

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

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FRIDAY, 31st AUGUST, 1934.

Vol. VIII—No. 7

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## OFFICIAL REPORT



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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 31st August, 1934.

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber at Eleven of the Clock.  
Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) in the Chair.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF POSTAL DELIVERIES IN CAWNPORE CITY.

957. \***Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla** : (a) Will Government please state if they have received any representation from the commercial community of Cawnpore regarding the reduction in the number of postal deliveries in the city ?

(b) Are Government aware that the reduction has caused great inconvenience and loss to the local business community ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state if they are now prepared to revert to the old system of postal deliveries ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce** : (a) A representation on the subject signed by some members of the commercial community of Cawnpore has been received by the Director-General on the 20th August, 1934.

(b) and (c). The matter is one within the competence of the Postmaster-General, United Provinces, and a copy of the question and the answer will be sent to him.

### STOPPAGE OF UP MAIL TRAIN AT KHURJA JUNCTION.

958. \***Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla** : (a) Is it a fact that Khurja Junction is a very important station both from the point of view of passenger traffic and of goods ?

(b) Are Government aware that there is no train for Delhi stopping at Khurja Junction between the hours of 5 P.M. and 6 A.M., which causes great inconvenience to the passengers especially the people of the business community ?

(c) Are Government prepared to arrange the stoppage of 1 Up Mail at Khurja Junction at least for two minutes ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau** : (a) This is a matter of opinion. I can think of many stations on the East Indian Railway of much greater importance.

(b) Although there is no train leaving Khurja for Delhi between 6 P.M. on one day and 5 A.M. on the following day there are five trains between 5 A.M. and 6 P.M.

(c) I will communicate the Honourable Member's suggestion to the Agent, East Indian Railway, for consideration.

( 2409 )

## FILING OF SUITS AGAINST RULING PRINCES.

959. \***Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra** : (a) Is it not a fact that under the Civil Procedure Code a certificate or permission is necessary for filing a suit against the ruling princes, etc. ?

(b) Will Government please state whether the certificate will henceforth be given by the Government of India, on account of their transfer to the Government of India, or by the Local Governments as before ?

(c) Is it not a fact that a list has been issued by ruling chiefs against whom no suit can be brought without a proper certificate ?

(d) Will Government please state whether if the powers of the Local Governments are withdrawn, it will be necessary to issue a fresh list by the Government of India ?

**Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe** : (a) Yes.

(b) By the Government of India.

(c) No.

(d) The question does not arise.

## SITTING OF SWEEPERS ON THE BENCHES OF THE TRAM CARS IN DELHI.

960. \***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Has the attention of Government been drawn to a letter of Mr. Ayodhya Prasad Pathak (Delhi), published in the *Hindustan Times*, dated the 16th August, 1934, in which it is stated on his own evidence that two sweepers were not allowed to sit on the benches of the tram car in Delhi by the conductor, on the ground that the Delhi Electric Supply and Traction Company has a rule to that effect, although the people in the tram car were willing to let the sweepers sit ? Is there any such rule ; and if so, why is it not abrogated ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : Government have seen the letter published in the *Hindustan Times* to which the Honourable Member refers. The Delhi Electric Supply and Traction Company has no rule forbidding *Harijans* from sitting on the seats of their trams.

## EDITING AND PUBLISHING OF THE KANNADA INSCRIPTIONS.

961. \***Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil** : (a) Are Government aware that they assured this House, about seven years ago, in reply to the questions of the then Honourable Member, Mr. D. V. Belvi of Karnatak that the whole work of surveying, collecting, editing and publishing the Kannada inscriptions in the presidencies of Bombay and Madras would be finished within about thirteen years ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state :

(i) how many taluks have been surveyed during these seven years ;

(ii) how many still await surveying ;

iii) whether these unsurveyed parts can be finished within the next six years ; if not, whether Government propose to take steps in order to complete the whole work of surveying, collecting, editing and publishing the Kannada inscriptions

within the next six years as per their assurances ; if so, what ?

(c) How many inscriptions have been collected upto now ?

(d) Have they all been published ? If not, what arrangements do Government intend to make for the early publication of the same ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** (a) Government are not aware of any such assurance, but they informed the President, Karnatak Historical Association, by letter in September, 1927, that they expected that the task of copying the Kanarese inscriptions in the Bombay Presidency would be completed in about thirteen years.

(b) (i) 12.

(ii) 40.

(iii) The work is not likely to be completed within the next six years owing to the drastic retrenchment on grounds of economy in the staff of the Epigraphical Branch. For the same reason the rate of progress cannot at present be materially accelerated.

(c) 1345 inscriptions have so far been collected since the search for Kanarese inscriptions in the Bombay Karnatak started.

(d) Inscriptions copied during the years 1926-27 to 1930-31 have been published. Lists of collections of 1931-32 and 1932-33 are in the Press, and inscriptions copied during the year 1933-34 are being transcribed and listed.

#### EDITING AND PUBLISHING OF THE KANNADA INSCRIPTIONS.

962. **\*Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil :** Are Government prepared now to reconsider the advisability of creating temporarily a separate Epigraphical circle for Karnatak at Dharwar for speeding up the work of Kannada Inscriptions, as per representations made to the Director General of Archaeology several times by the Karnatak Historical Research Society of Dharwar and individuals ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** The Honourable Member is referred to the answer given to part b (iii) of the preceding question.

#### FORMATION OF A SEPARATE KARNATAK PROVINCE.

963. **\*Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether a memorial was submitted to His Excellency the Governor General and Viceroy of India by the central Karnatak Unification League in the month of April, 1934 ?

(b) If so, has the memorial been already considered ; if not when is it likely to be considered ?

(c) Are Government prepared to appoint a committee of Enquiry at least to test the genuineness of the demand of the Karnatak subjects of His Majesty and also to consider whether Karnatak if constituted as an independent administrative unit, would be financially self-supporting ?

(d) If the finances of the Government of India do not permit today the appointment of a committee of Enquiry are Government prepared to receive contributions from individuals, associations and Local bodies on



voluntary basis ? If so, what proportion of the total probable cost of the committee would induce Government to agree to the appointment of the committee ?

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** (a) Yes.

(b), (c) and (d). The attitude of Government in regard to the creation of new Provinces is explained in Sir Harry Haig's speech in the Assembly on the 26th July last, on the Resolution relating to the constitution of Malabar into a separate Province. I have nothing to add to that statement.

#### ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS HELD FOR ADMISSION TO THE INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY.

964. **\*Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil :** (a) Will Government please state how many entrance examinations were held for admitting candidates to the Indian Military Academy up to now ?

(b) Will Government further state the total number of candidates so far admitted in the Academy province by province ?

(c) Will Government also state to what communities they belong ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state how many of them belong to Maharashtra, Karnatak and Madras ?

**Lient.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** (a) Five competitive examinations.

(b), (c) and (d). A statement giving the information desired by the Honourable Member is laid on the table.

#### *Number of Candidates admitted into the Indian Military Academy through the Examinations.*

##### (i) By Provinces.

Punjab	..	..	..	..	..	44
United Provinces	..	..	..	..	..	10
North-West Frontier Province	..	..	..	..	..	5
Delhi	..	..	..	..	..	4
Kashmir	..	..	..	..	..	3
Punjab States	..	..	..	..	..	2
Mysore	..	..	..	..	..	1
Jaipur	..	..	..	..	..	1
Jodhpur	..	..	..	..	..	1
Madras	..	..	..	..	..	1
Coorg	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rajputana	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bombay	..	..	..	..	..	1
Burma	..	..	..	..	..	1
Bhopal	..	..	..	..	..	1
Central Provinces	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hyderabad	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total						79

(ii) By Communities.

Muhammadans	..	..	..	..	..	26
Sikhs	..	..	..	..	..	14
Hindus	..	..	..	..	..	20
Indian Christians	..	..	..	..	..	4
Parsis	..	..	..	..	..	1
Anglo-Indians	..	..	..	..	..	3
Domiciled Europeans	..	..	..	..	..	2
Total						79

**Mr. S. G. Jog :** May I know if the sense of discrimination is also lurking in the selection of candidates by the Selection Committee, because nobody from the Bombay Presidency, and, so far as I know, nobody from the Madras Presidency, nobody from Bengal, and.....

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** And nobody from Bihar.

**Mr. S. G. Jog :** ..... and nobody from Bihar, and nobody from other Provinces have been selected ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** The figures that I have given in my statement include one candidate from Madras, one from Coorg, and one from Bombay.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Will Government be pleased to state how many candidates were taken from Bihar ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I am afraid there is no candidate from Bihar in the list before me.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** May I know from the Honourable Member from what part of Bombay the candidate from Bombay was selected ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I am afraid I have not got that information.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi :** Does not the Honourable Member know that Coorg does not form part of the Madras Presidency, but it is directly under the Government of India ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I was aware of that fact.

**MARKS ALLOTTED FOR PERSONAL INTERVIEW AT THE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION OF THE INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY.**

965. **\*Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil :** (a) Is it a fact that out of the total number of 2,150 marks, as many as 500 are set apart for personal interview of the candidates appearing for the entrance examination of the Indian Military Academy ?

(b) If so, are these marks assigned solely for the so-called qualification of belonging to a martial community of India ? If not, how many marks are assigned for it ?

(c) On what matters is the candidate expected to satisfy the Selection Board at the time of the personal interview ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** (a) Yes.

(b) No. The second question accordingly does not arise.

(c) The criteria by which a candidate can be adjudged suitable or unsuitable for a commission by the Interview and Record Board are so many that it is impossible to enumerate them. At the time of the interview, the Board have the record of each candidate before them. All that is required of the candidate is to furnish such additional information as the Board may require and to reply to such questions as they may ask relating to various topics, mainly concerning the Army.

**Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil :** May I ask whether the Indian Military College Committee did not recommend anything of the sort of martial race ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** The question of soldierly tradition undoubtedly would be weighed by the Interview and Record Board, but it is not the sole guiding factor by any means.

**Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil :** May I ask whether it is only the outside activities of the particular candidate that the Board of Examiners should look into ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I think it may be said that the Board takes into consideration every kind of feature and characteristic in the candidate which may be suited to a military career.

**Mr. S. G. Jog :** Do they give any special preference to those classes which belong to the so-called martial classes, and they do not do the same in respect of non-martial classes ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I have not been on the Board myself, but there is certainly no prejudice against those who have no soldierly tradition if in other respects they appear to the Board suitable.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Are there any subjects laid down for these personal tests ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** None.

#### CONSTITUTION OF THE SELECTION BOARD TO INTERVIEW THE CANDIDATES FOR THE INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY.

966. **\*Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil :** Will Government be pleased to state what is the constitution of the Selection Board for the interview of the candidates for the Indian Military Academy ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** The Board is constituted as follows :

*Chairman.*—A member of the Public Service Commission.

*Members.*—Two military officers, one a Major-General, the other an officer not below the rank of Colonel.

Two non-official members, one with military experience.

#### ADMISSIONS TO THE INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY AND MARTIAL COMMUNITIES.

967. **\*Rao Bahadur B. L. Patil :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether the result of the admissions so far made to the Indian Military Academy shows fairly sufficient number of candidates from all the provinces in India ?

(b) Do Government recognise the fact of belonging to a martial community as a qualification in the matter of admission to the Indian Military Academy ?

(c) If so, what is the test for determining a community as martial ? Have Government made enquiries in all the provinces as to what communities are martial ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** (a) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the statement I have just laid on the table in reply to his question No. 964.

(b) and (c). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the supplementary questions and answers given on the 11th December, 1933, to starred question No. 1384. No inquiries have been made from provinces.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Is it a fact that the Province of Bihar and Orissa has not got any candidate up till now admitted into the Indian Military Academy ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I believe so, but we are still looking forward to some. (Laughter.)

#### REPLACEMENT OF UNQUALIFIED CLERKS BY QUALIFIED ONES IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OFFICES.

968. **Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Saheb Bahadur :** (a) Will Government please state whether it is a fact that there are at present employed in the Government of India Secretariat and the attached offices a large number of non-Muslim temporary routine clerks who have not passed the necessary examination of the Public Service Commission ?

(b) Is it a fact that a large number of such temporary clerks are being allowed to continue in service for several years, some of whom are in service since 1930 ?

(c) Is it a fact that some of these temporary clerks are employed in provisionally permanent posts, semi-permanent posts or temporary posts of long duration ?

(d) Is it a fact that these clerks cannot, under rules, be absorbed permanently and will therefore have to go sooner or later ?

(e) Is it a fact that a large number of Muslims who have qualified at the examinations held by the Public Service Commission in 1932 and 1933 have not been able to get appointments in the Government of India and the attached offices ?

(f) Do Government propose to consider the desirability of replacing unqualified non-Muslims by qualified Muslims, and if not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** (a), (b) and (c). There are a number of unqualified men of all communities at present temporarily employed, in some cases since before 1930 and in some cases against permanent vacancies.

(d) Yes ; that is to say, they can only secure permanent employment through the competitive examination.

(e) Vacancies are filled on the results of a competitive examination and this ordinarily means that no question of a qualifying mark arises. But

in accordance with the instructions in clause IX of paragraph 1 of the Home Department Office Memorandum No. F. 452-27-Ests., dated the 8th December, 1928, a copy of which is in the Library, the Public Service Commission supply each of the Government of India Offices with a list of candidates who did not obtain places in the last preceding examination, but whom the Commission consider suitable for temporary employment. I may mention, however, that under the clause referred to, Departments have discretion to appoint candidates who are not on the list.

(f) The question of replacing unqualified persons by others recommended by the Public Service Commission is under consideration.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Do I understand that there are unqualified Muslim clerks also appointed in the Government of India Secretariat offices ?

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** I said that there are a number of unqualified men of all communities at present temporarily employed.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it the intention of the Government of India to scrap all these unqualified men whether they belong to Muslim or non-Muslim communities ?

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** They can only secure permanent employment by means of the competitive examination. They can only be on a temporary basis until they pass that examination.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Is it a fact that at any time these men can be employed permanently without the examination of the Public Service Commission ?

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** They cannot be made permanent except as a result of the Public Service Commission examination.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad :** What is the definition of qualification ? Does it mean efficiency of work or passing certain examination ?

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** You must ask the gentleman who put the question.

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** It means passing the Public Service Commission examination.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad :** Without regard to efficiency ?

#### REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF COMPOSITORS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESSES, SIMLA AND NEW DELHI.

969. **\*Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury :** (a) Is it a fact that for want of work in the Government of India Presses at Simla and New Delhi, the number of compositors, etc., are reduced every year ?

(b) Is printing for Government done at private presses also at these places ? If so, to what extent and why ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) No.

(b) Yes, to a very small extent. Such printing is confined chiefly to vernacular work for which the Government of India Presses at Simla and Delhi are not equipped. Work in English is also on rare occasions entrusted to private presses for administrative convenience.

PRINTING OF THE *Fauji Akhbar*.

970. \*Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury : (a) Is the *Fauji Akhbar* a Government paper ? If so, why do Government run it ?

(b) How does the *Fauji Akhbar* differ from private papers ?

(c) In what languages is the *Fauji Akhbar* printed and why ?

(d) Can Indian soldiers generally read Roman Urdu ? If so, why is not the *Fauji Akhbar* printed in Roman Urdu only ?

(e) Why is the *Fauji Akhbar* printed in Simla ?

(f) What will be the cost of printing it in a private press at Delhi or Lahore ?

(g) For whom is the *Fauji Akhbar* intended and what is their number ?

(h) How many copies of the *Fauji Akhbar* are printed ?

(i) What is the annual cost of (i) editing, and (ii) printing the *Fauji Akhbar* and what is its annual income ?

(j) What will be the annual cost of printing it in Roman Urdu in the Government of India Press ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** (a) Yes. In order to provide Indian troops and *ex*-soldiers and the agricultural classes from which they are drawn with reliable news, at a price within their means, regarding world and Indian events, the results of the latest scientific experiments in agriculture, the measures necessary for the improvement of rural conditions, the organization, activities and movements of the Army, the movements of officers touring the districts ; and any matters which it is to the advantage of the military community to know.

(b) It caters solely for the military community and is written in a simple style suitable for that community.

(c) Urdu, Hindi, Gurmukhi and English. The first three are the languages spoken by the great majority of the military community. The English edition is published mainly for the purpose of enabling British officers of the Indian Army to acquaint themselves with the contents of the paper which their men are reading.

(d) Although the majority of serving Indian soldiers can read Roman-Urdu, there are still many who cannot do so with sufficient fluency to enable them to digest the contents of a newspaper. Approximately half of the recipients of the *Fauji Akhbar* are *ex*-soldiers, the majority of whom have not reached a high enough standard in Roman-Urdu to enable them to read with ease a newspaper so printed.

(e) It is essential that the editorial staff should be in close contact with the Army Headquarters and it has been considered convenient hitherto for the paper to be printed in the same place as that in which the editorial staff is located throughout the year.

(f) Tenders for printing by private presses in Delhi and Lahore have been received and are under consideration.

(g) I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer to part (a). I regret that it is not possible to estimate the number of persons for whom the paper is intended.

(h) During the financial year 1933-34 the weekly average was 10,351.

(i) Figures for the same period are as follows :

(i) The pay of the Translation Section of the Army Headquarters which carries out the editing, managerial and translation duties connected with the *Fauji Akhbar*, as well as the general translation work of Army Headquarters, and of the officer in charge thereof who is the editor of the paper amounted to Rs. 42,838, but it is difficult to say what proportion of this sum related to the *Fauji Akhbar*.

(ii) Rs. 29,158 for printing and wrapping and Rs. 16,693 for paper, blocks, postage, remuneration to contributors and office contingencies. The income was Rs. 36,944. It may be added that it was never the intention that this paper should be a commercial proposition. Numerous copies are distributed free in order to ensure the objects mentioned in my answer to part (a).

(j) It is not possible to furnish an estimate of cost of printing the *Fauji Akhbar* in Roman-Urdu in a Government Press. It is not desirable to print it in such a Press, as the printing of a newspaper, involving work at night and unusual hours, would dislocate and interfere with urgent Government work, such as that connected with the Legislature.

**Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya :** May I know why such an important paper is not published in the Southern Indian vernaculars ?

**Some Honourable Members :** There are no military classes there.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Is this a monthly magazine, and, if so, what is the difficulty in getting it printed at Lahore or Delhi if the rate is cheaper ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** It is a weekly paper. As I said, tenders have been received from private presses in Delhi and Lahore and are now under consideration.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Would it not be better to publish the *Fauji Akhbar* in the Army Press ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I understand that a tender has been received from the Army Press and is under consideration.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** The Honourable Member has used the expression " martial community ". May I know what is meant by martial community ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** The community which consists of soldiers and ex-soldiers.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** In connection with the answer to part (e), is it a fact that the paper was published in Lahore previously. In 1919, there was some trouble and then the paper was brought to Simla.

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** The paper used to be printed in Lahore. I am not aware of the reasons which led to the change, but I think

the most important one was the desirability of having the paper printed as near as possible to the editorial staff who must be close to Army Headquarters.

**Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya :** The Honourable Member has not replied to my question why the paper is not published in the vernaculars of Southern India.

**Bhai Parma Nand :** May I know if, in considering the question of tenders for the printing of this paper, the point of economy will be given consideration, if the Government can save about Rs. 7,000 and the paper can be printed of the same quality and with the same convenience at another place.

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** The Government always consider in matters like this whether the most economical is also the most suitable way.

**Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar :** Are Government aware that the educational standard of Indian soldiers has advanced after the Great War and that it is desirable that the size of the paper should be increased ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I will certainly bring that point to the notice of the authorities concerned at Army Headquarters.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Do Government propose to consider the question of why the paper was transferred from Lahore to Simla at the time of coming to a decision on the different tenders ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I am quite certain that all relevant considerations will be taken into account in deciding which tender to accept.

**Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Sahib Bahadur :** When this paper was being published in Lahore, is it a fact that the cost of printing was more than 75 per cent. of what it is now ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I have not got the figures with me.

**Mr. Jagan Nath Aggarwal :** May I take it that this paper is not a commercial proposition, and if the printing of the paper is economically done in Lahore, will Government take that point into very serious consideration ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** As I have said, all relevant considerations will be borne in mind when deciding which tender to accept.

**Mr. Jagan Nath Aggarwal :** My point is, if the tenders from Lahore are much cheaper than the cost of printing the paper in Simla, would Government consider printing the paper in Lahore ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** I am not prepared to say what any of the tenders are.

#### PROMOTION OF SUBORDINATES OF THE AUDIT DEPARTMENT OF CERTAIN RAILWAYS.

971. **\*Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury :** (a) Will Government please state the number of posts of Auditors and Assistant Auditors on the (i) Great Indian Peninsula, (ii) East Indian, and (iii) Burma Railways, respectively, before they were taken over by the State ? How many of them were filled by direct recruits ?



(b) What was the procedure followed in promoting the subordinates of the Audit Department of these Railways to the Superior Service? What was the proportion of recruitment by direct appointment and by promotion?

(c) Is it not a fact that the Superior Service on these Railways corresponded with the State Railway Accounts Service introduced on the State Railways?

(d) Is it not a fact that there was no Lower Gazetted Service, as now obtaining on these Railways?

(e) Is it not a fact that the subordinates of these railways get promotion only to the Lower Gazetted Service now, which service was not in existence before these Railways were taken over?

(f) Is it not a fact that after separation of the Accounts from Audit after these Railways were taken over, most of the posts are held either by the members of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service and State Railway Accounts Service?

(g) Will Government please state how the vacancies in the Accounts and Audit Departments of these three Railways have been distributed, viz., (i) to the members of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service, (ii) to the State Railway Accounts Service, and (iii) Lower Gazetted Service officers?

(h) Is it not a fact that the members of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service have gained most after the taking over of the Railways and the separation? Is it not a fact that they are now holding posts in the Railway Accounts as well as the Audit Departments of the State Railways?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** The information is being collected and a reply will be laid on the table in due course.

#### ASSISTANT ACCOUNTS OFFICERS ON STATE RAILWAYS.

972. **\*Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury :** (a) How many posts of Assistant Accounts Officers are there on the State Railways and how are these posts filled up?

(b) Is it not a fact that a number of the Assistant Accounts Officers, as well as Senior Accountants from the list of the Director of Railway Audit, have been transferred to the Railway Accounts Department?

(c) Is it not a fact that by doing so, the prospects for promotion of those who were on the Great Indian Peninsula, East Indian and Burma Railways before they were taken over by the State and those who were appointed locally later on, have been jeopardised?

(d) Is it not a fact that officers of the Lower Gazetted Service cannot expect any officiating promotion to the State Railway Accounts Service though there is no leave reserve for the latter?

(e) Is it not a fact that as a rule the members of the Lower Gazetted Service are not getting any promotion to the Railway Accounts Service?

(f) Is it not a fact that whenever there is any vacancy in the Railway Accounts Service, the post is filled up either by fresh recruitment or by members of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service?

(g) Is it not a fact that by filling up all the higher posts by the members of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service as well as Railway Accounts Service, the Senior Accountants and Assistant Accounts Officers have no prospect of promotion ?

(h) Is it not a fact that the Second Report of the Pope Committee under "Accounting as an aid to efficiency" criticised the present system severely ?

(i) Are Government prepared to promote a certain number of subordinates as well as Assistant Accounts Officers to the Superior Railway Accounts Service instead of filling up these posts by the members of the Indian Audit and Accounts Service and recruitment to the Railway Accounts Service ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** (a) There are 25 posts of Assistant Accounts Officers. They are ordinarily filled by promotion from amongst the Accountants and Inspectors of the Accounts Department qualified for promotion as Assistant Accounts Officers.

(b) Yes.

(c) This is a matter of opinion.

(d) Yes.

(e) (f) and (g) No. A certain proportion of vacancies in the Indian Railway Accounts Service is intended to be filled by promotion.

(h) The report mentioned does not deal with the question of the promotion of Assistant Accounts Officers to the Railway Accounts Service.

(i) Promotions of subordinates to the proportion prescribed will be considered when vacancies arise.

#### PROMOTIONS OF SENIOR ACCOUNTANTS AND ASSISTANT ACCOUNTS OFFICERS ON STATE RAILWAYS.

973. **\*Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury :** (a) Will Government please state the criterion which is followed in promoting Senior Accountants and Assistant Accounts Officers to the rank of Assistant Account Officers and Accounts Officers respectively ? Is it done strictly in accordance with seniority ?

(b) Will Government please state the number of Senior Accountants on the State Railways awaiting promotion ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** (a) Promotion in the Railway Accounts Department is, at every stage, based on merit with due regard to seniority.

(b) There are 70 permanent senior Accountants in the Railway Accounts Department.

#### PROMOTION OF CLERKS AND ASSISTANTS IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

974. **\*Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** (a) Is it a fact that some of the clerks who have been doing the duties of assistants for the last three or four years, submitted representations to the Director General of Posts and

Telegraphs in the months of May and June, 1933, praying for the grant to them of higher pay, but no reply either in the affirmative or in the negative has yet been received by them ?

(b) Will Government please state whether any extra remuneration is granted to the clerks ? If not, why not ?

(c) Is it also a fact that whenever a vacancy, either permanent or temporary, in the Superintendent's grade in the said office occurs, the senior-most assistant in the office is allowed officiating promotion in that vacancy but no officiating promotion is allowed to a clerk in the vacancy caused by the promotion of the senior-most assistant to the Superintendent's grade, although the clerk is forced to carry on the duties of the assistant who is promoted to the Superintendent's grade ?

(d) If the reply to part (c) be in the affirmative, do Government propose to state the reasons for this differential treatment ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of such clerks at present ?

(f) Do Government propose to regularise the matter by classifying the charges between clerks Class II, III and I ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) It is a fact that certain clerks of the Director General's office asked for higher pay on the ground that they were performing the duties of assistants. The representations were examined and rejected, as it was found that the men were not in fact doing work of a standard expected of assistants. In this connection, the Honourable Member's attention is invited to Sir Hubert Sams' reply to the second part of Mr. Muhammad Anwar-ul-Azim's starred question No. 429 on February 11th, 1931.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

(c) The facts, as stated by the Honourable Member, are substantially correct except that no clerk is forced to carry out the duties of the assistant who is promoted to the Superintendent's grade ; those duties are distributed among the other assistants.

(d) At present there are a large number of posts of assistants which are surplus to the sanctioned strength and any vacancy in such posts is accordingly filled by recruitment of qualified clerks in the third division.

(e) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (c).

(f) This will be done in due course.

#### ADVANCES MADE TO THE BAHAWALPUR STATE.

975. \***Mr. Goswami M. R. Puri** (a) Will Government please state the amounts of advances made to the Bahawalpur State and the dates on which they were made ?

(b) Will Government please state the dates on which the sanction of the Secretary of State was obtained in respect of each advance ?

(c) Is it a fact that the original sanction of the Secretary of State was only for Rs. two crores and that later advances, amounting to many crores, were made to the State without the previous sanction of the Secretary of State ?

(d) If the reply to part (c) be in the affirmative, who was responsible for making the advances without the sanction of the Secretary of State, the Political Department or the Finance Department ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** With your permission, Sir, I shall answer questions Nos. 975 to 977 together.

In September, 1926, the Secretary of State sanctioned a loan of Rs. 4.27 lakhs. In November, 1931, he agreed to the maximum being increased to Rs. 11½ crores, and in September, 1933, he sanctioned a further increase up to Rs. 12½ crores. Instalments of the loan have been advanced at various times in accordance with the requirements of the Project. The total amount outstanding at the end of the financial year 1933-34 was approximately Rs. 12½ crores. Of this amount about Rs. 9½ crores represents principal and Rs. 2½ crores interest.

As regards the administration and financial prospects of the Bahawalpur section of the Sutlej Valley Project I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the reply given to part (c) of question No. 1387 asked by Sirdar Harbans Singh Brar on the 12th of December, 1933. The administrative arrangements have not changed, but the financial results for 1933-34 have proved to be more satisfactory than were then anticipated. The net receipts during the year amounted to about Rs. 48 lakhs and the ordinary expenditure was less than Rs. 40 lakhs, leaving a surplus of slightly over Rs. eight lakhs which has been utilised in reduction of the debt.

#### ADVANCES MADE TO THE BAHAWALPUR STATE.

†976. **\*Mr. Goswami M. R. Puri :** (a) What is the total amount of advances made so far to the Bahawalpur State and what is the amount of interest which has accrued so far on these advances ?

(b) Have the Bahawalpur State made any payments towards the repayment of the capital or the interest ?

#### INCOME OF THE SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

†977. **\*Mr. Goswami M. R. Puri :** What is the total income of the Sutlej Valley Project, the officer-in-charge of which is directly responsible to the Government of India, and what is the annual expenditure on the Project ?

#### DELAY IN MAKING FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS OF THE BAHAWALPUR LOAN.

978. **\*Mr. Goswami M. R. Puri :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the reasons for the continued delay in making funding arrangements of the Bahawalpur loan ? At whose instance are the making of funding arrangements being delayed, the Political Department or the Finance Department ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the period within which they propose to make definite and final funding arrangements of this loan ?

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 975.

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the statement made in this House by my predecessor on the 29th of March, 1934. I have nothing to add to the explanations which he then gave.

**REFUNDS OF RENT IN RESPECT OF QUARTERS IN NEW DELHI FOR OVERLAPPING PERIODS BEFORE AND AFTER THE WINTER SEASON.**

**979. \*U Ba Maung :** (a) Is it a fact that the Simla house rent allowance is granted to the staff of the Government of India Secretariat in lieu of free house accommodation in Simla ? If not, for what purpose is it granted ?

(b) Is it a fact that the number of Government quarters in Simla is less than the number of men entitled to Simla House Rent Allowance ?

(c) Are Government aware that private houses in Simla are rented for the whole year ? If so, in what respects is the position of men occupying Government quarters in Simla different from that of those granted Simla House Rent Allowance, so far as the occupation of Government quarters in Delhi is concerned ?

(d) Is it a fact that the migratory clerks of the Government of India, who are entitled to the Simla House Rent Allowance, and occupied Government quarters in Simla, have been allowed refunds of the rent recovered from them since 1st October, 1931, and in future will not have to pay any rent in respect of quarters in New Delhi for short overlapping periods before and after the winter season ?

(e) Is it a fact that the migratory clerks, who are entitled to the Simla House Rent Allowance, but are not allotted Government quarters in Simla, have not been allowed the concession referred to in part (d) above ? If so, why ?

(f) Are Government aware that on account of the very high rent for private houses in Simla, most of the clerks referred to in part (e) above, have invariably to be out of pocket ?

(g) Are Government aware that clerks who are not allotted Government quarters in Simla, have to pay for their residential accommodation in Simla for the whole year and also for their actual stay at Delhi during the winter season ?

(h) If the answer to part (g) be in the affirmative, are Government prepared to reconsider their decision so as to accord them the concession referred to in part (d) above ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Simla house-rent allowance is granted under the three following schemes :

(i) As a fixed sum payable in cash whether the recipient occupies Government accommodation or not, when Government accommodation is occupied the full standard rent is payable ;

(ii) As a sum payable in cash only when Government accommodation is not available, and up to the actual amount of rent paid for private accommodation, when Government accommodation is available, it is occupied rent free ;

- (iii) As a fixed sum payable in cash only when Government accommodation is not available. When Government accommodation is allotted, no allowance is drawn and rent is paid in the ordinary way.

The scheme applicable depends on the date when a particular official joined the service.

(b) I have not thought it worth while to ascertain the actual number of men at present entitled to Simla house-rent allowance. The applications for quarters indicate that demand exceeds supply only in respect of married orthodox clerks' quarters. In the other quarters supply exceeds demand.

(c) I understand that private houses in Simla are ordinarily let for the whole year, but, I believe that in some cases they are let for the season. The position of a man occupying private accommodation in Simla differs from that of a man occupying Government accommodation in Simla in that he cannot be a tenant of the Government all the year round.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes. The intention of the rule is that an official occupying Government accommodation all the year round should not be charged more than 12 months' rent. The concession could not be allowed to persons occupying private accommodation for a part of the year without very elaborate enquiries which would clearly not be justified.

(f) No. I would point out that of 569 recent applicants for married orthodox clerks' quarters in Simla, 355 stated that they would prefer not to occupy the quarters. The inference is that the advantages of occupying Government accommodation are not great.

(g) Yes, if the accommodation in Simla is taken for the whole year.

(h) No.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** With regard to clause (c), the Honourable Member stated that sometimes the quarters are let for the season.

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** For the season ?

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** For the season. With regard to that, if there is any suspicion on the part of the Government on the point of people getting the advantage of the quarters being let for the season only, why cannot the Government call upon the people concerned to furnish a certificate that they have been paying for the whole year ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** Sir, I am afraid my reply to this question has been a very long one, and it is not unnatural, therefore, that my Honourable friend should have misunderstood the position. (Laughter). The reply to part (c) was :

" I understand that private houses in Simla are ordinarily let for the whole year, but I believe that in some cases they are let for the season ", etc.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** With regard to private houses, why is it not the case that, if the Government think that they are not let for the whole year and that sometimes they are let for the season only, they do not call upon them to furnish a certificate saying that they have paid rent for the whole season ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** Sir, it is extraordinarily difficult to explain the position in regard to these questions of house rent on the floor of the House ; but Government are in no way concerned with the arrangements that the clerks may make for private accommodation. That is not their concern. They are only concerned with Government quarters.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Does the Honourable Member know that these persons residing here in Government quarters, when they go to Delhi, are charged rent for five months there, because they are charged rent here for seven months, whereas those who take on rent private houses here are charged for six months or even more in Delhi. Now, why should that be so ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I may say that that point is engaging our attention.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Thank you.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF SALT MANUFACTURE IN THE COASTAL DISTRICTS OF ORISSA.

980. **\*Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** (a) What steps have been taken by the Government of Bihar and Orissa to develop salt manufacture in the coastal districts of Orissa ?

(b) What measures do Government propose to take to exploit the natural advantages for manufacturing salt in Orissa ?

(c) What is the annual share of the Government of Bihar and Orissa towards additional salt duty ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state the difficulties experienced, if any, by the Government of Bihar and Orissa to develop salt manufacture in Orissa coastal districts ?

(e) What is the share of the Bihar and Orissa province this year in additional salt duty, and when is the Bihar and Orissa Government likely to receive the amount from the Government of India ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** (a), (b) and (d). The required information is being obtained and will be laid on the table in due course.

(c) The share of the Government of Bihar and Orissa in the additional import duty in the last three years was :

	Rs.
1931-32	2,83,500
1932-33	3,19,200
1933-34	1,11,900

(e) It is not possible to say at present what the Local Government's share will be for the current year. Distribution is normally made at the end of each half year.

**Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** May I know from the Honourable Member as to how it is that while as far back as the 20th April, 1934, the Honourable Member's predecessor, Sir George Schuster, replied to my question No. 786, thus :

"The information is being obtained, and will be laid on the table in due course".

and the Honourable Member is even now giving the same answer to a similar question ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I am sorry I did not hear the Honourable Member's question. It had something to do with my predecessor, but beyond that I did not get.

**Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** Sir, on the 20th April, 1934, I put a question, No. 786, to which Sir George Schuster replied :

"The information is being obtained, and will be laid on the table in due course",

Now, that reply was exactly the same as the Honourable Member gives today !

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I am glad that in this matter at any rate there is complete concurrence between myself and my predecessor. (Laughter.)

#### INSPECTION OF INCOME-TAX ASSESSMENT FILES BY THE ASSESSEES.

981. **\*Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether they propose to embody instructions in the Income-tax Manual permitting the assesses free inspection of their own assessment file, similar to those issued regarding the supply of copies of assessment orders ?

(b) Is it a fact that petitions as distinguished from requests by assesses to inspect their own assessment files have always been bluntly rejected in Bihar and Orissa ?

(c) Are not notices, intimating dates of hearing, sent to the parties by the Civil Courts in addition to the practice of hanging up the daily cause list ? If so, why is this facility denied to the Income-tax payers ?

(d) Are Government aware that the withholding of the daily cause list often causes serious inconvenience to the assesses and at times results in summary assessment ?

(e) Has the attention of Government been drawn to such abuse of power in Bihar and Orissa as has been exposed in two recent decisions of the Nagpur Income-tax Commissioner's Court, repeated in A. I. R. 34 Nagpur, pages 175 and 183 ? If so, how do Government propose to stop such abuse of power ?

(f) Will Government please state if there is any form prescribed under Rule 21 for appeal against order under section 25 (a) and appeal under section 55 (a) ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** The information is being obtained and will be laid on the table in due course. (Laughter.)

#### COOLIES WORKING IN TEA GARDENS AT CERTAIN PLACES.

982. **\*Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of coolies working in the tea gardens of (i) Assam, (ii) Dooars, (iii) Darjeeling including Terai, (iv) Tipperah, and (v) Southern India ?



(b) What is the number of coolies in these tea gardens from the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Orissa, including Feudatory States, Singhbhum and Santal Purgannahs ?

(c) Are there any clerks, supervisors, doctors and teachers in the tea gardens coming from the districts whence the coolies are recruited ?

(d) What is the number of the children of school-going age of the workers in the tea gardens and what percentage of those children are given primary and secondary education in the tea gardens or in the tea districts ? If any of them is given secondary education, do the tea gardens, where such a boy is educated, give any employment to him befitting his education ?

(e) Is it a fact that education imparted to the children of the coolies from Orissa in the tea gardens in Assam, is in Assamese language ?

(f) Is it a fact that a boy of a cooly from Orissa, educated in Assamese language, finds himself a stranger and illiterate amidst his own people on his return to Orissa ? If so, do Government propose to take any steps to remedy this evil ?

(g) Is it a fact that the tea planters, with the help of the Assam Government, are attempting to Assamize the Oriya labourers by giving them Assamese education ?

(h) Are Government aware that there is a set of rules maintained by the planters of Assam, known as the "Labour Rules", guiding the procedure for planters with regard to wages and civil contracts, restricting one planter from paying higher wages than the rest of his neighbouring gardens, to keep down higher rate of wage ?

(i) Will Government be pleased to lay a copy of such rules on the table ?

(j) Is it a fact that the tea gardens prefer recruiting coolies in families to single male adults, however strong they may be ? If so, what is the reason ?

(k) Do Government propose to enforce the planters to appoint in the tea gardens clerks, doctors, and supervisors, from the district of the coolies, so that the coolies could talk to one of the officials at least in a tea garden in his own language while seeking redress on any difficulty or need ?

(l) Do Government contemplate engaging Indian Labour Inspectors in the tea districts to inspect the labour conditions, instead of the Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners of the tea districts, and to recruit such Indian officers only from the recruiting districts of the coolies to enable them better to understand their needs and difficulties and to suggest to the Government of the province from which the coolies are recruited, measures for their improvement ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** With your permission, Sir, I will deal with questions Nos. 982 to 985 together.

I have called for certain information from the Controller of Emigrant Labour and will lay a reply on the table of the House in due course.

**FEE CHARGED FOR EACH COOLY RECRUITED TO THE ASSAM TEA GARDENS.**

† 983. **\*Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** (a) What fee do Government charge for each cooly recruited to the Assam tea gardens ?

(b) Is it a fact that the cost of recruitment is recovered from the wages of the cooly in the tea garden of Assam and, before such time as he has not paid back the amount, he cannot leave the tea garden ?

**MONETARY VALUE OF THE PROPERTIES ACQUIRED BY THE ORIYA COOLIES IN ASSAM.**

† 984. **\*Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** (a) What is the monetary value of the properties acquired by the coolies in Assam from Orissa who have stayed there for more than ten years ?

(b) Do the Oriya coolies in the tea gardens ever send money to their homes and relations in the province from which they are recruited through the Post Office ? If so, what amount was sent by them since 1930 ?

(c) Are Government aware that coolies in the tea gardens are not given railway fare to go back to their country after any number of years of work in the garden, if the cooly desired to return to his province ?

**RECRUITMENT OF COOLIES IN TEA GARDENS.**

† 985. **\*Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** (a) Do Government propose to take steps so that the tea gardeners may recruit, along with coolies, such men as may be teachers to the coolies in their own language ?

(b) Are Government aware that if an intending worker, seeking to go to the tea gardens, looks a bit smart and intelligent, he is not recruited by the Agent for the tea gardens ? If so, what is the reason ?

(c) Are Government aware that only aboriginals are judged fit by the tea planters for recruitment to the tea gardens as workers ?

**PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS OF COOLIES IN THE TEA GARDENS OF ASSAM.**

986. **\*Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** What is the percentage of deaths of coolies in the tea gardens of Assam during the last year in comparison with the death rate in the Madras jails ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** The death rate per *mille* among the labour population in the tea gardens of Assam during the year ending the 30th June, 1933, was 20.49. The death rate in the Madras Jails during 1932 was 7.25. In case, however, the Honourable Member would prefer to compare like with like, I would point out that the general death rate during 1932 was 18.96 in Assam, 21.96 in Madras, and 20.6 in Bihar and Orissa, the Province from which my Honourable friend comes.

**Mr. F. W. Hockenhull :** Is it not a fact, Sir, that Tea Gardens render a monthly return of vital statistics ; that these are periodically checked by Government officers on the spot at their inspections ; and that the greater reliability of these returns will account for the disparity between the Tea Garden and Provincial death rates ?

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† For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 982.

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I am quite prepared, Sir, to take that from my Honourable friend. From my knowledge of the Tea Gardens, I should say that the registration of births and deaths on those gardens is more accurate than of those throughout the Province generally.

**PRINTING OF THE REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR IN  
IMPORTANT VERNACULARS.**

987. **\*Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra :** Are Government prepared to print the report of the Royal Labour Commission in the important vernaculars of the country to give the benefit of its existence to the workers in India as most of them do not know English ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** No. A similar suggestion was considered in 1931, at the time of the publication of the Report, and Government did not find it possible to accept it. The expense of publishing the report in several vernacular languages would be very considerable, and the advantages of doing so would be uncertain.

**CONFIRMATION OF NON-GAZETTED POSTAL STAFF.**

988. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of vacancies in each Circle and in each cadre in the Postal Department remaining vacant under orders of the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, issued in April, 1931 ;
- (b) whether the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, has come to any decision as regards the confirmation of lower cadres as has been done in the case of gazetted officers ;
- (c) whether the ban against confirmation has been removed in respect of other departments of the Government of India and the gazetted staff of the Postal Department ;
- (d) whether they are aware of the discontent that exists in the minds of the non-gazetted staff of the Post Offices on account of the partial treatment meted to the gazetted staff of the same department in the matter of confirmation ;
- (e) whether they propose to confirm these officials immediately, and if so, when ; and
- (f) if not, whether the lien of officiating men will be suspended under Fundamental Rule 13 so as to give them the benefit towards pension ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) Government regret that they are unable to furnish the information as its collection would involve an undue expenditure of time and labour.

(b) to (f). Government have ordered that in regard to services and posts for which new scales of pay have been prescribed and to services and posts for which the existing scales of pay have been announced as applicable to new entrants also, the embargo imposed on confirmation should be removed with effect from the date of publication of the new scales or the date of announcement of no change, as the case may be.

Accordingly, the ban against confirmation has been removed in respect of those Departments of the Government of India with regard to such services and posts for which the new scales of pay have been announced. The ban against confirmation regarding the gazetted staff of the Postal Department has been removed for the same reason. Government recognise that the delay in the removal of the ban on confirmation in the case of a non-gazetted staff may, in some cases, result in a certain amount of loss. The question of the introduction of new scales of pay for the non-gazetted staff of the Posts and Telegraphs Department is under consideration and it is hoped to announce these scales of pay in the near future. The question of the removal of the ban against confirmation will be decided as soon as possible after the announcement of the new scales of pay. Government regret that they cannot accept the suggestion made by the Honourable Member in part (f) of the question.

# INVESTIGATING INSPECTORS IN THE POSTMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE, BOMBAY.

989. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) how long the present Investigating Inspectors, attached to the Postmaster General's Office at Bombay, have been working in their present appointments and whether they are not overdue for transfers ;
- (b) whether only in March 1934 several transfers of Sub-Divisional Inspectors were effected in that circle ; and
- (c) whether the retention of the present Investigating Inspectors is indispensable, and if so, the reasons thereof ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** (a) to (c). Government have no information. I may, however, inform the Honourable Member that, on account of the existing financial stringency, the orders which normally prescribe the intervals for transfers have temporarily been held in suspense, and transfers are being made only in those cases in which they are considered by the Head of the Circle to be specially desirable.

# COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN PUBLIC SERVICES.

990. **\*Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will Government be pleased to state whether their orders regarding communal representation in public services and their restricted application to direct recruitment only and not to promotions, have been communicated to the Postal Department ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** Yes.

# ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS SENT FOR REFRESHER COURSE TO CHANDAUSI.

991. **\*Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla :** (a) Is it a fact that the old Assistant Station Masters are sent for Refresher Course to Chandausi ?

(b) Is it also a fact that they are required to receive training and to pass in more than half a dozen subjects in 21 days ?

(c) Will Government kindly state the necessity of introducing this system and whether it has actually increased the efficiency of even the old Assistant Station Masters ?

(d) Are Government aware that this is causing much inconvenience to the Assistant Station Masters of advanced age ?

(e) Are Government aware that many of the old Assistant Station Masters are not so well versed in English as to learn the course in English and pass the examination ?

(f) Will Government kindly state the monthly expenditure that they have been incurring on the Chandausi School ?

(g) Will Government kindly state the percentage of successful candidates at the last examination of the Chandausi institution ?

(h) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Assistant Station Masters had to receive any training and pass any examination before their appointment as such ? If so, what were the subjects taught in that training and why even after that examination they are now again required to pass the Refresher Course ?

(i) What is the fate of those Assistant Station Masters who fail in both the attempts ?

(j) Are Government prepared to exempt the Assistant Station Masters of advanced age from the examination if they feel the necessity of retaining the Refresher Course ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** I have called for certain information and will lay a reply on the table of the House in due course.

#### TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF FOOD TO PILGRIMS ON PILGRIM SHIPS.

992. **\*Khan Sahib Shaikh Fazal Haq Piracha :** (a) Will Government please state if they are aware that Messrs. Turner Morrison and Company, Limited, had given away to a contractor the contract of food supply to the pilgrims on pilgrim ships to Hedjaz in the last pilgrim season ?

(b) Is it a fact that the said contractor is a relation of a director of the said shipping company ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the rates of the accepted tender by the Company for supply of food to the pilgrims ?

(d) How many tenders in all were received by the shipping company for supply of food ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state the names of the persons or companies who gave tenders, with the rates offered in the tenders ?

(f) Is it a fact that Abdul Sattar, Adamji, Jetporwala, 191, Furniture Bazar, Bombay, gave a tender to the shipping company with the following rates, of supply of food, but the tender was not accepted ?

Return Journey from Bombay, Rs. 16, A Class.

Return Journey from Bombay Rs. 8, B Class.

Return Journey from Karachi, Rs. 14, A Class.

• Return Journey from Karachi, Rs. 7, B Class.

Return Journey from Calcutta, Rs. 26, A Class.

Return Journey from Calcutta, Rs. 13, B Class.

(g) Is it a fact that the company accepted a tender, with a much higher rate, viz., as follows ?

Return Journey from Bombay, Rs. 24, A Class.

Return Journey from Bombay, Rs. 16, B Class.

Return Journey from Karachi, Rs. 18, A Class.

Return Journey from Karachi, Rs. 12, B Class.

Return Journey from Calcutta, Rs. 34, A Class.

Return Journey from Calcutta, Rs. 24, B Class.

(h) Will Government be pleased to state the circumstances due to which tender with higher rates was accepted by the Company in the presence of a tenderer offering much lower rates ?

(i) Do Government propose to see that the pilgrims in future do not pay more for their food when they can get it cheaper ?

(j) Did Government receive any information of the Hajee's troubles during the last pilgrim seasons, and have Government considered how to remedy them ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** (a), (b) and (d) to (j). I would refer the Honourable Member to the answer given to Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad's starred question No. 61 on the 18th July, 1934, and connected supplementaries.

(c) A statement is laid on the table.

*Statement.*

Port of departure.	Scale of food.	Food charges for single journey.		Food charges for journey both ways.	
		Per pilgrim of the age of ten years and over.	Per child under ten years of age.	Per pilgrim of the age of ten years and over.	Per child under ten years of age.
		Rs.	Ra.	Rs.	Ra.
Bombay ..	" A " Scale ..	12	6	24	12
	" B " Scale ..	8	4	16	8
Karachi ..	" A " Scale ..	9	4½	18	9
	" B " Scale ..	6	3	12	6
Calcutta ..	" A " Scale ..	17	8½	34	17
	" B " Scale ..	12	6	24	12

## APPOINTMENT OF MUSLIMS IN THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, BOMBAY.

993. \***Khan Sahib Shaikh Fazal Haq Piracha** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if their resolution regarding the reservation of 25 per cent. of the services for the Muslims, applies to the Customs Department as well ?

(b) Is it a fact that nine posts were recently to be filled, in the new Customs House, Bombay, one of an appraiser and eight of examining officers ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state whether these vacancies were advertised or not ? If so, in which papers, and if not, why not ?

(d) Is it a fact that certain Muslims applied for the posts, nine out of which were graduates, but none was given an appointment ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the officiating Collector of Customs appointed a matriculate Parsee in the post of an appraiser, ignoring the graduate candidates ?

(f) Is it a fact that the said nine posts were filled as follows :

Four by Hindus, one by a Parsee, and one by a Christian ?

(g) Is it a fact that in the new Customs House, Bombay, thirty posts of appraisers and thirty posts of examining officers are held by various communities in the following order ?

		Muslims.	Hindus.	Christians.
Appraisers	.. ..	3	8	7
Examining officers	.. ..	5	6	11
		Europeans.		Parsees.
Appraisers	.. ..		3	9
Examining officers	.. ..			8

(h) Do Government propose to interfere in the recent appointments made by the Collector of Customs, New Customs House, Bombay, and give the Muslims their due share of appointments ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg** : (a) Yes, but the Honourable Member's attention is specially drawn to paragraphs 6 and 9(3), which make it clear that on account of the special technical qualifications required in the Appraising Department, that Department has been excluded from the operation of the rules.

(b) The number of additional posts to be filled was three Appraisers and six Examining Officers.

(c) and (h). The Honourable Member is referred to the answers given yesterday to parts (b) and (g) of Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Saheb Bahadur's starred question No. 948.

(d) Two Muslim graduates were appointed to vacancies in the grade of Candidate Examining Officer.

(e) Yes, but the Parsi candidate appointed as an Appraiser possessed special technical qualifications and experience of the kind required for an Appraiser's post.

(f) and (g). The facts are not as stated by the Honourable Member. A statement showing the correct position is laid on the table.

(a) Statement showing how 3 posts of Appraisers and 7 posts of Examining Officers, including one vacancy created by the promotion of one Hindu Examining Officer to the post of Appraiser, were filled up at the Bombay Custom House.

3 Appraisers	..	1 Hindu. 1 Parsi. 1 Indian Christian.
7 Examining Officers	..	.. by promoting 7 Candidate Examining Officers.
7 Candidate Examining Officers	..	3 Hindus. 2 Muslims. 1 Parsi. 1 Indian Christian.

(b) Statement showing the present strength of Appraisers, Examining Officers and Candidate Examining Officers including recent appointments at the Bombay Custom House.

	Muslims.	Hindus.	Indian Christians.	Europeans, and Anglo-Indians.	Parsis.	Jews.	Total.
Appraisers .. ..	3	9	8	3	10	..	33
Examining Officers ..	5	16	4	1	10	2	38
Candidate Examining Officers	2	3	1	..	1	..	7

**Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon :** May I ask, Sir, what sort of qualification is required for the appointment of Examiners and Appraisers in the Customs Department ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I could not answer that question off-hand.

**Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon :** Is it not a fact that, because of some influence from here and there, the Muslim candidates are always rejected from entering into this Service on the general plea that they are not qualified enough ? I want the Government to make it clear what sort of minimum qualification is required for the appointment to the posts of Appraisers and Examiners ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I will consider that matter. The difficulty is that different conditions prevail at different ports.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** May I ask how many posts are to be filled in the office of the Collector of the Customs Department ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** My answer was "Two Muslim graduates were appointed to vacancies in the grade of Candidate Examining Officer".

**Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon :** I saw the Collector of Customs in this connection, and he mentioned to me certain qualifications, such as, the



examining of goods. I told him that, in Karachi and Bombay, there are plenty of Muslims belonging to the mercantile community who will be quite suitable for these appointments, but he did not listen to our request, and thus the authorities are not carrying out the terms of the Resolution of the Government of India. Will the Honourable Member kindly see to it and inform the local authorities that whenever any vacancies occur, they must consult the local mercantile community before filling them ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I have already said in the first part of my answer that this is a special Department and it requires special technical qualifications, and, therefore, the Resolution of the Government of India does not apply to it. So, it would come to this that the best qualified man must be appointed to the post. Sometimes the best qualified candidate happens to be a Muslim, and, as I said, two Muslim graduates have actually been appointed.

**Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon :** May I ask, Sir, if the vacancies in the Customs Department are advertised ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** That point was dealt with in an answer which I gave yesterday. I said :

“ The vacancies are not advertised, but a register of selected applicants is maintained in the Customs House, and there were 114 names at the end of July on the Appraising Department register. In addition, 300 applications were received from all parts of India, and, out of these, 30 were selected for interview on the 3rd August, 1934.”

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** I hope the Government will see our difficulty. If the minimum qualification required for the filling of the post is advertised, we will be able to put forward candidates.

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** The fact that we have received over 300 new applications is proof enough that the vacancies are sufficiently known.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** But Government should take only those candidates who are sufficiently qualified and should not take only those who are in contact with the Department or because they are the relations of some persons who are already in the Department ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I am sorry, but I cannot hear the Honourable Member because of the activities of the Railway Board outside. (Laughter.)

**Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon :** Is the Honourable Member aware that the registration in the Customs Department depends on the will of the Collector of Customs or his head clerk ? In fact, without the permission of the head clerk, nobody can get himself registered.

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** Is it the accusation or the suggestion of the Honourable Member that nobody can get a job in the office of the Collector of Customs without the goodwill of the Collector of Customs ?

**Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon :** Yes.

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** That is an obvious conclusion to be drawn from what I have said, but it does not necessarily mean that there is anything improper in it.

**Sir Abdul Rahim :** The Honourable Member has just said that the best qualified men are taken in the Department and that the qualifications required are of a technical nature. I should like to know if the Honourable Member can tell us whether there is a competitive examination by which it is ascertained who are the best qualified men ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** No, Sir. There is an interview conducted by the Collector of Customs.

**Sir Abdur Rahim :** Does not the Honourable Member think that if as a matter of fact, the best qualified men are required, then there should be a competitive examination to find out who are the best candidates ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I certainly would not admit that, but I will consider this matter much more carefully later than I can do at the moment. As far as I know at the moment, the actual selection has proved satisfactory, and there is no lack of qualified candidates.

**Sir Abdur Rahim :** Does not the Honourable Member realise that if it is left to the will of the head of the Department to decide as to who are the best qualified men, then questions that have been raised here on the floor of the House are likely to arise, and there will be a good deal of suspicion that selections may not be free from some sort of favouritism.

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I agree with the Honourable Member that that is an inevitable drawback of any selection system, but whether in this particular case a competitive system may not create equal difficulties or even greater difficulties in other directions is a matter to be weighed against the disadvantages of selection.

**Sir Abdur Rahim :** Even if it is desirable in the opinion of the Honourable Member that selection should be made by some officer without the test of a competitive examination, I suggest to the Honourable Member for his consideration whether it would not be better to leave the selection in the hands of the Public Service Commission or some similar body ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I will consider that point without making any attempt to anticipate final conclusions.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Will Government kindly consider seriously the suggestion made by the Leader of the Opposition, namely, that a competitive examination should be held to test the ability of candidates, not only for appointments in the Customs Department, but in other Departments of the Government of India ?

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) :** That question does not arise out of the present one.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** At present there is an unrestricted discretion with the Collector of Customs. Does the Honourable Member know that the Collector has appointed matriculates in preference to graduates ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** There was one particular case, and I have already referred to it in the answer which I have just given. I may repeat that answer :

“(c) Yes, but the Parsi candidate appointed as an Appraiser possessed special technical qualifications and experience of the kind required for an appraiser's post.”

Apart from that, what I would say to the Honourable Member is that one swallow does not make a summer.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will the Honourable Member take it from me that in Karachi something like that has happened, and may I request the Honourable Member that, with a view to removing these grievances, will it not be better if actual qualifications are laid down and examination conducted through the Public Service Commission ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** Two suggestions have been made, the one is for a competitive examination and the other is selection through the Public Service Commission. I have already undertaken, in reply to a question by the Leader of the Opposition, to consider the question of selection by the Public Service Commission, and, naturally, I should consider the question of competitive examination also, but I can see great difficulty in the question of examination.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad :** There is a standing grievance that the applicants from the up-country are not given a chance for appointment as customs officers, because they are not known to the Collector of Customs, and the applicants who are near about the place where the selection is made are well known to the Collector of Customs, and thus they have a very great advantage over the up-country applicants. Will the Honourable Member rectify this defect ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I have myself investigated this question of selection of candidates from the up-country parts, and it is not the case that no up-country people are appointed. On the whole, I am satisfied that up-country candidates get a fair consideration.

†994\*.—995\*.

**PERMISSION GIVEN TO THE ELECTRICAL ENGINEER, PUSA RESEARCH INSTITUTE,  
TO RUN A CINEMA.**

996. \***Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** (a) Is it a fact that permission was given to the Electrical Engineer, Pusa Agricultural Research Institute, some months ago to run a cinema on the Pusa Estate, that the current used was from the Government supply, and that the whole staff of the Power House was busy with the cinema performances ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the current was metered, what amount was paid to Government for the use of this current, in whose name the cinema was run, and whether the permission of the Government of India was obtained as also that of the Electrical Department of the Government of Bihar and Orissa ?

(c) Do Government permit their officers like the Electrical Engineer, to indulge in private profit making enterprises, like running cinema shows, manufacturing soda water, etc. ? Are Government aware that such things usually lead to abuse of position and abuse of Government materials ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state whether the Electrical Engineer has running water-supply in his house, a luxury which even the Director of the Institute does not have, whether he is charged for the water he uses and, whether the water is pumped into the reservoir using electric current ?

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†These questions were withdrawn by the questioner.

(e) Are Government aware that the primary purpose of this reservoir has now become merely the supply of water to the Engineer, whatever the paper reason for it may be ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** With your permission, I shall answer question Nos. 996 and 997 together.

The information has been called for and will be supplied in due course.

#### RETRENCHMENT OF STAFF IN THE PUSA RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

†997. **\*Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Will Government be pleased to state the number of staff retrenched from the various research sections of the Pusa Institute in 1931, following the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, both superior and menial and the staff retrenched from the Power House ?

#### PROMOTION AND SENIORITY OF THE TRAVELLING TICKET EXAMINERS AND INSPECTORS ON THE NORTH WESTERN AND EAST INDIAN RAILWAYS.

998. **\*Mr. S. G. Jog :** Will Government please state the policy and procedure of promotion and seniority of the Travelling Ticket Examiners and Travelling Ticket Inspectors of the Accounts and Audit Department now transferred to the Operating Department of the North Western and East Indian Railways, respectively ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** I am not sure whether my Honourable friend is referring to their seniority *inter se* or with regard to other staff. If the former, the position could not have been altered by the control over them being transferred to the Traffic Department. If the latter, I cannot answer the question till he informs me what other staff he is comparing them with.

#### GRANT OF PASSES TO THE TRAVELLING TICKET EXAMINERS AND INSPECTORS ON THE NORTH WESTERN AND EAST INDIAN RAILWAYS.

999. **\*Mr. S. G. Jog :** (a) Will Government please state the policy and procedure for the grant of duty and privilege passes to the Travelling Ticket Examiners (under the Mody-Ward Scheme) of the North Western and East Indian Railways, respectively ?

(b) Will Government please state the policy and procedure in force regarding the grant of duty passes to the Travelling Ticket Inspectors under the Accounts and Audit Department on the East Indian Railway ?

(c) Will Government please state the distinction in the policy and procedure for the grant of duty passes to the Travelling Ticket Inspectors on the North Western and East Indian Railways under the Accounts and Audit Department and the Operating Department, respectively ?

**Mr. P. B. Rau :** I am obtaining information in regard to the East Indian Railway and will lay on the table of the House the particulars required regarding that railway. As regards the North Western Railway :

(a) The scheme recommended by the Moody-Ward Committee was not adopted over that line ;

- (c) The rules governing the issue of duty passes to Travelling Ticket Inspectors who, prior to 1st June, 1931, were under the Audit Department, and, thereafter, under the Commercial Branch, are the same as for Special Ticket Examiners now employed under the Commercial Branch. No Special Ticket Examiners are under the Operating Branch.

**Mr. H. P. Mody :** Is it the Mody-Ward scheme as stated in the question ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** In my answer I have given the correct spelling, Moody.

#### PROMOTION OF STAFF OF THE OLD OUDH AND ROHILKUND RAILWAY.

1000. **\*Mr. S. G. Jog :** (a) Will Government please state the policy and procedure for filling of the sanctioned posts on the Oudh and Rohilkund Section of the East Indian Railway ?

(b) Will Government please state the policy and procedure for promotion of the staff of the old Oudh and Rohilkund Railway ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** (a) and (b). Recruitment of subordinate staff on all sections of the East Indian Railway is generally made in accordance with the " Rules for the recruitment and training of subordinate staff on State-managed Railways ", a copy of which is in the Library of the House. Promotions are made according to seniority and merit. I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the information laid on the table of the House on the 12th December, 1933, in reply to Mr. Bower's starred question No. 1017.

#### POST OF THE ASSISTANT MASTER GENERAL OF ORDNANCE.

1001. **\*Mr. S. G. Jog :** With reference to the answer to Mr. Bhuput Sing's starred question No. 104 of the 19th July, 1934, wherein it had been stated by the Army Secretary that the appointment of an Assistant Master General of Ordnance at Army Headquarters is quite a recent one, are Government aware that in reply to my starred question No. 672 of the 10th April, 1934, it had been stated that the post in question was not a new one ? If so, will Government please state which is the correct answer ?

**Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby :** Both replies are correct in their context. The title of Assistant Master General of the Ordnance is new, but the appointment is an old one which was formerly designated Assistant Director of Technical Organisation.

#### INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE, ROME.

1002. **\*Mr. B. V. Jadhav :** (a) With reference to the International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, will Government be pleased to state :

- (i) the names of representatives of India on the Institute since its foundation ;
- (ii) what financial contributions have been made by India to the Institute since its foundation : and what percentages they formed of the total contributions made by different countries ; and

- (iii) if any Indian held any office in the Institute, paid or otherwise ?
- (b) Does the Institute award any scholarship for research ?
- (c) If the answer to part (b) be in the affirmative, has any Indian been awarded any such scholarship ?
- (d) Does the Institute allow any one to work in the Institute in connection with advanced studies ?
- (e) If the answer to part (d) be in the affirmative, has any Indian been given such facilities ?
- (f) If the answer to part (e) be in the negative, are Government prepared to see that Indians are given such facilities ?
- (g) Has India ever been represented by a non-official expert on the Institute ? If not, why not ?
- (h) Are Government prepared to see that Indians are given facilities for carrying on research work, and also financial assistance, by the Institute ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** The information is being collected and will be supplied in due course.

**SUB-LETTING OF ICE AND AERATED WATER CONTRACT ON CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.**

1003. **\*Seth Liladhar Chaudhury :** (a) Is it a fact that the ice and aerated water contractors of the Northern and Southern Sections of the North Western Railway, have sold the out-stations to their sub-agents ? Are Government aware that this has caused great inconvenience to the travelling public on account of the poor quality of supplies ? Are Government aware that this is against the Railway rules ? If so, why have these sub-agencies been made ?

(b) Do Government propose to stop the sub-letting of such contracts to avoid inconvenience to the public who are directly hit ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** (a) and (b). The Agent, North Western Railway, states that he is not aware of the contractors having sub-let their contracts. Such sub-letting is not permitted under the rules.

**STAFF IN THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT OF THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY.**

1004. **\*Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Saheb Bahadur :** Will Government be pleased to state the total number of :

- (i) gazetted officers in the Imperial Customs Service in the Madras Presidency,
  - (ii) departmental heads in the non-gazetted ranks thereof,
  - (iii) deputy superintendents of the departments,
  - (iv) permanently employed appraisers,
  - (v) assistant inspectors,
  - (vi) upper division clerks,
- and the number of Muslims under the respective divisions ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** I place on the table a statement which gives the required information.

*Statement.*

				Total Number.	Muslim.
(i)	..	..	..	4	....
(ii)	..	..	..	4	....
(iii)	..	..	..	5	....
(iv)	..	..	..	12	....
(v)	..	..	..	16	....
(vi)	..	..	..	19	....

**COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF STENOGRAPHERS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENTS.**

1005. \*Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Sahab Bahadur : Will Government please state the number of stenographers, community-wise, working, either permanently or temporarily in the :

- (i) Home Department ;
- (ii) Finance Department ;
- (iii) Commerce Department ;
- (iv) Industries and Labour Department ;
- (v) Education, Health and Lands Department ;
- (vi) Foreign and Political Department ;
- (vii) Legislative Department ;
- (viii) Legislative Assembly Department ;
- (ix) Army Department ; and
- (x) Agricultural Research Council ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : I lay on the table a statement which gives the necessary information.

*Statement showing the number of Stenographers employed in certain Departments of the Government of India and the community to which they belong.*

Name of Department.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Europeans and Anglo-Indians.	Indian Christians.	Parsis.
Home .. ..	3	1*	1†	2	..	..
Finance .. ..	7	..	1‡	..	..	..
Commerce .. ..	6	..	..	..	..	..
Industries and Labour	5‡	2	..	..	..	..
Education, Health and Lands.	4‡	1	..	..	..	1
Foreign and Political..	6§	1	..	1	..	..
Legislative .. ..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Legislative Assembly	2	..	..	..	..	..
Army .. ..	..	1	..	2	..	..
Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.	2	1	1	..	..	..

\* On deputation. † Vice the Stenographer on deputation. ‡ One temporary. § Two temporary.

**IMPOSITION OF FINES ON THE STAFF ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.**

1006. \*Sardar G. N. Mujumdar : With reference to the statement laid on the table of this House on the 18th July, 1934, in reply to question No. 531 of the 19th March, 1934, relating to the imposition of fines on the staff on the East Indian Railway, will Government please state the offences punishable by fines and the amount of fine leviable for each offences ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : The punishment depends on the circumstances of each case. Government have not laid down, nor are they prepared to lay down, any scale.

**POSTS OF CONTROLLERS SANCTIONED ON THE MORADABAD DIVISION, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.**

1007. \*Sardar G. N. Mujumdar : Is it a fact that only three posts of Controllers (Rs. 310—10—350) are sanctioned for the Moradabad Division, East Indian Railway ? If not, how many are sanctioned ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : The information given by the Honourable Member in the first part of the question is correct according to the classified list corrected up to September, 1933.

**AGE-LIMIT FOR RECRUITMENT OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF CANTONMENTS.**

1008. \*Rai Sahib Badri Lal Rastogi : (a) Is there any age-limit prescribed for appointment of Executive Officers, Class II, under the present rules of recruitment to this service ?

(b) Have Government stopped recruitment for the posts of Executive Officers, Class II, pending re-organisation of the Cantonments Department ? If so, are Government aware that it would debar many officers from entering this service from the Army, who are now eligible for appointment so far as age-limit is concerned and would be ineligible hereafter if the re-organisation of the Department takes time ?

(c) Will the Indian officers and the officers of the Indian Territorial Force remain eligible for employment to the Cantonments Department under the new scheme as well ?

(d) Do Government propose to frame rules that the officers who are now eligible for appointment are not debarred from entering this service due to age-limit when recruitment under the new scheme opens ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : (a) The limit is 35 years.

(b) The answer to the first question is in the negative. Officers are recruited as and when vacancies occur. One officer was appointed Executive Officer, Class II, as recently as May, 1934, and another has recently been placed under training and will be appointed in January, 1935. The second question, therefore, does not arise.

(c) and (d). The scheme is still under consideration, and, I am, therefore, unable to give a definite answer, except as regards the extension of the age-limit. This, I fear, will not be possible.

**AMOUNT GIVEN TO INDIGO PLANTERS IN BIHAR, AND TO OTHERS OUT OF THE VICEROY'S EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND.**

1009. \*Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : (a) Will Government kindly state the number of indigo planters in Bihar, and the total amount of money



given to them collectively out of the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund, and also the number of Indian gentlemen, and the total amount of money given to them collectively out of the same fund ?

(b) What plan of relief is being pursued to assist middle-class persons in Bihar, who have suffered from the earthquake ?

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** I must draw the attention of the Honourable Member to the fact that the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund is administered by a Central Committee appointed by His Excellency the Viceroy and a Provincial Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor of Bihar and Orissa. Control of expenditure is not in the hands either of the Government of India or the Local Government. The manner in which funds have so far been allotted is shown in the Communiqué, a newspaper copy of which I lay on the table.

*Government Communiqué.*

*No. 40.*

The following communiqué has been issued by the reconstruction department of the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund :—

The following details regarding the expenditure from the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund are published for the information of subscribers and of the general public. Up to the 25th of July, 1934, the allotments made by the Bihar and Orissa Committee to each of the main heads of relief were as follows :—

Charitable and rural relief, Rs. 2,72,184.

House-building grants (urban), Rs. 11,09,642.

House-building grants (rural), Rs. 15,60,250.

Relief to the Planting community, Rs. 1,27,500.

Clearance of congested municipal areas, Rs. 70,000.

Semi-permanent housing and supply of building materials, Rs. 10,90,000.

House-building grants to the middle classes, Rs. 5,90,000.

Grants other than house-buildings to middle class, professional classes, etc., Rs. 3,25,000.

Miscellaneous, Rs. 80,425.

Total Rs. 52,25,001.

Allotments of Rs. 3,00,000 for the provision of sugar mills and Rs. 2,86,650 for sand clearance grants were originally made. But as these items of expenditure were subsequently transferred to the Government of India, and to the Famine Relief Fund of the local Government respectively, they have been omitted from the statement. It must be emphasized that the allotments specified above do not represent actual expenditure, but appropriations towards the different objects on which the fund is being expended.

2. Against these allotments, the committee places in the hands of controlling and disbursing officers the sums which they require for expenditure in the near future. The following sums have been placed in the hands of controlling and disbursing officers up to July 25th, 1934. The figures are approximate.

Charitable and rural relief, Rs. 2,68,000.

House-building grants (urban), Rs. 10,06,000.

House-building grants (rural), Rs. 14,95,000.

Relief to the Planting community, Rs. 1,27,000.

Clearance of congested municipal areas, Rs. 70,000.

Semi-permanent housing, and supply of building materials, Rs. 7,81,000.

House-building grants to the middle classes, Rs. 1,92,000.

Grants, other than house-building, to middle classes, professional classes, etc., Rs. 60,000.

Miscellaneous, Rs. 59,000.

Total Rs. 40,58,000.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Will Government please state whether the Committee is under the control of the Local Government or under the control of the Central Government or whether there is no control over that Committee ?

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** I understand the Committee is an independent body, not subject to the control of either the Local Government or the Central Government.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Will Government kindly take into consideration the desirability of having the work of the local Committee supervised by the Central Committee, so that the distribution of the money.....

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) :** But the Government have no control over the Central Committee either.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Is it not a fact that this question of giving grants out of the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund has been referred to in the Budget speeches of the then Finance Member and also of the Finance Secretary ?

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** I am afraid I do not remember that.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Government referred to the Earthquake Relief Fund of the Viceroy for relief, and, at the same time, they disclaim any responsibility for the administration of the Fund and they do not disclose the amounts given to individual persons. That is rather unfair.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Will Government advise the Committees appointed for the distribution of the fund that they should publish their schemes so that people might know what they are going to do.

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** They have published a long communiqué stating what they have done.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** But I want to know what they are going to do hereafter, because there are so many things to be done still.

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** I will pass on that suggestion to the Committee.

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) :** If Honourable Members are interested in this question, they ought to address the Secretary to the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund which is an independent department with which the Government of India have absolutely no concern.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** But a lot of suspicion exists, and that is why we put questions here.

**Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon :** What about the funds of the local Committee ? Has any money been granted.....

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) :** But the present question relates to the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund.

**PROPOSAL FOR CEDING THE SETTLEMENT OF THANGASSEM TO THE TRAVANCORE STATE.**

1010. **\*Mr. Jagan Nath Aggarwal** (on behalf of Mr. K. P. Thampan) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether there is any proposal for ceding to the State of Travancore the settlement of Thangasseri, which formerly formed part of Malabar and now is a part of the Tinnevely District in the Madras Presidency ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Collector of Tinnevely was ordered to ascertain the wishes of the inhabitants of Thangasseri in this matter and that he has submitted his report ? If so, will the report be laid on the table ?

(c) What method did the Collector adopt to ascertain the wishes of the inhabitants and what is the opinion of the majority ?

(d) Do Government propose to give sufficient publicity to the proposal before any definite action is taken ?

**Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe** : The question is under consideration, and the Government of India are unable to make any statement regarding it at present.

**LLOYD BARRAGE AND CANAL CONSTRUCTION SCHEME.**

1011. **\*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state what concern they have with the Lloyd Barrage and Canal Construction system, and its administration ?

(b) Who has spent money on its construction and how much ? Has the loan been given solely by the Government of India ? If so, has any interest been paid to them on that loan ?

(c) What special precautions are Government taking to see that the Barrage proves to be a success ?

(d) Is it a fact that Government have given large tracts of land in 'Tharparkar' District and elsewhere in Sind to Europeans on easy terms by way of leases for long terms ? If so, to whom and on what terms ?

(e) Is it a fact that Government are building in Tharparkar District new railways which will facilitate these European concerns mostly ?

(f) Was any attempt made to lease out these lands to indigenous people on similar terms before they were let out to these European companies ? If so, to whom ? If not, why not ?

(g) Is it a fact that people of Mirpur Khas District were refused land on terms on which they were given to the aforesaid European companies ?

(h) Do Government propose to let out lands in Sind on easy terms by way of leases to Sind people, and advertise the same, in view of the present times of depression and want of money ? If not, why not ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce** : (a) and (b). The Government of India are not directly concerned with the administration of the Lloyd Barrage and Canal Construction scheme. The funds required for its construction have been advanced by the Government of India. The total amount advanced upto the 31st March, 1933, amounted to Rs. 22.76 crores including 3.93 crores on account of interest. The amount of

interest in excess of the net receipts from the project is debited to capital during the period of construction.

(c) All possible steps are being taken to accelerate the development of the Lloyd Barrage area as a revenue producing asset so that the repayment of the advance from the Government of India may be expedited. I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee dated the 13th July, 1934.

(d), (f), (g) and (h). These are matters for the Local Government. The Government of India have no information.

(e) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the proceedings of the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways held on the 13th August, 1934. The railway line has been so aligned as to afford the greatest facilities to agriculturists generally.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** If the Government of India have nothing to do with the sale, disposal and lease of this land, and if it is in the hands of the Provincial Government, why is this Government going to incur expenditure and how will Government get the interest back without a proper sale being done and giving it to Europeans and foreigners ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** Sales of land are obviously a matter for the Local Government. The Government of India have no local knowledge, and they have no reason to believe that the Government of Bombay are not exercising their discretion properly in this matter.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** Will Government then have some supervision over them ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** The Government of India are not in a position to exercise detailed supervision in a matter of that kind.

**Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon :** Is it not a fact that the Government of India sent an expert Road Engineer to Sind to examine the road conditions and report to the Government of India ? Has that report reached the Government of India, and, if so, what action have Government taken on it ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I cannot answer my Honourable friend's question off-hand. But I can explain that the position is that that report was drawn up by an officer whose cost was met from the Road Development Fund. His report, I think, is at the moment under the consideration of the Local Government ; and when it comes up to the Government of India, it will be placed before the Standing Advisory Committee on Roads and will be duly considered by them. I have no doubt whatever that the Government of India on their advice will be glad to give all the assistance they can in the matter.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Will Government be pleased to state whether this line mentioned in part (e) of this question is the Jhudo-Pithoro line or some other line ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I am sorry I have no information on that point.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai :** If the Government of India are not prepared to take any responsibility with regard to the disposal of this land, may I know if they are prepared to send these questions to the Government of Bombay to see that the lands are properly disposed of ?

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce :** I shall be very glad to pass on my Honourable friend's question to the Government of Bombay.

**APPOINTMENT OF AN ASSISTANT SURGEON IN CHARGE OF PHAGLI DISPENSARY, SIMLA.**

1012. **\*Mr. S. G. Jog :** (a) Will Government please state if it is not a fact that about 2,500 Government employees of the Government of India with their families are residing in Phagli, Ram Nagar, Nabha Estate, Tutikundi, and Boilegunj in Simla ?

(b) Are Government aware that the dispensary in Phagli is in the charge of a sub-assistant surgeon and not adequately equipped to meet the requirements of such a large number of Government employees and their families residing in the localities referred to in part (a) above ?

(c) Are Government aware that the localities mentioned in part (a) above are too far away from the Civil and Military Dispensary ?

(d) Are Government aware that the Government employees entitled to free medical attendance cannot avail themselves of the services of the sub-assistant surgeon in charge of the Phagli Dispensary free of charge and their prescriptions from their proper medical attendants are not dispensed in this dispensary ?

(e) Is it a fact that the dispensaries at Summer Hill and Mashobra are in charge of Assistant Surgeons ?

(f) Is it not a fact that the number of Government servants with their families residing in Summer Hill and Mashobra is much less than those living in Ramnagar, Phagli, Nabha Estate, Tutikundi and Boilegunj ?

(g) If the answers to the preceding parts be in the affirmative, are Government prepared to appoint an Assistant Surgeon in charge of an adequately provided dispensary in Phagli ?

(h) Will Government please state the locality in which the two Assistant Surgeons and one Sub-Assistant Surgeon, intended for attendance on clerks of Civil Secretariat and Attached Offices and one Assistant Surgeon and one Sub-Assistant Surgeon for Army Headquarters, reside ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** The subject-matter of parts (a) to (h) of the Honourable Member's question has recently been considered by the Government of India on a representation received from the Imperial Secretariat Association. At Phagli, there is a populous colony of entitled employees of the Government of India, but there are colonies in other parts of Simla as well, e.g., Bharari, Chota Simla, Kasumti, and so on. To provide medical aid for their ministerial staff, the Government of India maintain no less than three Indian Medical Service Officers, one R. A. M. C. officer, one Civil Assistant Surgeon, three Military Assistant Surgeons, and two military sub-Assistant Surgeons, and one main dispensary, viz., the Civil and Military. In their own opinion, this constitutes adequate medical provision for their staff. All that can

be reasonably expected is that these officers may be within practicable reach of all these colonies. Government consider that the present residences of these officers, which are enumerated in the statement which I lay on the table, fulfil this condition. Government regret that they cannot accept the principle of one medical attendant for each colony as this would be unnecessarily expensive.

*Statement.*

*Secretariat and Attached Offices.*

*Medical Officers.*

*Locality of residence.*

- |                                                                                      |                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. The Civil Surgeon, Simla East                                                     | .. Cranagh, East.                       |
| 2. The Civil Surgeon, Simla West                                                     | .. Balquholly, S. W.                    |
| 3. The Civil Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Junior Secretariat Establishment.    | Falklands near Lakkar Bazar.            |
| 4. The Military Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Junior Secretariat Establishment. | Grange Ville near Lady Reading Hospital |
| 5. The Military Sub-Assistant Surgeon, Civil and Military Dispensary.                | Oakley Lodge near Ripon Hospital.       |

*Army Headquarters.*

- |                                                                                         |                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. The Surgeon to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.                                | United Service Club.                 |
| 2. The Additional Medical Officer, Army Headquarters.                                   | Oatlands East.                       |
| 3. The Military Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Army Headquarters Establishment.     | Archdale, Jakko.                     |
| 4. The Military Assistant Surgeon in Sub-Medical Charge of the Summer Hill Depot.       | Summer Hill quarters.                |
| 5. The Military Sub-Assistant Surgeon in charge of the Army Headquarters Establishment. | Paragon Cottage near Ripon Hospital. |

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

LOANS ADVANCED BY GOVERNMENT TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS.

128. **Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra** : Will Government please place on the table a statement showing the amounts they have advanced as loans to private individuals giving the names and rates of interests of the loans, as well as the reasons which induced them to advance these loans to private individuals, with a summary of the services rendered by each of them to Government ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg** : I regret that the information desired by the Honourable Member is not available, and I do not consider that any useful purpose would be served by collecting it from the local officers concerned.

### APPOINTMENT OF LILLOOAH APPRENTICES AS TRAIN EXAMINERS.

129. **Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen :** (a) Are Government aware that it has been stated repeatedly in answers to unstarred questions Nos. 19 and 22 of the 5th September, 1932, and starred question No. 1530 (a) of the 5th December, 1932, relating to the appointment of Lillooah apprentices as Train Examiners that a certain Anglo-Indian apprentice had no training even in one shop as referred to by Government in reply to starred question No. 631 (a) of 4th March, 1932, for the post of Train Examiner ?

(b) Are Government aware that 40 per cent. is the standard of pass marks of the East Indian Railway Technical School at Jamalpore ?

(c) Are Government aware that it has been stated in reply to unstarred question No. 19 of 5th December, 1932, that the said Anglo-Indian obtained 36 per cent. marks in the Technical School ?

(d) Are Government aware that it has been stated in reply to unstarred questions Nos. 19 and 22 (b) of 5th September, 1932, that all the Indians of his batch obtained higher marks in the Technical School ?

(e) Are Government aware that the Indian *ex*-apprentices of the East Indian Railway Workshop, Lillooah, passed in the first divisions, worked in the Train Examining section throughout the last strikes (working daily for 8 hours on Sundays, Saturdays and even on all public holidays), and had also training in one or more shops as referred to by Government in reply to starred question No. 631 (a) of 4th March, 1932, and that the European or Anglo-Indian *ex*-apprentices of the same workshop failed or passed in lower divisions and had no training even in one shop as referred to by Government ? If not, will Government please state the reasons ?

(f) If the answers to parts (a) to (e) above be in the affirmative, will Government please state with reference to the answer to starred question No. 828 of 12th September, 1933 :

(i) how the Anglo-Indian apprentice possessed the qualifications for the appointment of Train Examiner ;

(ii) how he passed in the Technical School ;

(iii) whether they made any endeavour to select any better qualified Indian of his batch, and whether most of the Indians of his batch had training in one or more shops as required by Government, and whether most of them obtained higher marks in the Technical School, and whether they had training in one or more shops as referred to by Government for the post of Train Examiner ; if so, in what way ; if not, why not ; and

(iv) the reasons for not selecting any one of the two senior Indians ? If not, why not ?

(g) If the answers to parts (b) and (c) above, be in the negative, will Government please lay on the table copies of the certificates of theoretical and practical training of the Anglo-Indian who was referred to in reply to starred question No. 828 of 12th September, 1933 ? If not, why not ?

**Mr. P. R. Rao :** With your permission, Sir, I propose to reply to questions Nos. 129 and 130 together.

I have called for certain information and will lay a reply on the table of the House in due course.

#### APPOINTMENT OF LILLOOAH APPRENTICES.

†130. **Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen :** (a) Are Government aware that the Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer, East Indian Railway, Lillooah, informed Divisional Superintendent, East Indian Railway, Howrah, in reply to his letter D.O. No. E.T./R.S./15-D.S., Howrah, of the 11th January, 1934, that the two Indian *ex*-apprentices of 1930 who were referred to in reply to starred question No. 829 of 12th September, 1933, were not sent back to Lillooah for unsatisfactory working ?

(b) Are Government aware that those two Indians possess definite proof that they were not sent back to Lillooah for unsatisfactory work and irregular attendance as stated by Government ? Are Government also aware that one of them was retained there a few days more after the strike was over ?

(c) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, will Government please state :

(i) what justification they had for appointing the Anglo-Indian as referred to in answer to starred question No. 828 of 12th September, 1933, in preference to any one of those two Indians of his batch ;

(ii) why the said Anglo-Indian will not be replaced by an Indian of his batch ?

(d) Are Government prepared to appoint those two Indian *ex*-apprentices of 1930 who worked under the Divisional Superintendent, East Indian Railway, Howrah, during the last strikes to suitable posts under the Chief Operating Superintendent, East Indian Railway, when next vacancies arise and issue necessary orders to the officer concerned to this effect ? If not, why not ?

(e) If the answer to part (d) above be in the affirmative, will Government please lay a copy of the order on the table ? If not, why not ?

(f) If the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, are Government prepared to make an early enquiry into the matter and take necessary steps ? If so, in what way ? If not, why not ?

#### EAST INDIAN RAILWAY WORKSHOP STAFF AT JAMALPORE.

131. **Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen :** (a) Who is the special officer of the East Indian Railway appointed at Jamalpore and what are the terms and what are his duties and what has he done so far ?

(b) What suggestions, if any, have been made by the East Indian Railway Administration to Railway Board or Government regarding the Jamalpore staff ?

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†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 129.



(c) Will Government please state whether the Railway authorities are prepared to cancel the four day week order immediately and continue the six day week as before at Jamalpur in consideration of their loss due to earthquake and flood ?

(d) Are the Railway authorities prepared to restore the 5 per cent. cut immediately at Jamalpur ?

(e) What help has been given to the Jamalpur workers from the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund ?

**Mr. P. R. Rau :** (a) Mr. Bonar, a senior scale officer of the Mechanical Engineering Department of the East Indian Railway, was placed on Special Duty in connection with earthquake that took place at Jamalpur on the 15th January, 1934. The principal duties which he was required to perform were in connection with the housing, food-supply, financial assistance and general attendance to the staff who had been rendered homeless by the earthquake and also to keep in touch with the Civil and Police authorities. The Railway Board have not so far received a report of what has actually been done by him.

(b) No suggestions have so far been received.

(c) Full time working has been resumed in Jamalpur workshops with effect from the 4th August, 1934, with the exception of the Erecting Shop, Boiler Shop, Copper-Smith's Shop and Heat Treatment Shop which are at present working five days a week.

(d) No.

(e) Government have no information.

#### ALLOTMENT OF QUARTERS TO *Daftries* IN THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S BRANCH AND THE INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT.

132. **Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah :** (a) Is it a fact that to the *daftries* of the Secretariat offices and several attached offices the quarters are allotted by seniority and that in the office of the Quartermaster General and Chief Controller of Stores, Indian Stores Department, this procedure is not observed ?

(b) Do Government propose to take steps to have the same system introduced also in the offices of the Quartermaster General and the Chief Controller, Indian Stores Department as is in existence in other offices of the Government of India ?

**The Honourable Sir Henry Craik :** (a) The procedure for allotment of quarters to *daftries* varies in the various Departments of the Government of India and attached offices. Quarters are generally allotted in order of seniority, but exceptions to this practice are made in some offices in the cases of persons (i) having liens, (ii) living with families and (iii) whose presence in proximity to office is considered necessary.

In the Quartermaster General's Branch and the Indian Stores Department quarters are allotted by rotation in view of the insufficient number of quarters available. This procedure is designed to give individuals a fair chance of bringing their families to Delhi in turn. In the Indian Stores Department the procedure was adopted as a result of a

representation from some of the *daftries* who have had no chance of obtaining accommodation for some years.

(b) It is not proposed to alter the existing arrangements.

PENSIONS TO *Daftries* OF THE ATTACHED OFFICES.

133 Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah : (a) Will Government please state the amount of pension granted to the *daftries* in the Secretariat offices of the Government of India after putting in full service at the time of retirement ?

(b) Will Government please state the amount of pension granted to the *daftries* in the attached offices of the Government of India after putting in full service at the time of retirement ?

(c) Is it a fact that in the Secretariat offices of the Government of India half-pay pension is granted to the *daftries* and that in the attached offices not more than Rs. 4 are granted as pension to a *daftary* irrespective of the pay he is drawing at the time of retirement ?

(d) If the reply to part (c) be in the affirmative, will Government please state the reasons for such disparity between the pensions of *daftries* of these offices ?

(e) Are Government aware that there is much dissatisfaction among the *daftries* of the attached offices owing to this difference in the pensions and are Government prepared to take immediate steps to grant full half-pay pension to the *daftries* of attached offices also ?

The Honourable Sir James Grigg : (a) Half pay not exceeding Rs. 20 a month.

(b) Half pay not exceeding Rs. 10 a month in Branches of Army Headquarters and half pay not exceeding Rs. 4 a month in other Attached Offices.

(c) Yes, except in Army Headquarters.

(d) and (e). The disparity is recognised and the question of revising the pension of *daftries* in Attached Offices will be considered when the financial position improves.

GRANT OF FAMILY TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE TO *Daftries* OF THE ATTACHED OFFICES.

134. Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah : (a) Is it a fact that family travelling allowance is granted to the *daftries* and peons in the Secretariat offices of the Government of India at the time of move while only single travelling allowance is given to the *daftries* and peons of attached offices ?

(b) Will Government please state the reasons for withholding this concession to the *daftries* and peons of the attached offices and are they prepared to take steps to extend this to them also ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : (a) Yes.

(b) Consideration of the matter has been deferred because of financial stringency.

**MEETINGS OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAYMEN'S UNION, LUCKNOW.**

135. **Mr. S. G. Jog :** (a) Is it not a fact that the East Indian Railwaymen's Union, Lucknow, is a registered trade union and is recognised by the Railway Administration ?

(b) Is it the policy of the Railway Board to encourage the trade union movement on the Indian Railways ?

(c) Is it a fact that the Railway Board desires that each railway system should have only one trade union organisation for the employees ?

(d) Are Government aware that the East Indian Railwaymen's Union called a conference on the 14th and 15th April, 1934, at Lucknow, for the purpose of amalgamating all the unions on the East Indian Railway ?

(e) Is it a fact that the Railway authorities tried to check the conference activities of the union officials ?

(f) Is it a fact that Mr. B. K. Mukerjee, the Secretary of the Conference, was reprimanded by the Employment Officer, Loco. Shops, Lucknow, just before the Conference, for the mere fact of receiving a notice of a meeting of the committee ?

(g) Is it a fact that the Works Manager prohibited collection of subscription for the conference even outside the Workshop gate, and are Government aware that the Mahajans and Kabulis are allowed to harass the workers at the shop gates ?

**Mr. P. R. Ran :** (a) Yes.

(b) The attitude of the Railway Board is that Union conducted on sound trade union principles ought to be encouraged.

(c) No.

(d) Government understand that a conference purporting to be of all East Indian Railway workmen was held at Lucknow on the 14th and 15th April, 1934.

(e), (f) and (g). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table in due course.

**INCOME-TAX REALISED FROM PERSONS WITH AN INCOME BETWEEN RS. 1,000 AND RS. 1,999.**

136. **Lala Rameshwar Prasad Bagla :** Will Government be pleased to state the amount of income-tax realised from persons whose annual income was between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 1,999 during the financial year April, 1933, to March, 1934 ?

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg :** Approximately 82 lakhs.

## STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE.

*Information promised in reply to starred question No. 331 asked by Mr. S. C. Mitra on the 2nd March, 1934.*

### DISABILITY PENSION TO MILITARY EMPLOYEES INVALIDED DURING THE GREAT WAR.

It is much regretted that it is still impossible to give a final reply. The matter which is of a complicated nature is under consideration and a final reply will be sent to the Honourable Member as early as possible.

*Information promised in reply to starred question No. 334, asked by Mr. S. G. Jog on the 2nd March, 1934.*

### DISABILITY PENSION TO MILITARY EMPLOYEES INVALIDED DURING THE GREAT WAR.

It is much regretted that it is still impossible to give a final reply. The matter is under consideration and a final reply will be sent to the Honourable Member as early as possible.

*Information promised in reply to part (a) of starred question No. 751 asked by 'Rai Bahadur Lala Brij Kishore on the 17th April, 1934.*

### REMOVAL OF RELICS OF SANIPUTRA AND MAGLANA TO THE BRITISH MUSEUM AT LONDON.

751 (a). Enquiries made from the authorities of the British Museum show that the relics of Saniputra and Mahamogalana are not in the British Museum.

*Information promised in reply to parts (b) and (d) of starred question No. 229 asked by Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya on the 25th July, 1934.*

### MADRAS TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED.

(b) The Company's shares have appreciated from Rs. 10, the price at which they were issued in 1923, to Rs. 18-8-0, the last price shown for transactions in the local market.

(d) In 1929, existing shareholders of the Company were given the option to subscribe for 29,439 shares par value Rs. 10 at Rs. 1 premium. At that time the Company's shares were quoted in the local market at Rs. 12, i.e., Rs. 2 premium.

*Information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 35 asked by Mr. K. C. Neogy on the 31st July, 1934.*

### CESSE ON SOFT COKE.

(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The position appears to be as follows: The definition of soft coke for the purposes of the Soft Coke Cess Act is "coke unsuitable for metallurgical purposes". The partially coked residue of bye-product coke plants and open-cast were considered by the coal trade as unsuitable for metallurgical purposes and these have been on occasion booked as "soft coke". This practice has however now been stopped and under an arrangement between the East Indian and Bengal Nagpur Railways and the Soft Coke Cess Committee, samples of consignments of coke which

are suspected by the Railway to be of doubtful character are placed before the Chief Mining Engineer, Railway Board (who is also President of the Soft Coke Cess Committee) for opinion on the character of the coke. The Railways subsequently adjust the railway freight on consignments of coke wrongly declared as soft coke. As a result of the arrangement stated above, the quantity of coke wrongly declared as soft coke has been gradually reduced as will be seen from the following figures :

				Quantity reported by Mines Department.	Quantity on which cess collected by Railways.	Difference.
				Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1931	..			722,597	759,780	37,183
1932	..	..	..	756,036	785,830	29,794
1933	..	..	..	823,073	843,037	19,964

The names of the Bye-product Coke Plants and their Managing Agents are :—

Name of Plant.	Managing Agents.
Bhowra Coke Plant .. ..	Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie and Company.
Baraues Coke Plant .. ..	Messrs. Jardine Skinner and Company.
Loyahad Coke Plant .. ..	Messrs. Bird and Company.
Lodna Coke Plant .. ..	Messrs. Turner Morrison and Company.

There are in addition a number of second class collieries manufacturing both hard and soft coke, but Government are not aware which are actually responsible for despatching hard coke as soft coke.

(d) The Indian Railways Act does not provide for action being taken in such cases.

*Information promised in reply to starred question No. 488 by Mr. Sitakanta Mahapatra on the 7th August, 1934.*

#### ORIYAS EMPLOYED IN THE TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT IN THE ORISSA CIRCLE.

The number of Oriyas employed in the Bihar and Orissa Circle in the "Telegraph Department", by which the Honourable Member presumably means the two branches, Telegraph Traffic and Telegraph Engineering, is :

Telegraph Traffic Branch	..	..	..	8
Telegraph Engineering Branch	..	..	..	54

*Information promised in reply to part (b) of unstarred question No. 63 asked by Seth Liladhar Chaudhury on the 15th August, 1934.*

#### RECRUITMENT OF INFERIOR POSTAL STAFF IN DELHI.

(b) During the period in question the Postmaster, Delhi, recruited three inferior servants, one Hindu and two Muslims.

*Information promised in reply to starred question No. 682, asked by Mr. S. G. Jog on the 20th August, 1934.*

**INDIAN DOCTOR APPOINTED ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OR SELECTION BOARD OF THE CENTRAL DUFFERIN FUND.**

A doctor of Indian race, Dr. Alice Pennell, is a member of the Council of the Association and also a member of the Selection Committee for the Women's Medical Service. No Indian doctor has been appointed to the Executive Committee. There is only one elected member on the Executive Committee. The present elected member is Lady Bhore.

*Information promised in reply to starred question No. 770, asked by Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah on the 22nd August, 1934.*

**PROVISION OF MEDICAL FACILITIES AND POLICE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE AREA NEAR THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, NEW DELHI.**

(a) and (d). A Sub-Assistant Surgeon from the Willingdon Hospital attends a dispensary which has been opened in one of the press quarters by the New Delhi Municipal Committee for one hour every morning and arrangements are being made to extend his term of duty there to two hours in the morning. A compounder is on duty at this dispensary for about three hours in the morning and an hour in the evening. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon can also be summoned by telephone from the Willingdon Hospital in emergencies.

As regards the police arrangements, I understand that a police patrol visits the press quarters every night. Two police stations are within easy reach of the quarters. A proposal to have the area patrolled both by day and night is under the consideration of the Chief Commissioner, Delhi.

Government consider that the local authorities are taking adequate steps in regard to the medical and police needs of the locality.

(b) Two bungalows and 333 quarters are occupied by the Press staff. The number of new quarters built on the Minto and the Circular Roads is 627.

(c) The Willingdon Hospital is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles away from the quarters. The nearest police stations are at Faiz Bazar and at Hauz Qazi, approximately three quarters of a mile and half a mile away from the quarters, respectively.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE OTTAWA TRADE AGREEMENT.**

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : Sir, I lay on the table the report\* of the Committee elected by the Legislative Assembly to examine the working of the Ottawa Trade Agreement between India and the United Kingdom together with explanatory notes, minutes of dissent, etc., by certain Members.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad** (United Provinces Southern Divisions : Muhammadan Rural) : May I ask one question ? Will Government be pleased to circulate among the Members of the Assembly the additional statistics and statements laid before the Select Committee ? Will they be available for us as well ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore** : I am not in a position to say. I do not know whether we have a record of all,—I think we have,—but I shall certainly try to make them available to the Members of the House if that is possible.

\*Printed separately and circulated to Honourable Members.

**Sir Abdur Rahim** (Calcutta and Suburbs : Muhammadan Urban) : But this is surely given in an appendix to the majority report.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : I do not know if my Honourable friend is referring to anything which is not there.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad** : I think it will be difficult for us to understand the recommendations unless we know all the facts on which the recommendations are based.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : If my Honourable friend will read the reports and the minutes of dissent, I think he will find that all the information necessary to enable him to come to a final decision is probably there. But if he wants anything in addition to that, I shall be happy to supply it to him.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE OTTAWA TRADE AGREEMENT RULES.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : Sir, I lay on the table the amendments to the Ottawa Trade Agreement Rules, 1932.

### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

#### NOTIFICATION.

##### TARIFFS.

*Simla, the 18th August, 1934.*

No. 750-T. (11)/32.—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (3-B) of section 3 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894 (VIII of 1894), the Governor General in Council is pleased to direct that the following further amendment shall be made in the Ottawa Trade Agreement Rules, 1932, namely :—

In the third Schedule to the said Rules, to the list of countries specified in the second column against the entry "Bum" in the first column thereof, the following shall be added, namely :—

"Leeward Islands, i.e., Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Christopher-Nevis and the Virgin Islands.

Mauritius.

Trinidad.

Windward Islands, i.e., Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent."

T. A. STEWART,

*Secy. to the Govt. of India.*

## THE GERMAN EXCHANGE POSITION.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** (Member for Commerce and Railways) : Sir, I regret that the information so far available to the Government of India does not enable me to answer categorically all the specific questions put by Mr. Neogy. I shall, however, set out as fully as I can the facts in respect of the German exchange position so far as we know them.

Towards the end of 1933, the trend of the German trade balance gave the German Government grave cause for anxiety. In the first quarter of 1934 the situation worsened and what had been a favourable balance had been converted by the end of March into an unfavourable

balance of 54 million marks. This was due, I am informed, to exceptionally large importations of raw materials and action was at once taken, in two ways, to protect the Reichmark from disaster. In the first place, imports of raw materials from abroad were strictly controlled and, in the second place, the amount of foreign exchange available for the finance of imports was further restricted. Up to the 1st of March, 1934, the amount of foreign exchange available for such finance was 50 per cent. of the average requirements of 1931. Since then the increasing difficulties of the exchange situation have necessitated progressively stricter measures of control. From the 1st March the percentage was reduced to 45; from the 1st April, to 35; from 1st May, to 25; from 1st June, to 10, and finally from the 1st of August to five per cent. of the basic figure. So great has become, in the view of the German Government, the necessity for strict control that the apportionment of foreign exchange for the financing of imports is arranged by the Reichbank from day to day, so that out-goings may never exceed incomings. It is inevitable that such drastic restrictions—which Germany regards as essential to protect her currency from disaster—must tend to hamper her foreign trade and to affect adversely her imports from India as from other countries. (I may add at this juncture that the German exchange restrictions are not directed against India alone.) The only specific complaints against the operation of these restrictions which have so far been received by us—and that very recently—have been (1) from a firm of Madras tanners, (2) from a sports requisites exporter in Sialkot, and (3) from a turpentine exporter in the United Provinces. It is reported also that the fur exporters of the Punjab have been adversely affected. Our more important exports, however, such as cotton, jute, rice, hides and skins and oilseeds do not yet appear to have been affected.

The Government of India have, however, been watching the course of Indo-German trade with some care, and when two months ago, it was suggested that Germany in defence of her exchange position intended to restrict the imports of Indian coffee into Germany with effect from the 1st of July, a very strong protest was made against such action by Germany which we have reason to believe has proved successful, at least for the time being. Again, more recently, immediately on receipt of information that our export trade in tanned hides and skins was threatened, the Government of India got into touch by cable with their Trade Commissioner in Hamburg asking for a full report on the circumstances adversely affecting India's export trade. He has been asked to report further whether any other countries enjoy more favourable treatment in respect of foreign exchange than India. The Trade Commissioner has not yet been able to give us information as to the nature of the agreements said to have been concluded by Germany with other countries, but he has confirmed what we understood to be the case that the importer of tanned hides and skins into Germany is afforded the same exchange facilities as the importer of other commodities.

The Government of India is also in communication with His Majesty's Government as regards the nature of the agreement which is said to have been concluded between the United Kingdom and Germany on the 10th of this month and have asked them to elucidate the position of India in relation to that agreement. They have also



[Sir Joseph Bhoré.]

asked for full information as to the nature of the exemptions, if any, from exchange restrictions which are enjoyed by other countries, and if on receipt of the desired information it should appear that there is discrimination of any kind against India, the Government of India will do all in their power to have such discrimination removed and to place Indian exporters on equal footing with traders in other countries. (Cheers.)

**Mr. H. P. Mody** (Bombay Millowners' Association : Indian Commerce) : Are Government in a position to give any information as to what has happened regarding the transactions which took place before the exchange control became effective ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : No : as regards that point also we shall ask for detailed information.

**Mr. H. P. Mody** : When a matter of such importance affecting our trade and commerce with a foreign country takes place, is it not the business of the Trade Commissioner to put himself in touch with commercial organisations throughout this country with a view to warning everybody ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : I think that would naturally be done, but one explanation, I should say, is that events have marched so rapidly that he was probably unable to take the step suggested by my Honourable friend.

**Mr. H. P. Mody** : In view of the fact that more information may be filtering through, and more steps may be taken in Germany, will the Government of India themselves undertake to communicate whatever they learn to the various organisations throughout the country ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : I have already given to the House the fullest possible statement of the information in possession of the Government of India ; but we shall certainly from time to time try to make available to the trade and commercial community any information that we are in receipt of and which may be of value and importance to them.

**Sir Abdur Rahim** (Calcutta and Suburbs : Muhammadan Urban) : I understood the Honourable the Commerce Member to say in one place that the hides and skins import into Germany has not been affected, but in another part I thought he said it might be affected ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : May I explain that the distinction I drew was between dressed hides and raw hides ? The trade in raw hides has so far apparently not been affected.

**Sir Abdur Rahim** : So far as undressed hides and skins are concerned, is it not a fact that very large quantities are now lying in London because of this exchange difficulty and other restrictions in Germany ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré** : We have received, to the best of my recollection, one representation which contains the substance of my Honourable friend's suggestion.

**Sir Abdur Rahim** : Have Government been able to ascertain whether it is founded in fact or not ?

**Manvi Sayyid Murtuza Saheb Bahadur** (North Madras : Muhammadan) : In view of the fact that dressed hides are generally exported

from Southern India, will Government be pleased to mend matters when they come to know that discrimination has been allowed there ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** If there is discrimination, I have already given the assurance that the Government will do everything in their power to try and remove such discriminatory treatment.

**Sir Abdur Rahim :** There has been an Anglo-German Agreement as my Honourable friend has told us : but can the Honourable Member tell us that that will in any way help India so far as Indian business is concerned or whether it excludes India ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** I ought to have explained to my Honourable friend and to the House that the first agreement which was entered into between the United Kingdom and Germany had reference to the questions of securing payment of interest on the Dawes Loan. In respect of that, so far as Indian nationals are concerned, their position, I understand is fully safeguarded. Later on, I understand that there was another agreement which dealt with commercial arrangements. In regard to that we have had no information. It is possible that the papers in connection therewith are now on their way out, but telegraphic reference has been made to the United Kingdom and to His Majesty's Government asking what the position of India is so far as that agreement is concerned.

**Mr. H. P. Mody :** Considering the severe restrictions that have been imposed upon Indian trade with Germany, do the Government of India think it desirable that there should be a free flow of German goods into this country ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** I am not in a position to commit the Government of India with regard to this matter. It is a very delicate and important matter and it will require the most careful consideration.

**Sir Abdur Rahim :** Will Government consider whether it may not be desirable to enter into separate agreements with Germany ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** My Honourable friend will, I hope, not press me on that point at the present moment ; we would like to ascertain the details of the position first, before we commit ourselves in that respect.

**Sir Abdur Rahim :** I simply want Government to consider the matter.

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré :** We shall most certainly consider it.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** (Dacca Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Has the attention of the Honourable Member not been drawn to the press report of the provisions of the Anglo-German exchange agreement, in article 3 of which it is laid down that a limited utilisation of the special account is provided in respect of, firstly, goods other than United Kingdom goods described in article 3, if it is proved that the German buyer of these goods had purchased like goods before January 1st, 1933, through a firm established in the United Kingdom and regularly dealing with the same, and, secondly, of goods produced or

[Mr. K. C. Neogy.]

manufactured in any British colony or overseas territory (any territory under British protection or any mandated territory in respect of which the mandate is exercised by the Government of the United Kingdom) ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** My Honourable friend was good enough to bring that to my notice the other day : we do not possess any official confirmation, but I have telegraphed for it from the United Kingdom ; and I can assure the Honourable Member that we are fully seized of the importance of this matter and we will do all we can to see that the position is safeguarded as far as India is concerned.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Has the Honourable Member's attention also been drawn to a Reuter's telegram that appeared in this morning's papers in which it is stated among other things that Germany is pursuing undaunted her new policy of buying only what she is capable of paying for, and that this control will become even more strict when, on the expiration of current contracts, foreign currencies will be released by the Reichsbank only within the limits of the incoming currencies ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I have seen that.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Has the Honourable Member's attention also been drawn to the last portion of this message which refers to the likelihood of encouragement of intensive production of substitute raw material ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** Yes, I have also noted that.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** Is the Honourable Member alive to the seriousness of this threat and is the Honourable Member going to consider what steps Government should take to obviate this situation ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** I do not think that we ought to regard that in the nature of a threat ; it is probably a measure of self-defence so far as Germany is concerned. I cannot anticipate the possible action that the Government of India may take. I can only reiterate the assurance that I have given to the House and to my Honourable friend that we shall do everything in our power to see that Indian trade is safeguarded so far as Germany is concerned : I am afraid I cannot go beyond that at present.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy :** On what information is my Honourable friend's statement to the effect that the more important exports from India have not been affected by these restrictions based, having regard to the general character of the restrictions themselves ?

**The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhore :** We have in the first place received no complaints from the trades concerned ; and we have no doubt that, had there been any such difficulty as my Honourable friend suggested, knowing the trade as we do, we should most certainly have received at the earliest possible moment some complaint in the matter. In the second place, we have received from our Trade Commissioner no information in regard to these main items of export.

## DEMAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANT.

### CIVIL.

#### EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SCHEMES OF AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT AND RESEARCH.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The House will now resume discussion on the Demand for Supplementary grant.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi** (Tirhut Division : Muhammadan) : Sir, the opposition to the scheme of transfer of the Agricultural Research Institute from Pusa to Delhi is not a faked one ; it is real and genuine, and that is the reason why I lay so much stress on this. The main objection that is raised to Pusa is the ill-adaptability of the place. I have considered this question from all points of view, and I find that this ground is not at all justified. First of all, I presume that the authors of the scheme, when they wanted to establish an institute in India, must have taken into consideration all relevant facts in the matter, and, after due enquiry, would have spotted this place in the Province of Bihar and Orissa for the purpose of locating the institute. My intimate knowledge of the place confirms me in my belief that that was the finest place they could lay their hands upon at that time. I believe that at that time the Englishmen were desirous of having some suitable place where agricultural research could be carried on and profitable results obtained, and for that reason they could find no better place in those days than the one at Pusa. This choice of their was justified, I should think, by subsequent events. I believe I am perfectly right in saying that the adaptability or otherwise of Pusa for an agricultural research institute has never been denied by any student of agricultural research. We have never heard of any student complaining that the place is unsuited for this great task. The complaints that have been made, as it appears from the replies of the Honourable Member in charge of this subject, have come from the Directors of the Institute, from high officials who have difficulty in visiting the place. I believe, so far as my knowledge goes, the research students have done their work at Pusa wonderfully well, and they find the place an ideal one for an undertaking of that nature. During the last 32 years, the institute has been able to produce good results from which those who are real agriculturists have derived manifold advantages. It is for that reason that the intelligent planters of that part of the country have spoken so highly of the working of this institute at Pusa, and it is for that reason that they have raised a protest against the transfer of the research institute from that place. They have got no permanent interest there and so they cannot be accused of being partial ; they are men who look to the material side of it, the utility of the institute, and their protest in this matter is due to the fact that they have found it very useful during the last 32 years for the purpose for which it was established. I have quoted the planters in this respect, but I know for certain that many of us who are really interested in scientific Agricultural research have found the work at Pusa quite efficient in all respects. In fairness to the work done at Pusa, I think that Government should gratefully acknowledge the adaptability of Pusa for carrying on such hard and useful work. The result was produced by a combination of many forces. Climatic condi-

[Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi.]

tion was the first requirement of an institution of this nature. If an institution of this kind was not placed in a climate which was favourable to the hard mental work that was required of the students it would have proved a failure. I think that everybody concerned will testify to the fact that the climate of Pusa is ideal in respect of agricultural research. The climate is not extreme ; it is not so hot in the summer, and not so cold in the winter ; and Honourable Members very well know that Delhi will present a contrast to it. Delhi will be the worst place for the summer and I should think not very comfortable in the winter. In both seasons students of agricultural research will find the climate of Delhi unsuited to their task. There is no truth in the statement that the soils at Pusa are in any way undesirable for carrying on research work of any description whatsoever.

My Honourable friend, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, quoted yesterday from the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture to show that the soil of the place has not been condemned by those great authorities. If they had had an opportunity of seeing the suburb in Delhi where it is going to be transferred, they would have declared it condemnable. I have no doubt that Honourable Members, after they have experience of the institute at Delhi some time after, will miss Pusa very much. In fact, as I find it, it has become a garden of 1,600 acres of land. I can very appropriately describe it as the Eden garden of agriculturists of India. (Hear, hear.) There is a block of 1,600 acres—a very large tract which has been cultivated with the sole object of making it fit for agricultural research. It has been turned into a veritable garden during these 32 years of hard work.

(Interruption by Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad.)

My friend, Dr. Ziauddin, has his own objection that it is in a place where nobody can see what is going on. But I would reserve that subject to a later stage. I have got that point in view and I shall tell my friend that his proverb does not apply to this case. I think that the past efforts of the Government of India and the students of agricultural research throughout India have made Pusa, so to say the least, the agricultural capital of India ; just as there are political capital, commercial capital and industrial capital. Pusa is the agricultural capital. My difficulty in its transfer is not because it is in the Province of Bihar from which I come, but my trouble is that the very principle on which it is going to be transferred from Pusa is unsound, and will, in future, prove to be so unsound that they will have to rue the day of transfer. If the commercial capital of India, which is Calcutta, were to be taken away from that place and located somewhere else according to the whim of the Government of India, what would be the state of mind of the people there. I do not think any European dealing in commerce in Bengal would like the commercial capital removed from Calcutta to some other place which is centrally situated.

**The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce** (Member for Industries and Labour) : May I ask my Honourable friend what is the population of the agricultural capital of India ? (Laughter.)

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** I did not think that my Honourable friend, Sir Frank Noyce, would lay so much stress on the population of Pusa.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The population of the garden of Eden consisted only of Adam and Eve. (Laughter.)

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** (Secretary, Department of Education, Health and Lands) : And the Serpent.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** Pusa is indeed a place with a few men who are devoted to research in agricultural matters. It is not a question of a big population. It is really a place for a few and it is indeed not a place for millions. In a crowded place, you cannot carry on research as successfully as you can in a quiet place. It is impossible. Therefore, it is really the Eden garden inhabited by a few people. In the same way if the industrial capital of India, which is at present at Bombay was to be removed from there at the whim of the authorities, the House will agree that it will not be conducive to the industrial development of India. I believe Delhi to be the political capital. It is nothing more than that. My point is that Delhi has been chosen as the political capital. Whether it is good or bad, it is there. Our principle should not be to concentrate all the institutions of India in Delhi. That will not do. If we persist, the whole structure will certainly collapse. I firmly hold to the belief that agricultural research institutions should not be mixed up with politics. The removal of the institute to Delhi as a move to mix up the people in the research institute with the politics of Delhi, and I do not believe in that. In the very nature the two subjects, if not antagonistic to each other, are wide apart. Delhi is a place where we have got fluctuations of ideas every moment. The political centre of India cannot be expected to be calm and quiet. We have seen the fate of Delhi during the last so many centuries. It has been run over by ambitious powers in the world for their own aggrandizement.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The Chair would advise the Honourable Member to be brief, as there are a number of other speakers, and we have got one more subject to get through.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi :** I think the Agricultural Research Institute should be located in a calmer atmosphere where people can think of nothing else but research work they have got in hand. That is not to be found in the suburb of Delhi. I have no doubt that Delhi will not provide the necessary facility of the discovery of the secrets of nature, which will help agriculturists. I believe that Sir George Schuster, if he had been here and had the opportunity of listening to the strong objections which we have, would have paused twice before giving his assent to this scheme, because he had the interest of the agriculturists at heart, and, therefore, he should have very patently seen that the object was not going to be fulfilled at Delhi. It will be a place not for the earnest students and professors engaged in research work but will be a place for gaiety ; it will be a place for pleasure hunting. It will not be a place for that sort of great work which is expected of earnest students and professors. It

[Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi.]

would have been wiser if the research institute would have been allowed to remain where it is at present.

**Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan** (Agra Division : Muhammadan Rural) : Then do you mean to imply that Delhi University should be abolished also ?

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi** : I do not want anything to be abolished. What I find is that my friends in large numbers, of course, are against hearing anything in favour of the retention of the institute at Pusa. I am quite convinced of that ; and it is for that reason that I am trying to put on record my protest, very strong protest in this respect so that it may be read by the future generation (Hear, hear) and they may understand that a minority, sometimes, is more expressive of the opinion and needs of the people at large than a great majority (Hear, hear), and especially when we find that the great majority has seen some "Provincial" good in the transfer of the institute from Bihar and Orissa to Delhi.

Sir, I am afraid that while up till now the students of the institute have been devoting themselves to real and earnest research work in agriculture, henceforward those students will, in the vicinity of Delhi, think more of something else than research work. First of all, the choice will fall not on the students who have got a natural capacity in them but such choice would be guided more by patronage, to be distributed by politicians to their favourites. Now, to Pusa, I am sure, only those students have been going who had liked to devote serious attention to that kind of research work. At Delhi, it will be something like a pleasure trip for those who want to earn their living, and the results of the research will be very very poor indeed. Now I shall say only a few words about the point of inaccessibility. Sir, I strongly object that Pusa should be damned on incorrect grounds ; it is by no means inaccessible, it is as accessible as any other part of India today. There are railway communications from all sides, and, Sir, if railway communications are not enough to render a place accessible, what else can make a place accessible ? (Hear, hear.) One can, moreover, have aeroplane grounds there, and one can supplement the existing communications in that way too. As it is at present, distance does not count in these days so much. I am pretty sure that that distance does not count these days, and you have got so many sources of communication at your disposal. Therefore, to take the plea of inaccessibility is absolutely wrong.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** (Muzaffarpur *cum* Champaran · Non-Muhammadan) : It is absurd.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi** : Sir, if it is inaccessible, then I think many important places in India should be termed as inaccessible. One word now about the earthquake. The excuse is taken that the situation has been changed on account of the earthquake. I find that other more important institutions than the research institute at Pusa are located in Bihar and Orissa. At Patna we have got that big High Court, which has also suffered owing to the earthquake, but it has been repaired, and in the same way, why cannot the Pusa Institute also be repaired ? For instance, Jamalpur has also suffered very

heavily from the earthquake. It is, I think, many many times more affected than the building at Pusa, but everything else is going to be repaired except this institute at Pusa.

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Do not mention Jamalpur, as they might take that away also ! (Laughter.)

**Mr. P. B. Rau** (Financial Commissioner : Railways) : We are moving some workshops from Lucknow to Jamalpur.

**An Honourable Member** : By way of compensation ?

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** (Patna and Chota Nagpur *cum* Orissa : Muhammadan) : But we object to that as well.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi** : But my point was that the earthquake should not be put forward as an excuse for removing the Pusa Institute to Delhi.

I have considered this matter very seriously in all respects, and I find that the scheme of the Government of India is absolutely unsound, and they will have to repent in future, for helping to destroy all that had been done at Pusa during the last thirty-two years by so many devoted people. It is a sort of suicidal step the Government of India are taking for the agriculturists and, therefore, I very strongly oppose this scheme of transfer. (Applause.)

**Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar** (Tanjore *cum* Trichinopoly : Non-Muhammadan Bural) : Sir, I congratulate my Honourable friend, Babu Gaya Prasad Singh, on the very able manner in which he tried to plough the sands on the seashore whereby he went on giving out what he considered to be his arguments. Sir, it is perfectly true that if it was an all-India question, Provincial and parochial patriotism should not find a place, but is the question of the establishment of an agricultural institute an all-India question ? Look at the Report of the Royal Commission. They say that the conditions differ in India from Province to Province, from district to district and as between various portions in the same district. So, however inaccessible a place might be, that plea would not do ; secondly, it has been our contention from the beginning that each Province, if not sub-Province, must have its own research institute. Supposing this is an all-India question, what is the position ? The question was viewed notably by a writer in the *Times of India* as if it was a sight-seeing matter and that persons who come to India for sight-seeing must reconcile themselves to the long distances which we have in India, and that, therefore, they must be reconciled to inaccessibility. Nor are we concerned with the difficulty of an official conveniently coming and going—by saying which, unfortunately, my friend, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, has completely given his case away ! He said—officials do not go there because of the difficulty of access. That is what I complain of ! If officials who are paid to do this duty find it difficult to go there and find it inaccessible in spite of all the arrangements, how much more then would the poor agriculturist suffer—I won't say an agriculturist like myself, because I know my friend, Mr. Mody, will jump up against me,—how much more would the poor agriculturist suffer in finding access to this place ? Sir, an experimental agricultural farm and research station is intended for the agriculturist, not for people with gloves and top hats, and if you have a research station, it must be located in a place where most people can go.



[Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar.]

My friend, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, has enunciated a very nice proposition. He says that we should not bring to bear the Provincial patriotism on this question. When I referred to the question of the inaccessibility, he immediately turned round towards me and said : "What about Coimbatore?" My friend does not know that long before Pusa came into existence, Coimbatore had an agricultural college. Originally it was at Saidaput and afterwards Government transferred it to Coimbatore. The research station with sugar-cane came into existence later. My friend thought that that research station was no good at all. On the other hand, the fact is, Sir, that experiment after experiment was conducted regarding sugar-cane, and if my friend is interested in sugar-cane cultivation, he should know that the best strains of sugar-cane are now obtainable from Coimbatore and the largest quantity of sugar is contained in them. That is the result of the research station at Coimbatore. Now, what is the result of the Pusa Institute? Sir, rice is one of the largest, if not the largest, product of India and I have no statistics to show whether wheat is better than rice. But I do claim that the majority produce of India is rice. May I ask my friend what have these people in Pusa done about rice? I seem to have read somewhere—I do not know whether this fact is mentioned in the proceedings of the Royal Commission on Agriculture—that the soil of Pusa was not particularly good for rice cultivation and for other experiments. But they say that the soil is so fertile that everything can grow there. My Honourable friend, Maulvi Shafee Daoodi, waxed eloquent for the garden that this desert has been converted into. I was immediately reminded of another garden which was very good in which, unfortunately, there was disobedience. I hope it is not that garden that my friend was talking of. However, whether the desert of Bihar has become a garden or not, I challenge my friend and anybody in this House to point out what good have these gentlemen done for us, the rice cultivators. Did they improve the strain? Did they find out other kinds of paddy which could grow under various conditions? Sir, I do not care whether the Agricultural Institute is in Pusa or anywhere else. I hope Delhi is equally good. I know that some of these experts are very much possessed of the idea of their selection. For instance, when there was a scarcity of water supply in Secunderabad, the Government of India engineers came and selected a spot which the villagers swore would never be useful for water supply.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Today is Friday, and the Chair must adjourn the House in another three minutes.

**Raja Bahadur G. Krishnamachariar** : I shall finish, Sir, in three minutes.

Of course, the engineers know better. They acquired a piece of land and an annual contribution of Rs. 50,000 is made for the acquisition of this land. The result has been that for three years there was good supply of water and in the fourth year it became absolutely dry. I hope the present scheme is not going to be like that. I want that this scheme should be carefully investigated and examined and the result made known to this House. Those gentlemen who made this investigation ought to have found out that salt water is not good for the improvement

of agriculture. Anyone, who knows even something about agriculture, would never agree to go to a place where there is brackish water. Therefore, I submit that all these considerations did not weigh with them as they ought to have done. Then you have got the earthquake which has spoilt the whole thing and they have got to put up new buildings. Consequently, I think the Government of India was well advised to remove the Institute from there, and, therefore, I strongly support this motion. Only I will ask your permission, Sir, to say one thing. Bihar has already been afflicted with this earthquake and now she is on the brink of a trouble due to huge floods. I hope God will take mercy upon this Province and it will not have to suffer too much on account of the extraordinary flood that we are experiencing in Bihar. But I do not know whether the Pusa Institute should be there. After all, they had a generation and each generation must decide things for itself. Therefore, I strongly support this motion.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : After lunch the Chair proposes to give only ten minutes to each speaker.

**Some Honourable Members** : Five minutes for each speaker will be enough.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Yes, five minutes would be better.

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

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The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at a Quarter Past Two of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) in the Chair.

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**Khan Bahadur H. M. Wilayatullah** (Central Provinces : Muhammadan) : Sir, I am in favour of the proposal that the Research Institute at Pusa should be transferred to a place in the neighbourhood of Delhi. Sir, India is an agricultural country and it is very necessary that the Agricultural Research Institute should be located in such a place that it will be easily accessible to all and be visited by a large number of persons. It was a mistake in the beginning to locate the Institute in a remote and far-off place like Pusa. Nobody would like to go to Pusa unless he makes a special effort for it. One cannot combine a visit to Pusa with a visit to the important cities of India. A very large number of people come to Delhi in order to see it along with the other important cities of Northern India, they will find it very convenient to pay a visit to the Agricultural Research Institute and those among them that are interested in agriculture will learn several things from the Institute. I cannot understand why there should still be some Honourable Members in this House who advocate that, even after the earthquake, when there has been considerable damage to the buildings there, that we should spend a large amount of money in renovating those buildings and let this opportunity slip of shifting that Institute from Pusa to Delhi. The Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, which is expected to exercise direct control and supervision over the Pusa Institute, is always at Delhi and Simla. Pusa is so far away that the Imperial Council of Agricultural

[Kham Bahadur H. M. Wilayatullah.]

Research cannot exercise that effective control and supervision from here which is necessary. Thus, in my opinion, this is a very good opportunity of shifting the Institute from Pusa to a place in the neighbourhood of Delhi. I am not convinced at all by the arguments which have been advanced by my Honourable friend, Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi, and others. I think they look at the question only from the Provincial point of view. It is an all-India question and I have no hesitation in saying that this is the best opportunity and that it will be in the interest of the Institute itself that it should be transferred from Pusa to Delhi. Sir, I support the motion.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi** (Madras Ceded Districts and Chittoor : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I will strictly follow the dictum propounded by my Honourable friend, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, when he said that we must look at this question from an all-India point of view and that we should eschew all Provincial jealousies. My Honourable friend said that this question is raised because of the brain wave of some Member of Government, but he has completely forgotten the history that lay behind this question. This question is as old as the time when the unfortunate decision was taken by Lord Curzon to have the Institute located at Pusa. As my Honourable friend rightly pointed out it was a mere accident that the Institute was located at Pusa, because there happened to be at the time an extensive plot of ground ready at hand for the Government and so they immediately established that Institute at Pusa. This question is a very old one. At the time of the enquiry by the Royal Commission on Agriculture many witnesses deposed that that place was not good for carrying on useful work of the Institute. We find from the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture which my Honourable friend, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, praises as the Bible of Indian Agricultural problems, in page 64 the following :

“ In paragraph 40 above, we have pointed out that Pusa is not an ideal site for a central research institution for all India. It is not surprising, therefore, that it has been urged before us that much of the work carried on there is of little or no value to the tropical regions of peninsular India or to the vast agricultural tracts of the North-West.”

Further on, they state :

“ It must be admitted that there are many fundamental problems especially in relation to the crops grown in tropical India for work on which Pusa is not a very suitable centre.”

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** : Will you kindly read the next sentence.

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi** : Yes, I will come to that later on. I will also adduce reasons why they came to the conclusion that Pusa Institute is not to be transferred. It is because they allege, the Government have spent large sums of money on buildings and other things and that is why they were not in favour of transferring the Institute. Well, Sir, as I said this question is not a new one but a very old one. My Honourable friend, Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi, said that it is a misnomer to say that Pusa is not accessible, and said that it is very near the railway station and so on. Here again I will simply refer to what the Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture has to say with regard to its accessibility. On page 45, the report says :

“ The choice of Pusa as a site for an all-India Research Institute was, as we have seen, mainly determined by the fact that a large Government estate happened to

be available for the purpose. An ideal site for a central research institute for all India was doubtless impossible of attainment but we cannot but regard it as a matter of regret that the site actually selected was one six miles away from a railway station, in an out-of-the-way district to which access from most parts of India can only be obtained by a river crossing, and from all parts by a somewhat tedious railway journey."

Sir, it is clear from this that the place is very inaccessible. We might here ask the question how this inaccessibility has affected the working of the Pusa Institute. It has affected the utility of the institute in more than one way. It is elicited from the evidence before the Royal Commission on Agriculture that on account of its inaccessibility, many of the best and expert men would not accept appointments at Pusa Institute, so much so that it has lost its importance and it has become a second rate institution. I do not say so, Sir, without proper evidence and I will refer to the evidence of Dr. Clouston, who was the Director of the Institute and he said when he was examined before the Royal Commission.

This is what he says in his evidence :

" Q.—There is a serious risk that the Pusa staff might become somewhat second-rate ?—Undoubtedly it will.

Does that tend to strengthen the position of Pusa as a centre for Imperial research ?—No.

What other reasons can you mention as preventing officers going to Pusa ?—I have mentioned them ; there is the question of pay and there is the question of being very isolated ; and there is the question of not having opportunities for touring and seeing what other workers are doing. I may add also that the climate from July till about the middle of October is not at all good ; it is not so good as it is in most provinces."

Sir, the Royal Commission also refer to the fact of the isolation of Pusa. They are very particular to emphasise the fact that the work of the central institute should be co-ordinated with the work that is carried on in other Provinces and that the scientific workers there should come in contact, not only with the scientific workers in other Provinces, but also with the intelligent common people who are interested in agriculture. And this isolation has affected the work of the Pusa Institute. This is what the report of the Agricultural Commission says in paragraph 64 :

" The co-ordination of the research work carried on in the various sections of a research institute is only a degree less important than that of co-ordinating the work of the institution as a whole with that of other research institutions. Work is apt to get into a groove. Barriers are apt to arise, especially when research institutions are located in remote places where the intellectual stimulus provided by intercourse with intelligent outside opinion, not necessarily of a scientific character, is absent."

Sir, the inaccessibility and isolation of the Institute has affected the work of the Institute in these important directions. My learned friend yesterday quoted a passage from this report saying that the soil at Pusa is good and the climate excellent. He has not read the other paragraph wherein they say that the soil is no doubt suitable for crops that are grown in sub-tropical climates, but it is not at all suitable for crops grown in tropical climates, for instance, rice, cotton, ground-nuts, cocoanuts and so many other tropical crops.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : Are cocoanuts grown in Delhi ?

Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : And rice is grown in Delhi !

**Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi :** We have heard with patience the speech of my Honourable friend and I hope he will extend to me the same indulgence, especially as the time is short. If I had time I could have answered all my Honourable friend's points. Sir, I have just now read for his delectation that it is not possible to carry on any experiments at Pusa regarding the crops grown in tropical climates such as rice, *etc.* It is said that cotton could not be grown there even for experimental purposes. Therefore, since the research institute should subserve the whole of India, not cater only for a particular part of India, the institute at Pusa should be shifted elsewhere in order to widen the sphere of its usefulness. Then it is said that the soil is very fertile. The very fertility of the soil has its own limitations. There are vast tracts of land in India, specially in Southern India, where crops are grown by irrigation. On account of the high subsoil water level of the land at Pusa it is suitable to grow crops without the aid of irrigation. But for crops to be grown with the aid of irrigation that is not the proper place and hence, in that connection also, it is not very ideal place. Sir, my friends have said that Delhi is not a proper place and it cannot grow all the crops that are grown throughout India. The Royal Commission itself has clearly stated that you cannot find a single ideal place which will be suitable for experimental purposes, but we should select such a place which would be suitable as far as possible and practicable. And, as the Royal Commission have pointed out, the most essential thing that is required for this research work is contact with other research institutions and also contact with other men. That can be obtained in Delhi; and it is pointed out that Delhi is a place where more varieties of crops can be grown than at Pusa.

My Honourable friend said that the Royal Commission did not recommend the removal of Pusa. But when they said that they should retain Pusa as the place for the research institute they were obsessed by the fact that there were a lot of magnificent buildings, and that the Government had invested a lot of money and hence it could not be transferred. But now the circumstances have completely changed. Now, after the havoc caused by the earthquake, the Government have to take a decision whether to retain this institute at Pusa after spending seven or ten lakhs of rupees for restoration of buildings and yet keep the institute in the zone of earthquakes or whether to take the time by the fore-lock and transfer it to some other convenient place and establish an institution so that it might serve a more useful purpose than it has been doing. Another thing of great importance to Southern India is that according to the evidence of Dr. Clouston before the Royal Commission, he recommended that there should be established another research institution somewhere in the Southern Presidency to carry on research work on crops such as rice which are grown in tropical climates and he has specially selected Coimbatore. After the Royal Commission report we find that Coimbatore has been selected by the Government for carrying on research work in sugar-cane,—research work of all-India importance. Further, Government have also started dairy research work at Bangalore, and so there is no difficulty in having research station at Coimbatore for carrying on research work in the matter of rice and other tropical products. Now, Sir, the one important question that was raised by my Honourable friend, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, is that in these days of economic depression we should not undertake such a big scheme

which requires the spending of 36 lakhs of rupees for the research institute. Sir, last year, over and over again, we were pressing Government to take up big irrigation works and other schemes of public utility so that they might give a stimulus to the purchasing power of the middle and lower classes. And, Sir, I submit that the amount spent for this purpose will be very useful in order to achieve that object. Sir, after all at present they have asked for seven lakhs of rupees of which four lakhs will be spent for the acquisition of land and so all the four lakhs will remain in India. With regard to the other three lakhs, they are intended to construct buildings and other things and the money spent on them will go to help the poorer people in raising their purchasing power. Sir, as the whole question of transfer of Pusa institute is reopened, I take this opportunity to press upon the Government the desirability to start one more research institute at Coimbatore in Southern India to carry on research work on tropical crops as recommended by Dr. Clouston. Sir, with these words I have great pleasure in supporting this motion.

**Mr. F. W. Hockenhuil** (Assam : European) : Sir, rarely has a plain issue been so clouded, if not obscured, by irrelevant consideration as the question of the proposed removal of the Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research from Pusa to Delhi. Sentiment and Provincial considerations on the one hand, and central and local considerations on the other, have provided their arguments. Questions in this House, an Adjournment Motion in another place, not to mention the wide-spread campaign in the Press, all go to show what interest is taken in the Government of India's proposals, the main consideration of which, summed up in a word, is, or should be, "the betterment of agriculture in this country". No question so widely affects the vast majority of the people of this land, for, however far we progress in the development of industry, agriculture will always remain immeasurably the most important occupation of its people. Of recent times, the grave problems arising out of the depression in prices and the falling demand for primary commodities have been the subject of anxious consideration, not only of the Government of India, but also of Provincial Governments, and these problems are closely allied to the progressively efficient working of the various agricultural institutes of this country. In according the support of this Group to these proposals, I would say that they have examined them as a business proposition and given them its blessing. But we do make this stipulation, that we would ask the Honourable Member in charge to give us an undertaking that the original estimates shall not be exceeded. Speaking for myself as an agriculturist, I would go further and venture the expression that these proposals are such as the country cannot afford to go without. Let us then for a moment address ourselves to the real issue involved and ask a few questions, the first of which is :

Is the Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research necessary ?

If so, is the Institute, as it exists at Pusa, calculated to confer upon Indian agriculture the benefits it has a right to expect ?

If not, are the proposals to remove the Institute to Delhi more likely to produce these benefits ?

First, then, is the question of necessity arising out of the development and material expansion of Provincial departments during the last fifteen

[Mr. F. W. Hockenhull.]

or twenty years and also the progress which has been made by individual industries. For example, the tea industry has shown its appreciation of the value of agricultural research by its policy of maintaining a strong scientific department of its own, which has become a permanent feature of the industry and has contributed in many ways to the lowering of costs and the raising of quality and yields. If, as I contend, the basis of all agricultural progress is research, and as agricultural development is so vital to the prosperity of India as a whole, it is difficult to see how the Central Government could divest itself of all responsibility for its welfare.

The functions of the Central Institute are somewhat different from Provincial organisations. The necessity for some co-ordinating body is apparent. Problems of an all-India character and others of a more difficult or extensive range can only be undertaken at a detached centre. Provincial departments will be the first to acknowledge the assistance they have received from the centre. Moreover, the experience of other countries, whose population is widely devoted to agriculture—the United States of America and Australia are examples which come readily to mind—confirms the view that, however valuable the local effort, the greatest benefit can only derive when coordinated with a central research institute. That brings us to the second of our questions, as to whether or not Pusa is conferring the maximum benefit on agriculture as a whole.

It would not be an unfair summary of the observations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture to say that the Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research was at first an efficient machine yielding a reasonable dividend on the capital expenditure which it involved. But as time had gone on, it had proved less suited to the work which it was required to carry out, and one of its greatest failings was its isolation. When Pusa was first opened as a central research institute, it was the headquarters of the Imperial Department of Agriculture in India which had an Inspector General of Agriculture, who was in a position to dictate to the Provincial agricultural departments the lines which they should follow. Progressive measures of decentralization had changed the position before 1914. With the reforms of 1919 decentralization was completed with the establishment of agriculture as a Provincial Transferred Subject. Henceforward Pusa was merely first among equals, relying no longer on authority but upon the excellence of its work. Gradually the connection between Pusa and the Provinces waned and in large measure this can be attributed to its inaccessibility. With the Council of Agricultural Research established at Delhi, the desirability and indeed the necessity of having an accessible institute near at hand became paramount, and it will offer facilities which Pusa never could afford. I would here stress the fact that there is no intention to underestimate the value of the work which has been achieved at Pusa. To do so would be as unfair as it would be inaccurate. But, setting aside the sentiment which must invariably play its part in these questions, the real issue surely must be whether or not Pusa is ever likely to attain the position it ought to hold, as the Mecca of agricultural research workers of this country. Considerations of a financial character alone prevented the Royal Commission from recommending that the work should be transferred to a more eligible site. Considerations which in the light of recent happenings—I refer to the earthquake damage and the relative fall in the value of money and labour—

may by no means be as serious as they were six years ago. It is hardly necessary to do more than mention the advantages which the Delhi site has over the existing one. It is more representative of large tracts in point of climate, soil, crops and irrigation. It is independent of any local administration. It is more central, not only in a physical but in a cultural sense, and it affords better facilities for live-stock experiments. One argument I must refer to which has an important bearing, and that is the break in continuity which this change might mean.

The Imperial Department of Agriculture consists of nine sections of which six are located at Pusa, *viz.*, agricultural chemistry, agricultural bacteriology, economy, botany and plant-breeding, plant diseases, agricultural entomology and the agricultural section proper, which is concerned with the technique of field experiments, fertilizer trials and the like. The sugar-breeding station is located at Coimbatore, the Physiological Chemist and the Imperial Dairy Expert at Bangalore. Special reasons have determined the location of three sections in South India and these arrangements will not be disturbed by the transfer of six sections from Pusa to Delhi. Of the sections now at Pusa, there are only two which are seriously concerned with continuity of field experiments, *viz.*, the Botanical section and the Agricultural section. In the case of the Botanical section, the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research gave a grant some four years ago which enabled a sub-station to be established at Karnal, thus providing the Imperial Economic Botanist with a station in North-West India as well as one in the North-East. This was done with the object of remedying, as far as possible, one of the defects at Pusa pointed out by the Royal Commission on Agriculture. This duplication of breeding work at two centres has been successful and has improved the efficiency of the section. When the new institute is fully established at Delhi, there seems no reason why the Karnal sub-station should not be discontinued as a Botanical sub-station—the lands and buildings which are situated on the Imperial cattle breeding farm at Karnal being utilised for general agriculture as previously and a sub-station established at Pusa in the North-East by the retention there of the present botanical section which is of suitable area. Perhaps there could also be retained a small portion of the agricultural section, which adjoins the botanical section, including the permanent fertilizers experiments, and some other permanent field experiments. Such an arrangement would not mean any actual change in the annual expenditure of the institute since it would merely involve the transfer of the sub-station from Karnal to Pusa. Generally, I understand that the buildings which are involved have been left intact during the earthquake damage. No new buildings or equipment of any kind would, therefore, be necessary. Should a scheme of this character mature, it would effectively reduce any break in continuity due to the transfer.

I now come to the last point, a consideration of the cost of the scheme. We are most anxious to impress upon Government that the most careful scrutiny of the estimates may be undertaken so that supplementary grants may be entirely unnecessary. Expenditure will be mainly under three heads : (1) land, (2) buildings, and (3) equipment. Land acquisition represents almost a fixed amount. I would deprecate any sacrifice of equipment at the expense of overspending on buildings.

In conclusion, let me say that the amount involved is no mean sum, but when we consider that we are planning for many years ahead and



[Mr. F. W. Hockenbüll.]

that Indian agriculture is our particular concern, I think the House will agree that the object is a worthy one and should prove of lasting benefit to countless deserving agriculturists of this country. (Cheers.)

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Sir it is useless to speak on the merits of the subject at this stage because reasons and arguments are not of much use to the Government. When they have decided that now it is night, whatever arguments may be placed before them by the representatives of India that it is day, they will never admit that it is day. It is useless to tell them that conditions of the soil differ from Province to Province. It is useless to tell them that the Royal Commission on Agriculture as well has come to the same conclusion. It is useless to tell them that the difference in the soil and condition requires that the research institutions be located at different places. It is useless to place before them that the rainfall in Delhi is about 19 inches in the year while that at Pusa is about 49 inches a year. It is useless to tell them that only higher research work is actually done in the institute and that the agriculturists cannot be expected to go there to learn. It is also useless to tell them that the argument which was placed before the House by my Honourable friend, Mr. Wilayatullah, that Delhi will be a suitable place, because visitors can come more easily to see the place is irrelevant. It is useless to remind my Honourable friend and also to the Government that the institute is not a cinema to which people should be able to go easily. It is useless to tell my Honourable friend that some research has taken years and years. If a man visits the institute at Delhi, for a minute or two or even for an hour, it will not be of much use to him. It is useless to tell the Government that Simla is more inaccessible than Pusa and to ask them as to why they do not stop the exodus to Simla.

My Honourable friend, Mr. Reddi, has quoted from paragraph 66 of the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture but he did not read the next sentence where they have suggested a remedy as well. The remedy they have suggested is :

“ It will be for the Council of Agricultural Research to determine how far the deficiencies of Pusa in this respect can be remedied by the establishment of small sub-stations.”

It is useless to remind him that this was the remedy suggested by the Royal Commission on Agriculture. It is useless to place these facts before the Government because they have already made up their mind.

I admit that the earthquake of January, 1934, has caused extensive damage to the buildings of the Imperial Institute of Agricultural Research at Pusa. That is the main reason why they have decided to transfer the Institute to Delhi. But I find that the estimate for repairing those buildings was about Rs. seven lakhs. It is useless to tell them that to save that amount of Rs. seven lakhs they have prepared a scheme costing Rs. 36 lakhs ! (Hear, hear.) This is the economy they practise in the Government of India !

.However, Sir, they have decided to transfer the institute. I want to inform the Government that those agriculturists who are interested in rice growing do not like this transfer to Delhi. The Government seem to have forgotten that cocoanut and paddy cannot be grown in Delhi..

**Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh :** Or tobacco.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** Nor tobacco. For cocoanut and paddy Pusa is the only suitable place.

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** I do not wish to take up much of my Honourable friend's time, because it is limited, but I must draw his attention to the fact that so far as rice is concerned, Pusa has never done any work on rice because the conditions there are not considered to be quite congenial.

**Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad :** If Pusa has not carried on any experiments in paddy there can be no excuse. The Government must ask the Pusa men why no experiments in paddy were undertaken because there is 49 inches of water there and the climate and soil are quite suitable for paddy experiments. If my Honourable friend will study the statistics of the Province he will find that in the neighbourhood of that area a sufficient quantity of paddy is grown. In this connection, let me urge on the Government that they should lay great stress on research in paddy because about 59 per cent. of the total agricultural produce of the country is rice, and experiments in rice cannot be done properly in Delhi. I understand that the Government want to keep the botanical section in Pusa, and if so, the botanical section should be well-equipped, and the Pusa farm should be made to supply improved seeds to the agriculturists in Bihar and the adjacent provinces. The land should not be disposed of, rather it should be given to Bihar Government. I am afraid that this policy of the Government to centralise all departments in Delhi will not be liked by Indians. This and similar other institutes should be left to remain in those parts which are more suitable for the purposes they serve. I suggest to Government that the portion which is proposed to be left at Pusa should be well equipped and the Central Government should treat it as a sub-station at least and sufficient money should be spent in order to provide good seeds to the agriculturists and to have proper research work done for that area.

**Sir Abdur Rahim :** Sir, I find considerable feelings have been aroused over this question, but I must admit that I fail to understand the reason for it. I do not think,—and I want the representative of the Education Department in this House to tell me if I am wrong,—that a research institute like that of Pusa is not meant to confer any special benefit on any particular Province. I do not think that the Province of Bihar and Orissa especially profits by the institute being located within the limits of that Province. I should like to ask those Honourable friends of mine who come from the United Provinces whether they really think that the transfer of the Institute to the United Provinces or Delhi would confer any particular benefit on that Province. I am perfectly sure that having regard to the scope and character of this institute the benefit which the Institute is likely to confer is of a character which may be shared and ought to be shared by all the Provinces of India. That being the position, I do hope that the Honourable Members from the different Provinces will not consider it a matter of Provincial patriotism, whether to oppose or to support proposed transfer. I think the Government will not disagree with me on this point. The point is perfectly plain.

Now, the real argument that has been advanced in favour of this proposal is that Pusa is inaccessible, and, therefore, we must transfer it

[Sir Abdur Rahim.]

to a place which will be more accessible to the public and to the officers of Government and other persons especially interested in the matter. I do not know how to regard this argument. But it does seem to me to come with very ill-grace from the mouth of the Government of India. The Government reside in Simla for nearly six months in the year.

Is it to be suggested that Simla is very accessible to the people of India for whose benefit the Government of India exists? Sir, if that were a valid argument, then I do say at once that the Government of India should, from next year, stop coming to Simla altogether and make its habitation in the plains. Take New Delhi. Is New Delhi itself very accessible? New Delhi has been founded for the location of the Government of India. We Members of the Assembly feel every day, when questions of great importance to the people are discussed in the Assembly, that we are discussing such questions in an atmosphere where no public opinion can penetrate. It is away from all centres where public opinion is strongest. Even from the City of Delhi itself I have noticed very few people come to New Delhi to watch the proceedings of the Assembly. Sir, having regard to the vast extent of the country, the question of accessibility or inaccessibility should not be emphasized too much. After all, what is the object of this institute? What is the work on which these professors are engaged? They are to carry on scientific investigation for the purpose of improving agriculture. I should have thought that, for purposes of scientific investigation, the thing that was most needed is absence of distractions, and, if I may say so without any offence, absence of official intervention. Nothing is more detrimental to research work of that character than official interference, and I say that, if I were engaged in research, the fewer the officials or other persons who are consumed with curiosity came and worried me, the better it would be for my work. From the point of view entirely of scientific research, I should say that it would be a mistake to bring Pusa near to Delhi and expose it to risk of too much interference on the part of officials and also from non-official visitors. It is all very well to talk in general terms about contact with this class of men or that class of men. But then you come to analyse the situation what is it that these professors of the Institute want? They want a proper laboratory, they want fertile fields with suitable soil to carry on their experiments. If they can get all these things, they may also want to know what other countries are doing in the matter and that could be ascertained from the literature of those other countries. I take it there is no difficulty on the part of these professors to have access to the latest researches in other countries. So far as India is concerned, I find from what is stated in the official memorandum that there are other scientists engaged in similar research, that conferences are sometimes held, and, therefore, the nearer Pusa is to Delhi the better will be the work turned out by Pusa. I for one entirely refuse to believe that the work of Pusa will be improved by bringing it into closer contact with the sort of officials and other persons who may like to have a look into what is going on. I heard from some of my friends in this House that they should like to know from time to time what work they are doing. I for one, if I am really interested in the work of the Institute, would not think for a moment of putting any sort of pressure on the persons engaged in research in an institute like this if you are going to improve its efficiency at all. I am

afraid you will, on the other hand, be really retrading and putting back valuable work. Sir, I for one do not believe in interfering with men who are engaged in research of this kind. The real question is, whether the soil and climate of Pusa are really such that we should be justified in removing the Institute from that place and locating it somewhere near Delhi. I take it that at the time the Institute was established at Pusa some investigation must have been made as to the suitability of the soil and climate of that place and I do not think I have yet heard that the soil and climate, for instance, of any place within the Province of Delhi will be more suited for the purposes of these experiments and research. (Hear. hear.) Can my Honourable friend, Mr. Bajpai, who I am sure, has studied the subject with his usual care, tell us if he is in a position really to tell us with any assurance that the soil and climate of Pusa are less suitable for scientific research and agricultural experiments than of the place to which this institute is sought to be transferred ?

My Honourable friend, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, read out extracts from certain representations made by the poor peasants of the locality near Delhi whose land is going to be acquired. I think the House would like to be told by my Honourable friend, the Education Secretary, whether there is any foundation for those representations ; and I should also like the Government to take into consideration the fact that a very large number of persons are presumably going to be ousted from their holdings if large tracts of land are going to be acquired for this purpose. I dare say, and there is no doubt, compensation will under the law be paid to them ; but I am sure the Government realize that turning out large masses of cultivators from their land, even though accompanied by payment to them of some compensation, is not really helping them. Sir, the amount you give them will very soon disappear, and they will have no land left for purposes of cultivation ! That is another point, the most important question that has to be answered by the Government is this. Has Pusa so far done any valuable work or not ? It has been in existence for so long as the last thirty-one years. Is it the case of Government that during these thirty-one years the work done there has proved so unsatisfactory that you must move the Institute bodily to another place ? If, on the other hand, in point of fact, the work that has been carried on during all these thirty-one years has been satisfactory, if it really has made any valuable contribution towards the improvement of agriculture in this country, then I do think that on the merits, the proposed transfer is difficult to justify. During the thirty-one years this institute has been in operation, a vast deal of work has been done not only in the laboratory but also in the fields. They have been able, during this long period, to develop the soil so as to suit their experiments and research. All this has been done in the course of a period of thirty-one years, and now you are proposing to dislocate all this work by transferring the Institute to Delhi !

Sir, I do think it is a serious question for the Government to consider whether, by this dislocation, by this transfer, by uprooting the institute from the soil in which it has grown in spite of whatever difficulties there might have been,—I say in uprooting this institute which has established itself there the Government would be incurring a serious and grave responsibility indeed. I repeat that it is a serious and grave responsibility that the Government are incurring.

[Sir Abdur Rahim.]

If, in fact, as many Honourable Members in this House believe, the Pusa Institute really has been doing good work,—if that is so—then the Government must assure themselves, before transferring it to a place near Delhi, that it will really be able to do better work or more useful work in its new site. The Government are, I am afraid, only speculating. They are transferring an institute, which has been so well-established, to another place, to another climate, to a place where the soil will be different, where the surroundings will be different, where they will have to start everything anew : if they wish to take a step of that character, then, I say, the Government ought to produce before us absolutely definite evidence that, as a matter of fact, the soil and the climate of Delhi are more suited for work of the character which Pusa has been doing. Sir, I do not think that that is the case of the Government, or that such a case has been put forward. The only ground which has been put forward is that of inaccessibility. If as a matter of fact Pusa has not been doing any really valuable work, then I suggest that Government ought to shut it down, now that the earthquake has come to their rescue. Do not then go on building, do not spend any more money, but, if it has been doing good work, then let it go on where it is. I come now to what I think ought to be special concern of the Finance Member, and that is the expenditure that the Government will have to incur owing to this transfer. They will have to spend no less than Rs. 36 lakhs : and, I am sure, it is likely to go on increasing if this institute is transferred anywhere near Delhi. I do not know whether the Finance Member finds himself so flushed with money that he can say safely, in good conscience—“go forward with a scheme like this and incur a loan of Rs. 36 lakhs for the purpose of expenditure on building a new institute”. Sir, it is very easy, I take it, for the Government of India, to incur a loan. We know money is cheap now. But is that any justification,—unless you are satisfied that you are spending money on a good cause—to incur a loan of Rs. 36 lakhs and thus saddle the Government and the country with interest on that amount ? Sir, I am not in any way concerned with the Province of Bihar and I do not think, as I have said, that there is any question of Provincial patriotism or advantage involved. But I do think that, in times of financial stringency that we are passing through, a proposal like this, which involves an expenditure of thirty-six lakhs of rupees, should not be accepted by Government unless the Government is quite sure that there is an overwhelming case for it, a case the soundness of which cannot be doubted at all. I have given my best consideration to the subject and I do not believe that the Government is taking a wise step. They are taking a leap in the dark. Sir, Government generally accept whatever their experts tell them, but we know that experts very seldom agree. Every expert seems to think that his work alone is of value and is too apt to depreciate the work of others. Even if any experts have advised the Government, I do say, though I am a layman, that they are really speculating. Pusa might not have been an ideal site for an Institute like this, but it is too late now to go back. It has been there for 31 years and it has gone on and if it has done any valuable work, do not disturb the Institute at all. Sir, I do ask the Government to consider yet whether it is prudent on their part, especially in these difficult financial times, to take a step of this character and to speculate on what may be achieved if Pusa Institute is transferred somewhere near

Delhi. Sir, I know Government have practically decided the matter, but I still maintain that there are aspects of the question which ought to be seriously taken into consideration. I do not think that the argument of inaccessibility is a weighty argument in a matter of this nature.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad** (United Provinces Southern Divisions : Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I formed my opinion about the transfer of Pusa about 18 years ago when I was a member of the Calcutta University Commission. At that time I was travelling at the expense of the Government and was entitled to double first-class and halting allowances. I tried for 18 months to visit Pusa, but, unfortunately, I could never spare a week in order to be able to visit this important place. One of my colleagues, the late Professor Gregory, was the only person in the Commission who could visit Pusa and he came forward with the report that that was the most unsuitable place for an institute of that type. Sir, my friend, Maulvi Shafee Daoodi, calls it an Eden garden of India. But as the Urdu saying goes : *Jangal men mor nacha kis ne dekha*. If that place is really an Eden garden, it must be accessible to a large number of persons. Sir, there are two classes of persons who are really opposing it and it is just these two classes to whom this transfer will benefit the most. The one class is the people of Bihar and the other class are the villagers where this Institute is going to be placed. The people of Bihar do not realise that they have no teaching agricultural institution, because the Institute at Pusa does not teach at all. So, they are practically deprived of any teaching institution in agriculture. The moment this Institute is transferred, they will soon have a teaching college in Bihar.

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi** : No, no.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad** : My Honourable friend is so hopeless of his Government that he does not expect a teaching institution from them. I am not. The second class of people who will be affected by this transfer are the villagers of the place where this Institute will be established ; they will be able to get a definite employment in this Institute. Persons who have got a fixed income are better off in these days of depression than the people who are engaged in professions without fixed income. Sir, Pusa had been selected because of two incidents which happened accidentally to be simultaneous or synchronous. The first incident was that in 1903, a valuable Government property suddenly became available and the second incident was that £30,000 were given by a benefactor to Lord Curzon. These two things happened at the same time, otherwise there is no earthly reason for selecting Pusa as the seat of agricultural research. Sir, the time of Diogenese has now gone. He could afford to do his research work in a tub, but now in these days of specialisation scientists like to live close to each other and to be in touch with the researches of each other. It is a great stimulus if one scientist knows what is the work going on in an allied subject done by the other scientist. Doubts were expressed by the Leader of the Opposition and he asked us to tell him what is now being done at Pusa ? I would have myself enlightened the House had it been easily accessible. Had the Institute been close to Delhi, I would have often visited and mentioned on the floor of the House what work was being done there and whether they are or they are not wasting public money. Here, in Delhi, we have frequent meetings to attend which scientists come from

[Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad.]

all parts of India, such as University Conferences ; meetings of the Agricultural Research. These scientists can have opportunities to see what is being done here. They themselves will be benefited and probably they will be able to tell the professors of the Institute what other people are doing. In this age constant touch of the scientists with each other is considered to be exceedingly important and I may say indispensable. Therefore, this reason in itself is sufficient enough to locate the Institute in a place which is easily accessible to the scientists so that they may derive benefit from the researches carried on in the Institute.

Sir, this is my last speech in the present Assembly, and, before I sit down, I would like to detain the House for two or three minutes more. In the first place, I wish good-luck to all my colleagues in the next Assembly. (Applause.) I hope they will all be returned. (A voice : " All ! ") I wish good-luck to all in election. Sir, we have established one good tradition in this Assembly which is very valuable. We often abuse each other and we often use parliamentary language to each other, but the moment we go to the Lobby, we are as good friends as two persons can ever be. (Applause.) Our tradition is similar to the tradition of legal practitioners. When they go to the Bar Library, they forget all that they had been talking in the Court. Sir, coming to the Members on the Treasury Benches, there is nothing which we could say and we left unsaid, but, in spite of all that, our relations with Members on the Treasury Benches have been very friendly and very cordial and they have always helped us in every possible manner. They were always willing to place at our disposal all the facts and the materials on every subject although they knew that they would be used against them. We are much obliged to them for their kindness. We, on this side of the House, thank you, Sir, more particularly for the consideration and sympathy which you have shown to the individual Members, and to the Parties in the Assembly. (Continued Applause.) Of course, there have been occasions when we were placed in difficult positions and it was due to your tact, ability and courtesy which helped us to get out of those difficulties. I do not think there is any Member, either on this side of the House or on the other, who can have any complaint against your fair treatment, though some of the Rulings given by you did not suit particular individuals—some of them did not suit me. Still nobody can say that the Rulings have been unfair. Sir, we are carrying with us very good recollections of the manner in which you conducted the proceedings of this House. (Applause.) I should not omit to mention the good work of our Secretariat which is as efficient as any Secretariat could be. I also thank the staff of the Assembly Department who always gave us their willing assistance. They readily supplied us all the materials we required on a particular topic. We have been receiving ungrudging help from every individual from the Secretary down to the lowest. I wish *au revoir* to all.

**Mr. B. V. Jadhav** (Bombay Central Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I shall not take much of the time of the House, but I have to point out that when the Pusa Institute was first started 31 years ago, the whole of the Agriculture Department was under the Government of India and the Provinces had not much to boast of. But for the last 20 years there has been decentralisation and each Province has been developing its own Agriculture Department and these Departments have been conducting researches in their own Provinces with regard to the crops that are suitable

to the soil and the climate of that place. Madras, for instance, has developed the sugarcane research and they must have a research for their particular crop, the rice crop. In the same way, Bombay has been experimenting in sugar-cane, in tobacco, in rice and in some other commodities. It is well-known that a large portion of Bombay is exposed to famine conditions and now-a-days experiments are being carried on there to find means of raising crops on very scanty rainfalls. In the same way, research has been going on in other parts of the country, and, therefore, it is absolutely necessary, as has been pointed out by my Honourable friend, Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad, that all these research workers should have an opportunity of coming together and consulting each other. This necessity was not felt when Pusa was first selected as a matter of accident, as has been stated, as the central place for research. But now matters have changed a great deal and the Royal Commission on Agriculture has given its emphatic opinion that Pusa was not suited, but that Commission had to take into count an accomplished fact, and, therefore, the Commission did not recommend the removal of the Institute at a great cost. But, now the calamity of this earthquake has also visited Pusa and had done considerable damage to the buildings. Therefore, the question now before the Government has been whether to sink another seven or eight lakhs for the repairs of the buildings and also to run the risk of another earthquake damaging further the damaged buildings and to have been under the constant fear of having to spend larger and larger amount on the repairs of the buildings there or to remove the Institute out of the earthquake zone at this time. The Government, I think, have taken a correct decision, having come to the conclusion that it is much better from every consideration to remove the Research Institute from Pusa to the neighbourhood of Delhi. As I have pointed out, Delhi being more accessible, the research workers of all the Provinces in the country may come together and may come to know what has been going on in other parts of the country in a particular research question. As for the inaccessibility of Pusa, I need not say much, but I shall say that from my personal experience that I had when I visited the Pusa Institute in 1930, I found that the journey was a very inconvenient one. My journey was, of course, done at Government expense, but, even if I had another opportunity to do so, I would not take advantage of it and would avoid the journey altogether. It is a very inconvenient place, and I think that the same would be the experience of the majority of persons who had the fortune or misfortune to go there.

A great point was sought to be made of the fact that the Government of India took the sanction of the Secretary of State before consulting the Standing Finance Committee. I do not think that the Government of India took an improper step. It is now the policy to move the centre of gravity from London to Delhi. Sooner or later, India is to get complete financial autonomy and then all these questions will be decided without reference to the Secretary of State. Now, Sir, an opportunity has been given to the Standing Finance Committee and also to this House to decide whether the Institute should be removed from Pusa to Delhi and the Standing Finance Committee have given an emphatic decision that it should be removed. Therefore, I think the Government have done the right thing in taking the sanction of the Secretary of State beforehand ; because it would, I think, be awkward to take the sanction of the Secretary of State after the decision of this House has been ascertained. Then it would have meant that the



[Mr. B. V. Jadhav.]

Secretary of State had the power to revise the decision of this House. But in the present case, I take it that this House has got the last word to say and the decision of the House will determine the matter whether the Institute should be removed to Delhi or not.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra** (Chittagong and Rajshahi Divisions : Non-Muhamadan Rural) : Sir, after the very eloquent speech of my Leader, Sir Abdur Rahim, it is not necessary for me to emphasize that there is a very strong opinion in the Province of Bengal that the transfer of the Research Institute should not be effected. When this great institution was first started, Pusa formed part of Bengal and it is natural that the people of Bengal should feel when this institution is sought to be transferred to Delhi. I think there is some misapprehension on this question. So far as higher research in agriculture is concerned, if the authorities or the experts think that it will be of greater use by transferring the Institute to a central place, I think there would not have been so much difference of opinion if people are assured that the agricultural sub-station and other works will be continued in that Province. We in Bengal think that Pusa being at a central place in India there may be experiments conducted not only in wheat and sugar-cane but also in paddy and tobacco and other crops which are prevalent in Central and Southern India. We should like to be assured that the facilities for research in these crops will not be in any way impeded if only the higher research section is transferred from Pusa to Delhi. The other point is that Government will stick to their promise that the expenditure will never exceed 36 lakhs which in itself is a very big amount.

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai** : Sir, when my Honourable friend, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, launched his attack on the proposals of the Government yesterday, he said that this issue must be judged not from the point of view of any Province but from the point of view of India as a whole. To that extent I entirely agree with him. I think that the House has to decide this matter with patriotic and not with a Provincial or a parochial outlook. But I would also claim this that if I can satisfy Honourable Members that the decision, which Government have taken, they have taken in order to benefit India as a whole, then I shall claim from them not merely an emphatic verdict in support of the proposal but I hope a unanimous verdict. (Hear, hear.)

Sir, the question falls, rather the argument falls into three parts ; first there is the scientific argument, second the financial and third the administrative. I will develop the scientific argument first. After what fell from my Honourable friend, Mr. Ramakrishna Reddi, and even more from my Honourable friend, Mr. Hockenhull, whom I wish to congratulate on his maiden speech, after what fell from him, Sir, I do not think it is necessary for me to try to demonstrate the necessity for agricultural research in an agricultural country like India. The example of countries like the United States of America or Australia points indisputably to that axiomatic conclusion. Then, again, the pages of the Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture give ample evidence in support of the necessity of agricultural research. The question for consideration for the House is : Where should such a centre or centres of research be located ? I submit, Sir, the answer to that question depends upon a correct appreciation of the nature of agricultural research. This is of two kinds ; there

is fundamental research and there is field research. Now the latter kind of research involves investigation into the relation of particular crops to special conditions of soil and climate. That research or that kind of research, in so far as it concerns crops of value to more than one part of India, is being carried on at Coimbatore, is being carried on at Karnal, and since the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research came into being, it is being carried on also through Provinces by means of special grants relating to special crops. In its purely Provincial aspect, Sir, that kind of research is the function of Provincial Departments of Agriculture ; and the point which Honourable Members ought to appreciate is that field research, in the sense in which I have explained it, has never been the main function of Pusa, or for the matter of that, of central research institutes anywhere else. The function of a central research institute is to devote itself to all the main branches of agriculture, such as mycology, entomology, bacteriology, and so on.

Now, Sir, the point which I should like specially to emphasise is this, that that kind of research,—although my Honourable friend, Maulvi Shafee Daoodi, may differ from me,—cannot be carried on on the top of Mount Everest, because of its complete isolation from distractions. That is not so ; as a matter of fact, what you need in order that that kind of research should be most fruitful is cultural contact, easy, wide and stimulating. Inaccessibility for that kind of research involves inefficiency and rusticity. It does not really mean that the best results are achieved. It has been said that because the time-table of the Bengal and North Western Railway has been slightly improved recently, therefore Pusa has become much more accessible. But the fact remains that the Royal Commission on Agriculture went into this question very very carefully and said that the result of the location of Pusa in this isolated site was that the thread of association between Pusa and the Provinces had become progressively attenuated. Now, Sir, I have been asked a question by the Honourable the Leader of the Opposition. I find that he is unfortunately not in his seat just now. The question I was asked was this : In 1903 or 1904, when the Pusa Institute was established, the Government of India must have satisfied themselves that it was the best centre suited for agricultural research. That being so, why is it that Government are changing their mind now ? Well, Sir, the position is this. As the Royal Commission on Agriculture have stated in their report, the consideration which primarily weighed with Government at the time in selecting Pusa was that a large abandoned estate,—an estate which at one time had been used, I think, for breeding horses,—was available ; and let it not also be forgotten that, at that time, the Provinces had practically no Departments of Agriculture at all. The last 30 years, Sir, have seen rapid strides made by the Provinces in the development of their Agriculture Departments and their research work. Now, Sir, I do not for a minute maintain that accessibility is important only in so far as it enables the officials of the Government of India to come into touch with the work that is being done at Pusa. That is not the point at all. The point is that you must have your centre of research in a place where research workers from all over India, unofficial research workers, should be able to travel with ease and with comfort. That, Sir, is a condition which in the case of Pusa is not fulfilled.

**Mr. S. C. Mitra :** How is it done as regards forest research at Dehra Dun ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** My Honourable friend will agree that Dehra Dun is not so isolated as Pusa. If he would be so good as to accompany me to the Library downstairs where, I believe, there is a Railway map of India, I think, I shall be able to satisfy him on that point.

Now, it is perfectly true, that when the Royal Commission on Agriculture reported, they did not suggest that Pusa should be transferred to a more central site. But the situation has been altered and fundamentally altered because of the earthquake. My Honourable friends will ask, why and how? That brings me to the second part of the argument which is the financial argument. Perhaps it is not known to Honourable Members that Pusa costs seven lakhs of rupees a year to maintain. That is the reduced expenditure; it used to be nine lakhs a year at one time. Our engineers visited this place and they said that not only should we have to spend seven lakhs of rupees on reconstructing the Phipps laboratory which has been completely destroyed, but, by reason of the unascertained, and, I think, unascertainable subterranean ravages worked by the earthquake, it would be at least two years before we would be justified in starting construction work there. Now, Sir, seven times two is 14, and, adding seven which is the cost of reconstruction, the total comes to 21. That is 21 lakhs on the one side and 36 lakhs, which is the estimate of expenditure, on the other. The difference is 15 lakhs, and the question which was before Government, and which is before the House now, is whether 15 lakhs of rupees is too big a price to pay for making Pusa accessible for research workers from every part of India. Now, Sir, let me put the financial point in a different way. I do not think that there is any one in this House or outside the House whose authority in regard to agricultural work done at Pusa, or, for that matter, agricultural work throughout India, is entitled to greater respect than that of my Honourable friend, Sir Frank Noyce. I have discussed this matter with him and he says that the value of the work which is being done at Pusa and which costs seven lakhs of rupees per annum will be at least doubled if you bring the institute to a more central place. Again, putting it on a purely arithmetical basis, the question which I ask this House is whether an expenditure of 15 lakhs which would have the effect of doubling the value of research which costs us seven lakhs is worth it or not worth it.

The third point, Sir, which I was going to deal with was the administrative argument. It is no secret from anybody that inaccessibility is an obstacle to the exercise of effective administrative control. The potential value of that supervisory work or that supervision has greatly increased since the establishment of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research with its staff of agricultural experts, and, what is even more important, its periodical conferences which are attended by representatives of agricultural research work throughout India. It would be admitted, Sir, that in order that the potential value of the supervision should be fully realised, we should bring this institute to a more central place.

There, Sir, I have dealt with the three parts of my argument, the scientific, the financial and the administrative. My Honourable friends may still say : " Yes, that's all very fine, but it does not necessarily follow that Delhi is the best place from the agricultural point of view."

• Now, I think I am not making too bold a claim for the neighbourhood of Delhi, when I say that it is part of the Indo-Gangetic plain, of which the fertility is a historic fact.....

**Maulvi Muhammad Shafee Daoodi : Fertility in warfare !**

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** In this particular case we have had the assistance of science to test the truth of tradition. We have had the water analysed ; we have had the soil analysed. My Honourable friend, Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh, said yesterday that the value of this analysis is very little, because the *abracadabra* of scientific formulæ had not been communicated to the House or to Members of the Standing Finance Committee. I submit that this House, consisting as it does of laymen like myself, is not likely to be greatly edified by the presentation of chemical formulæ. If I said that  $2\text{Na Cl} + \text{H}_2 \text{SO}_4 = \text{Na}_2 \text{SO}_4 + 2 \text{H Cl}$  no one would be much the wiser for it. What the House needed and what they are entitled to ask Government is that Government should satisfy themselves on the evidence of experts, whether the expenditure they propose to incur or the step that they propose to take is justified in accordance with the evidence that can be made available. We have satisfied ourselves in regard to that. And, I may point out that, although these written analyses were not presented to the Standing Finance Committee, the experts who had made those analyses were present at each meeting of the Standing Finance Committee, in order to answer any questions that might be asked of them by Honourable Members of the Standing Finance Committee. In any case, let me say that Government accept the rider which was made by the majority of the Standing Finance Committee in regard to this matter, namely, that before money is actually invested in the acquisition of a site, every precaution shall be taken to make sure that it is a suitable site.

Then, Sir, there has been a campaign in certain sections of the Press, as persistent as it has been perverse, to the effect that Government have reached their conclusion by some sinister and subterranean methods. One suggestion which has been made is that they had made up their mind to shift the Institute from Pusa to Delhi long before this earthquake took place. Another suggestion that has been made is that Government have taken this decision in order to satisfy the hankering of the staff at Pusa for the gaieties of Imperial Delhi. As regards the first suggestion and as regards the second, Sir, I may be using a strong word, but I am saying something which is only fair to us, namely, that both are calumnies. In regard to the first, namely, the decision of the Government before the earthquake, I say it is absolutely devoid of foundation. And, I think the House will agree—I am making this claim in no spirit of boasting or vain glory at all—that after the part which the Government of India have played and are playing in the reconstruction of Bihar, the very suggestion of spoliation is ungenerous to say the least. And, so far as the staff of the Institute at Bihar are concerned, they took no initiative in this matter at all. The responsibility is the responsibility of the Government and the Government alone. But I do not wish to....

**Sir Abdur Rahim :** The Honourable Member says the staff took no initiative in this matter : have they supported the proposed transfer ?

**Mr. G. S. Bajpai :** The business of a loyal staff is to carry out the decision of Government. As I was saying, I do not wish to conclude what I have to say on a note either of controversy or of resentment. The issue, as I said when I began, in order to be judged correctly, must be judged dispassionately. Government in reaching the decision that they have reached have been animated by a desire solely to serve the best interests of agriculturists throughout India without damage or detriment to any

[Mr. G. S. Bajpai.]

part of it. Pusa was doing work, not for one Province, but for India as a whole. To the extent that that work benefited Bihar, the transfer is not going to reduce the benefit to that Province by one jot or tittle. As for the minor but important part which Pusa played in the agricultural economy of Bihar through the Botanical sub-station, it is our intention to continue it. For Government are considering, even now, the feasibility of transferring or rather devoting to the maintenance of that sub-station in Bihar the expenditure which is being incurred at present on the sub-station for North-West India at Karnal and which really would, I think, become unnecessary when the institute is moved to Delhi. That would, I hope, satisfy even my Honourable friends from Bihar, that the Government of India have in this matter taken into account what is the true interest of Bihar as well as the true interest of India. And so, Sir, I ask the House to support the proposal of Government as a proposal conceived in a spirit of service to all and of malice to none of the constituent parts of this country. (Cheers.)

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,00,000 be granted to the Governor General in Council to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1935, in respect of expenses in connection with ‘ Capital Outlay on schemes of Agricultural Improvement and Research ’.”

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Sir James Grigg** (Finance Member) : Sir, it has already been obvious for some hours that the debate on the proposal to amend the Salt Resolution could not be carried on under very favourable circumstances : it has been quite clear that neither the Honourable Member opposite, who has put down the proposal to amend the Resolution, nor I would have time to expose fully our respective points of view. As soon as that became clear, the two Honourable Members most interested in this together with myself and the Honourable the Law Member decided to have an informal discussion. Certain suggestions which emerged from that discussion are being pursued and there was general agreement on both sides that in view of the fact that the debate could not be carried on satisfactorily, it had much better be postponed till a more suitable occasion ; and that is the proposal that I have to make, with the concurrence of the two Honourable Members opposite, that this motion be not moved and that the discussion on this subject of salt be postponed till the next Session.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** (Dacca Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, the House must have learned with great relief that I do not propose to move the Resolution which stands in my name. (Laughter.) As the Honourable the Finance Member has said, we had a very full informal discussion which was characterised by the usual frankness of the Honourable the Finance Member, and we, on this side, hope that we have been able to enlist his active sympathy in the cause which we wanted to advocate through this Resolution. Speaking for the last time in this House, may I express the hope that whatever happens in future, the Government will not give up the policy which they had solemnly adopted, namely, that of making India self-supporting in regard to our salt supplies and protecting the salt industry of this country.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Gentlemen, our labours have now concluded. Before I adjourn this House for the last time, I wish to express to all Honourable Members my deep appreciation of the courtesy they have shown to me personally and my thanks for the co-operation they have extended to the Chair in enabling the Chair to conduct the proceedings of this House smoothly. Ever since you called upon me to occupy this great position of honour and responsibility, I have set before myself one supreme task, and that is to maintain to the best of my ability, the authority, dignity and the independence of the Chair. (Hear, hear.) If, during the last two years, I have given offence to any individual Members in anything that I may have said or done, I would take this opportunity of assuring every Honourable Member that what I did was done in the interests and the convenience of the House as a whole. During the last eleven years during which it has been my privilege to be a Member of this House, I have looked upon that membership in a very high light. I think that the value of the work in the Legislative Assembly is not to be measured merely in terms of the legislative output of every Session. To my mind, the Indian Legislative Assembly is the one great institution which offers a unique opportunity for representatives from all over our great country to meet together and exchange their ideals and aspirations, and this institution from that point of view has indeed a greater value to India than if it is looked upon merely as a legislative institution. Honourable Members will go back, some to fight their elections and give an account to their constituencies ; others go back probably to other walks of life. To all of them, I say, let good luck attend every one of you. It has been the immemorial custom of the Mother of Parliaments that, at the end of every Parliament, every Member of the House of Commons comes up to the Dais and shakes hands with the Speaker. This ceremony, in this instance, may, in the case of certain Members, be a good bye, in the case of others it may simply be *au revoir*. But in every case it would be a symbol of that amity and co-operation which have existed between the Chair and every section and Member of this House. (Cheers.) I would now invite the Honourable Sir Joseph Bore as the Leader of the House to come and shake hands with me and lead. (Loud and Prolonged Applause.)

(All the Members then shook hands with Mr. President.)

The Assembly then adjourned *sine die*.

( 2489 )

## APPENDIX.\*

**Mr. M. R. Gunjal** (Bombay Central Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural). Sir, I have already opposed Honourable Mr. Ranga Iyer's Temple Entry Bill : today also I am opposing it emphatically. The Assembly is not the forum where religious and social legislation should be passed.

For the last fifty or sixty years, departed leaders like Lokmanya Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai, Babu Bepin Chandra Pal and Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, after undergoing imprisonment and hardships, strived hard for establishing and securing to us democratic rights in this country. Does not Mr. Ranga Iyer realise that the souls of these worthies must be writhing in agony over his Bill and ridiculous pranks in the Assembly.

This Bill has been wounding the religious susceptibilities of the Hindus ; it strikes at the root of their long standing social order, namely, *Chaturvarna*. This Assembly is no place for such legislation. It has only a political field. Here, people's representatives should only strive for securing national betterment and saving the people from the oppression of the British bureaucracy.

Turning to the opinions received on the Bill, I find that the consensus of opinion of the high or low officials in British India is against the Bill. The Bombay Government say : "The Sanatanist Hindus are strongly opposed to the Bill, and, if passed, there will be a danger to the peace." The Advocate-General of Bombay, Sir Kanga, says : "The majority of the Hindus do not support the Bill ; therefore, I do not support it." The Public Prosecutor of the Bombay High Court, Mr. P. B. Shingne, is opposed to this Bill. Almost all the District Judges and the District Magistrates and other officials are opposed to it ; so also all the Sanatanist institutions. Even Jaina and Lingayat communities are opposed to it. The different organizations of the untouchables also do not seem to be so keen on temple entry as on their economic and industrial betterment ; they do not attach much importance to the Bill. Similarly, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, the Punjab, Bengal, Burma, Bihar and Orissa, the North-West Frontier Province, Ajmer-Merwara, Coorg and the Delhi Province are all opposed to the Bill. It should specially be noted that Rohilkund, which constituency my Honourable friend, Mr. Ranga Iyer represents, is equally opposed to the Bill. Religious heads like His Holiness Shri Shankaracharya, Sankeshwar, H. H. Shri Shankaracharya, Puri, H. H. Shri Madhwacharya of the Wallabha cult and also of the Veer Vaishnava cult, the Ramanujacharya and the Mahants of Warkari cult do not endorse the Bill. Under these circumstances, is it not ridiculous for Mr. Ranga Iyer to move for reference of the Bill to a Select Committee ?

The Congress was started with the object of political advancement of India. In 1895, a session of the Congress was held in Poona, when it was resolved that the Congress should leave alone religious and social matters. The Congress policy was, in former times, directed by the moderates, but, later on, in 1908, at Surat, Lokmanya Tilak captured it, and made it, after strenuous efforts, really representative of the public opinion in India. The Congress policy was directed upto 1920 by Lokmanya Tilak, and the establishment of a democratic form of Government was the result. **Mr. Tilak** died in 1920 and Mahatma Gandhi, who calls himself a disciple of the late Mr. Gokhale, came at the helm of the Congress. He started con-

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\*Translation of the speech delivered in vernacular on the 23rd August, 1934.

[Mr. N. R. Gunjal.]

denning and despising the Maharashtra and Lokmanya's followers. He expressed his want of faith in them. He started non-violent non-co-operation and civil disobedience movements, advocated boycott of schools, colleges, Courts, and suspension of practice by lawyers ; he promised Swaraj within one year and collected a crore of rupees in the name of the late Mr. Tilak. The people also have an idea as to how this fund and the Khaddar Fund were disbursed. That his policy has proved detrimental to the interests of the people is the experience of many.

Suspending those activities, he has now undertaken the Harijan uplift and temple entry movements, for which he is collecting funds amounting to lakhs ; it is to be seen how this fund is going to be utilized. Temple Entry *satyagraha* was first started at Poona at the Parvati Temple ; but we opposed it. When Mahatma Gandhi realized that his precepts fell flat on the people, he resorted to the very Legislative Assembly, whose boycott he once preached.

His right-hand man, Mr. Rajagopalachariar, intrigued with Mr. Ranga Iyer and several other Members of the Assembly to get the Temple Entry Bill passed. At the instance of Mahatma Gandhi, he also wrote us letters that non-Hindu Members should abstain from voting on the Bill. If the matter is to be left to the opinion of the Hindus alone, I may point out that the majority of them is opposed to the Bill ; and since the majority of the official and public opinion is against the Bill, the Government must also oppose the Bill. But I do not think that it is proper for Mr. Ranga Iyer to withdraw the Bill after the Government actually oppose it. It seems necessary for me to give this hint to Mr. Ranga Iyer as he is the representative of the people.

Now, if we take into careful consideration the ownership of temples, the people who desire entrance thereto, the legislators, I think it is not possible for the untouchables to get entrance to any temple. The managers and trustees of the temples will not at all be amenable to this Bill. Mr. Ranga Iyer is unnecessarily siding with the untouchables and fickle-minded leaders ; he is sure to come to grief. What sacrifice has he made for the untouchables ? Has he ever given them even a single tattered shirt of his ? If any temple was ever built by his predecessors, what was the original arrangement and what is the present one ? Can he say whether untouchables are allowed free entry to it ?

I shall now quote what some of the past Hindu saints have said about this question of untouchability. Shri Sant Tukaram says this about immemorial customs and rights of the *Chaturvarna* :

“(1) *Chaturvarna valbhishi tu shreshtha, Tari tu pavesi uttam lok.*

(2) *Dharma rakshavyasanthi, Karne ati amhari, Vache bol ved neeti, Karun manni bolenten.*

(3) *Mary dakhavoni gale andhi, kripantidhi santi te.*

(4) *Dharmache pilan, karne pilkhand bhand.*

(5) *Ohokhamela santi, jivache soyire, nupado visare yancha ghadi.”*

Shri Ramdas says this :

“(1) *Dharmadantichi jagdoo, dharmadantichi maroo, Adhi dharm magadhi swaraj.”*

Similar are the utterances of untouchable saints like Ohokhamela and Rahidas. These saints are highly respected amongst Vaishnavas (Vartaris)



of the Maharashtra, a cult of the Vedic religion started by Dyaneśwar Maharaj .

Sir, we zamindars have been giving, in recognition of the right of the untouchables, a portion of the crops that we raise from the land for their subsistence. But for this, the untouchables would have long ago discarded the Hindu fold. The champion of the cause of the untouchables, I mean Mahatma Gandhi, celebrated the occasion of the breaking of his recent fast of a week by reciting prayers from the Bible and the Koran. Have the untouchables ever thought about this ? Is there no Hindu prayer to Mahatma Gandhi's liking ?

The Honourable Mr. Ranga Iyer has given quotations from the opinions of Messrs. Tilak and Gokhale to show that they supported temple entry by means of legislation. He says, this opinion has been expressed in the *Gitarahasya*. Can he quote any sentences to that effect from that book ?

Loknayak Aney and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, both *ex-members* of the Assembly, are opposed to this Bill and are of the opinion that social and religious legislation should not be brought before the Assembly.

I would have spoken on the Bill for a couple of hours more ; but since you, Sir, desire me to curtail my remarks, I shall now bring them to a close. I am thankful to you, Sir, for allowing me a couple of hours to speak.

A word to my friend, Mr. Ranga Iyer. He should not bring forward such measures as would cause dissensions among the Hindu community. He should devote his intellect to other fields of beneficent and patriotic activities. I hope he will withdraw the Bill before it is opposed by Government. In this action, he will merely be following the public opinion. Lastly, I express my admiration for the work of the Varnashram Swarajya Sanga in voicing the true public opinion in the country. The Bill has served for the followers of the Sanatan Dharma as an incentive to national work. It is adversity that prompts to action.

Sir, on behalf of Maharashtra and as a humble follower of the Sanatan Dharma, I strongly oppose Mr. Ranga Iyer's motion to refer the Temple Entry Bill to a Select Committee.