY THE THROUGH RAILWAY ROUTE.**

198. **\*Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah :** Will Government be pleased to state if it is proposed to carry the mails between Northern and Southern India by the through route, instead of by the Bombay route as at present done ? If so, when ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** Yes. Steps are being taken to carry mails by the "through route" from February, 1931.

**INDIANISATION OF THE SUPERIOR STAFF OF THE IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.**

199. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether any correspondence has passed between the Government and the Imperial Bank of India or whether Government have ever issued any instructions regarding Indianisation of the superior staff of the Bank ?

(b) If so, will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to lay on the table copies of such correspondence or instructions ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** No official correspondence has passed on this question between the Government and the Imperial Bank, and I would remind the Honourable Member that the Government have no official status for interfering in the internal administration of the Bank. At the same time I may inform him that I have taken frequent opportunities of discussing the question with the Managing Governors, and after the debate in this House during the last Delhi Session on the Bill brought forward by Mr. B. Das, I specially wrote to one of them forwarding a copy of the official Report and calling his special attention to the points raised and to the sentiments which I had expressed in the course of the debate. I am satisfied that the responsible authorities are making a genuine endeavour to instal Indians in positions of trust in the Bank.

**APPOINTMENT OF MUSLIMS TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE VICEROY.**

200. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) What is the total strength of the clerical establishment in the office of the Private Secretary to H. E. the Viceroy ?

(b) How many of them are Muslims ? If none, why not ?

(c) Are candidates recruited in that office through the Public Services Commission ?

(d) Are not qualified Muslims available for the office of the Private Secretary to H. E. the Viceroy ?

(e) Have Government considered the question of the desirability of appointing qualified Muslims in that office ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) Fifteen.

(b), (d) and (e). There are no Muslims in the office at present. The Honourable Member will no doubt realise that in a small office vacancies occur infrequently, and in this office there has in fact been no vacancy since 1926, when the Government of India took up the question

of Muslims in the Secretariat offices. I understand that when a suitable vacancy occurs, the head of the office will consider the claims of Muhammadan candidates.

(c) No.

†201.\*

#### RESTORATION OF STIPENDS TO MEMBERS OF THE CARNATIC FAMILY.

202. \***Mr. M. K. Acharya** : Will Government be pleased to say what action they have taken or propose to take on the Resolution adopted by this House last January, on the subject of restoration of Carnatic stipends ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell** : I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer given by me in the House on the 14th instant to a question on the same subject by the Honourable Maulvi Mohammad Shafee Daoodi.

#### EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SANITATION OF AJMER-MERWARA AND DELHI.

203. \***Rai Sahib Harbilas Sarda** : (a) Is it not a fact that the Government of India are responsible for the education, health and sanitation of the provinces of Ajmer and of Delhi ? Is it a fact that both of them, containing almost equal populations, are under the direct administration of the Government of India ?

(b) Is it a fact that there is only one District Board in the Province of Ajmer-Merwara and one in Delhi ?

**Sir Frank Noyce** : (a) and (b). Yes.

#### GRANTS GIVEN TO THE DISTRICT BOARDS OF DELHI AND AJMER.

204. \***Rai Sahib Harbilas Sarda** : (a) Is it a fact that the annual income of the District Board, Delhi, is Rs. 90,000 while the Government have given it (recurring and non-recurring) grants :

in 1926-27 of Rs. 9,47,270,

in 1927-28 of Rs. 1,88,431,

in 1928-29 of Rs. 1,35,579,

in 1929-30 of Rs. 1,54,811,

while to the District Board of Ajmer with an average annual income during the last four years of about Rs. 85,000, Government have given

in 1926-27 only Rs. 17,000,

in 1927-28 only Rs. 29,250,

in 1928-29 only Rs. 25,750,

in 1929-30 only Rs. 25,750,

or in other words while to the Delhi District Board, Government have given from 150 to 175 per cent. of its own income as grant, they have given only 29.5 per cent. as grant to the Ajmer-Merwara District Board ?

(b) If so, will Government state their reasons for this differential treatment, stating if the requirements of the two provinces are different, what are those differences which entitle the Delhi District Board to earn such a large grant as Rs. 1,55,000 while Ajmer gets only about Rs. 24,500 a year ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) The average annual income of the District Board of Ajmer is over Rs. one lakh, not Rs. 85,000, but the other figures given by the Honourable Member regarding the District Board of Ajmer are approximately correct. The figures he has given regarding the income of the District Board, Delhi, and the Government grants made to it, have had to be referred to the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, for verification.

(b) Pending receipt of the information called for from the Chief Commissioner, I am not in a position to reply to the point raised. On the assumption that the figures for Delhi are approximately correct, I may, however, suggest that though it is not easy to compare the relevant needs of two distinct areas, it is not unnatural that the District Board of the district which contains the Capital of the country should receive the larger grants from Government.

**Rai Sahib Harbilas Sarda :** The annual income of the District Board in question given in my question is Rs. 85,000 and the Honourable Member said that this income is over rupees one lakh. Is it not a fact that the rupees one lakh includes the Government grant also, while the figure of Rs. 85,000 given in the question gives the income of the District Board exclusive of the Government grant ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** The figures which were given, Sir, were obtained from the Chief Commissioner. I will verify the point raised by the Honourable Member and let him know the result.

#### LACK OF GRANTS GIVEN TO THE AJMER MUNICIPALITY.

205. **\*Rai Sahib Harbilas Sarda :** Is it a fact that the Government of India have, during the four years 1926-27 to 1929-30, given from Central revenues Rs. 8,15,489 as recurring and Rs. 78,891 as non-recurring grants to the Delhi Municipality, while not a rupee has been given as a recurring or non-recurring grant to the Ajmer Municipal Committee for the same purposes as those for which grants have been given to the Delhi Municipal Committee except Rs. 25,000 a year given to the Ajmer Administration for primary education in urban and rural areas of the province ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** The figures relating to grants to the Delhi Municipal Committee have been referred to the Chief Commissioner for verification. The statement in the last part of the question as to grants to the Ajmer Municipal Committee is correct.

#### DEPLORABLE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF AJMER AND BEAWAR DUE TO LACK OF GOVERNMENT GRANTS.

206. **\*Rai Sahib Harbilas Sarda :** (a) Are Government aware of the abnormal death rate in the Ajmer Municipal area, as evidenced by 448.5 babies out of 1,000 dying in the first year of birth, and of the fact that the Ajmer Municipal Committees are unable to make proper arrangements for the sanitation and health of the citizens of Ajmer ?

(b) Will Government give reasons why, when they grant to the Municipal Committee of Delhi about Rs. 2½ to 2¾ lakhs a year they grant practically nothing to the Ajmer Municipal Committee ?

(c) Are Government aware that Government's not taking immediate measures to remedy the deplorable sanitary and health conditions of Ajmer and Beawar is adding to the dissatisfaction and discontent of the people of these places ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Government are aware of the high death rate in Ajmer municipal area, to which the Honourable Member refers ; and think that it may be attributed in part to the fact that the Ajmer Municipality have apparently not been able in the past to allot sufficient funds for public health schemes.

(b) An enquiry has been made from the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, as to the amount of the grants made annually to the Municipal Committee of Delhi. With regard to such grants to the Ajmer Municipality, I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the reply given by me on the 17th February, 1930, to parts (c) and (d) of his question No. 318, in which it was explained that as part of the programme for medical and public health improvement in areas directly administered by the Government of India the Standing Finance Committee had approved on certain conditions of a grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,55,000 to the Ajmer Municipality for the improvement of sanitation in Ajmer. Owing to severe financial stringency it has not been found possible to make any such provision in the budget estimates of the current year, but the question of including provision for the purpose in the budget for 1931-32 will be duly considered.

(c) As I informed the Honourable Member last February, the Government of India are alive to the necessity of remedying defects and deficiencies in the public health conditions of Ajmer, and hope that when such deficiencies have been removed, any discontent which may at present exist on the subject will also be removed.

**Dr. Nand Lal :** May I ask whether Government have ever appointed or deputed an expert staff proficient in the efficient treatment of children's diseases, in order to drive out this malady ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** Which malady ?

**Dr. Nand Lal :** So far as the excessive death rate of boys is concerned (Laughter.) (*Cries of "No, no."*), that is due to the malady which is specially concerned with the babies—I mean the excessive death-rate as the result of those maladies, those diseases which are peculiar to children, boys and babies ? The question I ask is, have Government yet kindly deputed or appointed any expert to drive out those maladies and diseases which attack these poor boys as their victims ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** The Indian Research Fund Association is employing an expert on questions of this kind. I am not yet aware how far the results of that work have been applied to Ajmer.

#### LEGALITY OF ORDINANCE III OF 1930.

\***Mr. Abdul Haya :** (a) Are Government aware that the Lahore High Court Bar Association has expressed an opinion that Ordinance No.

III of 1930 is inexpedient and *ultra vires* ? (Vide page 3 of the *Tribune*, dated the 3rd July, 1930.)

(b) Have Government since then referred the matter to their Law Officers and obtained their opinion ? If so, with what result ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) and (b). As the Honourable Member is no doubt aware, the matter is now *sub judice*.

#### RESTORATION OF STIPENDS TO MEMBERS OF THE CARNATIC FAMILY.

208. **\*Mr. Abdul Qadir Siddiqi :** Will Government be pleased to state what action was taken on the Resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly in the last Delhi Session regarding the restoration of stipends to the members of the Carnatic family ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell :** I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer given by me in the House on the 14th of this month to a question on the same subject by the Honourable Maulvi Mohammad Shafee Daoodi.

#### NUMBER OF MUSLIM STUDENTS AND STAFF IN THE LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL, NEW DELHI.

209. **\*Mr. Abdul Qadir Siddiqi :** (1) Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Muslim and non-Muslim students in the medical classes and F. Sc. classes, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi ;

(b) the total number of students, Muslims and non-Muslims who have obtained M. B. B. S. degree from the Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi ; and

(c) the total number of Muslim and non-Muslim members of the staff of the Lady Hardinge Medical College, including subordinates ?

(2) Is it a fact that the number of Muslim students in the Lady Hardinge Medical College is extremely small ? If so, have Government taken any steps to increase the number ?

(3) Are Government prepared to consider the desirability of reserving some seats and scholarships for Muslim students and to provide other suitable facilities to increase their number in the Lady Hardinge Medical College ?

(4) Are Government prepared to appoint suitable Muslims when vacancies occur in the Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi, to remove communal inequality ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** With your permission, Sir, I shall answer questions 209 to 211 together. I regret that I cannot at the moment supply the information for which the Honourable Member asks, but it has been called for and will be supplied to him later. When it is available, Government will consider the suggestions which the Honourable Member has made.

NUMBER OF STUDENTS DISCHARGED FROM THE LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE, NEW DELHI.

†210. \***Mr. Abdul Qadir Siddiqi** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state how many students were discharged from medical classes and F. Sc. classes in the Lady Hardinge Medical College during the current session, and how many of them were Muslims ?

(b) Will Government please state the reasons for discharge from the classes in each case ?

(c) Are Government prepared to readmit the students so discharged ?

DISCHARGE OF A MUSLIM GIRL STUDENT FROM THE LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE, NEW DELHI.

†211. \***Mr. Abdul Qadir Siddiqi** : (a) Is it a fact that, a Muslim girl, K. Fatima was admitted in the Lady Hardinge Medical College, after due formalities and that she was reported to be doing her best in February, 1930 ?

(b) Will Government state if she was discharged and if so, why ?

(c) Have Government considered the desirability of her readmission ?

APPOINTMENT OF ACCOUNTANTS ON RAILWAYS.

212. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra** : (a) Is it a fact that some training class students have been posted as officiating junior accountants in the Accounts Department of the Eastern Bengal Railway very recently, though there are some fully qualified clerks on the East Indian Railway who have not been given any chance ? If so, why have their cases been overlooked ?

(b) Is it a fact that a certain number of the posts of junior accountants are held by such unqualified men—who could not even pass Part I of the S. A. S. Examination—though there are qualified clerks who have passed Parts I and II who are working as clerks on very low pay ?

(c) What is the procedure in the Audit Department in such cases, and is the same procedure followed in the Accounts Department ?

(d) Are the posts of accountants and accounts officers (in the Accounts Department) treated as an all-India service, or are they treated as a local service ? Are there any rules framed by Government ? If so, will Government be pleased to lay a copy of those rules on the table ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons** : (a) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, there is at present only one fully qualified clerk on the East Indian Railway who is not working as an Accountant, but it is expected that he will get a chance very soon to do so. He has therefore not been transferred to the Eastern Bengal Railway.

(b) Men who have passed the Training Class Examination are qualified to officiate as junior accountants.

(c) The Audit Department had no special Training Class.

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 209.

(d) They are treated as a Local service. The rules framed by Government and approved by the Standing Finance Committee for Railways are in the Library of the House.

**TENDER FOR RED PAINT ACCEPTED BY THE INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT.**

213. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the Indian Stores Department in Tender No. H-6040, dated the 11th November, 1929, asked for quotations as item No. 87 a substance "Red anti-corrosive suitable for painting corrugated sheets" ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Indian Stores Department accepted the tender of a proprietary article "Corrugal" against the said item ?

(c) Is it a fact that on an inquiry from Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., 137, Canning Street, Calcutta, about the specification for the said item No. 87 the Indian Stores Department informed them that it is the same substance as "Red Oxide" to I. S. D. specification ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether "Corrugal" which has been purchased against the said item No. 87 is of the same specification as "Red Oxide" to I. S. D. specification ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) Yes.

(b) The Indian Stores Department invited tenders for the substance mentioned in (a) (of the question) and called for prices for any quantities up to 500 cwts. and between 500 and 1,000 cwts. One of the tendering firms quoted alternative prices for the brand of anti-corrosive paint known as "Corrugol". Two indentors specially asked for this particular brand as they had found by experience that it gave the most satisfactory service. To meet the special requirements of these indentors 33 cwts. of "Corrugol" was accepted and the balance of the demand amounting to 600 cwts. of red oxide paint was placed with a tenderer who submitted the lowest satisfactory tender.

(c) Yes.

(d) It has been explained in answer to (b) that only a comparatively small quantity of "Corrugol" was purchased to meet the special requirements of two indentors. "Corrugol" does not conform to the Indian Stores Department specification for red oxide paint.

**TENDER FOR PAINT REMOVER ACCEPTED BY THE INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT.**

214. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the Indian Stores Department called for tenders for 6,000 gallons "Paint Remover free from Alkali" in their tender No. H-6040, dated 11th November, 1929 ?

(b) Is it a fact that Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Limited, quoted their proprietary article "Mura Paint Di-Solve" at Rs. 5-8-0 per gallon ?

(c) Is it a fact that the said "Mura Paint Di-Solve" was tested by the Alipore Test House and was awarded a certificate on the 31st May, 1929 ?

(d) Is it a fact that the said "Mura Paint Di-Solve" is an article manufactured by Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd.,

which is wholly an Indian concern with Indian management, with Indian capital and labour ?

(e) Is it a fact that the Indian Stores Department accepted the tender of "Salvoid" as a substitute for the "Paint Remover free from Alkali" ?

(f) Is it a fact that the said "Salvoid" is an imported foreign proprietary product ?

(g) Is it a fact that this "Salvoid" is purchased by the Indian Stores Department at Rs. 7 (Rupees seven) per gallon ?

(h) If the answers to the parts (a) to (g) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the reasons why only 41 gallons of "Mura Paint Di-Solve", an approved indigenous product, was purchased and the supply of the remainder of the 6,000 gallons of the Paint Remover tendered for was given to the tenderer who quoted a foreign imported article at a considerably higher rate ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) The Indian Stores Department invited tenders on the date mentioned for "Paint Remover (caustic soda solution is not required)." The invitation to tender called for prices for any quantities up to 4,500 gallons and between 4,500 and 6,000 gallons, that might be demanded during the period from the 1st April, 1930, to the 31st March, 1931.

(b) Messrs. the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works, Ltd., quoted for their proprietary preparations called "Mura Paint Di-Solve" as follows :

	Up to 4,500 gallons.	Between 4,500 and 6,000 gallons.
	Per gallon. Rs. A. P.	Per gallon. Rs. A. P.
(a) in one gallon tins ..	5 12 0	5 12 0
(b) in two gallon cases ..	5 10 0	5 10 0
(c) in five gallon drums ..	5 8 0	5 8 0

(c) Yes.

(d) This is believed to be the case.

(e) The Indian Stores Department accepted the tender for "Solvoid", not as a substitute, but because this preparation fully satisfied the requirements.

(f) Yes.

(g) The Indian Stores Department accepted the tender for "Solvoid" at Rs. 7 per gallon in one or two gallon tins.

(h) At the time of awarding the contracts the total demands received for paint remover, by the Chief Controller of Stores, from indenting officers amounted to 841 gallons. Of this quantity, 41 gallons was placed with the Murarka Paint and Varnish Works for "Mura Paint Di-solve". The balance of 800 gallons was required by a particular indenter who had indented specifically for "Solvoid". The Indian Stores Department represented to the indenter that "Mura Paint Di-Solve" could be purchased at a lower price. The indenter was asked if he would accept this preparation, but he was unable to agree to accept any brand of which he had no experience in practical use



and insisted on the supply of a brand which had been tested, tried and found satisfactory in actual service.

The Superintendent, Government Test House, has reported that "Solvoid" is superior to "Mura Di-Solve" as a paint remover.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OFFICES.

215. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra** : (a) Will Government please state whether the instructions issued by them regarding communal representation in the Government of India offices apply also to departmental examinations and promotions ?

(b) If the reply to part (a) be in the affirmative, how do Government justify their policy under section 96 of the Government of India Act which lays down that no one shall be debarred from holding any post under the Crown in India by reason of his creed, caste or colour ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : (a) The instructions referred to by the Honourable Member do not apply to departmental promotions.

(b) Does not arise.

**Dr. Nand Lal** : May I ask, Sir, whether this policy, which is practically based on communalism, is not detrimental to the purity of administration ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : No, Sir. The view of the Government of India is that it is desirable that, as far as possible, all communities should receive a reasonable share in the administration.

**Dr. Nand Lal** : That is quite true : but will the Government of India be also pleased to look to the purity of administration, which is of vital importance to every good government ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : I do not understand, Sir, how any question of the purity of administration arises. The Honourable Member might perhaps raise a question of the efficiency of the administration. So far as that is concerned, the Government take steps to satisfy themselves that persons are not admitted to the public service who are not, in their opinion, efficient.

**Dr. Nand Lal** : May I give a personal explanation, Sir. The purity is the result of the efficient Government.

**Mr. President** : Order, order. No explanation is required.

CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE INDIA OFFICE AND THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR INDIA.

216. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra** : (a) Will Government please state the strength of the clerical establishments of the India Office and of the office of the High Commissioner for India ?

(b) What are the different grades and the rates of pay ?

(c) What is the system of recruitment as regards these establishments ?

(d) What is the number of Indians holding appointments in the clerical establishments ?

(e) Are Indians given any preference in the matter of recruitment of personnel for the clerical establishment ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) The total number of the clerical staff including shorthand-typists, typists and comptometer operators actually serving in the High Commissioner's Office on the 1st April, 1930, was 260.

(b) A statement showing the grades and rates of pay is placed on the table.

(c) Government understand that the High Commissioner maintains a list of candidates who apply for appointments in his office and makes a selection from that list to fill each vacancy as it occurs.

(d) The number of clerical appointments in the High Commissioner's Office held by Indians, including Anglo-Indians, on the 1st January, 1930, was 49.

(e) It is understood that the High Commissioner fills the majority of vacancies occurring in his clerical establishment by the appointment of Indians.

Government have no information about the clerical establishment of the India Office.

*Statement showing the grades and rates of pay of the clerical establishment of the Office of the High Commissioner for India in London.*

Higher Clerical Officers	..	..	£300—15—400 a year.
Clerical Officers :			
(i) Men	..	..	£60 a year on entry, rising to £80 a year at the age of 18 ; thence by £5 to £100 ; thence by £10 to £120, thence by £15 to £150 ; thence by £10 to £250. (Efficiency Bar, £180).
(ii) Women	..	..	£60 a year on entry, rising to £80 a year at the age of 18 ; thence by £5 to £120 ; thence by £7-10s. annually to £180. (Efficiency Bar £135.)
Superintendents of Typists	..	..	£150—£7-10s.—£180.
Shorthand typists	..	..	28s.—2s. 6d.—46s. a week.
Typists	..	..	22s. a week from age of 18 to 19 ; 24s. at 19 ; 26s. at 20 ; 28s. at 21 (or over in case of entrants over 21) ; and thence by increments of 2s. to 36s. a week.

The temporary staff is on weekly rates of pay, which, on 1st April, 1930, varied between 28s. 8d. and 102s. 9d. a week according to the grades and ages of the incumbents.

*Note 1.*—The permanent staff is in addition entitled to the Civil Service Cost of Living Bonus.

*Note 2.*—Members of the establishment of Indian domicile, whose basic salary does not exceed £400 a year, receive also an overseas allowance of £50 a year. This allowance is not, however, admissible to a temporary clerk of limited tenure.

**PAY OF MECHANICAL TRANSPORT AND SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT CLERKS.**

217. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that there are at present two different cadres of Mechanical Transport and Supply and Transport clerical establishments ?

(b) If the reply to (a) be in the affirmative, will Government please state their scales of pay ?

(c) Is it also a fact that some years ago both were in one cadre ? If so, what was the scale of pay before separation ?

(d) Is it a fact that the nature of duties and qualifications required for admission to both the services are identical ?

(e) Is it a fact that the scale of pay of the Mechanical Transport clerks was increased after separation but the question of improving the pay and prospects of Supply and Transport clerks is still under consideration ?

(f) When did the Government receive the last memorial from the Supply and Transport clerks, and what decision, if any, has been arrived at on it ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** (a) Yes. The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given on the 21st March last to part (a) of unstarred question No. 269.

(b) The scale of pay for both cadres is the same, namely :

Upper Division—Rs. 125—10—325—25½—375, with efficiency bars at Rs. 225 and 325.

Lower Division—Rs. 50—4—90—3—150, with efficiency bars at Rs. 90 and 120.

(c) The answer to the first part is in the negative. The second does not arise.

(d) Yes.

(e) In view of the answer to part (c), this does not arise.

(f) The last memorial was received in June, 1930. The question of uniform scale of pay for clerks of all military services in India is under consideration.

#### CONDONATION OF A BREAK IN SERVICE FOR PENSION.

218. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the temporary service rendered by a clerk in the Military Accounts Department during the Great War counts for pension, if no gratuity was received for it and if it is followed by pensionable service in another Government Department ?

(b) Does the same service also count for pension if followed by service in another Government office, not *immediately* after discharge from the Department, but after one or more short breaks ? If so, what is the authority for it ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) and (b). The answers to both parts of the question are in the negative in the sense that temporary service does not as of right count towards pension under the rules in the Civil Service Regulations, except according to the provisions of Article 370 in cases where the service has been rendered in an appointment which is subsequently made permanent on the same establishment. As, in the Military Accounts Department, temporary appointments created in the War have not been made permanent, the principle laid down in Article 370 does not apply. At the same time the Government of India have discretion, in individual cases, to allow temporary service to count for pension under Article 361A of the Civil Service Regulations and to condone interruptions of service under Article 422 of the same Regulations.

## CONDONATION OF A BREAK IN SERVICE FOR PENSION.

219. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra** : (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact :

- (i) that as a result of the Report of the Inchcape Committee, certain temporary clerks in the Government of India offices were retrenched and that some of them were re-appointed later after *short breaks* in service ?
- (ii) that Government granted special leave up to some specified period to those retrenched temporary men who had put in *more than four years'* continuous temporary service at the time of retrenchment and that that period, although without any appointment, was not considered a break in service ?
- (iii) that, among others, a temporary clerk in the Department of Education, Health and Lands whose service was *less than* four years in the Department when he was retrenched was enabled to avail himself of the leave concession by the break between his service in that Department and some other previous service elsewhere being *condoned* ?

(b) If the reply to part (iii) above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether the breaks in the service of other clerks referred to in (i) above (between retrenchment and reappointment in another permanent vacancy) has been condoned generally to enable all of them to count their temporary or officiating service before the break for the purposes of leave and pension ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : (a), (i) and (ii). I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply given to part (1) of the Honourable Maulvi Muhammad Yaqub's question No. 875 on the 28th March last.

(iii) It is not a fact that the break was condoned in the case of the clerk in question. He was allowed two months' leave on average pay as a special case.

(b) The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to part (2) of the question mentioned above.

## PENALTY PAYABLE FOR CARRYING UNBOOKED LUGGAGES.

220. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra** : (a) Is it a fact that all the railways have fixed a maximum limit up to which penalty is payable by those travelling without tickets ?

(b) Is it a fact that no maximum has been prescribed in the case of penalty payable by those carrying unbooked luggage in excess of the free allowance ?

(c) If the answer to parts (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, do Government propose to consider the desirability of prescribing a maximum limit as in the case of those travelling without tickets ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons** : (a) The maximum limit referred to is fixed by section 113 of the Indian Railways Act, No. IX of 1890.

(b) No maximum sum payable as a penalty has been prescribed but the amount payable is the full freight chargeable on the luggage carried, no free allowance being permitted.

(c) Government do not propose to prescribe a maximum sum payable.

HOURS OF CLEARANCE OF LETTER BOXES IN COLABA.

221. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that some of the letter boxes in Colaba are cleared at 13-30 hours ?

(b) Is it a fact that these letter boxes are not cleared between 10-00 and 13-00 hours ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Frontier Mail leaves Colaba at 13-00 hours ?

(d) Is it a fact that mails for the Punjab, etc., are conveyed by this train ?

(e) Are Government prepared to revise the hours of clearance of the letter boxes in Colaba to provide for a clearance about an hour before the departure of the Frontier Mail ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** (a) Yes ; all the street letter boxes in the area of Colaba Town Sub-Office are cleared between 13-15 and 13-45 hours.

(b) No ; they are cleared between 11-30 and 12-00 hours.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) The facility asked for already exists.

DIRECTORY OF GAZETTED OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

222. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Do Government publish any Directory of the Gazetted Officers of the Government of India ? If so, after what intervals ?

(b) Is this publication for public use ? If so, how is its publication notified for the information of those who may like to purchase it ?

(c) Is this publication specially for the use of the Government of India offices ? If so, are its copies supplied to all the Departments and is any intimation sent to the various Departments when it is published ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) Yes. The Government of India Directory is published twice a year.

(b) and (c). This publication is intended both for official and public use and is on sale. It is advertised in the Catalogue of Government of India publications, and also in the monthly book list published by the Central Publication Branch, Calcutta.

ASSIGNMENT OF POLICIES UNDER THE POSTAL INSURANCE FUND.

223. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the Postal authorities have prescribed a particular form of assignment of policies issued under the Postal Insurance Fund ?

(b) Is it a fact that they refuse to register assignments which though legally valid, are not exactly in accordance with the prescribed form ?

(c) Will Government please state why it is necessary to adhere strictly to the prescribed form ?

(d) Is it a fact that conditional assignments are not registered ? If so, will Government please state the reasons ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** (a) The Postal authorities have prescribed a particular form of assignment of policies issued under the Post Office Insurance Fund as a guide to assist policy-holders.

(b) No, so long as the form is the same in substance as the form to which I have just referred.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Government do not accept conditional assignments as legal complications might arise.

#### CRIMINAL SUITS FILED BY THE NEW DELHI MUNICIPALITY AGAINST RESIDENTS AND SHOPKEEPERS IN NEW DELHI.

224. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Are Government aware that the general practice in New Delhi Municipality is to file criminal suits against residents and shopkeepers in New Delhi for violation of municipal by-laws without warning or serving previous registered notices on those against whom they propose to take criminal action ? If so, why ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** No.

#### PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION IN NEW DELHI FOR ARMY HEAD-QUARTERS OFFICES.

225. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that owing to limited accommodation in the Imperial Secretariat Buildings in New Delhi only a portion of Army Headquarters Offices moved down from Simla to Delhi last winter ?

(b) When do Government propose to provide accommodation in Delhi for the whole of Army Headquarters ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** (a) The proportion of Army Headquarters Offices moving to Delhi each year is regulated primarily by administrative requirements, and not by the amount of office accommodation available.

(b) There is no such proposal, as it was never intended that the whole of Army Headquarters should move to Delhi.

#### GRANT OF HOUSE RENT AND SECRETARIAT RATES OF PAY TO CLERKS OF ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

226. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the question of the grant of house rent and Secretariat rates of pay to clerical establishments of Army Headquarters is under consideration ?

(b) Will Government please state how this matter stands at present ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** (a) Yes.

(b) No decision has yet been reached.

#### ABOLITION OF THE POST OF ESTABLISHMENT OFFICER, ARMY DEPARTMENT.

227. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the question of the abolition of the appointment of Establishment Officer, Army Department, is under consideration ?

(b) Is it a fact that leave reserves have now been established in all Branches of Army Headquarters ?

(c) Is it a fact that one of the principal functions of the Establishment Officer was to recruit personnel for leave vacancies in the clerical establishments ?

(d) If the answer to parts (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, do Government propose to abolish the post of Establishment Officer ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

#### ABOLITION OF THE POST OF ESTABLISHMENT OFFICER, ARMY DEPARTMENT.

228. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that Attached Offices of the various Departments of the Government of India deal direct with the Public Service Commission in matters pertaining to their ministerial establishment ?

(b) Is it a fact that all Branches of Army Headquarters have their separate establishment sections like Attached Offices ?

(c) Is it a fact that establishments of Branches are distinct from each other and that each Branch has its separate seniority roll ?

(d) If the answers to parts (a), (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, will Government please state why the Branches of Army Headquarters cannot deal direct with the Public Service Commission ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** The information desired by the Honourable Member will be found in the reply given in the Council of State on the 17th September, 1927, to question No. 213 and in the replies given in this House on the 11th September, 1928, and 2nd September, 1929, to starred questions Nos. 407 and 10, respectively.

#### ABOLITION OF THE POST OF ESTABLISHMENT OFFICER, ARMY DEPARTMENT.

229. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that most of the work pertaining to the clerical establishment of the Army Department Secretariat has been entrusted to the Personal Assistant to the Army Secretary ?

**Mr. G. M. Young :** Most of the work in question is dealt with by the Personal Assistant, but under the control of the Establishment Officer.

#### MEDICAL ATTENDANCE ON GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IN SIMLA.

230. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government please lay on the table a copy of the Education Department Resolution No. 780, dated the 12th December, 1922, regarding medical attendance on Government employees ?

(b) Is it a fact that Government of India employees are required to pay fees for their operations performed by the Civil Surgeon in the Ripon Hospital, Simla, and X-rays, etc. ?

(c) If the reply to part (a) be in the affirmative, have Government considered the question of the advisability of making all such treatment free ? If not, why not ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) A copy of the Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. 780, dated the 12th December, 1922, has been placed in the Library of the House.

(b) No, provided in the case of X-Ray treatment that such treatment has been prescribed by the official medical attendant of the Government servant concerned.

(c) Does not arise.

#### MEDICAL ATTENDANCE ON GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IN SIMLA.

231. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the establishments of the Government of India Secretariat and Army Headquarters are entitled to requisition the services of prescribed medical officers at their residences in cases of serious illness ?

(b) Are Government aware that the doctors paying visits to the houses of such patients accept fees if offered to them ?

(c) Are Government prepared to issue instructions that in the case of those entitled to free medical aid payment of fees to doctors is prohibited and should not be accepted by the latter ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Yes.

(b) Government are not aware of any cases in which the doctors have accepted fees.

(c) Does not arise.

#### SHORTAGE OF RESIDENTIAL QUARTERS IN NEW DELHI.

232. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the Government of India collected information six months ago regarding the total establishment of each of the Government of India Secretariat, Attached and Subordinate Offices permanently located at Delhi or moving to Delhi and the number wishing to reside in New Delhi if residential accommodation is available ? If so, what are the total figures for " C " and " D " class orthodox quarters ?

(b) What is the total number of residential quarters that will be available for them next winter ?

(c) When do Government propose to construct a sufficient number of quarters to accommodate all the establishments of the civil and military offices in New Delhi ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bore :** (a) Information of the nature referred to has been collected but the figures for " C " and " D " class orthodox quarters have not been worked out separately.

(b) 1208 quarters, viz., 238 " C " and 970 " D " class orthodox quarters.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

#### PROVISION OF A ZOO AND MUSEUM IN NEW DELHI.

233. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that there is no zoological and botanical garden in New Delhi ?

(b) Do Government propose to convert one of the parks into a garden ? If so, when ?



(c) Do Government propose to provide a museum in New Delhi ? If so, when ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** (a) Yes.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(c) Yes, a museum of Central Asian antiquities already exists in Delhi. The question of constructing a larger museum is held up at present because of financial stringency.

#### CHECKING OF ACCOUNTS OF BRANCHES IN ARMY HEADQUARTERS.

234. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that Branches of Army Headquarters keep imprest advances ?

(b) What are the arrangements for checking accounts of Branches and for ensuring that the imprest money is properly utilised ?

(c) Have the accounts been ever checked by the Accounts Department ? If so, when were they last checked ?

(d) Are Government prepared to issue instructions for the periodical inspection of accounts by members of the Audit Department ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Accounts supported by vouchers for all amounts expended out of the imprest are rendered monthly, or more often if necessary, to the Military Accounts Department. Cheques in recoupment of the amounts so spent are issued by the Military Accounts Department to Branches of Army Headquarters. It is thus seen by audit that amounts are correctly utilized out of imprest advances.

(d) The question does not arise as the accounts are regularly audited.

#### DATE OF THE MOVE OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OFFICES FROM NEW DELHI TO SIMLA.

235. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that usually the date of move of the Government of India offices from New Delhi to Simla is determined, not by the heat at Delhi but by the date on which the business of the Legislature is finished ?

(b) Are Government aware that sometimes the offices move up so early that most of the clerks and their children fall sick on account of the biting cold at Simla in the beginning of April ?

(c) Do Government propose to consider the question of keeping the Government of India offices at Delhi at least for seven months in the year ? If so, when ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) The conclusion of the Delhi session of the Legislature is obviously an important factor which is taken into consideration in fixing the date of the move of the Government of India from Delhi to Simla.

(b) The Government have no reason to think that the dates fixed by them for the move to Simla are such that the health of their staff is adversely affected.

(c) I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer which was given by Sir James Crerar on the 28th January, 1929, to Khan Bahadur Sarfaraz Hussain Khan's unstarred question No. 95.

#### DETENTION OF ATTACHED AND SUBORDINATE OFFICES IN NEW DELHI.

236. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra** : (a) Will Government state the names of the Attached and Subordinate Offices which have stopped moving to Simla ?

(b) Is it a fact that cooling apparatus has been installed in the Secretariat Buildings in New Delhi ?

(c) Are any more offices likely to be detained at Delhi next year ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : (a) The Honourable Member is referred to the answers given by Sir James Crerar on the 15th February, 1928, and 9th September, 1929, to questions Nos. 93 and 250, respectively, by Mr. Kelkar and the Honourable Maulvi Muhammad Yakub.

(b) Yes ; the cooling apparatus has been installed in certain portions of the Secretariat Buildings.

(c) It has not yet been found possible, with due regard to administrative convenience, to detain any more offices in Delhi for the summer months.

#### PROVISION OF SHOWER BATHS IN GOVERNMENT QUARTERS IN NEW DELHI.

237. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra** : (a) Is it a fact that arrangements for shower bath are provided in the orthodox Chummeries (single quarters) in New Delhi ?

(b) What would be the cost per quarter for providing the same in the family quarters in New Delhi ?

(c) Do Government propose to consider the advisability of providing shower bath arrangements in all bath rooms in New Delhi Government quarters ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore** : (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) The cost would vary with the class of quarters, but the probable cost would be :

	Rs.
in A class Orthodox quarters .. ..	30
in B class Orthodox quarters .. ..	20
in C and lower class Orthodox quarters .. ..	10

(c) No. The total cost involved would be heavy and Government are not aware that any general demand exists for these conveniences.

#### INSTALLATION OF THE FLUSH SYSTEM IN ALL RESIDENCES IN NEW DELHI.

238. \***Mr. S. C. Mitra** : (a) Is it a fact that flush latrines are provided in orthodox Chummeries in New Delhi ?

(b) What would be the cost per quarter for providing similar arrangements in other residential quarters in New Delhi ?

(c) Do Government propose to instal the flush system in all family quarters in New Delhi ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) The cost would vary with the type of house from Rs. 2,500 for an A class Officer's bungalow to Rs. 300 for the smallest type of quarters.

(c) The installation of the flush system in all family quarters would involve a very heavy expenditure and Government are not therefore prepared to consider the matter at present.

#### VACANT PIECES OF LAND IN NEW DELHI.

239. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that small pieces of land are lying vacant on the Baird Road (in front of shops), near the Electric Power House, on one side of Queen Mary's Avenue, behind the Raja Bazaar Square and Cantonment Road orthodox quarters and on one side of Lady Hardinge Road ?

(b) Will Government please state what these tracts are reserved for, and why Government have not so far constructed quarters or shops on the vacant land ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) Yes.

(b) The plots are reserved for future requirements. No decision has been arrived at regarding their disposal, but it is probable that all these sites will be required for further Government quarters.

#### COAL-TARRING OF BAIRD ROAD, NEW DELHI.

240. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that Baird Road has got a large number of quarters and Municipal and private shops on it in New Delhi ?

(b) Is it also a fact that on one end of the road there is a Convent School and on the other Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital ?

(c) Is it a fact that it is not coal-tarred and are Government aware that the heavy motor and other traffic on it makes it a cause of great nuisance for those residing in the quarters on the road ?

(d) Do Government propose to have it coal-tarred ? If so, when ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) and (d). The road has not yet been bituminised, but it is hoped to do this during the current year.

#### DIRECT RECRUITMENT OF CLERICAL STAFF OF CERTAIN OFFICES.

241. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government please give a list of Government of India offices which are permitted to recruit their clerical establishments otherwise than through the Public Service Commission ?

(b) Will Government please state the reasons for relaxing the condition of passing the Public Service Commission examination in the case of personnel recruited for such offices ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) So far as I am aware the offices which have been permitted to recruit their clerical establishments otherwise than through the Public Service Commission are :

- (1) The Contracts Directorate of the Master General of Ordnance's Branch.
- (2) The Finance Department (Civil and Military) in respect of technical men required for budget work.
- (3) The Railway Board, in respect of technical staff from Railways.
- (4) The Office of the Director, Intelligence Bureau, Home Department, in respect of certain posts only.
- (5) The Central Cypher Bureau of the Foreign and Political Department.

(b) I would refer the Honourable Member to part (c) of the reply given to the Honourable Maulvi Muhammad Yakub's question No. 207 on the 5th September, 1929.

#### RESULTS OF THE LAST MINISTERIAL BRANCH EXAMINATION OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

**242. \*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that there have been numerous interpellations in the Legislative Assembly with regard to the drastic nature of the results of the last ministerial branch examination held by the Public Service Commission ?

(b) Is it a fact that in spite of numerous questions, information has not been furnished as to the percentage of marks that were required to be obtained in order to secure a pass in the First or Second Division ?

(c) If the answer to (b) be in the affirmative, will Government please state the reasons for their inability to do so ?

(d) Is it a fact that out of 425 candidates for the First Division only 17 were declared successful ?

(e) Is it a fact that of these 17, eight were stenographers ? If so, was any preference given to them on the grounds that they were qualified stenographers ?

(f) How many of the successful candidates were graduates ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) There have been several interpellations in the Legislative Assembly with regard to the results of the examination to which the Honourable Member refers.

(b), (c) and (d). The answers to these questions will be found in the reply which the Honourable Sir James Crerar gave to the Honourable Member's question No. 659 on the 19th March, 1930.

(e) Out of the 17 successful candidates 8 were qualified stenographers but no preference was given to them on this ground.

(f) Five.

STAFF SELECTION BOARD EXAMINATION OF 1920.

243. \*Mr. S. C. Mitra : (a) Is it a fact that in the examination held by the Staff Selection Board in 1920, the minimum educational qualification prescribed for the First Division for all Indian candidates was the B.A. degree ?

(b) Is it also a fact that certain candidates who did not possess this qualification were declared as passed for the First Division as they were considered to have obtained sufficient marks for the purpose ?

(c) If the replies to the above be in the affirmative, will Government please state how many of the candidates referred to in (b) were departmental and how many outsiders ?

The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig : (a) and (b). External candidates were required to possess a degree but this qualification was waived in the case of departmental candidates seeking admission to the examination in question.

(c) Does not arise.

STAFF SELECTION BOARD EXAMINATION OF 1920.

244. \*Mr. S. C. Mitra : (a) Is it a fact that the Staff Selection Board examination of 1920 was a qualifying one ?

(b) Is it a fact that the qualifications and rules for the examination published in the Board's communiqué of 1920 applied equally to departmental and outside candidates ?

(c) Is it also a fact that some of the departmental men who had appeared for the *Lower* Division were declared qualified for the *First* Division on account of high marks obtained by them ?

(d) If the replies to the above be in the affirmative, are the outside candidates also entitled to the same treatment ?

The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig : (a) Yes.

(b) No. Concessions in the matter of age and educational qualifications were recognised in favour of departmental candidates.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

PROBATIONARY PERIOD FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE STAFF SELECTION BOARD EXAMINATION IN 1920.

245. \*Mr. S. C. Mitra : (a) Is it a fact that the probationary period prescribed in the Staff Selection Board's communiqué of 1920 was one year ?

(b) Is it also a fact that most of the candidates who passed the 1920 examination had to remain unconfirmed for several years, not because they were not considered fit, but owing to financial stringency ?

(c) Is it a fact, that in view of the hardship involved, the Government allowed some increments to those who were confirmed in 1924 ?

(d) Do Government propose to extend the same concession to those who were confirmed *still later* and had to suffer loss of increments for more than four years without any fault ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) The period of probation is ordinarily one year but confirmation depends, among other things, on the occurrence of vacancies.

(b) I am not aware that any candidates appointed on probation to definite posts remained unconfirmed after a year but it is the case that some candidates who passed in 1920 were not confirmed for a considerable period owing to lack of permanent vacancies.

(c) It was not possible to evolve any general principle for application to all cases but relief was given in cases of hardship, by the grant of advance increments on the merits of each case.

(d) The rule is that the minimum of the scale is drawn only on confirmation, and as I have already explained, cases of hardship have been dealt with on merits. The reply therefore is in the negative.

#### PAUCITY OF MUSLIM TEACHERS IN AJMER-MERWARA.

246. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that, in reply to a question in the Legislative Assembly on the 14th September, 1925, drawing attention to the extremely low number of Muslim teachers in the employ of the Ajmer-Merwara Administration, Government promised that the claims of suitable Muhammadans would receive consideration at the hands of the local Administration ?

(b) Is it a fact that in 1925, September, the number of Muslim teachers in the Government employment in Ajmer-Merwara, excluding the Moinia Islamia High School was 23 out of a total number of 229 teachers ?

(c) Is it a fact that there are at present only about nine permanent Muslim teachers out of a total number of about 250 teachers drawing salaries from the Imperial and District revenues in the boys' vernacular schools in Ajmer-Merwara under the authority of the Assistant Superintendent of Education, Ajmer-Merwara ? If this number is not correct will Government kindly state (1) the total number of teachers, and (2) the total number of Muslim teachers in the said schools ?

(d) Is it a fact that the appointments of teachers in vernacular schools in Ajmer-Merwara getting salaries up to Rs. 40 per mensem is made by Mr. P. B. Joshi, the Assistant Superintendent of Education, by his own orders and on his own authority without obtaining the sanction of the Superintendent of Education and that appointments above Rs. 40 in the said schools are made by promotion from lower grades by the Superintendent of Education on the recommendations of his Assistant Superintendent of Education ? Will Government kindly state who delegated this power to the Assistant Superintendent of Education, and under what authority and on what understanding ?

(e) Is it a fact that nothing effective has been done in giving Muslims adequate representation in the vernacular schools in Ajmer-Merwara since the Government reply referred to in (a) above and that the assurance given by the Government of India in the Legislative Assembly in 1925 has been disregarded by the Assistant Superintendent of Education in making appointments on his own authority with the result that the number of Muslims in these schools has further deplorably gone down ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** With your permission, Sir, I shall deal with questions Nos. 246—255 and 257 together. The information asked for is being collected and will be supplied to the Honourable Member as soon as it is available.

**PAUCITY OF WOMEN TEACHERS IN AJMER-MERWARA.**

†247. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** Is it a fact that out of 36 women teachers in Ajmer-Merwara there is only one Muslim woman teacher, and that the rest are all Hindus ? Will Government kindly state the reasons ?

**DISCONTENT AMONGST TEACHERS IN AJMER-MERWARA.**

†248. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** Will Government kindly state when the combined cadre was sanctioned by the Government of India, and when it was sent by the Ajmer-Merwara Administration to the Superintendent of Education ? Will Government kindly state the reasons why no action has yet been taken on the combined cadre ? Who is responsible for this extraordinarily long delay ? Are Government aware that there is much discontent among the teachers for this delay ?

**GRIEVANCES OF MUSLIMS AGAINST MR. P. B. JOSHI, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, AJMER-MERWARA.**

†249. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Is it a fact that there has been considerable discontent among the Muslims in regard to education in Ajmer-Merwara since Mr. P. B. Joshi's appointment as Assistant Superintendent of Education in 1925 ?

(b) Is it a fact that the discontent referred to in part (a) above has been increasing every year since 1925 owing to the unsympathetic attitude of Mr. Joshi towards Muslims ?

(c) Is it a fact that the relations between the Hindus and Muslims in Ajmer-Merwara have been embittered by Mr. Joshi's activities in the Education Department ?

(d) Is it a fact that the unsympathetic attitude of Mr. Joshi referred to in part (c) above has been expressed by means of newspaper articles, representations and memorials to Government and by questions in the Legislature ?

(e) If what are stated in parts (a) to (d) are correct, what steps do Government propose to take against the said Mr. P. B. Joshi, Assistant Superintendent of Education ?

**WASTE OF GOVERNMENT MONEY ON THE CENTRAL GIRLS' SCHOOL, AJMER.**

†250. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that there are only 32 students in the Government Central Girls' School, Ajmer ? If it is not a fact, will Government please state the total number of the students at present on the rolls of the said school ?

(b) Is it a fact that the said school has only four classes and six teachers ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 246.

(c) Is it a fact that about Rs. 1,000 per month are spent in running the said school ?

(d) What is the annual expenditure per student in the said school ?

(e) Is it a fact that the recurring expenditure incurred by Government per student in the said school is far greater than the expenditure per student incurred by Government in any other girls' school in British India ?

(f) If the reply to part (e) be in the affirmative, what steps do Government propose to take to put a stop to the enormous waste of Government money in running the Government Central Girls' School, Ajmer ?

#### CLASSES IN THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL GIRLS' SCHOOL, AJMER.

†251. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that over and above the four sanctioned classes there is in the Government Central Girls' School, Ajmer, a coaching class which has not been sanctioned by competent authority ?

(b) Is it a fact that the girls of the said coaching class are of various educational attainments and that they study diverse courses ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Head Mistress of the said school has entered the names of the girls of the said coaching class in the attendance register of class V, whose course of teaching is quite different from the courses of the coaching class girls ? If so, are Government aware that the said action of the said Head Mistress makes the number of the students of class V greater than it actually is ?

(d) What action do Government propose to take in the matter ?

#### VISITS PAID TO CERTAIN SCHOOLS BY THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, AJMER-MERWARA.

†252. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Will Government please state the distances of the following primary schools in Ajmer-Merwara from Pisangan (Ajmer-Merwara) and also their distances from one another : Govindgarh, Nand, Bhagwanpura, Dantra, and Nagelav ?

(b) Will Government please put on the table of the House a statement concerning each of the primary schools referred to in part (a), showing (i) the dates of the visits paid to it by Mr. P. B. Joshi, Assistant Superintendent of Education, Ajmer-Merwara in 1927, 1928, and 1929, (ii) the number of the inspection notes in the handwriting of Mr. P. B. Joshi in the inspection note books of the school in 1927, 1928, and 1929, (iii) the amount of travelling allowance drawn from Government by the said Mr. P. B. Joshi for each visit to the school, together with the place from which and the places to which the travelling allowance was charged, in 1927, 1928, and 1929 ?

#### LACK OF ENGLISH TEACHING AT THE PISANGAN VERNACULAR SECONDARY SCHOOL.

†253. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that the vernacular secondary school of Pisangan

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 246.



in Ajmer-Merwara is older than the vernacular secondary school of Saradhna in Ajmer-Merwara ?

(b) Is it also a fact that Mr. P. B. Joshi the Assistant Superintendent of Education, Ajmer-Merwara, arranged to give the privilege of English as an optional subject to the Saradhna secondary school and not to the Pisangan secondary school ?

(c) Is it also a fact that Pisangan is a much more populous town than Saradhna ?

(d) Is it also a fact that a police station and a Government dispensary are also located in Pisangan, whereas there is no police station or Government dispensary in Saradhna ?

(e) Is it also a fact that the number of Government servants posted in Pisangan is far greater than the number of Government servants posted in Saradhna ?

(f) If the replies to the question in parts (a) to (e) above are facts, why was not the privilege of English teaching given to the Pisangan school, before or along with, the Saradhna school ?

(g) Is it a fact that the present Sub-Inspector of Police, Pisangan, has been compelled to send his son for his education to the Saradhna vernacular secondary school boarding house for want of provision for English teaching in the secondary school, Pisangan ?

(h) Are Government aware that Mr. C. C. Watson, then Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, made a special mention of the excessive poverty of the peasants of Pisangan Istimrari area in 1922 and 1923 after personal inspection of the Pisangan locality ?

(i) Are Government aware that Pisangan peasants are at present unable to give their children any education in English in consequence of the want of provision for English teaching in the Pisangan school and of their poverty which does not allow them to send their children outside for education ?

(j) Do Government propose to start the teaching of English in the secondary school, Pisangan ?

**HELP RENDERED TO THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN BY MR. P. B. JOSHI, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, AJMER-MERWARA.**

†254. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to a leading article entitled " Pisangan's memorial to the Viceroy " published at pages 8 and 10 of the *State's Weekly*, Ajmer, dated the 28th March, 1930 ?

(b) Have Government made an inquiry into the part played by Mr. P. B. Joshi, Assistant Superintendent of Education, Ajmer-Merwara, in helping the Istimrardar of Pisangan in his disputes with his tenants, referred to in the said article ? If so, will Government please communicate to this House the result of the inquiry ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 246.

VISITS PAID TO SCHOOLS BY MR. P. B. JOSHI, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION, AJMER-MERWARA.

†255. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) In response to questions in the Legislature last Session the Government stated that Mr. P. B. Joshi, Assistant Superintendent of Education, Ajmer, paid nine visits to Pisangan only in 1927, 1928 and 1929, in addition to passing through Pisangan at other times, but that he recorded no inspection note in the log book of the Pisangan vernacular school. Will Government kindly now state the object of Mr. Joshi's visit to Pisangan at Government expense ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Pisangan school has remained without any inspection for the last five years ?

(c) Will Government kindly state how many vernacular middle schools have been visited by the Assistant Superintendent of Education in the last three years and how many inspection notes have been recorded by him on the log books of the schools visited by him ? Will Government kindly place on the table various inspection notes on the log books of the schools visited ?

(d) If no inspection notes have been recorded, will Government kindly state the object of such visits, stating at the same time what are the exact duties of the Assistant Superintendent of Education with regard to these schools ?

MALADMINISTRATION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN AJMER-MERWARA.

256. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : Will Government lay on table all the questions and replies given by Government on the maladministration of the Education Department in Ajmer-Merwara since 1927 ? Will Government kindly state what action has been taken by them on the irregularities and grievances brought to their notice by such questions ?

**Sir Frank Noyce** : As regards the first part of his question, I must refer the Honourable Member to the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly. I regret that I am unable to accede to the request made in the second part of his question as the collection of the information asked for would involve an expenditure of time and trouble which would hardly seem justified. I may, however, inform him that Government have decided to appoint a whole-time Superintendent of Education for Ajmer-Merwara, Delhi and Central India. They trust that as a result of this appointment, there will be an improvement in the administration of educational affairs in these areas.

RESULTS AND TEACHERS OF THE NORMAL SCHOOL, AJMER.

†257. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Will Government kindly state the results, with percentage, in 1927, 1928, and 1929 of the C. T. examination in the Normal School, Ajmer, as also in the year 1930 ?

(b) Will Government kindly state the results, with percentage, in 1928 and 1929 of V. T. and P. T. certificate examination in the Normal School, Ajmer, as also in the year 1930 ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Muslim Headmaster of the Normal School and the Muslim Head Teacher of the Model School attached to the Normal

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† For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 246.

School for practising have been replaced by Hindu Headmasters, and that all the teachers in the Normal School and the Model School, are of Arya Samajist tendencies ? If so, why ?

**STRENGTH AND COMMUNITIES OF EMPLOYEES IN THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.**

258. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the strength of the assistants, clerks and stenographers employed in the office of the Public Service Commission ; the number of Hindus, Muslims, Anglo-Indians, Sikhs, Christians, etc., in each category on (i) the 1st April, 1929, and (ii) at present ?

(b) How many vacancies occurred since 1st April, 1929, in the different categories and how were they filled ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) Three permanent vacancies have occurred in the grade of clerk since 1st April, 1929. Two were filled by Hindus and one by an Anglo-Indian.

*Office establishment of the Public Service Commission.*

*Staff on 1st April, 1929.*

*Staff on 9th July, 1930.*

*Assistants.*

Hindus	3	3
Muhammadans	1	1
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 4

*Clerks.*

Hindus	8	9
Muhammadans	3	3
Anglo-Indians	1	..
Sikhs	..	1
	<hr/> 12	<hr/> 13

*Stenographers.*

Hindus	3	3
Muhammadans	1	1
Anglo-Indians	1	1
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 5

Grand Total 21.

Hindus	.. 14	Hindus	.. 15
Muhammadans	.. 5	Muhammadans	.. 5
Anglo-Indians	.. 2	Anglo-Indians	.. 1
		Sikhs	.. 1

**Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** Why were not the claims of the Muslims taken into consideration at the time the vacancies occurred and the appointments were made ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I think the claims of Muslims were considered, but that is a matter which might be further pursued with the Public Service Commission.

**APPOINTMENT OF PROBATIONARY SUPERINTENDENTS OF POST OFFICES.**

259. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that the selection of candidates for appointment as Probationary Superintendents of Post Offices is made from amongst those candidates who qualify at the Indian Audit and Accounts Service examination held annually by the Public Service Commission ?

(b) If the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the principles according to which the selection is made ?

(c) Is it a fact that, on many occasions in the past, candidates who were down below in the list of the examination were selected for appointment as Probationary Superintendent of Post Offices in preference to the candidates who figured high in the list ? If so, will Government be pleased to state the reasons in each case ?

(d) Did Government ever consider the desirability of giving over the work of recruitment for this service to the Public Service Commission and if so what decision was arrived at ? Was the Public Service Commission consulted on the subject and what were its views ?

(e) How many candidates were selected for appointment as Probationary Superintendent of Post Offices during the last three years, and how many Muslim candidates were selected each year ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) Yes. Recruitment for vacancies in any official year is made from among the candidates who had appeared and qualified at the examination held in the preceding year.

(b) The present method of recruitment was introduced from the 1st January, 1929. Recruitment in accordance with it commenced from the examination held in December, 1928, and a selection of the candidates who were considered most suitable was made from those who had appeared and qualified at that examination. It was decided in December, 1929, that in future the selection of recruits both from the majority and minority communities should be made in the order in which the candidates are placed in the list published by the Public Service Commission showing the result of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service Examination, a limited preference being given to sons and relatives of employees or ex-employees of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

(c) The fact is not as stated. Seeing that the system was only introduced in 1929, there could not have been more than two periods of selection. Of the candidates who appeared at the examination held in December, 1928, five were selected in 1929. One Hindu who was selected was first amongst those who had qualified but did not succeed in getting into the Indian Audit and Accounts Service. The Muhammadan who stood first amongst the Muhammadan candidates was also selected. The other three candidates did not stand high on the list but two of them were selected because they were the sons of employees of the Department and a third, a Muhammadan, was selected in order to adjust communal inequalities.

(d) Yes. It was decided, in consultation with the Public Service Commission, that the system described in my replies to parts (a) and (b) should be introduced experimentally, the question whether the recruitment

should subsequently be entrusted wholly to the Commission being reserved for further examination later on.

(e) 15. Six of these were Muslims, two having been selected in 1927-28, one in 1928-29 and three in 1929-30.

# RECKONING OF DELHI CAMP ALLOWANCE AS PART OF EMOLUMENTS FOR RECOVERY OF RENT.

260. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that the Delhi Camp Allowance admissible to incumbents in the Attached Offices is not reckoned for the purpose of making allotment of clerks' quarters in New and Old Delhi but is considered as part of emoluments for the purpose of recovery of rents ?

(b) Was this anomaly ever brought to the notice of Government by the Attached and Subordinate Offices Association ? If so, what decision was made by the Government ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Delhi Camp Allowance is a compensatory allowance and is free from income-tax and other charges ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoze : (a) Yes.

(b) The matter was brought to the notice of the Government of India on a representation from certain clerks of the office of the Director General, Indian Medical Service, which was rejected.

(c) Yes.

# NUMBERS OF MUSLIMS AND NON-MUSLIMS IN THE LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL, NEW DELHI.

261. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (1) Will Government please put on the table of the House a statement showing (a) the number of Muslim students, (b) the number of non-Muslim students in (i) the medical classes, (ii) the F. Sc. classes, of the Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi ?

(2) Will Government please state (a) the total number of Muslim students, (b) the total number of non-Muslim students of the Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi, who have been successful in obtaining the M. B. B. S. degree since the College was established ?

(3) Will Government please state the number of (a) the Muslim, (b) the non-Muslim, members of the staff (including clerks) of the Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi ?

(4) Will Government please state the total amount of money paid as salaries to (a) Muslim, (b) non-Muslim, members of the staffs (including clerks and menial servants) of the Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi, in 1929-30 ?

(5) What is the total number of (i) Muslims, (ii) non-Muslims, employed as menial servants in the Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi ?

Sir Frank Noyce : With your permission, Sir, I shall answer questions Nos. 261 to 264 together and to the same effect as questions Nos. 209 to 211 which I have already answered. I regret that I cannot at the

moment supply the information asked for, but it is being collected and will be supplied to the Honourable Member later. When the information is available, Government will consider what action, if any, is necessary.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MUSLIMS TO THE LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL, NEW DELHI.

†262. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Is it a fact that there has never been a Muslim on the teaching staff of the Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi ?

(b) Is it a fact that the proportion of the Muslim students of the Lady Hardinge Medical College to the total number of the students of the said College is exceedingly below what it should be on the population basis ?

(c) Is it a fact that almost all the scholarships from the College or Dufferin Funds are given to the non-Muslim students of the said College and that with a few exceptions Muslim students of the said College are prosecuting their studies without scholarships from the said funds ?

(d) Is it a fact that even on the menial staff of the said College and its Hospital the proportion of Muslim employees to the total number of employees is much below what it should be on the population basis ?

(e) Do Government propose to reserve an adequate number of seats and an adequate number of scholarships for Muslim students in the said College ?

(f) Are Government prepared to appoint non-Muslims to any vacancies that may occur in the said College and Hospital only when suitable Muslims have obtained adequate representation on the staffs of the said College and Hospital (including clerks and menial servants) ?

#### DISCOURAGEMENT OF MUSLIM STUDENTS AT THE LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE, NEW DELHI.

†263. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Is it a fact that four Muslim students were admitted to the 1st year Science class and one Muslim student to the medical class of the Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi, in 1929 ? If so, what percentage of the total number of students admitted to the said College in the said year did those Muslim students form ?

(b) Is it a fact that none of the Muslim students referred to in part (a) was given a scholarship from the College or Dufferin Fund ? If so, why ?

(c) Is it a fact that one of the Muslim students referred to in part (a) was discharged from the College on the ground of ill-health ? If so, is it a fact that the said student was in good health when she was admitted to the said College, but had her health impaired during her stay in the College ?

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† For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 261.

(d) Is it a fact that two of the Muslim students referred to in (a) were discharged from the said College after one academic year's stay at the College on the ground that they were intellectually too weak to prosecute their studies? If so, why did not the Principal satisfy herself with regard to the ability of the said two students at the time of their admission, or discharge them early in the said academic year?

(e) Is it a fact that no non-Muslim student of the said College was discharged at the end of the said academic year on the ground of intellectual weakness?

(f) Is it a fact that one of the Muslim students referred to in part (a) was detained in the 1st year F. Sc. class? If so, is it a fact that the said student had regularly attended the College lessons?

(g) If what are stated in parts (a) to (f) above are facts, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

**ILL-HEALTH OF K. FATIMA, A MUSLIM GIRL STUDENT AT THE LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE, NEW DELHI.**

†264. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi: (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that a Muslim girl, K. Fatima, admitted to the 1st year Science Class of the Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi, in 1929, was found to be physically and intellectually fit for the College course by the Principal, who personally tested her in all respects at the time of her admission?

(b) Is it a fact that the Principal compelled K. Fatima to be engaged till late hours, in the preparation for a number of dramatic performances?

(c) Is it a fact that in spite of being ill, K. Fatima was ordered by the said College authorities to sit for the College examination held just before the spring holidays of 1930, and the strain of the examination aggravated her illness, compelling her to give up participation in the examination before its completion?

(d) Is it a fact that the said K. Fatima fell ill again in April, 1930, and her illness assumed the form of protracted and serious ill-health, preventing her from participation in the annual examination held in May, 1930?

(e) Is it a fact that at least one major surgical operation and a number of minor surgical operations were performed on the said K. Fatima in 1930? If so, did the Principal obtain the guardian's permission regarding the operations or inform him of them?

(f) Is it a fact that the Principal never sent a health report of K. Fatima to her guardian?

(g) Is it a fact that the principal never attended to K. Fatima during her illness except on the occasion of her discharge from the hospital in June, 1930?

(h) Is it a fact that K. Fatima was discharged from the hospital of the Lady Hardinge Medical College in June, 1930, before recovery?

† For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 261.

(i) If what are stated in parts (a) to (h) above are facts, do Government propose to take any action against the authorities responsible ?

# SYSTEM OF AUDIT IN CLOTHING FACTORIES IN SHAHJAHANPUR AND MADRAS.

265. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : Will Government be pleased to state :

- (i) when the permanent establishments of the two Branches of the Military Accounts Department attached to each of the Clothing Factories in Shahjahanpur and Madras came into existence ;
- (ii) what was the object of Government in creating these Military Accounts Branches and attaching them to the Clothing Factories ;
- (iii) what system of audit did it replace in the Clothing Factories during the pre-war days ;
- (iv) what is the total cost of each of these establishments for the years 1928-29 showing in detail as below :

	No.	Salaries paid to each.	Distribution of work to each.
(a) Officers	..	..	..
(b) Accountants	..	..	..
(c) Clerks, etc.	..	..	..

- (v) what is the total cost of the establishments of the two Clothing Factories at Shahjahanpur and Madras, showing separately and in detail as shown in (iv) above, for 1928-29 ;
- (vi) if the expenditure incurred by maintaining the aforesaid two Military Accounts Branches, is charged to these two Clothing Factories ;
- (vii) besides this audit, if there are other periodical audits on the Clothing Factories ;
- (viii) if so, how many such audits take place in a year ;
- (ix) if it is a fact, that besides these two kinds of separate audits, there is also a " Commercial Audit " ;
- (x) if so, what are the total " Travelling Allowances " incurred for such periodical and commercial audits in the year 1928-29 ;
- (xi) whether the expenditure involved in the above two audits, namely, ' periodical ' and ' commercial audits ', is also charged to the two Clothing Factories ; and
- (xii) whether Government are prepared to consider a less expensive system of auditing with a view to reducing thereby the cost of production pertaining to the manufacture of military uniforms ?



**The Honourable Sir George Schuster :** (i) From the 1st April, 1922.

(ii) The object was to speed up the preparation of accounts and to afford to the Superintendents of the Factories advice on the spot on accounts and audit matters.

(iii) The new system replaced a centralised audit conducted in the Controller's main office.

(iv) The information is being collected and will be furnished to the Honourable Member as soon as possible.

(v) A statement giving the required information is placed on the table.

(vi) The reply is in the affirmative.

(vii) and (viii). Apart from test audit by the Commercial Audit Branch, to which I shall refer again later, there is no other periodical audit. Formerly, a periodical local audit was conducted by the Controller of Army Factory Accounts, but this was discontinued in August, 1929.

(ix) An annual test audit on behalf of the Auditor General is conducted by the staff of the Director of Commercial Audit, but only after one audit by the Military Accounts Department.

(x) The expenditure on travelling allowance incurred by the Commercial Audit Branch during 1928-29 amounted to Rs. 1,300. As regards similar expenditure incurred by the Military Accounts Department, the information is not immediately available; it will be furnished to the Honourable Member as soon as possible.

(xi) The reply is in the negative. As already stated, the "periodical" audit has been discontinued.

(xii) For the reasons already stated, it is considered essential for the economical administration of the Factories to maintain an accounting system on the present lines. It would, in the opinion of Government, be definitely inadvisable to revert to the pre-war procedure.

Statement showing the total cost of the establishments of the two clothing factories at Shahjahanpur and Madras for 1928-29.

	Shahjahanpur.			Madras.		
	No.	Salaries paid.	Distribution of work.	No.	Salaries paid.	Distribution of work.
—	1	2	3	4	5	6
Officers, Commissioned and Gazetted.	4	Rs. 61,122	General supervision connected with the running of the Factory.	1	Rs. 8,334	As under column 3.
Non-gazetted staff including British soldiers, etc.	69	1,30,180	Supervision of outturn from shops; performance of clerical duties, etc.	55	69,719	Do.
Medical establishment	1	3,080	Looking after the health of the Factory employees, and their families, where authorised.		60 (Inspection fee of Rs. 5 p.m.).	Do.
Menial establishment	Nil	Nil	..	11	1,643	Duties of Duffry, Peons, Messengers, Sweepers, etc.
Total	..	1,94,382	..	..	79,766	

**TRANSIT CHARGES ON MATERIAL DESPATCHED TO THE SHAHJAHANPUR CLOTHING FACTORY.**

266. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state why the whole supply of *khaki* garments cannot be entirely made up in the Clothing Factory at Madras instead of at the Shahjahanpur Factory with a view to save expenditure of transit charges to the State ? Is it a fact that the material for *khaki* garments, which form the bulk in the manufacture of military uniforms, is drawn from Messrs. Binny & Co.'s Mills at Madras ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to furnish a statement of transit charges incurred by Government each year from 1925 to 1929 by despatching materials from Messrs. Binny & Co.'s Mills at Madras to the Shahjahanpur Factory, for the purpose of making up *khaki* garments for the army ;

(c) Is it a fact that some correspondence on the working of the Shahjahanpur Factory passed between the D. Q. F. & M., Simla and Colonel Jenkins, who has a knowledge of the working of both the Factories at Shahjahanpur and Madras, or was any report submitted by Colonel Jenkins on the administration of the Shahjahanpur Factory ? Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the complete correspondence on the subject and the Administration Report referred to above ?

**Mr. G. M. Young** : (a) The first part of the question was answered in my letter No. 90-Y., dated the 16th June, which I sent to the Honourable Member in continuation of my reply to his questions Nos. 170 to 172 and 204 asked on the 29th January and 4th February, 1930. A copy of the letter has been placed in the Library. The answer to the second part is in the affirmative.

Expenditure incurred on despatching cloth from Madras is largely counterbalanced by savings effected in distributing clothing from Shahjahanpur.

(b) Approximately Rs. 500 was spent on this account in 1925, Rs. 1,500 in 1926, Rs. 8,500 in 1927, Rs. 3,000 in 1928 and Rs. 3,000 in 1929.

(c) I have not been able to trace the correspondence referred to by the Honourable Member. Administration Reports submitted annually by factories are confidential documents and are not compiled for publication.

**EXACTION OF MONEY FROM HIS TENANTS BY THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.**

267. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that, in a petition, dated the 17th August, 1929, to the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, the public of Pisangan complained that the Istimrardar of Pisangan had exacted about Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 2,500 from the public of Pisangan in about two years by confining their cattle in his private cattle-pound ?

(b) Is it a fact that in the petition referred to in (a) above, it was also complained that the Istimrardar of Pisangan in Ajmer-Merwara has been exacting money from his tenants by tying them to the rear-legs of horses and by pressing their heads under heavy stones, after, and in spite

of, the compromise, dated the 14th July, 1923, with the tenants, signed by the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara?

(c) Did Government make an inquiry into the complaints referred to in parts (a) and (b) above? If so, will Government please state:

- (i) who conducted the inquiry and when;
- (ii) were the complaining tenants or their representatives allowed to make statements and produce witnesses before the enquiring officer;
- (iii) was the Istimrardar or his representative allowed to make statements and produce witnesses before the enquiring officer;
- (iv) was the inquiry held in the presence of both the parties; if not, why not;
- (v) was the enquiry public or in camera; if in camera, why so; and
- (vi) will Government please put on the table of the house the report of the enquiring officer and the statements of the witnesses and the parties?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** With your permission, Sir, I shall reply to questions Nos. 267 to 275 together. Government have no information at present in regard to any of the matters mentioned in them with the exception of question 272 (e), the answer to which is in the affirmative. Inquiries are being made in regard to question No. 270 and a report has been called for from the local authorities on all these questions. The information will be furnished to the Honourable Member when it is received. Government will also then consider what further action, if any, should be taken.

#### COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

†268. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that the merchants and peasants of the Pisangan Istimrari area in Ajmer-Merwara submitted a number of petitions to the Local Government officials of Ajmer-Merwara complaining against the forcible removal of their stones by the Istimrardar of Pisangan, the unauthorised confinement of their cattle in the Istimrardar's private cattle-pound, and other unwarranted actions of the Istimrardar of Pisangan?

(b) If so, what action did Government take on the petitions?

#### COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

†269. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** Will Government please place on the table of the House copies of the following petitions against the Istimrardar of Pisangan in Ajmer-Merwara regarding his realising money for permission to repair houses, his removal of stones and other materials from the tenants' buildings, his exaction of money by keeping the tenants' cattle in confinement, the abnormally high rates of land rent, and such other practices of him: (i) the petition, dated the 17th August, 1929, submitted by the public of Pisangan to the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, (ii) the petition, dated the 19th October, 1929, submitted by the

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 267.

public of Mauza Pisangan to the Collector, Ajmer-Merwara, (iii) the petitions submitted to the Assistant Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, in December, 1929, by the Gujars of Pagara, the Kunhars of Pisangan, the Jats of Rampura, the Jats of Nand and Hariwatpura, and the Gujars of Bakhtawarpur and Barsuri ?

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

†270. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that a reply paid telegram complaining against the Istimrardar of Pisangan (Ajmer-Merwara) was wired by Chanda, cultivator of Pisangan, to His Excellency the Viceroy on the 7th March, 1930 ?

(b) Was any reply given by Government to the telegram referred to in part (a) ? If so, what and when ? If not, why not ?

(c) In case no reply was given to the telegram referred to in part (a), how was the paid telegram form for reply utilised ?

VISIT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF AJMER-MERWARA TO PISANGAN.

†271. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that on the 17th March, 1930, Captain Galbraith, Assistant Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, visited Pisangan to settle the disputes between the Istimrardar of Pisangan and the peasants after the submission of the peasants' memorial, dated the 6th March, 1930, to His Excellency the Viceroy ?

(b) Is it a fact that the said Assistant Commissioner left Pisangan for Ajmer on the morning of the 18th March, 1930, without having any conversation with the peasants ?

(c) Is it a fact that the said Assistant Commissioner spent the 17th of March, 1930, in hunting along with the Istimrardar of Pisangan ?

(d) Is it a fact that nothing was done as regards the settlement of disputes mentioned in part (a) by the Assistant Commissioner from his arrival in Pisangan on the 17th March, 1930, till his return to Ajmer on the 18th March ?

(e) What was the amount of the travelling allowance drawn by the Assistant Commissioner for the journey to and from Pisangan referred to in part (d) ?

VISIT OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF AJMER-MERWARA TO PISANGAN.

†272. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Will Government please state if it is a fact that Captain Galbraith, Assistant Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, paid a second visit to Pisangan to settle the disputes between the peasants and the Istimrardar after his return to Ajmer on the 18th March, 1930 ?

(b) Is it a fact that the said Assistant Commissioner did not succeed in persuading the peasants to accept his award ?

(c) Is it a fact that the said Assistant Commissioner threatened the peasants ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 267.

(d) Is it a fact that after the Assistant Commissioner's failure to persuade the peasants to accept his award, confidential orders were given to the police to help the Istimrardar against the peasants of Pisangan ?

(e) Is it a fact that Captain Galbraith, permanent Assistant Commissioner, has been officiating as Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, since May, 1930 ?

#### COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

†273. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Is it a fact that in 1929 one Chanda, cultivator of Pisangan, Ajmer-Merwara, wired to the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, that one hundred and fifty tenants were kept in illegal confinement by Chandmal, Kamdar of the Rajah of Pisangan, an Istimrardar of Ajmer-Merwara ?

(b) Is it a fact that a telegram containing the same complaint as is stated in part (a), was sent to the Honourable the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara ?

(c) Is it a fact that after the telegrams referred to in parts (a) and (b), a petition containing the same complaint as is stated in parts (a) and (b), was duly submitted to the Assistant Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara ?

(d) Is it a fact that no reply was communicated by the Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, or the Honourable the Chief Commissioner to the complainant ?

(e) Was an inquiry made into the petition referred to in part (c) ? If so, by whom and with what result ?

#### COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

†274. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Is it a fact that on the 1st April, 1930, Gheesa and other peasants of Pagara (Pisangan, Ajmer), presented themselves at the police station Pisangan to lodge a report that the servants of the Istimrardar of Pisangan and the Government girdawar of the circle took away gram and wheat-ears from their fields in their absence and without their permission and let loose their oxen and horses to feed on the standing crops of the said peasants ?

(b) Is it a fact that the said report was not entered by the police ?

(c) Is it also a fact that the sub-inspector of the Pisangan police station abused and kicked Gheesa for his insistence on the entry of the report ?

(d) Is it a fact that on the 2nd April, 1930, the report referred to in part (a), was sent by post under an acknowledgment due registered cover to the sub-inspector of the Pisangan police station ? If so, will Government be pleased to put a copy of the said report on the table of the House ?

(e) If the reply to the first part of the question in part (d) be in the affirmative, will Government please state whether any action was taken on the report ? If so, what ? If not, why not ?

(f) Is it a fact that after the report referred to in part (d), the Sub-Inspector in charge of the police station Pisangan challaned more than

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 267.

half-a-dozen inhabitants of Pisangan under section 34 of the Indian Penal Code in the Court of the Honorary Magistrate, Pisangan, on the 3rd April, 1930 ? If so, is it a fact that the Istimrardar of Pisangan is the Honorary Magistrate of Pisangan ?

(g) Is it a fact that the inhabitants referred to in part (f) were signatories to the memorial against the Istimrardar of Pisangan and Mr. P. B. Joshi, the Assistant Superintendent of Education, Ajmer-Merwara, submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy on the 6th March, 1930 ? If so, why was the case against them tried by the said Istimrardar ?

(h) Is it also a fact that the Pisangan inhabitants referred to in part (f), helped Gheesa and others (who were illiterate) in preparing the report referred to in part (d) ?

#### COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

†275. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Are Government aware that the servants of the Istimrardar of Pisangan in Ajmer-Merwara forcibly took away 20 seers of corn from the wife of Chautha Patel of Pisangan, who was taking the corn from her barn to her home for domestic consumption on the 12th April, 1930 ?

(b) Is it also a fact that the Government police of Pisangan helped the Istimrardar of Pisangan in the forcible seizure of corn referred to in part (a) above ?

(c) If so, what action do Government propose to take in the matter ?

#### NON-ACCEPTANCE OF A TELEGRAM OF COMPLAINT AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

276. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Will Government please inquire and state whether it is a fact that Dayal Kumhar of Pisangan in Ajmer-Merwara requested Misrilal, Station Master, Mangliawas, Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway, metre gauge, on the 22nd April, 1930, to wire, on behalf of the public of Pisangan, telegram to His Excellency the Viceroy, to the Honourable the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, and to the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, complaining against the Istimrardar of Pisangan and Government police stationed in Pisangan ?

(b) Is it also a fact that the Station Master referred to in (a) refused in writing, to accept and transmit the telegrams on the ground that the said telegrams must be signed by at least 20 persons ? If so, will Government please state whether it is a rule of Government or of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway that a telegram on behalf of the public must be signed by at least 20 persons ?

(c) Is it also a fact that the telegrams, signed by the said Dayal Kumhar and 22 other inhabitants of Pisangan, was again presented to the said Station Master for despatch but was again not accepted by the Station Master ?

(d) Is it also a fact that the telegrams referred to in (c) had to be despatched from the Ajmer telegraph office on the same date (the 22nd of April, 1930) ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 267.

(e) If what are stated in parts (a) to (d) above are facts, are Government prepared to instruct the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway administration to take action against the station master referred to ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** I am obtaining information regarding this matter from the Agent of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway and on hearing from him I will communicate with the Honourable Member.

#### COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

277. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Is it a fact that on the 22nd April, 1930, Dayal and 22 other peasants of Pisangan Istimrari area in Ajmer-Merwara wired to His Excellency the Viceroy, to the Honourable the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, and to the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, that " Rajah Sahib, Pisangan, Ajmer District, confines public, robs grain property, no action by police. Solicit Mercy " ?

(b) If the reply to the question in part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government please state if any action was taken by Government on the Pisangan peasants' telegrams ? If so, what ? If not, why not ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** A telegram from the persons named was received by His Excellency on the date mentioned, and was forwarded to the Honourable the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, for local investigation.

#### COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

278. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Is it a fact that the peasants of Pisangan (Ajmer-Merwara) submitted a second memorial dated the 1st May, 1930, to His Excellency the Viceroy complaining against the Istimrardar of Pisangan, Mr. P. B. Joshi, the Assistant Superintendent of Education, and the Government Officials at the spot ?

(b) Is it a fact that a copy of the memorial mentioned above was submitted to the Honourable the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara ?

(c) Will Government please put on the table of the House a copy of the memorial mentioned in part (a) above ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Yes.

(b) So far as the Government of India are aware, this fact is as stated.

(c) Government will consider this question when the report which they have called for from the Chief Commissioner has been received.

#### EXTORTION OF ARBITRARY CESSES FROM TENANTS BY THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

279. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Is it a fact that on the 29th October, 1929, the Honourable the Judicial Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, in his judgment of the civil Second Appeal, No. 56 of 1928, pronounced, in regard to the cesses imposed on the tenants, that " I think the learned additional District Judge was perfectly correct in his statement



that the levy of these cesses was very arbitrary and out-of-date and cannot be continued. Times have changed very, very much since the Records of Rights was sanctioned in 1874. It is true that there has been a certain number of decrees for the levy of *Kholri*, but these to my mind are now an anachronism " ?

(b) Is it also a fact that the attention of the Local Government was drawn to the judgment referred to in part (a) in a leading article entitled ' Pisangan's Memorial to the Viceroy ' at pages 8 and 10 of the *State's Weekly*, Ajmer, dated the 28th March, 1930 ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Istimrardar of Pisangan compels his tenants to pay the cesses pronounced as arbitrary and out-of-date by the Honourable the Judicial Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, in the judgment referred to in part (a) ?

(d) Is it also a fact that the Local Government officials assist the Istimrardar of Pisangan in extorting from the tenants the cesses referred to in part (c) ?

(e) If what are stated in parts (a) to (d) above are facts, what action do Government propose to take against the Istimrardar of Pisangan and the officials referred to in part (d) ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** With your permission, Sir, I shall also answer questions Nos. 279—281 together. Government have no information on any of the matters referred to in them, but they have called for a report and when it is received will supply the Honourable Member with the information for which he has asked. They will also then consider what further action, if any, should be taken.

#### LAND RENT DEMANDED BY THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

†280. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Is it a fact that the Khalsa circles of Nagelau, Kalesara, Rampura, Lahsua, and Nand in Ajmer-Merwara, where the *ryotwari* system exists, are in the neighbourhood of the Pisangan Istimrari area ?

(b) Will Government please put on the table of the House a statement showing the maximum rate of land-rent per bigha and the minimum rate of land-rent per bigha for (i) Barani lands, (ii) Chahi lands, (iii) Abi lands, and (iv) Talabi lands, in each of the Khalsa circles named in part (a) ?

(c) Will Government please inquire and state what maximum rate of land-rent per bigha and minimum rate of land-rent per bigha for (i) Barani lands, (ii) Chahi lands, (iii) Abi lands, and (iv) Talabi lands does the Istimrardar of Pisangan demand from his tenants ?

#### COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE ISTIMRARDAR OF PISANGAN.

†281. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Is it a fact that there have been bitter disputes of long standing between the Istimrardar of Pisangan in Ajmer-Merwara and the Pisangan peasants and merchants ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 279.

(b) Is it a fact that the Istimrardar of Pisangan is the Honorary Magistrate and Munsif in his Istimrari area ?

(c) Is it a fact that lots of applications by the peasants and merchants of the Pisangan Istimrari area complaining against the Honorary Magistrate and Munsif referred to in part (b) have been continuously submitted to the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara ?

(d) Is it a fact that so far the said Commissioner has not taken any action concerning the unanimous complaints referred to in part (c) ? If so, why ?

(e) Will Government please put on the table of the House copies of two applications dated 5th November, 1928, and 10th October, 1929, submitted to the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, by hundreds of farmers and merchants of Pisangan Istimrari area and containing complaints of many kinds against the present Honorary Magistrate and Munsif of Pisangan ?

#### FEES CHARGED IN THE COURT OF THE HONORARY MUNSIF OF PISANGAN.

282. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Is it a fact that for comparing Khatabahi a fee of two rupees in cash on a claim of rupees hundred is charged in the court of the Honorary Munsif of Pisangan in Ajmer-Merwara, whereas in Ajmer civil courts a fee of only two annas on a claim of any amount is charged for comparing Khatabahi ?

(b) Is it a fact that unlike the custom in the Ajmer civil courts, the fee for comparing Khatabahi realised by the court of the Honorary Munsif, Pisangan is not included in the plaintiff's cost ?

(c) Will Government please state how the amount of money realised as fees for comparing Khatabahi by the Honorary Munsif, Pisangan, is disposed off ?

Mr. E. B. Howell : With your permission, Sir, I propose to answer questions Nos. 282, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288 and 289 together. The information is being collected and will be communicated to the Honourable Member in due course.

#### FIRE IN THE BOMBAY, BARODA AND CENTRAL INDIA RAILWAY CARRIAGE SHOP, AJMER.

283. \*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi : (a) Is it a fact that a fire broke out in 1930, in the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Carriage Shop, Ajmer, causing a damage of several lakhs of rupees ?

(b) Is it also a fact that the police have been unable as yet to trace out any culprits in connection with the fire referred to in part (a) ?

Mr. A. A. L. Parsons : (a) and (b). Inquiries are being made from the Railway Administration and the Honourable Member will be furnished with the information in due

12 NOON.

course.

**MURDER OF A WOMAN IN AJMER.**

†284. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to an article, entitled "*Ajmer police ki Nadir-shahi*" published at page 6 of the *Rajasthan Sandesh*, Ajmer, dated the 30th June, 1929 ?

(b) If the reply to the question in part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government please state whether they have inquired into the allegations made in that article regarding the carrying away of sojourners from the Ajmer dharmshalas by the police with a view to extort money from them ? If so, will Government please communicate to the House the result of the inquiry ?

(c) Is it a fact that one Musammat Samwa, wife of Rupchand a pilgrim to Pushkar, sojourning in Ajmer, was carried away by policemen from an Ajmer Dharmshala to Aghori Karamnath's abode, where she was murdered after the publication of the article referred to in part (a) ?

**ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE AJMER POLICE.**

†285. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to an editorial note entitled "*Ajmer ki police*" published at page 4 of the *Rajasthan Sandesh*, Ajmer, dated the 14th July, 1929 ?

(b) If so, have Government inquired into the allegations against the Ajmer police made in the said article ? If not, why not ?

**MURDER OF A WOMAN IN AJMER.**

†286. **\*Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to an article, entitled "*Ajmer men manush bhakshi Sadhu*", published at page 6 of the *Rajasthan Sandesh*, Ajmer, dated the 14th July, 1929 ?

(b) Is it a fact that during Mr. Gibson's tenure of office as Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara, one Musammat Samwa, wife of Rupchand, a pilgrim to Pushkar, was murdered in Ajmer ?

(c) Is it a fact that the wife and husband referred to in part (b) were staying in a Dharmshala, from which they were led by policemen to the abode of a Sadhu who was subsequently convicted and punished for murder ?

(d) Is it a fact that after the murder referred to in part (b), when a jamadar took the murdered woman's husband to the kotwali, the officers on duty there did not enter the report made by him that his wife was missing ?

(e) Is it a fact that for about three days after the murder no report about the missing woman was entered by the police ? If so, why ?

(f) If the replies to the questions in parts (d) and (e) be in the affirmative, did Government take any action against the officer or officers responsible for not entering the report referred to in parts (d) and (e) ? If so, what ? If not, why not ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 282.

(g) Is it a fact that it was with the assistance of Messrs. Hemchand and Hariram and other residents of Ajmer and the recommendation of Mr. Mangi Lal, Magistrate and Treasury Officer, Ajmer, to the Deputy Superintendent of Police, that the husband of the murdered woman was at last successful in having his report entered by the police ?

(h) Is it a fact that police investigation began three days after the murder ? If it is not a fact, how many days after the murder did the police investigation begin ?

(i) Is it a fact that the police could not discover the dead body of the murdered woman ?

#### SEIZURE AND DESTRUCTION OF FOOD BY THE POLICE AT KAIROT.

†287. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Is it a fact that about a year ago, in the time of Mr. Gibson's Commissionership of Ajmer-Merwara, the police seized and destroyed an immense quantity of food prepared for a funeral feast by an Oswal merchant at Kairot in the Istimrari area of Kairot in Ajmer-Merwara ? If so, by whose order did the police seize and destroy the food ?

(b) Is it a fact that a complaint was filed in a criminal Court in Ajmer against the police and the Istimrardar of Kairot in respect of the seizure and destruction of food referred to in part (a) ?

(c) Is it also a fact that the Istimrardar of Kairot was deprived of his powers as an Honorary Magistrate after the complaint referred to in part (b) ?

(d) If the replies to the questions in parts (a) to (c) be in the affirmative, did Government take any action against the police referred to in part (a) and the officer under whose orders the police seized and destroyed the food ? If so, what ? If not, why not ?

#### APPOINTMENT OF TREASURY OFFICER AND MAGISTRATE, AJMER.

†288. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Is it a fact that Mr. Jawahir Lal has been temporarily appointed as Treasury Officer and Magistrate, Ajmer, during the Commissionership of Mr. Gibson ?

(b) Was the appointment referred to in part (a) made by selection through competition ? If so, how many candidates took part in the competition ?

(c) Were applications for the appointment invited by advertisement and public notification ? If so, what were the dates of advertisement and public notification ? If not, why not ?

(d) Is it a fact that there is no Muslim gazetted officer in the revenue line and no Muslim paid Magistrate in Ajmer-Merwara ?

(e) If so, will Government please state why no Muslim was appointed as Treasury Officer and Magistrate, Ajmer ?

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 282.

**MAGISTRATES AND REVENUE OFFICERS IN AJMER-MERWARA.**

†289. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : Will Government please place on the table of the House a statement showing the paid Magistrates and revenue officers, not below the rank of a Naib Tahsildar, in Ajmer-Merwara, giving for each officer or Magistrate (i) name, (ii) the date of his first appointment as revenue officer or Magistrate, (iii) whether the appointment was made by open competition, selection through advertisement, or by nomination, (iv) whether the appointment was made by direct recruitment or by promotion from the ministerial line, and (v) in case of direct recruitment, whether the officer recruited was or was not the son or other relation of some Government ministerial servant in active service or retired ?

**VOTERS IN THE PISANGAN ISTIMRARI AREA FOR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.**

290. \***Mr. Abdul Latif Saheb Farookhi** : (a) Is it a fact that there is no voter in Pisangan Istimrari area, except the Istimrardar of Pisangan, for electing a member from Ajmer-Merwara for the Legislative Assembly ?

(b) Will Government please state whether there are many persons in the Pisangan Istimrari area other than the Istimrardar of Pisangan who possess qualifications for voting in the Legislative Assembly election ?

**Mr. D. G. Mitchell** : (a) and (b). The qualifications for the franchise in the Ajmer-Merwara constituency of the Legislative Assembly are set out in Part XI of Schedule II to the Legislative Assembly Electoral Rules. The Government of India have no information regarding the number of persons in the area to which the Honourable Member refers who possess a franchise qualification.

**Mr. President** : I have to announce that Mr. Reddi, who was unavoidably absent when his question No. 201 was reached, is now anxious to put that question. As I am anxious to give all facilities to new Members, I will allow him to put the question now.

**RESTORATION OF STIPENDS TO MEMBERS OF THE CARNATIC FAMILY.**

201. \***Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi** : Will Government be pleased to state whether they have given effect to the Resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly and which the Government have themselves accepted on the floor of the Legislative Assembly on the 22nd January, 1930, regarding the restoration of stipends to the members of the Carnatic family who took part in the non-co-operation movement ?

**Mr. E. B. Howell** : I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer given by me in the House on the 14th instant to a question on the same subject by the Honourable Maulvi Mohammad Shafee Daoodi.

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 282.

## UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT ACT.

104. **Mr. N. Natesa Ayyar :** (a) Will Government please state if there has been any prosecution in any of the provinces of India in connection with the Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1929, and if so, how many and with what results ?

(b) Have Government ascertained how many child marriages as defined by the Act have been performed between 1st October, 1929, and 1st of April, 1930, in each of the provinces of India ? If not, are Government prepared to make an inquiry into the matter and lay the information on the table ?

(c) Are Government aware of the intense dissatisfaction and unrest which the Act has created among the persons affected thereby in all the provinces ? Are Government prepared to make an inquiry into the matter ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) The Government of India have received no information regarding prosecutions under the Act, and it may be presumed that the number is small.

(b) The answer to the first part is in the negative. Government do not propose to make an enquiry. Indeed as marriages are normally not registered, it would be impossible to obtain the information.

(c) Government do not consider it necessary to institute an inquiry into the feeling on this matter. Certain Bills for the amendment of the Act which have been introduced, or of which notices have been given, by Members of this and the other House have been circulated to Local Governments for opinion.

### APPOINTMENT OF BUSINESSMEN TO GAZETTED POSTS AND TO COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, ETC.

105. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the article under the caption " Why are business men in revolt against the Government " published in the *Tribune*, Lahore, dated the 2nd July, 1930 ?

(b) Will the Government please state the names of Indian businessmen, if any, appointed since 1928 :

(i) direct to Gazetted appointments in the Departments under the Government of India in which their knowledge and experience could prove useful ;

(ii) as members of Committees, Commissions or Delegations of the Government of India or of the Imperial Government ?

(c) Will the Government please state the names of Committees appointed by them since 1925 to inquire into matters of special interest to the business community, e.g., banking, exchange, railway rates, tariff, coal, etc. ?

(d) How many of these Committees, if any, had Indian non-official businessmen as their Presidents ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** (a) Yes.

(b) to (d). The information desired by the Honourable Member is being collected and will be furnished to him in due course.

#### REPUBLICATION OF MOORE'S "FAMILY MEDICINE".

106. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that " Moore's Family Medicine " is published under the authority of the Government of India ?

(b) Is it a fact that its last edition was published about ten years ago ?

(c) When do Government propose to publish its next revised edition ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) Government will consider the question.

#### GUM USED ON ENVELOPES MADE BY THE SECURITY PRINTING PRESS, NASIK.

107. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Are Government aware that there has been a marked change for the worse in respect of the gum used on envelopes since their printing and preparation has been undertaken by the Security Printing Press, Nasik Road ?

(b) When do Government propose to remedy the defect ?

**Mr. H. A. Sams :** (a) Some complaints about bad gumming have been received.

(b) The Master, Security Printing Press, was addressed on the subject and it is hoped that there will be no ground for further complaints.

#### MAXIMUM PENALTY IN RESPECT OF EXCESS LUGGAGE CARRIED BY A RAILWAY PASSENGER.

108. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) What is the amount of penalty that a railway passenger travelling without a ticket in third class from Calcutta to Simla has to pay ?

(b) What is the amount of penalty for carrying only two seers of luggage in excess of the free allowance, if it is not booked in advance at Calcutta and is found to be in excess at Simla ?

(c) Do Government propose to consider the question of allowing a free allowance even if the luggage of a passenger is found to be in excess at the destination ?

(d) Do Government propose to consider the question of fixing a maximum for penalty chargeable in respect of excess luggage ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** (a) The amount of penalty for a third class passenger travelling from Calcutta to Simla without a ticket is two annas, if the passenger, before being detected by a railway servant, notifies to the railway servant on duty with the train that he is without a ticket, otherwise one rupee.

(b) The forfeiture of the free allowance, which for a third class passenger would amount in the case mentioned, to Rs. 6.

(c) and (d). No.

### PROVISIONS OF A WATER PIPE ON THE PLATFORM OF THE SIMLA RAILWAY STATION.

109. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that there is no water-pipe on the platform of Simla Railway Station ?

(b) Is it a fact that the nearest water-pipe is near the engine shed beyond the platform and that it is risky to go to that water-pipe as it involves crossing of lines ?

(c) When do the Government propose to provide a drinking water-pipe on the platform for the use of passengers ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) I am having the matter referred to the Agent, North Western Railway, and, on receipt of his reply, will communicate with the Honourable Member.

### CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD BETWEEN NEW DELHI AND RAMJAS AND TIBBIA COLLEGES.

110. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that no road has so far been constructed between New Delhi and Ramjas College and Tibbia College and are Government aware that the students, etc., have to pass through almost a jungle when going from New Delhi to the Colleges ?

(b) When do the Government propose to undertake the construction of that road ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) A road is under construction from the Rohtak road to the Tibbia College, which, when completed, will provide a continuous metalled road from New Delhi to the Ramjas College. The Tibbia College is already connected by a metalled road to New Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

### LOSS OF REVENUE ON THE KALKA SIMLA RAILWAY DUE TO PRIVATE ROAD MOTOR COMPETITION.

111. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) How much fall in revenue have the Government suffered during the last two years, as compared with the two years, previous to that, on the Kalka-Simla Railway, on account of competition with private road-motors ?

(b) Is it a fact that the increasing popularity of road-motors is due to absence of smoke and shorter time taken to cover the journey ?

(c) Is it a fact that Government propose to use faster engines on the line ? If so, when ?

(d) What is the present stage of the Government's proposal to electrify the line to remedy the smoke nuisance and to shorten the journey ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** (a) The figures for 1929-30 are not at present available, but the earnings from passengers carried on the Kalka-Simla section during the two years ending 31st March 1927, were Rs. 17,41,894, and for the two years ending 31st March, 1929, Rs. 11,63,500. The extent to which road motor competition has contributed to the fall in revenue cannot be ascertained, but a fairly appreciable amount is due to a reduc-



tion of 50 per cent. in the fares which applied during the months of June to September.

(b) Various factors operate to influence intending passengers in exercising their choice between travel by railway and travel by road-motor. The absence of smoke and the duration of the journey are undoubtedly considerations that weigh with passengers.

(c) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative, and the second part does not therefore arise.

(d) The scheme for electrification has been postponed for the present.

#### CASHIERS IN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OFFICES.

112. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that in view of the special nature of the work of cashiers in the Government of India offices, usually *senior* Lower Division men are posted on the duty and are allowed special *allowance* for it in addition to pay ?

(b) What was the rate of pay (*not* scale) of the clerks working as cashiers in the various Departments of the Secretariat and Attached Offices on the 1st June, 1930 ?

(c) Do Government propose to fix a certain minimum of pay below which no one should be posted on this work, which involves special responsibility ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** (a) Yes.

(b) The information is being collected and will be supplied to the Honourable Member when complete.

(c) No. The matter is one for the Heads of the Departments concerned and Government have no doubt that they are alive to the importance of selecting suitable men.

#### MIGRATORY SCHOOL FOR SIMLA AND NEW DELHI.

113. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the Government of India have long had under consideration the question of starting a migratory school for Simla and New Delhi to remove the hardships to which the sons and daughters of the Government of India clerks are put on account of the two places being under different Education Departments and Universities ?

(b) Do Government propose to place Simla in Delhi Province for the purpose of education for the present and to keep the point in view when considering the redistribution of Provinces, as recommended by the Simon Commission ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given to the unstarred question No. 279, asked by Pandit Nilakantha Das on the 21st March, 1930. It is hoped that an early decision will be reached in the matter.

(b) No such proposal is before Government.

#### LACK OF AN UNORTHODOX HINDU TIFFIN ROOM IN THE CIVIL SECRETARIAT BUILDINGS AT SIMLA.

114. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that in *each* of the two buildings of the Imperial Secretariat at New Delhi there is one separate unorthodox Hindu tiffin room ?

(b) Is it a fact that there is no un-orthodox Hindu tiffin room in any of the buildings of the Civil Secretariat at Simla ?

(c) Is it a fact that there is only one Hindu tiffin room in Gorton Castle at Simla, and are Government aware that it is extremely dirty and too small to cater for the hundreds of Hindu clerks in the building ?

(d) When do the Government propose to improve the condition of the present tiffin room and to provide another for un-orthodox Hindus and to relieve the present one of rush ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) Each of the two Secretariat buildings in New Delhi has two tiffin rooms for Hindus. They are not specifically classed as orthodox or unorthodox.

(b) There are two tiffin rooms for Hindus in the Civil Secretariat buildings at Simla, one at "Gorton Castle" and the other at "Kennedy House". These also are not specifically classed as orthodox or unorthodox.

(c) As stated in part (b) of the reply, there is only one tiffin room for Hindus in "Gorton Castle". It is reported to be suitable for the purpose ; no complaints have been received about its being dirty.

(d) Certain improvements were carried out to this tiffin room in 1928, and Government do not propose to build any other tiffin room.

**LAYING ON THE TABLE OF FULL REPLIES TO QUESTIONS TO WHICH *ad interim* REPLIES ARE GIVEN IN THE FIRST INSTANCE.**

**115. Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that to some of the questions in the Legislative Assembly *ad interim* replies are given and full replies are communicated later only to the Members by whom the questions are put ?

(b) Do Government propose, for the information of the whole House, to lay on the table on the first day of the following Session full replies to all questions to which *ad interim* replies are given in the first instance ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir George Rainy :** (a) This is so.

(b) The present practice is based on a considered ruling by the President Sir Frederick Whyte, delivered on 1st March, 1921, which runs as follows :

"The... point concerns the laying on the table of information supplied to a Member individually in response to a question asked by him. It has been represented to me that inasmuch as any matter which is laid on the table must also be printed in the Assembly's proceedings, the laying on the table of all such information, which may often be of an exceedingly copious nature, will inevitably have the effect of swelling the proceedings to an inconvenient size, and will add greatly to the difficulty of expeditiously securing their publication in print. I have accordingly decided to modify the previous ruling on this point and to direct that such information shall only be laid on the table and printed in the proceedings when, in the opinion of the Member of the Government concerned, it is likely to be of general public interest. Where in pursuance of this direction the Department of the Government concerned decides, not to lay the information on the table, any Member desiring to obtain the same should apply to that Department for a copy of the information supplied to the Member asking the original question."

(Vide Legislative Assembly Debates, Vol. I, page 434.)—

This ruling was re-affirmed by Sir Frederick Whyte on 1st February, 1923. It is, therefore, the established practice of this House almost from its

inception, and Government sees no reason to depart from it now. I may add that copies of such answers are placed in the Library, where any other Member who is interested can peruse them.

**NEWSPAPERS, ETC. REQUIRED TO FURNISH SECURITY UNDER THE PRESS ORDINANCE.**

116. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the names of papers, periodicals, monthlies, etc., from whom a security under the newly promulgated Press Ordinance was demanded and how many of them paid off the security and how many have suspended publication as a protest ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I place a statement on the table.

The Honourable Member will notice that there are no names shown under Bengal. The position in that province is that no security was demanded in the case of newspapers but nine newspapers ceased publication following the demand of security from the presses at which they were printed.

*Statement showing the action taken by local Governments under the Indian Press Ordinance II of 1930.*

**Newspapers.**

Serial No.	Name of newspaper from whom security has been demanded.	Amount of security demanded or whether reduced or not on representation.	Whether security was deposited or newspaper ceased publication or did not start in view of demand for security.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
		<i>Madras.</i>		
		Ra.		
1	Kistnapatrika, Kistna ..	1,000 No representation	Ceased.	
2	Sukhodayam, N. Arcot ..	1,000 Do.	Do.	
3	Durbar, Guntur ..	1,000 ..	Notice demanding security since withheld on representation.	
4	Simhapari, Nellore ..	500 No representation	Ceased.	
5	Dosabbakten, Trichinopoly	1,000 Do.	Do.	
6	Congress, East Godavari ..	2,500 Do.	Do.	
7	Swadesamitran, Madras ..	2,500 Do.	Deposited security.	
8	Sudandara Sangu, Madras	1,000 Do.	Ceased.	
9	Tamil Nadu, Madras ..	1,000 Do.	Deposited security	
10	Ten Nadu, Madras ..	1,500 Do.	Ceased	
11	Ananda Vahini, Madras ..	1,000 Do.	Do.	
12	Saraswati, Madras ..	1,000 Do.	Do.	
13	My Magazine, Madras ...	1,000 Do.	Do.	
14	Andhra Patrika, Madras ..	2,000 Do.	Deposited security.	
15	Swarajya, Madras ..	2,500 Do.	Ceased.	

Serial No.	Name of newspaper from whom security has been demanded.	Amount of security demanded or whether reduced or not on representation.	Whether security was deposited or newspaper ceased publication or did not start in view of demand for security.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
		<i>Madras—contd.</i>		
16	Sahakava Patrika ...	Rs. 1,000 No representation	No information.	
17	Navasakti, Madras ..	1,000 Do. ..	Ceased.	
18	Satyagrahi, West Godavari	Security demanded by District Magistrate. Amount not reported.	Do.	
		<i>Bombay.</i>		
19	Free Press Bulletin, Bombay	500 ..	Security deposited.	
20	Free Press Journal, Bombay	500 ..	Do.	
21	Aftab newspaper, Bombay	1,000 ..	Ceased.	
22	Nawjivan newspaper, Bombay.	800 ..	Paper not started.	
23	Shraddhanand newspaper, Bombay.	2,000 ..	Ceased.	
24	Hindu Kartavya newspaper, Bombay.	800 ..	Paper not started.	
25	Daily Hikal, Bombay ..	2,000 ..	Security not deposited. Commissioner of Police directed to prosecute the publisher under section 22(2) of Ordinance.	
26	Sayankal newspaper, Bombay.	800 ..	Paper not started.	
27	Sindhi newspaper, Sukkur	500 ..	Security deposited.	
28	Young Liberator newspaper, Bombay.	1,000 ..	Ceased.	
29	Sota newspaper, Bombay ..	1,000 ..	Paper not started.	
30	Mahratta newspaper, Poona.	2,000 ..	Security deposited.	
31	Parsi Patrika newspaper, Bombay.	1,500 ..	Paper not started.	
32	Kaliyuga newspaper, Bombay	2,000 ..	Ceased.	
33	Workers' Weekly newspaper, Bombay.	2,000 No representation received.	Security not deposited. Commissioner of Police requested to prosecute publisher for publishing the paper without depositing the security.	
34	Naubat newspaper, Bombay.	2,000 Do. ..	Ceased.	
35	Vidyarthi newspaper, Amalner, East Khandesh.	1,000 ..	Do.	
36	Shri Lokamanya newspaper, Bombay.	1,000 ..	Paper not started.	
37	Kranti newspaper, Bombay	2,000 No representation received.	Ceased.	
38	Rajasthan Hind newspaper, Bombay.	1,000 ..	Do.	
39	Aftab newspaper, Bombay	2,000 ..	Paper not started.	
40	Praja Bandhu newspaper, Ahmedabad.	1,000 No representation received.	Ceased.	

Serial No.	Name of newspaper from whom security has been demanded.	Amount of security demanded or whether reduced or not on representation.	Whether security was deposited or newspaper ceased publication or did not start in view of demand for security.	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
		<i>Bombay—contd.</i>		
		Rs.		
41	Dunka newspaper, Bombay	1,000 No representation received.	Ceased.	
42	Hindustan and Prajamitra newspaper, Bombay.	2,000 Do.	Security deposited.	
43	Shakti newspaper, Ahmedabad.	1,000 Do.	Security not deposited. Notice defied.	
44	Messenger of Youth newspaper, Bombay.	2,000	Paper not started.	
45	Navjivan newspaper, Ahmedabad.	2,000 No representation received.	Notice defied. Action under consideration.	
46	Young India newspaper, Ahmedabad.	2,000 Do.	Do.	
47	Hindu Jati newspaper, Karachi.	5,600 No representation.	Notice served on publisher Sachanand Pherumal in Hyderabad Jail. He has applied for transfer to Karachi Prison to enable him to make arrangements. So far paper continues to be published. Further action under consideration.	
48	Kaliyug newspaper, Bombay	2,000 Do.	Ceased.	
49	Prajamat newspaper, Godhra.	2,000 Do.	Paper ceased publication on being warned by District Magistrate that security was to be taken.	
50	Nutan Gujarat newspaper, Ahmedabad.	1,000 Do.	Ceased.	
51	Bombay Vartaman newspaper, Bombay.	1,500	Paper not started.	
52	Torch Bearer newspaper, Bombay.	1,500	Do.	
53	Sudershan newspaper, Surat	1,000 No representation	Ceased.	
		<i>United Provinces.</i>		
54	The Sainik, Agra	2,000	Do.	
55	The Shakti, Almora	1,000	Result not yet known.	
56	The Aj, Benares	2,000	Ceased.	
57	The Pratap, Cawnpore	3,000	Do.	
58	The Swadhin Praja, Almora	3,000	Do.	
59	The District Gazette, Azamgarh.	5,000	Do.	
60	The Sach, Lucknow	1,000	Result not yet known.	

Serial No.	Name of newspaper from whom security has been demanded.	Amount of security demanded or whether reduced or not on representation.	Whether security was deposited or newspaper ceased publication or did not start in view of demand for security.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
		<i>United Provinces—contd.</i>		
		Rs.		
61	The Parivartan, Saharanpur	1,000	..	Result not yet known.
62	The Vartman, Cawnpore ..	2,000	..	Security not deposited. The question of taking further action under consideration.
63	The Chand, Allahabad ..	2,000	..	Result not yet known.
	The Desh Mitra, Ballia ..	1,000	..	Suspended publication.
65	The Kashatriya Yuva, Lucknow.	1,000	..	Result not yet known.
66	The Swetambar, Jain, Lucknow.	1,000	..	Do.
		<i>Punjab.</i>		
67	Zamindar, Lahore ..	2,500	No representation	Security has been deposited.
68	Partap, Lahore ..	2,500	Do.	Do.
69	Akali, Amritsar ..	2,500	Do.	Ceased.
70	Asli Qaumi Dard, Amritsar	2,500	Do.	Do.
71	Guru Ghantal, Lahore ..	2,500	Do.	Do.
72	Haqiqat, Multan ..	1,500	Do.	Do.
73	Tarjuman-i-Sarhad, Rawalpindi.	2,000	Do.	Do.
74	Shihab, Rawalpindi ..	2,000	Do.	Do.
75	Kirti Urdu, Amritsar ..	5,000	Do.	Do.
76	Kirti Gurmukhi, Amritsar	5,000	Do.	Do.
77	Desh Sewak, Jullundur ..	5,000	Do.	Do.
78	Bande Matram, Lahore ..	3,000	Do.	Security has been deposited.
79	Kirpan Bahadur, Amritsar	2,500	Do.	Ceased
80	Jhang Sial, Gujranwala ..	2,500	Do.	Do.
81	Nadharak, Gujranwala ..	2,500	Do.	Do.
82	Islah, Lyallpur ..	2,000	Do.	Do.
83	Haryana Tilak, Jhajjar, District Rohtak.	1,500	Do.	Do.
84	Naujiwan, Multan ..	1,000	Do.	Do.
85	Akali-te-Pardesi, Amritsar	2,000	Do.	Do.
86	Naujawan Hindustan, Amritsar.	2,000	Do.	Do.

Serial No.	Name of newspaper from whom security has been demanded.	Amount of security demanded or whether reduced or not on representation.	Whether security was deposited or newspaper ceased publication or did not start in view of demand for security.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
		<i>Punjab—contd.</i>		
87	People, Lahore ..	Rs. 1,000 No representation ..	Ceased.	
88	Vir Bharat Lahore ..	2,000 Do. ..	Security has been deposited.	
89	Milap, Lahore ..	1,000 (No representation made.)	Security deposited.	
90	Dharamvir, Amritsar ..	1,500 Do. ..	Ceased.	
91	Hamdard, Lahore ..	1,000 Do. ..	Do.	
		<i>Burma.</i>		
92	Rangoon Mail English Newspaper.	2,000 ..	Ceased.	
93	Swatantram Tamil Newspaper, Rangoon.	2,000 ..	Do.	
94	Wunthanu Thadinsa Burmese Newspaper Rangoon.	1,000 ..	Do.	
95	Praschi Prakash Hindi Newspaper, Rangoon.	2,000 ..	Do.	
96	Desopakkam Tamil Newspaper, Rangoon.	2,000 ..	Do.	
		<i>Bihar and Orissa.</i>		
97	Searchlight Newspaper, Patna.	3,000 ..	Ceased.	
		<i>Central Provinces.</i>		
98	Lokmat, Jabulpore ..	1,000 No representation	No.	
99	Karmavir, Khandwa ..	500 ..	No.	
		<i>Assam.</i>		
100	The Assamiya, Gauhati ..	2,000 ..	Ceased.	
101	The Janasakti, Sylhet ..	2,000 ..	Do.	
102	The Sylhet Chronicle, Sylhet	1,000 ..	Do.	
103	The Panchajanya, Karimganj.	500 ..	No information.	
		<i>N. W. F. Province.</i>		
104	Sarhad Newspaper, Peshawar.	2,000 ..	Ceased.	
105	Pakhtun Newspaper, (Monthly) Peshawar.	2,000 ..	Do.	
106	Kesari Newspaper, Peshawar.	2,000 ..	Do.	

Serial No.	Name of newspapers from whom security has been demanded.	Amount of security demanded or whether reduced or not on representation.	Whether security was deposited or newspaper ceased publication or did not start in view of demand for security.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
		<i>Delhi.</i>		
		Rs.		
107	Daily Tej .. ..	5,000 ..	..	Ceased.
108	Hindustan Times ..	5,000 ..	..	Do.
109	Arjun .. ..	5,000 ..	..	Do.
110	Hindu Sansar .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
111	Shuddhi Samachar ..	500 ..	..	Security deposited.
112	Riyasat .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
113	Millat .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Security waived on representation.
114	Aljamiat .. ..	500 ..	..	Security deposited.
115	Tej .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Declaration and security not yet filed. New publication for which it was desired to make declaration.
116	Paigam-i-Jang .. ..	1,000 ..	..	Do.
117	Qaumi Gazette .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
118	Tijarat .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Security waived, but declaration not yet made. New publication for which it was desired to make declaration.
119	Shakti .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
120	India .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Security waived, but declaration not yet made.
121	Hukumat .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Security waived.
122	Peshwa .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
123	Khawaja School Gazette ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
124	Mahabir .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
125	New Capital .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
126	Khabardar .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
127	Sarvadeshik .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
128	Mashir-i-Saltanat ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
129	Indian Post .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
130	Hindustan .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.
131	Fauji Magazine .. ..	2,000 ..	..	Do.

**ALLEGED ASSAULT BY POLICE OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, LUCKNOW, ETC., IN DEALING WITH THE CONGRESS MOVEMENT.**

117. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will Government be pleased to state whether it has come to their notice that the police in dealing with the



Congress movement freely assaulted and wounded several peaceful women and children with a *lathi* charge in Calcutta, Bombay, Lucknow and other places of India ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** The Government of India understand that in some places women have received injury in the course of the dispersal of crowds. They regret that any injury should have been so caused.

#### ANTICIPATED EXTRA EXPENDITURE AND FALL IN REVENUE AS A RESULT OF THE CONGRESS MOVEMENT.

**118. Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will Government be pleased to state what extra expenditure and what extent of fall in revenue the Government anticipate as a direct result of the Congress movement, and how do they propose to meet the deficit ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** No attempt has yet been made to estimate the effect of the civil disobedience movement on Central and Provincial finances.

#### AIR CRAFT TRAINING INSTITUTION IN INDIA.

**119. Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will Government be pleased to state the number of institutions, if any, in India for the training of students in air-craft ? If none, do Government propose to open any in the near future ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** The reply to the first part of the question is " Nil ".

The reply to the second part is in the negative.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE MONEY PAID BY THE INDIAN RAILWAY CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION TO EMPLOYEES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA.

**120. Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Are Government aware that the Indian Railway Conference which get their work done in the Government of India Press, Simla, every year, on payment, send an amount of Rs. 250 as donation for distribution among the employees of the Press ?

(b) Is it also a fact that this money is not distributed to all the employees but confined simply to certain special favourite hands ?

(c) Are Government prepared to issue instructions to the Controller that in future this amount is equally distributed among all the employees who all, more or less, perform a certain amount of work in one way or the other ?

(d) Is it a fact that if at the time of disbursement of this donation any employees are on leave, the payment is withheld by the Cashier and not paid to them even on their resuming their duty ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to :

(i) place on the table the disbursement list for the last five years and state what amount was left undistributed every year ;

(ii) whether it was ever refunded to the Association or to the Government and if not, why not, and how the amount has been accounted for ; and

- (iii) has any information ever been asked for from the Manager by the Controller of Printing in this connection? If not, why not?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Men are paid their shares on their claiming them within a period of two months. Men on leave have been paid their shares on return to duty even after the expiry of the period. There is, however, generally a small balance which remains undistributed.

(e) (i) Government do not propose to place the disbursement lists on the table. The amounts left undistributed for the last five years are as follows :

			Rs. A. P.
1925	..	..	12 8 0
1926	..	..	8 4 0
1927	..	..	12 8 0
1928	..	..	9 4 0
1929	..	..	13 10 0

(ii) and (iii). The Controller, who has not hitherto been aware of the donation or of the method of its distribution, is being instructed to make an enquiry in regard to it and to submit a report.

#### QUARTERS AND HOUSE RENT FOR THE PEONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OFFICES.

121. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Is it a fact that several peons of the Government of India offices are forced to live in one small room, and if so, are Government prepared to consider the question of providing more quarters or allowing them house rent to enable them to get quarters elsewhere?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** One room is allotted to more than one peon only when it is considered that it can suitably accommodate more than one man. Government do not propose to build more quarters for peons at present. Those peons who are not provided with Government quarters are given house rent allowance instead.

#### LEAVE APPLIED FOR BY THE EMPLOYEES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA.

122. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government be pleased to place on table a list of the employees of the Government of India Press, Simla, who during the last three years applied for leave for less than ten days on account of illness and who were asked to submit medical certificates although the leave applied for by them was earned and was due to them?

(b) Is it also a fact that no such certificates have ever been asked for to be produced by the men in the clerical and accounts section and, if so, why distinctions exist in various sections in the same Press?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I propose to deal with questions Nos. 122, 123, 124 and 130 together. The Controller of Printing

and Stationery is responsible to Government generally for the efficient administration of the Government of India Presses and Government do not propose to call for information regarding these administrative details which are matters for his discretion.

#### CARRYING OF HEAVY BUNDLES BY THE PEONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA.

†123. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Is it a fact that the peons in the Government of India Press, Simla, are forced to carry very heavy bundles weighing over 25 or 30 seers every day to the various offices located in different and distant places for which purpose the coolie rate is 4 to 8 annas per trip, and if so, are Government prepared to consider the question of issuing instructions to engage coolies in all such cases in future ?

#### GRADATION LISTS FOR THE PRINTING AND CLERICAL SECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA.

† 124. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that in the printing and clerical sections of the Government of India Press, Simla, no gradation list has yet been maintained, and if so, why ?

(b) Are Government prepared to instruct the Controller of Printing to see that this is done at the earliest possible moment ?

#### HOLDING OF ALL HIGHER APPOINTMENTS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA, BY MUHAMMADANS.

125. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Are Government aware that the majority of almost all the higher appointments in the Government of India Press, Simla, are held purely by Muhammadans, and of the consequent discontent felt by Sikhs, Christian and Hindu employees which has been prevailing for a long time ? Are Government prepared to inquire into the matter ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** Government have no information of the alleged discontent. The supervisory staff of the Government of India Press, Simla, of and below the grade of Assistant Manager, are filled by nine Hindus, five Muhammadans and one Christian. The last part of the question does not arise.

#### ADDITIONAL DUTIES DONE BY THE PEONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA.

126. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Is it a fact that the peons in the Government of India Press, Simla, besides their official duties are also forced to perform in addition, the work of firemen and for which purpose they are required to attend drills, etc. ? If the answer to this is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state what additional remuneration is given to them for this extra work required of them, and if not, do Government propose to see their way of appointing a proper fire station staff for the purpose ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** The peons in accordance with a long standing practice attend fire parade for about half an hour once a month. No extra remuneration is paid to them. Government do not propose to appoint a separate fire station staff for the purpose.

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 122.

### DISCREPANCIES FOUND IN HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY'S PRESS.

127. **Mr. S. C. Mitra** : Are Government aware that the Examiner, Government Press Accounts in the course of audit of accounts of the Press of His Excellency the Viceroy, came across some serious discrepancies found in the cash and other accounts of the Press, which have already been brought to the notice of the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy ? Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the correspondence between the Examiner, Government Press Accounts and the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy and state what action has been taken against the persons responsible for keeping wrong accounts, and if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : Government are aware that certain irregularities were discovered in the course of auditing the accounts of the Press of the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy. A thorough enquiry is being made into these irregularities, and until this is completed it is impossible to say what action will be taken. The enquiry has so far gone to show that there was no embezzlement of Government money and that the defects referred to were at the most serious irregularities in procedure. Steps have already been taken to prevent the recurrence of these.

### INTRODUCTION OF A PROVIDENT FUND FOR PRESS EMPLOYEES AND AMALGAMATION OF CERTAIN OF GOVERNMENT PRESSES.

128. **Mr. S. C. Mitra** : Will Government be pleased to state if they are yet in a position to give their decision regarding the Provident Fund, the rules of which have long been under consideration by the Secretary of State for India ? If not, do Government propose to expedite the matter ? Will Government be pleased to state if they intend amalgamating wholly or partially the presses of the Government of India at Calcutta and Simla with the Government of India Press, Delhi, and if so, when ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : The question of framing rules for the provident fund is still under consideration and the matter is being expedited.

The answer to the concluding portion of the question is in the negative.

### NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES OF DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA, RECRUITED DURING THE TIME OF BABU JAWAHAR KHAN, OFFICIATING ASSISTANT MANAGER.

129. **Mr. S. C. Mitra** : Will Government please lay on the table a statement showing the number of Hindus, Muhammadans, Christians and Sikhs recruited in all the Industrial Branches of the Government of India Press, Simla, since B. Jawahar Khan's appointment as Officiating Assistant Manager ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : Mr. Jawahar Khan is not responsible for the recruitment of the industrial staff of the Government of India Press, Simla. Government regret that they cannot undertake to collect the information desired by the Honourable Member as it would entail an amount of time and labour disproportionate to the result.

## PROMOTIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA.

†130. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Are Government aware that the claims of the senior men of all the branches of the Government of India Press, Simla, are neglected and that generally promotions to higher grade are given to those men who work in B. Jawahar Khan's Press after office hours ?

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST BABU JAWAHAR KHAN, OFFICIATING ASSISTANT MANAGER, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA.

131. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that Messrs. Jugdish and Abdul Rahim are the seniormost compositors in their branch, but that whenever an opportunity arises to officiate in the post of section-holder or assistant section-holder the chance is given to a junior compositor ?

(b) Is it a fact that the real owner of the Press known as King George Press is B. Jawahar Khan, the Assistant Manager of the Government Press, Simla ? If so, was any sanction obtained by the above man ?

(c) Is it a fact that Nathu Ram, Mechanic and Mistri Nazir of the Government Press, Simla, generally repair the machines of George Printing Works on Sundays and other holidays ?

(d) Is it a fact that members of all branches of Government of India Press, particularly compositors are compelled to work in the press owned by B. Jawahar Khan, after office hours ?

(e) Is it a fact that if any employee of the Government Press, Simla, refuses to work in the above Press, his time is generally deducted by B. Niaz Mohamed, time-checker, who is brother-in-law of B. Jawahar Khan ?

(f) If the replies to the above questions are in the affirmative, are Government prepared to inquire into the matter and take necessary action ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** (a) The Controller of Printing and Stationery is responsible to Government generally for the efficient administration of the Government of India Presses and Government do not propose to call for information regarding these administrative details which are matters for his discretion.

(b) to (f). Government have no information, but they are asking the Controller of Printing and Stationery to enquire into the allegations contained in parts (d) and (e) of the question.

## EMPLOYEES OF DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES IN LINO AND MONO SECTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, SIMLA.

132. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) How many permanent Mono and Lino Operators are there in Government of India Press, Simla, and what is the number of Hindus, Muhammadans, Christians and Sikhs ?

(b) How many apprentices (learners) are there in Mono and Lino Branches and what is the number of Hindus, Muhammadans, Christians and Sikhs ?

(c) How many Mono and Lino permanent operators and learners are recruited since Mr. Jawahar Khan's appointment as Officiating Assistant Manager and what is the number of Hindus, Muhammadans, and Christians and Sikhs ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 122.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :**

(a)	Hindus.	Muhammadans.	Christians.	Sikhs.
	7	12	2	1

(b) and (c). There are no regular apprentices (learners) attached to the Lino and Mono Sections. There are a number of employees already in the press who have been allowed at various times to learn the operation of these machines. When a permanent incumbent is absent the most suitable of these learners is deputed to work on the machine so that when permanent vacancies occur the Manager may have a nucleus from which permanent appointments can be made. Since 1925, the following press employees, according to communities, have had an opportunity of learning to work on the machine :

Muhammadans	..	..	11
Hindus	..	..	4
Christians	..	..	2

Out of these two Hindus, one Muhammadan and one Christian have been appointed either to the Lino or Mono Departments. Of the remaining 13 learners, one Hindu and one Muhammadan are dead. One Christian left the press, and one Hindu was at his own request removed from the Lino department.

#### EXCESSIVE WORK AT THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS ON EMPIRE DAY.

133. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it not a fact that under the Factories Act after four or five hours, half an hour rest is compulsory ?

(b) Is it not a fact that on 24th May on account of the Empire Day, the Government of India Press was entirely closed ?

(c) Is it not a fact that some employees of the Press were called upon by Mr. Jawahar Khan, Officiating Assistant Manager, to attend the Press for an urgent work ?

(d) Is it not a fact that the members concerned worked from about one P.M. to twelve in the night and they were not allowed a single minute's rest during the time quite contrary to the Factories Act ?

(e) Do Government propose to make an inquiry and take action in the matter ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** (a) The Act prescribes periods of rest of not less than one hour at intervals not exceeding six hours but the arrangement may be varied at the request of the employees concerned.

(b) It was a closed holiday.

(c) Yes, under the orders of the Government of India.

(d) The answer to the first part is in the affirmative and to the second part in the negative.

(e) Does not arise.

#### APPOINTMENT OF INDIANS AS LOCO-FOREMEN, YARD CONTROLLERS AND STATION SUPERINTENDENTS ON THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

134. **Mr. S. C. Mitra :** With reference to the reply given to Kumar Ganga Nand Sinha to his starred question No. 770 in the Legislative

Assembly of the 23rd September, 1929, will Government be pleased to state why, so far, it has not been found possible to employ on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway more than one Indian as Loco-Foreman, Yard-Controller, and no Indian as Station Superintendent ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** I have called for information from the Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway, and will communicate with the Honourable Member on its receipt.

#### APPOINTMENT OF APPRENTICES ON THE GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY.

**135. Mr. S. C. Mitra :** With reference to the replies to my starred questions Nos. 538 and 539 put in the Legislative Assembly on the 16th September last in regard to the transportation apprentices on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, will Government be pleased to state if the apprentices have completed their training ? If so, what appointments have they been posted to and do Government propose to appoint immediately these qualified recruits as Loco Inspectors, Assistant Loco Foremen ? If not, why not ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** I am making enquiries from the Agent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway, and will communicate with the Honourable Member on receipt of the reply.

#### QUALIFICATIONS FOR POSTS OF HEALTH OFFICERS OF IMPORTANT PORTS AND MUNICIPALITIES IN INDIA.

**136. Mr. Fazal Ibrahim Rahimtulla and Mian Mohammad Shah Nawaz :** Will Government please state if it is a fact that in accordance with orders issued by the Government of India, persons applying for appointment as Health Officer of important ports and municipalities in India are required to possess a diploma in Public Health granted in the United Kingdom and that persons who hold a Public Health Diploma of an Indian University are not eligible to hold such appointments ?

**Sir Frank Noyce :** No, Sir. Local Governments now possess full power to make appointments on such terms as they think fit to posts of the kind referred to by the Honourable Member except to the Port Health Officerships of Bombay and Aden, which are reserved for officers of the Indian Medical Service. In the case of these two posts it is the practice to select officers who have specialised in Public Health, but no rules have been laid down prescribing the qualifications they should possess.

#### DISCONTINUANCE OF SUMMER CONCESSION TICKETS FROM LAHORE TO SIMLA.

**137. Dr. Nand Lal :** (a) Is it a fact that first and second class Railway concession tickets, which used to be issued in the Summer from Lahore to Simla in some previous years have been discontinued this Summer ? If so, why ?

(b) If the answer to part (a) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state whether there has been a decrease so far in the number of passengers this Summer up to the end of June, 1930, when compared with the number of passengers who travelled from Lahore to Simla in the same period of the last summer ?

**Mr. A. A. L. Parsons :** (a) Concession return tickets are being issued from all North Western Railway stations to Simla—and not only from Lahore—as in previous years, but this year the fares charged over the Kalka-Simla section during the months of June to September have not been reduced by about 50 per cent. as in the last three years. The latter reduction was purely experimental, and the results have not justified its continuance.

(b) The number of passengers travelling from Lahore to Simla during June, 1929, compare with the number in June, 1930, as follows :

	June, 1929.	June, 1930.
First class	71	70
Second class	106	75
Inter class	91	60
Third class	489	540

### MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT.

#### TREATMENT RECEIVED BY TWO CONGRESS VOLUNTEERS FROM THE POLICE IN SIMLA.

**Mr. President :** Last evening I received the following notice for a motion of adjournment from Mr. Nehal Singh, M.L.A. The notice runs as follows :

*“ Written Statement of the definite matter of urgent public importance left with the Secretary under Standing Order 22 which the undersigned proposes to discuss.*

To

The Secretary, Legislative Assembly, Simla.

1. That on 13th July afternoon two European Police Officers at Simla Mall asked two Congress volunteers who were in Congress volunteers' uniform, and who were informing the public of meeting to be held, to leave the Mall.
2. That volunteers responded that they were doing their duty in a peaceful manner, and that as peaceful citizens of Simla they had every right to walk in the Mall.
3. That therefore the police officers mentioned above in paragraph 1 pushed the aforesaid volunteers and beat them.
4. That in consequence of the unlawful and merciless beating, one of the volunteers is in precarious and dangerous condition.
5. That the above-mentioned unlawful conduct of the above-mentioned police officers agitated the public mind. People in hundreds collected.
6. That the aforesaid sad and unlawful occurrence has given birth to a serious political agitation in Simla. The present very dangerous condition of the seriously injured volunteer has today caused a great sensation and has inflamed the public. This present condition constitutes a definite matter of urgent public importance within the purview of section 45 of the Manual of Business and Procedure, and the undersigned hereby gives notice to the Secretary, Legislative Assembly, that he wants to ask for leave to move the Adjournment of the business of the day for the purposes of discussing the same, namely, above described definite matter of urgent public importance.

(Sd.) NEHAL SINGH, M.L.A.”

I would like to know what the Government have got to say on this motion.



**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** (Home Member) : Sir, I should like to submit for your consideration whether these events constitute a matter of public importance within the meaning of the rules. I can well understand that Honourable Members take a special interest in events that happen in Simla, of which accounts, possibly somewhat exaggerated, are likely to reach them. On that particular point as to whether the account has been exaggerated or not, I would like to say that I received some papers only while I was actually in the House this morning and that I have not had time yet to read through them. But one point which I think is quite clear from those papers is that neither of the volunteers in question can be described in any way as being in a dangerous or precarious condition.

**An Honourable Member** : What is your evidence ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : It is the report of the Deputy Commissioner.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** (Muzaffarpur *cum* Champaran : Non-Muhamadan) : Did he examine the volunteers ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : I have not been through all the papers, but I think it is clear that he sent a Magistrate to examine them, and that the volunteers refused to go, or the Congress Committee refused to send them to the hospital, and in the opinion of the Magistrate they were not at all in a serious condition, and they would not agree to be examined by an Assistant Surgeon.

Well, Sir, I would submit that, though one fully realises the interest which the House is bound to take in any incident of this nature happening in the place in which they are actually sitting, we should not, on that account, lose sight of the true perspective of events. Had this happened anywhere else I would submit that it would not be the kind of thing which would be regarded as justifying the House in adjourning its business. I would suggest that the matter might perhaps be more conveniently dealt with by the process of question and answer ; and if the Honourable Member wishes to put a short notice question on the subject, so far as I am concerned, I shall have no objection to answering him.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Sir, I am very much surprised to see that my Honourable friend the Home Member should have been arguing his case as a pettifogging lawyer in a third class Deputy Magistrate's Court. He takes shelter under the plea that this is not a matter of public importance. Sir, it is in pursuance of a policy which has been inaugurated by the Government of India that these arrests and these merciless beatings are taking place all over the country ; and here under the very nose of the Government of India, and under the very shadow of the Viceregal Lodge and this House people are being molested from doing things which they have every right as citizens of this country to do. Sir, the other day I myself saw how the volunteers were prevented from going to the upper Mall, and shall have something to say if you rule this matter in order.

My Honourable friend the Home Member says that the wound is not a serious one ; the other day, I myself saw the injured volunteers in the Congress office.

**Mr. President :** The question of the seriousness of the wound has nothing to do with the constitutional question before the House now.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Since the Home Member raised the point that it is not a serious wound, and has quoted the opinion of a very eminent doctor, the Deputy Commissioner, who himself had not seen the patients, I am entitled to refute it by saying that I have got in my hand, in original, the certificates of Dr. Mukand Lal, M.B., B.S., who describes the condition of one as grave, and I showed the certificates to the Home Member yesterday, and if I may be permitted to read the certificate it will be clear how the condition is.

**Mr. President :** I do not think it is necessary at this stage.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** All right, Sir, then my Honourable friend went on to say that the volunteers had declined to go, or the Congress people had refused to send them to hospital. I say they believed they had ample justification to do so. They have absolutely lost all confidence in Government, and Government officers ; and if they had been sent to the hospital, they thought the doctor in charge might have given a certificate that the volunteers were not suffering from serious injuries.....

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney** (Nominated : Anglo-Indians) : Question. Do not talk about doctors like that.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** You are a nominated Member of the House and you have no right to question. Please find out your constituency before you can question an elected Member of the House. I am merely saying what the Congress people told me.

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney :** That is crass impertinence on your part. How dare you insult the medical profession in this House ? I shall not tolerate it. Though a nominated Member, my constituency is longer than yours and covers all India and Burma.

**Mr. President :** Please address the Chair.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Under rule 11 a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the President. I submit this is a definite matter in so far as the terms of the motion refer to a definite incident. I am surprised to hear that it is not a matter of public importance. The right of the meanest citizen to walk on a public road is a matter of public importance and under what law can he be prevented and assaulted ? I never expected that the Home Member would take such a light-hearted view of this matter. Under rule 12, it must be a specific matter of recent occurrence. This is a specific matter of recent occurrence, and I therefore submit that this is a definite matter of urgent public importance in terms of the rule. And not only that, some time back Dr. Varma, the Secretary of the local Congress Committee, was unlawfully arrested and assaulted on the Mall. Sir, the whole thing takes place in pursuance of a policy which has been deliberately adopted by the Government of India in order to crush the present Nationalist movement, which I think they will never be able to crush by their present methods, as the feeling is permeating the masses.

**Mr. M. R. Jayakar** (Bombay City : Non-Muhammadan Urban) : Sir, without importing heat into the debate, I may say that I do not think that the Honourable the Home Member was really serious when he said that this was not a matter which fell under the Standing Orders as raising a case for a motion for adjournment. The Standing Order lays down, Sir, two or three tests ; first, the matter must be of recent occurrence ; secondly, it must be of definite public importance ; and thirdly, it must be urgent. I submit, Sir, all these tests are satisfied by the facts which have been put before us. They have been testified to by two Members of this House. I may mention, Sir, that since the House began its sittings, nearly every evening complaints have been made to me about the unlawful behaviour of the police—it is nothing but unlawful—but I have said to my friends, “ let us get a statement from people who have witnessed the unlawful behaviour ”. Today, Sir, these facts have been placed before the House by two Honourable Members who belong to the House, and they have definitely stated, in four or five paragraphs, what they themselves have witnessed and then they wind up by saying that :

“ This unlawful occurrence has given birth to a serious political agitation in Simla. The present very dangerous condition of the seriously injured volunteer has caused a great sensation and has inflamed the public. This present condition constitutes a definite matter of urgent public importance within the purview of section 45 of the Manual of Business and Procedure.”

I am surprised, Sir, that in a place where the Viceroy resides and when this House is sitting, under our very nose if I may say so, these breaches of the law are committed by the custodians of law and order, and yet my friend the Honourable the Home Member says that this is not a proper matter of which this House can take cognisance. I know the Honourable the Home Member, and I have too great a respect for his intelligence to believe that he could have been serious when he argued that this was not a matter which the rules made it possible for us to take notice of.

**Dr. Nand Lal** (West Punjab : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, at this stage we have to discuss the constitutional question. We have nothing to do with the merits. If this motion is in order, then it deserves to be moved. Now, the best test to examine whether the motion is in order or not is to look into the provisions of paragraph 44 of the Manual of Business and Procedure, which appears to be the only preventive provision. When we examine the provisions of paragraph 44, we find that this motion, which is now before the House is in order. The point raised by the Honourable the Home Member is this, that the point involved in the motion could be raised by means of a short notice question, and an answer could be given. Now, Sir, I do not think this is a proper answer which will satisfy this side of the House. He has not made out a case to prove that this motion does come within any of the clauses of paragraph 44. It does not fall under clause (i), which says that not more than one such motion shall be made at the same sitting ; so this clause is not applicable. Clause (ii) says that not more than one matter can be discussed on the same motion ; this is not also applicable. Then clause (iii) says that the motion must not revive discussion on a matter which has been discussed in the same Session ; this clause also is not applicable. Then comes clause (iv), which says that a motion must not anticipate a matter which has been previously appointed ; this is also

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not applicable. And lastly clause (v) which says that the motion must not deal with a matter on which a Resolution could not be moved. It does not fall within the purview of this clause either, because a Resolution could be moved. This event occurred only on the 13th of this month, about three days ago. It is most recent ; it is not a belated thing.

Then on the question of public importance. Volunteer or no volunteer, " A " or " B " has got a legitimate right to walk on the Mall. If he is a volunteer, he is still a subject of His Majesty ; he is a citizen of this town, and he has every right to walk on the Mall. Why was he pushed ? Therefore, Sir, this is an infringement of a public right, the right of every citizen of this town, and in so far as to whether this is a matter of public importance. I say there can be no two opinions about it, that this is a matter of public importance. The matter is urgent, because the occurrence took place only three days ago. No wonder, a number of occurrences of a similar type may take place and the public may be agitated. No wonder it may strengthen the present civil disobedience movement. Consequently, there is no doubt that it is of the highest importance. The matter is urgent also, because if it is not discussed in the House, then it may result in evil consequences. Urgent it is, so far as urgency is concerned, and there can be no two opinions about it. I do not think any Member of this House will challenge the question of urgency so far as this point is concerned. Therefore, the matter being one of public importance and it being urgent, because it is recent, I submit the motion is perfectly in order according to the provisions of paragraph 45 of the Manual. The statement of facts has been left with the Secretary ; a proper motion has been moved ; and it is, thus, in keeping with Standing Order 22, and paragraph 46 of the Manual of Business and Procedure, and, therefore, it must be accepted. I am not going into the merits, but, in passing, I may submit that there is no open challenge to the whole service, I mean the police. Some of the police officers are very honest ; nobody can deny that. The present motion relates to only those two sergeants or two policemen who have infringed the law. The public have got to respect the law ; so the Government officials too have got to respect it, namely, the law. Maintenance of law and order leads to happiness, and disobedience to law leads to misery. (Opposition Cheers.) Sir, since this law has been infringed by two police officers or two policemen, I submit this motion must be allowed to be discussed in this House.

**Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer** (Rohilkund and Kumaon Divisions : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : The Honourable the Home Member made a very unsatisfactory statement. He did not seriously question that this was not a matter of urgent public importance. But he said that this matter could be raised by means of a private question.....

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : I said public question, Sir, in this House.

**Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer** : Sir, the Honourable the Home Member also stated that he was in possession of certain reports. It is impossible for this House to know all that he has got in his possession, and he said that he had so much in his possession that he did not find time to read through it. Sir, the House is entitled to know what is in his possession

and to pass its own opinion. If he satisfies the House, the censure motion will be withdrawn. He made out a case not in reference to the motion, before the House, but for a motion as to why he did not disclose the facts. Now, Sir, the question has become even more urgent, because the Home Member has conducted an inquiry into it, and the House is perfectly entitled to know what the result of that inquiry is in order to offer its opinion. If the result of the inquiry is satisfactory, then the House will be inclined to withdraw the censure motion, but I think, Sir, the present motion is quite in order.

**Mr. President :** I quite agree with my Honourable friend, Dr. Nand Lal, that at this stage we need not go into the details of the case but should confine ourselves only to the constitutional issue of the motion before the House.

The matter to which this Motion relates is, no doubt, a definite one, and also a matter of recent occurrence. But the mere fact of its being definite and of recent occurrence is not sufficient for allowing a discussion on the motion. It must also be shown that it is "urgent" and of "public importance".

The action of "pushing" and "beating" by "two European Police Officers at Simla" of "two Congress volunteers", howsoever objectionable, unwarranted and undesirable it may be, cannot by any stretch of imagination be called "urgent" and of "public importance".

Motions for adjournment are meant for obtaining an immediate debate on grave and serious matters, which cannot otherwise be immediately and effectively dealt with, and the very object of such motions will be lost if they are permitted to assume the character of an ordinary course of action of every day occurrence. "The formal moving of the adjournment of the House as a tactical method of introducing new matter into the day's work has during the nineteenth century been gradually but steadily discouraged by the rules of the House", says Josep Redlich in his *Procedure of the House of Commons*. Further on, the same author says, "By the present rules such a motion for adjournment can only be permitted in case of special urgency"; and I am anxious that the same principle should be established in this House. "The Speaker has repeatedly refused to allow a Member to move the adjournment of the House", says Josep Redlich, "on the ground that the matter proposed to be brought up by him was obviously not important or not urgent".

Moreover, distinction should also be drawn between matters to be discussed in this House and the matters to be discussed in the Provincial Councils, and to my mind, it would be too much interference on the part of this House as regards provincial affairs if matters for which Provincial Governments are responsible are debated in this House by means of the extraordinary method of motions for adjournment. It would not be right and proper to condemn the provincial executive behind their backs in a place where they cannot defend, explain or justify their conduct. The matter referred to in this motion is certainly a provincial matter, which is not primarily the concern of the Governor General in Council.

It is stated in May's "Parliamentary Practice", page 248, that,

"Motions have also been ruled out of order when it appeared that the administrative responsibility of the Government was not involved".

[Mr. President.]

It may also be remarked that according to Josep Redlich,

“The application must exactly fit the formula : to ask leave to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, upon which must follow the statement of the matter referred”.

The application which has been presented by the Honourable Mr. Nehal Singh—because of the other Honourable Member, Mr. Panna Lal (*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh* : “Rai Bahadur Lala Panna Lal.”) Rai Bahadur Lala Panna Lal, having withdrawn his notice—has also been drafted in such a form that it does not exactly fit the formula in the proper form.

For the above reasons, I am afraid, I must rule the motion out of order.

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#### FIRING INTO AND VIOLATION OF THE SANCTITY OF THE SIS-GANJ GURDWARA AT DELHI.

**Mr. President** : Notice of another motion for adjournment was handed to me when I was coming to this House, on behalf of the Honourable Sardar Kartar Singh. I do not know if the Honourable Member in charge has got notice, and if so, whether he is ready to deal with the question.

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : Notice was only handed to me in the middle of question time, and I naturally have not been able to give such attention to it as I should have liked, but if you are prepared to consider the matter now, I would submit certain considerations.

**Mr. President** : I have no objection to consider it now. I will read the motion :

“I beg leave to move an adjournment of the House in order to discuss a very urgent and definite matter of public importance, *viz.*, the very serious and critical situation arising out of the most unsatisfactory response of the Government to meet the Sikh demands and the failure of the Government to redress the legitimate grievances of the Sikhs re the firing into the Sis-ganj Gurdwara by the police and wounding its inmates and causing damage to the Gurdwara and violating its sanctity by entering therein without taking off their shoes on the 6th May, 1930.”

I would like to know if the Government have any objection to this motion.

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : Sir, I rise with some diffidence to suggest for consideration certain points in connection with the admissibility of this motion, for my Honourable friend, Mr. Jayakar, has just accused me of not taking a serious view of these matters and has suggested that I put forward objections of a frivolous character. I need hardly assure you, Sir, nor, I think, the House, that it is very far from my intention to raise any objections of a frivolous character, and if I put before you certain considerations, it is not with any desire to avoid discussion, but in order that the procedure of the House should not depart from recognised and sound lines.

Now, Sir, this motion relates to the sequence of events following on the unfortunate firing which took place in Delhi on the 6th May, and I wish to submit that the events to which the Honourable Member seeks to draw attention cannot reasonably be considered to be matters of urgent importance within the meaning of the rules. I have not with me

at the moment the ruling bearing on the point, but I referred to them two days ago in connection with another motion, and I have no doubt that they are very well within your recollection. The firing at Delhi took place on the 6th May. Subsequent to that, a magisterial enquiry into all the events of that day took place, and the results of that magisterial enquiry were published, I should say, some three weeks or a month ago. Further, the matter has engaged the most serious and sympathetic attention of the Government of India and of His Excellency the Viceroy himself. Again, some time ago—I regret I have not got the dates with me, but certainly it must have been before the commencement of this Session—His Excellency the Viceroy received a deputation, a very representative deputation, of Sikh gentlemen to discuss this very matter with them. Now, I understand that it is sought to bring forward this motion in order to express an opinion on the reply which was then given by His Excellency the Viceroy on behalf of his Government. I submit, Sir, that if the Honourable Member wished to raise this question he had ample opportunity to put down a Resolution at the beginning of this Session and that it would not be in accordance with the established practice of this House that the matter should now be raised after this length of time.

**Dr. Nand Lal :** Before I may have the honour of availing myself of your kind permission to address you on this constitutional question, may I respectfully ask whether any other statement has been annexed to this motion or not ? My information is that another statement containing the most recent occurrences and the most recent unhappy incidents, which occurred only a few days ago, and which are expected to occur on the 17th (Laughter.) have been embodied. Lawyers will not misconstrue this. Only those who are laymen will not appreciate this. May I most respectfully ask whether any statement has been annexed to this motion in addition to what has been read out by the learned Chair ?

**Mr. President :** If the Honourable Member will resume his seat, I will answer his question. The only statement which I have received along with the motion which I have just read to the House is the following covering letter from the Honourable Member :

“ To the Secretary, Legislative Assembly :

Dear Sir,

I give notice that I will move an adjournment of the House in order to discuss the attached motion which concerns a very urgent and definite matter of public importance.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

KARTAB SINGH, M.L.A.”

Besides this statement, I have received no other statement on any fact about this matter.

**Dr. Nand Lal :** Now, I shall avail myself of your kind permission and I must obey the Chair.

**Mr. President :** The Chair would not compel you to speak. (Laughter.)

**Dr. Nand Lal :** This being a gift from the Chair to me, I would like to avail myself of it. Now, Sir, the Honourable the Home Member, in his usual eloquent manner and usual intelligent method, has stated his

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case. He has dilated upon one point, namely, that the occurrences took place on the 6th May, 1930, and that consequently this motion can never be characterised as one of urgency. In addition to that, he has made a reference to a subsidiary and collateral point, namely, that there was a judicial inquiry by a Magistrate. The third subsidiary point that he has referred to is that the matter was referred to His Excellency the Viceroy and that His Excellency was pleased to express his views thereon. My humble reply to these is this. If my knowledge of law is not limited and if my grammatical construction of the word "urgency" is not inaccurate, then I submit that the occurrence of the 6th May is not to be construed as a belated occurrence, because in law and in procedure we do not find it mentioned that a certain specific period should not pass between the date of the occurrence and the date of the motion. I cannot deny that the delay should be of a reasonable character. Two months, three months or eight months or ten months are a delay which can be construed as being unavoidable. We should take the law and the letter of the provision in a reasonable manner. My submission is that, if my construction and my view of the word "urgent" is not inaccurate—and I believe it is accurate—then this date may be construed as such that it does not violate the idea of urgency. Urgency consists of what it will lead to if this motion is not discussed. Urgency has nothing to do with the question of time or delay. It has to be compared with the consequences which it will lead to. I very respectfully differ from those gentlemen who take a contrary view. Then I say that this motion is of a public character. The Sis-gunj is a sacred *dharamsala* belonging to the Sikhs. It is not the property of "A", "B", "C" or "D". It is a public institution which is considered sacred.

**Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer** (Rohilkund and Kumaon Divisions : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : I should like to know if this speech is in order ?

**Mr. President** : Most certainly.

**Dr. Nand Lal** : The Sikhs are a very loyal community. They have produced great soldiers whose loyalty is an established fact. Therefore this question is of a public character. The Sikhs have taken this incident to their hearts. Their sacred place has been ruthlessly violated. I know non-Sikhs may not look upon this motion as one of public importance. We have to deal with this question with reference to the people to whom it relates. A rule of law may be applicable to community "A" and community "A" will be in a position to say whether it is of public importance or not.

**Rai Bahadur S. C. Dutta** (Surma Valley *cum* Shillong : Non-Muhammadan) : Will the Honourable gentleman say whether the incident is of recent occurrence ?

**Dr. Nand Lal** : A question has been put to me whether the occurrence is recent. You may take any dictionary and see the meaning of the word "recent". The incident may have occurred in April or January. No date is given nor a specific period is mentioned in order to make an event a recent event. If you turn to any important law book or journal, you will find therefrom that the phrase "recent occurrence" does not mean that it relates to only an event which occurred two days back or two or three weeks back. (*An Honourable Member* : "A century back.") Therefore, it is recent ; it is not belated ; it did not occur two years back or ten years back, and therefore it is recent. The word "recent"



should be taken in its proper grammatical sense. "Recent" is different from "present". (Laughter.) Well, if any Honourable Member of this House wishes to enter into a debate with me on the grammatical construction of the words "recent" and "present", I am quite prepared to do it. (Hear, hear.)

**Mr. B. Das** (Orissa Division : Non-Muhammadan) : May I inquire, Sir, if there is any time-limit at this stage ?

**Mr. President** : It is such an important question I think that Dr. Nand Lal's speech should not be restricted by any time-limit.

**Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury** (Bengal : Landholders) : On a point of information, Sir, is the Honourable Member making a speech, or making observations on the adjournment motion ?

**Mr. President** : Dr. Nand Lal.

**Dr. Nand Lal** : Now, Sir, this House.....

**Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer** : Sir, in connection with this adjournment motion (*Several Honourable Members* : "Louder please.") I want a definite ruling from you whether the Honourable Member can, at this stage, bring in matters which are not connected with the motion.....

**Mr. President** : I think the speech of the Honourable Member is quite in order.

**Mr. Amar Nath Dutt** (Burdwan Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : The Honourable Member should know that Dr. Nand Lal is a Doctor of Laws.

**Sir Cowasji Jehangir** (Bombay City : Non-Muhammadan Urban) : I rise to a point of order. Is it permitted for one Honourable Member to whisper to the President his point of order unlike my Honourable friend, Dr. Nand Lal ? We have not heard his point of order.

**Dr. Nand Lal** : As, Sir, you are better aware than my humble self, when any political question relating to the constitution or rule of law arises in any legislative body, primarily it ought to be discussed and determined with reference to the procedure of business, or what is called the Manual of Business. Is it laid down anywhere in this little book (which can be got by heart within two hours) as to what is the meaning of the word "recent" ? What right have you got, then, to go beyond the author of this Manual ? I am justified, then, in submitting before you, Sir, that no definition of the word "recent" is given in this book, and therefore the general, and a common sense, definition is applicable. When any statute is silent with reference to the definition of a specific phrase, then we can take assistance from general applicability and general use. So far as the general use and the popular view of the word "recent" is concerned, this occurrence, which took place on the 6th of May, 1930, was a recent one ; and if there is any Honourable Member of this House who challenges the correctness of my interpretation, he ought to cite some authority and not merely make some unsupported assertion. Consequently, I submit that the most faithful guide, which has been provided in this Manual, is section 44. Now since that section does not debar this motion, it, thus, deserves to be discussed. Well, if there is any flaw in this Manual regulating the procedure, then the Honourable Member, who has moved this motion, is not to blame. He cannot conceive

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anything beyond the scope of this Manual. (*An Honourable Member* : "No.") If you, Sir, restrict the meaning of the word "recent" to occurrences which took place yesterday or the day before yesterday or a week back, then I would submit to the Honourable and learned Chair that you would then infuse some provision into the Manual which is not embodied in it, and I would submit to you then, Sir, that you should not introduce anything new into this Manual of Procedure. Therefore I submit, Sir,—and I will now thank you, Sir, for your kind permission to me, and will also thank this House, though they interrupted me, for the indulgence they gave to me (Cheers.)—that this motion is in order. I am not going into the merits—as the Honourable the Home Member has made some allusion to these things—I am not entitled to go into the merits. I am simply discussing the constitutional point whether this motion is in order or not. It deserves to be in order; it is of a definite character, since the *Sis-ganj Gurdwara* was the only subject of firing from machine guns by way of assertion of strength. This, as the Honourable the Mover of this motion says, was quite uncalled for, and has violated the sanctity of that temple. Therefore, it is of public importance, and of a definite character. There is no ambiguity about it. It was also a recent occurrence, the incident having taken place on the 30th May 1930.

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : On the 6th May.

**Dr. Nand Lal** : Thank you very much—there the Honourable the Home Member is quite right. And it is urgent, because it may lead to very undesirable consequences. I had allowed myself to give vent to one expectation, though I am sorry that it could be expected, which was this, that if some *jathas* have started and those *jathas* go on to Delhi on the 17th, then some undesirable incidents may occur. Some gentlemen associated themselves with the exhibition of laughter when I hinted at this. However, the word "urgency" is applicable to the present occurrence, to the recent occurrence and to the occurrences which may crop up immediately after. If my learned friends will look into the definition, they will certainly agree with me. Of course nobody can prevent them from not understanding the reality of the argument. Nobody can prevent them from thinking aright or not thinking aright. While thanking the Chair again, I may submit that, so far as the constitutional point is concerned, it is not violated by the fact that there was some sort of inquiry or investigation by a Magistrate, who might or might not have erred. Thereby this constitutional point is not minimised, because some communication was made to the highest authority. I may mention again that the force of this constitutional point is not infringed if there was some inquiry by a Magistrate. We have nothing to do with the details. We should examine and discuss the matter within the four corners of article 45 of the Manual. I submit, Sir, that the present motion, which has been so ably read out by the learned Chair, is in order. I submit it is urgent.

**Sardar Kartar Singh** (East Punjab : Sikh) : Sir, the matter is very serious, urgent and important and yet I am sorry to find my Honourable friend, the Home Member, speaking in a light-hearted manner and saying that the events of 6th May are not urgent, nor important. I submit, Sir, that my motion deals with the present serious and difficult situation. I want to discuss the present serious and critical

situation arising out of the most unsatisfactory reply of the Government to meet the Sikh demand and the failure of the Government to redress the legitimate grievances of the Sikh regarding the firing into the Sis-ganj Gurdwara by the police and wounding its inmates and causing damage to the Gurdwara and violating its sanctity by entering therein without taking off their shoes on 6th May, 1930. As regards the importance of the events of 6th May, I submit, Sir, that everybody in this House is convinced that the events of that day were tragic and of utmost urgent importance. Nobody can deny that fact. My Honourable friend the Home Member may deny it, but even he, in his heart of hearts, must feel that the matter is a very urgent one and the event extremely deplorable. Even His Excellency the Viceroy, in his speech, admitted that the incidents were extremely deplorable and regrettable. I submit, Sir, that the occurrence of the 6th May caused deep resentment amongst the Sikhs and this resentment, Sir, might perhaps be unknown to my other friends. But the Sikhs feel great resentment on that account. For that reason they appointed an impartial Committee of Inquiry.

**Mr. President :** The Honourable Member is now going into details of the motion.

**Sardar Kartar Singh :** I do not want to go into details. I want to submit that a difficult situation had arisen and there was a recent Committee of Inquiry which recorded its findings. Then, we submitted a Resolution to His Excellency the Viceroy and the Government gave us a reply which does not respond to our demands. In fact it is no reply at all.

**Mr. President :** When was this reply given ?

**Sardar Kartar Singh :** The reply was written on the 2nd July and it reached the S. G. P. C. on the 4th July this year. My Honourable friend cannot say that it is not recent, because the reply reached the S. G. P. C. only on 4th July. Then they met on 7th July and passed a Resolution to send a *jatha* of 100 people to Delhi. That *jatha* is now on its way to Delhi. They will reach there tomorrow and then start an Akhand Path there. After the recitation is over, they will hold a meeting on 20th July, and then take their decision as to the course of action they should take. I submit, Sir, that a very serious situation is going to arise, and let the Government take note of it. A very serious agitation will take place unless the Government are agreed to concede the Sikh demands. The Government should not think that they can turn a deaf ear to the legitimate demands of the Sikhs. Everybody knows that, from the point of view of religion, we feel the most, and I think my Hindu and Muslim friends also feel the same on this point. The Honourable the Home Member might think it a very ordinary thing going to a place of worship with shoes on, but we resent it the most. The police entered the Gurdwara with shoes on.

**Mr. President :** That is not a point of constitution, that is, going with shoes on. It is going into details of the motion.

**Sardar Kartar Singh :** My submission is this, that the demands which we made are quite reasonable, and the Government have failed to meet those demands, and on account of the failure of the Government to meet those demands, which were very legitimate and which were supported by the findings of a very impartial Committee of Inquiry, and which every

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reasonable man would think proper, and on account of the failure of the Government to appreciate the point of view of the Sikhs, a very serious situation, which everybody wants to avoid, has arisen, and it is for the Government to ease the situation by taking suitable measures. I have brought forward this motion in order to give a chance to the Government to make amends. We have been bringing it to the notice of the Government for the last several days, but the Government did not pay any heed to it. They thought the matter was not urgent, that the matter was not important and that it was not recent. The matter is even now taking place. Even now people are on their way to that place and they are going to hold a meeting. There is going to be a big agitation. If you think it is not urgent and it is not recent, it will be your duty to face the situation. My duty is simply to bring it to your notice. I think the matter is very serious and urgent and it should be discussed on the floor of this House so that the Government might say what their policy is as regards places of worship. Would they avoid a recurrence of such an event in future? Or would they not like to punish the wrong doers? Or would they hold a committee of inquiry, consisting of impartial people who would command public confidence? These are our demands, and if the Government are willing to meet those demands, the situation will be eased. Otherwise the situation will become very grave, and will grow graver and graver every day.

This, Sir, is my submission. If still the Government think of the matter in a light-hearted manner, let them do so at their own risk. Let them have their own way. But it is for you, Sir, to decide, you being an Indian, you can well imagine the religious feeling of the people of India. We feel most on the point of religion, and perhaps the Government do not realise the feelings of the people. The situation is really very serious and I cannot find enough words to convey to the Government the seriousness of the situation, the urgency of the matter and its importance. It is a matter of utmost public importance, and I think the Government should take note of the fact that the matter is very serious, urgent and important and they should not simply brush it aside by saying that the events took place on the 6th May and so it is not of recent occurrence. The events no doubt did take place on 6th May. It was in the hands of the Government to redress those grievances. They, by their inaction to move in the matter, have brought about a situation which is much more serious than the events of the 6th May. Therefore I submit, Sir, that the matter being urgent and important, the motion should be allowed.

**Mr. President :** Does the Honourable Member, Captain Hira Singh, want to say anything on the motion?

(No reply was given by the Honourable Member.)

I am really very conscious of the religious susceptibilities of the Sikhs on this matter. I know that our Sikh friends are strictly a religiously inclined people, and like the Mussalmans, anything that touches their religion goes to their hearts. I am also convinced, by the eloquent and learned advocacy of my Honourable friend, Dr. Nand Lal, that it is a matter of importance and that it is a definite matter, but I am very sorry to find that even his eloquence could not convince me of the fact that it is a matter of "recent occurrence". I am also sorry to say that I am not convinced that this matter could not have been brought before the House earlier than it has been done

today. This question, I think, is fully covered by the ruling which the Chair gave the other day on the motion of Maulvi Mohammad Shafee Daoodi. Whatever may be my religious feelings on this question, as I am a creature of the constitution, I do not think I will be justified in allowing a debate on this motion for adjournment.

### RESOLUTION *RE* OUTBREAK OF LAWLESSNESS AT DACCA.

**Mr. President :** The first Resolution on the agenda was ballotted in the name of Mr. B. Das, but I think he has authorized Mr. Neogy to move that Resolution. So I call upon him to move it.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** (Dacca Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution :

“ This Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council to publish all correspondence that has passed between the Government of India and the Government of Bengal in connection with the recent outbreak of lawlessness in the City of Dacca and its neighbourhood.”

I must, first of all, thank my Honourable friend, Mr. Das for permitting me to move this Resolution, which affects me and my constituency very vitally. I think I should also thank the ballot box, inanimate as it is, for having displayed a lively appreciation of the importance of this question and for having placed it at the top of the ballot list on two successive days. Sir, since I came to Simla this time, if there is one slogan with which the roof of this House, if not the sky of Simla, has been reverberating, it is this : “ Govern or abdicate ”. I quite agree that the Government must govern and, indeed, Sir, if I am here to-day and if all of us are here to-day, it is for the purpose of helping the King's Government to be carried on according to the constitution. (Hear, hear.) But I must ask in all humility whether it is not a fact that the King's Government abdicated in favour of the hooligans for several days and several nights in the unhappy city of my birth. Sir, before proceeding further, I should like to produce before this House the testimony of an octogenarian citizen of Dacca. He is a leading gentleman of the city and his name is familiar to every Bengalee—I mean Babu Ananda Chandra Roy, a leader of the old generation. From his sick-bed this gentleman addressed the following letter to one of the Members of the Executive Council of the Government of Bengal. He says :

“ For an old man who saw the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857 it is unbelievable that under British rule there could be such horrors as looting and burning of houses and killing of men in broad day light in the town of Dacca, some times before the very eyes of Government officials and the Police, who did not care to stop them. I pray to you to place before His Excellency the case of Dacca, which was in the hands of the rowdies for several days and nights just as we read in history about the sack of Delhi by Nadirshah. Kindly move to appoint a Committee to make a sifting inquiry into the matter, as the popular belief is that Government has apparently allowed these things to be done for the sake of policy and one is helpless and cannot blame the people if they are driven to these conclusions by the force of circumstances.”

What follows is pathetic :

“ Being a moderate of the old school, I have still faith in British justice ; so please let me die with the same faith. Let the Government take prompt action in this Dacca matter at an early date, and for God's sake do not drive these people who are yet loyal into the folds of the extremist agitators.”

[Mr. K. C. Neogy.]

Then he continues :

"Only the other day I sent a letter to His Excellency the Viceroy along with Maharaja Tagore giving my whole-hearted support for law and order, but I did not for a moment think at that time that I should be rudely shaken by the local authorities' behaviour in the present riot here at Dacca."

Sir, shortly after the news of the disturbances at Dacca percolated through the muffled wires, through the censored telegrams, to Calcutta, some leading citizens of Calcutta issued a long statement in which they summed up the situation. They pointed out that for one week, if not for more, all the courts of law were closed, and responsible judicial officers could not stir out of their houses. Most of the post offices in the city were closed and those that were open could only conduct their work with the help of a very small proportion of the staff. There was no regular delivery of the mails for all this time.

**Mr. H. A. Sams** (Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs) : The delivery of mails was discontinued for three days only.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : I am very much obliged to my Honourable friend for pointing out this to me, but even that ought to suffice for the purpose of establishing the seriousness of the situation. If for three days the mails could not be delivered, is not that fact serious enough ? But I maintain that, so far as the smaller post offices are concerned, they did not transact any business for very many days after that. My Honourable friend must be talking of the Head Post Office of Dacca, which delivered letters only through the window to people who could reach the post office by braving the murderers on the way. But what were the authorities doing ? I may here pause and say that I am going to disappoint my Honourable friend the Home Member if he expected that I was going to raise a communal issue on this occasion.

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** (Home Member) : I am very glad indeed to hear that assurance.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : Sir, about 60 Indian lives are believed to have been lost at Dacca. I am not going to say how many of them were Hindus and how many Muhammadans. That does not matter at all. Property worth half a crore has either been looted, burnt down, or otherwise destroyed. And yet what were the authorities doing ? The leaders in Calcutta, to whom I have already referred, point out in their manifesto the amazing failure of the executive authorities to take adequate measures to cope with the situation.

"This seems", say they, "to present a strange contrast to the promptitude, vigour and display of force with which the movement of civil disobedience is being met by the authorities all over the country."

Sir, I will now quote from another distinguished authority. I do not know whether my Honourable friend cares to read the Bengal newspapers. But I do hope that he does read the *Bengalee*, which is edited by my esteemed friend, Mr. Sarma. Now, what did Mr. Sarma himself in his editorial article say about the situation ? I am quoting from my memory, but I hope my Honourable friend will correct me if I am wrong. He said that the situation at Dacca had discredited the Government more than all the salt law breakers taken together. This is the testimony of a gentleman who considers the prestige of Government to be no less dear to him than his own.

Sir, may I now, in order to give the House an idea of the seriousness of the situation, give a few extracts from signed statements which I have got with me and which were made by witnesses who appeared before the official Committee of Inquiry. These statements cannot be discredited by my Honourable friend, the Home Member, as not having stood the test of cross-examination. I have got with me many signed statements of witnesses who have come forward and given evidence before the official Committee of Inquiry which is sitting at the present moment at Dacca. I am going to cull just a few samples of the evidence which they gave before the Committee of Inquiry in connection with the Dacca inquiry. I have taken these statements at random. I will begin with one person, who lost about Rs. 10,000 worth of goods by reason of his shop being looted. He says :

" My shop is visible from the Nawabganj Police Station, and is very close to the Pilkhana Battalion, the headquarters of the Eastern Bengal Frontier Rifles. At the time of the incident, I ran to the Nawabganj Police Station and caught hold of the feet of the Havildar and entreated him to save my shop. The Havildar said : ' Go to the Congress and Gokul Babu and take Swaraj.' (Cries of ' Shame, Shame.' ) My shop was looted for eight hours, and in spite of entreaties, the Police did not come forward to save the shop. We know the names of many of these goondas, and know many by face, and we lodged information at the Thana. About a week after the Police came, but has not arrested anybody up to now."

(That is, during one month from incident.)

Sir, I will trouble the House with a few more extracts, and for this reason, that thanks to the policy which the Honourable Member has initiated, the Press has been so thoroughly gagged, so thoroughly demoralised that the most important points are not being published in the newspapers today, although they make a pretence of reporting the proceedings of this Committee.

The next witness is another shopkeeper who lost goods worth Rs. 4,500 :

" Four or five policemen were standing near the shop while it was being looted. I can identify the goondas. Police came 7 or 8 days after information. No arrests or house searches made "

—although one month has elapsed.

Then the owner of a medical stores says :

" Noticed from a distance 5 or 6 police constables sitting in a verandah on the public road opposite my shop. The shop was being looted. Police did not permit me to enter my shop, nor did they prevent goondas from looting and destroying property. Lodged information. No search, no arrest "

Then I come to another shopkeeper who lost goods worth Rs. 4,000 :

" The shop was in flames. Seeing 5 or 7 policemen standing there, I attempted to bring out whatever articles remained in my shop, but the police prevented me by saying, " Go to Gokul Babu and take Swaraj."

The next man is another shopkeeper who says :

" Two policemen passed by while shop was being looted. I asked them to save our property, but they went away. The police station is two minutes' walk from my shop."

Another man says the following :

" The police station is only 5 or 7 minutes' walk from my shop. When my shop was attacked, I sent my brother through the back door for giving information to the police. The Havildar said to my brother, " Why have you come to inform the police? Go to the Congressmen." After much entreaties by my brother, the Havildar phoned to Lalbagh thana (possibly to a superior authority) and then told my brother, " We have got no orders to go. You won't get any police."

Here also there has been no investigation, no searches, no arrests, though the names of goondas were given in the first information.

**Mr. President :** Order, order. I have no intention of interrupting the Honourable Member, but I believe the Honourable Member knows that the discussion of a Resolution shall be strictly limited to the subject of the Resolution. I should like the Honourable Member to let me know how this discussion is connected with his Resolution which asks Government to publish all correspondence that passed between the Government of India and the Government of Bengal.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Sir, I submit with very great respect that this procedure is a well-known Parliamentary method of raising a general debate on any point at issue, and it is partly for that reason that I framed it in this manner. Apart from that, I wanted to know what action the Government of India had taken in the matter, having regard to the importance of the incidents that I have just now alluded to ; and it is for the purpose of pointing out to this House the very grave importance of the subject, that I propose to go into some of the details, so that my Honourable friend may not get up and say that it is after all a matter of provincial importance and they cannot be expected to interfere. That is my submission.

Sir, may I proceed ? The next gentleman says :

" I was walking along the road and was suddenly set upon by some *goondas*. I found 10 or 12 Gurkha or Garhwali military policemen passing. I and four others sought their protection which was refused. I said, " They will kill us and you will not stand by and protect us ? " One of the Gurkha policemen replied, " We have got no orders to do anything (*Hamlok ko kuch karneko hukm nehi hai.*)

A goonda struck me with a *lathi*. I clasped a Gurkha policeman and entreated him to save my life. The other people accompanying me were also beaten with *lathis* and rods. To my utter dismay I found that not a single Gurkha raised his little finger to protect us, but were marching all the while. We passed the police club shouting for help, but nobody came to our rescue."

He had a providential escape through the intervention of a priest of a temple near by, who dragged him into the temple somehow while he was passing by.

Another man who lost goods worth about Rs. 10,000, says :

" When all my belongings in the shop were being looted, a party of four armed Garhwali policemen came up in a bus and alighted in front of our place. They simply said " *Hat jao* " to the looters, and in spite of my request to them to arrest them, they did not arrest them. Even in their very presence the goondas were removing the goods of my shop. *Those armed policemen told us to leave the place then, else we should also lose our lives.* Having said this they took us, viz., my daughter-in-law, my brother's son, and myself up into the motor bus, which was stopped at the bend of the Chowk. The *Magistrate*, the *City Superintendent*, and *Sergeants* were there. My brother's son, Sukhlal Pal, B.Sc., got down there, and told the Sahibs, " They are carrying us to hospital, but there is still a lot of goods in our shop, which is being looted still ; so pray, post some police for protection." In reply the *Magistrate* said that he could not spare any police. And so we were carried to the hospital, where I am still an indoor patient."

Here is the Managing Director of a cotton mill. I am not going to tire the House with any lengthy extracts from his statement. He says that, while looting was going on, he encountered a Sahib in police dress, and he stated at the time of looting :

" *Ap khooshi hai, jaldi lao.*"

He saw not only male *goondas*, but also females and children taking away articles from that shop. I may mention in passing that all the



crimes, all the murders, all the looting and all the arson that took place were committed in broad daylight. The goondas preferred the daytime to night for the purpose of committing their depredations, because they had nothing to fear from anybody.

Then, Sir, I will skip over many other statements. Now I will come to the statement made by a Government official, a lady, Head Mistress in charge of the Vernacular Training School, a Government institution. Referring to the looting which was being carried on in the neighbourhood, she says :

“ There were several policemen present on the spot and they were loitering in the street without caring for what was going on. I also saw that an iron safe was broken with an axe and as soon as the safe was broken, some policemen who were armed with guns came forward and fired blank shots as a result of which the goondas moved back. The contents of the iron safe were currency notes, etc. These were then hurriedly taken by the policemen, who pocketed them inside their coats.”

This is the testimony of a lady who is also a Government servant.

I will not trouble the House with any further extracts from her statement, although it is very interesting. Then I will come to the testimony of a European, Mr. Hodgen, the Agent of the India General Navigation and Railway Company, the representative of the steamer services at Dacca. I may mention that for several days the steamers carrying passengers did not stop at Dacca, such was the seriousness of the situation. He says :

“ I am the General Agent of the Badamtali steamer ghat. I am a European. As far as I remember, steamers from Barisal arrived at about 11 P.M. on the 24th May, 1930. All passengers except a very few were booked to Narayanganj that very night under my instructions ”

—because he did not consider it safe for the passengers to alight :

“ one gentleman with his family stopped in my office that night. I phoned to the police for sending armed guards, but got no response that night. I know of one occurrence just outside the station in the afternoon. One man was fatally wounded and two others were injured. These wounded men were sent to the hospital by a boat from the steamer station.”

And here, Sir, let me pause for a moment and pay my tribute of admiration and thankfulness to this European gentleman who by all accounts rendered great assistance to the people in distress. (*Dr. Nand Lal* : “ Hear, hear.”) Then he says :

“ On Sunday morning, the 25th, I saw a crowd of Muhammadans collected before the rice shop to the east side of the station. The shop is owned by a Hindu. The police came and went away from the spot. The shop was looted by Muhammadans. The Hindu owner left the rice shop on Monday morning by boat for Tarpasa and told me verbally before his departure that Rs. 1,500 in cash and his stock of rice had been taken away by the looters. No booking of passengers was made from the office as the clerks were afraid to attend office at night. Barisal steamer was directed to go *via* Narayanganj. Some motor launch services and the Dhaleswari (Manikganj) service were stopped for some days. Goods were rebooked to the consignors. I have no gun. The Jamadars and the police of the station are unarmed.”

Now, Sir, I come to another Government officer, another lady, the Principal of the Government College for Girls at Dacca. She says :

“ Since the 24th to 28th May, the period of the riot, I was here stopping in the school premises, I did not know what sleep was..... I do not remember how many times I phoned to the police to send me some pickets to protect this locality which is very lonely and isolated ; but every time I was told either, ‘ Let me note it down ’ or ‘ None available ’.”

[Mr. K. C. Neogy.]

These are the two replies which she got, and remember this was the case of a lady official living with some other ladies who were in her charge in that isolated place :

" In the evening I again phoned to the police officer ; I told him that being the Principal of a Government institution for women, I could naturally claim protection, but nothing was done for me. Things reached their climax on the 26th on which day about 1 P.M. a huge mob of ruffians rushed towards us from the Buckland bund. (This is a promenade running right along the river.) They all carried with them deadly weapons—daggers, big lathis and a few guns. In the crowd there were some dressed in khaki European uniform. The mob returned from the direction of Sadar-ghat. All the time they were hurling their daggers and lathis and shouting. I noticed a man among them over whose head an umbrella was held by another, and I was told by one of my servants that he was—"

(I do not propose to give the name here, but he was a prominent man at Dacca.)

With great difficulty she managed to get a car from a friend of hers for going to some friends. Then she says :

" As I was getting into the car I found a number of policemen, police constables, standing near the car ; when asked as to why the hooligans were not restrained from the atrocities they were committing in the town, they said '*Mussalman ko rukhneka hukum nehi hai, hamlok ka karenge*' (That is, they are not permitted to oppose the Mussalman; what could they do ?) "

(Cries of " Shame, shame.") This is the testimony of a Government servant, a lady holding a very responsible position, and this has stood the test of cross-examination by the official Committee of Inquiry.

Now, I come to a police officer—a retired Inspector of Police : he lives with his elder brother who is a retired additional Superintendent of Police. The whole family seems to have served the Police Department very loyally, because there is also reference to a nephew of his who was personally concerned in these riots and was hurt. He says :

" I saw hooligans and females and children carrying looted articles through lanes running along the north as well as the south of my house. I also saw two or three constables in that locality, but apparently they were doing nothing."

This is the statement of a retired Inspector of Police and he was making the statement, I dare say, with a sufficient sense of responsibility. He goes on :

" In the afternoon my nephew, a Sub-Inspector of Police, returned from the police office and stated that he was attacked although he was going with two armed orderlies in plain dress and with the head clerk of the police office. When they were attacked, they gave out that they were police officers and that they had revolvers with them. One of the hooligans gave a severe blow on the neck of Mohendra and snatched away the revolver from his waist. The Head Clerk somehow or other got back the revolver but was himself wounded in the back."

Then he gives his own opinion as to how far the police arrangements were sufficient and he is perfectly entitled to give his opinion, a retired Police Inspector as he is. He says :

" I personally think that the police arrangement was not sufficient and that if the goondas, of whom there is a list in the police office, had been arrested at the inception and proper police precautions taken, the disturbances would not have continued so long."

His nephew also has been examined before this official Committee of Inquiry. He says—I do not go over the incidents once again :

" We informed the Superintendent of Police about the occurrence and showed him the wounds received by us. I do not know whether an investigation has been started

over this and whether any arrest has been made in this connection. I know by face the man who snatched away the revolver from me."

When he says that he does not know whether an investigation has been started, it clearly shows that he was not even given the opportunity to identify the assailant when he said he could do so, and this is a police officer still in service! This is the way the police authorities at Dacca have been discharging their responsibility.

I am afraid I have exhausted all my time. These sickening details are too numerous to be dealt with in five or six hours even if I were to get that much indulgence from you on this occasion.

While this was the situation in Dacca itself, what was happening in the neighbourhood? The poison spread to the interior. A village, a very flourishing village, not more than seven miles from the district headquarters, I mean Rohitpur, was the scene of unheard of *goondaism*. About 118 houses belonging to wealthy business men were looted completely, even the broomsticks in the houses were not left behind by the looters; and what did the authorities do? The news of this occurrence did not reach the authorities within three days. Talk of law and order! Is this the way to maintain law and order in the country? After three days, when the information somehow reached the police authorities, a constable was sent from the nearest thana to make inquiries. Then the people of Dacca got to know about it and they sent some responsible persons to inspect the locality. I have got a detailed report of what they saw—I am not going to place it on record before the House at the present moment; it may be too tiresome. The most astounding feature of this incident at Rohitpur is that the rioters were incited by *chaukidars* in uniform; they incited them, in the name of Government, to loot the houses of Hindus and several lakhs worth of property were removed and destroyed at leisure for two days together. And when at last the superior administrative authorities reached that place, the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Mr. Craig, accompanied by the Nawab of Dacca and his brother Khajeh Nasirullah and the Superintendent of Police, they called together the famished and oppressed people and convened a meeting and delivered a speech, and this was the purport of the speech. The Deputy Inspector General of Police said: "This is the result of your hartal. Don't do it again. Ask the Congress people to protect you." Then he asked the people if they wanted Gandhi Raj or British Raj. Some of the people left the meeting in disgust. But others being afraid of more oppression, specially finding a particular person there in whose name these oppressions were being committed, said they wanted British Raj. On this Mr. Craig asked them to cry out "British-Raj-ki-Jai" and "Nawab-Bahadur-ki-Jai". The people finding that it was really the victory of Nawab Bahadur and British Raj cried out in agony "British-Raj-ki-Jai" and "Nawab Bahadur-ki-Jai". The company left the place, after arresting some Muhammadans including three Mussalman *chowkidars*, and triumphantly entered the city of Dacca, shouting from the launch in the river Buriganga, "British Raj-ki-Jai" and "Nawab-Bahadur-ki-Jai". Some Hindus of Dacca living by the side of the river, hearing the shouts were first terrified, but subsequently on inquiry they learnt that Nawab Bahadur & Co. had returned from Rohitpur and that there was a serious occurrence there.

Sir, I do not think that I will be justified in taking up any more time of this House. I hope I have placed sufficient materials before Honourable

[Mr. K. C. Neogy.]

Members to enable them to judge of the seriousness of the situation. I daresay the Government of India owe to this House a full and frank statement of what they have been doing while this state of things was taking place in Dacca and its neighbourhood. It won't do for my Honourable friend, the Home Member, to say that the Government of India are not primarily responsible. If he accedes to my Resolution by publishing the correspondence that passed between this Government and the Bengal Government, we should be in a position to judge as to how far the Government of India were discharging their obligations, which have been imposed upon them by the Government of India Act for the direction, supervision and control over the Provincial Governments, particularly in respect of the Reserved subjects, of which law and order happens to be one.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till a Quarter to Three of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at a Quarter to Three of the Clock, Mr. President in the Chair.

#### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INDIAN RESEARCH FUND ASSOCIATION.

**Mr. President :** I have to inform the House that Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad and Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney have been elected to sit on the Governing Body of the Indian Research Fund Association.

#### RESOLUTION *RE* OUTBREAK OF LAWLESSNESS AT DACCA— *contd.*

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi** (Dacca Division : Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I had not the least inclination to make a speech on this Resolution of my Honourable friend Mr. Neogy if only he had restricted himself to the terms of the Resolution. In the Resolution he asks the Governor General in Council to publish all correspondence that has passed between the Government of India and the Government of Bengal in connection with the recent outbreak of lawlessness in the City of Dacca and its neighbourhood. In moving the Resolution, I am very sorry that he has brought in a certain amount of communal feeling. (*An Honourable Member* : "Has he ?") (*Another Honourable Member* : "No, not at all.") At any rate, that is what I have understood from his speech. (*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh* : "Your understanding is very defective.") From his speech, as far as I am able to follow, I find that his grievance is that the police in Dacca deliberately did not give my friend's community the protection that they needed. Furthermore, so far as I have been able to understand his speech, he went on to say that the lootings continued and that in broad daylight, and that when the police protection was asked, the men concerned were referred to the Congress. He said, that the lootings continued from day to day and that the police did not give them any protection at all. There was a certain amount of insinuation that the police were conniving at the looting and murder of my Honourable friend's community by the Muslims. (*An Honourable Member* : "No.") That charge is absolutely unfounded. It may be that the police did not give them the protection that was needed, but who is responsible for that ? How was the

police going to give my friend's community the protection that they needed when the whole city of Dacca was up in arms by continuing the civil disobedience movement ? (*An Honourable Member* : " The cat is out of the bag.") (*Mr. Amar Nath Dutt* : " Therefore ? ") Will the Honourable Member let me proceed ? With the small number of police available in Dacca, it was impossible for them to give the protection. Have the police been able to give the protection needed by my community ? They failed to do that in the case of my community also, but not, as my Honourable friend would say, deliberately ; but they were unable, they were helpless, and the situation was out of hand.

Sir, when I got notice of this Resolution, I telegraphed to my constituency and to the leading men of Dacca to send me a full report of the incidents that had taken place during those days. Here I shall read from the testimony of an esteemed Hindu friend of mine. He writes to me to say :

" Whatever reports have appeared in the press, the impression is abroad that in Dacca the Muslims have done all the mischief and the Hindus have done nothing .....

Mind you, this is a Hindu gentleman. (*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh* : " What is his name ? ") I will tell you presently. He goes on to say :

" This is not correct. Whatever may have been the unfortunate cause of the outbreak, the Hindus and the Muslims have both suffered ; and according to the reports of very reliable Hindus, there has been more loss of life on the Muslim side than on the Hindu side."

If the Hindus have suffered more loss in property, according to his information there were 13 deaths among Muslims and 11 deaths among the Hindus.

Sir, there is another Report which has been sent to me with the concurrence of the Nawab of Dacca, Khan Bahadur Alauddin, Mr. Srish Chandra Chatterjee, Mr. P. K. Basu, Khan Bahadur Zahirul-Huq, Mr. Kalimuddin Ahmad, Mr. Niamuddin Ahmad, and Khaja Shahabuddin. Let us see what that Report says. With your permission I will read only a few lines from the various pages of the Report.

" Of late it has been apparently a disease with those who fancy the re-establishment of a Hindu India that the loud lie becomes the truth and the inarticulate truth becomes the lie. After reading the accounts published in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, *East Bengal Times*, and some other correspondence and essays published in those journals we could not help feeling that verily we are living in an age of loud lies. Unfortunately or fortunately, the Muslim Press has not yet learnt how to be loud over the lie. Thanks to the Hindu brains, wealth and influence.

The loud Hindu Press has marvellously succeeded in surecharging the atmosphere with the impression that the city of Hindu brains, wealth and influence of which the Hindu community are so proud, was in the grip of lawlessness perpetrated by the Muslim hooligans at the connivance of the police and the leaders of the Muslim community which is composed mostly of masons and garriwalas."

Then, it goes on to say :

" The whole object of the Hindu Press was to convey to the world at large that the present riots of Dacca have been exclusively an one-sided affair and the innocent Hindus did not contribute, Bhadrals as they are, anything to the acts of arson, pillage, stabbing and murder of which harrowing tales have been told. The Hindus had not the fairness to notice a single case of similar and in some cases of more heinous, mean and cowardly atrocities perpetrated by the Hindu Bhadrals."

Then it goes on to say :

" It is not our interest to minimise or maximise the share of contributions to the output of lawlessness that either party must have to be credited with. We are

[Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi.]

the last persons to justify the Muslim hooligans, or to minimise the losses the Hindus have suffered. Our account will be proved by the case records, and the hospital records. It will be conclusively proved that the harvest of Dacca hooligans has been due to the hooligans of both the communities, but not due to the Muslim hooligans alone as falsely represented in the Press."

Then, Sir, it further says :

"Now, we are to trace the origin of the present disturbances before we give the details of the nefarious acts of the hooligans. The origin should be traced to the year 1926."

Sir, nobody regrets more than I do this estrangement of feelings between the two communities. Up to 1926, the feelings were one of the utmost friendliness. We who come from the districts of Dacca and Mymensingh have been very friendly with the Hindus there. What has happened since then, God alone knows. The Report of the Committee now sitting will shortly tell us what the origin of the trouble is.

This Report says :

"The attack on Narandia Mosque was the act of provocation that the Hindu volunteers had been found guilty of in having stirred up 1926 riots. Since then the concord that had existed before 1926 between the two communities has been shaken and has since been declining very rapidly and this time it appears to have been altogether lost. The disturbances that followed the independence day procession were also traced to the brickbats pelted at the Narandia Mosque and other acts of insult to the Koran found therein, that had been perpetrated by the Hindu volunteers. During those disturbances the Hindus for the first time showed the example by having set fire to one cycle shop and three tea shops belonging to Muslims at Armanitola. No arson was committed by the Muslims then or before. The origin of the present troubles can be traced to differences caused between the Shankharies and Muslim Gharriwalas over a Shankari girl run over by a Muslim Gharriwala. The grievance of the Shankharies over the girl incident led to the desecration of the Kachary mosque."

The Report then goes on to say :

"On the 22nd May, on the road between Bangsal and Nawabpur, a Hindu boy while playing with tops accidentally hurt a Muslim boy of the locality. The father of the Muslim boy chastised the Hindu boy, who reported the matter to his father. He (father of the Hindu boy) with some of his men proceeded to the place of occurrence and seriously rebuked the Muslim boy's father who also then became serious and the altercation led to a communal skirmish. The Hindus of Nawabpur gathered on the one hand and the Muslims of Bangsal on the other. Hindu Bhadrals of the locality at once got up on the roof of a neighbouring two storeyed building with brickbats, coal pieces and chela (chopped wooden fuel). The Bangsal riff-raffs who joined, proceeded towards Nawabpur and the brickbats were pelted at them. This infuriated the mob and the skirmish had ended in some mischief perpetrated on the neighbouring Hindu houses, before the Police and the Nawab arrived there to make up the situation. It is reported by the Hindu Mahasabha inquiry committee that the house of one Ram Kamal Chakravarty, pleader, was looted and burnt and his cow was slaughtered in his house. This, on inquiry, from Ram Kamal Babu himself, we find to be concocted exaggeration."

Then it says :

"The 23rd May passed without any incident except that at night a Muslim who was the *gemastha* of one Mian's tobacco shop, a shop at Nawabpur, was stabbed at Purana Paltan and on the 24th morning he was found dead. Naturally it was suspected to have been caused by some Hindu and they proposed to make a demonstration of the dead body and wanted the approval of the Nawab in the presence of Babu Sriah Chandra Chatterjee, pleader, but the Nawab disapproved of the idea and asked them to take the corpse out of the morgue and bury it without making any kind of demonstration. Upon this, Sriah Babu asked the Nawab to take the corpse home so that the relations of the victim might have a last sight of him. The Nawab agreed, and they took the corpse to Fakirpool, the residence of the victim, with some police guards who left the place thinking that the corpse would be buried there. But the relations

wanted to have the *janaza* (funeral prayer) at the Chawk Mosque with the object of getting more people to pray for the deceased behind the Imam of the Mosque which is regarded by the Muslims to be more meritorious in the system of religion which they profess. So they proceeded to Chawk through Nawabpur, Islampur and Baboo Bazar, not in a programmed or deliberately pre-arranged procession, but in an ordinary funeral which does not require any license or police guards to protect. This party of not more than 20 or 30 men was not authorised to the knowledge of any Muslim leader or any of the authorities of the city. It is therefore misrepresented by the Mahasabha reporters. That was a burial party and as such it did not take any license nor was there any police order to stop it. This burial party deliberately misrepresented as a pre-arranged procession reached Baboo Bazar in front of the Mitford Hospital, when a brickbat was pelted at the corpse, from the rooms of one of the two storeyed buildings there, belonging to and inhabited by the Hindus. Just at that time the news of two more Muslims having been stabbed, one at Mokbara and another near Victoria Park, spread throughout the town. When the dead body of the unfortunate victim reached the place where the skirmish over the top had taken place, the Hindu community of Nawabpur who had already been in temper since the top-skirmish began to attack the burial party and pelted at the dead body whereupon a disastrous fight ensued between the aggressors of Nawabpur and the burial party which was subsequently strengthened by a detachment from Bangsal on the rumour that the Hindus had seized the corpse and set fire to it. By this time the information that the two Muslim tea shops and some rice godowns of Naya Bazaar had been set fire to by the Bashabari Hindus further exasperated them. The Nawabpur volleys of brickbats, pelted both vertically from the roofs and horizontally against the Muslim mob, so deliberately provoked, were replied to by arson committed on five or six Hindu houses on the spot. The dead body over which the Nawabpur trouble arose was removed by the police and the conflagration began practically all over the city almost simultaneously. The field was prepared by the Hindu Mahasabha leaders. Some time before the present disturbances promoters of the civil disobedience movement delivered speeches threatening the Muslims for their indifference towards the movement."

**Mr. President :** The Honourable Member will realize that he has already exceeded his time, and I hope he will try to finish soon.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** Thank you Sir, I will finish very soon. Then, Sir, it goes on giving a description of the various incidents that had taken place involving looting and arson and it is pointed out that everywhere the Muslims have been attacked first. Although in property the Muslims have not lost much, because they are poor and have not got much property to lose, yet in lives, as I have shown, they have lost more than the Hindus. I will not go into the harrowing details, but all that I can say is that, so far as I have been able to find out, the police were absolutely helpless, having regard to the situation created, as the Report says, by the Hindu Mahasabha and also by the civil disobedience movement. It was not that the police deliberately did not render the assistance that they should have done. I have been able, I hope, to demonstrate this fact clearly that not only the Hindus, but the Mussalmans also have suffered, and if my friend's view was to be taken as correct, then the Mussalmans would not have suffered either in loss of life or loss of property. With these words, Sir, I oppose the Resolution.

**Mr. S. C. Sen** (Calcutta : Non-Muhammadan Urban) : Sir, I do not think that Mr. Neogy had either raised any question of communal feeling or even hinted at or made any insinuation against any community whatever. His motion is for the production of certain papers, *viz.*, the correspondence between the Government of Bengal and the Government of India so that the people might know what steps the Government of India took in connection with this matter. There was no question of communal feeling in the matter and I deplore that Mr. Ghuznavi, in his speech, has referred to and brought out communal feeling. Hooligans are hooligans all over the world, whether Muhammadans, Hindus or even Government



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servants (Hear, hear) wearing the King's uniform (*An Honourable Member* : "Quite so"), and we all deplore that in this matter, although the hooligans had their innings for over a week, nothing was done by the Government or by their responsible officers, whose duty it is to keep law and order. That is the point, Sir. I do not blame the Muhammadans, nor do I blame the Hindus, but I blame the Government officials there for utter failure to take any proper steps. (Hear, hear.) They boast, Sir, that they are here to keep peace and order. They boast that India had not had law and order for a considerable time and it is British rule which has enabled the people to live in peace. But the incidents at Dacca show clearly what we can expect from these men when their turn comes to molest other people.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi** : But my community had already been molested first.

**Mr. S. C. Sen** : I am coming to that. Government are quite able to take care of themselves and they do not want your help. But they do sometimes want help, and on the present occasion it has been said that the Government were helpless ; there were no police, no adequate means to check the lawlessness at Dacca, and it is admitted that lawlessness continued for several days. It would therefore be interesting to know what steps the Government took to stop the disturbances. Dacca is not a small city, it is second in importance in Bengal. The Governor goes there every year and stays there for a month. It is the headquarters of the Divisional Commissioner, and also of the Eastern Frontier Rifles—a regiment on whom rests at present the task of keeping peace and order throughout Bengal. Their services are requisitioned wherever there are disturbances in Bengal ; and with all these things, it is idle for Government to pretend that they had not a sufficient police force at their disposal during the time of the disturbances or that they had no means to get together any adequate force at that time.

**Dr. A. Suhrawardy** (Burdwan and Presidency Divisions : Muhammadan Rural) : They were busy in Chittagong.

**Mr. S. C. Sen** : I will read for my friend's guidance a Press communiqué published by the Government in the last portion of which it says :

"The police force now in Dacca are reported to be adequate and every attempt is being made by the local officers to restore confidence."

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : Would the Honourable Member kindly give the date of that communiqué ?

**Mr. S. C. Sen** : It is dated May the 29th. The visit of the Inspector General of Police was made there on the 26th with 100 armed police and 100 armed men of the Eastern Frontier Rifles. Now, Sir, it is interesting to note what steps the Government usually take and took on similar occasions before. This is not the first occasion when there was communal trouble. There have been many before. Sir, just a month before this—the Dacca riots took place, on the 23rd May—the carters' riot in Calcutta took place, some time about the 15th or 16th of April. As soon as that rioting took place, His Excellency, Sir Stanley Jackson, came down from Darjeeling with his Executive Council to look after the matter and he succeeded in putting down the rioting. What, by contrast, was done in this case, Sir ?



**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** The police force is a body of great strength in Calcutta.

**Mr. S. C. Sen :** I was referring to the steps which Government did take before. In 1926, when there was great communal trouble in Calcutta, Lord Lytton, the then Governor of Bengal, did not go to Calcutta but sent the Member in charge of the Law and Order Department to look after it, but all the same he was abused, if I may use the expression, by all the local newspapers in Calcutta, including I believe, our professing friend, the *Statesman and Friend of India*. (Laughter.) I may mention that from a letter which I saw and which was received by a friend of mine from one of the Councillors of the Secretary of State's Council, I came to know that His Majesty the King-Emperor, when this gentleman was given an audience by His Majesty, himself inquired why Lord Lytton was not then in Calcutta when all these troubles took place. This shows that when a trouble of such magnitude takes place, it is the duty of the Governor and of the Government and other Government officials to go to the place to look after the matter. A few days before this occurrence, the Inspector General of Police was sent to Chittagong and the Member in charge of the Law and Order Department in the Government of Bengal was also sent there. Although at this time he was at Chittagong from where he could have come to Dacca within five hours, he did not do so, nor was any step taken to pacify the people or quell the disturbance. The rioters went on merrily without let or hindrance and, as my friend has said, the Hindus suffered the most. I do not know whether his case is that they looted themselves. Rohitpur village, which is about six miles from Dacca, was looted. In this case, the official communiqué says that hundreds of houses belonging to Hindus were sacked and burnt, and everything that they contained was looted, and that women and children took part in the matter.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** Similarly, the Mussalmans were also wiped off in certain parts of Dacca.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Did the Honourable Member go down to Dacca to satisfy himself ?

**Mr. S. C. Sen :** My point is that in this case the Government of Bengal did not take adequate steps to protect the lives and properties of the people. Not only did they not do that, but they also arrested men of respectability who were then at Dacca so as to prevent them from defending themselves. Some of the guns were taken away illegally. Although their case is that the police force was insufficient and although the Government communiqué says that, on the arrival of the Inspector General of Police, which was on the 25th of May, the authorities considered that the police force was adequate, they did not do anything. The courts were closed and did not open for eight days. The Telegraph and Post Offices did not function for that time. Even the steamer companies, belonging to Europeans, could not ply, and we are entitled to ask why this state of things was allowed to be continued at Dacca for such a length of time. I do not blame the Mussalmans at all nor do I blame the Hindus, but I do blame the persons whose professed duty it is to protect the lives and property of the people of this country, seeing that the people of this country are disarmed and therefore they must rely on the Government to protect their lives and property. In these circumstances, I support the Resolution which has been moved by my friend, Mr. Neogy. It is necessary in the

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interests of justice and the good name of the Government of India to publish the correspondence to show what steps they took in this matter. The Government of Bengal are on their trial ; they have failed to do their duty ; and it is for the Government of India to show that they have done their duty in this matter. With these words, Sir, I support the Resolution.

**Dr. Nand Lal** (West Punjab : Non-Muhammadian) : Sir, the Government of India may kindly keep a special note of the fact that all of us here are in favour of the maintenance of law and order and all of us are averse to any act which amounts to the infringement of law. At the same time, none of us will be willing to tolerate any kind of injustice which is done to any of the Indians in this country. I am not in favour of offering any general comment or random remarks. I do concede that some of the Government officials do their duty very honestly and conscientiously. Our complaint is against those who do not realise the weight of their responsibility. Sir, you will agree with me when I submit on the floor of this House that an entry into the Government service is identical to high privileges. When Government servants are entitled to these high privileges, they must bear in mind that they should have greater toleration, greater patience and a greater sense of duty. I have already said that some of them perform their duty honestly and properly. Our complaint here is against those Government servants who have failed to do what they ought to have done. To my mind, it is incumbent on every police officer to maintain peace and order ; to extend sympathy to those who are wronged ; to help those who are really feeling aggrieved and those who have fallen victims to the atrocious conduct of any person, be he a Muhammadian, or a Hindu or a member of any other nationality. I am not one of those who will allow any communal question or a communal idea to have its place in this Central Legislature. The Central Legislature ought to be above these things. The Central Legislature has to deal with those points which create harmony, affection and love amongst the various sections of the people of this country. But if, as I have already submitted, a wrong is done to any person in any corner of this country or in any province, in any district, in any village, then it is incumbent upon us to bring it to the notice of the Government of India so that they may take proper action and may try to see that the grievances are redressed and the confidence of this Government is maintained. When confidence is maintained, the natural result would be happiness, peace and order. Thus, all of us here and those who are outside this Assembly Chamber will enjoy life under the protection of law.

Now, the sad accounts, which have been narrated by my Honourable friend Mr. Neogy, are very heart-rending and if all of them are true, then I must say that a blunder has been committed by those Government servants who, instead of extending their sympathy towards those people who were injured, laughed at them. They cracked jokes at them. People were deprived of their property, which is the sinews of life. They were crying, lamenting and seeking for sympathy and help. And what did the Government servants do ? They simply told them "Go to this man or that man." My Honourable and learned friend Mr. Neogy mentioned those names, and I am not going to mention them again. Is it not sad if it is true ? It is the saddest thing. I submit, Sir, the Government of India will kindly keep a note of it that they will be respected when they see that

every person, every subject here in this country is treated in such a way that he may have no grievance against any Government servant. As I said, Sir, there are special privileges attached to those who enter Government service. On the other hand, there are also some responsibilities which are thrown on their shoulders. One of the responsibilities is this, that they will maintain a balance of mind, they will be impartial, they will be just, and they will try to see that a good name is given to Government who are their employers. If I were to be one of the servants of "A", I should try to see that every act of mine might reflect credit on my employer and might not bring any kind of discredit so far as my employer is concerned. In that case alone I am a good servant, otherwise not. Practically my Honourable friend Mr. Neogy's complaint is against those Government servants who really did not realise the weight of their responsibility as such. Therefore, my submission is that these accounts, which have been placed before this House, deserve full investigation, and an impartial enquiry must be made and if there is any truth in these allegations, the wrongdoers must be punished. I believe my Honourable and learned friend was one of the Members of the Enquiry Committee. Therefore there must be great truth in the evidence and statements which he has read out before this House. It is quite probable that some of the allegations might be considered as exaggeration; as unfortunately, exaggeration is, sometimes, resorted to in such cases. But, apart from that, if there is some truth, if there is some accuracy, some correctness in these accounts, then I submit that the Government of India will be pleased to take effective measures so that an end may be put to such things and these things may not recur. It is unfortunate that a communal question has been introduced. I am averse to it, otherwise, I would have been able to give an answer to my Honourable friend who has associated himself with this communal question. But since I am averse to it, I cannot go against my creed. My creed is to be a Nationalist, always to see that the rights of Hindus and Muhammadans are safeguarded. Since in this affair, since in this occurrence, the rights of the public have been ruthlessly violated, they are entitled to protection, they are entitled to be in such a predicament and condition that their property and lives are safe and that they are not injured. Since everything that has been narrated is contrary to what ought to be, I repeat, and you, Sir, will kindly permit my repetition, that the Government will be pleased to see that these grievances are properly redressed and that proper enquiry is made. If some of the Government servants have behaved in the manner in which they have been depicted to have behaved, then punishment may be given to them and that punishment may be notified so that it might constitute an object lesson to others so that they may come to know that certain Government servants had not behaved properly and so they were punished. Thereby the honesty, the impartiality and sanctity of the administration of the Government will be maintained before every person in the country. With these remarks I submit that I support this Resolution, which has been moved by my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy.

**Mr. Saradindu Mukerjee** (Calcutta Suburbs : Non-Muhammadan Urban) : In rising to support the Resolution, I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable the Mover of this Resolution to the fact that the Honourable Member has come to the wrong place to redress his grievances. He is quite wrong if he thinks he can get any redress from Government for the wrongs that have been perpetrated in Dacca. Sir, we saw that in 1905-06 also the Government tried this method, and

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there was a good deal of repression by one community, I will not mention who, over the other. The only remedy that was found was the establishment of the *Anushilan Samiti* and if Government would permit us to establish such societies in these times, my advice to my Honourable friend would be to try for the same. However, Sir, we are not concerned with 1905-06. We are now concerned with 1930.

**Dr. A. Suhrawardy :** Was that not an anarchist organisation ?

**Mr. Saradindu Mukerjee :** I do not think that the *Anushilan Samiti* was an anarchist organisation. That society was devoted to physical culture and other similar things and my Honourable friend knows perfectly well that whenever and wherever a society is founded for the purpose of physical culture or similar of the motive, it is bound to be declared an anarchist organisation. In Dacca what happened was that, first of all, the male members of the families were arrested and then their houses were looted. That shows the hand of Government in it.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** In what place did you find that ?

**Mr. President :** Order, order.

**Mr. Saradindu Mukerjee :** Sir, my Honourable friend Mr. Ghuznavi has introduced a communal tone in our discussion, which I want to avoid.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** You have never been to Dacca ?

**Mr. Saradindu Mukerjee :** Yes, I have been.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** When ?

**Mr. Saradindu Mukerjee :** Some months before the occurrence of the Dacca riots.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** Had you been there after the occurrence ?

**Mr. President :** Order, order. This sort of conversation cannot be allowed.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** The Honourable Member, Mr. Ghuznavi himself, had never been to Dacca after the riots.

**Mr. Saradindu Mukerjee :** I want to place before the House the condition of Dacca, as described by Dr. Taylor. He says :

“ Religious quarrels between the Hindus and Muhammadans are of rare occurrence. These two classes live in perfect peace and concord, and a majority of the individuals belonging to them have even overcome their prejudices so far as to smoke from the same *hookah* ”.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** What year was it ?

**Mr. Saradindu Mukerjee :** That was in 1839. The communities were living quite in peace in those days. What is the new cause that has created this ill feeling and this sort of enmity between these two communities ? My own submission is that it is only the hand of Government that is responsible and no one else. I should like to draw your attention, Sir, to the Report of the Committee of the Dacca Bar Association consisting of Hindus and Moslems giving in detail the state of communal feeling immediately before this disturbance. The Report says :

“ Before the recent disturbances the Dacca Muhammadan public was not anti-Congress, as will appear from the following facts. Muhammadan students hoisted the

National flag on the Independence Day, 26th January, 1930. The Hall was also brilliantly illuminated on that day. Muhammadan youths joined the procession which came out on that day to celebrate the Independence Day. There were also processions consisting exclusively of Muhammadan boys who paraded the streets with the cries 'Mahatma Gandhiji-Ki-Jai', 'Bande Mataram', 'Alla-Ho-Akbar'. Although there was a fracas on the 26th January and a communal turn was sought to be given to the rioting which followed, it soon subsided chiefly through joint Hindu-Muhammadan intervention. Mixed batches of Hindu and Muslim University volunteers patrolled the streets at night. Good feeling was soon restored between the two communities by the wise and patriotic actions of the two sections, Hindu and Muhammadan, of the Dacca public.

Then the Mahatma inaugurated his civil disobedience movement on the 6th of April and launched his crusade against the Salt Law. The movement caught the imagination of the masses. It appealed to the Dacca masses as it did to the masses of the rest of India. The Muhammadan masses at Dacca did not keep themselves aloof from the movement. Daily meetings were held in the Coronation Park. These meetings were attended and addressed by Muhammadans. There was a very large attendance of the Muhammadan youths at a meeting held to read proscribed literature. Muhammadan volunteers went to Contai to break the Salt Law. Muhammadan volunteers along with the Hindus picketed the liquor shops. The Muhammadan public helped the picketers whenever they were in trouble due to the ruffianism of the goondas and drunkards. Indeed at the predominantly Muhammadan quarters such as Kumartuli, Islampur, Sachibandar, Moulavi Bazar and Nawabganj, picketing would have been impossible without the assistance of the Muhammadans of the locality. Cigarettes were boycotted by both Hindus and Muhammadans spontaneously without much propaganda. *Biris* replaced the cigarettes, by which the Muhammadans profited very much, as the *biri* manufacturers are mostly Muhammadans.

"At a meeting of the cloth dealers and tailors and outfitters held at the Dacca Bar Association at the instance of the Congress, the Muhammadan dealers and shopkeepers mustered strong and a resolution boycotting foreign cloth was unanimously carried, two Muhammadans and two Hindus proposing, seconding and supporting the resolution."

(At this stage Mr. President vacated the Chair which was taken by Nawab Sir Sahibzada Abdul Qaiyum.)

"Since a long time there had been two parties amongst the Dacca Muhammadans, one led by Khwaja Atikulla, President of the 22 Panchayets of Dacca and the other by Syed Abdul Hafeez, President of the Islamia Anjuman. These two parties held separate demonstrations during the Civil Disobedience movement. Atikulla's party held two meetings at Paltan. The other party also held two such demonstrations one at the Coronation Park and the other at Ashan Manzil. It will, therefore, be seen that the cleavage between the two parties was sharp. Demonstrations and counter-demonstrations were held to increase the adherents of each party. The supporters of the Panchayet party consisted mostly of the town people, while those of the Anjuman were Muhammadans from the outlying villages."

On 15th April, 1930, a hartal was held at Dacca on account of the arrest of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, President of the Indian National Congress. No other hartal at Dacca had been so much successful. Both Muhammadans and Hindus enthusiastically joined the hartal. Both Hindu and Muhammadan shops were closed. Hackney coach drivers, who are all Muhammadans, ceased to ply their carriages on that day. Then there was an incident at Sankhari Bazar mentioned hereafter. On 5th May, 1930, there was a notice signed by both parties that a mosque had been desecrated by the Sankharis and declaring hartal on 6th May, 1930. The Congress also notified that hartal would be held on 6th May, 1930, on account of the arrest of Dr. Kitchlew.

Syed Abdul Hafeez, President of the Anjuman, thereupon issued a notice prohibiting the hartal on 6th May, 1930. In that notice he denied that he had ever signed any notice declaring hartal. In the meantime Mahatma Gandhi was arrested and hartal was spontaneously observed at Dacca on that day. Syed Hafeez tried his utmost to open the shops, but failed."

From this, Sir, we find that there was no sort of communal bitterness, so far as Dacca was concerned, immediately before these disturbances. And then we suddenly find that a trivial cause was held to be the root cause of these disturbances. We need not dilate upon that. It

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is very easy to see that the whole object was that the stronger party, i.e., the Government, was trying to create a disturbance in the feelings between the two communities, so that the sins of the outrages might be placed on the heads of one of these communities. Sir, big houses were burnt down, and there is a House called "Sushila Nibash", a very big house, which was absolutely burnt down. There was a furniture shop, which was only 200 yards from the police station, and that was looted and completely burnt down. That shows that the police were not doing their duty. My idea is that if there had been an able officer like my Honourable friend, Mr. G. S. Dutt, at the helm of public affairs there, instead of at Mymensingh, where he kept matters calm by his tact and judgment, this trouble would have been stopped in no time. We have seen that when there was a communal disturbance in Calcutta in 1926, the place just opposite to Calcutta, i.e., Howrah, was absolutely quiet, and only because there was a judicious Indian officer at the helm of affairs. So my idea is that, if there had been an able Indian officer there in charge, this trouble would have ceased in a very short time. So my submission to Government is that in places where such disturbances occur frequently, they will try to place officers who enjoy public confidence.

**Mr. N. G. Ranga** (East Godavari and West Godavari *cum* Kistna : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, my Honourable friend Mr. Ghuznavi gives the impression, which I think he really does not wish to give, that he is very anxious that there should be disharmony and discord between the Hindus and Muhammadans. Otherwise, where is the necessity for him to protest against a harmless quotation from Mr. Taylor's book stating that a long time ago, in 1839, there was no trouble at all between the Hindus and Muhammadans of Dacca? Secondly, he was mentioning that the Hindus as well as the Muhammadans had to suffer in that unfortunate affair that took place in Dacca, and he was particularly careful to mention the fact that 13 Muhammadans were murdered as against 11 Hindus. What does it matter whether there were 13 Muhammadans or 13 Hindus who were murdered, provided they were Indians? Does he mean to say that, just because a man happens to be a Muhammadan, he ceases to be an Indian? Does he mean to say that just because a mischievous Hindu boy in a moment of aberration attacked a Muhammadan boy, all the Hindus should be attacked as they were in Dacca merely on account of the fact that they were born Hindus? If to-day in Simla one Muhammadan gentleman were to be so very imprudent as to attack a Hindu gentleman, is that any reason why all the Hindus in Simla should go and attack the Muhammadans at once? Sir, this is a very curious mentality. It is the sort of mentality which is really standing in the way of our attaining Swaraj, and the sooner we get rid of this mentality the better; and I am sure that in his more responsible moments my Honourable friend, Mr. Ghuznavi, himself will feel that he has committed a mistake in giving this unfortunate impression to the House that he is anxious that there should be trouble and discord between these two great communities who ought to live in peace, harmony and fraternity.

Sir, the Honourable Members on the other side of the House may be doubtful about the accuracy of the facts that were placed before them by my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy. I can assure them

that my Honourable friend is as responsible a person as any highly placed official on the other side of the House. But, at the same time, even supposing that they are incredulous about the facts that were stated here by Mr. Neogy, they will certainly not be prepared to dispute the facts placed before them by my Honourable friend Mr. Ghuznavi. He himself has stated that the police force was not enough. Why should it be inadequate and insufficient? Dacca is an important city, second in importance to Calcutta, so far as Bengal is concerned, and why was the police force there not enough? This widespread trouble was going on between these two great communities for well over a week. The Government of India and the Government of Bengal have not taken care to see that there was adequate police protection provided for these people who asked for it. We have seen from the quotation that was given by Mr. Neogy that a lady Principal, whose nights were disturbed and who was anxious to get this protection for herself and the children in her custody, was not given that protection. The police were not willing and were not prepared to go to her rescue. Is that the way in which Government should be carried on in this country? Only the other day, we saw the empty boast in the Simon Report that the British Army should be kept in this country in order to maintain peace and in order to see that no disturbances occur between these two great communities. Sir, if that is so, if the British are kept on here as an army of occupation, where was that Army in that unfortunate place, Dacca, for one week and more? What happened to this Government? It is clear from the facts that have been placed before this House that there was no government at all for that one week. Everybody was asking for protection, whether Muhammadan or Hindu; and Mr. Ghuznavi himself has borne testimony to the fact that Muhammadans have suffered considerably in this unhappy episode; and yet were they given protection? Were the Hindus given protection? Were ladies given protection? What happened to this Government and where was it? Was it drowned in the Bay of Bengal? Or was it consecrated at the altar of the Goddess of Sin and all that goes with it? The Government was not there. It only shows that, whenever there is serious trouble between these two great communities in this country, this Government does not exist; it does not want to exist or to function. If on the other hand it were to be a matter of trouble between those peaceful Satyagrahis--and I tell you they are harmless on the one side and the mischievous and hooliganistic and well-armed Government on the other, then I can assure you there will be too much exhibition of the strength of this Government. Go to any place,—Cocanada, Rajahmundry, Ramachandrapur, Chirala, Guntur, Bezwada, Gudivada, Masulipatam or Nellore—and what do you find there? You find that there are three times as many policemen today as were to be found in those places before. Why is it so? Was there any firing incident or any riot or any evidence to show that the people were mad enough to quarrel among themselves? There was absolutely no such evidence. Yet this Government shows itself in all its vileness, in all its fierceness and displays all its bestial claws only in those places, whereas in places where there was great necessity for the exhibition of its powers, it is not to be found, it is not to be discovered. Is that not evidence enough to condemn this Government and to damage its reputation in the eyes of this world?



[Mr. N. G. Ranga.]

I am very glad really that Mr. Neogy has given this opportunity to this House to see this Government in its real and true colours. In this quarrel at Dacca, many houses were burned down and many people were killed and many injured : we need not bother very much about this ; but some people—I am told their number was large—were reduced to such a state of impotency and necessity, that they had to bury or burn the bodies of their beloved relatives, who were murdered in that unfortunate episode, in the yards of their own houses : and why ? Because they were afraid to go to the cremation or burial grounds to perform the last necessary religious rites. Sir, a Government which does not enable its people to give the very last religious rites to the people who die under its very nose, that Government stands condemned and negatived ; it does not deserve the name of Government. It may be a sort of organization of people in the services if you like, of people with vested interests if you like and may be it is a conglomeration of such people who are here to scratch one another's backs in order to support one another and in order to keep their domination over other people, not in the interests of those people who are suppressed by it, but in the interests of itself. But anyhow it is not a civilised government ; nor is it an efficient government ; it is an inefficient, barbaric and useless form of government, which is too costly for this country and which at the same time fails to discharge its primary functions. On the other hand, where it finds it easy.....

**The Chairman** (Nawab Sir Sahibzada Abdul Qaiyum) : There are several other Members who want to speak on this subject and the Honourable Member might therefore conclude his remarks.

**Mr. N. G. Ranga** : I shall close in five minutes, Sir. In other places where it finds it easy to put down its enemies, it does not find it necessary even to show the necessary amount of patience which it has shown in Dacca in abundance, or sufficient consideration which it claims to have shown in the affairs of Dacca. In all those places in the Andhra country and in other parts of India where it found its enemies—I call them enemies constitutionally, who are indeed peaceful, harmless and useful—it has shown its fangs unnecessarily and prematurely and created so much trouble and caused so much unhappiness and damage and hurt to the feelings and the bodies and properties of so many people that it will not be possible even for the best friend of this Government to say to its credit that it really deserves the name of Government. Therefore I heartily commend the Resolution to this House and request each and every Member, at least the elected Members of this House, to vote for it, in the hope that hereafter at least the Government will try to become an efficient Government and will try to discharge the elementary functions for which a Government is established, to enable individuals to enjoy freedom of speech, freedom of meeting, freedom of movement and freedom of social functions, so that it may be possible for the future historian to say that this Government has, at the last moment at least, tried to justify its own existence by realising its own mistakes and its blunders and has come to the conclusion that it should not commit any of those blunders any longer.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** (Muzaffarpur *cum* Champaran : Non-Muhamadan) : Sir, I am surprised that my Honourable friend Mr. Ghuznavi



should have taken exception to such a harmless Resolution as the one which is now before the House. What is the Resolution before the House? It is no more than this, that the Government of India may be pleased to publish the correspondence that has passed between them and the Government of Bengal with regard to the Dacca disturbances. I do not understand, how any Member of this House could take exception to this.

**Dr. A. Suhrawardy :** What is the object underlying the Resolution?

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Sir, there are two versions with regard to the Dacca affair. One version has been put before the House by my Honourable friend Mr. Neogy. Mr. Ghuznavi takes exception to some of the remarks made by Mr. Neogy, and says that Hindus at some places are aggressive, and he has most unfortunately given a communal turn to the whole debate, although the Mover scrupulously refrained from doing so. Why were my friends of the Moslem Group anxious to see the Report of the Sulaiman Committee published with regard to the happenings that took place in Peshawar? In the same way, I do not understand how any Member, whether he belongs to the European Group or to the Central Moslem Group or to any Group for the matter of that, can rightly take exception to the course which is advocated by my friend Mr. Neogy. My friend Mr. Ghuznavi seems to have put himself in the shoes of the Honourable the Home Member, with all his responsibility. Let the Honourable the Home Member say that the correspondence in question is a confidential document and that it cannot be laid before the public. One can understand his position. Those documents will bring out in true colours the nature of the instructions which might have emanated from the Government of India, or the nature of the suggestions which might have come from the Government of Bengal. That is entirely a matter for the Treasury Benches, but I cannot understand how a non-official Member can constitute himself as the custodian of the conscience of the Treasury Benches, and say that the correspondence that passed between the two Governments should not be published. That creates a suspicion.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** I never said that.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Then why oppose it? The Resolution is  
 4 P.M. that this Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council to publish all correspondence that has passed between the Government of India and the Government of Bengal in connection with the recent outbreak of lawlessness in the city of Dacca and its neighbourhood, and my friend has thought it proper to oppose it. I should like to know on what grounds he has opposed it.

**Dr. A. Suhrawardy :** Mr. Neogy's object was to raise a debate on the Dacca disturbances, and he has already done it.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Sir, before proceeding further, I should like to draw the attention of this House to the statement made by Mr. Hotson, the Superintendent of Police of Dacca. This statement was made before the Government Inquiry Committee at Dacca. In the course of his evidence in connection with the disturbances at Bangshal he says this :

“ While the police were busy, looting and arson were started in the presence of the witness and Hindu houses were burnt ”.

SCP3(LA)

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[Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh.]

Sir, there are some incidents of Dacca which I should like to place before this House. A man was riding a bicycle without a light. There was trouble between the police and the bystanders over this affair. Soon the police mustered strong, and began to belabour the passers-by mercilessly. Can Mr. Ghuznavi justify this? This is an incident on which I hope the Honourable the Home Member will throw some light, if he can. I do not understand why my Honourable friend Mr. Ghuznavi should take exception to a harmless course which is suggested by the Mover of this Resolution, and by other Members on this side of the House.

Then, Sir, when the mob set fire to Hindu houses, the police formed a cordon at the entrance of Bangshal Street, which resulted in preventing the Hindus from going to the rescue of their co-religionists and putting out the fire. On the night of the 23rd May, a dead body of a Muhammadan was found in Paltan. Nobody knows how he was murdered. Some people doubt if he was murdered at all. But this mysterious murder was utilised by designing persons to excite the Muhammadan mob. It was resolved to carry the dead body in a procession on Saturday the 24th May. And strange to say the authorities allowed such a procession at a time of acute tension. The processionists incessantly cried that a Muhammadan had been murdered by the Hindus. The motive is obvious. It was done to excite the passion of the Muhammadans. Now, I should like the Honourable the Home Member to explain why a public procession was allowed to accompany a dead body, which was not even proved to have been a case of murder by any one.....

**Dr. A. Suhrawardy :** Was it a funeral or a procession? Are you referring to the funeral of the Muhammadan who was murdered or to the procession?

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** The Honourable Member understands very well to what I am referring.

**Dr. A. Suhrawardy :** I am trying my best to do so.

(At this stage Mr. President resumed the Chair.)

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Now, Sir, as this procession was passing, looting started, and Hindu shopkeepers began to close their shops. But unfortunately the door of Star Medical Hall at Babur Bazar was partially kept open. And some of the hooligans at once entered the Hall and fatally stabbed the proprietor of the Hall. He recognised his assailants and mentioned the name of one of them. The man was arrested, but it is reported that he was subsequently released. Can this be justified?

Sir, in making these observations, I want to steer clear of all communal feelings. As has been pointed out by previous speakers, hooligans are hooligans, whether they are Hindus or Muhammadans, and, to apportion blame to any one community is far from my intention. The important thing is the attitude of the local authorities. Sir, I am going to place a few more specific instances before the House, and I should like the Home Member to clear up the incidents if he can. I do not understand why any Honourable Member of this House should take exception to these incidents, which bring discredit on the officials, being brought to the notice of this House, and get the whole position cleared up.

Then, Sir, at Chawkbazar the shops of Meghu Shaha and Upendra Shaha were looted, and these shops were within the sight of the police section. I should like to know why the police were inactive all the time, and what steps they took to prevent this mischief from spreading. Babu Rohini Kumar Chakraborti was killed and Babu Surjya Kumar Bose, one of the Managing Directors of a Cotton Mill, and three others were seriously injured. The police, headed by the white civil guards, arrived on the scene. Not a single Muhammadan was arrested, but the guns of the Hindus were taken away by the police. The tragedy of the situation is that not only did the police not afford any effective protection to the Hindus, but the Hindus were hindered by their presence from defending themselves when attacked by the hooligans. Several policemen are reported to have been standing near by, but they did not interfere. No member of the mob was arrested, but 13 Hindus were arrested at Bashabari Lane on Wednesday the 28th May, although no Muhammadan was molested in that Lane on that day or on any other day.

Sir, it has been pointed out that there was not enough police. From the evidence which my Honourable friend Mr. Neogy has placed before the House this morning, and from what I have gathered, it will be clear to any impartial observer that there was no serious dearth of police, but it is suspected that the local authorities were given a particular kind of instructions not to interfere with a particular course of action, with the result that matters have ended in this most unfortunate manner.

Now, Sir, there is another incident which I should like to place before the House. At about 8-45 A.M., the raid at Kayettuli began; and the house of Babu Prosonna Kumar Nandy was attacked. The police were telephoned to by Mr. Abdul Kadiri, Deputy Superintendent of Police, but did not come. Two daughters of Prasanna Babu, Anindya Bala and Amiya Bala, who are students of Class IX of Kamarunnessa High School, repulsed the attack for about half an hour, but had ultimately to give way after Anindya Bala had been wounded on the forehead. The Kayettuli loot commenced at a quarter to nine, and the police did not appear before 11 A.M. This indicates, Sir, that the plea that there was not enough police is unfounded. The Superintendent of Police was phoned to at about 9 A.M. by Mr. Abdul Kadiri, Deputy Superintendent of Police, from Babupura Police Station. The S. P.'s reply was that no police were available, but it happened that, at that very time Babus Jogendra Nath Sen, Lalit Mohan Roy, pleaders, and Mr. P. K. Bose, Bar-at-Law, were present at the Police Office. They saw there at least 15 Gurkha or arhwali armed police and an equal number of ordinary constables, with four or five European police officers and three motor buses. The District Magistrate was also present there.

The District Magistrate of Dacca held a peace conference, and when the peace conference was being held in the police buildings, the members of that conference saw an incident which was this:

The members of the Peace Committee noticed from the verandah of the Police Office a fire in the direction of Kayettuli. In the midst of the discussion the Magistrate rose and abruptly left the meeting. That was at about 10 o'clock. It will be seen that at that moment Kayettuli was being raided and burnt, but strange to say the Magistrate did not go to Kayettuli, from where repeated calls for police help had come.

[Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh.]

The raiders, who were concerned in the pillage and burning of Kayettuli had thus a free hand for over two hours and a half. They came in batches in motor buses. One bus was relieved by another. It was noticed that one such bus was named "Momin". One private car was seen carrying *lathis* and other weapons and petrol.

**Mr. President :** The Honourable Member has exhausted his time. I hope he will try to bring his remarks to a close now.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** All right, Sir. I will give no more incidents. I support the Resolution, and resume my seat.

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** Sir, I am sorry to have to dis-appoint my Honourable friend Mr. Neogy.....

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Nothing will disappoint me. I did not expect anything.

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** .....for I do not wish to make any complaint that this subject has been raised today in this House. My Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, endeavoured, I think, to keep the discussion to an issue which I am perfectly prepared to answer as far as I can—the issue, briefly, between the Government and the people. In a case of this kind, where the origin of the disturbances is communal, it is unfortunately not possible to keep out altogether certain references to what are obviously the different versions of the story that are believed by the different communities. But I shall endeavour to restrict my answer to the question of the responsibility of Government.

Now, Sir, before I leave this question of communal trouble, I should like to say one word with reference to what fell from the Honourable Member, Mr. Mukerjee. I understood that he was accusing Government of promoting these communal riots. That, Sir, is a charge which I am sorry should be made by any Member of this House. The Honourable Member, I should have supposed, would remember the efforts made by the Government of India, and, in particular, by His Excellency the Viceroy, a few years ago, when we were passing through a period of very lamentable and acute communal trouble. His Excellency the Viceroy made two great and powerful appeals to the country which were circulated widely all over India, and which, in my judgment, had a very considerable effect in producing a far better and calmer atmosphere, and I think that the Government might be spared accusations of that character.

The case of my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, was a different one. I do not wish to deny that the situation which arose in Dacca was serious and most deplorable. We have heard a number of details to-day. I cannot vouch for their accuracy, but the broad picture, no doubt, is true that for some days there were very serious disturbances in Dacca, that a number of persons were killed and a number of persons were injured, and that houses and shops were burnt and looted. I do not, for a moment, wish to deny that general picture. Nothing could be a matter of greater regret to Government, for Government are responsible for preserving the peace, and in this case, undoubtedly, the peace was seriously broken. I do not, therefore, for a moment, deny that there is a case for Government to meet.

Now, Sir, the case of Mr. Neogy, if I understood him aright, taking it broadly, was that the police deliberately refrained from giving such assistance as was in their power, and that Government allowed this state of affairs to continue, I might almost say, as a matter of policy. Well, Sir, those are very serious accusations. I do not propose to enter into the justification for such accusations or into a refutation of them. That is a matter which will come up later when the Committee of Enquiry, which is now sitting, has reported. But, as one side of the case has been presented to the House, let us, at any rate, see whether there is not some other and possibly more probable explanation of the unfortunate developments that took place in Dacca. It is, I think, common ground that these riots broke out very suddenly, and, as far as I know, quite unexpectedly, and spread with the most remarkable rapidity. I understand that it was on the 24th May that the riots really broke out seriously, and that the two days when most of the damage was caused were the 24th and 25th. Now, Sir, a good deal of reference has been made during the debate to the strength of the police force and whether the police were not in a position to restore order at once by vigorous action. We have not got very full details of the position, but there is no doubt from the reports I have received that the police force in Dacca at the time these riots broke out was exceptionally weak.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** May I know what was the strength of the police force then ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I am afraid I cannot say.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Then how does the Honourable Member say that it was inadequate ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I am giving the report which we received from the local officers. It was mentioned that, though every assistance was given by the Eastern Frontier Rifles with its very limited forces, the police force was quite inadequate to deal with the situation, and I also have a report here which says that it was very unfortunate that this serious outbreak should have occurred at a time when the greater part of the military police force was absent from Dacca. A point has been made of the fact that Dacca is the headquarters of the Eastern Frontier Rifles. Well, it is quite clear that the greater part of that Force was absent from Dacca. Honourable Members, I think, can themselves conjecture what were the reasons which led to the depletion of the police forces in Dacca. They are well aware of the outbreak at Chittagong, which required a very large force for its suppression and for the subsequent operations. I do not know whether other portions of the force had had to be drafted into Calcutta, but broadly speaking when you have a province like the province of Bengal in its present deplorably disturbed condition, the strain on the police and the demand for the limited force available to Government is very great, and it was undoubtedly due to the disturbed conditions throughout the Presidency of Bengal that when these riots broke out in Dacca the police force there was under its normal strength. That is an important point which I would ask the House to bear in mind. Now, Sir, I think some of the statements we have heard today bear out that view—that really the police force was not adequate for the work they were suddenly confronted with. My Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, mentioned the case of a lady who repeatedly appealed for

[Mr. H. G. Haig.]

assistance, and I was struck by the reply which, I understood, she repeatedly received—"None available." That, Sir, I think probably represents the facts. There really was not a sufficient police force to deal with the situation that arose. Well, did the Government of Bengal do nothing on this? I do not quite know how long it takes to get from Calcutta to Dacca, but at any rate I have here information that, on the 26th, the Inspector General of Police arrived at Dacca with 215 men, and I should judge—I do not want to be dogmatic on the subject—that after the arrival of the Inspector General of Police with his 215 men on the 26th May, most of the serious trouble was stopped. I do not think that, after that date, though no doubt isolated incidents continued, there was anything of a serious and widespread nature.

There is one other point that I should like the House to bear in mind, and that is that a very great difficulty always confronts the police when dealing with these communal disturbances. It is not as a rule the case of a single crowd or mob which has to be dealt with, but experience not only in Dacca but in many places, in many large cities throughout India, has been that when these communal disturbances start, there are isolated assaults in all quarters of the town and when there is any question of looting and burning, the looting and burning take place sporadically all over the town. It is exceedingly difficult to deal with those conditions unless you have a really considerable force, and the only effective way in which they can be stopped is by picketing the whole area concerned—I mean picketing in the official sense. (Laughter.)

Well, Sir, I do not wish to be thought to be giving a complete answer to the charges that have been made today, for I do not profess to have in my possession anything like complete information.

**Mr. N. G. Ranga :** When will the Government of India have complete information?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I will deal with that in one moment. As I have already said, the Government of Bengal realised that there was a case for the Government to meet, and consequently they appointed a committee on the 12th June, consisting of a High Court Judge from Patna and a member of the Board of Revenue, and I would invite the attention of the House to the terms of reference to that Committee. In order to show that Government are quite aware of their position and of their responsibility. The terms of reference to the Committee were to inquire into the causes of the disturbances, to inquire into the incidents of the disturbances, and to inquire into the measures taken to deal with them—the causes, the facts and the measures taken by Government. Therefore, the question which has been raised by my Honourable friend today is one of the definite points, which has been referred to that Committee which will report in a short time. That, Sir, is my answer to any suggestions that I should give a reply at once on the various points of detail, that I should give an explanation and that I should say whether the action taken was adequate or inadequate. That is a matter which is now under the consideration of the Committee.

Now, Sir, I come, in conclusion, to the actual form of the Resolution which has been moved by my Honourable friend. He has asked for the

publication of certain correspondence. Our correspondence with the Government of Bengal has been comparatively limited.

**Mr. President :** The Honourable Member has not pressed that point. In his speech he did not press that point at all.

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** Perhaps I should make a brief answer on that point, because that forms actually the terms of the Resolution. To a large extent the correspondence which we have had with the Government of Bengal represents facts which have already been published and the republication of which would do no good. To the extent to which any views may have either been expressed or suggested in that correspondence, I do feel quite definitely that it would be undesirable now to publish them. All these matters are coming under the review of the Committee, and it is undesirable that we should break in upon their labours by the publication of any tentative or incomplete views. Any views that Government may have on this subject will have been placed before the Committee, and until the latter has reported, I do not think it would be wise to publish anything which would suggest definite conclusions by Government. I would go further, Sir, and urge that, at a time like this, Honourable Members should refrain from making any allegations, as I gladly recognise that for the most part they have, either on one side or on the other, which might be likely to embitter the situation and to embarrass the inquiry. Though the Committee is not a court of law, still it is engaged in the same functions as a court of law. It is endeavouring to ascertain facts and to come to conclusions, and it can only be a handicap to its work that the matters into which it is inquiring should form the subject of public controversy. I would therefore, Sir, oppose the motion.

**Several Honourable Members :** I move that the question be now put.

**Mr. President :** Mr. Neogy.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Sir, I promise to be very brief in my reply, and I am going to disappoint my Honourable friend, Mr. Ghuznavi, by refusing to walk into his parlour. I am not going to raise a communal issue in my reply, just as I did not in my first speech. My Honourable friend, Sir, mostly depended upon second-hand information. While the Dacca riots were going on he was for most of the time oscillating between Simla, Darjeeling and Calcutta.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi :** I had never been to Darjeeling then.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** He found no time to go down to his constituency, although the most important spot in his constituency had been ablaze. The Honourable Member had very responsible duties to shoulder at that moment because the Simon Report was about to be published, and the proper atmosphere had to be created for its reception, and I am not surprised at the tone of official responsibility which he adopted in opposing this Resolution. It seems he already feels the weight of the responsibility of Government resting on his shoulders.

**An Honourable Member :** Or he might have been thinking of the Round Table Conference.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Sir, my Honourable friend relied on a particular version of certain incidents. I possess complete papers on each and every

[Mr. K. C. Neogy.]

incident dealt with by him, but I do not propose to go into them at all. My Honourable friend complained about the Hindu papers, but what about the Anglo-Indian papers, what about the *Statesman* itself?

**Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J. Gidney** (Nominated : Anglo-Indians) : What has the Anglo-Indian got to do in this matter?

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : Sir, so far as the incidents at Rohitpur are concerned, one may depend certainly upon the version published in the *Statesman*. My Honourable friend will see.....

**Dr. A. Suhrawardy** : Who was the reporter?

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : .....that even a paper like the *Statesman* does not bear out his version in this particular instance. Fortunately for us, all the Muhammadans of Dacca are not like my Honourable friend, Mr. Ghuznavi (Hear, hear), and I am here to acknowledge that individual Muhammadan gentlemen have afforded protection to Hindus in distress during these troublous days; and I propose to read out a certain statement made by a Muhammadan pleader of Dacca which will have some interest for my Honourable friend, Mr. Haig. The statement is a signed one, and I have seen the original in the Bar Library at Dacca. This statement has reference to the point as to whether the police force at the time was adequate.

“On Saturday”, says this statement, “returning from Court at about 5 P.M., hearing a great noise coming from the direction of Naya Bazar municipal market, I proceeded towards the market. I met some passers-by who told me that a shop in the market had been set fire to. I went near the market where butchers’ shops are situated. I found a crowd before the burning shop, and I saw several men going with articles of the shops. They were all Muhammadans. I found that a few policemen with a European officer coming out of the crowd moving leisurely towards the west.

(Sd.) A. F. NURAN-NABI, B.L.,  
Pleader, Dacca.”

It is not a question of the insufficiency of the police, it is indifference, it is criminal callousness.....

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : These, Sir, are matters which will come under inquiry by the Committee.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : I quite realize that. My Honourable friend has done a very good service to me by reminding me of the point. What, Sir, is the constitution of that Committee? Two members of the Indian Civil Service, may be, one is a Judge of the Patna High Court, and the other a Member of the Board of Revenue in Bengal. The Honourable gentleman knows the nature of the allegations brought forward in this matter. The Honourable Member knows who are suspected to be at the bottom of the whole thing. The Honourable Member knows that the *bonâ fides*, at least of the local authorities, including some I. C. S. gentlemen, are being questioned.....

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : Does the Honourable Member mean to question the *bonâ fides* of the members of the Committee?

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : I have nothing to say personally against either of these gentlemen, but the fact that Government could not find members for this Committee from outside the I. C. S. shows that Government



perhaps are not very sincere in their desire to get an unbiased report. (Hear, hear.) The popular impression is that the Committee has gone down to Dacca with a lot of whitewash, and I am certainly entitled to give vent to the popular apprehensions in this matter. They do not feel that the Committee, which is inquiring into the matter, is doing so with an open mind. The action of the authorities, that of the Commissioner of the Division who was present at Dacca at the time, that of the District Magistrate, and all the rest of them belonging to the I. C. S., the conduct of all these gentlemen will have to be inquired into, and the Government could not make a better choice than selecting two members of that very service to constitute the Committee ! And what did the people want ? The people wanted a mixed committee composed of officials and non-officials. The Honourable Member might say, " There is a dispute between Hindus and Muhammadans, and if Government had appointed a committee composed of Hindus, the Muhammadans might object, and *vice versa* ". But they could, if they wanted to avoid non-officials, appoint to the Committee a Hindu Judge of a High Court and a Muhammadan Judge of a High Court, with the addition of a European Judge if they so liked. Now my Honourable friend stated that the points raised here are really in issue before that Committee. But he surely missed the point of my Resolution. The Committee is concerned with an inquiry into the responsibility or otherwise of the local officials for the situation created. What I want to know from the Government is, what attitude did the Government of India take in this matter ? Is the attitude of the Government of India also being investigated by this Committee ? Nothing that the Honourable Member read out from the terms of reference of this Committee bear him out there. What I want to know is, what was the attitude of the Government of India all this time ? That is certainly quite different from the subject-matter of the inquiry, which is to find out the responsibility of the local officials, unless of course the Government of India identify themselves thoroughly with the local authorities.....

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** I do not quite understand what the Honourable Member means. If the Local Government were handling the matter adequately, there was no occasion for the Government of India to intervene. The view of the Government of India was that the Local Government were handling the matter adequately. By appointing this Committee of Inquiry, they were doing what was right.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Is that what the Honourable Member wrote down to the Government of Bengal, namely, that, " You are doing all that is needed for the situation ? " That is exactly what I want to know. I should like to have an answer, Sir.

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig :** An answer to what ?

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Did the Government of India simply write to the Government of Bengal that they were perfectly satisfied about what they had done in the matter ? Do I take it that the Honourable Member and his Government were keeping their eyes and ears shut to the situation in Dacca ? It is necessary for the purpose of establishing the Honourable Member's *bonâ fides* that the correspondence should be published. I hope the Honourable Member realises the seriousness of the allegations that have been levelled against Government. Does the Honourable Member know.....

**Mr. Jehangir K. Munshi** (Burrgh : Non-European) : Will you permit me, Sir, to intervene on a point of information ? Will the Honourable Member give an assurance to the House that, after the report of this Inquiry Committee, he will publish the correspondence with the Government of Bengal on this subject ?

**The Honourable Mr. H. G. Haig** : I am not prepared to give any such assurance.

**An Honourable Member** : It will be published after the Round Table Conference has finished its labours.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** : Do I take it, then, that the Government of India have fully approved of what the Government of Bengal have done by not sending down any responsible officer to the locality ? I may inform the House that not one single soul stirred out from Darjeeling, neither the Chief Secretary nor Mr. Prentice who is in charge of this portfolio, not to speak of the Governor himself.

Sir, reference was made to a funeral procession. I have the statement of the officer in charge of the cremation ground at Dacca. The House will remember that whereas a funeral procession, which started the rioting, was allowed to be taken through the leading streets of the city without any let or hindrance, the Hindus could not take their dead bodies for cremation to the cremation ground. And when this officer approached the Chairman of the Municipality, the Chairman sent him with a letter to the Thana (the Police Station). He says :

“ A Muhammadan Sub-Inspector was at the thana then. I delivered the letter to him, and on perusing the same, he told me : ‘ You indulge in Swadeshi and shout *Bande Mataram* ; why then do you come to us with a letter from Swadeshiwallah Satis Sarkar (Chairman). ’ ”

The Sub-Inspector then handed over the letter to the officer in charge of the thana, who ordered it to be filed and said : “ You won’t get any police for guarding the burning ghat.” Several people who had gone there carrying their dead bodies for cremation were murderously assaulted and one of them actually lost his life. Since that incident took place, no Hindu had any protection in the matter of carrying the dead bodies to the cremation ground and the dead bodies had to be cremated inside their own houses. Look at this picture and the other one ! A huge procession carrying a dead body was allowed to be proceeded with throughout the streets. It consisted of several thousands of people by the time it had reached the mosque.

Then, again, with regard to the question of inadequacy of the police force. Mention has already been made by my Honourable friend, Mr. Sen, about the action of the police in snatching away the guns from people who were attempting to defend themselves with their help. Here is the statement of a Government officer, a Lecturer of a Government College :

“ I then met the hooligans with my gun and after a few shots were fired the rowdies fell back. I was waiting with the gun in hand when to the relief I found a short Anglo-Indian officer on the roof of my house accosting me, even though he was pointing his revolver to me. He asked me to put down the gun which I did ; and without entering into any reasoning or arguments with me, told me that the Deputy Inspector General of Police was coming up and that I might tell him anything I liked. The latter came up soon after and to my surprise he wanted me to deliver up

my gun which he would seize, although I pointed out that I was a Government servant and fired in self-defence. There was another gun in the adjacent house which he also seized."

Does the Honourable Member mean to say that, whatever the Committee of Inquiry may have to say with regard to these incidents, the effect of the statements of responsible people like those whom I have quoted can be taken away? What is the use of waiting for the Report of this white-washing Committee?

Then, Sir, another point has not been investigated. All the burning that has been done has been done with the help of petrol. Petrol was smeared on the doors, the beams and the rafters of brick-built houses. A large quantity of petrol was required for the purpose. Will the Honourable Member make an inquiry and find out as to whether the police have as yet tried to discover the source from which this petrol came? It has been openly alleged that the petrol was carried in private cars belonging to certain particular persons, and yet no action has been taken in this direction. Even if I were to concede, for the sake of argument, that the police force was inadequate at the time, what have the police done since to arrest the people who were named by the aggrieved persons as having been their assailants and having looted their property? What action has been taken to try and discover and seize the looted property? The Honourable Member's case, I take it, is this, that, although the strength of the police was not sufficient when the riots actually took place, it is quite sufficient now. Will the Honourable Member find out as to why it is that no serious attempt has been made to recover the looted property worth at least 20 to 30 lakhs? I know that in a few instances make-believe searches were made. And would it be believed by this House that, before the searches were made, people were cautioned by beat of drum in the City of Dacca that searches might take place? This statement has been made by responsible people. The House can easily imagine what came out of these searches.

Sir, I am about to close my career in this House....

**An Honourable Member :** And so say all !

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** I may be permitted to say that when I came into this Assembly ten years ago I had great confidence, if not in the Government, at least in the Constitution. God knows that I did not come here to advance my personal interests in any way. And when I go back today, may I tell this House that that faith has been rudely shaken by the recent incidents that I have myself witnessed with my own eyes and about which I have made personal inquiries. I feel that it is extremely difficult for any one to do any real service to his country as a Member of this House. If I have said anything which might have irritated the Honourable Members opposite, it is because I expected a very high standard of conduct from the Government which they have failed to attain.

**Mr. President :** Resolution moved :

"This Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council to publish all correspondence that has passed between the Government of India and the Government of Bengal in connection with the recent outbreak of lawlessness in the City of Dacca and its neighbourhood."

The question is that that Resolution be adopted.

The Assembly divided :

AYES 29.

Ayyangar, Mr. K. V. Rangaswami.  
 Ayyar, Mr. N. Natesa.  
 Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami.  
 Chetty, Mr. R. K. Shanmukham.  
 Das, Mr. B.  
 Dutt, Mr. Amar Nath.  
 Dutta, Rai Bahadur S. C.  
 Dwe, U.  
 Jayakar, Mr. M. R.  
 Lahiri Chaudhury, Mr. D. K.  
 Maheshpuri, Mr. G.  
 Mukerjee, Mr. Saradindu.  
 Munshi, Mr. Jehangir K.  
 Nand Lal, Dr.

Nehal Singh, Mr.  
 Neogy, Mr. K. C.  
 Patil, Rao Bahadur, B. L.  
 Patil, Rao Bahadur, D. R.  
 Ramji, Rao Sahib B.  
 Ranga Iyer, Mr. C. S.  
 Ranga, Mr. N. G.  
 Rao, Mr. G. Sarvotham.  
 Reddi, Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna.  
 Sahi, Mr. Lal Narendra Pratap.  
 Sarda, Rai Sahib Harbilas.  
 Sen, Mr. S. C.  
 Singh, Mr. Gaya Prasad.  
 Sitaramaraju, Mr. B.  
 Venkatakrishnayya Chowdry, Mr. P.

NOES 49.

Abdul Qaiyum, Nawab Sir Sahibzada.  
 Alexander, Mr. W.  
 Anwar-ul-Azim, Mr.  
 Bajpai, Mr. G. S.  
 Bajpai, Mr. R. S.  
 Banerji, Mr. Rajnarayan.  
 Baum, Mr. E. F.  
 Bhole, The Honourable Sir Joseph.  
 Buss, Mr. L. C.  
 Chatterjee, The Revd. J. C.  
 Cocke, Sir Hugh.  
 Dalal, Dr. R. D.  
 Dutt, Mr. G. S.  
 Ghuznavi, Mr. A. H.  
 Gidney, Lieut.-Colonel H. A. J.  
 Gwynne, Mr. C. W.  
 Haig, The Honourable Mr. H. G.  
 Hamilton, Mr. K. L. B.  
 Heathcote, Mr. L. V.  
 Hira Singh Brar, Sardar Bahadur Honorary Captain.  
 Howell, Mr. E. B.  
 Jawahar Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar.  
 Koreishi, Mr. A. O.  
 Lamb, Mr. W. S.

Mitchell, Mr. D. G.  
 Moore, Mr. Arthur.  
 Mukherjee, Rai Bahadur S. C.  
 Noyce, Sir Frank.  
 Parsons, Mr. A. A. L.  
 Pillai, Mr. A. A.  
 Rainy, The Honourable Sir George.  
 Rajah, Rao Bahadur M. C.  
 Ranmalsinhji, Sardar J.  
 Rau, Mr. H. Shankar.  
 Sahi, Mr. Ram Prashad Narayan.  
 Sams, Mr. H. A.  
 Sarma, Mr. R. S.  
 Schuster, The Honourable Sir George.  
 Scott, Mr. J. Ramsay.  
 Sen, Mr. U. N.  
 Sorley, Mr. H. T.  
 Stodart, Mr. J. C.  
 Studd, Mr. E.  
 Suhrawardy, Dr. A.  
 Sykes, Mr. E. F.  
 Tin Tüt, Mr.  
 Turner, Mr. A. C.  
 Yamin Khan, Mr. Muhammad.  
 Young, Mr. G. M.

The motion was negatived.

## RESOLUTION *RE* RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

**Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi** (Dacca Division : Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution which stands in my name :

“ This Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council that steps be taken in all cases of Railway accidents entailing loss of human lives (1) to institute a Coroner's enquiry, (2) to deliver the bodies of the deceased to the relatives concerned as far as practicable, failing that to different social service organisations, and (3) to institute a judicial enquiry by a Committee to be composed of officials and non-officials.”

**Mr. President** : Resolution moved :

“ This Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council that steps be taken in all cases of Railway accidents entailing loss of human lives (1) to institute a Coroner's enquiry, (2) to deliver the bodies of the deceased to the relatives concerned as far as practicable, failing that to different social service organisations, and (3) to institute a judicial enquiry by a Committee to be composed of officials and non-officials.”

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 17th July, 1930.