

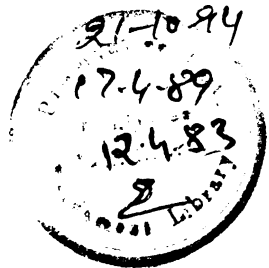
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

(Official Report)

Volume VI, 1938

(12th September to 26th September, 1938)

EIGHTH SESSION OF THE FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1938



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Legislative Assembly.

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MR. N. M. JOSHI, M.L.A.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, 13th September, 1938.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

(a) ORAL ANSWERS.

APPRENTICES RECRUITED IN THE ENGINEERING AND LOCO. DEPARTMENTS OF THE COMPANY-MANAGED RAILWAYS.

1952. ***Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani** : Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of apprentices recruited in the Engineering and Loco Departments of the Company-managed Railways during the period 1934 to 1937, mentioning therein the number of Hindus, Muslims, Anglo-Indians and Europeans, Sikhs and others ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Government have no information regarding the number of apprentices recruited to the Engineering and Locomotive Departments of the Company-managed Railways.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I ask, Sir, if I am bound to follow the order of the questions, or can I withdraw one of the questions ? Am I bound by the order of the questions ?

Mr. President (the Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : The Honourable Member should follow the order of the questions.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : I must then follow the order ?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : Yes.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : No. 953.

INADEQUATE REPRESENTATION OF INDIANS IN CERTAIN PORT TRUSTS.

953. ***Mr. S. Satyamurti** : Will the Honourable Member for Communications please state :

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the universal complaints in this country about the predominantly European composition of the major Port Trusts in this country like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras ;
- (b) whether Government propose to take steps to amend the relevant Acts, providing for more adequate representation of Indians on these Port Trusts ;

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

(c) if so, when ; and

(d) if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) I have seen complaints to this effect from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and other Indian commercial bodies.

(b)—(d). The Honourable Member is probably aware that the Port Trust Acts were amended a few years ago with a view to secure greater representation to Indian interests. Enquiries are being made regarding the adequacy of Indian representation on one of the Port Trusts. I have no reason to suppose that in the others the representation of Indians is inadequate in view of their commercial interests.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I know whether the Honourable Member has any information in his possession, and, if so, will he give it to the House, as to the relative numbers of Europeans and Indians on the Port Trusts referred to in part (a) of my question,—that is, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I certainly have the information, but I have not got it here.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Does the Honourable Member realise that Europeans are very much larger in numbers than Indians ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : That is true in some of the Port Trusts but not everywhere, and I think that is due partly to the fact that the representatives of such organisation, as the Railways, are senior officers who happen to be Europeans ; but that of course is almost certain to be altered in time.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I ask if the Honourable Member realises that the commercial interests—that is to say, the import and export interests—are gradually passing into the hands of Indians in these major ports, and will the Honourable Member kindly say what steps Government are taking with a view to giving more adequate representation to Indians on these Port Trusts ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am aware that Indian commercial interests are increasing, and as I have said, inquiries are being made as to the adequacy of the Indian representation on one of the Trusts.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : May I ask if it is a fact that the Royal Commission on Indian Labour recommended that labour should be represented on Indian Port Trusts, and may I inquire what steps the Government propose to take to give effect to that recommendation ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : That is one of their recommendations, to the best of my recollection, and, as far as I remember, at least one of the Port Trust Acts was amended in consequence.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar : May I ask if there is an Indian Chairman on any of the Port Trusts ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : One has just been appointed, in Bombay, but I do not know if he has taken over charge as yet.

Mr. Manu Subedar : May I ask whether it is true that the proportion of Europeans to Indians is different in different Ports, and whether Government have considered the fact that the proportion of Indians is very inadequate in all the ports ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I have replied to that in my reply to parts (b) to (d) of the question.

Mr. Manu Subedar : May I ask if it is a fact that the proportion of Europeans to Indians is different in the different Ports in India, and, if so, what are the reasons ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : It certainly varies. The reason is that the European interests are somewhat bigger in some of the ports than in the others.

Mr. Manu Subedar : May I ask if in any part of the world a foreigner is given a place in the administration of a port ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I cannot regard the representatives of interests actually working and trading in this country and enjoying the citizenship of the country as foreigners.

Mr. Manu Subedar : Why then does not the Honourable Member give representation to Japanese and Germans ?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : That is arguing.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : In view of the fact that Government know that the European representation is more than the Indian representation, and much more in Ports like Bombay, Calcutta or Madras, may I ask what are these inquiries which Government are pursuing, before they take prompt and effective steps to secure justice for the sons of the soil ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I do not know whether all merchants engaged in the business of import and export can be properly described as 'sons of the soil', but in the inquiry to which I referred we are trying to arrive at some estimate of the extent to which trading interests are in the hands of Europeans and Indians respectively.

Mr. Manu Subedar : May I know whether Government have received a representation from the Karachi Indian Merchants Association and the Buyers' and Shippers' Association asking for bringing about Indianisation on the Karachi ports ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I have not got a list of those who made the representations. I have seen complaints from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and other commercial bodies in respect of part (a) of the question.

Mr. K. Santhanam : Will the Honourable Member lay a copy of these representations on the table ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am not sure that I have got a copy of these representations but I have seen complaints to that effect.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : When do Government propose to introduce legislation to give representation to labour ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : They have no proposals in contemplation at the moment.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : Next question.

LABOUR CONTRACT OF THE CALCUTTA PORT TRUST.

954. ***Mr. S. Satyamurti :** Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that for more than half a century the Calcutta Port Trust had been giving the contract for the supply of labour to one British firm, the annual payment amounting to 20 lakhs ;
- (b) whether no tenders at all were called during all these years, and there was not even a formal contract ;
- (c) whether Government have made any calculation of the profits made by the contractors on this contract ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Accountant General, Bengal, objected to this procedure and stressed the advisability of calling for tenders ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that at the recent meeting of the Calcutta Port Trust, the Indian Commissioners proposed that tenders should be called for, and whether they were out-voted by the Europeans on the Trust Board, who are in a majority of two to one ; and
- (f) whether Government are prepared to call for a report in this matter and do the needful to protect the interest of the tax-payers and those who pay for the Calcutta Port Trust ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a), (b) and (d). I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the replies given on the 26th August, 1938, to Mr. Manu Subedar's starred questions Nos. 529 and 530, and Seth Govind Das's starred question No. 531, and to the supplementary questions arising therefrom. Information received since then shows that formal contracts have been entered into with Messrs. Bird and Company since 1895.

(c) No.

(e) No. Three of the five Indian Commissioners were in favour of calling for open tenders, while two others were in favour of giving the contract to Bird and Company subject to the rebate that they had offered being still further increased.

(f) Government have already received adequate particulars and no occasion for further action arises.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : With reference to the answer to parts (b), (c) and (d) taken together, may I know how Government have satisfied themselves that there is no call for any action, unless they have found out the profits made by the contractors under these contracts ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : As I have explained in my reply to the previous question, Government have no statutory powers to interfere in this matter. The making of a contract rests with the authorities of the Port Trust themselves.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I know whether Government have not examined this question at all, but merely looked at the report or whether in spite of the fact that they have no statutory powers, they went into the matter and satisfied themselves that no action was called for ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Clearly, if you entrust a Port Trust with the power of making contracts, it is not for Government to interfere in the matter, unless there is some great irregularity.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I ask if Government have satisfied themselves that there is no gross irregularity, and if so, on what grounds ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I think, Sir, there is a question on that subject.

Mr. N. M. Joshi : Has Government's attention been drawn to reports that the Dock-workers' Union in Calcutta have suggested that there should be no contractors, either European or Indian, and that labour in docks should be employed directly by the Port Trust ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I do not remember seeing any such reports.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I know whether the opinion of those Indians who wanted a full rebate was accepted by the majority of Europeans ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The conclusion reached by the majority of the Port Trust was that they should not ask for further rebate than had been offered.

Mr. Manu Subedar : In view of the fact that Government have not got the power to interfere in this particular contract but very general powers over the Port Trusts, may I know whether Government have examined all the facts in connection with this scandalous contract and whether the Honourable Member has written to the Port Trust disapproving of it from the Government point of view ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am unable to agree that this is a scandalous contract.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : This matter has been fully discussed.

PROVISION OF COOL DRINKING WATER AT RAILWAY STATIONS.

955. ***Mr. S. Satyamurti :** Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government have received representations from the Andhra Desa Railway Passengers Association, Bezwada, about the supply of fresh water for drinking at stations where there is no provision made ;

- (b) whether in answer to the letter of the Secretary of the above Association, the District Transportation Superintendent replied :

“ I beg to remind you that the fare paid by passengers is for their journey by train. Drinking water is an amenity provided free of charge by the Railway administration—a thing which is not done in most countries and does not appear to be much appreciated in this country. That the water is hot in summer in the pipes is unavoidable and I cannot agree to your proposal to provide pots and appoint watermen at Bezwada ” ; and

- (c) whether Government are prepared to consider this matter carefully and make arrangements for the provision of cool drinking water at big stations at least during the hottest months of the year ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) Yes.

(b) A statement to this effect has been made in the representation from the Association referred to in part (a) of the question.

(c) I am sending the Agent and General Manager of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway a copy of the Honourable Member's question and am asking him to look into the matter.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I know if Government will have the humanity to recommend to the Railway concerned to provide fully for the supply of cool fresh drinking water in the hottest months of the year ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I think the Railway Administration already recognises the importance of that and I have very good reason for saying that the extracts from this letter did not reflect the policy of the Agent in the matter.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar : May I ask if Government will not ask the particular officer to apologise for making that statement ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : He is not an officer serving under Government.

INDIANISATION OF SUPERIOR POSTS ON RAILWAYS.

956. ***Mr. S. Satyamurti :** Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any Indian General Manager in any State Railway ;
- (b) if none, why not ;
- (c) the number of Indian officers in State-owned and State-managed Railways who are drawing more than Rs. 2,000 a month, and more than Rs. 1,000 a month ; and
- (d) whether Government are taking any steps, in view of the strong public opinion in the matter, of Indianising the superior services of the railways, and what the number of

years is within which the railway superior services will be completely Indianised according to the present programme ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) No.

(b) and (d). I would refer the Honourable Member to Sir Thomas Stewart's speech of 24th February, 1938, appearing on pages 1118 and 1119 of the Legislative Assembly Debates for that day.

(c) I would refer the Honourable Member to the Classified List of State Railway Establishment and Distribution Return of Establishment of all Railways corrected upto 31st December, 1937, which contains the information available with Government. A copy of this publication is in the Library of the House.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : With reference to the answer to part (c), may I know if these officers are seventy-five per cent. of the officers on State Railways now ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : No, Sir. The seventy-five per cent. proportion was introduced, I think, following a recommendation of the Lee Commission and naturally it has not had anything like its full effect yet.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I know the actual percentage of officers drawing Rs. 2,000 or more ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I should require notice of that.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : With reference to clauses (a) and (b) of the question, may I know whether my Honourable friend can give this House a rough indication as when we shall have the pleasure of meeting the first Indian General Manager on State Railways ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : There has been one already.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : May I know if the Railways have laid down a definite policy of Indianising the higher appointments ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : There is a definite policy laid down as to the proportion of Indians and Europeans to be recruited for the superior services.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Is that being followed ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Yes, Sir.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Is it not a fact that there are Indian General Managers on the Company-managed Railways ? If so, how is it that there are no Indian General Managers on the State Railways ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am not aware of any at the moment on any of the leading Company-managed Railways.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : I think the Honourable Member said just now that there is an Indian General Manager on Indian State Railways ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The Honourable Member asked me when we will have the pleasure of having an Indian General Manager and I said that there has been one already.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Is he continuing now ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : He is not in service now.

Mr. K. Santhanam : May I ask for how long that Indian General Manager occupied that august office ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am told for two or three years, but I have not got the figures here.

APPOINTMENT OF AN INDIAN AS CHAIRMAN OF THE KARACHI PORT TRUST.

957. ***Mr. S. Satyamurti :** Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been approached by the Indian mercantile community in Karachi that an Indian member should be appointed to act in the absence of Colonel D. S. Johnstone, the present Chairman of the Port Trust, Karachi, when he goes on leave ; and

(b) whether Government have considered the matter and have decided to appoint an Indian : if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) Yes.

(b) The reply to the first part is in the affirmative and to the second part in the negative. Because the proposal was not feasible.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I ask for some elucidation as to this feasibility ? Does it mean that there was no qualified Indian available ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I understand that suggestions were made by a Chamber in Karachi that we should appoint an Indian official from the Central Board of Revenue or from one of the Engineering Departments of the Provincial and Central Governments or, failing that, a non-official. There were no suitable officials who could have undertaken that in addition to their ordinary duties and the appointment of a non-official, who would be unfamiliar with the work, was not regarded as suitable.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I ask whether Government have exhausted in their inquiry the claims of all possible Indians for this appointment ? Did they consider that no Indian was available out of 400 million Indians who was fit to hold this office ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : We did not consider the claims of 400 million Indians.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Did you consider the claims of all the Karachi people ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The suggestion made by the Chamber was considered.

APPOINTMENT OF MR. EVERETT AS DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER BY THE KARACHI PORT TRUST.

†1958. ***Mr. S. Satyamurti** : Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry have protested against the appointment of Mr. Everett as Deputy Chief Engineer by the Karachi Port Trust ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that among the list of eight candidates selected by the Port Trust, there were two Indians ; and
- (c) the reasons why the claims of these two Indians were rejected and a European was appointed, in spite of strong public opinion in the country for the Indianisation of all offices under the Port Trusts ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) Because Mr. Everett's qualifications and experience were considered superior to those of the others.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT HARDWAR.

1959. ***Mr. Brojendra Narayan Chaudhury** : Will the Honourable the Railway Member please state :

- (a) whether he will lay on the table a statement showing, with regard to the two persons killed and thirty four injured at Hardwar by Railway shunting on the 15th April, 1938 (*vide* reply to question No. 10 on the 8th August, 1938) ;
(i) the names and status and addresses of those killed or injured, (ii) the names of those asking for compensation, (iii) the amounts of compensation claimed, (iv) the amounts of compensation given in each case, (v) claims settled amicably, and (vi) those gone to court ;
- (b) whether Railways employ any officers to find out victims of accidents and to offer them compensation ;
- (c) what action, if any, was taken against employees responsible for the accident ;
- (d) whether the Honourable Member has taken into consideration the fact that the pilgrims injured are ignorant rusties who do not know that they are entitled to compensation, and whether he has offered compensation to those who have not asked for compensation ; and
- (e) the number who have not asked for compensation ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a), (i), (ii) and (iii). I am placing a statement on the table.

(iv) The claims are still under investigation and no offer of compensation has yet been made.

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his quota.

(v) and (vi). Do not arise.

(b) and (d). The normal procedure is to consider the grant of compensation only when a claim is preferred. I see no sufficient reason for directing a departure from this arrangement.

(c) The person primarily responsible was suspended in the first instance and his pay subsequently reduced for a period of one year.

(e) 39.

STATEMENT.

Names, status and addresses of those killed or injured in the accident at Hardwar on the 15th April 1938.

Name.	Address.	Status is believed to be.
<i>Persons killed.</i>		
1. Mst. Surajmani ..	C/o Bishwanath Bhanupati, Esq., Bali Sahi, Puri.	Mother of Municipal Commissioner and Peshkar.
2. Mst. Achhra ..	C/o Jagannath Misra, Esq., Bali Sahi, Puri.	Mother of Sub-Inspector of Schools, Puri.
3. Mst. Manika ..	Near Jagannath Temple, Puri ..	Not known.
4. Budh Ram ..	C/o Hiralal Chamar, Village Barku, P. S. Baraut, Distt. Meerut.	Not known.
5. Mst. Rajrani ..	C/o Kempta, Alumpur, Kalksar (Gwalior).	Not known.
6. Mst. Dori, wife of Bajranga Gujar.	C/o Bajranga Gujar, 11 Jumna Infantry, Kotal Raj.	Wife of a sepoy.
7. One unknown Male ..	Address not known. Photo taken	
8. Kausalya Hotani, (Identified from photo).	Village Amulya Mani Ranipur P. O. Bir Mohrajpur, Sonapur Eastern States Agency.	Not known.
<i>Persons injured.</i>		
1. Mst. Sundoro ..	Village Many, P. O. Sampla, Distt. Rohtak.	Cultivator.
2. Mst. Marry ..	Village Many, P. O. Sampla, Distt. Rohtak.	Zamindar.
3. Mst. Kamali ..	Village Many, P. O. Sampla, Distt. Rohtak.	Zamindar.
4. Gurkha ..	Village Many, P. O. Sampla, Distt. Rohtak.	Zamindar.
5. Mst. Gyanoo ..	Village Many, P. O. Sampla, Distt. Rohtak.	Zamindar.
6. Mst. Ram Kumari ..	Village Many, P. O. Sampla, Distt. Rohtak.	Zamindar.

Name.	Address.	Status is believed to be.
<i>Persons injured—contd.</i>		
7. Nihala ..	Village Sisauni, P. O. Sampla, Distt. Rohtak.	Zamindar.
8. Mst. Nanhoo ..	Village Kasula, P. O. Sampla, Distt. Rohtak.	Zamindar.
9. Jharu ..	Village Kasula, P. O. Sampla, Distt. Rohtak.	Barber.
10. Kewal	Village Kasar, Tahsil Jajhar Distt. Rohtak.	Zamindar.
11. Nathu	Village Bohar, P. O. Rohtak, Distt. Rohtak.	Zamindar.
12. Ramgani ..	Village Raokheri, Mau Najibabad, Distt. Bijnor.	Licensed cooly.
13. Nannoo ..	Village Sainatai P. O. Chirgaon, Distt. Jhansi.	Shoe-maker.
14. Sedi ..	C/o Jugalkishore, Sadar Bazar, Jhansi.	Not known.
15. Ram Chandra ..	P. O. Dhamagunj, Lashkar, Distt. Gwalior.	Stone cutter.
16. Mst. Ajodhi ..	Mahalla, Ramkuir, Lashkar, Distt. Gwalior.	Not known.
17. Bhawanilal ..	Sepoy No. 243, 2nd Jumna Infantry Company B., Kotah State.	Soldier.
18. Mst. Ramchandri wife of Bhawanilal, as above.	C/o Bhawanlal as above	Wife of above
19. Bajranga	Sepoy No. 145, 2nd Jumna Infantry Company B., Kotah State.	Soldier.
20. Gangadhar	Nimawar, Indore State	Zamindar.
21. Mst. Bully wife of Gangadhar.	Nimawar, Indore State	Wife of above.
22. Goswami Brindaban Das.	Village Pailpara, P. O. Gangapur, Distt. Ganjam.	Priest.
23. Mst. Ambik ..	C/o Goswami, Brindaban Das as above.	Not known.
24. Mst. Indu, daughter of Mst. Ambika.	C/o Goswami, Brindaban Das as above.	Not known.
25. Mst. Pandi	Village Asika, Distt. Ganjam ..	Not known.
26. Govinda Panda ..	Village Gomoh P. O. Nimok Kandi, Distt. Ganjam.	Panda.

Name.	Address.	Status is believed to be.
<i>Persons injured—contd.</i>		
27. Janardan Misra ..	Village Bir Maharajpur, P. O. Jali, Distt. Sambalpore.	Teacher.
28. Mst. Phula, wife of Janarda Misra.	Village Bir Maharajpur, P. O. Jali, Distt. Sambalpore.	Wife of above.
29. Madhav Pandey ..	Mahalla Bali Sahi, Puri	Panda.
30. Anubala Devi ..	Village Ithumdakara, P. O. Bhadaï, Distt. Birbhum.	Not known.
31. Satyabala	Village Kindakohla, P. O. Balpur, Distt. Birbhum.	Not known.
32. Tinkori Bhattacharjee	Village Ikhudwara, P. S. Bolpur Distt. Birbhum.	Landowner.
33. Kundalini Dasî ..	Village Bolpur Distt. Birbhum ..	Shop Keeper.
34. Kalimoti Deb ..	Village Gushkara, Distt. Burdwan	Not known.

Claims preferred.

Name of claimant.	Amount of compensation claimed.
	Rs.
Babu Bishwanath Rajguru	5,000
Babu Madhusudan Misra	5,000
Mr. Martunjoy Hota	20,000

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I know the reason why Government do not consider it necessary, in view of the ignorance and the illiteracy of the ordinary third class passengers, to employ some agency to find out the victims of at least major accidents and to offer them compensation, if they prove their claims ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : It is unusual for defendants to look for plaintiffs.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : But my Honourable friend knows this country, and therefore I ask him why, in the case of at least major accidents, Government do not propose to do the humane work of finding out the victims, how they have been affected by the accident, and to enable them to get due compensation ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : We do collect some particulars. The particulars that I am laying on the table give indication of such information as we have regarding the persons who suffered in this accident.

ABSENCE OF MUSLIM OFFICERS IN THE ELECTRICAL BRANCH OF THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

960. ***Mr. H. M. Abdullah :** Will the Honourable Member for Railways please state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the Electrical Branch of the North Western Railway there is no Muslim employee of the officer rank ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that duly qualified Muslims are available for these posts in the Punjab ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Railway authorities have been recruiting officers from Provinces not served by the North Western Railway ; and
- (d) what action Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) Yes.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) Recruitment to superior railway services on the State-managed Railways is made by the Government of India through the Federal Public Service Commission and not by the individual Railway Administrations. I may add that Government do not accept the policy of recruitment to railway services on a Provincial basis.

(d) Does not arise.

CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY FOUND SURPLUS DURING THE ECONOMY CAMPAIGN.

961. ***Mr. Muhammad Nauman :** Is the Honourable Member for Railways aware of the fact that during the economy campaign of 1930-32, the Railway employees with one year's service borne on temporary establishments on the East Indian Railway, were found surplus to requirements, but their names were retained on waiting lists, and they, on their re-absorption in operative posts before 1st April, 1936, were treated as retrenched staff and were given all the privileges in respect of pay, grade, leave, quarters which they naturally enjoyed at the time of the reduction of establishments on which they worked ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : In terms of paragraph (i) of part A and paragraph 3 of part B of Railway Board's letter No. 1635-E.G., dated the 30th December, 1932, a copy of which is in the Library of the House, instructions were issued to all concerned by the General Manager, East Indian Railway, that temporary employees with less than one year's service and employees engaged for purely temporary purposes, who were discharged during the economy campaign, were not to be borne on waiting lists for re-appointment. In certain offices a few such employees were placed by mistake on waiting lists and were given old scales of pay

on their re-appointment after 15th July, 1931, and before 1st April, 1936. On the error coming to notice, instructions were issued that such staff should be brought on to the revised scales of pay. Retrenched employees are not entitled to earn leave in respect of their subsequent service under the leave rules to which they were formerly subject, but under those in force at the time of their re-appointment. As regards quarters Government have no information.

Mr. Muhammad Nauman : Will the Honourable Member inform me whether the Muslim members of the crew service who had put in more than one year's service were treated as retrenched and they were not given any of those privileges which ought to have been given to them under this scheme ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I have no information of any such case.

Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad : Is it not a fact that in the year 1931, when the retrenchment was being carried out, the Government gave an undertaking on the floor of this House that all persons who were retrenched would be re-employed whenever an opportunity arose and the interval will count as leave without salary ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I have no recollection of such an undertaking.

Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad : The Honourable Member can take it from me that it is a fact.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Then why the Honourable Member is asking me ?

Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad : In the case of the members who were employed in the crew staff, Government refused it on the ground that the whole crew system was on a temporary basis. We argued on the floor of the House that the system may be temporary but the men employed were not temporary and the undertaking given was that when the crew system was to be replaced by some other system, they would be absorbed in it. The question of my Honourable friend, Mr. Nauman, is that those persons who were in the crew system ought to get a prior claim for re-employment in the case of T. T. E.'s and the period should count as leave without pay.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The Honourable Member seems to be arguing instead of asking for information.

Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad : Do Government agree with the view that they should have a prior claim as the undertaking was given on the floor of the House for re-employing them whenever a vacancy arose ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am unable to see how a man who was employed on a temporary basis and was discharged can have any right to re-employment.

Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad : They were renewed at that time and the retrenched staff had a prior claim for re-employment ?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : Next question.

STAFF IN CERTAIN OFFICES ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

962. **Mr. Muhammad Nauman** : (a) Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state the total strength of clerks, stenotypists and supervising staff and officers in all the sanctioned posts and grades in the office of the General Manager, Deputy General Manager, the Chief Operating Superintendent, the Chief Commercial Manager, the Chief Engineer, the Chief Mechanical Engineer on the East Indian Railway ?

(b) What is the total strength of Muslims, Anglo-Indians and Hindus in all these posts ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) and (b). As regards gazetted staff I would refer the Honourable Member to the Classified List of State Railway Establishment and Distribution Return of Establishment of all Railways corrected up to the 31st December, 1937, which contains the information available with Government. A copy of this publication is in the Library of the House. As regards non-gazetted staff, the statistics of communal composition do not contain separate particulars for the clerical and other staff in different offices.

Mr. Muhammad Nauman : Is the Honourable Member aware that in the case of all these important positions the Muslims are conspicuous by their absence ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am ready to take it from the Honourable Member that they are very few.

STAFF RECRUITED IN THE HEAD OFFICE, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

963. **Mr. Muhammad Nauman** : Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state how many Muslims, Anglo-Indians and Hindus, have been recruited in all the vacancies in different cadres and grades, which occurred in the Head Office, East Indian Railway, since the introduction of the Government of India Resolution of 1934 ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Government have no information in regard to recruitment to individual offices on a Railway. I would, however, refer the Honourable Member to the statement appearing on pages 88 and 89 of the Report of the Railway Board on Indian Railways for 1936-37, Volume I, a copy of which is in the Library of the House. This indicates that the recruitment percentages fixed by Government for Muslims and other communities on the East Indian Railway are being maintained.

Mr. Muhammad Nauman : Is the Honourable Member aware of the fact that the Resolution of 1934 was not put into practice by the East Indian Railway till April, 1935 ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I heard that from the Honourable Member himself, but I have not verified it.

Mr. Muhammad Nauman : Will the Honourable Member make an inquiry in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : No, Sir. I cannot see how I can alter what happened in 1934.

PRIMITIVE TRIBES OF ASSAM.

964. *Mr. Brojendra Narayan Chaudhury : Will the Secretary for External Affairs please state :

- (a) whether his attention has been particularly drawn to the " Notes on the effect on some primitive tribes of Assam of contacts with Civilisation " (Appendix A, Census Report, Assam, Volume I) I on Nagas by Mr. J. P. Mills, I.C.S. ;
- (b) the nature and duration of Mr. Mills' experience with the hill tribes ;
- (c) the position of Mr. Mills as an anthropologist ;
- (d) whether Government have examined his conclusions and advice carefully as given in the above notes ;
- (e) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the following statements of Mr. Mills :
 - (i) " The national drink of the hill tribes is rice beer. Foreigners have brought distilled liquor and its effects are evil " ,
 - (ii) " A few years ago, a village founded by the American Baptist Mission as a Christian village, contained more opium addicts than the whole of the rest of the tribe " ,
 - (iii) " Opening out of cart road has led to increase of prostitution which is not an indigenous Naga or Kuki custom Far more serious in this respect is the presence in Kohima of large numbers of unmarried foreigners, including soldiers of the Assam Rifles " ,
 - (iv) " Education of the type which is given has been on the whole an evil rather than good..... The educated expects a Government post aptly described to me once as a ' sitting and eating job ' " ,
 - (v) " Foreign dress spreading steadily. For this blame must fall on certain departments of Government and on missionaries who encourage it " ,
 - (vi) " Suppression of head-hunting has probably not been to the benefit of the tribe " ,
- (f) steps taken to stop importation of foreign liquor referred to in part (e) (i) above ;
- (g) whether Government made any enquiry about the responsibility of the missionaries, and what steps were taken against them in regard to (e) (ii) above ;
- (h) the steps taken to mitigate evils mentioned in part (e) (iii) above ;

- (i) the steps taken to counteract the evil effects regarding education mentioned in part (e) (iv) above ;
- (j) the steps taken to encourage national dress ; and
- (k) whether Government are prepared to release the tribes from " fully administered area " and allow head-hunting ?

Sir Aubrey Metcalfe : With your permission, Sir, I will answer questions Nos. 964 and 965 together. The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

LUSHAI HILL TRIBES IN ASSAM.

†965. ***Mr. Brojendra Narayan Chaudhury :** Will the Foreign Secretary please state :

- (a) if the fact as stated in Appendix A, note on Lushai Hill tribes by Mr. C. J. Helme, I.C.S., Census Report, Assam, 1931, Volume I,—that the Christian missionaries entered the Hills only in 1894 and by 1921 Census, half of the population of the district have become Christians, is correct ;
- (b) whether Government propose to enquire into the methods adopted by the missionaries to be able to encompass such speedy conversions ;
- (c) whether Government intend to go on encouraging higher education (middle schools) in spite of Mr. Helme's remark in this note that " higher education breeds a dislike for manual labour and increased unemployment " ;
- (d) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that on the recommendation of Mr. Small, Director of Public Instruction, Assam, the Assam Government have stopped grants to Christian Mission schools in their own area in the Hill districts ;
- (e) whether Government intend to follow the example of the Provincial Government in areas in Assam under central control ; and
- (f) whether Government propose to take steps to ban the missionaries from the Hill areas ?

WORKING HOURS OF STAFF IN THE POSTAL DEPARTMENT.

966. ***Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar :** Will the Honourable Member for Communications state :

- (a) the maximum number of hours that the staff in the Postal Department may be asked to work ;

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 964.

- (b) whether they are worked in such a way that a continuous period of twenty-four hours' rest is allowed ; and
- (c) if not, what are the classes of persons who worked without that rest, and whether they are given any compensation ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) The hours of duty of the staff in the postal branch of the Posts and Telegraphs Department are so fixed as generally not to exceed eight hours per day.

(b) On the assumption that the Honourable Member wishes to know whether a continuous period of 24 hours' rest is allowed in every week, the reply is that this is not given in all cases.

(c) Except Administrative and Executive Officers and their office establishments practically all classes of post office employees are required to perform some work on Sundays and post office holidays, but in the larger post offices every alternate Sunday or two Sundays out of three are given as complete holidays. Performance of a certain amount of work on Sundays and holidays is a recognised condition of service in the Postal Department, and this fact has been taken into consideration in fixing for the postal staff the rates of pay and other conditions of services.

PURCHASE OF STORES BY THE COMPANY-MANAGED RAILWAYS.

967. ***Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar :** Will the Honourable Member for Communications state :

- (a) why in the latest contract made with the Railway Companies, the condition of purchasing stores made in India was omitted (starred question No. 517, dated 26th August, 1938) ;
- (b) which are the companies in whose contracts this condition has been made, and in whose contracts it has not been made ; and
- (c) for how many years this condition has been made part of these contracts ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a), (b) and (c). No condition regarding the purchase of indigenous stores has ever been incorporated in the contract of any Company-managed Railway, nor was the question of doing so raised in connection with the revision of the contract with the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company in 1937.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar : May I know whether it is not a fact that even though there are no conditions incorporated in the contracts of Company-managed Railways, yet the Company-managed Railways do purchase Indian made articles and the Government do pay them some compensation therefor ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : In some cases, a small amount of compensation is paid for purchases made in India.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar : If no conditions are incorporated in the contract, then on what principles do the Company-managed Railways make these purchases of Indian made goods, and how is the compensation paid by Government for such purchases regulated ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Compensation is not paid as a general rule. Company-managed Railways purchase large quantities of Indian made goods because it pays them to do so from a commercial point of view.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar : May I ask whether any conditions are attached to such purchases by Company-managed Railways ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : No, Sir.

INCIDENCE OF PERSIAN GULF EXPENDITURE.

968. ***Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar :** Will the Secretary for External Affairs state :

- (a) the extent of Indian interest in the Persian Gulf (in pursuance of his answer to starred question No. 513 of the 26th August, 1938) ;
- (b) when the matter of the Persian Gulf expenditure was last taken up with the British Government ; and
- (c) what is the expenditure involved on the Indian Exchequer for the last three years ?

Sir Aubrey Metcalfe : (a) There is considerable trade between India and the Arab Coast of the Persian Gulf and there are many Indian traders resident in those Ports. There are also a number of British Indian subjects employed by the Oil Company at Bahrein and this number is likely to increase if oil is found at other places on the Arab Coast.

(b) The matter was referred to His Majesty's Government in November, 1937.

(c) The expenditure debited to Indian revenues was as follows :

1934-35	12·01 lakhs.
1935-36	12·54 lakhs.
1936-37	11·38 lakhs.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar : May I know why the matter has not been taken up since November, 1937 ? I hear that the latest letter which they wrote to the British Government was in November 1937.

Sir Aubrey Metcalfe : The Government of India are still awaiting a reply.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : With reference to part (a), may I know what is the volume of trade, the number of merchants engaged, and the number of employees in the oil company ?

Sir Aubrey Metcalfe : I have no exact information.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Are they in hundreds or thousands ?

Sir Aubrey Metcalfe : It is probable they are in hundreds. I cannot tell the Honourable Member the number of traders. I can obtain the exact information if the Honourable Member wishes.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar : May I know whether Government have enquired why they have not yet received a reply for their communication sent in November, 1937 ?

Sir Aubrey Metcalfe : It is possible that His Majesty's Government have more important problems to consider.

FILLING UP OF APPOINTMENTS IN THE HIGHER RANKS OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT OF THE KARACHI PORT TRUST.

969. ***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : (a) Has the attention of the Honourable Member for Communications been invited to the agitation in the press in Sind and Bombay, and by other Indian Chambers and Associations of Commerce in India, in connection with the filling up of appointments in the higher ranks of the Civil Engineering Department of the Karachi Port Trust ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether they received direct representations in the matter ? If so, from whom ?

(c) Will the Honourable Member please give the sanctioned strength of the establishment referred to in part (a) and their grades of pay ?

(d) Will he state if it is a fact that last year the post of Chief Engineer of the Karachi Port Trust fell vacant ? If so, were applications invited by advertisement by the Trustees of the Port ?

(e) Is it the rule of the Karachi Port Trust to invite applications by advertisements, or to do so only when they consider next eligible person on their staff unsuitable for promotion to the higher appointment ?

(f) Will the Honourable Member please state the principles under which the Karachi Port Trust fill up higher appointments ?

(g) Will the Honourable Member please state the number of applications received from qualified Civil Engineers answering all the requirements of the advertisement, which were put in the first class ?

(h) Will the Honourable Member please state whether it is a fact that after receipt of applications the appointment was filled up by the promotion of the next person already in the employment of the Karachi Port Trust, and that there were better qualified and more experienced applicants ?

(i) Is it a fact that Mr. F. J. Green of the Chittagong Port and Mr. A. G. Milne of the Cochin Harbour were also among the applicants ?

(j) Will the Honourable Member be pleased to lay on the table of the House a comparative statement of the qualifications, details of experience and appointments held and pay drawn at the time of making the application, by those referred to in the above clause and of the person who was appointed eventually ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) and (b). In connection with the filling up of the post of Deputy Chief Engineer, representations were received from the Federation of Indian Chambers, the Karachi Indian Merchants' Association, the Buyers and Shippers' Chamber, Karachi, the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Lahore, the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay, the Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, Madras, the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, and the Bihar Chamber of Commerce, Patna. I have seen comments on the matter in a Sind newspaper, but do not remember seeing any in Bombay papers.

(c) A statement is laid on the table.

(d) Yes.

(e) and (f). There is, I understand, no definite rule. The matter is within the discretion of the Port Trust Board.

(g) The Honourable Member is presumably referring to the post of Chief Engineer which fell vacant last year. If so, five applications were received from persons who fulfilled all the requirements.

(h) The reply to the first part is in the affirmative. The officer appointed was regarded as the most suitable candidate.

(i) Yes.

(j) A statement is laid on the table.

Statements.

I

No. of appointments.	Designation.	Old grade of pay where it is still applicable.	Revised grade of pay.
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Chief Engineer ..		2,000—75—2,300.
1	Deputy Chief Engineer ..		1,300—50—1,600.
1	Executive Engineer ..	900—50—1,600 ..	900—50—1,250. .
1	Assistant Engineer ..	..	350—25—600.

II

List of applications received in connection with the appointment of Chief Engineer, Karachi Port Trust—Class A—Having special knowledge and experience in the construction and maintenance of Harbour Works.

Name.	Appointment and salary at time of application.	Qualifications.
Mr. D. B. Brow ..	Deputy Chief Engineer, Karachi Port Trust. Pay Rs. 1,750 in the grade of Rs. 1,650—50—1,850.	<p>M. Inst. C. E. Assistant Engineer, Rochester Bridge Reconstruction—1912—Assistant Engineer, Southwark Bridge Reconstruction—1913—Assistant Engineer Doncaster to Thorne Widening Great Central Railway—1914—Joined West Kent Yeomanry and served in Gallipoli and Egypt. Commissioned in Royal Engineers—1916—and served in France—Awarded M. C. and twice “Mentioned”—Engaged for further service in the Royal Engineers with rank of Captain in 1919 and was sent to India—Served as Garrison Engineer, M. W. S., N. W. F.—Appointed Executive Engineer, Karachi Municipality in 1921—Acted as Chief Engineer for 6 months—Appointed Executive Engineer, K. P. T. in 1923. Acted as Deputy Chief Engineer for 8 months in 1934 and subsequently for a total period of 2 years. Acting as Chief Engineer since February 1937.</p>
Mr. F. J. Green ..	Port Engineer, Port Commissioners, Chittagong. Pay Rs. 1,600 per mensem in the grade of Rs. 1,000—50—1,600 Conveyance Allowance Rs. 75 free quarters.	<p>B. Sc. with Honours in Engineering; M. Inst. C. E.; M. Inst. M. E.; M. Inst. Struct. E. 2 years pupilship with Messrs. Fraser and Chalmers, Limited, Kent, General Engineer—Nine months as junior draughtsman with the same firm—3½ years transferred to Ministry of Munitions—3 years as senior engineer—designer with Messrs. Rendel Palmer and Tritton, London—5-1/3 years with the Bombay Port Trust—10½ years as Port Engineer to the Commissioners for the Port of Chittagong.</p>
Mr. A. G. Milne ..	Executive Engineer, Cochin Harbour. Pay Rs. 1,800 per mensem in the grade of Rs. 1,750—50—1,850.	<p>M. Inst. C. E.; M. I. Mech. E. Five years apprenticeship with the late Mr. R. Gordon Nicol, Harbour Engineer, Aberdeen; also as Assistant Engineer under him and as Resident Engineer—Engineering Assistant on Admiralty Public Works Staff for 5 years—Engaged for 3 years on the laying out of a shipyard, etc., at Shoreham, Sussex—Two years agent for Messrs. C. V. Buchan and Company, Limited. Public Works Contractors, Brighton, Sussex—In service with the Bombay Port Trust (1923—1927)—Two years Honorary Secretary, Bombay Engineering Congress—Engaged on development of Cochin Harbour 1927 to date.</p>

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : With reference to part (b), may I know if any replies were sent to the several Chambers of Commerce who sent representations ? Who considered those representations ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The representations were considered, but I cannot say whether any replies were sent or not.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : With regard to part (f) may I know if it is the accepted policy of the Government that Indianisation should take place in the Port Trusts ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I think the matter is of course one not within the exclusive purview of the Government, but Government have drawn the attention of the Port Trusts to the desirability of proceeding with Indianisation.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Is it a fact that in Bombay the Chairman of the Port Trust insisted on adhering to the policy of Indianisation whereas the same policy has not been followed in Karachi Port Trust ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am not aware what the Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust did, but I am aware that Indianisation has been proceeding in Karachi.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : May I know why the post of Chief Engineer was not given to one of the two Indian applicants who was more competent and better qualified than the European who was finally selected to the post ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I do not think the Indian applicants were more qualified than the European applicant who was appointed. Does the Honourable Member refer to Chief Engineer or Deputy Engineer ?

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : I am referring to the Chief Engineer.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : Next question.

APPOINTMENT OF A NON-INDIAN AS DEPUTY CHIEF ENGINEER BY THE KARACHI PORT TRUST.

970. ***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state whether the Karachi Port Trust invited applications by advertisement for the post of Deputy Chief Engineer ?

(b) Will he please state the number of applications received from qualified Civil Engineers, answering all requirements of the advertisement, which were put in the first class ?

(c) Will the Honourable Member state whether any Indian applicants were put in the first class by the Chairman of the Karachi Port Trust, and if so, what was their number ?

(d) Will the Honourable Member state whether in spite of their being Indian applicants, answering all the requirements of the advertisement and possessing the required experience in the construction and maintenance of harbour works, a non-Indian was appointed by the Karachi Port Trust ?

(e) Will the Honourable Member please state whether all the elected members of the Board, both at the Committee and at the Board meetings, voted against the appointment of a non-Indian and urged in favour of the appointment of an Indian ?

(f) Will the Honourable Member state whether the appointment of a non-Indian is not against the declared policy of Government and the Port Trusts in the matter of the Indianisation of the higher services of the Port Trusts in India ?

(g) Will the Honourable Member state whether two of the Indian applicants, possessed high university degrees in addition to practical experience, whereas the successful non-Indian applicant has had no university or college education ?

(h) Is it a fact that the non-Indian applicant was merely a Senior Assistant Engineer with a very short acting service as Executive Engineer, against higher appointments in officiating capacities with approved service held by the two Indian applicants ?

(i) Are these facts correct that (1) one of the two Indian applicants is an Executive Engineer in the Karachi Port Trust and had officiated as Deputy Chief Engineer for a period of nearly one and a half years, (2) his application for the permanent appointment of Deputy Chief Engineer was recommended in very appreciative terms by the Chief Engineer, and (3) the Chairman of the Karachi Port Trust also expressed satisfaction with his work ?

(j) What steps do Government propose to take, in the interests of Indianisation, to appoint Indians as Chief Engineer and Deputy Chief Engineer in place of those now appointed ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Eight candidates were considered to be eligible, of whom two were Indians.

(d) A non-Indian was selected, because he was considered better qualified for the appointment.

(e) and (f). No.

(g) It is true that unlike the Indian applicant the non-Indian applicant did not possess a university degree, but the latter passed the Examination for Associate Membership of the Institute of Civil Engineers and this is regarded as equivalent to an Honours Degree in Civil Engineering at any British University. His practical knowledge and experience were considered to be superior.

(h) His designation was Senior Assistant Engineer in the Bombay Port Trust but I understand that his responsibilities were much greater than those of Assistant Engineers usually are.

(i) (1) Yes. His actual period of officiating employment was 15 months.

(2) His application was forwarded and recommended for consideration.

(3) Yes.

(j) The Government of India have had correspondence with the Port Trusts on the subject of employing Indians in increasing numbers in the higher services. The Port Trusts are in sympathy with that policy and during the past decade have tried to give effect to it, but they are the best judges of the steps that should be taken to hasten the pace of Indianisation having regard to the special conditions of each Port. Government do not propose, therefore, to take any steps in the direction suggested.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : May I know if this gentleman who was appointed, Mr. Everett, was imported from Bombay ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : That is so.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Is it a fact that out of the two persons whose applications were rejected, one of them was an Executive Engineer having better academic and technical qualifications than Mr. Everett ?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : The Honourable Member cannot ask questions about individual cases.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : I am asking Government to define their policy in having Mr. Everett and not the other applicant ?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : That question cannot be allowed.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Is it a fact or not that the Chairman of the Port Trust and all the elected Members of the Port Trust wanted an Indian in that place ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Not all the elected Members. I do not think the Chairman also did so, but I am not sure.

USE OF SANSKRIT WORDS BY THE DELHI BROADCASTING STATION.

971. ***Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad :** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Communications please state whether Government are aware of the fact that the Broadcasting Station at Delhi uses a large number of Sanskrit words in broadcasting speeches ?

(b) Are Government aware that language spoken in Delhi is standard *Hindustani* or *Urdu* and its vilification is resented by all persons who are interested in good language ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) No.

(b) As regards the first part I would refer the Honourable Member to the supplementary questions following Mr. Badri Dutt Pande's starred question No. 745 asked on the 5th September, 1938, and replies given to them. The second part does not arise.

MUSLIM AND NON-MUSLIM STAFF IN BROADCASTING STATIONS.

972. ***Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad :** Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state the total number of Indians (1)

Muslims and (2) non-Muslims in (i) technical and (ii) non-technical line in all the broadcasting stations of India, classifying the services into three categories :

- (a) gazetted officers,
- (b) ministerial staff, and
- (c) inferior or menial service ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : A statement giving the required information is placed on the table of the House.

Statement showing the number of Muslims and non-Muslims employed at the various Broadcasting Stations of All-India Radio.

	Indian.		
	Muslims.	Non-Muslims.	Total.
<i>Gazetted.</i>			
Programme Staff ..	3	7	10
Engineering Staff ..		6	6
Total ..	3	13	16
<i>Non-Gazetted.</i>			
Programme Staff ..	17	36	53
Engineering Staff	8	63	71
Ministerial Staff (Clerical and others) ..	22	36	58
Total ..	47	135	182
Inferior Staff	32	52	84

MESS ESTABLISHED AT THE DELHI BROADCASTING STATION.

973. ***Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad :** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Communications please state whether Government are aware that a mess has been established at Delhi Broadcasting Station on military lines ?

(b) Is it a fact that all members of Delhi Broadcasting staff, married and unmarried, are compelled to join the mess ?

(c) Is it a fact that expenses of this mess are very high ?

(d) Is it a fact that members are falling into debt ?

(e) Is it a fact that the Muslim members are forced to drink wine ?

(f) Are Government prepared to make thorough enquiries into the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) No ; but a residential club has been organised by some members of the All-India Radio staff at Delhi.

(b) No ; membership is optional.

(c) No ; on the other hand I understand that members have found it very economical.

(d) No case of indebtedness has come to the notice of the authorities.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

BREACHES DUE TO FLOODS IN THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY LINE IN MURSHIDABAD DISTRICT.

974. *Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta : (a) Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state whether the Bengal Government moved the Railway Board for making breaches in the East Indian Railway line to save people of Azimganj, in the District of Murshidabad, from distress caused by the recent flood ?

(b) If so, when did they receive that communication from the Bengal Government ?

(c) If so, did they refuse sanction for such breaches ?

(d) Is it a fact that a telegram was sent by the East Indian Railway on 25th August, 1938, to Mr. Bhupat Singh, *ex-member* of this Assembly, stating that an examination of the water level showed that the breaches suggested by the people of Azimganj would have only negligible effect in reducing the water level of Azimganj ?

(e) Who conducted the afore-mentioned examination ? Was it done by the Railway experts alone, or was it done in the presence, or with the aid, of Provincial or District Engineers ?

(f) What are the names and designations of the Railway officers on the results of whose examination, the afore-mentioned telegram was sent to Mr. Bhupat Singh ?

(g) What is the date and time when the said examination was made ?

(h) Will Government please state whether the embankment protecting the town of Behrampur collapsed and, if so, the date of such collapse ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) Yes.

(e) to (h). Enquiries are being made and a reply will be laid on the table in due course.

Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta : Are Government aware that expert opinion is that the floods in Bengal are mainly due to these railway embankments.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Not all expert opinion, as far as I know.

Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta : There is some expert opinion, for instance the opinion of Willcocks.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am willing to take it from the Honourable Member.

Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta : Has any action been taken in the light of that expert opinion ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The question of floods is constantly under examination when they arise.

Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta : The question is whether any action has been taken according to the expert opinion expressed from time to time, namely, that it is these embankments which cause these floods.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am afraid the question is too general for me to reply to. Floods cannot be considered as a whole matter over several provinces.

Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta : Is it a fact that the railways object to the lines being opened because that means some extra expenditure to them ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The railways naturally do not want their lines to be breached.

PERCENTAGE OF MUSLIM STAFF IN THE POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

975. ***Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani :** Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the editorial on pages 1 and 2 of the *General News, Delhi*, dated the 10th August, 1938, under the heading *Swaraj ki manzilen*, and, if not, whether the Honourable Member will be pleased to examine the same ;

(b) the percentage of Muslims in (i) gazetted ranks, (ii) superintendents' cadre, (iii) gazetted Postmasters' grade, (iv) Inspectors' grade, (v) non-gazetted staff of upper division clerks, (vi) first division clerks, (vii) second division clerks, (viii) third division clerks, (ix) superior staff, lower division clerks, (x) inferior staff, and (xi) other miscellaneous staff, *vide* latest gradation lists published and circulated in respect of the following offices, etc. :

- (i) Office of the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs ;
- (ii) Office of each Head of Circle, separately ;
- (iii) Office of each Presidency Post Office, separately ;
- (iv) each first class Head Post Office, separately ;

- (v) each Postal Circle ; and
- (vi) Office staff in Divisional Superintendents offices, Circle-wise ;
- (c) the date on which the term of office of the present Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, will expire and whether it is a fact that Mr. Bewoor has applied for an extension of his services ; and
- (d) who will be the next Director General, Posts and Telegraphs ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) I have seen the paper forwarded by the Honourable Member.

(b) Information in the form required by the Honourable Member is not available and cannot be collected without an undue expenditure of time and labour. The Honourable Member is, however, referred to **Appendix XXI** of Annual Report of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department which gives the communal composition of the staff of the Department classified under gazetted and non-gazetted ranks. A copy of the Report is in the Library of the House.

(c) In March, 1939. The reply to the last part is in the negative.

(d) The Honourable Member must wait and see.

Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani : Having regard to the communal composition, as pointed out in the latest report, that there are only 18,000 out of 1,20,000 persons serving in the Posts and Telegraphs Department, will the Honourable Member be pleased to state the reason for the low percentage of Muslims ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The percentages for recruitment are laid down and, so far as I am aware, are being generally observed. Naturally the present position depends on recruitment over a large number of years past.

RAILWAY COLLIERIES.

976. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjee :** Will the Honourable Member in charge of Communications and Railways be pleased to state :

- (a) the area of each coal property owned and worked by the Railways, namely, Kurharbaree, Serampore, Bokaro, Swang, Kargali, Bhurkunda, Jarangdih, Argada, Talcher (Madras and Southern Mahratta), Talcher (Bengal Nagpur) and Kurasia collieries ;
- (b) the thickness of each seam of coal being worked at the said collieries ;
- (c) the estimated or approximate quantity of coal underlying each of the said colliery properties ;
- (d) the quality and grade of coal of each of the seams worked at the said collieries ;
- (e) the inclination or gradient of each of the seams ;

- (f) the depth from surface at which these seams lie ;
- (g) the nature of mines, i.e., whether pits, inclines or quarries by which coal is raised from each seam ;
- (h) the system of working for extraction of coal followed in each of the said collieries ; and
- (i) where the work is carried on under the ' pillar ' and ' stall ' system ; how many years the first working or development work of each colliery will or is likely to continue before the final operation of extraction of pillars will be undertaken ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Enquiries are being made and a reply will be laid on the table in due course.

OUTPUT FROM THE KURHARBAREE AND SERAMPORE COLLIERIES.

977. ***Dr. P. N. Banerjee :** Will the Honourable Member in charge of Communications be pleased to state :

- (a) if it is a fact that the bulk of the output from the Kurharbaree and Serampore collieries is obtained from extraction of pillars ;
- (b) whether the method of extraction of pillars at these collieries is the same as adopted in other collieries in Bengal and Bihar ; and
- (c) what proportion of the coal available in pillars is recovered by the present method ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Enquiries are being made and a reply will be laid on the table in due course.

Mr. Manu Subedar : May I ask whether Government will also inquire if the cost of extracting coal in the Government mines is higher or lower than the cost in private mines ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I doubt if that arises, but it varies.

Mr. Manu Subedar : I am only requesting the Honourable Member to collect the information and let us know.

FENCING OF THE BARAKAKHANA LOOP LINE BETWEEN GOMA AND SONE EAST BANK.

†978. ***Mr. Ram Narayan Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state whether the Barakakhana Loop Line between Goma and Sone-east bank is all along fenced and, if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The line is not completely fenced. The policy regarding fencing is to maintain it only where the railway passes through suburbs and industrial areas, around station yards, and in the neighbourhood of important level crossings.

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

MEMORIAL SUBMITTED BY TELEGRAPH MESSENGERS AT SIMLA.

†1979. ***Mr. Ram Narayan Singh** : (a) Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state whether the telegraph messengers of Simla submitted a memorial in the first week of this month to the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, drawing his attention to the difference in their pay, prospects and duties as compared with those of postmen and line-men and, if so, what is his decision on the said memorial ?

(b) Is it a fact that qualifications necessary for appointments both to the posts of telegraph messengers and to those of postmen and line-men, are the same, that the postmen and line-men have only day duty to perform, whereas the telegraph messengers have to work day and night, and that the grades of pay and the rates of promotions allowed to postmen and line-men are very much better than those allowed to telegraph messengers ?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to consider the desirability of bringing the telegraph messengers at a par with postmen and line-men with regard to their pay, prospects and hours of work ?

Mr. G. V. Bewoor : (a) I have received no such memorial so far.

(b) The facts are not as stated in the first two parts of the question. The reply to the last part is in the affirmative.

(c) Does not arise.

POSTAL FACILITIES IN HAZARIBAGH DISTRICT.

†1980. ***Mr. Ram Narayan Singh** : Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state whether the Postmaster General of Bihar took any steps on matters raised in questions Nos. 1183 and 1184, asked on the 6th April, 1938, regarding some postal facilities in Hazaribagh District, and if so, what ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The Postmaster General has reported that he is sanctioning the appointment of an additional village postman at Hunterganj experimentally for six months.

STATUS OF A BRANCH POST OFFICE AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE POST OFFICES AT HUNTERGANJ AND CHAMPARAN IN HAZARIBAGH DISTRICT.

†1981. ***Mr. Ram Narayan Singh** : Will the Honourable Member for Communications be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the status of a Branch Post Office, either as departmental, or extra departmental, depends on its income and, if so, why the post offices of Hunterganj and Champaran in the Hazaribagh District are not classed as departmental, and the salaries of the post masters thereof raised ;
- (b) whether in extra branch post offices, house-rent, contingent and other miscellaneous charges are not allowed and, if so why ; and

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

- (c) what is the maximum and minimum amount of pay allowed to the post masters of extra branch post offices and on what basis ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) The status of a branch post office, as departmental or extra-departmental, depends mainly on the volume of work, the income and public convenience. I have no information as regards Champaran Post Office. So far as Huntergunj is concerned, I understand the Postmaster General does not consider a change of status to be required. The matter is one within his competence and a copy of the question is being sent to him.

(b) No separate allowance is made for house rent and contingencies to extra-departmental branch offices which are generally situated in the residence or place of business of the extra-departmental agents. The monthly allowance sanctioned for the extra-departmental branch postmaster includes a reasonable provision for contingent and other miscellaneous charges likely to be incurred in running a small post office.

(c) The maximum and minimum allowances are generally Rs. 20 and Rs. 6 per mensem respectively, but the maximum may be increased in special cases. The allowances are fixed so as to ensure a reasonable remuneration for the amount of work done.

POSTAL FACILITIES IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS OF BIHAR.

†982. ***Mr. Ram Narayan Singh :** Is the Honourable Member for Communications aware that in all the five districts of Palamu, Hazaribagh, Singhbhum, Manbhum and Ranchi in the Province of Bihar, postal facilities available to the people thereof fall far short of actual needs therein and, if so, do Government propose to extend and improve these facilities by immediately opening new village post offices in areas where there is none, and if so, when and if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Government have no reason to believe that the postal facilities provided in the districts mentioned are inadequate. The second part of the question does not arise, but a copy of the question is being sent, for such action as he may consider suitable, to the Postmaster General, whose business it is to deal with the provision of postal facilities.

TRAIN DISASTER AT AYYALUR, SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAY.

983. ***Mr. M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar :** Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state, with respect to the train disaster at Ayyalur, South Indian Railway :

- (a) if the number of gang coolies was reduced on the line near the spot where the accident occurred and, in consequence, sufficient attention could not be paid to the line often ; and
- (b) if there is no culvert at the spot, or near to it, while there is one opposite thereto on the road parallel to the line for the drainage of water ?

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) The reply to the first part is in the negative : the second part does not, therefore, arise.

(b) The accident occurred at mile 255|15. There is a railway culvert at a distance of about two furlongs. At a further distance of about three furlongs there is a 20 foot girder bridge. The stream under this bridge then passes under the parallel road by a bridge with three openings 6 ft. by 5 ft.

Mr. M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar : Why was it not noticed that the line was weak at this spot ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am not aware that the line was weak at that spot.

Mr. M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar : Was it inspected a short time before the accident occurred ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : That doubtless will be disclosed by the inquiry which is proceeding.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Was there a culvert in this railway line, corresponding to the one which my Honourable friend said is on the stream under the road, running parallel to the railway ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I have said that there was a 20-feet girder bridge and the stream under this bridge passes under the parallel road by a bridge with three openings 6 ft. by 5 ft.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Are Government satisfied that, on the night of the fateful occurrence, the number of gang coolies was adequate to inspect the line and give a clear line to the train to pass ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : So far as I am aware, that was so, but the Honourable Member will have to wait for the result of the inquiry.

DELAY IN DELIVERY OF AIR MAIL LETTERS IN EAST AFRICA.

984. ***Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh** (on behalf of Seth Govind Das) : Will the Honourable Member for Communications please state :

- (a) the time it takes a letter to reach Zanzibar from India by air mail ;
- (b) whether the present air mail scheme is only beneficial to England for transporting the mail earlier than it used to ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the change of system in the air mail carriage causes a delay in delivering letters in East Africa nowadays ; and
- (d) whether he proposes to have the defects rectified soon ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a), (b) and (c). Prior to the inception of the Empire Air Mail Scheme, first class mails from India for Zanzibar travelled by the fortnightly service of the British India Steam Navigation Company direct from Bombay or by the weekly Peninsular and Oriental service from Bombay *via* Aden, the time taken in transit

varying from 12 to 13 days. Under the Air Mail Scheme, the first class mails go by air five times a week from India to Alexandria and from thence three times a week by air to Mombasa, from which there is a weekly air service to Zanzibar, the mails received by the air services on the other two days of the week being sent by the surface route. The transit time varies from five to eight days. There is, therefore, no foundation for the suggestion made in part (b) of the question.

(d) Does not arise.

LABOUR CONTRACT OF THE CALCUTTA PORT TRUST.

985. ***Mr. Manu Subedar :** With regard to my starred question No. 529 on the 26th August, 1938, relating to the labour contract given by the Calcutta Port Trust, will the Honourable Member for Communications state :

- (a) whether he has received the minutes and acquainted himself with all the facts of the case ;
- (b) whether Government have examined if they have any indirect power to eliminate any malpractices in relation to such contracts, which may come to the notice of them ;
- (c) what steps Government propose to take with regard to securing for Indian firms full and free and equal opportunities of taking remunerative work of every description with the major Port Trusts in India, for the administration of which the Central Government are responsible ; and
- (d) whether Government have considered the advisability of amending the Calcutta Port Act with a view to arming themselves with the necessary power of interference in such cases in future ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) I have seen the minutes setting out the facts of the case.

(b) and (c). I have already explained that Government have no statutory power to interfere with the decision of the Commissioners in meeting in regard to contracts, and from the papers I have received I have no reason to believe that there have been any malpractices.

(d) I invite the Honourable Member's attention to the reply I gave to his second supplementary question to question No. 852 asked by Mr. Santhanam on the 8th September, 1938.

Mr. Manu Subedar : May I inquire whether having regard to the various irregularities in connection with this contract about which complaints have been made from the non-official side, Government have formed an opinion on this case and whether they have communicated that opinion to the Calcutta Port Trust ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am not aware what irregularities the Honourable Member is referring to.

Mr. Manu Subedar : The irregularities are that the contract was made prior to the date of termination,—it was antedated by a few months,—that no tenders were called, that no quotations of any kind

were invited, and that generally it was done against the opinion of the Accountant-General and against the opinion of the Indian trustees. These are some of the irregularities any one of which would vitiate a contract of this kind. Have Government formed any opinion on this and have they communicated it to the Calcutta Port Trust ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : We have not communicated any opinion to the Calcutta Port Trust.

Mr. Manu Subedar : Do they propose to communicate that opinion to the Calcutta Port Trust in order at least to avoid similar contingencies in future ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I understand this contract is for about seven years and so the question hardly arises at the moment.

REDUCTION OF RAILWAY FREIGHT ON RAW COTTON.

986. ***Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh** (on behalf of Seth Govind Das) : Will the Honourable the Railway Member please state :

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the need for a reduction of revenue freight on raw cotton in view of the decline of the prices of raw cotton to give relief to the cultivator ; and
- (b) whether he proposes doing anything in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) Representations to this effect have been made.

(b) Government have no proposal under consideration at present for a general reduction in the freight rates on cotton.

DIFFERENCE IN FARES ON RETURN TICKETS BETWEEN TWO ALTERNATIVE ROUTES ON THE EAST INDIAN AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAYS.

987. ***Prof. N. G. Ranga** (on behalf of Mr. Sri Prakasa) : Will the Honourable Member for Railways state :

- (a) if it is a fact that on the East Indian and the North Western Railways when a passenger takes a return ticket by a shorter route and elects to come back by a longer one, he has to pay the difference for both ways, as if the outward journey was also performed by the longer route ;
- (b) if the system applies to all classes of passengers, or only to the intermediate or the third classes ; and
- (c) if the system is confined to the East Indian and North Western Railways, or prevails over other or all the Railways in India ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) Yes, in through booking between these two railways : and in local booking on the North Western Railway. Both on the East Indian and North Western Railways, how-

ever, holders of return journey tickets are allowed to travel by an alternative longer route without additional charge in cases in which passengers taking single journey tickets for the shortest route can do so.

(b) All classes.

(c) The arrangement also operates over the South Indian Railway.

REVISION OF THE INDIAN RAILWAYS ACT.

988. **Mr. Manu Subedar :** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Railways state whether any representations have been made to Government with regard to the revision of the Indian Railways Act ?

(b) Is it a fact that the obligations of the railway authorities in India as carriers towards the public are restricted, compared to similar obligations in the United Kingdom ?

(c) Are Government aware that the commercial community is very much dissatisfied with the terms and conditions, under which railway risk notes are issued ?

(d) Have Government got the revision of this Act in hand ?

(e) Will the revision take place before any steps are taken to appoint the Statutory Railway Authority ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) I am unable to trace any recent representation on the subject. The point was, however, referred to in a discussion which the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay, had with the Chief and Financial Commissioners of Railways in August, 1937.

(b) No comparison of the nature indicated has been made.

(c) Representations to this effect have been made from time to time.

(d) No.

(e) Does not arise.

Mr. Manu Subedar : Is it a fact that every time a merchant presents a consignment to go by the railways at railway risk the staff is instructed to put down that the packing is not adequate and satisfactory whatever the nature of the packing may be ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Not every time ; no.

Mr. Manu Subedar : Will the Honourable Member make an inquiry into the allegation which I have made now as to whether the provision of the railway risk note, as it is provided even by the inadequate law at present, is defeated by this attitude of the railway staff whenever consignments are given to them at railway risk ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I have explained that that is not the attitude of the railway staff ; but I understand that the Railway Board and the Chief Commissioner have offered that in cases in which there is complaint on this ground, a senior officer would be deputed to examine the circumstances on the spot.

Mr. Manu Subedar : Will the Honourable Member assure this House that he will take a typical centre like Calcutta or Bombay and take a

short period of a fortnight or so and see how many consignments were offered and in how many cases the railway staff arbitrarily put down that the packing was not satisfactory ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : If the action was arbitrary, it was open to the merchants who have complaints to take advantage of the offer, to which I have referred. I believe they have not done so in any case.

Mr. Manu Subedar : That is exactly what I am doing on the floor of this House.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : But that is not the same thing at all.

EARNINGS OF THE HIGHER CLASSES AND THE THIRD CLASS ON RAILWAYS.

989. ***Mr. Manu Subedar :** (a) With regard to the calculations of the relative earnings of higher classes and the third class, given in reply to my starred question No. 644 on the 31st August, 1938, will the Honourable Member for Railways state whether the extra additional capital and maintenance costs in respect of first and second class waiting rooms at stations, retiring rooms for higher classes at certain big stations, and the capital and renewal and repair charges in connection with the European restaurant cars, were added ?

(b) If not, does he propose to take these items into account in considering the problem of the abolition of the first class carriages ?

(c) In view of the results disclosed, is he prepared to give an assurance that no more first class carriages will be built and, pending the final decision to abolish the first class on all railways, any temporary shortage of first class accommodation would be made good by converting the second class for the use of first class passengers ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) No.

(b) The expenditure on the items referred to is not recorded separately. The elimination of one class of accommodation will not *per se* make the provision of the amenities referred to less necessary than under existing conditions.

(c) I do not know what "results" the Honourable Member refers to, but as there is no proposal under consideration to abolish the first class on all railways, I am unable to give the assurance asked for.

Mr. Manu Subedar : In addition to the information which the Honourable Member gave to us the other day of relative earnings of the two classes, I am inquiring in this question whether some part of the outlay on refreshment rooms and refreshment cars both capital and revenue may not be attributable to the costs of running the first class for passengers ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am prepared to admit that it may be.

Mr. Manu Subedar : If that is so, then with regard to clause (c) may I inquire whether the Honourable Member will make a fresh calculation and whether he will take this into consideration in deciding the question whether the first class should be abolished or not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : No ; the question of abolishing the first class is not being considered but the question of reducing the first class accommodation is constantly under consideration.

POWERS OF THE RAILWAY BOARD IN RESPECT OF RAILWAYS IN INDIA IN CERTAIN MATTERS.

990. ***Mr. Manu Subedar :** Will the Honourable Member for Railways state :

- (a) what powers the Railway Board possess in respect of all railways in India, whether owned by Indian States, or by private companies, under the Indian Railways Act, of control or supervision in regard to public safety and the choice of the type of wagons, carriages and locomotives ; and
- (b) what further powers they have reserved to themselves in respect of the above with regard to State Railways under Company management ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) I understand the Honourable Member's question refers to Railways other than the four State-managed lines. The powers the Railway Board exercise over all other railway lines to which the Indian Railways Act applies are those conferred on them under the Government of India's Department of Commerce and Industries notification No. 801, dated 24th March, 1905. These powers do not extend to the prescription of types of rolling stock, except in regard to any point affecting public safety.

(b) I am having the contracts with the more important Railways examined, and a further reply will be laid on the table when this examination has been completed.

RAILWAY RATES ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

991. ***Mr. Manu Subedar :** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Railways state how many cases the Railway Rates Advisory Committee has considered during the last three years, for which full particulars are available ?

(b) Has the complaint of the commercial public, that this body should be a tribunal and not merely an advisory body, reached Government ?

(c) What is the amount of annual expenditure incurred in respect of this Committee ?

(d) What steps are being taken to have a general revision of the rates ?

(e) Have Government considered the advisability of abolishing this committee and of setting up a proper rates tribunal, to whom appeal may be made by the commercial public and whose decision will be final ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) The Committee submitted reports in six cases during the three years ending with 1937-38, and had three cases under investigation on the 31st March, 1938.

(b) Yes.

(c) The expenditure for the last three ^{al} years has averaged Rs. 77,000 per annum.

(d) No general revision of rates is contemplated.

(e) Government have no proposal for the abolition of the Committee in contemplation. The question of setting up a tribunal whose decisions would be final was considered in connection with the Acworth Committee's report. I would also refer the Honourable Member to section 191 of the Government of India Act, 1935.

Mr. Manu Subedar : With regard to part (d), may I inquire whether a close examination of the rates is not going on at present in the Railway Board in view of the rail-road competition ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : There is no general revision in contemplation. The rates are constantly under review in minor particulars.

Mr. Manu Subedar : May I inquire whether Government have considered the desirability of undertaking this general revision of rates, particularly with regard to the classification as all the highly valued stuff is now being diverted to the road ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : That is an argument.

Mr. Manu Subedar : I merely ask if Government have considered it desirable to reconstitute the classifications at least at some places where their traffic is being diverted to the road.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I think there was some examination of the question about two years ago.

EXPENDITURE ON POLITICAL CHARGES OUTSIDE INDIA.

†992. ***Mr. Manu Subedar :** (a) Will the Secretary for External Affairs state the main heads of expenditure from Indian revenues in respect of Political charges outside India, and to what extent they have increased or diminished during the last three years, for which accounts are available ?

(b) What are the reasons for this increase or diminution in each case ?

(c) Have representations been made to His Majesty's Government for any determination as to the justice of these burdens on India and the desirability of some of these burdens being taken over by them ?

(d) Is the Honourable Member in a position to inform this House of any decisions which have been reached so far on this subject ?

Sir Aubrey Metcalfe : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table.

(c) His Majesty's Government have been addressed with regard to diplomatic and consular expenditure in Iran and in the Persian Gulf as stated in my reply to part (a) of Honourable Member's starred question No. 869, dated the 8th September, 1938. No other expenditure of this nature is at present under discussion with His Majesty's Government.

(d) No decision has been made yet.

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his quota.

Statement showing the expenditure incurred on Consulates, etc., outside India during the years 1934-35, 1935-36 and 1936-37.

		1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
Kabul	..	4,40,086	4,48,578	4,54,679
Nepal	.. .. .	11,77,059	11,77,703	11,81,940
Kashgar	.. .. .	1,25,607	1,25,110	1,26,688
Jeddah	..	(a) 14,529	83,940	(c) 86,506
Addis Ababa	.. .. .	1,488	1,646	1,369
Baghdad	.. .. .	15,560	15,847	17,312
Iran and the Persian Gulf	..	12,00,727	(b) 12,54,392	(d) 11,37,777
Total	..	29,75,056	31,07,216	29,86,271

N.B.—Except in the case of Iran and the Persian Gulf and Jeddah, expenditure adjusted in the Home accounts has not been included as separate figures are not available.

(a) Prior to the 1st April, 1935, most of the expenditure pertaining to Jeddah was finally adjusted in the Home Accounts and details are not available.

(b) Increase due mainly to more expenditure on telegrams and other charges owing to the political situation in Iran and the Persian Gulf.

(c) Decrease due to less expenditure on telegrams.

(d) Decrease mainly due to reduction in the Muscat subsidy.

CONTRACTS OF THE ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY.

993. ***Mr. K. S. Gupta** : Will the Honourable the Railway Member please state, in connection with his reply to Mr. Brojendra Narayan Chaudhury's starred question No. 626, on the 31st August, 1938 :

- whether for the brick-fields and interlocking arrangements huge works were undertaken at Badarpur, Assam Bengal Railway ; the amount involved in them ; and whether any tender was called for ;
- whether all the works did not go to a single contractor from the Punjab refusing the same to the local contractor, Isabali, who did the brick-fields work for the last seven years ;
- whether the staff of the District Engineer and Assistant Engineer is manned entirely by non-Sylheties ;
- the amount of control the Railway Board has by law, and the amount of control generally exercised by the Railway Board over Company-managed Railways with regard to administration in relation to employment of servants and contractors ;

- (e) whether the Central Government are interested in the behaviour of the Company-managed railways towards the public, passengers, servants and contractors ; if so, to what extent ; and
- (f) whether the Central Government have any share in the gains and losses of the Assam Bengal Railway ; if so, to what extent ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) Interlocking and remodeling at Lumding and Badarpur was sanctioned in 1937-38 at an estimated cost of 3.93 lakhs for the two stations. Tenders were called for.

(b) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 626 on 31st August, 1938. Government have no further information.

(c) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the reply to part (b) of question No. 626 answered on 31st August, 1938.

(d) The administrative control exercised by Government generally over Company-managed Railways is regulated by the terms of contracts executed by individual railway companies, the only general condition in relation to staff being that such railways should maintain a sufficient staff for the purposes of the line to the satisfaction of Government. Under such agreements, except for certain financial control, Government have no control in the choice of the personnel of servants or contractors.

(e) Government are naturally interested in seeing that reasonable service is given to the public. As regards servants and contractors I refer the Honourable Member to my answer to part (d).

(f) Yes. From the net earnings of the Assam Bengal Railway interest at the guaranteed rate of three per cent. is first paid on the Company's capital. Thereafter, interest is paid on Government capital at three per cent. on the share of Government capital upto 8 1/11ths of the total capital of the Railway and at rates specially agreed upon on the balance. Any surplus profits left are divided between the Government and the Company in the ratio of the respective amounts of capital expended by them on the undertaking. The Assam Bengal Railway is not earning any surplus profits at present. The Company, therefore, gets its guaranteed interest only and the loss is borne by Government.

SELECTION BOARDS FOR SELECTING CANDIDATES FOR RAILWAY APPOINTMENTS.

994. ***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** (a) Will the Honourable the Railway Member be pleased to state since how long the selection boards for selecting candidates for railway appointments, have been established both in the divisions and the headquarters on the State-managed Railways ?

(b) Is it a fact that many a times junior officers of the divisions and headquarters sit to select, and are Government aware that dissatisfaction has been expressed in the press and by way of interpellations in the Assembly and in the Railway Central Advisory Board as to the composition of the boards and their doings ?

(c) Does the Honourable Member know that Provincial Public Service Commissions have been established in the Provinces and that the Postal and Telegraph Departments have lately been recruiting subordinates by competitive examinations and the higher appointments through the Federal Public Service Commission ?

(d) Do Government propose to make recruitment in the railways in the same way as indicated in part (c) above ? If not, why not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I am obtaining information which will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

WANT OF AN INTERMEDIATE CLASS WAITING ROOM AT DINAPORE.

995. ***Mr. Ramayan Prasad :** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there is no intermediate class waiting room at Dinapore, the Divisional Headquarters of the East Indian Railway ?

(b) Is it not a fact that the average middle class passengers usually travel in intermediate class compartments and, in view of the considerable number of intermediate class bookings at and *via* Dinapore, provision for intermediate class waiting room is a great necessity ?

(c) If the answers to the above parts be in the affirmative, does the Honourable Member propose to consider the advisability of removing the long felt necessity of the public by providing one there ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) Yes.

(b) I am aware that many middle class passengers travel in intermediate compartments but have no particulars of the bookings at Dinapore and cannot express an opinion regarding the necessity for a separate waiting room.

(c) A copy of the question and answer will be forwarded to the General Manager, East Indian Railway.

DINING CARS ATTACHED TO RAILWAY TRAINS.

996. ***Mr. K. S. Gupta :** (a) Will the Honourable the Railway Member please state how many passenger trains (including mail and express) are provided with dining (European) cars and Indian dining cars for third class passengers in the various railways of India ?

(b) Is he prepared to consider the desirability and necessity of attaching a third class dining car to every passenger train ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) I would refer the Honourable Member to pages 103 and 104 of the Report by the Railway Board on Indian Railways for 1936-37, Volume I.

(b) It is not considered necessary to have a refreshment car on every train.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Will my Honourable friend consider the necessity of having Indian third class dining cars for all long distance passenger trains ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : They are attached in a number of cases.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : I want to know whether they are attached to all long distance trains, that is to say, trains which run for more than 12 hours.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : No, because a lot of these trains are mainly intended to serve local traffic.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : I am asking with regard to trains which take time to travel long enough for men to become hungry and want a meal, perhaps Government will consider the desirability and the possibility of attaching third class dining cars to such trains.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The point I was trying to make was that although trains may run long distances, they may be run very largely for local traffic, and the passengers themselves may not be travelling long distances.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : May I know, Sir, whether apart from local traffic, Government have satisfied themselves that there are third class Indian dining cars attached to such long distance trains ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The question is constantly under review, and the number has been increasing.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Will Government please inquire and provide third class dining cars where passengers are expected mostly to travel for more than 12 hours at a time ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Steps have been and are being taken to increase the number of dining cars.

Mr. N. V. Gadgil : Are Government aware that revolution begins with hunger ?

UNCOVERED AND LOW PLATFORMS AT CERTAIN STATIONS ON THE BENGAL NAGPUR AND MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAYS.

997. ***Mr. K. S. Gupta :** (a) Will the Honourable the Railway Member please state if it is not a fact that several important stations on Bengal Nagpur Railway and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, like Khargpur, Khurda, Vizianagram, Waltair, Samalkot, Rajahmundry, Ellore, etc., have no shades or sheds on the platforms to protect passengers from sun and rain ?

(b) Is the Honourable Member aware that platforms of several stations on the Bengal Nagpur Railway and the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway are far below the level of footboards of trains and cause great inconvenience and sometimes accidents to women, children and old men, while getting down the train specially where it stops for a minute or two ? If so, when will the raising of such platforms be begun ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) and (b). Government have no particulars, but have no reason to dispute the statements made by the Honourable Member. The general policy is, so far as possible, to provide additional amenities for passengers such as those asked for by the Honourable Member. The order of priority is left to Railway Administrations as they are in the best position to judge of the needs of any particular case.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : With referenre to clause (b) of the question, may I know whether my friend has ever tried to ascend or descend such platforms, and may I ask him to draw the attention of the Administrations to the great inconvenience and sometimes danger to at least the limbs of passengers, when they have to ascend and descend from platforms, which are very much below the footboard of the trains ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I have frequently used such platforms and know the amount of inconvenience.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Then, will my friend press on the attention of the Railway Administrations concerned to provide platforms long enough to accommodate these trains ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I do not think it is merely a question of length.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Often enough, I have noticed that when a train stands on the platform, it is quite high enough in some places and the passengers have to descend to very low ground in other places. I am asking whether at least in cases where platforms are not long enough, my friend will draw the attention of the Railway Administrations to lengthen the platforms and raise them to adequately high levels to make it easy for passengers to ascend and descend.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : These are both Company-managed Railways. I think the matter is one which could appropriately be raised in the Local Advisory Committees.

Prof. N. G. Ranga : Will the Honourable Member be pleased to send these questions and supplementaries to the Railway Agents concerned ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I said this matter could more appropriately be raised in the Local Advisory Committees as regards places where there are important stations.

Mr. S. Satyamurti : Have the Local Advisory Committees got any power over the Agents ? I find again and again we are referred to Local Advisory Committees. They are only recommendatory bodies, and the Agents almost always turn down their proposals or advice. I am asking whether at least the Honourable Member will take the trouble of sending these suggestions to the Agents concerned, and not leave it to their patronising attitude to take action or not in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : In the present case, I am merely an advisory body too, but I have no objection to sending these questions and answers.

HIGHER FARES CHARGED FOR SHORT DISTANCES ON THE BENGAL NAGPUR AND MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAYS.

998. *Mr. K. S. Gupta : Is the Honourable the Railway Member aware that higher rates are charged for short distances on the Bengal Nagpur Railway and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway ? If so, why ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : I understand the Honourable Member's question to mean that, on the two Railways referred to, the freight rates for traffic carried for short distances are on a higher basis than on other railways. This may be the case for certain commodities but not for others. Such differences as there are between the rates on one railway and those on another are due to the conditions not being identical.

Prof. N. G. Ranga : Has it not directly resulted in greater competition by motor buses with these railways ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : That has affected rates in some cases.

Prof. N. G. Ranga : In what way have Government or the railways tried to meet this competition by reducing their freight charges ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : In some cases.

Mr. M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar : Will the Honourable Member advise those Railways to reduce their freights so that they may be able to compete with motor buses ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The question of the most suitable rates is constantly under consideration.

FIXATION OF SPEEDOMETERS TO ENGINES OF PASSENGER TRAINS.

999. *Mr. K. S. Gupta : Will the Honourable the Railway Member state whether there is any move in the near future to fix speedometers to every engine of the passenger trains to avoid accidents ? If not, why not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given in this House on the 12th August, 1938, to parts (b) and (c) of starred question No. 143 asked by Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar.

PASSENGER ASSOCIATIONS ON RAILWAYS.

†1000. *Mr. K. S. Gupta : Will the Honourable the Railway Member state how many passenger associations are there in India ? How many of them have been represented on the Advisory Committees of the several railways in India ?

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his quota.

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : Government have no information in regard to the first part of the question. As regards the second :

- the Passengers' and Traffic Relief Association, Bombay, is represented on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway's Local Advisory Committee at Bombay ;
- the Passengers' Association, Villivakkam, is represented on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway's Main Committee ;
- the Railway Mandal, Belgaum, is represented on the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway's Branch Committee for the Bombay Presidency ;
- the Passenger Association, Tanjore, is represented on the South Indian Railway's Committee.

INDIANS KIDNAPPED BY THE PEOPLE FROM THE TRIBAL AREA.

1000A. ***Mr. Brojendra Narayan Chaudhury :** Will the Foreign Secretary please state :

- (a) the names, addresses and sex of citizens of British India kidnapped by the people from tribal area since the Delhi Session of the Assembly ;
- (b) the motive for the kidnapping, and whether it is political, economic, or enmity against any community, or a mixture of all or any two ;
- (c) how many of the kidnapped persons (i) have been returned, (ii) have been recovered, and (iii) have returned since ;
- (d) measures taken to trace and recover them ;
- (e) the duties of the Frontier Constabulary, and whether it is to protect the Frontier from the tribes ; and
- (f) whether the Frontier Constabulary is under the Government of India, or Provincial Government ?

Sir Aubrey Metcalfe : (a) A statement containing the information asked for is laid on the table.

(b) Government have no precise information.

(c) 26 persons out of the 30 kidnapped had been returned up to September 8th.

(d) Political pressure was brought to bear on the responsible sections of the tribes.

(e) The main duties of the Frontier Constabulary are to maintain security along the Administrative Border and to deal with raiders from Tribal territory.

(f) The Frontier Constabulary is under the control of the Agent to the Governor General, North-West Frontier.

Statement showing the names, addresses and sex of the citizens of British India kidnapped by the people from tribal area since the Delhi Session of the Assembly.

Name.	Sex.	Address.
(Bannu)—		
1. Faqir Chand ..	Male ..	Bozi Khel.
2. Veda Bai ..	Female ..	..
3. Pokhar Dass ..	Male ..	Sal Naugar.
4. Phula Nand	Hassan Khel.
5. Gulab Chand	Bakhmal.
6. Milap Chand	Lakki.
7. Behari Lal	Bakhmal.
8. Pir Mohd.	Darakhi, Tank.
9. Khan Sherin	Kotka.
10. Ayub Khan	Bannu.
11. Sher Ali	Bakhmal
12. Sher Mast
13. Parma Nand	Hawed.
14. Pokhar Dad	Tajazai.
15. Khanda Ram
(Kohat)—		
16. Qamar Gul	Sheikhan.
17. Mira Most	Karbogha.
18. Hirda Raman	Thai.
19. Mst. Nahundi ..	Female ..	Dallan.
20. Nawab Khan ..	Male ..	Tatwari
(D. I. Khan)—		
21. Neeroz	Rori.
22. Khan Mir	Kirri Haider.
23. Mohd. Khan	Lunni.
24. Tulai Das	Gulimam.
25. Gurdit Singh	Takwara.
26. Gowardan Singh
27. Malka
28. Devi Das	Kirri
29. Two Grazers	Lunni.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

CERTAIN COMPLAINTS AGAINST RAILWAYS.

45, **Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha** : Will the Honourable Member for Railways please refer to reply given to starred question No. 830, asked in this House on the 18th March, 1938, regarding certain complaints against Railways, and state the result of the inquiry made ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : No enquiry was made, but, so far as the points relating to the East Indian Railway were concerned, the General Manager of that line stated that :

- (i) The 17 Up Express was booked to stop at Rudauli from 1st October, 1937 ;
- (ii) the construction of a road outside railway limits was a matter for the local civil authorities.

STAFF CONSIDERED SURPLUS ON STATE RAILWAYS.

46. **Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha** : Will the Honourable Member for Railways please refer to the replies given in this House to starred questions Nos. 371, 644 and 710 asked on the 14th, 28th and 30th September, 1936, respectively, and to lay a statement showing *inter alia* :

- (a) the number of staff (gazetted, non-gazetted, superior, inferior and menials, respectively) on Eastern Bengal, East Indian, Great Indian Peninsula and North Western Railways, in each category, and scales of pay considered surplus to requirements under the scheme of discharge on the basis of comparative efficiency ;
- (b) length of service of such staff ;
- (c) number in each case of punishments awarded to such staff against inefficient working during preceding two years of their service ;
- (d) the date up to which *current requirements* were determined ;
- (e) whether any date has been fixed up to which that scheme will operate ; and
- (f) the number of persons recruited in those categories and scales of pay during the period of that scheme ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a), (b), (c) and (f). Government have no information but an endeavour will be made to collect particulars of the numbers of staff discharged by categories during the current year with their lengths of service, if this is readily available and the numbers of persons, if any, recruited in the same categories during the same period.

(d) and (e). No date was fixed by the Railway Board for the determination of current requirements or for the termination of the scheme.

SELECTION POSTS AND GRADES ON STATE RAILWAYS.

47. Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha : Will the Honourable Member for Railways please lay a statement of selection posts and selection grades declared by the Eastern Bengal, East Indian, Great Indian Peninsula and North Western Railways under the rules for recruitment and training of non-gazetted staff, both technical and non-technical ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Glow : I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply given to unstarred question No. 24, asked by Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali in this House on the 31st August, 1938.

UNIONS ON RAILWAYS.

48. Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha : Will the Honourable Member for Railways please refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 135, asked in this House on the 31st August, 1934, and to inquire and state :

- (a) the names of Unions conducted on sound trade union principles ; and
- (b) the names of Unions encouraged by the Railway Board since then ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Glow : (a) I am unable to express an opinion on the manner in which individual unions conduct their affairs ; but a list of the Unions, which have been recognised by various Railway Administrations, will be found in the statement laid on the table of the House in connection with part (b) of Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar's starred question No. 653 asked on the 5th March, 1938, in this House.

(b) If by " encouraged " the Honourable Member means " recognised ", the answer is that the Railway Board do not recognise trade unions ; this is a matter for railway administrations. They do, however, meet the All-India Railwaymen's Federation twice a year.

SUB-LETTING OF CONTRACTS AT DELHI RAILWAY STATION.

49. Mr. B. B. Varma : Will the Honourable Member for Railways please refer to the reply given to starred question No. 587, asked in this House on the 2nd March, 1938, viz. ' The Agent, North Western Railway, states that he is not aware of any proved cases of subletting ' and to lay on the table the following letters :

- (a) No. 23 AC/26, of 30th June, 1937, from the Divisional Commercial Officer, North Western Railway, Lahore Division ;
- (b) No. 23 AC/123 of 9th May, 1938, from the Divisional Commercial Officer, North Western Railway, Delhi Division, together with the complaints of Mohan Lal Gupta and others dated 25th May, 1938, from Jakhal ; and
- (c) No. 23 AC/123 of 24th January, 1936, from the Divisional Commercial Officer, North Western Railway, Delhi Division,

along with the complaints of Tara Chand, Kidar Nath and Benarsi Dass ; and to state how far the statement of the Agent is correct ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : The reply given to question No. 587 on the 2nd March, 1938, had reference to Delhi station. The allegations of sub-letting, to which reference is made in the correspondence quoted by the Honourable Member, refer not to Delhi but to other stations. On inquiry none of these allegations was established. I do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing the correspondence on the table.

AREA SERVED BY THE POSTMAN OF DELHI SHAHDARA.

50. Seth Govind Das : Will the Honourable Member for Communications please state :

- (a) the total area served by the postman of Delhi Shahdara in delivering postal articles ;
- (b) the minimum and maximum distance travelled in each direction from the post office building ;
- (c) the minimum and maximum time taken for delivery in each direction of that distance ; and
- (d) whether the delivery of articles to residences at maximum length can be made earlier by providing an extra postman, and whether it is justified by the increase of labour and nature of work ; if not, how and why ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) to (d). Government have no information. The matter is within the competence of the Postmaster-General concerned to whom a copy of the question is being sent for such action as he may consider suitable.

PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION OF MATTERS OF DETAILED ADMINISTRATION WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF GENERAL MANAGERS OF STATE RAILWAYS.

51. Sardar Mangal Singh : Will the Honourable Member for Railways please refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 24, asked on the 31st August, 1938, and state :

- (a) the procedure laid down for obtaining information on matters of detailed administration within the competence of the General Managers of State-managed Railways ; and
- (b) whether he will now please obtain the information and lay it on the table of this House ; if not, why not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) No procedure has been prescribed.

(b) No, for the reason given in the reply to the question quoted by the Honourable Member in the opening part of the question.

**SPEED OF TRAINS AND PROFITS, ETC., OF THE SHAHDARA-SAHARANPUR
LIGHT RAILWAY.**

52. **Sardar Mangal Singh** : Will the Honourable Member for Railways please refer to the information given on the 8th August, 1938, in reply to unstarred question No. 158, asked on the 8th April, 1938, and state :

- (a) the booked speed of the trains on the Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway, when exemption from the order was given, during summer and winter, separately, and the total hours in journey taken for a distance of 92.50 miles ;
- (b) the booked speed of the trains during summer and winter of 1937, and 1938 and the total period taken for a distance of 92.50 miles ;
- (c) the minimum and the maximum distance between stations ;
- (d) the percentage of profit divided amongst the shareholders of the Company during the preceding five years ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that on the 26th August, 1938, the only women passenger by 4 Down train was criminally assaulted by both the Permanent Way Inspector and the Travelling Ticket Examiner between Kandla and Delhi Shahdara stations ; and
- (f) whether a report was made at Delhi-Shahdara ; if so, with what result ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : (a) The information is not available, as the time-tables in force when exemption was given about 20 years ago are not on record.

(b) I am calling for the particulars required and they will be placed on the table when they are received.

(c) About two miles minimum and seven miles maximum.

(d) The dividends declared were as follows :

	Per cent.
1932-33 ..	6
1933-34 ..	7
1934-35 ..	6
1935-36 ..	7½
free of income-tax.	
1936-37 ..	8½ less income-tax.

(e) and (f). Enquiries are being made and a further reply will be laid on the table in due course.

**RECORDING OF DECISIONS IN WRITING ON APPEALS OF SUBORDINATE STAFF
ON STATE RAILWAYS.**

53. **Sardar Mangal Singh** : Will the Honourable Member for Railways please refer to the reply given to starred question No. 569, asked on the 26th February, 1935, and state the result of the decision arrived at on the question that the appellate authority is required to record the decision in writing on each ground of appeal *et seriatim* ?

The Honourable Mr. A. G. Clow : No decision was required on this point as there was no substantial difference between the rules in question and those applicable to gazetted railway servants in this respect.

HOSPITAL AT MIRANSHAH.

54. Mr. Manu Subedar : (a) Will the Secretary for External Affairs state whether there is a large hospital at Miranshah maintained by Government ?

(b) How many patients were treated at this hospital during the year for which latest particulars are available ?

(c) Is it a fact that the doctor in charge thereof is a medical graduate from Edinburgh ?

(d) What is the salary of this doctor ?

Sir Aubrey Metcalfe : (a) There is a hospital at Miranshah maintained by Government with provision for forty-two beds.

(b) During the year ending 31st August, 1938, 900 indoor patients and 29,119 outdoor patients were treated at the hospital.

(c) No.

(d) The Sub-Assistant Surgeon in charge draws pay Rs. 70—4—130 per mensem *plus* Frontier allowance of Rs. 20 per mensem and local allowance of Rs. 25 per mensem *less* 15 per cent. reduction applicable to new entrants to Government service.

STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE.

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 1156 asked by Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta Paliwal on the 4th April, 1938.

RECRUITMENT OF CLERKS IN ROUTINE AND TYPISTS GRADES IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OFFICES.

Enquiries made of the various Departments and offices show that there is only one instance in which a vacancy which occurred before the 1st April was not filled by a qualified candidate belonging to the list in force prior to that date. The vacancy in question occurred in the third division in March, 1936, and was not filled in accordance with the regular procedure as timely intimation had not been sent to the Home Department. Necessary adjustment has now been made by the appointment of a candidate belonging to the 1934 list. To ensure that such cases do not recur Departments and offices concerned will be asked to report the date of occurrence of the vacancy in every requisition which they send for the nomination of a candidate.

Information promised in reply to parts (d) and (e) of starred question No. 418 asked by Babu Kailash Behari Lal on the 23rd August, 1938.

BREACHES BETWEEN PARSARMA AND SUPAUL ON THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

(d) The Railway administration has given close and constant attention for some time to the Kasi flood situation in the vicinity of Bhaptiahi and Supaul with a view to improving the situation.

(e) The Railway administration has not reached a final decision, as the situation is subject to widespread and rapid changes. After the present floods have subsided the situation will be carefully examined with a view to deciding what action is to be taken.

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 448 asked by Mr. Sham Lal, on the 24th August, 1938.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEPRESSED CLASSES SETTLEMENT IN DELHI.

(a) 24.

(b) 1.

(c) 18.

(d) Extensions of time are commonly allowed to prospective lessees in New Delhi if the Chief Commissioner is satisfied that they really intend to complete their buildings within a reasonable time.

(e) The time limit clause was not strictly enforced in the depressed area ; leases were cancelled only after prolonged default.

(f) The development of the area is under the consideration of the Delhi Improvement Trust and it is not considered desirable to grant any further leases till the scheme is complete.

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 461 asked by Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani on the 24th August, 1938.

WASTAGE AMONG THE MUSLIMS AND SALARIES OF TEACHERS IN THE COMMERCIAL INSTITUTE, DELHI.

(a) The wastage referred to by the Honourable Member is by no means confined to Muslims. A good many students are discouraged by the unfamiliarity of the course, and by the realisation of the fact that without family connections in business they may not secure employment after completing it. Others again leave without completing the course if they receive an offer of paid employment.

(b) The number of students concerned is small, and no action seems possible.

(c) Head Master on Rs. 200—10—250 with special pay of Rs. 50 a month.

One Assistant Master on Rs. 140—10—190 with special pay of Rs. 35 a month.

Two Assistant Masters on Rs. 110—5—135 with special pay of Rs. 35 a month, each.

The special pay is paid in each case for ten months in the year in connection with the evening classes attached to the Institute with effect from the 1st October, 1935.

THE IMPORT OF DRUGS BILL.

PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai (Secretary, Department of Education, Health and Lands) : Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to regulate import into British India of drugs and medicines.

RESOLUTION RE FINANCIAL CONTROL OF MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : The House will now resume consideration of the following Resolution moved by Raizada Hans Raj on the 2nd September, 1938 :

“ That this Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council that early steps be taken to constitute a committee of the elected and other members of the Central Legislature to examine the arrangements in force for financial control of military expenditure by the Finance Department and to suggest ways and means of reducing the present cost of Defence.”

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Guntur *cum* Nellore : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I learn that the Honourable the Finance Member wants to make a statement, and I request that I may be allowed to speak after he has made his statement.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg (Finance Member) : Sir, I am very much obliged to the Honourable Member for giving way. During the course of my speech, I shall have an important pronouncement to make, but I propose to do that in its proper setting and in relation to the views of the Government on this Resolution as a whole.

We have had two interesting speeches on this Resolution.

First, if you will allow me to say so, a very remarkable one from the Mover—witty, persuasive and to the point, and if I may be permitted to say so—without attracting the accusation of flippancy—almost too brief. The worst of it is that, if his winding up speech is no longer than his opening speech, I shall lose my right of reply.

Then, Sir, we had Mr. Satyamurti painting a harrowing picture of a timorous Finance Member cowering beneath the jack boot of the brutal and licentious soldiery. Honestly I don't really recognise myself in that picture and I don't think Army Head Quarters would recognise me either. But, anyhow, the House will not be surprised to hear that I don't propose to put myself in the dilemma into which Mr. Satyamurti is trying to put me. Either I admit his impeachment, proclaim my unfitness for my job and at the same time tacitly admit that Defence Expenditure can be materially cut down—in which case I give the Congress Party the material they are itching to get for saying that the new Provincial Constitution won't work because so much of the taxable resources of the country are absorbed in paying for what they call the Army of Occupation. Or I depart from my usual custom, blow my own trumpet and proclaim loudly how much I have cut the Commander-in-Chief below his true defence requirements and how it is he who comes as a humble suppliant to crave for a rather larger percentage of his demands. If I say this—what then ? What will happen when next we come to discuss the Defence Budget ?

Well, in vain is the net spread in sight of the bird.

My own view of the matter is that on the whole we have, during

12 NOON. recent years, arrived at a fairly reasonable compromise between financial exigencies and defence requirements. If I have any doubts about this conclusion they are in the direction of wondering whether in view of the facts (a) that the world situation is infinitely more menacing than it was during the last ten years and (b)

that during the last ten years our net Defence Expenditure has been reduced from 55 crores to something of the order of 46—comparing like with like—these facts lead me in the direction of wondering whether financial exigencies have not been a little over-stressed at the expense of defence requirements.

Perhaps I might digress here for a minute or two and say a word about the two Commanders-in-Chief with whom I have worked. We have had many arguments and haggles but never a semblance of a quarrel, I have always found them keenly alive to the need for economical administration in the great force which they commanded and I have found in them both a readiness to make concessions or postponements in the interests of budgetary equilibrium which is as rare as it is comforting to a Finance Member. And, finally, I have had from them both the utmost support in defending from time to time what I conceived to be the financial interests of India.

With that digression let me return to my main theme. What is the situation in which we find ourselves? Nobody can deny that it is one that is full of menace on all sides. That is the situation in which the Resolution demands a Committee to control and reduce Defence expenditure. Mr. Satyamurti shows us how the reduction can be done. By Indianisation he thinks that 12 to 15 crores a year could be saved. This is, of course, a complete chimera. For one thing under the most favourable conditions it would take a great many years to recruit and train the officers and men to replace the present British troops; for another the figure is excessive even as an ultimate saving; but most important of all, let me remind the House that Dr. Deshmukh, and I think some other speakers, the other day made it clear that the Party opposite do not regard Indianisation as an economy measure but as a matter of national pride and—I think I am not doing Members opposite an injustice—as a matter of extending over a much larger area the privilege of participating in the country's defence.

But, in any case, I am not going to be led away into discussing Indianisation. We are discussing Army Expenditure and I say quite bluntly that, with war clouds lowering on every hand, I do not think it practicable, in present circumstances, to make any appreciable reduction in Army Expenditure. The problem for us is rather how to get a better Army for the same money and not the same or even a larger Army for less money as the Members opposite seem to imagine. And this problem is not at all easy of solution. Modern Defence requires greater mobility, greater striking and greater defensive power, tanks, bigger and better aeroplanes, mechanized transport, more and more guns—and all this for the same money as before.

Well, this in essence is the problem which has been discussed in London since last April. The Defence Secretary the other day promised to take the House into his confidence and inform it of the stage which these discussions have reached. In fulfilment of this promise I will read to the House the announcement which is being made in London today by His Majesty's Government:

“As was indicated by the Secretary of State for War in his speech on the Army estimates on March 10th of this year the Prime Minister, at that time, authorised the initiation of discussions regarding the role of the land and air forces in India in relation to the defence problems of India and the Empire.

[Sir James Grigg.]

2. Both the military and financial aspects of this question have been considered in detail. The outcome of these discussions at the stage so far reached has recently been considered by His Majesty's Government.

3. The need for early action to place the defence organisation of India on a more satisfactory basis is accepted. It has not been possible, in the time available, to reach agreement on all matters which have presented themselves for consideration in the course of these discussions. But definite progress has been made, and in the light of this progress, an offer has been made by His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, subject to the approval of Parliament, to increase by £500,000 as from April 1st next the annual grant of £1,500,000 which has been paid to the Government of India since 1933 in aid of Indian defence expenditure in accordance with the recommendations of the GARRAN tribunal. In addition His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom propose to ask Parliament to authorise the offer to the Government of India of a capital grant up to five million pounds for the re-equipment of certain British and Indian units in India and, in addition, to authorise the provision of aircraft for the re-equipment of certain squadrons of the Royal Air Force. The precise scope and cost of these proposals has not yet been determined in detail. Further, it has been agreed that four British battalions should be transferred from the Indian to the Imperial establishment; three Battalions will be transferred at once and the fourth will follow as soon as it can be conveniently arranged. Finally, in connection with the discussions which have taken place in London the Government of India have suggested that His Majesty's Government should send out an expert body of enquiry to India at the earliest opportunity to investigate the military and financial aspects of the problems on the spot, and to submit a report before discussions between the two Governments are carried to their conclusion. His Majesty's Government have accepted this suggestion and appointed an expert committee with the following terms of reference.

'Having regard to the increased cost of modern armaments, to the desirability of organising, equipping and maintaining the forces in India in accordance with modern requirements—(and I will ask the House to note carefully the next few words)—to the limited resources available in India for defence expenditure, to examine and report, in the light of experience gained in executing the British rearmament programme how these resources can be used to the best advantage and to make recommendations.' The expert committee, with which the Defence Department of the Government of India will be associated will be presided over by Admiral of the Fleet Lord CHATFIELD. They will leave England during October and it is hoped they will be able to report early in 1939.'

There for the time being I must leave the question of the quantum of Defence Expenditure and pass to the other question raised by the Resolution under discussion. This relates to the control of Defence Expenditure by a Committee of this House. Well, I don't want to embark on a constitutional disquisition as to the extent to which the Executive and the Legislature should have their say in this matter. In England the Executive is in a position to enforce its will so long as it has a majority in the Legislature. We do not *command* a majority in the Legislature and yet we are responsible and irremovably responsible for Defence. We must, therefore, under the present constitution, have the last word. The House can discuss Defence *a priori* on the general Budget debates and *ex-post facto* in conjunction with the Report of the Public Accounts Committee. But it cannot vote upon it except in the way of expressing an opinion on policy generally on, say, the vote for the Executive Council. The new Federal constitution goes further. The Legislatures will have the same or more rights of discussion and though Defence continues to be a Reserved subject the Governor-General is enjoined by Royal Instructions to consult fully and freely with the Federal Ministers before deciding upon the amount of the Defence Budget.

What the next step will be and when it will be taken nobody can say. One may perhaps predict that in India, as elsewhere, time will gradually extend the frontiers of responsible Government ; but much will depend upon the spirit with which the new constitution is worked—and that in its turn depends on a removal of suspicion and a growth of goodwill not only between the Indian communities themselves but between Indians and the British. And, if Members opposite will forgive me for saying so, I don't think that this removal of suspicion or growth of goodwill is likely to be fostered by attempts to introduce communal stresses and claims into recruitment for the Army or by making speeches—at a time when the international situation is so explosive—pointedly announcing to the world that in the next war India will not only not fight for the Empire but will actively conspire to hinder and injure it. Of course, that India will do this isn't true, but it isn't always immediately obvious to outsiders that in the case of some Members opposite their eloquence goes beyond even *their* intentions. And so far as the intentions of the vast bulk of Indians are concerned, I am sure that they recognise that in fighting for the preservation of the Empire they would be defending themselves in the most effective manner possible.

Prof. N. G. Ranga : My Honourable friend has ended on a note of appeal for co-operation and goodwill and absence of suspicion in regard to the intentions of the Government of India as well as the intentions of His Majesty's Government, but, Sir, the very announcement that is being made today in London just about this time belies all that. If the British Government or the Government of India really wanted the co-operation of this country, then why is it that they have not taken into confidence the leaders of the people of this country before they had made up their mind to appoint this particular committee, either in regard to the terms of reference of that committee or in regard to its personnel. It shows quite clearly that the British Government as well as the Government of India want to continue to rule this country at the point of the bayonet, and they have displayed it in the very procedure that they have now adopted. The Honourable the Finance Member has tried to pat himself on the back by saying that he has certainly tried to bring about much more economy in our defence expenditure than is good for the defence of this country. He certainly has done a disservice both to himself and to this country by saying on the eve of his departure to his own country that there can be no further Indianisation of the army in the manner in which we want it.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg : Let me correct the Honourable Member. I expressed no opinion on the merits of Indianisation at all, all I implied was that any economies to be achieved by it would be at best very slow in realisation and at worst non-existent.

Prof. N. G. Ranga : I accept that correction, but even then he cannot possibly visualise any great economy in the defence expenditure of this country. For a responsible Member of the Government and a man who is supposed to have been a strong Finance Member to come and make a statement like this on the floor of the House, in order to save his own skin, is really not befitting the great post which he adorns. Then, Sir, he says that one of the terms of reference of this particular committee would be to take into consideration the limited financial resources of this country. It only means this—continue the stabilisation of the expenditure on the defence forces, keep it where it is, and whatever possible economies you can achieve

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by internal re-organisation, utilise it for further expenditure on the same defence forces, so that the tax-payers cannot hope to get any sort of comfort from the thought that there may be any economies in the military expenditure of this country.

Then, Sir, the Honourable Member wants us to pause and think about the world situation and the menace of it. To whom is it a menace? It certainly cannot be a menace to the liberties of India, because there are no such liberties. It cannot be a menace to the independence of India, because India does not enjoy that independence. It cannot be a menace to the freedom of our people, because there is no such freedom. It can only be a menace to the British Empire and the commercial interests of the British capitalists and industrialists. If it is a menace to his country, then I do not see any reason why I should continue to allow the Finance Member and his Government to spend money on the military forces of this country in the way in which they have been spending it. Coming to the question, whether there should be any better financial control or not, the announcement itself admits our charge that the control is not enough, that the control is defective, and that the expenditure has not been properly cut down. That is why one of the terms of reference of this Committee is to go into the financial and other control of expenditure and the financial relations between the Government of India and the Finance Department.

Then, Sir, we have asked for the appointment of a Committee. They themselves have admitted the need for it, and that is why they have appointed this Committee. It is a Committee that we do not want. The Committee we want is to consist of elected Members and others, and this Committee appointed by His Majesty's Government is thoroughly unrepresentative. It is as bad as the Simon Commission itself. It is an all-white Commission, and that Commission is to work in close co-operation with the Defence Department in order to produce a document just like the kind of document which my friend has read out. He has only tried to save himself from jumping into the net that he has spread. All that he has done is to simply come here and sing a swan song both on his behalf and that of the Government of India "All is well with the Mashobra Road". Nobody need worry as to what is happening between the Finance Department on the one side and the Defence Forces on the other. The Mashobra Road is where you find the house of the Commander-in-Chief.

Then, Sir, I come to the question of Indianisation. He argues that because there is not enough time for our people to equip themselves properly for the biggest positions in the army, therefore Indianisation today is not a practical proposition. This point was pressed by the Indian Members of the Esher Committee which reported in 1919-20 in favour of Indianisation. If the Government had adopted it in 1919, then they would have been able to satisfy this House and the country that there are enough Indian officers to man the Indian army without the aid of British officers at all. The fact is that you do not want to help us to man the officer cadre of the army, and then you turn round and say that we are not trained, and, therefore, the Indian army cannot be Indianised,

economy cannot be effected, and we cannot have our own army. Then, the British Government pretends to be very generous indeed. It is just like a crocodile. It offers 500,000 pounds towards capital expenditure.

The Honourable Sir James Grigg : It is a capital grant up to five million pounds for the re-equipment of certain British and Indian units in India, and, in addition, the provision of air craft for the re-equipment of certain squadrons of the Royal Air Force, and, over and above all that, half a million a year in perpetuity.

Prof. N. G. Ranga : Five million pounds towards capital grant. What will be the recurring expenditure as a result of this ? Who is going to bear it, my people or your people ? Certainly my people, and why should they bear it ?

Then, Sir, as to these financial implications, in regard to which my Honourable friend, the Finance Member, wanted us to believe in the generosity of the British Government, my Honourable Leader and others, who are more well-equipped and more competent to deal with them, will give a fitting answer. I will now turn to the more mundane points. Sir, what is it that the Government of India have done to implement the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee that was appointed in 1930-31 ? Have they implemented all those recommendations or not ? I would like to have a specific answer to that. Then, the Esher Committee itself made several recommendations, and what is it that they have done in regard to all those recommendations, especially to bring down the cost of the British officers employed in India as compared to the pay and emoluments paid to the same British officers when employed in England ? Why is it that they still continue to pay more to the British officers employed by His Majesty's Government while they are in India, not only in regard to these additional allowances, but also in regard to the pay and other things than what they are entitled to be paid when they serve in their own country ? Sir, they wanted more and more pay for these people soon after the war, both officers as well as men, on the ground that the prices of commodities went up, but why is it that they did not try to bring about any corresponding reduction in the salaries and allowances and other emoluments granted to these people when the prices have fallen ? Recently, they have even begun to talk of rising prices. Evidently, Sir, the price indices are different for the military authorities from the price indices that we the civilian people are supposed to be having. Otherwise, how can it be possible for them to claim that the prices have begun to go up,—and, therefore, to come here and say that, in respect of the same services, they will soon be obliged to spend very much more in the near future ? Sir, my Honourable friend said that apart from Indianisation, you have to make the same army much more efficient, but I have got an answer, and this was the answer given during the last European War. The ordinary people recruited for the war were given, first, one year's training, then six months, then three months, and, in the later stages, for even much shorter periods, and yet these people came to prove themselves to be as efficient as the regular army people, if not more efficient. If that is so, why is it that the British Government which follow this particular procedure in their own country do not want to follow that procedure in this country and try to develop our national militia and territorial forces ? Sir, the 1919 Esher Com-

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mittee recommended the development of these territorial forces, and yet today all that the Government have been trying to do is to sabotage this particular policy. If ever they accepted this particular policy at all, why have they taken no steps to implement it anyhow and to develop the territorial forces in this country ? Sir, I can assure my friend, the Honourable the Finance Member, and, through him, His Majesty's Government that India will not be second to any other nation in providing funds for developing her army and developing the defence forces to such an extent as to be able to defend her own coast and her own frontiers and her own people just as efficiently as other countries, provided India is satisfied that she enjoys her own freedom, that her military forces are employed in the interests of India and are allowed to remain in the country only for the sake of India.....

Dr. G. V. Deshmukh (Bombay City : Non-Muhammadan Urban) : And that they are Indians.

Prof. N. G. Ranga : Sir, where is the need for all these Europeans to remain here as military officers ? What is their particular gift ? If it is a question of physical force alone, then I can assure my Honourable friend that in respect of aeroplanes, torpedoes, submarines, etc., mere physical strength does not count, it is brains which count. And, as to the brains of Indians, let the British universities themselves give the answer. They will tell you that the Indian students are faring just as well, if not better than, the best English students there,—and, in fact, in many of these universities, it is the Indian students who are outshining the English people themselves. That is why the British Government have got a funk, and that is why they have introduced a new system of nomination even for the British people ? What is it that they are doing today ? They have introduced the principle of nomination for sending Britishers from England to India, because they know jolly well that the Britishers are not capable of competing with Indians in the matter of brains. Now, what about brute force and money ? They have got money—but how ? With regard to this gift of this figure of Rs. 150 crores, from India to England, Sir, the Britishers are hypocrites....

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : That expression is unparliamentary.

Prof. N. G. Ranga : I am talking of the British nation and not of the British individuals. Sir, my point is—what have they done to make a free gift in the name of India by their own free volition ? Is not that hypocritical ?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : The Honourable Member has one minute more.

Prof. N. G. Ranga : Sir, we are asked to accept this wonderful gift of one hundred and twenty millions of rupees. This is the result of the reconciliation of their Imperial obligations to India. I know my friend, Sir James Grigg, has a much greater idea of self-respect than many people on those Benches. Sir, with these words, I support this Resolution.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : I find that there is an amendment in the name of Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar. He ought to have moved it earlier. I do not know whether he wants to move it now ?

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar (Salem and Coimbatore *cum* North Arcot : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Yes, Sir. I move :

“ That for the word ‘ early ’ the word ‘ immediate ’ be substituted, and that for the words ‘ of the elected and other members ’ the words ‘ with a majority of elected members ’ be substituted.”

Sir, I do not want to take much of the time of the House, I want to present only one point and that is this ; with regard to the various emoluments and allowances paid to the British soldier, we are all aware of these, but I want to point out that there are other ways in which a greater pay is paid to him than is warranted by his salary and other allowances. This House is aware that his pay is fixed at pound sterling and this House is also aware that the exchange rate for the pound sterling is eighteen pence. A pound thus comes to be equal to Rs. 13-5-4. Now at what rate of exchange is the British soldier paid ? I am told and I believe it is correct—the Honourable the Finance Member will correct me if I am wrong—that he is not paid at the usual rate of exchange but he is paid at a lower exchange so that he may get more money in his hands. He is paid at the rate of every pound being equal to fifteen rupees so that special exchange privileges are given to him ; he gets Rs. 15 for every pound of pay. I ask the Honourable the Finance Member—is he honest ?

An Honourable Member : He is not here now.

Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar : I have not him in mind, but the system which he represents.

Then, Sir, on page 36 of the Defence Estimates the pay of the British soldier is shown as Rs. 4,68,42,830. I have tried to work out these figures and if you divide the whole amount by nine, which is about the proportion which Rs. 1-10-8 bears to Rs. 15, then it comes to Rs. 53,64,578. If the Government are honest and if they are prepared to give the usual terms of exchange to the British soldier and, I daresay, he can claim no more than that, they can save this amount. May I ask if it is not a big saving ? Today we have seen an announcement by Mr. Hore-Belisha whereby the British soldier is getting an increment in his pay by £1. We have already been saddled by a greater pay and by this announcement it will become still greater. May I ask why this privilege of a special exchange rate should be continued to the British soldier ? I do not know whether the kit and clothing allowance which comes to 32 lakhs odd and the deferred pay which comes to 21 lakhs odd are also paid at the same special exchange rate. I do not know also whether the pay of the officers which comes to about Rs. 3 crores and 20 lakhs is also counted at the same exchange rate. I am told that the officers' pay is not calculated at that exchange rate. But these four crores and 88 lakhs that we pay to the British soldiers is calculated at a rate of exchange which is one-ninth more than we should pay at the ordinary rate of exchange. I say this is dishonest and no Government worth the name should tolerate a thing like this and I ask the Finance Member whether he can justify it by any means. Sir, I do not want to pursue this point any further, but I would like to read only a

[Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar.]

few lines from the report of the Public Accounts Committee. That is the only window through which we can know something about the condition of the military finances of the Government of India. But better than reading the report of the Public Accounts Committee is, I think, reading the report of the Auditor General. The Auditor General on page 97 of the Public Accounts Committee report says :

“ The question of the number and the significance of financial irregularities occurring in the administration of the Defence Services received special attention in last year's report when I was constrained to observe that the cases brought to notice taken as a whole seemed to afford evidence that there was considerable laxity of view and an insufficient sense of responsibility in financial matters, not in the administration as viewed in the abstract, but amongst individuals. It is regrettable that this year's report should again include an undesirably large number of cases pointing to the same conclusion. The following appear to be the most important types of irregularity reported on this occasion :

(1) Cases of serious fraud attributable to lax supervision, and

(2) Cases of inadmissible money claims supported by incorrect certificates.”

From a later report I see that the Committee say that things have improved but I should think that in a matter which relates to about half the Budget of the Government of India things have to improve a great deal, seeing what is exhausted in only a few years back. I do think that nothing else will have the confidence of this country unless this Committee is constituted with a majority of the elected Indian Members of this country. Sir, I move.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir. Abdur Rahim) : Amendment moved :

“ That for the word ‘ early ’ the word ‘ immediate ’ be substituted, and that for the words ‘ of the elected and other members ’ the words ‘ with a majority of elected members ’ be substituted.”

There is another amendment in the name of Dr. Sir Ziauddin Ahmad and Mr. Essak Sait.

(Both the Honourable Members were not in their seats.)

The discussion will now go on on the Resolution and the amendment.

Dr. P. N. Banerjea (Calcutta Suburbs : Non-Muhammadan Urban) : Sir, this Resolution urges the appointment of a Committee to go into the question of military expenditure and it seeks to assign two duties to this Committee. The first is to provide for control and the second is to secure reduction in expenditure. “ It is the financial engine ”, to use the words of a great economic expert, “ which drives the State.” Now, we have not taken sufficient care in this country of the financial engine, and if we have to take sufficient care of this financial engine, three things are necessary. In the first place, parliamentary control ; in the second place, public criticism ; and in the third place, administrative control. Now, all these measures have been adopted in other countries. Unfortunately, in India the Legislature has no control over military expenditure and public criticism does not count with the authorities at all. As for administrative control, it was pointed out by the Esher Committee that this was very insufficiently and inefficiently exercised. They said :

“ The responsibility for the expenditure of nearly half of the total revenues of the Government of India now rests upon the shoulders of one man, namely, the Commander-in-Chief.”

They suggested the creation of a separate Department to scrutinise and control the expenditure of the Military Department. Unfortunately, due to the opposition of the military authorities, this recommendation was not given effect to. Now, what we suggest in this Resolution is a more modest scheme. We suggest that the Finance Department of the Government of India should have greater power of control over military expenditure.

Coming to the second point, we all know that army expenditure in India has gone on increasing year after year. From very small beginnings, the army expenditure in India mounted up to a figure of about 18 crores just before the mutiny. After the mutiny, the expenditure increased enormously till in 1913-14 the expenditure stood at a figure of 30 crores. During the European War there was a great increase in the military expenditure and India had to make a very large contribution to the British exchequer in aid of the war. The peak of the military expenditure was reached in 1921-22 when it stood at nearly 69 crores of rupees. The Inchcape Retrenchment Committee, which sat in 1922-23, recommended large reductions, and as a result of the acceptance of these reductions, the military expenditure has now come down to about 46 crores of rupees. Further reductions were expected by the public but these have not been effected. If we add to this amount of 46 crores the cost of the strategic railways and certain other items of expenditure, such as the cost of the military police on the Frontiers, the military expenditure will come up to nearly 50 crores of rupees.

Now, I ask, is this not a burden which is too heavy for the people of the country to bear? Ten years ago, Sir Walter Layton, the financial assessor of the Simon Commission, examined this question and he expressed the view that the military expenditure of the country was far too great for the country to be able to bear. He also mentioned the fact, a fact which is known to everybody, that in social services India's expenditure was very small and in some respects *nil*, whereas in regard to the military expenditure India's expenditure was equal to that of the greatest nations of the world in proportion to their respective revenues. Sir, to me it seems that Sir Walter Layton erred on the side of caution and moderation. As a matter of fact, India's military expenditure is larger in proportion to her revenues in normal times than the military expenditure of the greatest nations, with the single exception of Japan. In 1935, the military expenditure of the United Kingdom was 15 per cent. of her revenues, in Germany 15 per cent., in France, 18 per cent., in the United States of America, 22 per cent. and in Italy, 25 per cent., while in Japan, which is a military nation and which has been preparing for a long time past for aggressive wars, the expenditure was 46 per cent. of her revenues. That is the situation, and it must be regarded as very unfortunate that in a poor country like India, so much as 55 per cent. of the total revenues of the Government of India or 30 per cent. of the combined revenues of the Government of India and of the Provinces should be spent on the army.

In addition to this there has been recent enhancement in this expenditure which may, in course of time, go up two or three crores. My Honourable friend, the Finance Member, has pointed out that the British Government have been very generous in making a recurring expenditure of half a million £ and a capital expenditure of £. five millions. Well,

[Dr. P. N. Banerjea.]

Sir, this is a mere drop in the ocean. A sum of £500,000 in the British Budget is nothing, but when we are asked to add to our expenditure to the extent of two to three crores a year in a budget of 80 crores, it appears to be a great deal. It is a pity that the justice or the injustice of the situation does not strike the Honourable the Finance Member. He is subordinate to the British Government in England and, therefore, he has to defend the action of his superiors.

This being the situation, what is the remedy ? There are several remedies and these remedies have been urged upon the Government again and again. The first remedy which has been suggested is that the cost of the British portion of the army should be borne by the British exchequer. In this connection the question arises whether the British troops in India are maintained for the benefit of the British Empire or for the benefit of India ? So great an authority as the late Lord Salusbury remarked in 1896 :

“ Millions of pounds have been spent in increasing the army in India not to provide for the security of India against domestic enemies or to prevent incursions of the warlike peoples of the adjoining countries but to maintain the supremacy of the British power in the East. The scope of these great and costly measures reaches far beyond India's limits and the policy that dictates them is imperial policy.”

Well, Sir, there cannot be a greater authority than Lord Salusbury to speak on this point. Soon after, the minority of the Welby commission remarked that this was very unjust and that the whole cost of the British army in India should be borne by the British exchequer. More recently the Esher committee, appointed about 17 or 18 years ago, observed :

“ we cannot consider the administration of the army in India otherwise than as a part of the total army forces of the Empire.”

and added :

“ the novel political machinery created by the peace treaty has enhanced the importance of the army in India relative to the military forces in other parts of the Empire and more particularly to those of the British Isles.”

In view of these facts, the demand urged by Indian politicians and economists that the whole of the cost of the British army in India should be borne by the British exchequer is not at all improper.

Sir, the next measure urged by Indian statesmen is that the Indian portion of the army should be Indianised, that is to say, British officers should be replaced by Indian officers in the Indian portion of the army. This demand has been voiced by all Indian statesmen from the days of Dadabhai Naoroji. Surendra Nath Banerjea and Gopal Krishna Gokhale, but no serious attempt has been made to meet this demand.

The third method by which the army expenditure can be reduced is by observing economy both in recurring and in capital expenditure in all the departments of the Army. The various committees which were appointed, including the Esher committee and the Army Retrenchment Committee of 1931-32, suggested various measures, but these suggestions have not been accepted to the full extent. The result is that we find that even at the present moment a great deal of extravagant expenditure is

indulged in by the Military Department, and the latest instance of this extravagant expenditure is to be found with regard to the reconstruction of Quetta.

Sir, the whole position is to be regarded as extremely unsatisfactory in this country, and it is high time that a committee of the Legislature is appointed to go into the question and arrive at a solution which should be fair to India and less burdensome to the Indian taxpayer.

Sir Muhammad Yamin Khan (Agra Division : Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, the Resolution seeks to appoint a committee in order to examine the arrangements in force for financial control of military expenditure by the Finance Department—that is the first purpose—the second purpose is to suggest ways and means of reducing the present cost of defence. These are the two main points which are embodied in the Resolution. No one in this House can say that he would not like to have the first point examined carefully, and the second point also is an essential one. We want to know how much power the Finance Department has got and what control it has got over the military expenditure. This matter must be examined carefully by a committee and that committee must be capable not only to examine and report but also to make suggestions as to what kind of control must be exercised by the Finance Department. We know, Sir, that the Finance Department has only to supply money which is asked for by the Defence Department. That being the position, the Finance Department perhaps finds itself in a hopeless position to control the finances. The ever-increasing military expenditure is beyond their control and they have to obey the dictates of the higher command. Therefore, a committee must be appointed to examine how far the Finance Department are in a position to say “No” to any demand. And also the Finance Department must get their hands strengthened by the vote of this House consisting of elected representatives of the people, they being the custodian of the people's money. That Committee must enjoy the confidence of this House. Sir, I have been a zealous supporter of the rights and privileges of this House and have always opposed interference with those rights and privileges, which should be enlarged and increased by conventions and by the exercise of the power which this House has. I would have liked this committee to be composed of Members of this House alone, but there is a practical difficulty and our object will not be achieved. The announcement made by the Finance Member for a sort of subsidy by the British Government is welcome but even that cannot satisfy the country. The House and the country must be satisfied as to the share of defence expenditure to be borne by England and by India. The second thing is to find out how much money is wasted by the Defence Department and that ought to be curtailed. These are the two things to be carefully considered and an examination of these points should be done by a committee which is well competent to go into these details. For this purpose the best thing would have been for Mr. Essak Sait to move his amendment, but in the absence of that I will support the main Resolution. I think the committee should be able to enjoy the confidence not only of this House but of the Finance Department and the military authorities also. A committee composed of Members of this House only would be an impracticable proposition and would fail to enjoy all-round confidence as being composed of laymen. Mr. Chettiar wants a committee of a majority of elected Members. But there is no question of majority or minority here.

[Sir Muhammad Yamin Khan.]

The committee must be such as to be able to command influence over the Finance Department and the military authorities as well. If we cannot get a rupee we must agree to get nine annas at least.

Mr. S. Satyamurti (Madras City : Non-Muhammadan Urban) : Ask for a rupee then.

Sir Muhammad Yamin Khan : We are asking for it but let not the demand be something exorbitant. And if there is only a majority of elected Members, the nominated block may also demand to be taken into this. Then if there is a majority of elected Members, where do experts come in ? I want these experts to come in and give their opinion as a result of their experience. So although I am quite jealous about the rights and privileges of this House, in a matter like this I do not think it will be practicable and advisable to go beyond a limit, and I will advocate a committee of Members of this Legislature, of experts and of people who can advise the Finance Department and the Defence Department. They must go into all these details and advise how money can be saved to be utilised for other purposes. When abnormal conditions arise on account of war or something else, that expenditure cannot be controlled and nobody who has the real interests of India at heart will ever grudge that expenditure, because we have always said that we will not grudge a single penny which is required for the actual defence of India. So I support this Resolution although I do not think that the two amendments proposed by Mr. Chettiar are either practicable or advisable. I, therefore, support the Resolution and not the amendments.

Mr. B. Das (Orissa Division : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I sympathise with the Honourable the Finance Member when he

1 P.M.

found his speech scared away the Honourable Sir Ziauddin Ahmad and the other gentleman, and the little support he might have consoled himself with by the moving of that amendment was lost to him. Better late than never. This is the first time that the Government of India have agreed with the observations on this side of the House that the Garrao tribunal's recommendations were entirely wrong and against India. Whenever we laid that charge, the then Army Secretary fought and told us that the Government of India got whatever they demanded in spite of the minutes of dissent of Justice Shah Suleiman and Justice Shadi Lal. In spite of the modest way in which those two judges demurred, the British Government had its own way. What is the sum and substance of what the Honourable the Finance Member announced ? That the British Government will subsidise another £5,00,000 towards the capitation charges which the British War Office wrests from India. Of course the Army Secretary will rise later on and say that the Government of India are even still fighting and demanding more money from the British Government : but what can he do ? He is a subordinate. The War Office is adamant and they do not want to reduce the capitation charges. So, even what little benefit accrued from the tribunal by the contribution of England from £1½ millions to £2 millions has all been washed away in the heavy capitation charges.

The remedy lies elsewhere and even though the Finance Member himself has spotted it, he dare not speak out, nor the Army Secretary. I wish to establish why a committee of this House and an Indian committee is

necessary, apart from the expert committee which England is exporting to India to inquire into the stabilisation of the Indian army or the British army here. The House may recollect—some Members are present—the joint memorandum of the Indian delegation. They insisted before the Joint Parliamentary Committee that by the various suggestions they made, they would be able to reduce military expenditure very substantially : one of the recommendations was that there should be a statutory committee on Indian defence. Sir, I am glad that you were a signatory to that joint memorandum placed before the Joint Parliamentary Committee. Nothing has been done. No statutory committee of this House has been set up. Not even the Leader of the Opposition of this House can talk with the Government side to show how military expenditure can be reduced. The Finance Member laid much stress on the word Indianisation and said : “ I am not going to talk on the Indianisation of the Army.” He is absent and I wish the Army Secretary would note this, because he is the only other man to reply. What is the military expenditure of the two countries that are now at war—China and Japan—what are their resources ? I was reading a book, only yesterday, and I find that the whole gold and silver reserve of China is only 46 millions sterling or 800 million dollars (Chinese), while Japan’s gold reserve is only 46 millions or 801 million yen in December, 1937. But everybody knows that since then Japan has sent half of that gold reserve to European and American countries to buy war appliances : and yet the Honourable the Finance Member will recognise that today India’s gold reserve is in a much better position than Japan or China—the two fighting countries—and what do they spend on their individual armies ? What are their army officers paid ? Their army officers are paid probably one-third the salaries that the impressed British officers get in India, and, it is, therefore, essential that there should be an inquiry by Members of this House.

The next thing is this. Members of this House must inquire why it is that the recommendation of the Defence Sub-Committee of the First Round Table Conference was not carried out. Mr. Thomas a British Cabinet Minister then was president of that committee and one of the resolutions they unanimously passed was this :

“ The Committee also recognise the great importance attached by Indian thought to the reduction of the number of British troops in India to the lowest possible figure and consider that the question should form the subject of early expert investigation.”

The Finance Member says they have made departmental inquiries and four British battalions have been transferred to England. That is not what is wanted. The demand which the joint memorandum of the Indian delegation made was they wanted completely the transfer of as many British troops as possible to the British exchequer. Not only that. The Finance Member is still a member of the Governor General’s Council. After three years his successor may not be. But the Governor General in Council also demanded the same thing. In their despatch of 1930 and subsequently they insisted almost in the same line where the Joint memorandum of the Indian delegation demanded before the Joint Parliamentary Committee. Both the Thomas Defence Sub-Committee and the Government of India were agreed on one point. The sub-committee considered that with the development of new political structure in India the defence of India must be to an increasing extent the concern of Indian people and not of the British people. But today I wanted to hear from him some ray

[Mr. B. Das.] ¹⁹¹⁵ if

of hope that the Government of India are still fighting against their unanimous conclusion of 1930 and even later, and that the defence of India will be the concern of the Indian people and not of the Army Council or the British War Office. If that point is conceded, if the defence of India becomes the increasing concern of the Indian people, then I need not speak anything more in defence of the Resolution which has been moved with such silent eloquence by my friend, the Mover, and so ably supported by my friends, Messrs. Satyamurti and Ranga. Sir, I do not think that the Government have gone behind their published despatches, but we want to know today either from the Honourable the Finance Member or from the Defence Secretary what they have done. The Defence Secretary need not take shelter and say that he has to obey always the Army Council and the Indian army has no independent status.

Sir, I want to ask one question. Has the Commander-in-Chief or the Indian Army sent any officers to the Chinese front to see how little it costs them to conduct the operations of such a huge war that is now being waged between China and Japan? We do not want a British Government or a British Army nor we desire manufacture of soldiers on the "British model." Even the uniform and dress must be on the British model, and if Japan is threatening the commercial supremacy of Britain today, if Britain is afraid of Japan, why should not Britain and the Government of India try to find out how Japan and China are managing their army expenditure at such low cost, and whether the Indian army also cannot be run and managed at a lesser cost. Sir, this is a point in which India feels strongly. There ought to be hundreds of Indian army officers today in China watching how Chinese warfare is being carried on, but the Government of India being slaves of the British War Office cannot take any independent action in the way I am suggesting. Sir, the Honourable the Finance Member said that there is the menace of war all over and so there cannot be any retrenchment in army expenditure. Sir, Indians do recognise the war menace and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has made it clear in his writings and speeches during his European tour that in case the war is just and righteous, India will participate in it, but India will not participate in any way unless it is righteous and just. My friend, Mr Ogilvie, has his black Army Recruitment Bill, he wants to export ship loads of Indian soldiers as cannon fodder to any place where the British Empire may be engaged in war, and which may not be a righteous war and where India may not have any interest at all. Sir, we are intelligent people, and my friend, Professor Ranga, has already given a certificate to that, and if we have got the necessary control over our army.....

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : The Honourable Member has only one minute more.

Mr. B. Das : if we have got the necessary control over the army, we can find the necessary finance, we can devise ways to equip the Indian army, but Indian army cannot be equipped in the costly way in which it has been designed by the War Office. Therefore, it is essential that a Committee of both Houses should be appointed. Let the Commander-in-Chief and Defence Secretary, who are both members of both the Houses, be members of that Committee including the Finance Member. Experts can sit and give expert advice, so that it may not be necessary to

have any outside members on it. I am glad my friend, Sir Muhammad Yamin Khan, gave his halting support and if both the Commander-in-Chief and the Defence Secretary become members of that Committee, he would surely be satisfied. Sir, I hope the Government will accept this Resolution without a negative answer even from the Finance Member.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock, Mr. Deputy President (Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta) in the Chair.

Mr. C. C. Miller (Bengal : European) : The Resolution now before the House recommends, in the first place, the institution of a committee to make examination into the control of military expenditure by the Finance Department. It is perfectly natural that Honourable Members should, from time to time, desire to know if such control is being effectively exercised, and, especially, that there is no waste of public money. But it appears to us that there are methods of ascertaining this both within the House and through the medium of the Public Accounts Committee. So far as this Group is concerned, we are satisfied that within the limits of the Constitution the control over military expenditure by the Finance Department is as strict and as vigilant as it has ever been. But it is when we come to the second part of the Resolution, that is to say, the functions of the committee, that the opposition of this Group becomes definite, because those functions are to be directed entirely towards the reduction of military expenditure, that is to say, that they must be directed in some way or in some form towards the reduction of troops or of armament. We are by no means insensible of the burden, the financial burden of defence. But in this distracted world of today we cannot be blind to its paramount necessity. I would again remind the House that military expenditure today is less by some nine crores than it was ten years ago. I need not again labour the position of the world in 1938. It is sufficient, I think, to say that when so much of its surface is either an actual or a potential battlefield, for India to consider a reduction in armaments, at this juncture, would be, in our opinion, something in the nature of suicide.

An Honourable Member : To you.

Mr. C. C. Miller : For you too. Now, Sir, I turn to the statement made this morning by the Honourable the Finance Member. Though that statement is only partial, since the negotiations are still uncompleted, I think it is opportune to congratulate India's negotiators on the results they have so far achieved and to express the hope, that this may be something in the nature of an interim dividend. The results are as follows ; subject to the consent of the British Parliament, firstly, in addition to the annual grant a sum that will increase that grant to the extent of something like 70 lakhs per annum ; secondly, a capital grant of up to five million sterling, that is to say, something in the nature of 6 $\frac{2}{3}$ crores of rupees for the re-equipment of certain British and Indian units in India as well as provision of aircraft for the re-equipment of certain squadrons of the Royal Air Force. It appears to us that this capital grant being devoted towards modernisation of the

[Mr. C. C. Mitter.]

method and machinery of defence does not necessarily imply an increased resulting annual expenditure, possibly the reverse, and we should at least have a very much finer defence for the same recurring expenditure. Thirdly, the transfer, ultimately, of four British battalions from the Indian to the imperial establishment, involving a saving to the Indian exchequer of something like 60 to 65 lakhs per annum. Fourthly, the appointment of an expert body of enquiry from Great Britain to investigate on the spot the military and financial aspects of the problem. And I make no excuse for again drawing the attention of Honourable Members to the significance of the following words in the terms of reference.

“ Having regard to the increased cost of modern armaments, the desirability of organising, equipping and maintaining the forces in India in accordance with modern requirements and to the limited resources available in India for defence expenditure..... ”

It is probable, Sir, that all sections of this House have not yet had time fully to realise the significance of this statement and its bearing on the Resolution before the House today. Sir, we oppose the Resolution.

Mr. Abdul Qaiyum (North-West Frontier Province : General) : I have great pleasure in supporting this Resolution. I am not at all surprised at the attitude of the European Group. Their attitude is characteristic of their people, namely, that they want to defend their property and their possessions with our men and our money. That is the reason why they are opposed to any committee which will go into the question of economies in the defence expenditure of this country. I had heard this morning that the Honourable the Finance Member was going to make a very momentous statement. I listened very silently and breathlessly to his statement, which, I believe, was designed to take the wind out of the sails of the Opposition. But after having carefully listened to his statement, I have been confirmed in my belief, that the Government are absolutely out of touch with the opinion prevailing in this country. They still believe in tinkering with the problem which has reached such a pass that a serious change of policy is required. When a major operation is required they suggest little palliatives here and there.

The Honourable the Finance Member, while criticising the urge for Indianisation, remarked that it would take many years to train officers and men to replace British troops. If we grant for the sake of argument the contention of the Honourable the Finance Member, then the question remains, why do you not begin it ? Why do you not start with training men and officers straightaway ? Why do you, on one pretext or another, postpone this ? While paying lip sympathy to the problem of Indianisation, you are doing your very best to thwart the advance of Indianisation as far as possible. There can be no obstacle if you are in right earnest about Indianisation. If you sincerely start with a national policy conceived and followed in the interests of Indian defence purely and not for imperial purposes, you will get any number of suitable officers and men for such an army, but not for an army

which will be used for imperialistic purposes. It was announced that a committee was shortly coming to India to go into the question of expenditure on defence. This also shows that the same policy is at work. We are opposed to the principle of importing foreign experts into this country. Time and again we have, in no uncertain terms, in the clearest possible manner, given expression to our feelings of disgust over this policy of the Government. What we are trying to achieve by means of this Resolution is to have a committee consisting of an elected majority in this House to go into the question of defence expenditure, and to suggest ways and means for reducing this expenditure. What is the reply of the Government? They will have an all-British committee of experts, imported from abroad, who will look at the problem from the Imperial point of view and not from the point of view of Indian nationalism. That is the difference in outlook between the Indian nationalist and the present Government. The Government still believe in tinkering with the problem, while a real change of policy is called for. There is no doubt that the problem is of very great importance. Even in ordinary peace times, in India, we spend much more on the defence part of our services than we do on the other nation-building departments. This is a state of affairs for which I believe it will be difficult to find a parallel in any other country. We spend more on the defence forces, than on all the other departments dealing with the civil side of the administration. What is required is a complete orientation of the entire Indian military policy, and reorganisation of the whole army. We want the Government to come to a decision on this point. We do not want this army to be used for imperialist purposes. It should be decided once for all, that the Indian army will be used purely for the defence of India, and that also when the elected majority in this House approve of such a step on the part of the Government. We will no longer be a party to any use of our troops, as has hitherto been done on many occasions, for imperialist wars abroad, in which we have absolutely no interest. In that very interesting pamphlet dealing with the defence services in India which has been circulated by the Defence Department, this is what has been said there. I will read only a few lines :

“ The definition is qualified by the reservation that the forces maintained are not intended to repel external attack by a major military power, though the duties of these forces may include initial resistance to such an attack pending the arrival of Imperial reinforcements or the exercise elsewhere by Imperial forces of pressure which would relieve the situation.”

What has happened is that there has been no such attack from outside which the Indian army has been called upon to repel. On numerous occasions this army has been taken abroad and made to fight in wars which were purely imperialistic wars waged by Great Britain. It is very unfortunate that the present policy is actuated by mistrust of the Indian people, and that active steps which are being taken to oppose the speedy Indianisation of the army can also be traced to that very mistrust which is still lurking in the minds of those who are responsible for the Government of this country. We have been crying for reduction of the defence expenditure and for elimination of the British part of the defence forces. What has been the reply of the Honourable the Defence Secretary? In answer to a question put by my

[Mr. Abdul Qaiyum.]

friend, Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar, the Defence Secretary was pleased to remark :

“ In the case of British other ranks, concessions were made on three occasions. In 1936, a grant of proficiency pay was sanctioned. In 1937, certain allowances were sanctioned and in April last an increase of pay and also of allowances was granted. The financial effect of the 1936 increase was Rs. 7,33,000 and of the 1937 increases about Rs. 37 lakhs.”

This is not all. On the last occasion when we had a debate on the defence forces in this country the Honourable the Defence Secretary had said :

“ I have been asked to state the total cost of these changes both as regards the improvement in conditions of service of the ranks of the army and the more recent announcement as regards the officers. The figure is for other ranks for this year Rs. 122 lakhs : next year which will be a full year, it will be Rs. 133 lakhs. That can be taken as the full and final figure. The full cost of the improvements made in the prospects of officers of the British service has not yet been so accurately worked out but so far as we can tell at present they will amount in a full year to something like 20 or 21 lakhs of rupees. So, the total cost in a full year will be roughly Rs. 1½ crores.”

While we have been clamouring for the complete Indianisation of the army, and for the elimination of its British part, the reply of this Government is that they have been increasing the pay, not only of the British officers serving in this country but of the British other ranks as well. If a committee of this House is set up, it can go into all these questions, and it can suggest measures whereby substantial economies can be effected in the defence expenditure of this country. For instance, in spite of the fact that there has been an insistent demand that ammunition factories should be established in India, and that imports from abroad should be stopped altogether, we still find that instead of encouraging the key industries of this country—and here I am not afraid of the objection which will be made on the score of expenditure, they are still importing these things from abroad. If you are going to start these key industries in this country, and even if it involves some expenditure, I do not think the Indian public would object to it. What we do object to is this meaningless expenditure which is being resorted to by the Government for increasing the amenities of life of the British troops in India. The state of affairs is really bordering on the scandalous. Recently an Indian mechanised regiment was being sent to Peshawar. These people will occupy the barracks which were formerly occupied by a British regiment which is going to England. Now, the authorities are removing from that place all those things which added to the comfort of the troops and they are spending money in removing all those things which made life tolerable. They want to do all this, because the Indians are going to occupy these barracks. This is how the Indian army is being treated. If the present policy is changed, if the Government becomes a responsible one, and this army is used purely for the defence of India, then there will not arise any necessity for spending large amounts of money on the army. I believe that when this policy comes to stay in this country, there will be found a large number of patriotic young men who will be willing to serve in the army on a voluntary basis. We can raise a Citizens Defence League which will consist of educated young men who will be prepared to fight for their country, provided that they are sure that

the army of this country will not be used for furthering the imperialist purpose of Great Britain in Asia or in any other part of the world. What we feel now is that the army is an army of occupation, which is being maintained purely for imperialist purposes and in support of my contention I shall quote a few words from the Esher Committee : They say :

“ We cannot consider the administration of the army in India otherwise than as part of the total armed forces of the Empire. Novel political machinery created by the Peace Treaty has enhanced the importance of the army of India relatively to the military forces in other parts of the Empire, and more particularly to those of the British Isles.”

Now, this is a responsible Committee of British experts which has admitted in so many words that the army in India is being maintained not for the purposes of the defence of this country, but for purposes which are absolutely of no use to India, namely, further bolstering up British imperialism. There are many other things which the proposed Committee can tackle,—for instance, the forward policy which is so dear to the Treasury Benches and which they have been relentlessly pursuing for so many years in Waziristan. It appears now that, short of exterminating these brave people who are defending their country, there is no other solution of this problem ; and I am sure the British element in the Government is bent upon the extermination of all the tribes in Waziristan if only they can wipe them out and secure their country. Now, if a Committee with an elected majority is set up, they can certainly revise such a policy, which is not designed in the interest of India. The Honourable the Finance Member stated in his speech very eloquently, and as if he was very sure of it, that a large majority of the people of India would be behind Great Britain in any war in which Britain engages herself. Now, that was a very strange proposition advanced by the Honourable the Finance Member. I would suggest to my Honourable friend to keep all his big battalions in this country, and if he is so sure of the statement which he has made, to offer himself for election by an Indian electorate and then he will find out what the Indian people think of their policy as far as the defence of this country is concerned. I would like him to keep his troops, here, and see if he can get a single vote in this country. Sir, the Government is absolutely out of touch with the feelings and desires of our people, and they still believe in tinkering with this problem. One fine morning they will wake up and find that there is a first-class revolution in this country, and people will then set their own house in order which the Government is now unable to do.

Maulvi Sikandar Ali Choudhury (Bakarganj *cum* Faridpur : Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, it will be no compliment either to the Government or to this House if for any reason the modest and reasonable request made in this Resolution is denied to us. The question raised by this Resolution is a simple one. Have we no right even to give advice to the Defence Department as regards the nature of financial control which is necessary and the extent to which it is possible to reduce expenditure ? I do not think that the Government can say anything against the objective which the Resolution has in view ; for it is unexceptionable. My Honourable friend, Sir James Grigg, cannot reasonably complain if the House wants to vest in his Depart-

[Maulvi Sikandar Ali Chaudhury.]

ment greater powers of control over military expenditure, nor can he say that there is no need for constantly exploring all possible avenues for economy.

Sir, the objection which has been generally raised in the past is twofold. Firstly, that this is not the time for the appointment of a Committee. And, secondly, that a Committee of this character is not necessary under present circumstances. Every time we ask for a Committee, we are told that the Budget in 1925-30 stood at Rs. 55.1 crores and that the Budget in 1938-39 stands at Rs. 45.18 crores. Whatever may have been the savings made in the past, that, Sir, is no answer to the charge made by us on this side of the House that the Army costs us, not only far beyond the resources of this country, but is capable of drastic retrenchments. I cannot agree with the view that because the international situation is bad, we should sit with folded hands and deny ourselves the right to examine the position with a view to satisfying ourselves that the money we are spending is spent properly. I think the very seriousness of the international situation is the strongest argument for a Committee of the kind proposed. It may be that the Defence Department and the financial authorities are satisfied with their own efforts for securing economies, but the public cannot be satisfied unless a Committee in which it has confidence is able to go into the matter in detail and give its considered opinions and recommendations.

Sir, the fact that the British War Office has, by a stroke of the pen, forced this country to pay for the mechanization of British units and the increased charges of British troops shows that the Finance Department has really no control over military expenditure. This is an intolerable state of affairs which cannot be permitted to continue. Sir, the proposed Committee is not intended to find fault or to censure anyone. It is intended to help the Department itself by showing in what ways expenditure could be entrolled and economies effected. Sir, experience has shown how Committees can help us. Was it not the Retrenchment Committee in 1931 under the distinguished presidency of the Honourable the President of this House which was responsible for a reduction of about six crores of rupees? Was it not the Inchcape Committee which showed the way for radical cuts in expenditure amounting to more than ten crores? And, on both the occasions, the attitude of the Army Department before the Committees was not all that one would have desired, and, if left to themselves, these drastic reductions would never have been done. Whenever a Committee has been appointed, it has always proved to be of benefit and resulted in substantial economies. It would be, therefore, false to our experience to say that a Committee is not necessary. At this time, when the financial outlook is gloomy and the Army itself needs more and more money, the Government should welcome the co-operation of this House in seeking ways and means for releasing more funds. Sir, the Army Department are great purchasers and great senders. Its business activities are enormous. Apart from the question of Indianisation, the elimination of British troops and questions of the kind which have been repeatedly urged as the only wise way to eco-

mony, I think, Sir, the association of non-official business men will secure not only greater business efficiency for the Army, but will result in considerable savings. From this point of view, the use of a Committee will be very valuable. Speaking in this House some months back, the Defence Secretary said : " We are fully aware that the country cannot afford to endure much more of a burden than it does already ". He also agreed that the expenditure on defence in this country is huge, and he added : " I cordially agree with this and every effort is being made by the Government to keep it down ". If so, what objection can there be to the appointment of a Committee which will help the Government in these efforts ? The Public Accounts Committee, however valuable its work, can be no substitute for this Committee which is intended to make definite suggestions for the future and show new ways for dealing with the problem of defence expenditure. The Committee will cost probably a few thousands, but it may save crores for us as the Retrenchment Committee did in 1931. There is a far greater need today for economy and retrenchment than in 1931. I hope, therefore, that the Government will not hesitate to accept this motion and utilise the offer of this House to assist in securing proper control and economy in Defence expenditure. With these words, I support the Resolution.

Mr. Bhulabhai J. Desai (Bombay Northern Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Mr. Deputy President, the Resolution before the House as amended demands three things.

3 P.M.

We first ask that " a Committee with a majority of elected members " should be appointed immediately, first for the purpose of " examining the arrangements in force for the financial control of military expenditure by the Finance Department ", and, secondly, " to suggest ways and means of reducing the present cost of Defence ". Sir, within the limits of this Resolution, it was quite possible that, without eating the humble pie, but always pretending to be brave, my Honourable friend, Sir James Grigg, might easily have accepted the first part of this Resolution. Sir, I am aware that, in my part of the country, it is sometimes said that women are bullied by their husbands, but in their own homes, when the women begin to slap the men, the men, to save their faces, shout out : " have it "—and I believe it is that kind of success which my Honourable friend can claim in his contest with the Army Department in the matter of expenditure. I am afraid, therefore, that I cannot accept either his view or the success for his compatriots in the army, nor of the safeguards which I do not know where they were, referred to in the maiden speech of my Honourable friend, Mr. Miller, when speaking in this House. But it is not so much this part of the Resolution as the second one to which we attach a greater importance. While we say, in the phrase which is very common, that this military Moloch is eating out all that we are producing, we are coolly told that in the Standing Finance Committee and otherwise my friends of the Europeans Group believe that there are enough safeguards, and that, in the teeth of the note of the Public Accounts Committee, which was read out by way of practical admission, that the expenditure is wasteful, is unchecked and requires to be closely looked into. It requires a lot of self-satisfaction and a lot of salving up of one's conscience in the face of that

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statement of the Public Accounts Committee for an outsider to be able to say : " Oh, no, all is well in our God's world, and it does not matter what happens to the rest." But it is really to the second part of the Resolution to which we attach the greatest importance. The other day, a very experienced journalist told me that it is not so much the substance of what a man says as to who says it, when he says it and how he says it. The Honourable Sir James Grigg might, I believe, have refrained from saying several things which he said in his speech. He hoped to coat with a certain amount of impervious sugar what he thought was the bitter part of his speech, and, so far as I am concerned, I regret to find that it is not so much a speech of conciliation as a speech of challenge. I regret that he should have selected an occasion like this in the world crisis for delivering a speech of this kind. I entirely agree with him, and he knows it very well that I agree with him in the imminence of the menace to the world's peace, at all events in Europe, but, while agreeing with him, he need not have attempted to get our goodwill by bullying, hectoring and coercing. That is the last method of getting goodwill from mankind, however weak you may suppose us to be. It has, therefore, become my duty, a duty which I owe to myself and to those outside this House, to state categorically our views on each of the points which he has raised. Taking first the actual issue, he said this :

" We are discussing Army expenditure and I say quite bluntly, (*I expect nothing else from him*) with war clouds lowering on every hand (*I do not understand the metaphor, but that does not matter*) I do not think it practicable in present circumstances to make any appreciable reduction in Army expenditure."

If that pronouncement means that for that reason a Committee is unnecessary or useless, I may inform, at all events, the elected Members of the House that we do not accept his word as the last word on this question. Then, he claims for himself not only infallibility in the matter of finance, nor merely infallibility in the matter of pronouncing upon it, but what he calls the constitutional infallibility. He says we are a minority Government, and, therefore, we ought to be more impudent and more blunt, because he says that by saying we must have the last word, being a minority Government. He has often openly said this " and that is our ambition within a measurable distance of time ". He further says :

" We do not command a majority in the Legislature, and yet we are responsible and irremovably responsible for Defence."

But, in England, the executive is in a position to enforce its will, so long as it is a majority in the Legislature. And, then, Sir, he proceeded to expound on a subject which is somewhat dangerous for him to expound. What would be the expanded rights, if any, under the Constitution of which he is so very fond and which he wants us to accept ? He told us that even then we might vote upon it and discuss it *a priori* on the general Budget debates and *ex post facto* as a result of the report of the Public Accounts Committee. And he still thinks that he is asking from us, under circumstances of this kind, our goodwill. He comes next to what he calls the warning part of it. He says this :

" and that in its turn depends on a removal of suspicion and growth of goodwill not only between the Indian communities themselves but between Indians and the British."

I speak with a grave sense of responsibility on that issue which he has raised. There are two matters and two points on which our mind and our policy is quite clear. Everybody in the world is undoubtedly discussing the world situation and coming to his own conclusions. We know that for the present the Government of India is in their hands, but that does not prevent us from considering our position in what he calls the world menace. Casually, we declared the other day, also at the point of bayonet, almost compulsorily drawn out from us, that in so far as the next world-war is concerned, India does not propose to take any voluntary participation. That statement stands, and we do so for good reasons. England's enemies are not our friends, and we do not believe them, but we must regard our own position having regard to the time that has elapsed. During the last war—I wish to remind my Honourable friends opposite and they could not have forgotten it—we participated cheerfully, almost generously, in man and money on a promise that that was the war for the liberation of the subject races of the world. This time in this pronouncement—I do not know how or why it was prompted—there is nothing that Indians can look for except what my friend in the end said—and I would quote his words—that they would be defending themselves in the most effective manner possible. We have no voice by the very Constitution that he talks of by which he claims all the rights and we all the obligations. It is not the kind of position that we can any longer occupy where you have all the rights and we have all the obligations, you have all the domination and we have all the subjection. That position demands that India must unequivocally declare that no voluntary participation will be given in any war in which Britain may be engaged for its own purposes. And we demand no more than the liberty which has been granted as the result of the Statute of Westminster to all the other parts—the more friendly parts—of what he calls the British Commonwealth. They can declare that they are not bound by the declaration of war. Further, they have at least a voice in the matter which we have not got. And if we are to be thrown into a war by means of a scare and nothing less than a scare, then it is a matter on which my friend will have to contemplate much more deeply before he raises this issue even at a more critical time in the future.

The fact remains that we cannot any longer be drawn merely by the chariot wheel. Roman or British, even for the preservation of what they call their Empire. The preservation of that Empire means first and foremost and essentially the continuance of the subjection of India in order that they may call themselves the Empire. If the preservation of the Empire or the fighting in the war means that India, as their property, is to be protected from outsiders, then we certainly will be no parties to such a war at all. I will not refer to the more ominous words that I read this morning coming from another quarter of the world, but let it be remembered that if it is only a question of choice whether one would subject India or another, then, at all events, it is not a war in which we could have any direct, honest or straight-forward interest. We cannot be scared into profession of loyalty which we can only give when we realise that we are equals in the Empire, and not as my Honourable friend calls it in his language that the bounds of responsibility will be gradually widened so far as India is concerned. Unless those bounds reach the uttermost limits, unless those bounds mean that there

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are no bounds to our right to govern ourselves, India will not be a friend of England.

There is another greater reason. So far as we are concerned, we believe that what you aim at, though you dare not hope for that with your methods, is goodwill, and without that goodwill amongst the races of the world there will not be world peace. Therefore, we do not want to fight anybody, but we do want to maintain the integrity of our home, and, so long as we are left with that as our own self-governing asset, England can count on the goodwill of India, and not till then. It is no use telling us that the next war will be a war in which the Empire will be engaged. We know it will be a war in which the whole Empire will be engaged. But what is the part or lot that we should have in their success or failure. You have to realise it once and for all that we will not be thrust into it again. I have found often and often many men, hypocritical, not straightforward and honest like those at all events of the nominated Members of this House not having to be coerced to walk into the Government lobby, if they are ordered to do a thing, they will do it and they will at the same time tell you that scare can work once, scare cannot work a second time. Scare may produce a national Government in England, but scare will not produce voluntary assistance from this country. Last time, you had a million men, you had £150 millions assistance, and also you had assistance directly or indirectly of incalculable value. It is not our desire, as my Honourable friend hinted, and I am sorry he said that we though unwittingly and unconsciously appeared to tell England's enemies that we do not propose to take part in the war with any ulterior purpose, but it is up to you to examine your own hearts instead of telling us to dispel suspicion. What can dispel suspicion? You govern India as you said by dividing India. That is what my Honourable friend calls stressing the communal tension. Well, if you govern India too long, you will pay the price which is deemed necessary. Remember that until you begin to realise that the stress which you do not like is the stress of peace, not between the Indian communities themselves, but between Indians and the British. We have every goodwill, we are by constitution, by tradition and by race all honourable men, however badly we might have been treated, but you cannot extort loyalty, you cannot compel friendship and you cannot coerce us into joining something in which we have neither a voice, nor a share, nor any benefit. It is for that reason that the fact that there is war cannot be a ground for merely avoiding the issue of having enquiries. I dare say that you tell us that some 65 odd lakhs are added to the amount of the award by the Garraan Tribunal. I think it is a mercy for which you expect us to be very proud. You are well aware of our opinion on that Tribunal. If you are not, you should have known that long ago. We always have held that not 65 lakhs, but much more was due on that account. I am aware of how the proceedings of that Committee were manœuvred. I know that some of my friends on that Tribunal, under instructions from the Secretary of State, stated with one voice and the British Government speaking with the other voice—we had this farce of a Tribunal and the Tribunal was constituted no doubt of honest men. But the pleading before that Tribunal I cannot possibly call honest. I know how the whole thing was arranged. You know how instructions were given

and how it ended in the award which we cannot possibly accept. I submit, Sir, the point that out of 200 odd millions of British preparations for the next war, a paltry sum of five million pounds are going to be used for the equipment of the Indian army is too much of a joke to be accepted as a great boon or a great gift. My Honourable friend thinks that we should get up and sing hallelujahs, which perhaps 20 years ago he might have got from a subservient House. But times have altered India, times have changed the world, but I am deeply sorry that my Honourable friend has raised issues of our being compelled to work under the new Constitution with goodwill. After all, do you expect goodwill so long as none exists in you and if you tell us that the army expenditure will not be lowered, and, therefore, it is useless even to discuss this Resolution, I say, with that attitude on your part, do you expect good will from us? If that is the attitude of the Government, then can this House vote for the Committee, an official Committee which has been announced by the Finance Member? The purpose of that official Committee, as Lord Esher's Committee also pointed out, is this: that the Indian army and the Indian defence is a part of keeping that part of the world as their property, not then, but even today. That is not the kind of Committee which will serve any useful purpose. That is not the kind of Committee that is going to examine the question from our point of view. Therefore, I say that what we are asking for is exceedingly modest. What we ask for is that my Honourable friend, the Finance Member, should have a closer and a little better control over his louder neighbour with whom he is sitting now, notwithstanding the fact that there is great amity of expression in his face which compelled him to abandon his own seat and seek a seat next to him. I recognise the identity, I recognise the necessity of the identity.

As regards the second part of the Resolution, we do say that we desire a Committee to go into this matter which would consist of an elected majority of Members of this House and which will, on proper materials placed before it, make an enquiry and arrive at what we can afford to pay, not what Britain wants us to pay, in order that they may conquer and keep us conquered and keep us dominating. Efficiency in their sense is different to efficiency in our sense, efficiency in our sense means maintaining the goodwill of the world more in self-defence, efficiency in their sense means aggressively having the world to cater to what they want.

Therefore, Sir, we feel that our duty is clear in the teeth of the declaration that he has made, namely, that there is going to be no reduction in the army expenditure, and the compelling manner in which he has asked us to work sheepishly what he calls enlarging the bounds of liberty—I read that in the context in which my Honourable friend, Sir James Grigg, used it, if we are going to wait for his pleasure to enlarge the bounds of our responsibility, he is very deeply mistaken. He has spent five years of his life in India for nothing, if that is the impression that he is going to carry to England as to our attitude as regards self-government in this country. I, therefore, hope and trust that my Honourable friends will realise that goodwill cannot be enforced, goodwill cannot be compelled, suspicion cannot be repelled except by goodwill and friendship and establishing equality between you and us.

Mr. M. S. Aney (Berar : Non-Muhammadan) : Sir, I thought that a Resolution like the one brought before the House at a time like this would be considered by the Treasury Benches with that great and profound consideration which it undoubtedly deserves. But I was surprised to find that instead of saying anything on the Resolution, we were treated to a lecture by the Honourable the Finance Member on topics which, if connected at all, are only remotely connected with the subject matter of the Resolution. There is a phrase in our vernacular—I do not know whether the similar phrase exists in other vernaculars—which says that if a man is destined to be ruined, he is first robbed of his intellect and circumspection. That thought occurred to me first and foremost when I listened to the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member. He has had a very rare opportunity to secure the co-operation and goodwill of all the elected non-official Members of the House in matters of military importance and matters concerning defence. If there was any need for securing by any means the co-operation of the non-official Members of this House, the elected Members of this House, I think that need is uppermost and supreme at this hour. If the reference he made to the international situation, the serious and critical situation in which we all find ourselves has really any meaning, and if there was anything really behind it, his attitude should have been one of seeing how best to secure our co-operation and active participation in the consideration of matters which pertain to defence. To do that would have been more proper to him than to ignore the particular question which was placed before him in the form of this Resolution. What does this Resolution demand after all ? It wants the Government to see whether the present arrangements for the financial control of military expenditure are proper or not. That is one point. The second is what are the various means by which economy could be further effected. On which of these two points were Government not agreeable ? So far as the first point is concerned, namely, the adequacy of the existing arrangements to have effective financial control over military expenditure, their own reports and the endorsements which have been made by the Auditor General are sufficient. The endorsements on the Public Accounts Committee's report and the various observations made clearly indicate that the existing arrangements are completely inadequate, I may even venture to say useless, for the purpose of having any effective control over the expenditure of the military department. And, if that control is not sufficient, it is up to Government to find out what other machinery can be brought into existence ; and if that machinery is to work efficiently it must be ushered in with the consent of the elected Members of this House. Otherwise no machinery that may be set up, irrespective of public opinion expressed on this side of the House, can be of any use to Government at all in effecting the real object which we have in view. I, therefore, think that Government should have taken advantage of the suggestion conveyed in this Resolution that a committee should be appointed with the terms of reference to the effect that it should try to set up some arrangements for the sake of bringing in effective control over the military expenditure. That suggestion Government should have accepted. As regards the second point also. I think I need not go into those matters which have been dealt with on the floor of this House times without number. I do not want to take the time of the House by

narrating what I think to be the various ways that are possible because, we really want a committee to go into the matter and give its most careful consideration to find out ways for effecting economy in the defence expenditure of the country. The reply given today to this simple demand was a big and solemn statement read out to us most solemnly ; and what does it contain ? It does not hold out any hope of retrenchment of expenditure. It is said that some expert committee is going to come here and one Lord Chatfield, Admiral of the Fleet, is going to preside over it, and there are broad terms of reference. These things will not satisfy the people at all. What they want is that there should be a committee which understands the needs of the people and the real requirements of defence of the country as such and which will refuse to look at the defence of this country from the Imperial point of view. Unless the question is looked at from this point of view it would not be possible for any committee, however eminent be the person who presides over it, to give an adequate and proper consideration to the whole thing. Your Imperial considerations go to vitiate the very methods by which you want to ascertain and find out what are the proper ways to bring about economy. Unless the idea of Empire and Imperial defence is taken out and detached and the question is approached from the national point of view of the Indian people, it is not possible to come to any adequate solution that can satisfy the people.

Mr. K. Ahmed (Rajshahi Division : Muhammadan Rural) : You can take it to Wardha.

Mr. M. S. Aney : That will be their salvation. But I am afraid the idea of salvation is far off from the minds of these people.

Now, Sir, a complaint has been made here about the Government being in minority. I may tell this Government that it will be a perpetual minority Government and can never attain majority. Its progress hereafter will not be towards attaining majority but towards extinction and nonentity ; and so long as there is no hope of its attaining majority I feel that there is no hope of its getting proper understanding also. What is minority after all ? It is want of understanding and want of common sense. Therefore, I say that for that very reason this matter should be allowed to be discussed and decided by those who can attain majority and who are in a majority and who can therefore decide with common sense and in the best interests of the country. Sir, I support the Resolution.

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan (Leader of the House) : Sir, I have felt it necessary to intervene in this debate for a few moments because I felt when the Honourable Leader of the Opposition was speaking that the debate was being carried into spheres, particularly with regard to matters of policy, which were not intended to be covered by the terms of the Resolution. Before, however, I offer any observations on that part of the matter, may I submit one or two observations with regard to this morning's announcement re the financial adjustment between His Majesty's Government and the Government of India ? I am afraid there has been a tendency to either overlook or misunderstand certain features of the statement. To begin with it is, if I may so

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describe it, an *ad interim* arrangement. It has been said, here is a committee which is coming out to India and which will look at the question of the defence of India from the point of view of the defence of the Empire ; and, therefore, for some reason or other it is said that the committee should be suspect. What the Honourable the Finance Member was at pains to draw attention to this morning were the terms of reference of this committee. They say that having regard to the need of a first-class fighting force in India, does not matter what purpose you want it for so far as these terms of reference are concerned, having regard to the need of a first-class fighting force and....

Mr. S. Satyamurti : To fight for India's freedom, yes.

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan : If the sword is sharp when the time comes to use it you can use it effectively, if it is blunt then when the occasion comes for the use of it it is likely to break in your hands....

Mr. S. Satyamurti : That depends on the hands.

The Honourable Sir Zafrullah Khan : That is a constitutional matter. But having regard to the limited resources of India for this purpose, the committee's business will be to look at the need and the limited resources and to make recommendations. I think Honourable Members should have been quick to draw their own inferences from that. Secondly, I think to some extent the actual terms of the interim arrangement have also not been fully appreciated. It has been said, it is only a contribution of £5,00,000 a year towards the recurring defence expenditure of this country. I do not for one second mean to imply that if it had been a final announcement it would have satisfied India's claims, but as an interim announcement, I think Honourable Members should keep in mind all its features.

In addition to the £5,00,000, there is the transfer of the cost of four British battalions to British estimates. That, on a modest computation is another 76 lakhs a year : the total of these two comes to a crore and 43 lakhs a year, or close upon a crore and a half. Added to the Garrañ Award it comes to 345 lakhs. I am not implying that this in itself is a substantial contribution towards the defence expenditure of India. But when we are criticising a proposal we ought to keep in mind all aspects of the proposal. of.

Again, with regard to the £5 millions non-recurring, that does not stand alone. There is the additional announcement with regard to the supply of air craft for the Royal Air Force. Government are not aware of the exact amount to which it may work out in the end, but I am perfectly safe in submitting to the House that the total of these two—the £5 millions and the air craft—will not in any case fall below Rs. 10 crores. As I have said I do not want to be understood to imply that that in any way either satisfies India's claims or is a substantial contribution ; but again, as I have said, while we are considering it we must know what it is. That is to begin with, and let us hope that the committee's recommendations will go considerably further.

It is also said " You made this announcement, but coupled with that announcement is the statement made by the Honourable the Finance Member that no appreciable savings on the military budget need be looked for in the immediate future ". Therefore, it is said, what hope does that announcement give us ? The hope that it gives us is this : that, whereas in almost every country in the world the cost of armaments and defence is mounting up rapidly, the hope is held out to India that India may have an efficient, well-equipped, first-class fighting force without having to incur any extra expenditure ; and when, I venture to submit, that is compared with the increase in the cost of defence of other countries, I think a calculation could easily be made as to what India would be saving on that score.

Then, it is said, where is the harm in having a committee of the kind that is proposed ? There are many proposals which may not indicate any positive visible harm while they are under discussion ; but the question is whether (1) any real necessity has been established, and (2) whether the time is appropriate to take action in the direction indicated. On that I shall not detain the House. These two aspects of the question have been dealt with and will no doubt be further dealt with by other Government spokesmen.

I now come to the main purpose of my intervention in this debate, and that is with regard to the observations which fell from the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition ; and really with regard to that aspect of the matter I am at a loss to understand the attitude of the Opposition. I notice this is a Resolution in which we are asked to set up a committee for going into defence expenditure, but occasion has been taken to say what India will or will not do in the case of a major conflict....

Mr. Bhulabhai J. Desai : On a point of personal explanation, Sir, that was the direct issue raised by the Honourable Sir James Grigg, and they cannot now avoid it.

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan : That was not the issue raised on this Resolution. In those remarks only a reference was made to what had already been said with regard to a particular matter. But, as I have said, apart from the question whether it should or should not have been raised on this Resolution, I am really at a loss to understand the attitude of the Opposition on this point. Here is this Resolution asking for this committee and one of the grounds put forward is what India should or should not do in the case of a major conflict. There is the next Resolution coming up shortly, for which again the Opposition are responsible, which recommends to Government that India should withdraw from the membership of the League of Nations because the members of the League have not taken action under Article 16 of the Covenant of the League against the covenant-breaking states,

[At this stage, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) resumed the Chair.]

from which one can conclude that if there were aggression of the kind—whether by member states or non-member states—which is hinted at in that Resolution, then anybody who fails to take action in the manner set out in article 16 or in such other manner as may be open to prevent aggression, deserves condemnation. So that the Resolution under discussion, though asking for a committee, is really according to the

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Leader of the Opposition a test of whether India *should or should not* take part in the next war. The next Resolution in effect condemns a state which would not take part either in sanctions, or in war if it becomes necessary against aggressor states. I do want to say this quite clearly, that there is a good deal of confusion with regard to the question of the defence of India and the defence of the Empire. At one stage the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition said "it is a matter of indifference to us if there is a struggle between two powers to take possession of India." Let us assume, some power is trying to replace the British in India, it is said "it does not matter whether the British continue or somebody else comes in." In the very next moment he says : "But in the event of an invasion we will fight for the integrity of our homes", which means that we will try to defend our homes against anybody who wishes to deprive us of our liberty.....

Mr. Bhulabhai J. Desai : After we get it back !

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan : I imagine the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition makes no distinction between degrees of liberty. I do want to make it perfectly clear that whatever the political motive behind declarations of this kind may be, I am certain that my countrymen will defend the liberty of India just as cheerfully, as enthusiastically, and as valorously as they did on the last occasion if there is on any future occasion a threat to the liberty of India and to the integrity of the Empire. (Interruptions.) Sir, this a delicate matter. I do not want to say anything which might reflect upon any foreign country with which His Majesty's Government are at peace. But we know the direction in which events are tending. We all hope that they will not result in any general conflagration. But we must remember what was said only yesterday or the day before by a prominent British statesman, that if anything of that kind happens it may be impossible to confine the conflagration within any prescribed limits ; and if that should, unfortunately, happen, I am quite sure that there is no Indian who has studied the situation who would not consider that it would be the positive duty of India to do all that..... (Cries of 'No, no')—I am most surprised. Honourable Members do not yet know what I am going to say and they say 'No'.....

An Honourable Member : We know perfectly well what you are going to say.

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan : The Honourable Member knows perfectly well, that every Indian who has studied these matters and knows the consequences will be ready to defend what I have described as the liberties of India and the integrity of the Empire, because any weakening—let alone the dissolution—of the Empire as the result of the activities of those persons who do want to break up the Empire, does mean the total loss of liberty to India at this stage. Therefore, Sir, apart from the terms of the Resolution before the House, I would appeal to the House that if behind their minds there is this consideration with regard to the Resolution, that whatever its terms, India ought by carrying this Resolution to declare that she will not participate in any war, however much it might menace the country and through India the Empire.....

Mr. S. Satyamurti : If it menaces me, I will fight.

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan : True, but that is what I cannot understand. By some process of reasoning Honourable Members seem to think that the menace to themselves, the menace to their homes, the menace to India can be separated from the menace to the Empire....

An Honourable Member : Certainly.

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan : Whatever may be the case 20 or 30 years hence, I am certain that with regard to the menace that faces us today these questions are bound up together, and cannot be separated.

An Honourable Member : You are mistaken.

The Honourable Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan : I, therefore, hope that Honourable Members, when they make up their minds whether they should vote in favour of this Resolution or not, should first disabuse their minds of all ideas of this sort and refuse to support the Resolution if the carrying of the Resolution means that India has adopted the policy which the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition has indicated.

Some Honourable Members : Sir, the question may now be put.

Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang (East Punjab : Muhammadan) : Sir, the Resolution which has been moved, considered with or without the amendments, is, to my mind, a very simple one and there ought not to have been so much divergence of opinion over it. The Resolution voices the desire of the elected representatives of the people in this House that a Committee should be appointed to examine the army expenditure and all the aspects of Indian defence connected with army expenditure and to suggest ways and means of economising that expenditure. That is the long and short of the Resolution, whether you read it with the amendments or without the amendments. But, Sir, incidentally some matters have been introduced into the discussion which, as far as I am able to see, are not directly relevant to the questions at issue ; that is to say, what attitude the Indian people should adopt in case a world war breaks out, and whether India should co-operate with Britain in defending India and the British Empire, or whether, as was indicated by so many cries of ' No ', India should hold aloof and tell Britain to go and fight her own battles. These questions are, to my mind, really irrelevant to the real object of the Resolution before the House. When I read the Resolution, I took it to mean that it would be like one of the many matters which come up for consideration in this House at the time of the Budget when estimates of income and expenditure are put in and the various items are discussed and every year we have to urge that economy should be effected here and there and there. I also took it to mean that in the matter of army expenditure, things are for the most part decided behind the back of the elected representatives of the people, that really they have no voice in determining what the limits of expenditure ought to be and whether any cuts should be effected. So I took it to mean that if a Committee were appointed to go into the whole question, a Committee so composed as to have preferably a majority of elected element in it, the elected representatives will get an opportunity of going through the whole matter and expressing their views

[Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang.]

Now, Sir, it has been announced by His Majesty's Government in England as appeared from the speech of the Honourable the Finance Member this morning, that a Committee has actually been appointed to go into this question. To a certain extent it might have been thought that since a Committee was going to sit to sift those very matters which are sought to be examined by the Resolution before the House, Honourable Members of the House need not press this Resolution. But, Sir, I have examined the statement and the terms of reference and constitution of the Committee which has been appointed by His Majesty's Government, and it appears to me that in spite of the appointment of that Committee, we still do need a Committee of the kind which is proposed in this Resolution which is before the House now, because, Sir, judging from the constitution and terms of reference of that Committee, it will hardly satisfy our requirements. For what does the statement say ? It says this :

"His Majesty's Government have accepted the suggestion and appointed an expert Committee with the following terms of reference.

Having regard to the increased cost of modern armaments, to the desirability of organizing, equipping and maintaining the forces in India in accordance with modern requirements and to the limited resources available in India for defence expenditure, to examine and report in the light of the experience gained in executing the British re-armament programme how these resources can be used and to make recommendations."

Evidently, these terms of reference do not overlap the terms of reference which the Resolution under discussion seeks to suggest. This Resolution says that :

"This Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council that early steps should be taken to constitute a Committee of elected and other Members of the Central Legislature to examine the arrangements in force for financial control of military expenditure by the Finance Department and to suggest ways and means of reducing the present cost of defence."

So when you compare these terms with the terms of reference of the Committee appointed by His Majesty's Government, you find that there is a good deal of difference, so that the need for the Committee which we seek to appoint by this Resolution still remains. Again, Sir, the constitution of that Committee is such that it will be presided over by the Admiral of the Fleet, Lord Chatfield, and the statement shows that the entire Committee will be composed of officials, experts or non-experts....

An Honourable Member : And all white men.

Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang : White or black I do not care. Still the need for the inclusion of Members of the Central Legislature, especially elected Members, whether they are in a majority or not, remains. Therefore, I submit, without going into the question which is irrelevant from my point of view whether in case of war India is going to co-operate with Great Britain or not,—leaving that alone, as a matter of national finance, as a matter of army expenditure affecting our pockets and affecting the taxpayer in India, we must press for the appointment of a committee of this kind, and from that point of view, I support the Resolution subject to the amendments moved.

Some Honourable Members : Let the question be now put.

Sardar Bahadur Captain Dalpat Singh (Nominated Non-Official) : Sir, I rise to oppose the Resolution which is now before the House. At the outset I must congratulate the Honourable the Finance Member on his speech. As a retired officer of the regular army I can say, from my own experience, that at this time when war clouds are hanging all over the world and there is a great danger of war breaking out at any moment, a reduction of expenditure on the army is not advisable. It has been said that a committee should be appointed of the elected Members of this House. May I ask Honourable Members opposite whether they are expert in the military affairs ? What do they know about the military ? (Interruptions by some Honourable Members).

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : Honourable Members ought not to interrupt when the Honourable Member is speaking.

Sardar Bahadur Captain Dalpat Singh : No doubt, my Honourable friend, Mr. Satyamurti, is a very well educated man, and a very good lawyer. But if he is asked to perform a medical operation what will happen ? The man will die. The same thing there too. What do they know about the military ? (Interruptions.)

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : The Honourable Member must have a chance of having his say without any interruption.

Sardar Bahadur Captain Dalpat Singh : The military expenditure has already been reduced from 55 crores to 46 crores, and at this time there should be no question of any further reduction of this expenditure. His Majesty's Government have already appointed a committee and that committee will do very useful work with the help of the Defence Department. For the improvement of the Indian army His Majesty's Government has given five millions and some 50 lakhs more. With these few words, I oppose the Resolution.

Some Honourable Members : Let the question be now put.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : The Honourable the Defence Secretary has not spoken yet. If he wishes to speak, I will allow him to do so.

Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie (Defence Secretary) : I propose, Sir, to make, if I can, my speech entirely relevant, to avoid all temptations and to adhere precisely and closely to the terms of the Resolution before the House. The first part of the Resolution deals with the financial control which is exercised by the Finance Department over defence expenditure. I heard no criticism of any kind of a detailed nature. The only remarks made on the subject were airy generalisations to the general effect that no control in fact existed. Not a solitary recommendation was made as to how control at present enforced could be bettered in any way ; in point of fact, I doubt whether it could. For the information of the House, many of whom seem to think that the defence services have only to demand money at the point of the bayonet to get it, I will very briefly explain the degree of control to which we are subjected.

The budget is framed by the Government of India and an annual allotment is made to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief wherewith

[Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie.]

to discharge his responsibilities for defence. As the Government of India make the allotment, it can safely be assumed that the Honourable the Finance Member and the Finance Secretary have an effective say in the fixation of the allotment. The allotment having been fixed, the Finance Department is kept in touch throughout the year with the progress of expenditure. In the first place, preliminary revised estimate after seven months, revised estimate after eight months, and modifications to the revised estimate are considered by him in detail. In addition to these reports, special reports are submitted to the Finance Department, whenever any particular occurrence happens which is likely to disturb the estimates in any way. Finally, at the close of the year the accounts are, as I think Honourable Members know, subjected to a most searching scrutiny. The financial control, however, which is directly exercised upon defence expenditure is not by the Finance Member and the Finance Secretary themselves, but by, in the main, the Financial Adviser, Military Finance, who is a subordinate of the Finance Member and is a Joint Secretary in the Finance Department. The Government of India have always regarded it absolutely essential that the very closest watch should be kept over defence expenditure, and the system that is devised to ensure the efficiency of this watch largely centres upon three organisations, of which that of the Financial Adviser, Military Finance, is the most prominent. Financial control, from day to day, is exercised through three agencies. In the first place, there is the Directorate of Army Audit. The Director of Army Audit is an officer under the Auditor General and his main function is to conduct a test audit of military expenditure. The primary audit is conducted by the Military Accounts Department, which is the second of these agencies. Those audits are conducted in order to enable the Auditor General to satisfy himself that the conduct of military expenditure is being carried out in accordance with the canons laid down for the expenditure of Government money as a whole. The Military Finance Branch which is the most effective, the most prominent, I might rather say, of all these control agencies is a part of the Finance Department. It is not a part of the Defence Department. The Financial Adviser who is the head of the Branch and Joint Secretary to Government and is directly responsible to the Finance Secretary and the Finance Member exercises control in respect of all military expenditure. Under him are four Deputy Financial Advisers, each of whom is posted in financial charge of each of the main spending branches of the military administration, that of the Adjutant General, the Quarter Master General, the Royal Air Force, and the Master General of Ordnance. Each of them have their own Deputy Financial Advisers. These officers rank as Deputy Secretaries to Government and are entrusted with very wide powers. No proposal whatever involving expenditure can be passed and no expenditure can be incurred until the Military Finance Branch has seen it and has agreed. The Financial Adviser of Military Finance keeps the operations of his Deputies under constant supervision. All cases which they decide themselves, without reference to him, are forwarded to him weekly for information. I do not suppose that a stricter or more efficient system of day to day control could possibly be devised and it is, as I have stated, entirely under the Finance Department and has nothing to do with the Defence Department, though, I, as the administrative Secre-

tary in charge of the Department, am by no means excused responsibility in the matter and from the administrative point of view I am bound to assist in all possible ways in seeing that the operations of the Military Finance Branch and the control of expenditure are assisted in every possible way.

I now proceed to the second part of the Resolution—the formation
 4 P.M. of a committee for the reduction of military expenditure. I can, I think, afford to be brief on that point as a good deal has been already said by other speakers and it has already been discussed several times. There is no need for me to dwell again upon the present state of the world. This is not the time for retrenchment or a retrenchment committee. This is a time for betterment, but not for retrenchment. We hope, as the Honourable the Finance Member stated, to have a better army at the same price as the old one but the idea of having a retrenchment committee now, I think, is quite impossible. Again, on the subject of policy, committees formed by Members of the House drawn from all Parties, and I suppose many would like to see this one formed mainly of the Opposition, are a constitutional anomaly which I think exists in no country but in this one. If that constitutional anomaly were now to be carried into the sphere of defence, I think that the precedent would be extremely bad. When Federation comes I imagine that the Government, the Ministry, would not hear of any one being consulted about these matters except themselves and they will be perfectly right. Whoever heard of the financial proposals or indeed any proposals of the Government being submitted to the Opposition for examination and alteration? That is not to say that the opinions of Members of this House are not often of extreme value in matters connected with defence. At present, however, apart from the purely constitutional aspect of the matter, leaving that on one side, the practical effect could, I think, not possibly be beneficial and a committee, however well intentioned, could not in the present era of rapid change and development be anything but harmful. Arbitrary cuts such as were made by the Inchcape Committee could not be done today without endangering the entire fabric of the defence services. There can, as I have stated, be no question of retrenchment whatever. I have very little more to say about the possibility of a committee to consider reductions of defence expenditure generally. It is, as I have previously indicated, constitutionally inevitable that, in matters of defence, policy should be dealt with by no one but by the executive Government. Questions of administrative policy on the other hand Members of the Legislature can and do touch and the Public Accounts Committee and the Military Accounts Committee do all in that way that any Members of any Legislature can expect to do. Their advice is well informed, and has undoubtedly resulted in a still further conservation of the taxpayers' resources. More than that at the present stage they cannot, Sir, expect to be able to do. Sir, I oppose the Resolution and the amendments.

Major Nawab Sir Ahmad Nawaz Khan (Nominated Non-Official) : Sir, I have full sympathy and appreciation for the patriotic feelings of my Indian brethren who are sitting on this or the other side of the House. It is a bad luck for a speaker to speak after the eloquent

[Sir Ahmad Nawaz Khan.]

speakers who have preceded him because he has to find new arguments, whether to oppose or support the Resolution. I know my friend, Raizada Hans Raj, has proposed this Resolution for the good of India and of the Indians and with the same honesty of purpose and patriotism. I oppose this Resolution in the interest of India and for the good of the country. There are always differences of opinion, and that is not only between me and the others, but even there are difference of opinions between the recognized bodies and all-India leaders, for instance, between the Congress and the Muslim League, and which are on many matters concerning the good of India and the good of Indians. So, therefore, it should not be supposed that it is only for the sake of argument that I am putting forward these arguments. But I think honestly, Sir, that this Resolution will do no good to us. Sir, I think it improper and impolitic,—and why? Because, now by this Resolution you want to have a Committee composed of a majority of the elected Members, of the chosen sons of India which are adorning those Benches, —and for what purpose? To give advice as regards retrenchment to the Defence Department. That is the real object—to save money for the good of India and the taxpayers of India and to stop waste and extravagance which you Honourable Members think is going on in that Department. But I respectfully put this question—how many Members on those Benches or even on these Benches can understand what is the meaning of defence in military questions and expenditure? I admit, Sir, that in law and in the dictionary meaning of words those Benches can perhaps understand the meaning of defence much better, but in the matter of warfare can anybody understand very well what are the actual meanings and the necessities, how many branches this Defence Department should or should not have, what should be the nature of the weapons, what are the necessities and what should be the equipment for the navy, for the land forces or for the air forces, what inventions should be approved as regards the submarines, battleships, aeroplanes, seaplanes, gas bombs, etc., and what should be the velocity of guns? No, it is only those persons who have experience of previous wars and know how to conduct a war and those who know these things perfectly well, can advise and pronounce upon these points. For instance, suppose the point arises, which is the best type of rifles, what are the new inventions by the German or the French, etc., then what would or could our Committee of the elected Members of this House say? Well, a recommendation then might mean that ten million old rifles would have to be rejected; they would be sent back to the English factories. Can you send them to Indian factories? No. But I admit if any such point arose, for instance, with regard to Ata (wheat flour) or ghee, or blankets for the army, then such an expert Committee composed of the Honourable Indian elected Members of this House would advise. And then what would be the result? If I and others were on that Committee, then the question would arise,—how many of the contractors should be Mussalmans and how many of the contractors should be Hindus and how many of the contractors should be Sikhs? And then my great and esteemed friend, Sardar Sant Singh and my Honourable friend, Bhai Parma Nand, and my Honourable friend, Sardar Jogendra Singh, the Whip of the

Congress Party would come forward and fight over these things, but actually what will we do or can do in such a Committee for the defence proper ? In the matter of aeroplanes, submarines and in the matter of the calibre of the cannons, in the matter of the rifles, in any matter concerning defence on land, sea and air, nothing valuable will be contributed by such a Committee, members of which have no knowledge or experience of war or defence, etc. They would not have seen even a sham fight even in the theatre hall of a cinema. I know your desire, your pious desire, that every country should have control over certain things for the sake of local self-government and for the sake of getting *Swaraj*. Well, I honestly put one formula before you and it would solve the whole question. Sir, instead of thinking of the Britisher as a foreigner or thinking of Hindus and Mussalmans as quite different communities, why not think of them all as brethren and the fellow-creatures of one common great God ? Let us think of England as ours. Why do you say that it is theirs ? England is ours, the whole British Empire is ours, just as our India is theirs. Sir, we are all brethren, we should live together peacefully, we should die together peacefully, why do you say that the British are foreigners..... (Interruptions.)

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : Honourable Members should not go on making such interruptions.

Major Nawab Sir Ahmad Nawaz Khan : Leave all these things of hostility and disunity, let Hindus, Mussalmans, Sikhs and British not think of ourselves separately but consider that we all are one. We should say that (what you call the British Government) England is ours, the British Empire is ours, that India is ours, and that we and our country are theirs ; and if we think in that way, there will be no troubles and I think eighty per cent. of all our troubles will be removed. We should ask the British " what are your troubles and we are ready to help you in your troubles and you can help us in our wants, we feel your troubles and you feel our troubles ". Sir, we Indians and the British should live together, die together and govern together (Interruptions.)

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : Order, order.

Major Nawab Sir Ahmad Nawaz Khan : Now, as you know, the situation of the whole world is threatening—and especially my learned friend and scholar of international politics, Mr. Satyamurti, knows that. Now, surely, this is quite a wrong time to retrench the army or Defence expenditure. Well when a man is hungry, we should give him food. When a man feels cold, we should give him blankets, but when a man wants water, we should not give him blankets. Now, if there would have been a Committee of quite the reverse kind, *viz.*... an expert Committee, for increasing the Defence and Army expenditure, I would have whole-heartedly supported that,—with this necessary idea, *viz.*, to increase the military strength and efficiency in India and if necessary for that, the expenditure also. This is appropriate. When everything goes normal, then only can you seek to reduce, but not at the present moment, with the present world situation. Thus, when we have to send invitations to friends to attend a wedding then it is not the time to

[Sir Ahmad Nawaz Khan.]

say, "well, there is a wedding but we should not invite anybody". At present every nation is under the apprehension of a war. Honourable Members know it very well how things are moving in the world and there is a threat or apprehension of war. Now, it is the duty of every patriotic Indian to be careful about India's honour, about the safety of India and about the safety of the whole British Empire which is our Empire, I am proud to say. There are some Honourable Members who believe that if England is defeated, there will be more freedom for India. I respectfully submit that they are quite wrong. This is my own opinion and it is based on facts. It is an admitted fact that on account of our differences, the British cannot be turned out of India and they cannot be defeated. But, for the sake of argument, let us suppose that there is some other European power which is so strong as to defeat Great Britain and turn them out of India, then can any Honourable Member for a moment think that such a strong power will be so foolish as to give us their conquered country, a country which is supposed to be the richest country in the whole world. Throughout my tour in Europe and in Central Asia I came across no nation which believed India to be poor. I may tell you briefly what the people of the whole world think about India. They say that its skies rain silver and the land produces gold. This is your India and all the powers of the world want to take it. It is impossible to imagine that any power which is so strong as to turn out the British from India will not keep India under subjection. Honestly speaking, I do not think there is any Honourable Member in this House who holds the view that any foreign power is better than the English to rule India. I challenge anybody to prove it. Is there any Indian who desires to be under Hitler or under Mussolini? He cannot think so even in his dreams. Everybody knows that in what way Hitler has treated the Jews. If they utter a single word against the Nazis, then their heads or tongues are cut. I must say that the freedom that we enjoy under the British rule cannot be had under any other foreign rule. With these few words and in the interests of India and Indians, I oppose this Resolution and the amendment. Lastly, I think that we should have another Resolution in place of the present one, thanking His Majesty's Government for the present help and for the future help to us in India.

Maulana Zafar Ali Khan (East Central Punjab : Muhammadan) : Sir, the Resolution appears to me to be quite non-contentious, excepting the last words in which there is an apprehension that the cost of the defence is too much and that it should be reduced. That has been the cause of all the discussion that has been going on. So far as the policy of the Muslim League Party towards this army question is concerned, the other day in the course of the discussion on the recruitment Bill we made it quite clear and I wish to point out again that we want an army for the defence of India. We want that army to be efficient : we want that army to be an effective fighting force : but we want that army simply for the defence of India, not to be utilised for Imperialistic purposes and not to be exploited for the object which British Imperialism has in view. We made it quite clear before and we want to make it clear again today. This army of India must be Indianised from top

to toe, from the Commander-in-Chief down to the private soldier. Let the process be gradual, let it take five or ten years' time, but that is our objective and we must attain it. If Britain wants to fight her own Imperialistic wars, let her consult us ; let her obtain our consent ; let her make us part and parcel of the British Commonwealth as is declared so often. At the present moment, we are only Britain's coolies and we do not stand to gain anything. From the time that political awakening has come over India, men of thinking have expressed their apprehensions from time to time that half the revenues of India are being swallowed by the Military Department. 49 crores of this poor country are being spent on the army. My Honourable friend, Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan, was just telling us that in order to protect India you must have a very good and efficient army to safeguard the Empire and you must spend money to have such an efficient army. Let Britain spend that money. Let England, which is the Croesus of nations, come forward with millions of pounds and spend it on her Empire. Why ask India to spend that money on expanding the scope of Imperialism from one end of the world to the other ? The British proverb says : ' He who pays the piper should have the right to call the tune ' , but in the case of India, it is India which pays and it is Britain which calls the tune. We will not allow that ; we cannot permit that.

If I were in Sir James Grigg's place, I would reduce the military expenditure by 25 crores and out of the 24 crores which I would save, I would spend 12 crores on solving the unemployment question. I would spend on education and on other departments, and the balance of 12 crores I would spend on conscription. I would introduce compulsory military service throughout the length and breadth of India and I will have about a million trained soldiers every year. In this way, we will have an army of five or six millions, without paying them, in a short space of time. That would be my programme. But what can we do at present except making speeches and passing Resolutions, which do not mean anything. So far as the views of the elected Members of this Honourable House are concerned, we are the true representatives of India. We tell the Britishers that if they want us to see eye to eye with them on all those questions which affect them most vitally, then they must make us real partners in this great Commonwealth. I say that you are not prepared even to give us Dominion Status of the diluted type and you expect us to fight your battles. Just place us in the same position as South Africa or Canada or Australia and then perhaps we might consider this question, but at the present moment when the military budget is non-votable, when communications are non-votable, when the questions concerning foreign affairs are non-votable, when you have not given us anything beyond Provincial Autonomy, you cannot expect us to go the whole hog with you. I think that is asking too much. With these words, because the time is up, I give my heartiest support to this motion.

Several Honourable Members : The question may now be put.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : The question is :

“ That the question be now put.”

The Assembly divided :

AYES—70.

Abdul Ghani, Maulvi Muhammad.
 Abdul Qaiyum, Mr.
 Abdul Wajid, Maulvi.
 Aney, Mr. M. S.
 Asaf Ali, Mr. M.
 Ayyangar, Mr. M. Ananthasayanam.
 Azhar Ali, Mr. Muhammad.
 Bajoria, Babu Baijnath.
 Banerjee, Dr. P. N.
 Bhutto, Mr. Nabi Baksh Illahi Baksh.
 Chaliha, Mr. Kuladhar.
 Chattopadhyaya, Mr. Amarendra Nath.
 Chaudhury, Mr. Brojendra Narayan.
 Chettiar, Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam.
 Chetty, Mr. Sami Vencatachelam.
 Chunder, Mr. N. C.
 Das, Mr. B.
 Das, Pandit Nilakantha.
 Datta, Mr. Akhil Chandra.
 Desai, Mr. Bhulabhai J.
 Deshmukh, Dr. G. V.
 Deshmukh, Mr. Govind V.
 Essak Sait, Mr. H. A. Sathar H.
 Fazl-i-Haq Piracha, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.
 Gadgil, Mr. N. V.
 Ghulam Bhik Nairang, Syed.
 Govind Das, Seth.
 Gupta, Mr. K. S.
 Hans Raj, Raizada.
 Hegde, Sri K. B. Jinaraja.
 Hosmani, Mr. S. K.
 Jedhe, Mr. K. M.
 Jogendra Singh, Sirdar.
 Kailash Behari Lal, Babu.
 Lahiri Chaudhury, Mr. D. K.
 Lalchand Navalrai, Mr.

Maitra, Pandit Lakshmi Kanta.
 Malaviya, Pandit Kridshna Kant.
 Mangal Singh, Sardar.
 Mehr Shah, Nawab Sahibzada Sir Sayad Muhammad.
 Misra, Pandit Shambhu Dayal.
 Muhammad Ahmad Kazmi, Qazi.
 Murtuza Sahib Bahadur, Maulvi Syed.
 Nauman, Mr. Muhammad.
 Paliwal, Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta.
 Pande, Mr. Badri Dutt.
 Parma Nand, Bhai.
 Rafuddin Ahmad Siddiquee, Shaikh.
 Raghbir Narayan Singh, Choudhary.
 Ramayan Prasad, Mr.
 Ranga, Prof. N. G.
 Rao, Mr. M. Thirumala.
 Sant Singh, Sardar.
 Santhanam, Mr. K.
 Satyamurti, Mr. S.
 Shahban, Mian Ghulam Kadir Muhammad.
 Sham Lal, Mr.
 Sheodass Daga, Seth.
 Siddique Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur Nawab.
 Sikandar Ali Choudhury, Maulvi.
 Singh, Mr. Gauri Shankar.
 Sinha, Mr. Satya Narayan.
 Som, Mr. Suryya Kumar.
 Sri Prakasa, Mr.
 Subbarayan, Shrimati K. Radha Bai.
 Subedar, Mr. Manu.
 Umar Aly Shah, Mr.
 Varma, Mr. B. B.
 Zafar Ali Khan, Maulana.
 Ziauddin Ahmad, Dr. Sir.

NOES—45.

Abdul Hamid, Khan Bahadur Sir.
 Ahmad Nawaz Khan, Major Nawab Sir.
 Aikman, Mr. A.
 Anderson, Mr. J. D.
 Ayyar, Mr. N. M.
 Bajpai, Sir Girja Shankar.
 Bewoor, Mr. G. V.
 Boyle, Mr. J. D.
 Chanda, Mr. A. K.
 Chapman-Mortimer, Mr. T.

Chatterjee, Mr. R. M.
 Clow, The Honourable Mr. A. G.
 Conran-Smith, Mr. E.
 Dalal, Dr. R. D.
 Dalpat Singh, Sardar Bahadur Captain.
 Damzen, Mr. P. R.
 Dutt, Mr. S.
 Faruqi, Mr. N. A.
 Ghulam Muhammad, Mr.
 Griffiths, Mr. P. J.

Grigg, The Honourable Sir James.
 Highet, Mr. J. C.
 James, Mr. F. E.
 Jawahar Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sir.
 Kamaluddin Ahmed, Shams-ul-Ulema.
 Lloyd, Mr. A. H.
 Mackeown, Mr. J. A.
 Maxwell, The Honourable Mr. R. M.
 Metcalfe, Sir Aubrey.
 Miller, Mr. C. C.
 Mitchell, Mr. K. G.
 Mukerji, Mr. Basanta Kumar.
 Mukerji, The Honourable Sir Manmatha Nath.

Nur Muhammad, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.
 Ogilvie, Mr. C. M. G.
 Rahman, Lieut.-Colonel M. A.
 Scott, Mr. J. Ramsay.
 Sher Muhammad Khan, Captain Sardar Sir.
 Sivaraj, Rao Sahib N.
 Smith, Lieut.-Colonel H. O.
 Sukthankar, Mr. Y. N.
 Sundaram, Mr. V. S.
 Town, Mr. H. S.
 Walker, Mr. G. D.
 Zafrullah Khan, The Honourable Sir Muhammad.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : The question is :

“ That for the word ‘ early ’ the word ‘ immediate ’ be substituted, and that for the words ‘ of the elected and other members ’ the words ‘ with a majority of elected members ’ be substituted.”

The Assembly divided :

AYES—72.

Abdul Ghani, Maulvi Muhammad.
 Abdul Qaiyum, Mr.
 Abdul Wajid, Maulvi.
 Abdur Rasheed Chaudhury, Maulvi.
 Aney, Mr. M. S.
 Asaf Ali, Mr. M.
 Ayyangar, Mr. M. Ananthasayanam.
 Azhar Ali, Mr. Muhammad.
 Bajoria, Babu Baijnath.
 Banerjee, Dr. P. N.
 Bhutto, Mr. Nabi Baksh Illahi Baksh.
 Chaliha, Mr. Kuladhar.
 Chattopadhyaya, Mr. Amarendra Nath.
 Chaudhury, Mr. Brojendra Narayan.
 Chettiar, Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam.
 Chetty, Mr. Sami Vencatachelam.
 Chunder, Mr. N. C.
 Das, Mr. B.
 Das, Pandit Nilakantha.
 Datta, Mr. Akhil Chandra.
 Desai, Mr. Bhulabhai J.
 Deshmukh, Dr. G. V.
 Deshmukh, Mr. Govind V.
 Essak Sait, Mr. H. A. Sathar H.
 Fazli-Haq Piracha, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.
 Gadgil, Mr. N. V.
 Ghulam Bhik Nairang, Syed.
 Govind Das, Seth.
 Gupta, Mr. K. S.

Hans Raj, Raizada.
 Hegde, Sri K. B. Jinaraja.
 Hosmani, Mr. S. K.
 Jedhe, Mr. K. M.
 Jogendra Singh, Sirdar.
 Joshi, Mr. N. M.
 Kailash Behari Lal, Babu.
 Lahiri Chaudhury, Mr. D. K.
 Lalchand Navalrai, Mr.
 Maitra, Pandit Lakshmi Kanta.
 Malaviya, Pandit Krishna Kant.
 Mangal Singh, Sardar.
 Mehr Shah, Nawab Sahibzada Sir Syed. Muhammad.
 Misra, Pandit Shambhu Dayal.
 Muhammad Ahmad Kazmi, Qazi.
 Murtuza Sahib Bahadur, Maulvi Syed.
 Nauman, Mr. Muhammad.
 Paliwal, Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta.
 Pande, Mr. Badri Dutt.
 Parma Nand, Bhai.
 Rafiuddin Ahmad Siddiquee, Shaikh.
 Raghubir Narayan Singh, Choudhri.
 Ramayan Prasad, Mr.
 Ranga, Prof. N. G.
 Rao, Mr. M. Thirumala.
 Sant Singh, Sardar.
 Santhanam, Mr. K.
 Satyamurti, Mr. S.

Shahban, Mian Ghulam Kadir Muham-
mad.
Sham Lal, Mr.
Sheodass Daga, Seth.
Siddique Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur Nawab.
Sikandar Ali Choudhury, Maulvi.
Singh, Mr. Gauri Shankar.
Sinha, Mr. Satya Narayan.

Som, Mr. Suryya Kumar.
Sri Prakasa, Mr.
Subbarayan, Shrimati K. Radha Bai.
Subedar, Mr. Manu.
Umar Aly Shah, Mr.
Varma, Mr. B. B.
Zafar Ali Khan, Maulana.
Ziauddin Ahmad, Dr. Sir.

NOES—46.

Abdul Hamid, Khand Bahadur Sir.
Ahmad Nawaz Khan, Major Nawab Sir.
Aikman, Mr. A.
Anderson, Mr. J. D.
Ayyar, Mr. N. M.
Bajpai, Sir Girja Shankar.
Bewoor, Mr. G. V.
Boyle, Mr. J. D.
Chanda, Mr. A. K.
Chapman-Mortimer, Mr. T.
Chatterjee, Mr. R. M.
Clow, The Honourable Mr. A. G.
Conran-Smith, Mr. E.
Dalal, Dr. R. D.
Dalpat Singh, Sardar Bahadur Captain.
Damzen, Mr. P. R.
Dutt, Mr. S.
Faruqui, Mr. N. A.
Ghulam Muhammad, Mr.
Griffiths, Mr. P. J.
Grigg, The Honourable Sir James.
Highet, Mr. J. C.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jawahar Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sir.

Kamaluddin Ahmed, Shams-ul-Ulema.
Lloyd, Mr. A. H.
Mackeown, Mr. J. A.
Maxwell, The Honourable Mr. B. M.
Metcalfe, Sir Aubrey.
Miller, Mr. C. C.
Mitchell, Mr. K. G.
Mukerji, Mr. Basanta Kumar.
Mukerji, The Honourable Sir Manmatha Nath.
Nur Muhammad, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.
Ogilvie, Mr. C. M. G.
Rahman, Lieut.-Colonel M. A.
Scott, Mr. J. Ramsay.
Sher Muhammad Khan, Captain Sardar Sir.
Sivaraj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Lieut.-Colonel H. O.
Sukthankar, Mr. Y. N.
Sundaram, Mr. V. S.
Town, Mr. H. S.
Walker, Mr. G. D.
Yamin Khan, Sir Muhammad.
Zafrullah Khan, The Honourable Sir Muhammad.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) : I will now put
5 P.M. the Resolution as amended. The question is :

“ That this Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council that *immediate* steps be taken to constitute a committee *with a majority of elected members* of the Central Legislature to examine the arrangements in force for financial control of military expenditure by the Finance Department and to suggest ways and means of reducing the present cost of Defence.”

The Assembly divided :

AYES—74.

Abdul Ghani, Maulvi Muhammad.
Abdul Qaiyum, Mr.
Abdul Wajid, Maulvi.
Abdur Rasheed Chaudhury, Maulvi.
Ahmed, Mr. K.
Aney, Mr. M. S.
Asaf Ali, Mr. M.
Ayyangar, Mr. M. Ananthasayanam.

Azhar Ali, Mr. Muhammad.
Bajoria, Babu Baijnath.
Banerjea, Dr. P. N.
Bhutto, Mr. Nabi Baksh Illahi Baksh.
Chaliha, Mr. Kuladhar.
Chattopadhyaya, Mr. Amarendra Nath.
Chaudhury, Mr. Brojendra Narayan.
Chettiar, Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam.

Chetty, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam.
 Chunder, Mr. N. C.
 Das, Mr. B.
 Das, Pandit Nilakantha.
 Datta, Mr. Akhil Chandra.
 Desai Mr. Bhulabhai J.
 Deshmukh, Dr. G. V.
 Deshmukh, Mr. Govind V.
 Essak Sait, Mr. H. A. Sathar H.
 Fazl-i-Haq Piracha, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.
 Gadgil, Mr. N. V.
 Ghulam Bhik Nairang, Syed.
 Govind Das, Seth.
 Gupta, Mr. K. S.
 Hans Raj, Raizada.
 Hegde, Sri K. B. Jinaraja.
 Hosmani, Mr. S. K.
 Jedhe, Mr. K. M.
 Jogendra Singh, Sirdar.
 Joshi, Mr. N. M.
 Kailash Behari Lal, Babu.
 Lahiri Chaudhury, Mr. D. K.
 Lalchand Navalrai, Mr.
 Maitra, Pandit Lakshmi Kanta.
 Malaviya, Pandit Krishna Kant.
 Mangal Singh, Sardar.
 Mehr Shah, Nawab Sahibzada Sir Sayed Muhammad.
 Misra, Pandit Shambhu Dayal.

Muhammad Ahmad Kazmi, Qasi.
 Murtuza Sahib Bahadur, Maulvi Syed.
 Nauman, Mr. Muhammad.
 Paliwal, Pandit Sri Krishna Dutta.
 Pande, Mr. Badri Dutt.
 Parma Nand, Bhai.
 Rafiuddin Ahmad Siddiquee, Shaikh.
 Raghbir Narayan Singh, Choudhri.
 Ramayan Prasad, Mr.
 Ranga, Prof. N. G.
 Rao, Mr. M. Thirumala.
 Sant Singh, Sardar.
 Santhanam, Mr. K.
 Satyamurti, Mr. S.
 Shahban, Mian Ghulam Kadir Muhammad.
 Sham Lal, Mr.
 Sheodass Daga, Seth.
 Siddique Ali Khan, Khan Bahadur Nawab.
 Sikandar Ali Choudhury, Maulvi.
 Singh, Mr. Gauri Shankar.
 Sinha, Mr. Satya Narayan.
 Som, Mr. Suryya Kumar.
 Sri Prakasa, Mr.
 Subbarayan, Shrimati K. Badha Bai.
 Subedar, Mr. Manu.
 Umar Aly Shah, Mr.
 Varma, Mr. B. B.
 Yamin Khan, Sir Muhammad.
 Zafar Ali Khan, Maulana.
 Ziauddin Ahmad, Dr. Sir.

NOES—45.

Abdul Hamid, Khan Bahadur Sir.
 Ahmad Nawaz Khan, Major Nawab Sir.
 Aikman, Mr. A.
 Anderson, Mr. J. D.
 Ayyar, Mr. N. M.
 Bajpai, Sir Girja Shankar.
 Bewoor, Mr. G. V.
 Boyle, Mr. J. D.
 Chanda, Mr. A. K.
 Chapman-Mortimer, Mr. T.
 Chatterjee, Mr. R. M.
 Clow, The Honourable Mr. A. G.
 Conran-Smith, Mr. E.
 Dalal, Dr. B. D.
 Dalpat Singh, Sardar Bahadur Captain.
 Damzen, Mr. P. R.
 Dutt, Mr. S.
 Faruqui, Mr. N. A.
 Ghulam Muhammad, Mr.
 Griffiths, Mr. P. J.
 Grigg, The Honourable Sir James.
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Highet, Mr. J. C.
 James, Mr. F. E.
 Jawahar Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sir.
 Kamaluddin Ahmed, Shams-ul-Ulema.
 Lloyd, Mr. A. H.
 Mackeown, Mr. J. A.
 Maxwell, The Honourable Mr. R. M.
 Metcalfe, Sir Aubrey.
 Miller, Mr. C. C.
 Mitchell, Mr. K. G.
 Mukerji, Mr. Basanta Kumar.
 Mukerji, The Honourable Sir Manmatha Nath.
 Nur Muhammad, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.
 Ogilvie, Mr. C. M. G.
 Rahman, Lieut.-Colonel M. A.
 Scott, Mr. J. Ramsay.
 Sher Muhammad Khan, Captain Sardar Sir.
 Sivaram, Rao Sahib N.
 Smith, Lieut.-Colonel H. C.

Sukthankar, Mr. Y. N.
Sundaram, Mr. V. S.
Town, Mr. H. S.

Walker, Mr. G. D.
Zafrullah Khan, The Honourable Sir
Muhammad.

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on
Wednesday, the 14th September, 1938.