

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

TUESDAY, 28th AUGUST, 1934.

Vol. VIII—No. 4

OFFICIAL REPORT



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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday 28th 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.

POSTAL AND DELIVERY FEES CHARGED FOR PARCELS SENT FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.

826. *Mr. F. E. James : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is the usual practice to charge both a postal fee and a delivery fee, in addition to the ordinary postal charges, in the case of parcels sent to India from the United Kingdom ? If so, why ?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce : Both postal and delivery fees are collected only on Cash-on-delivery (value-payable) parcels from the United Kingdom on which import customs duty is payable. The postal fee is realised from the addressee to remunerate the Department for the services rendered in connection with the clearance of such parcels through the customs and the collection of customs duty, while the delivery fee is levied in consideration of the extra service rendered by the Posts and Telegraphs Department in connection with Cash-on-delivery parcels.

SCHEMES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF INDIAN WOOL AND FOR INCREASING THE WEIGHT OF FLEECES.

827. *Mr. J. Ramsay Scott : (a) Will Government please state the number of sheep in India ?

(b) Is the average weight of a fleece in India about 1½ pounds ?

(c) Is the average weight of an Australian fleece 6½ pound ?

(d) Will Government please state whether the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research have any schemes for the improvement of the quality of Indian wool and for increasing the weight of fleeces ? If so, will Government please give details ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : (a) About 42 millions.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, possibly a little more.

(d) Yes. A scheme for the improvement of local breeds in the Bombay Presidency has been sanctioned. Schemes for work on similar lines in Madras and Hyderabad and for the improvement of dumba sheep in Baluchistan are under consideration.

Mr. J. Ramsay Scott : Is any scheme being considered for such improvement of breeds in the Punjab ?

(2179)

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : Sir, the schemes which I have mentioned are the only ones which have been considered so far.

Seth Haji Abdoola Haroon : Are Government aware that these *dumbas* are imported from Khorasan to Karachi and Sind, and besides that there are local breeds there also, and in Baluchistan also most likely such *dumbas* can be bred ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : Sir, I have stated that a scheme for the improvement of the breed of *dumba* sheep in Baluchistan is under consideration.

Sardar Sant Singh : May I ask which Province of India has the greatest number of sheep ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : I am afraid I could not say what the provincial enumeration has been ; I have only given the figure for India as a whole.

SHEEP-BREEDING IN INDIA.

828. ***Mr. J. Ramsay Scott :** Do Government propose to see that an All-India scheme is laid down with experimental farms for sheep-breeding in the most suitable parts of each Province ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : Several schemes for the improvement of Indian sheep, mainly from the point of view of wool production, were considered by a special Sub-Committee at the last meeting of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and a plan was agreed on for co-ordinated development of sheep-breeding in certain Provinces considered to be representative of the best sheep-breeding tracts.

SHEEP-BREEDING IN INDIA.

829. ***Mr. J. Ramsay Scott :** (a) Are Government aware that Khorasan *dumba* (fat tailed Persian ewes) were exported to South Africa and formed the foundation of the South African wool industry ?

(b) Are Government prepared to consider the importation of Khorasan ewes for Indian sheep-breeding experiments ?

(c) Do Government propose to see that a representative of the wool industry is appointed to the Cattle Breeding Committee ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : (a) Persian sheep are extensively bred in South Africa, but the Merino is understood to be the principal wool sheep of the Union.

(b) and (c). The suggestions will be referred to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research for consideration.

EXPORTS TO CERTAIN COUNTRIES.

830. ***Mr. J. Ramsay Scott :** Are Government aware that of the 56 million pounds exported, 43½ million pounds go to Great Britain, 7½ million pounds to the United States of America while the balance of 5 million pounds goes to other countries ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : As my Honourable friend has not stated what commodity he is referring to, I obviously cannot give him a reply. (Laughter.)

GRANT OF A DIFFERENTIAL DUTY ON RUGS AND BLANKETS.

831. *Mr. J. Ramsay Scott : (a) Are Government aware that the United Kingdom has asked for a differential duty on rugs and blankets and that the duty should be 25 per cent. on rugs and blankets from the United Kingdom and 35 per cent. for imports from foreign countries ?

(b) Are Government prepared to consider the grant of this differential duty in the near future ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

NIGHT VISION TEST OF GUARDS ON THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

832. *Sardar Sant Singh : (a) Did the Agent, North Western Railway, modify his letter No. 290-E-21, dated the 21st June, 1930, addressed to the Divisional Superintendents, Delhi, Ferozepur, Karachi, Lahore, Multan, Quetta and Rawalpindi, relating to the night vision examination of guards, by his letter No. 290-E-21, dated the 7th November, 1931 ? If so, has its modification been given effect to in all the divisions of the North Western Railway ?

(b) Is it a fact that in different Divisions different rules are applied to those who have failed in the night vision test ?

(c) If the reply to part (b) be in the negative, will Government be pleased to state whether Messrs. Fazel Din and Kanga were reduced to grade No. 2 in the Rawalpindi Division on the North Western Railway, who subsequently put in an appeal to the Agent ? Are Government aware that their appeal was accepted and the original grade granted to them ?

(d) Is it a fact that Messrs. Thakar Das and Dais in the Lahore Division and Messrs. Nathu Ram and Abdulla in Karachi Division and Mr. Bahadur Shah in Multan Division similarly failed in the night vision test, but are put on the duty of Luggage Guards and are drawing the emoluments of that post ? If so, why has a distinction been made in the case of Balaki Ram, Head Ticket Collector, Sangla Hill, who failed in the night vision test and has been applying for the last four years to be treated on equal terms with others ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Government have no information. The questions raised are matters of detail, entirely within the competence of the Local Railway Administration and Government are not prepared to interfere. I have, however, sent a copy of the question to the Agent, North Western Railway, for his information and such action as he may consider necessary.

Sardar Sant Singh : Does not the Railway Board insist that a uniform principle should be applied on one railway ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Sir, I believe that there is no uniformity in this matter.

Mr. Laichand Navalrai : Does the Honourable Member know that there are different rules on different Railways, and has the Railway Board ever thought of sending for those rules and considering whether they are fit for the Division for which they have been made ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Sir, as my Honourable friend has studied all these rules, I dare say he knows the facts.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : At any rate I have studied the rules on the North Western Railway, and I think they require improvement.

Mr. P. R. Rau : If my Honourable friend will suggest measures of improvement, I shall be happy to consider them.

Sardar Sant Singh : May I know what is the function of the Railway Board in the matter of supervision over the different Railways ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Sir, the functions of the Railway Board do not extend to the examination of the question of whether particular persons should be employed as luggage guards or in any other capacity.

Sardar Sant Singh : I am afraid my Honourable friend has not understood me. What I mean to ask is whether the principle to be applied in the various Divisions on the same Railway is approved by the Railway Board or not.

Mr. P. R. Rau : Sir, it will be seen from part (c) of this question that two members of the staff did appeal to the Agent, and their appeal succeeded. I do not see any reason why the others should not take a similar course.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Does the Honourable Member know that there are different rules for different subordinates on the North Western Railway ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : I am not aware of that, Sir.

CLOSING OF THE GATE NEAR LYALLPUR RAILWAY STATION ON THE GATI SIDE.

833 ***Sardar Sant Singh :** (a) Will Government please state how many trains pass between Lyallpur and Gati Railway station during 24 hours ?

(b) Is there a gate to pass vehicular traffic near Lyallpur station on Gati side ? How many times during the day is this gate closed to traffic for passing trains ?

(c) Are Government aware that motor traffic has to wait for a very long time on account of the closing of the gate ? If so, do Government propose to build an overbridge to put an end to the inconvenience caused to the public ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : I am making enquiries from the Railway Administration and will lay a reply on the table in due course.

CONTROL OF SPECIAL TICKET EXAMINERS ON THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

834. ***Mr. Bhupat Sing :** Will Government be pleased to state the general policy of the North Western Railway Administration towards the control of Special Ticket Examiners, grades II, III, and above, particularly in regard to their transfers ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : With your permission, Sir, I propose to reply to questions Nos. 834 to 836 together.

All these deal with the detailed arrangements regarding transfers of Special Ticket Examiners on the North Western Railway, which are arranged by the local administration in the interests of the public service, and Government are not prepared to interfere with them. I have sent copies of these questions to the Agent in order that he may consider the points raised by my Honourable friend.

Sardar Sant Singh : Is it a fact that these Special Ticket Examiners have been making a special representation to the Railway Board in the matter of the treatment they have been given by the North Western Railway, and is it due to that that they have been victimised ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : I know, Sir, that representations have been received by the Railway Board from these Tickets Examiners, but I have no information to lead me to believe that they are being victimised.

Sardar Sant Singh : Will the Honourable Member make an inquiry, lest they are victimised on that account ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : If my Honourable friend will give me definite cases of what he calls " victimisation ", I shall consider whether any special inquiry is necessary.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : The question suggests several inconveniences and also suggests that it would be very difficult for these people to remain outside economically also. Is the Railway Board going to consider these, or is it going to leave the Agent to consider them ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : Sir, when a transfer is effected, it obviously leads to inconveniences, but the interests of the public service must be paramount.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : The point is that these are not ordinary transfers. There have never been transfers before, and they are laying down a different policy now.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : What is the question ?

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : I am asking, Sir, that this being the policy which is being laid down now, whether the Railway Board are going to confirm that policy or not, or are they going to say that they are quite indifferent ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : Sir, the Railway Board are not prepared to interfere with the transfers of Ticket Examiners from one part of the Railway to another.

Sardar Sant Singh : Even if it is the case that there is victimisation, as we believe that it is ? Sir, the allegation is that this is a case of victimisation. Will the Honourable Member interfere in that case ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : If my Honourable friend will give me a definite example of a particular person who has been victimised and of the particular circumstances in which that victimisation arose, I shall consider whether any special action is necessary.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : There are only six persons involved. We have brought to notice the inconveniences and the fact of victimisation of these six persons, and we are, therefore, requesting the Honourable Member to say whether he is prepared to convince himself whether there has been victimisation or not.

Mr. P. E. Rau : I fail to understand, Sir, how six persons can give rise to 36 inter-departmental transfers. (Laughter.)

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Is the Honourable Member going to consider that or not ?

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : Sir, if the gentlemen sitting on this side of the House, who have got the details regarding the names of the per-

sons involved, will bring the full facts to the Honourable Member's notice, will he be prepared to look into those cases, that is, if they give him particulars to show that there has been victimisation ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : Yes, Sir.

INTER-DIVISIONAL TRANSFERS AMONG THE SPECIAL TICKET EXAMINERS ON THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

†835. ***Mr. Bhuput Singh :** (a) Is it a fact that the North Western Railway authorities have launched a scheme of 36 inter-divisional transfers among the Special Ticket Examiners, in pursuance of which two batches of six men each have already been transferred ? If so, why have these batches been transferred ?

(b) Will Government please furnish a statement of cases of fraud against a Special Ticket Examiner, if any, arising out of his 'long stay', mentioning therein the punishment inflicted on the defaulter ?

(c) Will Government please state if any transfers of this nature were made among the Travelling Ticket Examiners between the 1st June, 1928, and the 1st June, 1931 ? If no transfers were made during that period, what is the justification for the present scheme of transfers among Special Ticket Examiners who are mostly old Travelling Ticket Examiners ?

(d) Will Government please state if there is any other branch of service which deals with the public ?

(e) If the answer to part (d) be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state the number and rank of such employees in that branch of service, together with the number of Special Ticket Examiners who have been staying in one division for more than seven years ? If these employees, who are solely controlled by Divisional authorities, are not transferred outside, why are the Special Ticket Examiners treated differently ?

INTER-DIVISIONAL TRANSFERS AMONG THE SPECIAL TICKET EXAMINERS ON THE NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

†836. ***Mr. Bhuput Singh :** (a) Are Government aware that the Special Ticket Examiners (old Travelling Ticket Examiners) of the North Western Railway were hardly hit by the conversion of their mileage allowances into very low rates of consolidated allowance ? If so, are Government also aware that their inter-divisional transfers, a scheme regarding which has been launched by the Railway Administration, will cause further pecuniary embarrassment to them ?

(b) Are Government aware that the standard of education varies in every Province and the books taught in different schools also differ ? If so, are Government aware that these transfers will affect the academic up-bringing of the dependents of these employees ?

(c) Will Government please state whether the North Western Railway has acquired the same position in finance as the one that existed before the economy campaign ? If not, what is the justification for these transfers involving high expenditure ?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 834.

(d) Will Government be pleased to state in approximate figures the expenses that the North Western Railway authorities shall have to incur on enforcing these transfers? Could not this money be better spent on public welfare, etc.?

(e) Is it a fact that in reply to the appeals submitted by the Special Ticket Examiners against orders for transfers, the authorities replied that they are being transferred in the interest of service? If so, will Government be pleased to state what significance the authorities attach to the term 'in the interest of service'? Is this interest variable in different Divisions and at different places? If so, how?

(f) Has the Railway Administration laid down a policy that its employees should not be sent to serve at places far off from their home Divisions, except Quetta, so that there may arise no necessity of their going on long leave, off and on, to look after their private affairs and thus hamper the smooth working of the Administration? If so, why are the authorities enforcing their transfers, particularly of Special Ticket Examiners who are being sent very far off from their homes, such as Sindhis to Delhi and North West Frontier Province men to Karachi?

RE-ORGANISATION OF THE CANTONMENTS DEPARTMENT.

837. *Rai Sahib Badri Lal Bastogi : Have Government under contemplation any scheme for the re-organisation of the Cantonments Department? If so, how long is it expected to take before the department starts functioning under the new scheme?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : A scheme for the re-organisation of the Cantonments Department is under consideration, but it is as yet impossible to say when it will be introduced.

EMPLOYMENT OF WIRELESS OPERATORS IN THE INDIAN COAST AND LAND STATIONS.

838. *Mr. S. C. Mitra : (a) Will Government please state how many wireless operators are employed by the Government of India in the Indian coast and land stations?

(b) What is the system of recruitment of these men?

(c) Is it a fact that signallers in the Telegraph Department are often selected for wireless training for these posts?

(d) Are Government aware that there are a good number of privately trained and experienced persons with proper certificates from the Posts and Telegraphs Department?

(e) Is it a fact that the Government of India will soon recruit a few experienced wireless operators for the post of wireless inspectors for ships? If so, how will recruitment for these posts be made?

(f) Do Government propose to see that wireless operators with proper certificates and practical experience at sea are considered qualified for the post of land and coast stations?

(g) Is it a fact that three years' experience at sea is considered as six years' in land and coast stations?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce : (a) The total number of wireless operators in the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department is at present 114. This number excludes personnel of the Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Indian Marine employed in those services.

(b) and (c). Wireless operators in the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department are now recruited only from telegraphists already employed in that Department.

(d) A number of private candidates have been examined and granted certificates of competency after qualifying. Government have no information as to the experience of these men.

(e) The reply to the first part is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

(f) Government do not intend to modify the existing system of recruitment of wireless operators employed in the Indian Posts and Telegraph Department.

(g) No.

INDIANS AS WIRELESS OPERATORS UNDER MESSRS MARCONI AND COMPANY ON THE INDIAN COAST.

839. ***Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Are Government aware that Messrs. Marconi and Company (British Wireless Marine Service), employ nationals of the country in the Wireless Operators' service in China and other foreign coasts ?

(b) Are Government in a position to state if there are Indians in the Wireless Operators' service under Messrs. Marconi and Company, on the Indian coast ? If so, how many, and if not, what is the reason ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : (a) Government have no information.

(b) There are no Indian wireless operators in the service of the Marconi International Marine Communication Company on the Indian coast. It is understood that this is due to suitable Indian candidates possessing the requisite qualifications not being available.

Sardar Sant Singh : Will the Honourable Member explain how is it that, out of the 35 million people living in India, not a single man has been found to be qualified enough to be employed by this Company ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : My Honourable friend has referred to a very restricted part of India. I do not know to which part of India he refers when he mentions 35 million people.

Mr. S. C. Mitra : Will Government explain how they know that there are no qualified persons ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : I can give no guarantee on that point. As my Honourable friend will realise, we are not in a position to bring pressure to bear on this Company which is an International Company, but such information as we have goes to show that suitable Indian candidates are not available. Of course, Government cannot say definitely that there are no such candidates available.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : Is this Marconi International Marine Communication Company in receipt of any assistance, financial or otherwise, from the Government of India ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : Not that I know of.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : Are Government contemplating any action to provide suitable training to the Indians, so that they may be able to get employment with this Company in the future ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : The question of giving a short course of training on the " Dufferin " is being seriously gone into.

Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state whether these posts, when they fall vacant, are advertised in India ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : My Honourable friend is, I think, confused about the status and position of this Company. It is an International Company and we have nothing whatsoever to do with the appointments made by it.

Mr. S. C. Mitra : Arising out of part (a) of my question, do not Government consider it advisable that they should also inquire like other Governments that the Indian nationals may be employed on the coast line of India as other countries are doing ? Why do the Government refuse even to make inquiries ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : We have no information to show that my Honourable friend's suggestion is correct.

Mr. S. C. Mitra : If the Government have got no information on the point, is it not their duty to secure that information ? I have specifically mentioned in my question that other Governments are having their nationals on the staff of this Company.

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : If my Honourable friend will give me the information upon which he bases his statement, I shall consider it ; but I shall certainly not consider it on a mere allegation.

Mr. S. C. Mitra : It is not a mere allegation. When I specifically say that other Governments are getting their nationals employed in the service of the Company on their coast line, why should not the Government of India make an inquiry in the matter ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : I am not prepared to accept a mere statement, but if my Honourable friend gives the evidence upon which that statement is based, I shall be happy to look into it.

Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Do Government propose to ask the authorities to advertise these posts in India ?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhoré : No.

ALLOTMENT OF NEW QUARTERS IN NEW DELHI.

840. ***Maulvi Sayyid Murtaza Sahab Bahadur :** (a) Will Government please state whether the new quarters recently built in New Delhi have all been allotted to the Secretariat staff ?

(b) Will Government please state the number of clerks who applied for quarters in New Delhi from the Secretariat proper only, and the number whose demands have been met ?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce : (a) The new quarters have been allotted to members of the staff both of the Secretariat proper and of the Attached Offices.

(b) There were 900 applications for quarters (old and new) from members of the staff of the Secretariat proper. 800 quarters have been allotted against these applications.

ALLOWANCES GRANTED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA STAFF IN NEW DELHI.

841. ***Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Sahab Bahadur :** (a) In view of the fact that a large number of quarters have been constructed and allotted and a considerable amount has been spent on them, will Government please state whether they contemplate sanctioning the (i) separation allowance, i.e., Delhi Lump Sum Allowance, (ii) Conveyance Allowance and (iii) Delhi House Rent Allowance, for the next winter season?

(b) If no decision has yet been reached as regards the sanction of these allowances, do Government propose to announce their decision as early as possible, preferably before the downward move begins? If not, why not?

(c) Are Government aware that in the absence of their decision about the sanction or otherwise of these allowances, the staff will be put to a great inconvenience in making arrangements for houses? If so, do they propose to take the action as suggested in part (b) of this question?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : (a) to (c). The grant of these allowances is mainly dependent on the extent to which it is possible to provide the migratory staff with residential accommodation in Delhi. The question whether the allowances should be granted this year is under consideration and orders will be issued as soon as a decision is reached.

CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN ADDITIONS TO A PRAYER AND STORES SHED IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, ALIGARH.

842. ***Bhai Parma Nand :** Will Government be pleased to state what action they propose to take against the officer-in-charge for allowing the construction of certain additions to a prayer and store shed in the Government of India Press, Aligarh, without obtaining sanction of the Government of India to do so? If not, why not?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce : After careful review of all the facts of the case, Government did not consider that any action was called for beyond informing the two officers who were successively in charge of the Press at the time the additions were made that they should not have permitted them. Instructions have since been issued which should prevent unauthorised constructions of the kind referred to in the question in future.

POST OF ASSISTANT MANAGER IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, ALIGARH.

843. ***Bhai Parma Nand :** Will Government be pleased to state whether the designation of the Assistant Manager, Aligarh Press, has been altered to Overseer and the salary reduced to a lower rate than that drawn by the present incumbent? If so, will Government be pleased to state why the experienced Assistant Manager's services are not utilised in a second

class press, and he is not replaced by a man on a lower rate of salary for the reason that Aligarh Forms Press is a third-grade Press ?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce : It has been decided to convert the post of Assistant Manager, Forms Press, Aligarh, into that of an Overseer on lower pay as soon as it is vacated by its present incumbent. The Honourable Member will appreciate that the economy which he wishes to see effected will not be secured unless a vacancy occurs in another post to which the present Assistant Manager of the Aligarh Press can be transferred. When such a vacancy occurs the question of a transfer will be considered on its merits.

**ALLEGED WORKING OF A PEON AS COOK TO THE ASSISTANT MANAGER,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PRESS, ALIGARH.**

844. ***Bhai Parma Nand :** Is it a fact that a peon, Zahir Uddin, borne on the regular establishment of the Aligarh Government Press, does not work in the Press, and works as a cook to the present Assistant Manager ? If so, why do Government grant this indulgence in these days of retrenchment campaign ?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce : I am informed that the peon in question has worked as cook to the Assistant Manager out of office hours in addition to performing his office duties. I have issued orders that this objectionable practice must stop.

FLOODS IN NORTH BIHAR.

845. ***Mr. Bhuput Sing :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state with reference to the answers given on the 6th August, 1934, to my question on floods in North Bihar, whether their attention has been drawn to the statement published by the Secretary, Bihar Central Relief Committee, dated Patna, August 7, stating that an area of 150 square miles is still under water ?

(b) If so, why was no mention made in the *communiqués* issued by the Government of Bihar and Orissa on July 18, 19 and 26 and in the Government of Bihar's letter, dated the 30th July, of the conditions prevailing in Madhipura Sub-division of the Bhagalpur district, about which an alarming report has been published by the Bihar Central Relief Committee ?

“ The situation in Madhipura sub-division of Bhagalpur would appear to be worse. The quake has caused.....immediate necessities.”

(c) What ‘ necessary relief measures have been organised by the Local Government ’ as mentioned in the answer to my last question on the subject ?

(d) What provision has been made out of the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund towards the flood relief in North Bihar, particularly Madhipura Sub-division ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : (a) Yes.

(b) The *Communiqués* referred to floods on the Sikarana Burgandak, and Bagmati rivers which do not affect Madhipura.

(c) The relief organisation devised by the Local Government included the provision of several hundred boats and crews, two motor boats

and an aeroplane for reconnoitring purposes. A complete organisation was formed for the use of these boats, the rescue of the inhabitants of the flooded villages and the provision of food for men and cattle. The arrangements are reported to have worked with great efficiency. Several thousands of refugees were brought into Muzaffarpur and housed in one of the temporary colonies. Work was found for the able-bodied, and those unable to work were given food and clothing. Rs. 50,000 have been placed at the disposal of the Commissioner for charitable relief and Rs. 60,000 for *takavi* in connection with the floods. Arrangements for the distribution of seed and seedlings through the agricultural department have been made.

(d) It is understood that no provision has been made out of the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund towards flood relief in Madhipura sub-division, since the floods in that sub-division have no connection with the earthquake. In the Tirhut district the Collectors have been authorised to make grants from the Fund for the repair of houses which collapsed in the flood, since the severity of the flood is partly due to the changes in river channels caused by the earthquake and in some parts to local changes in the levels of village sites. Relief expenditure under other heads is being met from Provincial revenues. The Local Government as such have no concern with the expenditure from the Viceroy's Earthquake Relief Fund, though relief from that fund is co-ordinated with expenditure from the Famine Relief Fund of the Local Government.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : May I know, Sir, what is the latest information of the Government with regard to the flood situation in Patna and Shahabad ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : I am answering a short notice question, with the permission of the Chair, tomorrow on that subject, and my answer will include reading a telegram from the Local Government giving such details as are available.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : With regard to the floods in North Bihar, about which this question has been asked, I should like to know the total amount of money which has been placed at the disposal of the Commissioner of Tirhut Division or any other officer to cope with the situation arising out of the floods ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : I am afraid I must ask for notice of that question.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : The floods of North Bihar are mentioned in my question, and I am asking a supplementary question which arises out of that question. I want to know the total amount of money which the Government have placed at the disposal of the local officers to meet the situation that might have arisen out of the floods in North Bihar.

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : I have already said that Rs. 50,000 have been placed at the disposal of the Commissioner for charitable relief and Rs. 60,000 for *takavi* in connection with the floods. That is the Commissioner of one Division.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : You mean to say that this sum has been placed at the disposal of the Commissioner of the Tirhut Division which includes the districts of Muzaffarpur, Champaran, Darbhanga and Saran,

but what about Madhipura and other areas of North Bihar where floods have occurred? I want to know what amount of money has been placed at the disposal of the local officers to meet the situation there?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : I am afraid I must ask for notice of that question.

PROPOSED VISIT OF MISS MAYO TO INDIA.

846. ***Mr. Bhuput Singh :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to reports in the Press that Miss Mayo, nicknamed 'The Notorious Drain Inspector', is again coming out to India this winter?

(b) If so, are Government aware of the deep resentment felt by Indians against her on account of her past activities?

(c) Do Government propose not to allow her to land in this country?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : (a) and (c). I have seen a Press report to the effect that Miss Mayo proposes to visit India, but no request for a visa for India has so far been referred to us.

(b) I am aware that her book entitled "Mother India" aroused resentment.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : May I ask, Sir, if she is coming to India with the help of Government?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : I have no information whether she is coming to India or not. I have only seen a statement in the Press that she proposes to visit India.

Mr. Muhammad Muzam Sahib BalaDur : Are Government aware that Miss Mayo's book has been the prelude to the introduction of some Bills in this House, and that one of them has become the law of the land, I mean the Child Marriage Restraint Act?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : I am not aware of the precise connection between that Act and Miss Mayo's book, but I will take the Honourable Member's word for it.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : In case Miss Mayo visits India, may I take it that the Government of India will afford no assistance to her as was done on the last occasion when, I understand, she was allowed to stay in Government Houses and other places and she had also access to Government records?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : That is an entirely hypothetical question. It is impossible for me to answer that question until I know whether she intends to visit India and with what object.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : Are Government aware that on the last occasion, when she visited India, arrangements were made for her stay by Government, and also some officers of Government were placed at her disposal and she also had access to some records of Government offices?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : That suggestion formed the subject-matter of questions in this Assembly as far back as 1928, and, so far as I recollect, I am speaking subject to correction, it was made

perfectly clear that Miss Mayo received no exceptional facilities of any kind whatever beyond the ordinary courtesies shown to travellers from other countries.

Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya : Are Government aware that the Publicity Officer of the Government of India rendered assistance to Miss Mayo and she thanked this officer for the help rendered to her and also acknowledged that her book would not have seen the light of the day but for his assistance ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : I am not aware of that. I do not believe that statement is entirely accurate. I think it has been contradicted on behalf of Government across the floor of the House.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : May I know what was the ordinary courtesies which were shown to her and which have been shown to the innumerable tourists who visit this country in their private capacity ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : So far as I remember, no courtesies were shown to her which are not shown to ordinary tourists.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : What is the courtesy shown to ordinary tourists ? Are they given access to Government records and do they stay in Government Houses. We do not object to Miss Mayo coming to India, but I want that the Government of India should give no assistance to her. Let 20 of them come by all means, I do not mind. (Laughter.)

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : As far as I know, Miss Mayo was not allowed any access to Government records.

Sardar Sant Singh : Is it a fact that Government purchased a large number of copies of " Mother India " ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : That statement has been repeatedly contradicted on behalf of Government across the floor of the House.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Was she received as a guest in any Government House ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : I do not know.

Mr. Bhuput Sing : What is the answer to part (c) of my question ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : My answer to parts (a) and (c) was, I have seen a Press report to the effect that Miss Mayo proposes to visit India, but no request for a *visa* for India has so far been referred to us.

ARRANGEMENTS IN INDIA FOR THE JUBILEE OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING'S REIGN.

847. ***Mr. Bhuput Sing :** (a) Will Government be pleased to state with reference to the statement made in the House of Commons regarding the Silver Jubilee celebration, what arrangements have been made for the representation of India at the ceremonies ?

(b) What expenditure, if any, is proposed to be made on behalf of India ?

(c) Will the Princes and Leaders of the people in India be invited to join the festivities and rejoicings in London and to offer presents and gifts ?

The Honourable Sir Henry Craik : (a) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given to Sirdar Harbans Singh Brar's question No. 511 on the 9th August, 1934, to which I have nothing to add.

(b) and (c). These matters will be considered in due course.

REFRESHER COURSE ON STATE RAILWAYS.

848. ***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** (on behalf of Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen) : Is it a fact that Government informed this House on the 18th July, 1934, in reply to starred question No. 576, dated the 3rd April, 1934, that the failure in a Refresher Course does not result in forfeiture of appointment ? If so, will Government please state whether the principles stated in their reply are applicable to all State Railways, including the East Indian Railway ? If not, why should any distinction exist on different State Railways ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : As regards the first part of the question, I can only say that my Honourable friend has not quoted my reply in full.

As regards the second part of the question, I understand that the practice on the East Indian Railway is somewhat different. Government are enquiring into the matter.

RULES FOR THE RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF APPRENTICE MECHANICS AND TRADE APPRENTICES IN STATE RAILWAY WORKSHOPS.

849. ***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** (on behalf of Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen) : Is it a fact that Government stated that a separate circular on the subject was issued by the Agent, East Indian Railway, in April, 1933 ? If so, will Government please lay on the table a copy of the said circular along with the rules for the recruitment and training of Apprentice Mechanics and Trade Apprentices in the Workshops of State-managed Railways ? If not, why not ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : I have placed a copy of the circular in question in the Library of the House. A copy of the recruitment rules referred to is already in the Library.

RULES FOR THE RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING OF SUBORDINATE STAFF ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

850. ***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** (on behalf of Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen) : (a) With reference to their reply to part (b) of starred question No. 1328, dated the 11th December, 1933, laid on the table of this House on the 19th July, 1934, will Government please state how far the report of the Agent, East Indian Railway, is in accordance with the orders of the Railway Board circulated under the Agent's No. 548/A. E.-2460, dated the 1st October, 1932 ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Railway Board, in the rules for the recruitment and training of subordinate staff, laid down under Rule 2, that appointments bearing the same designation shall form a class, and

gave an illustration thereto? If so, why has the Agent now formed a class with two designations?

(c) What are the higher appointments in the Ticket Checking branch and where are they prescribed as such in the rules? If none, why are they now termed as such and, why were they not considered as such when the rules were framed and opinions called for?

(d) What are the scales of pay of the different grades and the strength of each grade as sanctioned?

Mr. P. R. Rau : (a) I suggest it is rather for my Honourable friend to point out in what respect he considers they are at variance.

(b) As the Honourable Member realises, the example given in the Railway Board's rules was illustrative.

As regards the second part, on the information contained in the question, Government do not consider that the action of the Agent is contrary to the rules.

(c) and (d). A statement containing the information readily available is placed on the table.

Statement showing the grades and strength of Ticket Checking Staff on East Indian Railway.

No.	Designation.	Scale of Pay.
6	Chief Inspectors	240—20—460
6	Inspectors, Grade I	200—10—220
5	Inspectors, Grade II	150—10—190
232	Travelling Ticket Examiners, Grade I	70—5—95
414	Travelling Ticket Examiners, Grade II	55—3—64
2	Head Ticket Collectors, Grade I	200—10—220
5	Head Ticket Collectors, Grade II	150—10—190
2	Assistant Head Ticket Collectors	110—5—140
43	Ticket Collectors, Grade I	70—5—95
96	Ticket Collectors, Grade II	55—2—64
673	Ticket Collectors, Grade III	37—3—52
39	Lady Ticket Collectors	75—5—125

PERSONS DISCHARGED BY THE DIVISIONAL SUPERINTENDENT, MORADABAD, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

851. *Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad (on behalf of Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen) : (a) With reference to the reply to the starred question No. 312,

dated the 2nd March, 1934, laid on the table of this House on the 19th July, 1934, will Government please state whether these discharges are not against rule 6 of the rules circulated with the Railway Board's letter No. 4080-F., dated the 10th October, 1930, wherein no provision is made to discharge a man as per his term of agreement ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Railway Board has ordered the deletion from the agreement of this term since the introduction of the rules regarding discharge and dismissal ?

(c) What is the number of the staff discharged as per term of agreement during the period from 1st January, to 31st July, 1934, by the Divisional Superintendent, Moradabad, East Indian Railway ?

(d) Will Government please state the length of service, pay, appointment held when discharge and adverse remarks made during the service of the men discharged as per term of agreement during the period 1st January, 1933, to 31st July, 1934 ?

(e) Do Government propose to take disciplinary action against the Divisional Superintendent, Moradabad, for the infringement of the rules, and to reinstate the staff who are discharged as per terms of agreement ? If not, why not ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : (a) No. I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the explanation under rule 6 of the "Rules regulating the discharge and dismissal of State Railway non-gazetted Government servants" which would show that Railway Administrations possess the power of discharging a railway servant in accordance with the terms of his agreement.

(b) No.

(c) Ten.

(d) Government have no information.

(e) No.

Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Has my Honourable friend consulted rule 6 mentioned in this question ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Has my Honourable friend read the explanation under rule 6 ?

Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Yes.

SUPERSESSIONS IN THE MORADABAD DIVISION, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

852. ***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** (on behalf of Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen) : Are Government aware that supersession is the order of the day on the Moradabad Division, East Indian Railway ? If not, will Government please state :

(a) (i) the special reasons for the appointment of Mr. Ram Lal Saigal, Assistant Station Master, Amroha as Assistant Section Controller ;

(ii) the rate of pay he was drawing as an Assistant Station Master ;

(iii) the rate of pay he is permitted to draw as an Assistant Controller ;

- (iv) his position amongst the Assistant Station Masters ;
 - (v) the intervening scales of pay ;
 - (vi) the avenue of advancement ;
 - (vii) the number of Assistant Station Masters and Station Masters whom he has superseded ?
- (b) (i) the special reasons for the appointment of Mr. P. R. Barnard, Guard, Moradabad, as Controller ;
- (ii) the rate of pay he is drawing as a Guard ;
 - (iii) the rate of pay he is permitted to draw as a Controller ;
 - (iv) his position amongst the guards ;
 - (v) the intervening scales of pay ;
 - (vi) the avenue of advancement ;
 - (vii) the number of guards, assistant station masters (Higher Grade) section controllers, assistant yard masters whom he has superseded ;
- (c) whether the instructions contained in Agent's circular No. 548|A.|E.-2460 of the 1st October, 1932, were observed in these cases ; if not, why not ; and
- (d) whether Government propose to hold an independent and impartial inquiry into the state of affairs ; if not, why not ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Government have no information and see no reason to interfere in the appointments of the nature indicated which are entirely within the competence of the Local Railway Administration. I have sent a copy of the question to the Agent, East Indian Railway, for his information and such action as he may consider necessary.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : Did the Honourable Member say on the floor of the House that he would send all the questions in connection with the Moradabad Division to the Agent for an enquiry ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Yes, Sir.

REDUCTIONS AND TRANSFERS OF STAFF IN THE MORADABAD DIVISION, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

853. ***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** (on behalf of Pandit Satyendra Nath Sen) : Is it a fact that substantive permanent holders of appointments, after working for some months without any charge, are reduced and transferred to other branch or group by the Divisional Superintendent, Moradabad, East Indian Railway ? If not, will Government please lay on the table a copy of the Divisional Superintendent's letters No. E. T.-3|33|E. T.-7, dated the 31st January, 1933, and No. E. T.-3|34|E. T.-7, dated the 5th March, 1934, together with a copy of the rules, regulations or special orders contrary to Fundamental Rule 15 or paragraph 300 of the Open Line Code for State Railways, Volume II, justifying such action ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Government have no information, and are not prepared to interfere unless my Honourable friend will explain clearly in what particulars the orders referred to by him are contrary to Fundamental Rules.

SUPERSESSIONS IN THE DELHI DIVISION, NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

854. ***Mr. S. G. Jog** : Are Government aware that supersession is the order of the day in the Delhi Division, North Western Railway ? If not, will Government please state :

- (a) the number of appeals received by the Agent against the promotions of juniors among the Ticket Collectors in the grade 33—3—60 during the period 29th September, 1932, up to date ;
- (b) what action has been taken to set right the said supersession ; if none, why not ;
- (c) the cause of delay in disposing of the said appeals since 29th September, 1932 ;
- (d) the date by which the said appeals are likely to be decided ;
- (e) the length of period required to dispose of an appeal ;
- (f) if the period of over two years is not sufficiently long ;
- (g) whether they propose to deviate from their well established practice in compensating them with retrospective effect ? If not, why not ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : Government have no information to substantiate the allegation in the first part of the question and do not consider that the collection of the information required in the rest of the question will yield results commensurate with the expenditure of time and labour involved in its collection.

PROMOTION OF EMPLOYEES ON STATE RAILWAYS.

855. ***Mr. S. G. Jog** : With reference to the statement laid on the table of this House on the 19th July, 1934, in reply to starred question No. 725, asked on the 16th April, 1934, will Government please state whether a principle laid down on the North Western Railway, is applicable on all State Railways, including East Indian Railway ? If not, why not, and what is the reason of such discriminations on State Railways ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : Obviously local rules issued by one railway administration cannot be binding on other railway administrations. Government have not attempted to make the procedure in minor matters uniform on all State Railways.

CERTAIN OFFICERS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

856. ***Mr. S. G. Jog** : Is it a fact that Government have informed this House on the 4th April, 1934, in reply to starred question No. 632, that Administrative grades should be filled in the ratio of 2 to 1 by officers of the East Indian Railway cadre and the State Railway cadre, respectively ? If so, will Government please state :

- (a) the names and cadres of administrative grades held by officers during the period from 1st July, 1925, to 30th June, 1934 ;

(b) the name and cadre of the officers who held during the period from 1st July, 1925, to 30th June, 1934 or hold the following appointments :

- (1) Agent.
- (2) Deputy Agents.
- (3) Secretaries to Agent.
- (4) Chief Engineer.
- (5) Deputy Chief Engineers.
- (6) Divisional and Sub-Divisional Engineers.
- (7) Chief Mechanical Engineer.
- (8) Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineers.
- (9) Divisional or Sub-Divisional Mechanical Engineers.
- (10) Chief Electrical Engineer.
- (11) Deputy Chief Electrical Engineers.
- (12) Divisional or Sub-Divisional Electrical Engineers.
- (13) Chief Operating Superintendent.
- (14) Deputy Chief Operating Superintendents.
- (15) Divisional Superintendents.
- (16) Superintendents, Transportation (Traffic, Power, Rolling Stock, Commercial Staff).
- (17) Assistant Superintendents (Traffic Power, Rolling Stock Commercial Staff).
- (18) Chief Commercial Manager.
- (19) Deputy Chief Commercial Manager.
- (20) Officers on special duty, etc., etc. ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Yes.

(a) and (b). Government regret their inability to compile the statistics for the period of nine years as asked for. If my Honourable friend is specially interested he will find all the details required by him in the Classified Lists of State Railway Establishment for the years 1925 to 1934, copies of which are in the Library of the House.

DEFINITION OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATION, ETC., ON INDIAN RAILWAYS.

857. ***Mr. S. G. Jog :** Will Government please define :

- (a) Local Governments ;
- (b) Local Administrations ; and
- (c) Heads of Department ;

on the Railways in India ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : (a) and (b). Presumably my Honourable friend is referring to the definitions of these terms for the purpose of the Fundamental and Supplementary Rules. The words 'Local Government' and 'Local Administration' are defined in Fundamental Rule 9 (15) and

Supplementary Rule 214 respectively. These have no special reference to Railways in India, but various authorities on Railways have been invested with powers corresponding to the powers exercisable by Local Governments and Local Administrations under the Fundamental and Supplementary Rules. I would refer my Honourable friend to Appendices Nos. 4 and 13 in the Compilation of the Fundamental and Supplementary Rules issued by the Accountant General, Posts and Telegraphs.

(c) A list of heads of departments will be found in Appendix 14 of the same publication.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney : Will the Honourable Member inform the House whether by heads of departments he means those officers under the Agent to whom have been delegated powers equal to that of the Agent of a Railway ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : The heads of departments are defined specially in Appendix 14 of the publication referred to, and I would invite the attention of my Honourable friend to that.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney : Will the Honourable Member supply me with a copy of that publication or tell me where I can get it ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : A copy is available in the Library of the House.

CONSTITUTION OF LOCAL ADMINISTRATIONS, ETC., ON INDIAN RAILWAYS.

858. **Mr. S. G. Jog :** Will Government please state the section of the Railways Act or any other notification under which :

- (a) Local Governments,
- (b) Local Administrations, and
- (c) Heads of Departments,

on the Railways in India, are constituted ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : These expressions are not defined in the Railways Act. If my Honourable friend's question refers to the authorities in the Railway Department corresponding to these authorities the answer has been given in my reply to his previous question.

APPLICABILITY OF RAILWAY BOARD NOTIFICATION No. 3352-E., TO CERTAIN RAILWAY SERVICES.

859. **Mr. S. G. Jog :** Will Government please state whether Railway Department (Railway Board) Notification No. 3352-E., dated Simla, the 28th April, 1932, is applicable to :

- (a) All-India Services on Railways in India ;
- (b) Provincial Services on Railways in India ;
- (c) Subordinate Services on Railways in India ; and
- (d) Inferior Services on Railways in India ?

If not, under what notification, the Classification, Control, Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules for the said services are published in the Gazette of India ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : The persons to whom the notification applies are specified in the notification itself.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL OF SERVICES ON THE RAILWAYS.

860. ***Mr. S. G. Jog** : Is it a fact, that under Notification (Public) No. F. 472-11-23, dated Simla, the 21st June, 1924, by the Home Department of the Government of India the Services are classified ? If so, will Government please state :

- (a) whether the Services (All-India) on the Railways in India are under the administrative control of the Government of India or of the Agents of respective Railways ;
- (b) the nature of the posts or appointments exclusively reserved for All-India Services on the Railways in India ;
- (c) whether the Provincial Services on the Railways in India are under the administrative control of the Government of India or of the Railway Board or of the Agents of respective Railways ;
- (d) the nature of the posts or appointments exclusively reserved for Provincial Services on the Railways in India ;
- (e) whether the Subordinate Services on the Railways in India are under the administrative control of the Government of India, or of the Agents of respective Railways, or of the Heads of Departments, or the Divisional Superintendents, or any Subordinate authority under them ;
- (f) the nature of the posts or appointments exclusively reserved for Subordinate Services on the Railways in India ; and
- (g) whether the said notification is applicable to the services on the Railways in India ? If not, why not ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : The reply to the introductory portion of the question is in the affirmative, but the Notification referred to has been superseded as regards classification of services by the Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules published with Home Department Notification No. F. 913/30-Ests., dated the 19th June, 1930, as amended from time to time.

- (a) The Railway Services, Class I, are under the administrative control of the Governor General in Council.
- (b) There are none so reserved. Railway services are not included among the All-India Services.
- (c) On Railways, the Lower Gazetted Services correspond to a certain extent to the provincial services. They are at present under the control of the Railway Board.
- (d) Certain junior posts of Assistant Officers are in the Lower Gazetted Services.
- (e) The subordinate services on State-managed Railways are under the administrative control of the Agent. The control exercised by authorities subordinate to the Agent is only to the extent to which the powers may have been delegated to them by the Agent.
- (f) All non-gazetted posts other than posts in inferior service on State-managed Railways are considered as belonging to the subordinate services.

(g) No. The Notification referred to, so long as it remained in force, applied only to superior railway services.

Mr. S. G. Jog : Is it not a general impression and complaint that there is a lot of favouritism in the matter of appointments to the railway services ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : I am not aware of that impression, Sir, but if that impression exists, it is incorrect.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney : Will the Honourable Member state whether or not he has received many complaints about favouritism being practised on the railways, especially from me ? (Laughter.)

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Will the Honourable Member state if there is any notification or rule laying down the powers of control of the Railway Board itself ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : I should like to have notice of that question.

APPLICABILITY OF CONDUCT, DISCIPLINE AND APPEAL RULES TO SUBORDINATE AND INFERIOR SERVICES ON THE RAILWAYS.

861. ***Mr. S. G. Jog** : (a) Is it a fact that the principles laid down in Railway Department (Railway Board) Notification No. 3352-E., dated Simla, the 28th April, 1932, Part VII-Conduct and Discipline and Part VIII-Appeals—are applicable to Subordinate and Inferior Services on the Railways in India ? If not, why not ?

(b) Were any rules confirmatory to Railway Department (Railway Board) Notification No. 3352-E., dated the 28th April, 1932, Part VII-Conduct and Discipline and Part VIII-Appeals notified to the Subordinate and Inferior Services on the Railways in India ? If so, when, and under what notification ? Will Government please lay a copy of the same on the table of this House ? If not, why not ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : (a) Part VII and Part VIII of the notification deal only with members of Railway Services, Classes I and II. Subordinate and Inferior Services are governed by the direction made by the Secretary of State in Council delegating to the Governor General in Council full powers of control over other railway servants.

(b) Rules regulating the discharge and dismissal of State Railway non-gazetted Government servants, issued in November 1929, by the Railway Board, continue in force under rule 6 of Part I of the notification referred to. A copy of these rules is available in the Library of the House.

Mr. S. G. Jog : Do not the Government think that the time has really arrived when, so far as appointments to the Railways are concerned, there should be some Appointment Board or Selection Board where the claims of the candidates may be considered ?

Mr. P. E. Rau : I think, Sir, that hardly arises out of this question which refers to appeals in regard to conduct and discipline.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney : Will the Honourable Member inform this House whether or not it is a fact that many posts that are supposed to be filled by selection by a Selection Committee are selected by one officer and not by a Selection Board ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : I do not think that arises out of this question either, Sir.

RULES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF MEMORIALS OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

862. ***Mr. S. G. Jog** : Is it a fact that under Notifications (Public), No. F-472-11-1—23 and No. F-472-11-2—23, dated Simla, the 21st June, 1924, by the Home Department of the Government of India, the Railway Department (Railway Board) is regarded as the Local Government in respect of memorials and other papers of the same class (appeals and petitions) from persons subordinate to it ? If so, will Government please state :

- (a) the notification under which the powers so delegated to the Railway Board are exercised by the Agents of respective Railways ;
- (b) the notification under which the Agents have delegated the powers of the Railway Board to the Heads of Department or the Divisional Superintendents or any other subordinate authority ; and
- (c) if no such powers are delegated, the authority, under which the Agent or Head of Department or Divisional Superintendent either withheld them or informed the petitioner that no petition lies to the authorities ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : Yes. These notifications have, however, been superseded by Home Department's notifications Nos. F-6748-I, and F-6743-II, dated the 19th June, 1934, respectively. Powers delegated under these notifications are exercised only by the authorities to whom they are delegated and not by any lower authority.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Are these new notifications in the Library ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : That question must be addressed to the Home Department, Sir.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Will the Home Department kindly inform me ?

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : Ask for notice. (Laughter.)

ACTION TAKEN ON CERTAIN QUESTIONS BY THE AGENTS OF RAILWAYS.

863. ***Mr. S. G. Jog** : Is it a fact that Mr. P. R. Rau in reply to the starred question, No. 1351 of the 11th December, 1933, informed this House that he shall go through the 47 questions referred to therein, and shall see which of those came within the terms of the ruling ? If so, will Government please state :

- (a) which of those questions are outside the terms of the ruling ;
- (b) when the replies to these questions, are to be laid on the table of this House ;
- (c) the minimum and maximum period taken in collecting an information from the East Indian Railway authority ; and
- (d) whether Government have issued any instructions to the Railways that answers to questions be specially expedited with

the least possible delay and to see that the report or information contain nothing but truth? If not, why not?

Mr. P. S. Rau : The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

(a) and (b). Replies to all the questions which, in the opinion of Government, came within the terms of the Honourable the President's ruling have already been placed on the table of the House.

(c) Government do not consider that the labour involved in compiling this information will be justified by results.

(d) Government consider such instructions to be quite unnecessary.

ACTION TAKEN ON THE RESOLUTION re PROPRIETARY RIGHTS OF CITIZENS IN THE LAND.

864. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** (on behalf of Rai Bahadur Lala Brij Kishore) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state what action has been taken by them on the Resolution adopted by this House on the 7th September, 1933, regarding proprietary rights of citizens in the land?

(b) Was a copy of the debate on the Resolution forwarded to the Joint Parliamentary Committee and to the Secretary of State for India?

(c) Was any recommendation made by the Government in forwarding the debate?

(d) Have Government received any assurance that proper safeguards on the lines suggested in the Resolution will be provided in the new constitution?

(e) Will Government be pleased to lay a copy of the correspondence on the table of this House?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : (a) to (c). The debate on the Resolution was forwarded to the Secretary of State for India, with the suggestion that copies be transmitted to the Joint Committee on Indian Constitutional Reform. No further correspondence has ensued.

(d) No.

(e) Beyond the forwarding letter, of which the substance has been given in the answer to parts (a)--(c), there has been no correspondence.

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ESTABLISHMENT OF LAND MORTGAGE BANKS.

866. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** (on behalf of Rai Bahadur Lala Brij Kishore) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have formulated any definite scheme of rural credit through the agency of Land Mortgage Banks? If not, why not?

(b) Are Government aware that there is a wide spread feeling amongst the landholders that no Government measures, unless they are supplemented by a scheme of land mortgage banks, will relieve the economic distress of the agricultural classes?

†This question will be answered on the 30th August, 1934.

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : (a) and (b). The question was examined by the Provincial Economic Conference in April, 1934. I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to paragraph 6 of the Finance Department Resolution No. F-16 (1)-F.34, dated the 5th May, 1934, which states the conclusions of the Government of India thereon.

PROPOSALS FOR THE AMALGAMATION AND RE-ORGANISATION OF STATE RAILWAYS.

867. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** (on behalf of Rai Bahadur Lala Brij Kishore) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state if they have any proposals for the amalgamation and re-organisation of State Railways under consideration ?

(b) Is it a fact that the Pope Enquiry Committee made a definite recommendation to this effect, and specially the amalgamation of the Eastern Bengal Railway with the East Indian Railway ?

(c) What savings are likely to accrue as a result of the amalgamation ?

(d) What difficulties stand in the way of the amalgamation at an early date ?

Mr. P. B. Rau : (a) and (b). The Pope Committee have stressed the possibility of improved efficiency and economies in the operation of railways in India obtainable through amalgamation of railways, and have adduced as examples the Great Indian Peninsula and the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railways in Bombay and the East Indian and the Eastern Bengal Railways in Calcutta. The feasibility of such amalgamation is under the consideration of the Government of India.

(c) It is impossible to estimate savings till Government have made up their mind as to the railways which can be amalgamated.

(d) One of the most important difficulties is the existence of Company-managed Railways, which can only be taken over by the State at certain dates fixed according to the contracts.

SAVINGS EFFECTED AS A RESULT OF THE POPE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

868. ***Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh** (on behalf of Rai Bahadur Lala Brij Kishore) : (a) Will Government be pleased to state what economies have been recommended by the officers working on the Job Analysis as a result of the Pope Enquiry Committee on each State Railway ?

(b) What economies have been agreed to by the Agent of each Railway ?

(c) What economies have already been brought into effect ?

(d) How many Railway vacant lands and buildings have been rented and sold as a result of the Pope Committee's recommendations and how much income has accrued therefrom ?

Mr. P. B. Rau : (a) to (c). The Honourable Member is referred to the memorandum printed at page 5 of the Proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways which met on the 18th August, 1934. This gives full details of economies achieved up to the 31st March, 1934.

(d) The Railway Board have discussed this matter with Railway Administrations, and have directed them to bear in mind the possibility of increasing revenue from this source. There are, however, certain difficulties in following up the recommendation, not the least of which is possible litigation. In any case, from reports received from Railways, substantially increased returns are not to be expected from this item.

PAY, ETC., GRANTED TO THE OLD OUDH AND ROHILKHAND RAILWAY STAFF.

869. ***Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad** : With reference to the information laid on the table of this House on the 19th July, 1934, in reply to starred question No. 746 asked on the 17th April, 1934, will Government please state :

- (a) whether the scale of pay admissible under East Indian Railway Company Rules automatically becomes the scale of pay of an employee of a State Railway (Oudh and Rohilkund) ;
- (b) the number of employees of a State Railway in receipt of company's scale of pay ;
- (c) the number of employees of the East Indian Railway Company in receipt of State Railway's scale of pay ;
- (d) whether an employee of a State Railway is permitted to adopt the privileges, rights and concessions of an employee of a company railway ; if so, the Fundamental Rule ;
- (e) the number of employees of the East Indian Railway Company in receipt of company's scale of pay, serving on Oudh and Rohilkhand section ;
- (f) the number of employees of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway in receipt of State Railway's scale of pay serving on the East Indian Railway Company's section ; and
- (g) the number of employees of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway in receipt of East Indian Railway Company's scale of pay serving on the Oudh and Rohilkhand section of the East Indian Railway ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : (a) and (d). I have explained the position in full in the reply to question No. 746 which I laid on the table of the House on the 19th July.

(b), (c), (e), (f) and (g). The information is not readily available and Government do not consider that the time and labour involved in collecting it is likely to be justified by results.

NON-RECOGNITION OF SERVICES RENDERED DURING THE GREAT WAR BY THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

870. ***Maulvi Sayyid Murtuza Sahab Bahadur** : (a) With reference to the information laid on the table of this House on the 19th July, 1934, in reply to starred question No. 458, asked on the 13th March, 1934, will Government please state whether the Home Department Resolutions Nos. 1099 and 2165, dated the 8th August, 1919, and the 15th September, 1921, respectively, operate on State Railways, including the Oudh and Rohilkhand section of the East Indian Railway ? If not, why not ?

(b) Is the action taken on cases of non-railway employees, who rendered war services, by the officers of the late Oudh and Rohilkund Railway still operative? If not, why not?

(c) What are the reasons and the circumstances under which the Divisional Superintendent, Moradabad Division, East Indian Railway under letter No. E. T. 4/31/A. S. M. of the 10th December, 1931, abrogated the orders passed by the District Traffic Superintendent, Moradabad, Oudh and Rohilkund Railway on the 23rd August, 1923, in which as a special case a link was given to previous services rendered in War as a non-railway employee?

(d) Do Government propose to rectify the hardship? If not, why not?

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

POSTING OF THE PERSONNEL OF THE DELHI-AMBALA-KALKA RAILWAY TO THE MORADABAD DIVISION OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY

871. ***Manvi Sayyid Murtaza Sabab Bahadur** : Is it a fact that Government informed this House, in reply to starred question No. 455 asked on the 13th March, 1934, regarding posting of the personnel of the Delhi-Ambala-Kalka Railway to the Moradabad Division of the East Indian Railway, that the staff were transferred to the Moradabad Division, because that was the division nearest to the section on which they were formerly employed? If so, will Government please state :

- (a) whether the reply is based on any inquiry made or on the personal knowledge of the officer in power ;
- (b) whether the section on which they were formerly employed was a part of the East Indian Railway Company ;
- (c) whether there was a division named Delhi Division under the East Indian Railway Company ;
- (d) whether the section on which they were formerly employed was under the jurisdiction of the said Delhi Division ;
- (e) whether on re-organization the said Delhi Division was disbanded and in its place Allahabad Division was created ;
- (f) whether the staff of the Delhi Division was transferred to the Allahabad Division ;
- (g) whether Allahabad Division under re-organization was governed by the East Indian Railway Company ;
- (h) whether they were governed by the East Indian Railway Company on the section on which they were formerly employed ;
- (i) whether Allahabad is nearest to the section or Moradabad ?
- (j) whether they still are in receipt of East Indian Railway Company's scale of pay and allowances ;
- (k) whether the office staff of Moradabad Division is in possession of the working of the East Indian Railway Company Rules ;

- (l) whether the office staff of Allahabad Division is in possession of Oudh and Rohilkund State Railway Rules ;
- (m) whether the company staff of the East Indian Railway is in a majority in the Allahabad Division ;
- (n) whether the company staff of the East Indian Railway is in a minority in the Moradabad Division ;
- (o) whether there is a difference between the company's scales of pay and the State railway's scales of pay ; and
- (p) if so, whether Government now propose to transfer the company staff attached to the Moradabad and the Lucknow Divisions to the Allahabad Division ? If not, why not ?

Mr. P. B. Rau : (a) As regards the first part of the question my Honourable friend has apparently overlooked the fact that I stated that I had no information as to the reasons but that the explanation that Moradabad was the nearest Division was a possible explanation. It was clearly stated that this was not based on enquiries.

(b) Yes.

(c), (d), (e), (f) and (g). No. The Divisional System was introduced after the East Indian Railway was taken over by the State.

(h) The question is not understood.

(i) If by scotion the Honourable Member means the Delhi-Kalka Section, Moradabad is nearer than Allahabad.

(j), (m) and (n). Government have no information.

(k) and (l). Government have no reason to believe that office staff, attached to any Division of the East Indian Railway, do not know whatever rules they are required to know for carrying on their duties.

(o) Yes.

(p) No.

Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Did Government inquire about (j), (m) and (n), and was it after inquiries that they could not get any information about them ?

Mr. P. B. Rau : No. Sir ; they made no inquiries.

Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government please state whether it was very difficult to make inquiries about (j) ?

Mr. P. B. Rau : Part (j) was not very difficult, Sir, but (m) and (n) would be difficult.

Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state why they made no inquiries about (j) if it was not very difficult ?

Mr. P. B. Rau : If my Honourable friend wants the information particularly, I have no objection to get it for him.

EXAMINATIONS FOR REFRESHER COURSE IN THE MORADABAD DIVISION OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

872 ***Mr. S. G. Jog :** With reference to the reply to starred question No. 452 of the 13th March, 1934, laid on the table of this House on the

19th July, 1934, regarding examinations for Refresher Courses in the Moradabad Division of the East Indian Railway, will Government state :

- (a) the notification and its number and date under which the Chief Operating Superintendent is vested with the powers to prescribe a test and over-rule the provisions of Rule 29 of the rules for the recruitment and training of subordinate staff on State-managed Railways ;
- (b) the number and date of the sanction accorded by the Agent in term of clause 2 of his Circular No. 548|A.E.-2460 of the 1st October, 1932 ;
- (c) the reason why this particular branch on the East Indian Railway is required to pass triennial tests ;
- (d) the reason why the commercial group is administered by the Head of the Transportation Department ;
- (e) whether the staff of the Transportation Group is required to pass any triennial tests ; if not, why not ;
- (f) how many tests the Chief Operating Superintendent has passed in order to acquaint himself with the current rules and regulations ; if none, why not ;
- (g) whether the opinions of local administrations were invited before the promulgation of the rules for the recruitment and training of subordinate staff ; if so, the opinion expressed by the East Indian Railway Administration on Rule 29 ; and whether they are prepared to lay on the table the opinions received from the local administrations ; if not, why not ;
- (h) the penalty, if any, prescribed for failure to pass this triennial tests ;
- (i) whether such penalties are prescribed for other branches also and for failure to pass a Refresher Course ; if not, why not ;
- (j) the reason for making discriminations amongst the classes of the same group of employees by the Chief Operating Superintendent ;
- (k) whether the Railway Board have agreed to the triennial tests ; if so, when the amendment to Rule 29 was issued by them, and whether they are prepared to lay a copy of the amendment on the table of this House ; if not, why not ;
- (l) whether Government are aware of the extent of discontentment caused amongst the staff ; and
- (m) the date and number of the notification under which the Agent, in exercising his powers under rule 64, amended the provisions of Rule 29, and whether they are prepared to lay a copy of the notification on the table of this House ; if not, why not ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : (a), (b) and (k). The reply is contained in the reply laid on the table of the House to question No. 452 and I would invite my Honourable friend to read it again.

(c), (d), (e), (h), (i) and (j). Government have no information. These are matters of detail which have deliberately been left by Government to the Agent of the Railway to decide and Government are not prepared to interfere.

(f) The question is not understood.

(g) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the latter part, Government regret that they are not prepared to lay on the table of the House the opinion expressed by a Railway administration.

(l) No.

(m) No, as Government do not consider it necessary.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : Is it a fact that the Divisional Superintendent of Moradabad is permitted to frame its own rules as distinct from the rules which are prevalent in the remaining five Divisions of the East Indian Railway ?

Mr. P. B. Rau : The Divisional Superintendent is permitted to frame rules to the extent the Agent has delegated powers to him.

PERSONNEL OF THE CREW SYSTEM ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

873. ***Mr. S. G. Jog :** Is it a fact that Government informed this House on the 19th July, 1934, in reply to starred question No. 459, asked on the 13th March, 1934, that the personnel of the crew system on the East Indian Railway were temporary ? If so, will Government please state :

- (a) the manner, authority, rule and regulation under which the personnel of a temporary system having no lien on any substantive permanent appointment, should be classified as senior to those who hold substantively permanent posts with longer service ;
- (b) the pay offered to the crew staff on the 1st June, 1931 ;
- (c) the difference in seniority between the substantive permanent staff and the temporary staff ;
- (d) the Fundamental Rule or Article of the Civil Service Regulation under which a man of temporary service, on abolition of a temporary system, can be brought on a common seniority list with those with permanent service on abolition of a permanent system ;
- (e) whether Government propose to rectify the anomaly ; if not, why not ?

Mr. P. B. Rau : The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part—

(a) and (d). The question of determining seniority is an administrative question and is not regulated by the Fundamental Rules or the Civil Service Regulations.

(b) and (c). The temporary staff referred to numbers several hundreds and Government do not consider that the compilation of the information asked for will be justified by results.

I have, however, forwarded the question to the Agent of the East Indian Railway to examine the allegations contained in order to remove any legitimate grievances the staff might be suffering under.

(e) Does not arise.

PERSONNEL OF THE INDIAN DELEGATION TO THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

874. ***Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad** : (a) Have Government already selected the personnel of the Indian delegation to the League of Nations ?

(b) Do Government contemplate including a representative of the Indian States ? If so, will the tax-payers of British India pay his expenses ?

(c) What is the estimate of the expenses of the delegation ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : (a) Yes ; the composition of the Delegation was announced on the 3rd July in a Press Communiqué, a copy of which is available in the Library.

(b) One member of the delegation, all members of which represent India as a whole, was selected from an Indian State. All expenses in connection with the delegation will be defrayed from British Indian revenues.

(c) The Budget estimate was rupees fourteen thousand nine hundred, but savings, resulting from the fact that the majority of the delegates were already in Europe at the time of their selection, are likely to reduce the actual expenditure to approximately rupees two thousand five hundred.

Mr. F. E. James : Do I understand that the answer is that the Indian delegation to the League of Nations represents for international purposes the whole of India, but that the expenses of the delegation are provided by British India ? If the answer is in the affirmative, have the Government of India made any request to the Indian States that they should contribute towards the expenses of the delegation which represents them as well as British India ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : No such representation has been made.

Mr. F. E. James : May I know whether the answer to my first question is in the affirmative ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : I think that has been already answered—I said “ one member of the delegation, all members of which represent India as a whole ”.

Mr. S. C. Mitra : Will Government please explain the reason why they do not ask the Chamber of Princes or any representative body of the Indian princes to contribute their share of this expenditure ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : There may be various reasons ; but they represent India as a whole, and I am sure my friend would not like to pay the States a portion of the customs because some foreign goods reach the States.

Mr. S. G. Mitra : Is it a fact that they do derive much benefit by being protected against outside attack, and, even in times of internal disturbance, assistance is rendered to them from British India and that this customs duty is not merely a favour to British India ?

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : In view of the fact that the customs duty does not pay even the entire expenses of the military, is it not desirable that we should ask the Indian States to pay their share of the expenses ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : As regards payment by the States, I may inform my Honourable friend that a specific question has been put—No. 932—directed to find out why the States are not paying and why they should not pay, and I think it will be more convenient if my Honourable friends will see their way to agree to wait till question No. 932 is answered.

Sardar Sant Singh : May I know if in view of the fact that the League of Nations has been reduced almost to impotence by the withdrawal of certain important powers, is it any good for the Government of India to go on sending their delegation ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : I have no information as to whether the League has been reduced to impotence or not.

Sardar Sant Singh : Has not my Honourable friend read that the League of Nations could not do anything in the case of the Japanese withdrawal from the League ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : Each one is entitled to have his own opinion.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED BY GOVERNMENT FROM THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS OR THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE.

875. ***Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad :** (a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the publications received by them from the League of Nations or the International Labour Office ?

(b) Will Government please give a copy of the publications to the Members of this House, who like to read them ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : (a) and (b). I have already explained, in reply to the Honourable Member's question No. 505 asked on the 9th of August, that Government receive only such number of copies of League of Nations publications as are required for official use. The same is true of International Labour Office publications. Consequently, Government are not ordinarily in a position either to lay copies on the table or to give copies to individual Members of this House. I will, however, consider the possibility of obtaining a suitable increase in the number of copies supplied to Government and, if possible, will cause one copy of each publication to be placed in the Library for the use of Members. The publications received from the League in the course of a single year, excluding publications of the International Labour Office, run to 15,000 printed pages, and, in these circumstances, the Honourable Member will, I trust, agree, that it would be impracticable to reproduce the publications in the official debates, while, if they were not so reproduced purpose would be served by laying them on the table.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : The intention of this question was not to reprint it in the proceedings of the House, but merely that it might be available for Members so that they may read them.

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : I think my Honourable friend will agree that I have answered that part of the question as I am trying to get copies made available to Members of the House.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : As regards publications received in the past also ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : Will my Honourable friend not be satisfied with 15,000 pages of one and about 20,000 pages of another ? 35,000 pages will take even Dr. Ziauddin some time to read.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : In view of the fact that I am not expected to read all the books and all the pages and that we can have division of labour, I wanted to make sure that all the pages would be read by some one or other.

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : I have promised to look into the matter : I have not made up my mind yet.

APPOINTMENT OF A PERMANENT DELEGATE AT GENEVA.

876. ***Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad :** (a) Do Government propose to consider the desirability of appointing a permanent delegate at Geneva as recommended by the Indian delegation headed by Sir B. L. Mitter ?

(b) Was the financial aspect of the proposal considered by Government ?

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : (a) I have already informed the Honourable Member in my reply to his question No. 504 on the 9th August, 1934, that the recommendation is actually under consideration.

(b) The financial aspect of the proposal has been and will continue to be borne in mind.

†877*.

†878*.

SUPPLY OF THE FACTORIES ACT AND THE RULES FRAMED THEREUNDER TO THE FACTORIES.

879. ***Mr. G. Morgan :** (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the full report of the judgment in Superintendent and Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, Bengal *versus* H. E. Watson, XXXVIII C. W. ?

(b) Has the attention of Government also been drawn to the following comment on the case by the Editor of the current issue of the *Calcutta Weekly Notes* :

“ The facts on the present case were ugly for the Government's officers in all conscience. It appeared that the accused had informed the Factory Inspectorate how they understood the Act and asked for an opinion as to whether they were right.

†This question will be answered on the 30th August, 1934.

No reply was vouchsafed. It appeared further that at least on one count of the indictment the Government themselves were not sure as to what the correct law was ; as to another count it appeared that what was now complained of as a breach of the law had been sanctioned as proper compliance for a period of ten years. It appeared again that the rules, of which infringement was complained of, were not available. Yet, when the accused asked for directions as to the requirements of the law, the Department did not even acknowledge receipt of the enquiry but replied by launching a prosecution. It was equivalent to saying : ' We won't tell you what the law is and indeed we are not sure that we know it ourselves but we are hauling you up before a Criminal Court, and you will have from there what you want '. This is not the spirit in which the Act should be worked ' ?

(c) Are Government aware that McNair J. was informed during the proceedings that both the Act and the Rules framed under it were out of print and could not be obtained even by a Factory which is governed by its provisions ?

(d) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the following comment of McNair J. :

" It should not be forgotten," said McNair, J., " that the Act is sanctioning interference with the ordinary rights of the citizen and that the inquisitorial powers which are given should be used with tact and circumspection—a law which is enacted for the benefit of the employee should not be used merely for the purpose of harassing the employer. It is difficult to believe that these principles were present in the minds of the authorities who were responsible for this prosecution."

(e) Do Government propose to take steps to make available to all Factories governed by the provisions of the Factories Act both the Act and the Rules framed under it ?

(f) Do Government propose to take steps to safeguard employers from harassment by Factory Inspectors and Local Governments acting under the provisions of the Factories Acts ?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce : (a)—(d). Yes.

(e) I have already had enquiries made as to the alleged shortage of copies of the Act, and will see that copies are available for sale to the public. The Local Government have doubtless taken similar action as regards their own rules.

(f) The administration of the Act is a matter for the Local Government but the Government of India have powers of direction, supervision and control which they will exercise should occasion arise for their doing so.

Mr. F. E. James : May I ask whether the Government of India have called for a report from the Local Government in this matter, and, if not, whether they will do so ?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce : That is being done.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney : Will the Honourable Member inform the House whether, in view of the strictures that have been passed, the Government of India have issued orders with regard to that part of the Factories Act which gives such administrative and interfering liberties to Inspectors ?

The Honourable Sir Frank Noyce : I have already explained in reply to Mr. James' supplementary question that the Government of India are asking the Local Government for a report on the facts of the case.

OPINIONS OF THE LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES ON THE RESOLUTION re
CATERING CONTRACTS ON RAILWAYS.

880. *Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : (a) Have the Railway Board sent the copies of the proceedings of this House on the Resolution about vendors and refreshment rooms to the local advisory committees ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to specify a date by which the opinions of the local advisory committees may be submitted to the Railway Board ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : (a) Yes.

(b) Government are asking the railways to make every endeavour to send a report containing the opinions of Local Advisory Committees by the end of January, 1935.

GIVING OF CONTRACTS OF DIFFERENT STATIONS TO ONE INDIVIDUAL ON THE
EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

881. *Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : (a) Is it not the practice on the East Indian Railway and specially in the Dinapore Division that the monopoly of the sale of all articles is given to one individual ?

(b) Is it not a fact that the travelling public has made repeated complaints against the system of monopoly ?

(c) Have the Railway Board seen the representation made to the Agent, East Indian Railway, requesting him not to give the contracts of different stations to one individual ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : (a) The Agent, East Indian Railway, states that the arrangement decided on which the Local Advisory Committee agreed should be given a fair trial is that there should be separate Hindu and Muhammadan contractors and that each contract should be for all sales at a large station and to include an area of from about 25 to 30 miles from that station. In the case of the Dinapore Division, as it was found impracticable to adhere to the area limits, two areas were given to one man, the Division having originally been divided into four areas.

(b) Government have received no complaints from the travelling public, except in so far as references have been made in this House to one or other of the aspects of this question.

(c) No.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : May I ask the Honourable Member whether the Advisory Committee will consider these complaints as well along with the other complaints when the question comes up before them ?

Mr. P. R. Rau : I have no objection to ask the Agent to place these before them.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE BY JIRGA SYSTEM.

882. *Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : Did the Legislative Department of the Government of India give their approval to the administration of justice by Jirga system where no proceedings are allowed, no appeal is permissible and no Vakil is permitted to represent the accused ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : The Jirga system as at present administered derives its authority from the Frontier Crimes Regulation, 1901, which was approved by the Governor General in Council.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : Did the Legislative Department of the Government of India approve of this ?

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The Government of India have approved of it, which is a higher authority than the Legislative Department.

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad : May I ask what is the meaning of the Government of India ? Does it mean the Foreign Secretary or the Law Member ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : The Governor General in Council. You, Sir, have pointed out the distinction between the Governor General in Council and the various Departments of the Government of India.

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai : Will the Honourable Member tell me whether that *jirga* system specifically provides that no vakils should be allowed ? My information is that it does not do so. Will the Government make a rule on the point ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : The Regulation does not provide that legal representatives should not appear, but the position is that there is no rule or law under which legal representatives can appear in the Courts of Deputy Commissioners acting under the Frontier Crimes Regulation. There are rules under which they can appear in Criminal and Civil Courts.

BUILDINGS OF THE PUSA RESEARCH INSTITUTE.

883. ***Kumar Gupteshwar Prasad Singh** : (a) Will Government be pleased to state :

(i) the number, extent and nature of the buildings now in use for the Pusa Research Institute, and

(ii) their original capital cost, together with the cost of such additions or alterations as may have been made from time to time ?

(b) What do Government propose to do with the buildings after the transfer of the Institute from Pusa ?

(c) Do they intend to sell them to the Bihar and Orissa Government or to a private individual or concern ? If so, at what price and under what conditions ?

(d) In case the buildings are sold to a private concern or individual, will the price of the lands be included in it ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b), (c) and (d). I would invite my Honourable friend's attention to the answer given to Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh's question No. 815 on the 22nd of August.

Statement regarding Pusa Buildings laid on the table.

Nature of buildings.	Extent (plinth area in sq. ft.).
I. Laboratories—	
(i) Phipps Laboratories, Main, double storeyed (37,133×2 sq. ft.)	1 74,266
(ii) Other Laboratories	9 15,898
	<hr/> 90,164
II. General Administration, Offices, Hostel, Rest Houses, etc. ..	12 86,979
III. Godowns, Stables, Byres, sheds, etc. ..	68 114,347
IV. Residential—	
(i) Bungalows for Class I Officers	13 109,533
(ii) Class II Officers' Quarters	6 21,670
(iii) Subordinate Staff Quarters	125 152,051
(iv) Menials' Quarters	94 31,622
Cost of buildings (original capital cost plus subsequent additions and alterations, if any) :—	
	Rs.
(i) Buildings in charge of Public Works Department	16,66,480
(ii) Departmental Buildings	4,02,584
	<hr/> Total 20,69,064

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : May I know the total amount of money which has been sunk into the Pusa Research Institute since its establishment ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : I do not think we have sunk any money into it. (Laughter.) My Honourable friend probably wants to know how much money has been spent upon it. The question relates to expenditure upon buildings and the answer given in the statement is Rs. 20 lakhs.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : I wanted to know what amount of money has been spent, if that word is preferable to my Honourable friend, not only upon the buildings, but upon the research in the fields or in the laboratory, which has been conducted in this Institute since its establishment ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : My Honourable friend wishes to know, as far as I can make out, not only the capital expenditure, but also the recurring expenditure since the date of the inception of the Institute till the present day. Part 2 of the question relates only to capital cost, which is the cost

of the buildings, and I have given that. As regards the recurring expenditure incurred from that date up to the present, I am afraid I have no information.

Mr. M. Maswood Ahmad : Will Government be pleased to state how many acres of land they have for the Pusa Research Institute ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : Roughly, 1,650 acres, of which 1,300 acres odd are held on a perpetual lease and 200 odd were acquired under the Land Acquisition Act.

Mr. Jagan Nath Aggarwal : Why was Pusa specially chosen for the Institute ? Did any experts advise on it ?

Mr. G. S. Bajpai : The Government of India did not have very many experts available at the time, but they had a Committee to go into the matter in 1904, which advised that Pusa would be a suitable site.

CERTAIN POLITICAL DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENTS.

884. ***Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Is it a fact that the appointments of the Assistant Secretaries to the Residents in Hyderabad and Mysore, the Extra Assistant to the Resident in Kashmir, and the Superintendent of the Office of His Majesty's Minister, Nepal, are borne on the cadre of the Foreign and Political Department Secretariat ?

(b) Is it also a fact that ever since these appointments were created, they have been held by Anglo-Indians or Europeans ?

(c) Are Government aware that this bar against non-Anglo-Indians and Europeans to hold these appointments causes uncalled for and unjustified supersessions in the establishment of the Foreign and Political Department Secretariat ?

(d) If so, are Government prepared to fill these appointments in strict accordance with the seniority, unless there is anything expressed against any member of the establishment who are otherwise eligible to hold these appointments ?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) There is no bar against the appointment of Indians to these posts, which are filled by selection and to suit the local conditions.

(d) No. These are selection posts and it would not be in the public interest to fill them in strict accordance with seniority.

Mr. S. G. Jog : Will the Honourable Member tell me what is the proportion of Anglo-Indians to Indians in the Foreign and Political Department ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : I could not possibly give that information without notice.

Mr. S. G. Jog : Is it not a fact that there is a general preponderance of Anglo-Indians in this Department ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : I am not prepared to admit that. If Anglo-Indians as opposed to Indians—it is certainly not the case.

Mr. S. G. Jog : Is it not a fact that Indians are generally discouraged from entering this Department ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : In which Department ?

Mr. S. G. Jog : The Foreign and Political Department.

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : No. I deny that completely.

COST OF THE CLERICAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OFFICE OF HIS MAJESTY'S
MINISTER AT KABUL.

885. ***Mr. S. C. Mitra :** (a) Will Government kindly state who bears the cost of the clerical establishment of the office of His Majesty's Minister at Kabul ?

(b) Is it a fact that half of this expenditure is borne by British India ? If so, how is it that Indians have never been appointed to the posts of Superintendent or the seniormost clerks in this office ?

(d) When is this going to be done ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : (a) and (b). The whole of the cost of the clerical establishment of the Legation in Kabul is borne by the Government of India.

Indians have not hitherto been appointed to the posts of Superintendent or second and third clerk because no suitable candidates have been forthcoming.

(d) Does not arise.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : Is it really the case of the Government of India that no suitable Indians are available even to hold the posts of clerks in this Legation ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : What I stated was that at the time these appointments had to be filled, no Indians were available who were suitable. That is a fact.

Sardar Sant Singh : What is the strength of the office of the Legation ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : The strength, as far as I remember, is about eight or nine, or may not be as much. I could not tell you exactly.

Mr. K. O. Neogy : Was the question of dividing the total expense of the Kabul Legation between His Majesty's Government and the Government of India ever considered ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : I do not know exactly what the Honourable Member means by "considered". It has been thought of from time to time and possibly some Members of the House will remember a reply given by my predecessor, Sir Denys Bray, in 1925 on this subject, the relevant portion of which was as follows :

"Until recently Afghanistan was in relations with the Government of India only and the cost of representation at Kabul was naturally met from Indian revenues." (I may say that the cost then was a very great deal more than it is at present.) "Although diplomatic relations between Afghanistan and Great Britain have now been established, no revision of the incidence of expenditure has been considered necessary as India is as vitally interested as before."

That was stated in 1925, and there is no reason to modify that statement at present.

Mr. K. C. Neogy : Was any representation made by the Government of India on this subject to His Majesty's Government ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : So far as I remember, no representation has been made.

Mr. K. C. Neogy : Is it not a fact that the cost of the British Legation in Persia is divided between India and His Majesty's Government half and half ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : That, Sir, is a fact.

Mr. K. C. Neogy : Would the Honourable Member consider the desirability of making representations to His Majesty's Government to the effect that a similar division might be made with regard to the expenditure incurred by the Legation in Kabul ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : The matter can certainly be considered.

Mr. S. C. Mitra : Was any recommendation made by the General Purposes Retrenchment Committee about the division of the expenditure on the Kabul Legation ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : I think there was a recommendation made by the Committee to which the Honourable Member refers.

Sir Abdur Rahim : Was that ever taken into consideration at all ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : It was certainly most carefully considered.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : And rejected most carefully ! (Laughter.)

Sir Abdur Rahim : Was it equally carefully rejected ? (Laughter.)

(No answer.)

NON-APPOINTMENT OF INDIANS TO THE POSTS OF THE REGISTRAR OF THE OFFICE OF THE AGENT TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, PUNJAB STATES, AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT IN WAZIRISTAN.

886. ***Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Is it a fact that the post of the Registrar of the office of the Agent to the Governor General, Punjab States, and that of the Superintendent of the office of the Resident in Waziristan, are also not filled by Indians ? If so, why not ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : Both appointments referred to are at present held by Europeans. At the time they were filled, no Indians of sufficient seniority and experience were available.

SUBORDINATE OFFICES OF THE FOREIGN AND POLITICAL DEPARTMENT IN WHICH INDIANS HAVE NEVER BEEN APPOINTED.

887. ***Mr. S. C. Mitra :** Will Government kindly let this House know in which other clerical appointments in the offices subordinate to the Foreign and Political Department, Indians have never been appointed, and why not ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : It is not understood what the Honourable Member means by "other clerical appointments" and Government are not, therefore, in a position to supply the information asked for.

Mr. S. C. Mitra : Is it a fact that the policy is to exclude Indians generally from the higher appointments in the Foreign and Political Department ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : It is certainly not their policy, and I can give several instances in which Indians have been appointed to the highest clerical appointments.

Mr. S. G. Jog : May I know whether all these appointments are made by some test through the Public Service Commission ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : No, they are not made by the Public Service Commission. The higher clerical appointments are made by promotion inside the Department.

Mr. S. G. Jog : May I know why the Government are not prepared to submit all these appointments to the Public Service Commission ?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : Mainly because the Public Service Commission would not be in a position to judge of the qualifications for particular appointments.

Mr. S. G. Jog : Has not the Foreign and Political Department any confidence in the Public Service Commission test ?

12 NOON.

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : It has every confidence in the Public Service Commission test, which is, I understand, an initial test, and not a test for promotion inside the service.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Order, order. If the House agrees, the remaining questions on the order paper will be taken up on Thursday morning, because tomorrow we meet only in the afternoon for the transaction of business.

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

Secretary of the Assembly : Sir, the following Message has been received from the Council of State :

“ I am directed to inform you that the Council of State has, at its meeting held on the 27th August, 1934, agreed without any amendments to the following Bills which were passed by the Legislative Assembly at its meeting held on the 20th August, 1934, namely,

1. A Bill to provide for the control of the export from and import into India of rubber and for the control of the extension of the cultivation of rubber in British India ; and
2. A Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, for a certain purpose.”

THE INDIAN ARMY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The House will now resume consideration of the Indian Army (Amendment) Bill.

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bhole (Leader of the House) : Before the debate proceeds further, I desire to make clear to the House the position of Government with regard to the Bill and also with regard to the amendment moved by Sir Abdur Rahim:

In framing this Bill, Government have followed out the policy, which they announced in July, 1932, in connection with the opening of the Indian Military Academy, of introducing "certain changes of organisation which are implicit in the evolution of a purely Indian Army, and which will bring it more into line with the conditions prevailing in other parts of the Empire". In accordance with this policy, they have proposed that the Indian Commissioned officer passing out of the Academy shall be granted a commission on the Dominion model in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces and shall be subject to an Indian Army Act as a first step towards bringing the whole Indian Army, officers and men alike, under an Indian statute.

Government have consistently maintained that an Indian Army Act, which, besides providing for the legal status of the Indian officers of the Indian Army, deals only with discipline and kindred subjects, is no place for provisions governing command, rank and precedence, which ordinarily find a place in the King's Regulations for the army. They therefore confined themselves to giving a guarantee in connection with the present Bill that provision would be made in those Regulations for complete reciprocity of powers and privileges within the Indian Army as between the Indian commissioned officers and the British officers of the Indian Army. They made it plain that on the analogy of the Dominion Armies which they were following, it was impossible for the Indian commissioned officer, any more than the Dominion officer, to be granted automatic powers of command in relation to British personnel of the British Army in India, but that His Majesty's Government were preparing a further regulation which would enable the Commander-in-Chief or other commander to appoint the occasions when in the interests of the harmonious working of the two portions of the Army in India the Indian commissioned officer may exercise powers of command in relation to British personnel of the British Army. His Majesty's Government in doing so have conceded to future Indian officers in the Indian Army more than they have conceded to any officer holding a Dominion Commission.

In consequence of the suggestions made in the House that a statutory provision should be substituted for the verbal assurance which had been given on behalf of Government regarding the command, rank and precedence of the Indian commissioned officers, the Government of India enquired of His Majesty's Government whether there was any objection to the inclusion in the Bill of a section on the lines of the amendment proposed by Sir Abdur Rahim, but limited in scope to the regulation of these matters *within the Indian Army*. His Majesty's Government have replied that it is impossible to accept such a proposal, because the question at issue is one of His Majesty's prerogative. They stated, however, that the exact method of giving effect to the guarantee regarding command, rank and precedence within the Indian Army, which is not free from legal difficulties, was still under the consideration of the Law Officers of the Crown.

In view of this reply, Government are unable to accept any amendment involving the inclusion in the Bill of any provision dealing with command, rank and precedence. Consequently, they must oppose Sir Abdur Rahim's amendment alike in its existing form and in the form which would be given to it by the adoption of Mr. Ranga Iyer's amendment; and if that amendment is carried against them in either form,

[Sir Joseph Bhoze.]

they will be reluctantly constrained to drop the Bill with the result that the Indian officers who will shortly be commissioned from the Indian Military Academy will have to be given some form of limited commission which will make them subject in all respects to the Army Act and to control by Parliament instead of being subject, as they will be if Sir Abdur Rahim's amendment is withdrawn or rejected and the Bill becomes law, to the Indian Army Act and to control by the Indian Legislature. This result would in the opinion of the Government of India be most unfortunate.

The object of Mr. Ranga Iyer's amendment will in fact be secured by a King's Regulation to be made under section 71 of the Army Act, or by such other method as may be decided on by His Majesty's Government in consultation with the Law Officers of the Crown.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : In the light of the statement made by the Leader of the House, it would probably clarify the issue if the Honourable Member, Sir Abdur Rahim, would tell the House what he proposes to do with his amendment.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan (Agra Division : Muhammadan Rural) : In view of the importance of the statement which has been made by the Government, which in reality opens a new issue and is not confined to the issue which was raised by Sir Abdur Rahim, there should be a debate on the statement which has been made by the Honourable the Leader of the House. It will not clarify matters unless we know the real implications which that statement has got behind it. They ought to be explained to the House, how far it goes, what privileges the Indians are enjoying today and what are being taken away by the statement which the Honourable Member has made today. That must be explained to the House before any votes are taken on the issue.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : In what language does the Honourable Member want the statement of the Leader of the House to be explained ?

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : The language is there. We want to know the implications of the statement which he has made. We want to know how far the Government is prepared to go, how far they are taking away from Indians their existing rights. That matter must be explained. The Honourable Member says the same concession is being given which is enjoyed by the Dominions. That matter has to be explained, whether it gives the same rights as in the Dominions or it does not....

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

Sir Abdur Rahim (Calcutta and Suburbs : Muhammadan Urban) : May I say, Sir, with regard to the statement made by my friend, Mr. Yamin Khan, that I believe that what he is really anxious about is that he should get a chance to say something on the statement that has been read out by the Honourable the Leader of the House. Now, as regards the statement that has been just read, may I ask my Honourable friend, the Leader of the House, this question ? Does that statement make the position of the Indian Commissioned Officers any clearer than the statement made by the Army Secretary in the Select Committee and which is

now embodied in the Report of that Select Committee? (Hear, hear.) For instance, as regards the mixed formations, like Brigades and Divisions, and ordinary mixed formations, that is to say, of British and Indian personnel, will the power of command and rank and precedence of the Indian Commissioned Officers who will be created be the same as of those officers who have passed out from Sandhurst and Woolwich, whether British or Indian? That is really the crucial question that we have got to deal with. I want to know what is the position as regards mixed formations.

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bore : That position has been made clear on more than one occasion, and I think the position is perfectly clear from the statement which I have made.

Sir Abdur Rahim : What is that?

The Honourable Sir Joseph Bore : The position will be entirely different.

Mr. Vidya Sagar Pandya (Madras : Indian Commerce) : Sir, as the Government have taken so much time to consider the amendment put forward from this side of the House, then should we also not have further time to carefully study this statement before we can proceed in the matter?

Sir Abdur Rahim : That being so, I do not know whether it would be open to me to say anything, as regards the merits of this statement and how it affects our position.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Ordinarily, Sir Abdur Rahim and the other Honourable Members who took part in the debate on this amendment have lost the right of speaking again, but in view of the importance of the statement made by the Leader of the House, the Chair is prepared to allow the Honourable Member, Sir Abdur Rahim, and the other Honourable Members who previously took part in the debate to have another opportunity of speaking on the motion. (Loud Applause.)

Sir Abdur Rahim : Sir, we are extremely obliged to you for the indulgence you have given us, having regard to the importance of the subject, if I may say so with great respect, you have rightly given us this further opportunity of speaking. Sir, the position remains absolutely unaltered. The position still is as it was when the Bill was introduced, or rather when it was reported upon by the Select Committee embodying the position taken up by the Army Secretary, I take it upon the instructions of the Army Authorities; that is to say, the commissions that will be given to the Indian Officers who have passed out from Dehra Dun will be of a limited character and will not have the same scope as that which is given to officers who have graduated from Sandhurst or Woolwich. Therefore, it comes to this that Indian officers, so far as the military services are concerned, will not have that power of command, rank and precedence which they are entitled to look forward to so far as the Indian Army is concerned. We have been so told in explicit words.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The Chair thinks, from what it understood from the statement of the Leader of the House, that the powers and privileges in question will depend not on the place where the cadet was trained, but whether he gets an Indian Commission or the King's Commission. Is it not so?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby (Army Secretary) : Sir, the position is that the command, rank and precedence in question will depend upon the regulations that will be issued under section 71 of the Army Act. There are no regulations which at present govern this class of officer because it is not yet in existence.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The difference is between the King's Commission and the new Commission that is going to be created ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : Yes, Sir.

Sir Abdur Rahim : Then, what is the justification for this ? That has not been explained, except perhaps my Honourable friend, the Leader of the House, suggests that the prerogative of His Majesty will be affected by such a provision. But, Sir, we made our position quite clear on the previous occasion,—that if the Army Authorities were prepared to give us an assurance that the regulation that will be framed by His Majesty or under His Majesty's direction would recognize complete reciprocity and equality of status of the Indian Commissioned Officers with those of the King's Commissioned Officers, then I was prepared to drop the amendment that I have proposed. (Hear, hear.) But, that is not the attitude taken up by the Government. They will, it is clear, by the regulations which will be issued afterwards, make a very important distinction between Indian Commissioned Officers and King's Commissioned Officers ; in other words, the commission which will be given to them will be of a limited character and scope as compared with the King's commission which the men from Sandhurst and Woolwich enjoy. Now, the position is this. I asked the Army Secretary on a previous occasion to tell us whether it was ever suggested at the time this College was mooted and when it was actually established, that the commission which the graduates of the Dehra Dun Academy will receive will be in any way inferior to the commission which Indian or British Officers educated and trained at Sandhurst or Woolwich receive. Sir, I received no answer to that question then and I take it there is no answer available at present. Then, what is the position ? We were kept under the impression throughout, from the Round Table Conference days to the date when the College was established and up till now, that those who have graduated from Dehra Dun would have the same status and the same opportunities for command, rank and precedence as the British commissioned officers.....

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : I should like, Sir, to quote the Press Communique, dated the 8th July, 1932, to which the Honourable the Leader of the House referred just now. In it, it was definitely and clearly stated that :

“ It has, therefore, been decided, with the approval of His Majesty the King, to confer upon cadets passing out from the Indian Military Academy, and also upon entrants to the Indian Air Force, commissions in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces and His Majesty's Indian Air Force, respectively, in a similar form, for instance, to those now granted to officers of the Canadian Forces. Those commissions will be issued in the name of His Majesty the King Emperor, and will be signed on His Majesty's behalf by the Governor General.”

Sir Abdur Rahim : Is not there a considerable difference in the situation of India and that of the Dominions ? There are no such things as mixed formations in the Dominions. If there are, I should like to be

corrected at once. As you have mixed formations here and I take it that it is the policy of the military authorities to have such formations, I say the position becomes entirely different and we cannot accept an arrangement under which our officers from Dehra Dun will be debarred from commanding mixed formations.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : May I say, Sir, that the new type of officers are not yet in existence, but that the question of the command of mixed formations, even if this Bill were to pass into law today, is not likely to arise for another 20 or 25 years.

Sir Abdur Rahim : Is that the only answer ? All the higher commands are of mixed formations and the result will be this that so far as the Indian officers are concerned, they will not automatically command these mixed formations as the other officers do. If that is so, what is the chance of India ever becoming self-reliant in respect of her army, because, after all, it is the higher commands that count the most in the army. If our youngmen are told that however meritorious they may be, however competent they may be, however successfully they may have passed through all the severe tests of military training, they can never expect, unless occasions are specially appointed for the purpose, to have command in any of the higher formations of the Indian army. Does the Government really think that India is going to accept a position like this ? Surely not. Can my Honourable friend point out that hitherto in the history of British India there has been any such attempt made to make racial discrimination ? We have the Indian Civil Service. At one time it was entirely manned by the British and it is the Indian Civil Service that really governs the country. Was any such racial discrimination ever thought of in the case of the Indian Civil Service ? On the other hand, we have the Government of India Act which provides that there are certain higher offices which will be held by the members of the Indian Civil Service and no suggestion whatever is made anywhere that the Indian Members of the Indian Civil Service will be debarred from, or will have less opportunity of, reaching those higher offices than the British members of this service. What is the position in the case of the Indian Civil Service ? The Leader of the House is an Indian and there have been Governors who have been Indians. Why in the army of all services should there be such a distinction ? My Honourable friend, the Army Secretary, will realise more vividly than perhaps any other Member of this House that to draw a racial discrimination in the army will be nothing short of a disaster. Sir, it is a policy which surely the military authorities, the Government of India or the Army Council in England and the British Government, can never expect us to accept. They may force down this Bill on us or they may take up any position they like, but I do say, with the fullest sense of responsibility, that a policy of this character will never satisfy Indians and it will create all sorts of difficulties in the army itself. We, the Indians, want that so far as the military forces are concerned there should be perfect discipline, unquestioned discipline and that it should be a force of which India should be proud, and we further want that there should be complete co-operation and reciprocity between the Indian army and the British forces so long as the British forces are in India.

Now, Sir, I do ask : Is it wise or expedient even from the narrow point of view of any military class that a distinction should be drawn

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by regulations or otherwise between the two classes of officers? If the Indian army is going to be Indianised, as has been repeatedly promised, in that case, can the army authorities contemplate with any complacency a future when there should not be complete reciprocity and co-operation between the two forces—the Indian forces and the British forces—in India? Sir, it is unfortunate that the Government of India, under instructions from Whitehall, should have been obliged to take up this attitude. I doubt if the Government of India, left to themselves, could have ever thought of taking up this attitude. We are now threatened that the Bill will be dropped if this amendment is carried and the Dehra Dun officers will be given a limited Commission. We are not told what the form of that limited Commission will be. I said to this House that what was really intended by the Army Authorities, as we understood their case from the Army Secretary, was that there should be a Commission intermediate between the King's Commission and the Viceroy's Commission. If that is not the intention, I do not see what objection can there be to accepting this amendment. It makes no difference to us that by this Bill we want to amend the Indian Army Act which is mainly designed for the discipline of the Indian army personnel. You are creating by this Bill—at any rate, you are recognising by this Bill—a new form of Commission, the Indian Commission. You call it Dominion Commission. But we are not going to be deceived by words like that. We have had enough of those phrases. What is the implication of the words 'Indian Commission'? The implication is, that you are not giving the Indian officers a full career in the Indian army itself. That is the real difficulty. You are creating a new form of Commission by this Bill. Are we not fully justified in asking you that you must tell us what is the meaning, what is the scope and what is the significance of this Commission? What is wrong with that position of ours? You may bring in another Bill; we do not object to it. But you must define this Commission. All that we ask for by this amendment is that you should give to our officers the same opportunities of command, rank and precedence, as the British officers enjoy. Unless you say that you are not going to give us equal powers of command and you are not going to give us the same opportunities, I do not see what reasons you can possibly have for not accepting this amendment. Sir, supposing this Bill is dropped, I shall take up this attitude. We shall not be sorry at all, for we cannot accept a status of inferiority for our officers. That is the position. It may not affect them for 20 years but that is not the point. We are asked now at this moment to accept a new principle that in that most important service, the military service, there is going to be racial discrimination and that our Indian officers, serving in the army of our own country, for purposes of defending our country, will not have the same opportunities of command as the British officers. Is this a proposition that we can accept? What is the meaning of the expression "appointing occasions"? I asked the Army Secretary to explain it but he never explained it. Can he give me a single illustration to explain its meaning or will the Honourable the Leader of the House himself tell us what is the meaning of the phrase "appointing occasions"? What does it mean? If they are unable to tell us what it means, then we are entitled to put our own interpretation, and that interpretation is, that when a question arises between an Indian

officer who is senior in rank to but equally competent as a British officer junior in rank, it will be in the discretion of the Commander-in-Chief or a Commander to say, whether in that case for that specific occasion, the Indian should have or should not have the command. That is the meaning. That only means that on some particular specific occasions the higher Army authorities may consider it advisable for perhaps a temporary purpose to give command to a senior and fully competent Indian officer. Is not that totally different from the position occupied by the British officer, for British officers, if competent and senior, automatically take command and, surely if our young men are told that they also if competent according to the higher authorities, they will not have the same chances as the others, what will be the effect of that? Are you going to encourage them to do their best by methods like this? Are you not going to discourage them in every possible way? We have heard that in the French Army for instance every soldier has in his knapsack the baton of a Field Marshal. Surely in the army it must always be so. If a man is competent to lead he ought to be given a chance of leading. We do not want to depend entirely on the goodwill of any particular commander whether our men should have the right to command or not.

Sir, what we want to know is this. What are the difficulties in the way of the Army Council or the British Council in conceding to the Indian commissioned officers the same opportunities which the British officers have? Is it because you call this commission an Indian commission? Then why call this an Indian commission? You say that the commission will be granted by His Majesty the King, and, I believe, signed by the Viceroy. Then why draw this distinction? Where is the necessity? The Army Secretary assured us with a great deal of eloquence and emphasis that the officers from Dehra Dun are extremely fine young men full of promise and that the Army Authorities are perfectly satisfied with the training they have received, and, if I mistake not, I think he suggested that the training at Dehra Dun was at least as good if not superior to the training given at Sandhurst. If that is so, why handicap these officers of whom you yourself hold such high opinion at the very commencement of their career? We fail to understand why this distinction is sought to be made. Then it has been said that "Oh! the Commission that will be given in case this Bill is dropped will be of a limited character". But how? Even if this Bill is passed you say that the commission will be of a limited character. (Hear, hear.) What difference does it make to us if the Bill is dropped. Then, at any rate, we shall be relieved of the responsibility of consenting to a situation which the whole country is bound to resent, a situation humiliating to us and humiliating to the Indian nation. On the other hand, if you pass this Bill in spite of our opposition, the responsibility will be yours, and not ours. (Applause.)

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer (Rohilkund and Kumaon Divisions : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, blessed are they who have no expectations, because they shall not be disappointed. I was certainly not disappointed when I heard the speech of Sir Abdur Rahim, because I knew that he would not rise equal to the new situation created by the statement made by the Leader of the House. What is that new situation which the statement that the Leader of the House made has created? That new situation, Sir, is no more and no less than this, that here we are laying the

[Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer.]

foundation for the development of a *Dominion* Army. (Laughter.) I emphasise the word *Dominion*, notwithstanding opposition laughter, following as it does the proclamation of His Excellency Lord Irwin for *Dominion* Status. What has the Indian public opinion asked for up to now? Has Indian public opinion agitated for the chaff that Sir Abdur Rahim asks for (Laughter), namely, a position for Indians of rank and precedence in mixed formations or has Indian public opinion asked for the one thing to make good India's defence namely, that India must have an army of her own even as the Colonies have? That is the issue which the Opposition has to face, not fly (Laughter), fairly and squarely. That is the issue on which the House has got to vote.

Some Honourable Members : Oh ! Oh !

Mr. S. C. Ranga Iyer : Sir, the Congress people describe the British Army in India as "an army of occupation", and if the bulk of Indian opinion is to be consulted in this matter we have to take into consideration what the Congress has asked for. They do not want any association for the Indian army with the British army in India. On the contrary, they want that the British army should be withdrawn from India as the British army was withdrawn from the Colonies. Sir Abdur Rahim is preparing a slogan and wants that slogan to be put into the Army Bill, namely, that 20 years hence we should have a mixed formation of the Indian army and the British army in India. But look back 20 years. What has happened in 20 years. Look at Russia. There was the Czar of Russia. Where is the Czar of Russia today? Look at Germany. There was the Kaiser. Where is the Kaiser today? Spiders weave their webs where Kaisers ruled. (Laughter.) Look at ten years ago. Look at Spain. Where is King Alphonso today? Twenty years hence with Provincial Swaraj, Provincial Autonomy working, with liberated forces in the country, I, as a nationalist, refuse to think for a moment that there will be a British army in India. I want that the British army should be withdrawn within 20 years; and if the British army is withdrawn within these 20 years.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney (Nominated Non-Official) : Then God help India. (Laughter.)

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer : My Honourable and gallant friend, Sir Henry Gidney, says, "Then God help India". I admit that is an observation which requires comment, and I shall comment upon it presently. Sir, as Sir Henry Gidney says, if the British army is to be withdrawn in 20 years, God must help India if India cannot help herself. I am addressing myself to the future with a certain amount of optimism. If India progresses communally there will be necessity for the British army in India and then the question will arise, why should there be a mixed formation of a Hindu or a Sikh or.—I leave the Sikhs out.—of a Hindu or a Mussalman primarily or a Sikh and a Muslim secundarily; for Punjab considerations might prevent a Sikh officer being put at the top if there is a Sikh-Muslim fight. The Indian considerations might prevent a Hindu or a Mussalman being put at the top if there is a Hindu-Muslim fight. It is for the future to decide whether we are going to advance communally or whether we are going to advance politically. If we are going to advance politically, I do not think it is a dream to say that India would have Dominion

Status within 20 years. The Dominions said farewell to the British army when they got Dominion Status. Even so, if our Provincial Autonomy works properly and if the central scheme creates more energy in the country, I do not think that it is a laughing matter to say that within 20 years India will be crowned with Dominion Status as a result of which, as in the case of the Dominions as rightly pointed out by Sir Abdur Rahim, there is no mixed formation, even so in the case of India there can be no mixed formation. But, Sir, on the contrary.

Mr. S. G. Jog (Berar Representative) : Treat it as a practical proposition.

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer : My Honourable friend sitting behind me ask me to treat it as a practical proposition. Quite so ; not as theoretical visionaries putting formulas into Bills for 20 years hence but as men who must look at it as a practical proposition. (Laughter.) And what is the practical proposition ?

Mr. Lalchand Navalrai (Sind : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : And what about the British I. C. S. ?

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer : I will come to that ; let me answer one question at a time. I will ask my Honourable friend to take note of his question and wait, for this is a very difficult and delicate subject, and I want to speak as it strikes me. I am quite willing to answer interruptions provided there is a fairness in interruptions, for I believe in giving way, but if there is no fairness in interruptions, I will not give way but go on with my speech as I would like to develop it. Now what was the first question ?

Mr. S. G. Jog : I wanted my Honourable friend to treat it as a practical proposition instead of dealing with imaginary questions of Sikhs and Muslims.

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer : Let us deal with it as a practical proposition, not on imaginary lines but on practical lines. Imaginary lines ? Communal riots, my friend, may call them so, but they are actual. At present I want the Hindus and Muslims and Sikhs to co-operate and create Dominion Status within 20 years ; and, in that scheme of communal co-operation and development of Dominion Status within 20 years, I have not the slightest doubt that the Provincial Governments, properly manned with leading parties manning those Governments, will bring to bear upon the Government of India the maximum amount of pressure to abandon the present policy of recruiting their sepoy from selected martial classes only. Not that they will say that the men of the martial classes should not have their chance ; not that they will say that the officers drawn from those classes should not have their chance ; but they will say that as units of a Federation every Provincial Government and every Province which it governs has a right to adequate representation in the Army. And when that question comes up, there will also come up the question of the creation of a National Army. Sir, this issue cannot be shirked. It is all well and good to postpone the evil day of developing a complete Dominion Army ; but once Provincial Autonomy is set up, then with the pressure that the Provincial Governments will bring to bear upon the Government of India, Provincial considerations in regard to the formation of the army will prevail ; and if they prevail, will not the pace of Indianisation be accelerated ? And with that, will not the demand for the withdrawal or the reduction of the British

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army also become great? That is why I do not think of the Army in India as what it will be 20 years hence, but, as a practical man, I will address myself to the Indian Army as it is today. And to understand the achievement that India has made in this direction one has only to recall to one's mind the atmosphere of inferiority that prevailed before the war. I am sorry that Sir Abdur Rahim should put his hands into the worm-holes of a long vanished past and recall once again that atmosphere of inferiority 20 years afterwards. As Sir Sivaswamy Aiyer has pointed out,—I will read only one sentence :

"The studious exclusion of Indians from all but the humblest places in the army was so conspicuous that according to Sir George Cheemey only one inference could be drawn from it, viz., that the Government were afraid to trust them."

Fortunately that atmosphere has been destroyed and evidence of the complete destruction of that atmosphere of distrust we find in these words of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, printed as an appendix to the report of the Indian Military College Committee :

"Our first task is to create a steady flow of fine young officers. Once that is established, we can then proceed to expand as much as you like. Up to that point, however, I see no alternative to developing Indianisation within a definite field. Accordingly we must fix our intake to start with, and trust to increasing that figure as soon as we are assured that a regular supply of candidates of the requisite qualifications is forthcoming, and that the class of candidate we are getting is of the right type."

I have no doubt that if public opinion and Members of this House were to exercise their brains in the right direction, then we will get not only the right type, but what is but a trickle, so far as the admission of Indian cadets to the Dehra Dun College is concerned, will become a steady flow, a larger flow and an ever-increasing flow. (Hear, hear.) Sir, Indians will soon demand, and very rightly according to the size of the population and the needs of the country, that there should be more military colleges in India than one. You have Sandhurst and Woolwich in England. We may have for a group of Provinces a Sandhurst, and then we will insist that the scheme that was developed and that was reported upon by General Sir John Shea should be given effect to. The present scheme, the Skeen Committee report scheme, falls short of the original scheme, but what did Sir John want? What did the Shea Committee want? And that leads us to the creation of a new atmosphere after the war. Before coming to the Shea Committee, I shall tell you how we got over the old atmosphere during the war. In his admirable book, the "Indian Corps in France", Lord Birkenhead gives rich tribute to the work that Indians did in the Army in the battle-fields of Europe, how non-commissioned officers took the places of commissioned officers: They did not wait for slogans about mixed formations (Laughter): they took the place of commissioned officers and marched into the valley of death. (Cheers.) Lord Birkenhead says:

"No man could be bold enough to predict the result of flinging Oriental troops into these horrible scenes, in a pitiless climate, to lose life and limb in a quarrel remote from their own experiences, uninspired by fears on behalf of their own people, or even of their own property. It was thought necessary to give six months' training in England to the superb raw material which formed the first Canadian Division; and many months were allowed to pass before it seemed desirable to send a Territorial Division as a unit to France. And yet these who knew the Indian soldier best were confident, however sudden his immersion into the Great War might be, that his traditions, his loyalty and his sense of duty would carry him through. And they did."

That hesitation in regard to Canadian units did not prevail in the case of our Indian soldiers. (Hear, hear.)

In another place the contrast between the treatment of Canadian troops and Indian troops is furnished, thereby showing that in the battle-field of Europe what was an era of distrust disappeared and from the blood-stained yeast of war emanated the grant of equality to the Indian soldiers :

“ He who wishes to form an opinion upon the opportunity of the Indian contribution should reflect how swiftly the first arrivals were rushed into the firing line.”

If Great Britain had ungratefully waited after that achievement of our soldiers during the war, there would have been justification for Sir Abdur Rahim's ultimatum. But she has made progress, and how does she progress? One has only to read the Shea Committee Report. The Shea Committee was appointed by the Late Lord Rawlinson, that great soldier-statesman, in accordance with the Resolution of this Legislative Assembly in 1921. It was composed purely of high military officers—three Lieut.-Generals, three Major-Generals, three Colonels and two Lieut.-Colonels, one of whom was secretary of the committee. That committee of experts, after close consultation and deliberation, came to the conclusion in regard to the complete Indianisation of the Indian Army that it could be accomplished within thirty years. That was ten years ago or more than ten years ago when they made that statement. Sir Abdur Rahim is talking of what should happen 20 years hence. (Interruption.) I am just reading to my Honourable friends Dr. Moonjee's summary of a statement from the Report of the Indian Military College Committee—page 45.

The recommendations of the Shea Committee Report were kept confidential from the Skeen Committee. The Skeen Committee was not allowed to see the Shea Committee's Report, because the Government wanted that they should arrive at an independent judgment; and the Skeen Committee, I admit, did not go as far as the Shea Committee. But I am telling you how the atmosphere changed after the war. The Shea Committee in their report actually drew up a scheme of Indianisation and recommended the establishment of a military college in India with an average annual output of 81 cadets during the first period of fourteen years, 182 cadets during the second period of nine years and a number ranging between 88 and 106 during the third period of seven years. These numbers did not include the cadets for Indian States forces which were fixed at 30. Commenting upon this Shea Committee's Report, Sir Sivaswami Iyer in his note—and that leads me again to Sir Henry Gidney's interruption, because though that was their original suggestion, probably they had some other suggestions to make in a subsequent report. Sir Sivaswami Iyer says :

“ It must be remembered in this connection that according to the original proposals of the Shea Committee of 1920 the period suggested was only 42 years.”

He goes on to say :

“ Their revised programme, which was accepted by the Government of India, reduced the period of thirty years. We must not forget that in their supplementary report the Committee expressed the opinion that it was impossible to produce the very large number of educated, trained and experienced officers in a shorter time than 42 years.”

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Therefore, if you take ten years from it, then you have 32 years and according to the original proposal or the amended proposal in the light of the view of the Government of India, after 20 years there should be complete Indianisation of the Army. I, at any rate, am not contemplating the complete Indianisation of the army. In that matter, I am not following the views of the members of the Round Table Conference. My own view of the subject is quite different. As Dominion Status is our goal, I take it that the British connection is a real thing; and if the British connection is to be a real thing, then both in the Civil Service and in the Army I want British officials and officers, and, therefore, I will fix a percentage of British officers in the Indian Army, but I would withdraw, as was done in the case of the Colonies, the British Army in India. I would advocate the withdrawal of the British Army from India. In that case the "Army in India" of the future will consist only of the "Indian Army", and that is why I want that there should be perfect equality of status and rank and precedence between Indian and European officers in the Indian Army. I am glad that the Government of India have sympathetically considered it and I am glad that the assurance of the Honourable the Leader of the House does not necessitate my moving my own amendment; if this is achieved, namely, equality of status in the Indian Army between Indian officers and British officers when the British Army goes out of India, as it has gone out of the Colonies, then the bottom of Sir Abdur Rahim's amendment will be knocked off....

An Honourable Member : What will happen till then ?

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer : Till when ? Till the period anticipated by Sir John Shea, till 20 years after ? Many things will happen within 20 years. Within 20 years probably a new atmosphere will come into existence. I shall presently show that Sir Abdur Rahim has chosen a rather unhappy occasion to move his amendment....

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh (Muzaffarpur *cum* Champaran : Non-Muhammadaui) : Tchcha !

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer : "Tchcha", says in his usual way a representative from Bihar. I shall just convey to him how he has chosen a very unhappy occasion. Has the Honourable gentleman who shouted his usual impolite shout, read the *Daily Mail* "India Blue Book" of 1934 ? Has he been following the propaganda that is going on in England against any kind of reforms being given to this country ? Mr. Winston Churchill will salute Sir Abdur Rahim for moving this amendment for he will be taking a new idea from Sir Abdur Rahim—I do not say that he gave this idea to Sir Abdur Rahim though he would have very much liked to exploit it. He will go to the people of England and say "Look at this : what do the Indian people want ? They want to put Indians over the head of British troops. They want to undermine the discipline of the British Army". Already the White Paper scheme is bad enough with the army left out, with the army as the close preserve of the Government of India and of Whitehall. The Churchillites are condemning that White Paper : they call it the White Flag Paper : with defiance as a reserved proposition they utter these condemnations. They say :

"Must we then conclude that the Conservative chiefs...."

This is the observation by Viscount Rothermere in the *Sunday*
 1 P.M. *Despatch*, April 15th, 1934, circulated broadcast in
 England, read by a number of people for a penny in
 the shape of a blue pamphlet. They say :

“ Must we then conclude that the Conservative chiefs have determined to prove to the country that they can scuttle out of India as contemptibly as the most craven of Socialists ? If so, they are succeeding admirably. But let them not think, in their complacent folly, that they will escape the Nemesis which lies in wait for traitors to a great trust.

On the night of the next general election those responsible for the betrayal that is now being prepared will find themselves flung into well-deserved political oblivion by the righteous indignation of that Conservative Party which they are deliberately trying to deceive.

They will do well to take warning in time. If the Conservative Ministers in the National Government are not set on political suicide as well as the ruin of the British Empire they must tear up the White Paper and haul down the White Flag.”

I am not surprised that His Majesty's Government have not accepted *even* my amendment. As one of His Majesty's Ministers, whose name will be embalmed in the hearts of unborn generations,—Lord Irwin,—told me in England, it is at present a matter for Indians to consider whether British opinion does not altogether count. I have placed before the House the attitude that is being adopted towards His Majesty's Government, and if His Majesty's Government are very cautious about proceeding further in the way indicated by Sir Abdur Rahim or even accepting my amendment—if they are so cautious about it, it is just because they have to take public opinion with them in England. I believe Sir Abdur Rahim, as a member of this Committee,—this Indian Military College Committee—said he will drop this Bill. I know the genesis of his amendment is in his Dissenting Note. Sir Abdur Rahim goes contrary to public opinion when he says that Indians should also have opportunities of completing their army career or having an army course in Sandhurst and Woolwich. The majority close the doors of Sandhurst and Woolwich to Indians. The Indian public opinion did not bother about it, for the Indian public want, not one military college in India, but several military colleges, and they salute this military college as a beginning. Such being the case, is this the time, I ask, for us to draw red herrings against the trail of national aspirations, as Sir Abdur Rahim, a great statesman and an experienced administrator, is so lightly doing on this occasion ? If only you read one sentence in this *Daily Mail* “ Blue Book ” you will find how chary are the British people, the British parliamentary people about British troops in India ? “ The British troops in India are the cream of our army ”.—that is what they say, and they go on to say :

“ Besides guarding the Frontier, the British Army in India is used many times a year to quell internal religious riots. It is recognised by the natives themselves as the only impartial force for this purpose. Racial hatreds make the defence or maintenance of order by an Indian Nationalist Army an impossibility.”

That is the sort of thing which the Diehards say and we should not supply material from here to them. Why not, on the other hand, accept the suggestion that the Honourable the Leader of the House has made, instead of letting loose so much poison gas through newspaper columns ? I found rather an interesting description of my Honourable friend, Colonel Lumby, in a Bombay newspaper. He is reported by *Bombay Sentinel*, because of Sir Abdur Rahim's amendment, to have let loose a good deal of “ gaseous nonsense ”. (Laughter.) That kind of nonsense was let

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loose and when my amendment was tabled, one newspaper agency, very agilely and very quickly, reported to the country—(*A Voice* : “Inspired amendment.”)—as my Honourable friend, Mr. Jog, says, that it was a Government-inspired amendment. I suppose the gentlemen who are responsible for reporting this mis-statement must be perspiring now. (*Mr. F. E. James* : “The Associated Press.”) (Laughter.) It was perfectly true that as soon as the House rose the other day, I rushed up to the seat of my Honourable friend, Colonel Lumby, and asked him, will it not be possible for the Government to give a statutory guarantee for the verbal assurance that he had given on the floor of this House—I said “one step enough for me”. Even though I proposed, Whitehall has disposed differently, and incidentally a reply has been given to the wild speculators in the irresponsible section of the Indian Press and some of their responsible men who sometimes run away with a malicious idea.

Lastly, I shall only call the attention of the Opposition to the phrase used by the Honourable the Leader of the House, namely, “the beginning of a Dominion army, the first stage of a Dominion model army”. What is our aspiration? We, who have taken the oath of allegiance to His Majesty the King, his heirs and successors,—is it not our aspiration to have the same rights as the Dominions people have? Is it not our endeavour to have the same army as the Dominion armies? I do not want more. In times of war, what has happened will happen. Temporary King’s commissions will be given to our army officers because in war there will be no inferiority complex when an endeavour is being made to destroy it. We have heard much of the phrase, inferiority complex. Who has created the inferiority complex, may I ask? Sir, the comments that have appeared in the newspapers have created or tried to create—Sir Abdur Rahim’s comments—they have created an inferiority complex among our young men who have started on an army career. I think the greatest dis-service that we can do to our people is to create such an inferiority complex. Our men must start their career with faith, faith not only in themselves, but faith in carrying on the King’s Government. Not being devotees of independence, I do not really see why we should not try to create a greater enthusiasm for a larger number of Indian young men to enter the army career, and if that enthusiasm is found in this country, nothing can impress His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief more to advocate our cause with even greater enthusiasm than verbal oratory sometimes leads to.

Now, then I come to the question of my Honourable friend from Sind. He referred to the Indian Civil Service, and when he was referring me to the Indian Civil Service, he was really repeating the arguments of Sir Abdur Rahim. Sir Abdur Rahim took his stand on the analogy of the Indian Civil Service. He said, are not European members of the Indian Civil Service serving under Indian members of the Indian Civil Service? Is not the Leader of the House here an Indian, whereas the European Members on the Treasury Benches are only playing second fiddle to him? Perfectly true, but the analogy does not hold good. If Sir Abdur Rahim’s proposition is accepted, what follows? An Indian is put to command British troops. It is quite different to what my amendment sought, and what the Leader of the House has conceded in his statement is that Indian officers of the Dehra Dun College should have an opportunity, when the time comes, when they acquire the status and the rank after going through

the necessary experience, of bossing over European officers. And this analogy of the Indian Civil Service officers, or rather officials, to be more accurate, of the European variety working under Indian officials, holds good in regard to Indian officers of the Indian army occupying a higher place in formations of the Indian army over European officers of that Army. Sir, that is a great point gained. If the Colonials cannot have mixed formations, I, who am aware of the fact that India has not yet got Dominion status, will be asking for the moon if I seek for a higher position from the Government and again there is this question. Even from an Indian point of view, must an Indian be put over the head of British officers and British troops in a mixed formation? Should he be put in that invidious position? Who are the British troops? Are they more civilised than the Oriyas? (Laughter.) The troops are not so educated as their officers and if the product of the Dehra Dun College may boss over an educated British officer, is it not sufficient to show to my country and to the young men who started on an army career that inequality exists only in the brains of misguided politicians?

Sir Abdur-Rahim has enunciated "a new principle". What is that new principle? That new principle is the principle of equality between the British officers and the Indian officers in the Indian army. Sir, it is necessary to refresh the mind of this House; the products of Dehra Dun will not have the same education as the products of Sandhurst. They will not draw the same pay as the products of Sandhurst, and, therefore, in a future age inequality may be threatened and that is why I say even though they do not draw the same pay as the British officer in the Indian army, they will be drawing the same pay as the British officer in the British army. Therefore, there is equality between the product of Dehra Dun serving in his own country and the product of Sandhurst serving in his own country. I should not grudge the British officer who comes to this land of regrets, who is a voluntary exile in this land of regrets (Laughter), the overseas allowance which the British officer gets when he goes abroad, and, if one takes the trouble to find the difference between the salary of the Dehra Dun product and the salary of the British officer in the Indian Army, that difference will actually crystallise into an overseas allowance. When you remember that he has to keep two establishments, one in this country and another in his own, a generous nation like ours will not grudge this concession. Sir, salaries and status do not necessarily go together and my amendment, after the Honourable Sir Joseph Blore's statement, becomes unnecessary, because the Government have clearly undertaken to incorporate in the working of this Act the spirit of my amendment. Sir, I do not want to weary the House. I thought my statements will be challenged and so I have brought with me a large number of books. I am grateful to the Opposition for having given to me that silent listening which means half acquiescence. (Applause.)

Several Honourable Members : The question may now be put.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : Sir, after you had given your ruling the other day, my Honourable friend, Sir Abdur Rahim, appealed to me to accept his amendment. It would have been dishonest of me to have accepted an amendment of such a far-reaching character, knowing full well as I did, and as I had already informed the House, that His Majesty's Government were not prepared to concede to India in this matter of powers of command over the British personnel of the British army more than they had conceded to any of the self-governing

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Dominions. Moreover, I felt that, while Government might very probably be able to go out to meet my Honourable friend's point of view to the extent of three-fifths of way on paper and in practice very considerably further, yet, if his amendment were accepted, it would probably be necessary for the whole Bill to go by the board and the initial gain would prove ultimately to be a loss ; for it would mean that we could not proceed with the principle, on which this Bill was originally drafted, of laying the foundation of a Dominion army in this country.

Now, Sir, the ground which is common to Sir Abdur Rahim and the Government,—the 'three-fifths of the way' to which I have just referred,—is the Indian army. As I have stated more than once, in this House, it has been decided that within the Indian Army, the Indian Commissioned officer will be on the same footing as the British officer of the Indian Army as regards command, rank and precedence. That is, the senior Indian Commissioned officer will have powers of command, including powers of punishment, over British personnel as well as Indian personnel of the Indian Army who are junior to him in rank and service. The rules for promotion within the Indian Army will be the same for the Indian commissioned officer and the British officer, and their opportunities of command of extra regimental employment and the like within the Indian Army will be the same.

Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar (Nominated Non-Official) : May I ask a question ? Suppose an officer from Dehra Dun joins an Indianised unit on the 1st January and an officer from Sandhurst joins a non-Indian unit on the 2nd January, who will command ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : The Indian officer from Dehra Dun would command.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : If there is a British officer in a British regiment who has got the commission two years after the man who gets from Dehra Dun, and there are two regiments, who will command if there is a mixed formation ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : That is the point I am coming to. I am referring at the moment to the Indian Army only. Within the Indian Army, as I have said, the two kinds of King's Commission will in effect be on the same footing. That is what I meant,—and what I still mean,—when I gave a guarantee on behalf of Government that there will be complete reciprocity of powers and privileges within the Indian Army as between the British officer and the Indian Commissioned officer.

The difficulty arises, as my Honourable friend, the Leader of the Opposition, has pointed out, when we come to the British Army. The Indian Commissioned officer, like the Dominion officer, by reason of having a limited Dominion type of commission, will not automatically have powers of command over the personnel of the British Army in India, but, with the two portions of the Army in India serving side by side, the situation would be impossible if an insuperable gulf was fixed between the Indian Commissioned officers and the British personnel of the British army. His Majesty's Government have, therefore, agreed to frame a regulation, in addition to the one covering the situation inside the Indian Army, under which His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and other Commanders will be able to authorise the Indian Com-

missioned officer to exercise powers of command over British personnel of the British army on occasions when it is necessary for the harmonious working of the two portions of the Army in India, that he should do so. It would be impossible for the Army to function otherwise.

Mr. B. V. Jadhav (Bombay Central Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : May I ask whether such orders will be issued from time to time, or there will be a general order from the Commander-in-Chief ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : As regards these occasions, no limit is, I gather, set in the draft King's Regulation to the scope of the nature of the occasions which may be appointed.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : Will the Honourable Member clear up the point ? When he says that the orders will be issued occasionally, supposing an attack is going to be made on the enemy, and at one time we find that there are only two regiments, one British and one Indian, now the Indian officer being senior and the British officer being junior, how will they wait till orders are issued for deciding as to who is going to lead the attack ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : I have no doubt that orders will be issued covering all cases of active service operations.

Sir Abdur Rahim : What is the necessity of appointing occasions in the case of Indian Commissioned Officers ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : If you will let me continue,—Sir at the start, when these young officers have only got a small amount of service, the occasions which will be appointed will obviously be very few and far between, but as time goes on, they will increase and increase. And the extent to which they will increase will depend on the extent to which these young officers prove their worth.

Sir, it has been suggested that there is something racial in the distinction which is to be made in the matter of automatic powers of command over personnel of the British Army. That is not so. Exactly the same thing exists in the case of the Australian and the Canadian Armies. During the Great War an arrangement was made under which it was possible for the various portions of the armies of the Empire to function together, and that arrangement included the grant of powers of command to all Dominion officers over British personnel. One would have expected, that after these two types of officers had served side by side in such struggle, that arrangement would be perpetuated in peace, at any rate in the case of officers who had actually been granted temporary commissions in the British Army. Not a bit of it. The moment the war was over, the situation was changed, and the Dominion officer now has no automatic power of control over the British personnel of the British Army any more than the British officer of the British Army or of the Indian Army has any powers of control over Dominion troops. There is one thing particularly which I would like to ask Honourable Members to consider in this regard. I would like them to put themselves in the position of His Majesty's Government and to ask themselves two questions. Would any one of them, if he was a member of His Majesty's Government, be prepared to commit the troops for whom he was responsible for all time, not only in peace, but also in war, to the charge of a category of officers which was not yet in existence ?

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And secondly, would any one of them, if he was a member of His Majesty's Government, be prepared to commit the troops for whom he was responsible for all time, not only in peace, but also in war, to a category of officers over whose training, if the policy of His Majesty's Government were carried into full effect, His Majesty's Government would have no authority whatever? There can be only one answer and that is "No".

Sir, we knew that with regard to these automatic powers of command His Majesty's Government would not be prepared to give to India anything more than they have given to any of the self-governing Dominions, but, in a desire to meet, as far as possible, the wish of this House for a statutory provision in this Bill as regards powers of command, the Government, as the Honourable the Leader of the House has already told us, drafted a counter-amendment, which had the same scope as the amendment which was originally to be moved by my Honourable friend, Mr. Ranga Iyer, that is to say, an amendment which made statutory provision for the guarantee which I had given on more than one occasion that there would be complete reciprocity of powers and privileges within the Indian Army. As the House knows, His Majesty's Government have found themselves unable to meet the wish of the Government of India in this respect, but the guarantee still remains, and it seems to me, therefore, that anybody who, if Mr. Ranga Iyer had moved his amendment, would have been prepared to vote in favour of it and for the granting of complete reciprocity within the Indian Army, can, with a clear conscience, support Government in trying to avoid including in the Bill anything which covers the question of command, which, as has been pointed out, is a matter of His Majesty's prerogative.

On the other hand, I would like to say to my Honourable friend, the Mover of the amendment, that it would be a sad thing if he were to press it. I do not say this, because it trespasses upon the King's prerogative or because it may, if passed, land us in legal difficulties. I say it from the point of view of the officers who will be commissioned from Dehra Dun. As he knows, these officers have got to be provided for very shortly and that is the reason why we have had to hurry on with this Bill. A good deal depends on the start they get in their military career. If they do not make a proper start, they will have no hope of making good and proving their worth, on which, as I said just now, depends the extent to which the occasions for command over British troops will be increased. I appealed to the House only the other day to combine with us in seeing that these young officers receive, outside the army, as fair a deal as they are going to receive inside of it. I am afraid that my appeal has fallen on deaf ears, for the inferiority complex propaganda is just as rife as ever. Sir, if in spite of all we can do, these young officers start on their career with their tails down, that is going to mean another set-back to the Indianization of the Army. I would, therefore, like to point out to the Honourable the Mover of this amendment that during the period from 1911, when the Indian Army Act first became law in its present form, to the present day, there have been seven amending Bills. Admittedly, that number is more than normal because of the Great War, but, at the same time, he will have plenty of opportunities on which to press this point of his about the command of higher formations on the occa-

sions of other amending Bills before it actually materializes. If he will delay until then, he will be able to press his point on the basis of facts, on the basis of concrete regulations and, if he is correct in the difficulty he anticipates, on the basis of concrete cases, and not merely, as at present, on the basis of a bogey which we at any rate do not anticipate will ever materialize. One final point with regard to the suggestion that the proposals that Government have made with regard to the Indian Commissioned officers constitute a breach of faith. As Honourable Members will remember, it is more than two years since this House accepted with acclamation an Indian Air Force Act which embodied exactly the same principle as regards powers of command over British personnel as Government propose shall apply in the case of Indian Commissioned Officers. And yet I can find nowhere that during the course of the debate on that Bill it was ever suggested that the Indian officer of the Indian Air Force should have any automatic powers of command over the British officers of the Royal Air Force. I repeat again what I quoted from the Press Communiqué to which I made reference earlier in the debate, that it was announced in 1932 that the Indian Commissioned officers from the Indian Military Academy would have commissions in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces. Of course, it is open to any one to say, that nobody knew what was meant by the grant of a commission in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces. I am always having extracts from the Skeen Committee's report thrown at my head when it suits the purpose of Honourable gentlemen on the opposite side of the House, but I would recall that in that much-quoted report there is a whole section devoted to an unfortunate experiment in Indianization that was started in 1905 in which commissions were granted in His Majesty's Native Indian Land Forces, and in that section, attention is drawn to the limitations of that form of commission. Finally, Sir, it has been said that no question of the Indian Commissioned officer having different terms of service was ever raised at the time of the Indian Military College Committee, but I may tell the House that His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in his opening address to the Committee made it clear that there was going to be one difference, because he pointed out that, if the Indian Commissioned Officer or rather the officer who would come out of the Academy, were to be paid at the same rate as the British officer, it would mean a considerable increase in the cost of the various regiments of the Indian army. Sir, there has been no breach of faith and there is going to be none. What I want to ask this House is this. Do they want on the strength of a vague allegation of breach of faith and a theoretical supposition as regards what may happen 20 or 25 years hence, to give these officers, when they come out of Dehra Dun, a bad start in life, to jeopardise the whole scheme that we, on their insistence, have produced for their training in this country and thus retard the progress of the Indianization of the Indian army ?

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney : May I ask the Honourable Member one question, Sir, which is of great importance and on which my vote will largely depend ? The Honourable Member made a statement just now that there was no racial differentiation and that it was purely a question of a commission. Will the Honourable Member give me an answer to this question ? Suppose there were a mixed formation in a station and in an Indian regiment there was an Indian who had passed out of Sandhurst with a King's Commission, would this disability apply

[Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney.]

to him or not, or would he automatically, when occasion arose, command a mixed formation? If it does not, then my fear of communal difference is entirely dissipated. I await a clear and unequivocal reply to this.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : In that case, the officer commissioned from Sandhurst would command, if he was the senior.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney : Thank you, I am satisfied.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That clause 5 of the Bill be re-numbered as clause 5 (1), and, after the clause so re-numbered, the following new sub-clause be inserted :

‘ (2) After section 7 of the said Act, the following section shall be inserted, Insertion of new section 7A in Act VIII of 1911. namely :

‘ 7A. The status and opportunities for promotion and power of command, rank and precedence of the Indian Commissioned Officers in the Indian Army shall be the same as that of the British Officers in the Indian Army in all units and formations ’.”

The Assembly divided.

AYES—46.

Abdoola Haroon, Seth Haji.
Abdul Matin Chaudhury, Mr.
Abdur Rahim, Sir.
Aggarwal, Mr. Jagan Nath.
Anwar-ul-Azim, Mr. Muhammad.
Badi-uz-Zaman, Maulvi.
Bhuput Sing, Mr.
Chinoy, Mr. Bahimtoola M.
Das, Mr. B.
Dutt, Mr. Amar Nath.
Gunnal, Mr. N. R.
Hari Raj Swatup, Lala.
Hoon, Mr. A.
Ibrahim Ali Khan, Lieut. Nawab
Muhammad.
Ismail Ali Khan, Kunwar Hajee.
Isra, Chaudhri.
Jadhav, Mr. B. V.
Jehangir, Sir Cowasji.
Jog, Mr. S. G.
Krishnamachariar, Raja Bahadur G.
Lohiri Chaudhury, Mr. D. K.
Lalchand Navalrai, Mr.

Liladhar Chaudhury, Seth.
Mahapatra, Mr. Sitakanta.
Maswood Ahmad, Mr. M.
Mitra, Mr. S. C.
Mody, Mr. H. P.
Murtuza Saheb Bahadur, Maulvi Sayyid.
Neogy, Mr. K. C.
Paudya, Mr. Vidya Sagar.
Parma Nand, Bhai.
Patil, Rao Bahadur B. L.
Raghubir Singh, Rai Bahadur Kunwar.
Reddi, Mr. P. G.
Reddi, Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna.
Roy, Rai Bahadur Sukhraj.
Sadiq Hasan, Shakh.
Sant Singh, Sardar.
Sen, Mr. S. C.
Shafee Duroodi, Maulvi Muhammad.
Singh, Mr. Gaya Prasad.
Uppi Saheb Bahadur, Mr.
Wilayatullah, Khan Bahadur H. M.
Yakub, Sir Muhammad.
Yamin Khan, Mr. Muhammad.
Ziauddin Ahmad, Dr.

NOES—49.

Abdul Aziz, Khan Bahadur Minu.
Ahmad Nawaz Khan, Major Nawab.
Ali, Mr. Hamid A.
Allah Bakh Khan Tiwana, Khan Bahadur Malik.
Anklesaria, Mr. N. N.
Bagla, Lala Bameshwar Prasad.
Bajpai, Mr. G. S.
Bhadrapur, Rao Bahadur Krishna Raddi B.

Bhore, The Honourable Sir Joseph.
Buss, Mr. L. C.
Chatarji, Mr. J. M.
Dnlal, Dr. R. D.
DeSouza, Dr. F. X.
Duguid, Mr. A.
Gidney, Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry.
Grigg, The Honourable Sir James.
Hockenhull, Mr. F. W.
Hudson, Sir Leslie.

James, Mr. F. E.
 Jawahar Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar
 Sir.
 Kamaluddin Ahmad, Shams-ul-Ulema
 Mr.
 Lal Chand, Hony. Captain Rao Bha-
 dur Chaudhri.
 Lee, Mr. D. J. N.
 Lumby, Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R.
 Metcalfe, Mr. H. A. F.
 Morgan, Mr. G.
 Mujumdar, Sardar G. N.
 Mukherjee, Rai Bahadur Sir Satya
 Charan.
 Noyce, The Honourable Sir Frank.
 Perry, Mr. E. W.
 Reisman, Mr. A. J.
 Rajah, Raja Sir Vasudeva.

Rajah, Rao Bahadur M. C.
 Ramakrishna, Mr. V.
 Ranga Iyer, Mr. C. S.
 Rastogi, Rai Sahib Badri Lal.
 Rau, Mr. P. R.
 Richards, Mr. W. J. C.
 Row, Mr. K. Sanjiva.
 Scott, Mr. J. Ramsay.
 Scott, Mr. W. L.
 Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar, Captain.
 Singh, Mr. Pradyumna Prashad.
 Sircar, The Honourable Sir Nripendra.
 Spence, Mr. G. H.
 Studd, Mr. E.
 Trivedi, Mr. C. M.
 Zakaullah Khan, Khan Bahadur Abu
 Abdullah Muhammad.
 Zyn-ud-din, Khan Bahadur Mir.

The motion was negatived.

The Assembly then adjourned for Lunch till Three of the Clock.

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

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That clause 5 stand part of the Bill.”

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe (Foreign Secretary) : Sir, I do not move the amendment* which stands in my name.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That clause 5 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 6 to 42, both inclusive, were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. B. Lumby : Sir, I move :

“ That the Bill further to amend the Indian Army Act, 1911, for certain purposes, as amended by the Select Committee, be passed.”

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Motion moved :

“ That the Bill, as amended by the Select Committee, be passed.”

Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi (Madras ceded Districts and Chittoor : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, Mr. Ranga Iyer, while opposing the

*“ That sub-clause (f) of clause 5 of the Bill be omitted and that sub-clause (g) be re-lettered (f).”

[Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi.]

amendment of Sir Abdur Rahim in a very incoherent and unconvincing speech, nevertheless, made the following observation :

“ Lord Birkenhead gives rich tribute to the work that Indians did in the Army in the battlefields of Europe, how non-commissioned officers took the places of commissioned officers ; they did not wait for slogans about mixed formations ; they took the place of commissioned officers and marched into the valley of death.”

Sir, no one on this side of the House could have put more forcibly our point of view in support of the amendment than did Mr. Ranga Iyer in this statement quite unwillingly. We do not want that any distinctions should be made in the ranks of the King's Commissioned or Indian Commissioned officers of the army in India because their work lies in the battlefield where they have to march to the valley of death and fight side by side and should not wait for orders as to who should take precedence in command. It is because we do not want that such humiliating distinctions should exist in the army that my Honourable friend, Sir Abdur Rahim, the Leader of the Opposition, moved the amendment which was defeated by such a narrow majority this afternoon. Sir, when the Indian army went to Flanders and stemmed the tide of the German on-rush and when India poured forth her money and men for the successful prosecution of the Great War, the British Government out of abundant generosity,—shall I say of gratitude,—promised Dominion Status to India and as a necessary corollary, they wanted to Indianise the army in India as early as possible. Subsequently many responsible British Statesmen at the Round Table Conference have assured that the defence of India must entirely be the concern of the Indians. In pursuance of those declarations, committees were appointed to enquire into ways and means to achieve that object. Lord Rawlinson, who was the Commander-in-Chief in India at that time, presided over a committee in the year 1922 and he recommended drastic changes in the army. But the report of that committee was not at all published. Then followed the Shea Committee. That committee recommended the Indianisation of the officers in the army within a period of 28 years. But, Sir, that scheme also was not published. Twelve years have already elapsed since that scheme was recommended ; and, if they had given effect to those recommendations then, nearly half the British officers in the Indian army would have been replaced by Indian officers by this time. Government have not given effect to that recommendation also. Sir, then came the Skeen Committee, and the Skeen Committee recommended among other things the establishment of an Indian Sandhurst in India before the year 1933, and in pursuance of its recommendations a military college at Dehra Dun was started. Now the Indian officers are being trained there, and the Army Secretary has introduced this Bill in order, according to him, to make certain changes in the Army Act of 1911 consequent on the policy of progressive Indianisation of the Army. Sir, the object is very innocuous, as it has been stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, but even the Army Secretary will not deny the fact that an inferiority complex has been introduced in the matter of officers that come out of the Dehra Dun College. He will not deny that Indian officers will not automatically have the same powers of command in relation to British personnel as British officers possess. The Indian officers will not be able to sit along with British officers in a court martial on a British soldier. Sir, I ask the Government, whether the same distinction is observed in the case of the Indian King's Commissioned officers who are

trained at Sandhurst ? It is not for the first time that Indians have been appointed as officers with powers of command over British personnel. Already, in the Indian army, we have Indian officers who have been trained at Sandhurst. There they do not show any distinction between the British King's commissioned officer and the Indian King's commissioned officer ; and hence, I ask, why should Government for the first time bring in this distinction between the Indian King's commissioned officer and the Indian commissioned officer trained at Dehra Dun ? Sir, the Army Secretary might say that the Indian King's commissioned officers were trained at Sandhurst and they had received superior instruction to those officers who received training at Dehra Dun and further they had been imbued with the high traditions of Sandhurst and, therefore, they must be treated as men with better status than the Indian officers trained at Dehra Dun. But I ask him, what about those 39 odd King's Commissioned officers who have been trained in the Indore School which was started in 1918 owing to the exigencies of the war ? There are now 39 Indian King's Commissioned officers who were trained entirely in India and who have been enjoying equal status and privileges and powers of command with the British Commissioned officers in the Indian Army. I do not see why the Government should seek to give this inferior status to the Indian Commissioned Officers. My Honourable and gallant friend, the Army Secretary, replying to the amendment moved by Sir Abdur Rahim, stated that we should not talk of inferior status of these Indian Commissioned Officers and that we should not allow them to enter upon their duties with tails down—that is the phrase he used. And again, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief when he opened the college at Dehra Dun also stated that we should insure a steady inflow of these cadets to be trained at this Indian college at Dehra Dun. I say it is not we who are talking of inferior status for these officers : we will be stamping them with inferior status if we agree to pass this Bill as it exists at present. It is the Army Secretary himself who is giving that inferior status to these officers coming out of Dehra Dun. On the other hand the Opposition is trying to remove that inferior status. I ask, what will be the effect of giving this inferior status to these Indian cadets, who are coming out of that college, and what will be the effect on future recruitment ? Whatever may be the other virtues of the Government of India, consistency is not one. When the Army Secretary—I mean his predecessor—introduced the Navy Bill, which is still before us, he stated that we should change the name of the Royal Indian Marine into the Royal Indian Navy, because the very name ' Navy ' has a magic about it : that it would raise the status of the Indian Navy and it would attract more and more cadets, and that, on the other hand, required number of cadets are not forthcoming because of the inferior status of the Royal Indian Marine. But now the position is reversed. Now, instead of giving equal status to these Indian Commissioned officers who pass out of Dehra Dun, the Bill seeks to give them an inferior status ; and, hence, it will have a very bad effect on the morale of these officers. It is a very dangerous thing that these officers in the Indian army should have to work under the stigma of inferiority. It will also tell upon future recruitment for the college at Dehra Dun.

My Honourable and gallant friend, the Army Secretary, has stated that we are making vague allegations of breach of faith. I submit we have not been making vague allegations. I shall prove that it will be a breach of faith, if we, by passing this Bill, give to the officers coming out of Dehra

[Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi.]

Dun an inferior status. They entered the college on the good faith of the declarations made from time to time by the Government of India that they will be treated equally with the King's Commissioned officers.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : May I say that from the very start the cadets at the Indian Military College at Dehra Dun have known exactly what their future would be, what rates of pay they would get and what exactly their status would be ?

Sir Abdur Rahim : Were they told what their opportunities would be for command, that it would be less than of the others ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : As far as I know they have had nothing concealed from them.

Sir Abdur Rahim : But were they told expressly ?

Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi : We do not mind the smaller pay and allowances given to these officers, because, after all they have to serve in India and I do not very much mind about the pay they are going to get : we can't admit of their being given inferior status in command. You will admit that this college was started on the recommendations of the Skeen Committee. My Honourable friend, the Army Secretary, has said that this Skeen Committee has been quoted very often. I will, however, quote some passages from that report to show what status they proposed to be given to the future officers from the Dehra Dun College and also some general observations with regard to the existing eight units system which tended to segregate Indian officers. At page 19, they say :

"With Indianisation proceeding in the Army in any measure, the only means of ensuring successful Indianisation and, concomitantly, the maximum degree attainable of military efficiency, is to allow Indian officers to serve, shoulder to shoulder, with British officers each learning from the other in every unit of the Indian Army. This was the original plan and, as we believe, the correct one."

Again, on page 20, they say :

"The idea that as a result of the introduction of the 'eight units scheme' no British officer will ever have to take orders from an Indian officer, is, apart from everything else, fallacious. Before the 'eight units scheme' was adopted, there were Indian King's Commissioned officers in other units and they remain there and will continue to be senior to all British officers who join these units subsequently. Moreover, regimental units are not watertight compartments : and there are numerous occasions in army life when the officers of one unit come into contact with officers of other units : and on such occasions the senior officer, whoever he may be, takes precedence and command. But, however fallacious the idea may be, the more fact that it is current is fatal to any prospect of success which the 'eight units scheme' might otherwise have had. Suspicion and mistrust have been engendered which it will hardly be possible to remove without the scheme itself being abandoned."

I want that such suspicion and mistrust should not exist in the Indian Army with regard to the officers that come out of Dehra Dun. With regard to the starting of the Dehra Dun College and the status of the officers trained therein they state at page 41 :

"But a more specific consideration is that the commissions granted to boys trained at the Indian Sandhurst must be King's Commissions, conferring, so far as the Army in India is concerned, *i.e.*, both British and Indian troops, the same status, authority and precedence as the King's Commissions granted to cadets trained at Sandhurst. Indian officers, if they are to pull their weight in the Army in India, must be empowered, like their British comrades, to take command of other British officers junior to themselves and to take command of mixed bodies of troops."

This is what they have stated explicitly: Subsequently, there was a committee—the Indian Military College Committee—appointed, in which the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, Sir Abdur Kahim, was also a member and what does the majority report of this Committee say with regard to entrants to this college? They do not want to give an inferior status to the Indian officers as compared with the King's Commissioned officers. They say at page 17 :

“ It is our object to give the new College a good start and to encourage its successful development to the utmost. During its earlier stages the greater prestige of Sandhurst would undoubtedly attract a certain number of candidates who could afford to go there; and these, when commissioned in the Indian Army, would tend to regard themselves as superior to their contemporaries from the Indian College. Such an attitude would have the worst possible effect upon the *esprit de corps* of young Indian officers. Nor do we think that it would be justified in actual fact. The new College, planned and organised, as it will be, exclusively for Indian cadets in their own country, must surely provide a more suitable and efficient training for the Indian officer of the future than a course designed for British youths in England, however thorough and however carefully adapted the latter course may be.”

This is the recommendation of the majority report of the Indian Military College Committee. This Committee go even further. They do not want to give to these officers a further training in England after they pass out of this College. The Skeen Committee recommended a further course of training in England. There also they are very particular to say that these Indian Commissioned officers who pass out of Dehra Dun should not be admitted as ordinary cadets in Sandhurst because their position would be superior to that of the cadets at Sandhurst. They are already officers, and, therefore, they should not be put on the same footing as cadets at Sandhurst. On the other hand, the Skeen Committee's recommendation was that they should be attached to the infantry and cavalry of the British units. This is what they say :

“ We are satisfied, however, that this would not be a feasible proposition, as the Indian students would already have been commissioned, and could not be introduced into an institution where the other students are only cadets. We recommend, therefore, that to complete their preparation the Indian cadets, having been commissioned, should be attached to a cavalry or infantry unit in the United Kingdom for a period of one year.”

This Military College Committee do not want that these officers should even go and get themselves trained in England because it would put them in an inferior position. In the dissenting minutes the minority Members of the Select Committee to which the Army Bill was referred, quoted the words of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief when he opened.....

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Order, order. The Honourable Member cannot attempt an entirely second reading speech now.

Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna Reddi : I obey your ruling, Sir, but my argument is that it will be a breach of faith if we pass this Bill and, thereby, create an inferior status for the Indian officers. In support of that contention, I am quoting from the speeches of H. E. the Commander-in-Chief and declarations made, from time to time, to show that they were not told of any inferior status. That is my point. That is why I submit that this statement of a breach of faith is not a vague statement as the Army Secretary has stated, but, it is one supported by facts and documentary evidence. It will be a very dangerous precedent if

[Mr. F. N. Ramakrishna Reddi.]

we create such a kind of inferior status, with the consequent heart-burnings in the officers who are to be placed in command of the army. Indians are fit to fight in the battles of the Empire shoulder to shoulder with the British officers and British men and commingle their blood on the battle-fields, but they are not fit to have the same equal command with British officers! Sir, if the Army Authorities think that the instruction that is given in the Indian Sandhurst at Dehra Dun is not sufficient, let them import officers from the United Kingdom who could give better training and let them bring it to the level of the Sandhurst, and, if necessary, let officers who are trained here be sent for a further course of training in England. Afterwards, let them be given an equality of status and not an inferior status. But since the amendment of my Honourable friend, Sir Abdur Rahim, has not been accepted, I have no hesitation in opposing the passage of this Bill.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir (Bombay City : Non-Muhammadan Urban) : Sir, a good deal has been said in this House about the Dominion armies as compared to the Indian army that is to come into existence. I respectfully beg to submit that the analogy is not a good one. We have been told that His Majesty's Government have gone even further to meet the wishes of Indians with regard to the future Indian army than they were prepared to go with regard to the Dominion armies. Mr. President, I desire to point out, as I have already said, that there is no analogy between the Indian army, as it exists today and is likely to exist for some years to come, and the army of any Dominion that is in existence. Today, in our Indian army we have British officers trained in England who choose the Indian army for their future career. There is no such thing as British officers in the Dominion armies. Their armies are manned by officers of their own people. In the Canadian army there are Canadian officers; in the Australian army there are Australian officers. In the Indian army there are Indian officers and British officers who have chosen the Indian army as a career. Up to now there was no distinction whatsoever between a British officer in the Indian army and an Indian officer of the Indian army. They both were trained in Sandhurst, they both had the same privileges.

Major Nawab Ahmad Nawaz Khan (Nominated Non-Official) : Would you kindly tell me the difference between the Dominion army and the Indian army? In the Indian army you have so many religions and sects.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Order, order. The Honourable Member can make that point in his speech.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir : I regret I am unable to follow the Honourable Member. I am prepared to give way if you have no objection.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : No, no. The Honourable Member can go on.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir : That is the great distinction between the Indian army and the Dominion army, and this Bill now provides for a distinction between officers and officers in the Indian army itself. If there were any prospect of Indianising the whole army within a very short period of time my argument would not stand good. We fully realise that there are no such prospects. We fully realise that for years to come there will be British officers in the Indian army. We were satis-

fied with that position because we felt that there are and that there would be in increasing numbers Indian officers also in the Indian army ; but by this Bill you make a distinction between Indian officers and British officers in the Indian army. We were told by the Army Secretary that in the Indian army itself there would be no distinctions. Correct. That is to say, whether the officer be British or Indian, seniority would be the principal guiding factor. But there will be a time when Indian officers in the Indian army will come to a seniority when they will hope to command a brigade. The British officer will automatically be allowed to command a brigade. The Indian officer will only command a brigade on a special occasion. That is the great distinction and that is the distinction you are making in this Bill which did not exist.

Mr. N. N. Anklesaria (Bombay Northern Division : Non-Muhammadan Rural) : May I ask the Honourable Member in what part of the Bill he finds this distinction made.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir : My Honourable friend has been in this House listening to all these debates and at this stage he asks me this question ? I am afraid he had better go over to the Army Secretary and take a few lessons.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : He is perfectly correct.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir : Do you mean to say that the Indian officer in the Indian army will automatically command a brigade or be allowed to command a brigade ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : As I said this morning, there is nothing in the Bill about powers of command.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir : There is nothing in the Bill at all. What I have been arguing all this time is that the practical effect of this Bill is that there is a distinction between the Indian army officer and the British Indian army officer. A British officer in the Indian army will have the same position and privileges as a British officer in the British army. There will be no distinction with regard to commanding brigades or mixed formations, while there will be a difference in the case of the Indian commissioned officer in the Indian army. Now, Sir, there is nobody so foolish as to expect that the Indian army officer of the future will be allowed to command a British regiment. No Canadian officer would be allowed to do so. No Australian officer would be allowed to do so, but in the Canadian and the Australian armies, there is only one class of officers. There is no distinction between two classes. If none of them are allowed to command a mixed formation, I can understand it, but there is this distinction that you do make in this Bill, and I will repeat it, that a British officer in the Indian army, without special permission or without a special occasion, can command a brigade or a mixed formation, while an Indian officer will not be allowed to do so and that anomaly will exist as long as there are British officers in the Indian army, unless you make a radical change in your method of recruiting British officers to the Indian army. You can have a special commission for them—an Indian commission where they will enjoy the same status, the same privileges.

Well, Sir, my feelings with regard to this Bill can be summed up in a few words. I think there is no necessity for me to draw the attention of the Bench opposite to the strong feeling in this country about Indianisation. You are giving them one more argument for insisting

[Sir Cowasji Jehangir.]

upon Indianisation, for insisting that within a certain number of years you must do away with the British officer in the Indian army. You are adding one more argument to the many arguments that have been heard in this House and many more outside this House for a period being put upon the existence of the life of the British army in India. You are giving additional arguments for these two demands in India. Is it wise? You may be at present in a difficult position. It may be that you realise as well as we do that the British army officer must continue to be recruited for the Indian army. It may be that if there was any change in the status of the British officer in the Indian army you may not get that recruitment which you desire. There may be these practical difficulties. I fully realise them as the position stands today, but at the same time, Government must realise the feelings of Indians, and the more helpless Indians are, the more sensitive are they about matters of this sort. To an Englishman such a distinction may mean nothing. They may say it is a quibble; for 20 years nothing is going to happen. Why quibble? The Englishman can afford to say that. He is strong. He is powerful. He belongs to the governing race here. It is not a quibble for the Indian. He is not the upper dog. He feels all these distinctions much more keenly than many Honourable Members opposite realise. I may be in a peculiar position to be able to understand the working of the minds of my Honourable friends opposite. I am certainly in a position to understand the working of the minds of my brother Indians as well and I have often felt that notwithstanding a residence of 20 or 30 years in this country, Englishmen do not understand the working of an Indian's mind. If Indians were in a position today of equality with Englishmen in India, they might call arguments such as those which have been placed before you from this side of the House as quibbling, but, as long as Indians are in this position of inferiority with no responsible government opposite to them, they will continue to put forward such arguments which to them will never be a quibble. To them such distinctions will be insults of the very first water. Sir, it might be said, and correctly said, that this question will never be one of practical politics for 20 years, but the Indian officer coming out of Dehra Dun will fully realise that his brother officer from Sandhurst is in a privileged position. The British officer will always have a better chance of getting a command of a brigade than the Indian officer, unless a special occasion arises, and, at present, I am unable to visualise what that special occasion may mean. It may be only confined to active service. Now, there is this distinction and it is only fair that the Government in England should realise the feelings of Indians. I on my side am prepared to admit the difficulties of the Government in the present circumstances. I am prepared to admit that if the status of the Indian officer coming from Dehra Dun, and that of the British officer coming into the Indian Army from Sandhurst, was placed in exactly the same position with regard to commanding mixed formations, you may have trouble in recruitment. That may be so, but I consider that it is worth while taking the risk and changing the status of the future British officer in the Indian Army and putting him on an exact equality with the Indian Army officer of the future (Hear, hear), and that is the only remedy with regard to the great dissatisfaction that has been expressed from this side of the House. I shall not be much surprised if, in a very few years, you will have to solve the problem in that way,

or you will have to give a British King's commission to the officers coming from Dehra Dun, because you insist upon having a British Army in India, because you insist upon having British officers in the Indian Army, and I am prepared to admit that, under present circumstances, it may be to the advantage of India to have the British Army in India. It may be to the advantage of India to have British officers in the Indian Army. That may be so. I am prepared to admit it, but I am not prepared to allow any distinction to take place in the future between Indian Army officers, whether they be brown, black or white, I would welcome them of all colours without distinction, but let not the young Indian officer be brought up in the belief that he can never take charge of a brigade, because there is the British Army in India. The question would never have arisen, had it not been for the existence of the British Army. You will bring him up in an atmosphere of animosity against the British Army, because he will feel that it is on account of the existence of this British Army that he is not allowed to rise to the top of the ladder of his profession, and he will join the ranks of many of my friends who desire to see the British Army wiped out of India,—and, mind you, an advocate of the wiping out of the British Army in India amongst the ranks of Indian officers is the worst thing you can create for the Empire and for us all. (Hear, hear.) I see looming in the future before me a considerable amount of trouble for all of us. It may be quibbling today, it won't be quibbling in five years' time. You may pass your Bill. Nothing may be heard about it for five or seven years; but in five or seven years you will have to make a change of a very radical character, a much more radical character than would be necessary today. (Loud Applause.)

Mr. G. Morgan (Bengal : European) : Sir, I have listened with great interest to all the speeches from the Opposition Benches, but I have failed to find, except from what has fallen from my Honourable friend, Sir Cowasji Jehangir, any suggestion as to how this particular position today in the transition period which all of us visualize can be got over. My Honourable friend suggested a change in the status of the British officers in the Indian Army. That is quite a new suggestion. That cannot be done today. The idea we all have had in mind, when I say "the idea we all have had in mind", I go back to 1921 when I made a speech in Calcutta, in which one of the principal items was the Indianization of the Indian Army, and, since then, I have never failed to argue that the Indianization of the Indian Army must go on as quickly as it possibly could, because, the advent of the Montague-Chelmsford reforms scheme and the promises contained in the announcements which were made necessitated the position that India should take care of its own defence. Now, Sir, I understand that that is the desire of every Member of this Legislative Assembly—the Indianization of the Indian Army. I support this Bill, Sir, because I look upon it as the beginning of what we have all had in view for the last twelve or fifteen years. Without this beginning, I cannot see how the Indianization of the Indian Army is to be accelerated. Suppose this Bill were not passed,—we have had a very lucid statement from the Leader of the House as to the position—this Central Legislature would not then have the power of control which they want over the Indian Army. Then how do you proceed with the Indianization? The only constructive proposition put forward was what my Honourable friend, Sir Cowasji Jehangir, suggested, namely, "start all over again and change the status of

[Mr. G. Morgan.]

the British officer". That is an entirely different proposition ; but, as we stand at present, I do not see any way of getting over this position of the transitional period.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir : May I interrupt my Honourable friend ? Just now, today, there is no distinction between the Indian officer and the British officer both coming from Sandhurst. That can continue.

Mr. G. Morgan : That may be so, but I understand that the Sandhurst position will not continue.

Sir Cowasji Jehangir : Why should it not continue ?

Mr. G. Morgan : That is another point. But the question is—does the Central Legislature desire control over the Indian Army ? I say it does. As a Member of that Legislature I stick to that opinion. We in this Legislature wish to have the control of the Indian Army. The unfortunate position which we are in today with regard to the British Army in India is that during this transition stage we cannot get over that position by a stroke of the pen. My Honourable friend opposite, Sir Cowasji Jehangir, says that we have not the faintest idea of what is in Indian minds. Sir, I challenge that statement. I do know what is in the minds of my Honourable friends. The difficulty is, how to get over it ? The question of the mixed formations is a very difficult one and that particular position has been explained by the Leader of the House and it would be impossible to get over that in a constitutional way and without encroaching upon the prerogative of His Majesty. Can any Honourable Member point out how that can be done ? Sir, the commission which will be given to the Dehra Dun cadets will be the same as the Dominion commissions.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : No.

Mr. G. Morgan : My Honourable friend is perfectly right ; it is more than the commissions given to the Dominions officer, in that, within the Indian Army, he will have a command over the British officers and personnel. What my Honourable friend, Sir Cowasji Jehangir, said just now is perfectly correct. If there was a mixed formation of the Dominion army and the British army, the Dominion officer will not have any power to command over the British army. That is to say, he would be in the same position as the Indian Commissioned Officer, except on occasions, which point has been explained by the Army Secretary. As I have said before, we have been for years looking forward to something definite being done about the Indianization of the Indian army and it is very disappointing to me to find that on the first attempt that has been made to put it on a proper working basis, the opposition is so strong as it is. I know why the opposition has arisen, but I do not think my Honourable friends opposite have looked at the matter from a thoroughly practical and reasonable point of view. I know that there is this idea of inferiority and I also know what is in the minds of my Honourable friends opposite. But how is that position to be got over ? It is impossible to get over it at the present moment and we cannot assume to ourselves the prerogative of His Majesty the King in making regulations for the army. I do not think that the Indian Commissioned Officer may feel the slightest hesitation in going ahead with his career. I am perfectly satisfied that if he wishes the Army as a career, then his training at Dehra Dun and afterwards for

the next two or three years—if he is fitted to be an officer in the army—will enable him to earn a status and position in the Indian army with which he will be perfectly satisfied. Sir, I support the motion that the Bill be passed.

Sir Muhammad Yakub (Rohilkhund and Kumaon Divisions : Muhammadan Rural) : Sir, I am not one of those who have come to this Assembly with the avowed object of opposing the Government. My creed is not to oppose every motion that is brought forward by the Government in this Assembly. On the other hand, I am one of those who have supported even some very stringent legislative measures which were brought forward by the Government in the Assembly, because I honestly thought that the preservation of peace was in the interests of the country and the progress of our country would be retarded if there was chaos in it. Sir, if on this occasion I deem it my duty to rise and oppose the passage of this Bill (Applause), I am sure, it will not be considered as the speech of one whose habitual practice it is to oppose every measure which is proposed by the Government. It must have been after giving my very serious consideration to the matter, and it must be for very cogent reasons that I rise this afternoon to oppose the passage of the Bill. Sir, the question of army in India is undoubtedly a very difficult one. We fully realise that our land as well as our sea frontiers are very huge and very big, and, therefore, it is extremely necessary that we must have a well-trained and contented army in this country.

Now, Sir, we have to see what would be the result of passing this measure? What would be the result of putting this Bill on the Statute-book of the country? Will it give us a well-trained and contented army in India? I say emphatically no. If this Bill is passed and is put on the Statute-book, I am sure, there will be discontent in the Indian army from one end of the country to the other. We can play with the civil officers. We can reduce their pay and still we can get a very large number of qualified Indians to join the service under the Crown. But if there is discontent in the army and if the Indian army officer is not satisfied, I think, it will be a bad day for India as well as for the British Empire as a whole. Now, Sir, what are the chief disabilities which the present Bill is imposing on the army in India? My friend, Mr. Morgan, has just referred to the question of Indianisation of the army. He says that he is very anxious that there must be rapid Indianization of the army in this country. Well, if this Bill is put on the Statute-book, I submit that the pace of the Indianization of the army will certainly be retarded. Under the present scheme of things there are 16 King's Commissioned Officers and 18 Viceroy's Commissioned Officers. If this Bill is put on the Statute-book, the Viceroy's Commissioned officers will be eliminated altogether and unless you double the number of the King's Commissioned officers in the army in India, the pace of Indianization will certainly be retarded. Will my Honourable friend, the Army Secretary, satisfy me that they will immediately double number of the Indian Commissioned Officers if they eliminate the Viceroy's Commissioned Officers? They cannot do that. Therefore, it will take twice as much time to Indianise the army if this Bill is passed as it would have taken if the present state of things had continued.

An Honourable Member : Why ?

Sir Muhammad Yakub : Because you have got an equal number of Viceroy's Commissioned Officers which will now be eliminated. The number of the Indian officers in the army would have been doubled, but now it will be reduced. My second objection is that the present Bill will make the Indian army more costly. We know that India, in the matter of taxation, has reached the limit of its capacity and we have been complaining every year that the expenditure on the army is increasing and it must go down. It was, as a result of the pressure which was brought by this House on Government, and also as a result of the Army Retrenchment Committee that some reduction in the army expenditure was made during the last two years. But by the introduction of the new scheme, I think that the army expenditure will increase. Now, these 16 Viceroy's Commissioned officers have got their pay ranging from Rs. 80 to Rs. 250 a month. Under the present scheme all the Indian army officers will draw Rs. 300 and more. If you have the same number of Indian officers as you have now, including the Viceroy's Commissioned Officers, then certainly the salary of these officers will be much higher than it is today. (The Army Secretary nodded dissent.) I am right because the Viceroy's Commissioned Officer is now getting a smaller salary and when you have the Indian Commissioned Officers they will all be getting Rs. 300 and more. So, the result would be that either you will have to reduce the number of Indian officers or you will have to increase financial burden on the country. My third objection is that the Viceroy's Commissioned officer now works as a link between the rank and file and the British officer. In a foreign country like India, where the traditions, the language, the habits and everything of the rank and file are different from the commander of the regiment, it is extremely necessary that there must be a connecting link between the officer and the rank and file. By eliminating the Viceroy's Commissioned officer you remove this link. It will be a very dangerous thing in the army that there will not be that direct communication between the officer and the men in the rank and file.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : The Viceroy's Commissioned Officers will not disappear from the regiments in which there are still junior British Officers.

Sir Muhammad Yakub : It seems to me that the idea of the British Government is to create two hostile armies in India.

4 P.M. (Hear, hear.) The idea seems to be that there should be an Indian army officered by Indian officers only and side by side with them there must be a British army officered by the British officers. If that is the idea, then you will have two different hostile armies in the country, and at the slightest provocation, I do not know what will be the result if these two hostile armies come into conflict with each other. Certainly when there will be resentment among the Indian army, when the officers of the Indian army will consider that their status and position is lower than the status and position of their brother British Officers, certainly there will be a feeling of inferiority in their minds and on the slightest provocation, I am afraid, these two armies will come into collision with each other and woe unto the day when such a thing happens. I have never seen a more loyal Indian officer than Major Akbar Khan, who is now a Member of the Council of State. He himself narrated to me his own story, that although he was a senior officer he was once asked to salute a British junior officer because he happened to be a British officer. My friend, Major Akbar Khan, refused to salute him and he resigned his post.

Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar : Question.

Sir Muhammad Yakub : The question is answered in the affirmative. Another defect of this Bill, as I have just said, is that it eliminates the Viceroy's Commissioned officers and by doing so it deprives many a young man of noble and respectable families in India, from serving in the Army, many a noble man of martial spirit in India who, either on account of educational disqualification or financial difficulties, cannot join Dehra Dun, these young men are deprived of their opportunities of becoming Viceroy's Commissioned Officers. Sir, there are many noble families in India whose sons are not very well educated but still they have proved very loyal to the Government and they belong to martial classes and by eliminating the Viceroy's Commissioned Officer, you deprive the British Government of their services and you deprive these young men from serving their King and their country. Another very serious objection to the Bill is that it will segregate the Indian officer from the British officer. When you reduce the pay of the Indian officer, he will not be in a position to join his European brother cadets in the mess or in society. He will not have sufficient means to give social entertainments or to join with his British brothers on terms of equality in social life.

[At this stage, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Mr. Deputy President (Mr. Abdul Matin Chaudhury).]

In this way the very idea of giving that training to the Indian officer which a British officer has in Sandhurst would go away. I am really very sorry why we pressed for the Dehra Dun Institute. I think India was much better off when we could send a small number of our youths to Sandhurst who came out with the same education, with the same training and with the same status as the British officer had. It is no use having glorified Jamadars, glorified Risaldars and call them Captains and Brigadier-Generals when they have not got the status of a Captain or a Brigadier-General. We have got an Honorary Captain in the person of my Honourable friend, Sher Muhammad Khan.

Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar : I am not an Honorary Captain. You are an Honorary Knight.

Sir Muhammad Yakub : There are certain Honorary Captains. I am very sorry for having used the expression Honorary Captain with reference to my Honourable friend. I thought he was an Honorary Captain because he was behaving like one.

I also contend that there is no justification for reducing the salary of the Indian officer. If there is no distinction in the salary of Indians and English men belonging to the Indian Civil Service or in any other service in the country, I do not think there can be any justification for giving to the Indian officer in the army a smaller salary than what the British officer gets. Does it mean that the life of an Indian officer is cheaper than the life of a British officer? It has been suggested that, probably, the British soldier would not like to receive command from an Indian officer. If European officers, belonging to the Indian Civil Service, could take orders from my Honourable friend, Mian Abdul Aziz, who happens to be a Commissioner, having under him European Deputy Commissioners, I cannot understand why British soldiers should refuse to receive command from my Honourable friend, Captain Sher Muhammad Khan?

Sardar Sant Singh (West Punjab : Sikh) : Because the British soldier never betrays his comrade just as Captain Sher Muhammad Khan has done today.

Sir Muhammad Yakub : Probably his friends will give him a reply for that. These are all very serious questions of policy and my great objection to this Bill is that it is more than two years since the Dehra Dun College was started, why were the Government sleeping during all these two years and why did they not bring this measure before a full Assembly ? Why, at the last moment, when most of the Non-Official Members of the Assembly are away on account of their election campaign, a measure of such a great importance as this has been brought before the Assembly ? I am sure that the Bill will be passed by this Assembly because we have not got even half the number of Non-Official Members present, but the Government must realise the seriousness of the situation. It is quite a different thing to pass ordinary Bills and place them on the Statute-book, but Government must realise what would be the result if there is resentment in the army in India which is the back-bone of the British Government in this country. The Government has altogether to rely upon the Indian army in this country, and if there is dissatisfaction and discontent in the army, I am sorry to say that the result would be very disastrous for both the countries, that is for India and for the British Empire. So I earnestly appeal to Government that they will listen to the warning given by a sincere friend and will not rely on the official votes in their pocket and that they will not precipitate the passing of a measure which is very likely to endanger the safety and progress of our country. Sir, I oppose the Bill.

Mr. N. N. Anklesaria : Sir, the discussion of this Bill in which the amendment of my Honourable and esteemed friend, Sir Abdur Rahim, has given full scope for Honourable Members on this side to talk arrant nonsense, has served one good purpose at least, and that is that it has concentrated the country's attention on the future position of our Indian officers in our Indian army. It will also have made it perfectly plain to the British Government and to the British people the very strong feeling which is prevalent in this country against any element of superiority or inferiority of our officers *vis-a-vis* the British officers being in any way enacted into our military law. Sir, when I said that Honourable friends on this side had been talking arrant nonsense, I would make an exception in the case of my Honourable friend, Sir Cowasji Jehangir.

Mr. B. Das (Orissa Division : Non-Muhammadan) : On a point of order, Sir. Can an Honourable Member say that other Honourable Members have been talking arrant nonsense ? Is that a parliamentary expression ?

Mr. Deputy President (Mr. Abdul Matin Chaudhury) : The language is strong, but it is not unparliamentary.

Mr. B. Das : I will take advantage of that, Sir.

Mr. N. N. Anklesaria : Sir, my Honourable friend, Sir Cowasji Jehangir, warned Government against creating any feeling of resentment or discontent among the future Indian officers. If, unfortunately, Government do anything which gives rise to any such discontent or resentment among our future Indian officers, I also warn Government that the results are bound to be deplorable. There is, however, not a single word

in this Bill which would, directly or indirectly, explicitly or implicitly, suggest that any racial discrimination is attempted by the law which is proposed to be passed in this House today.

Mr. B. V. Jadhav : Will the Army Secretary say so ?

Mr. N. N. Anklesaria : He has already said that. There is not one word about racial discrimination in this whole Bill. (Interruption by Mr. Yamin Khan.) If my Honourable friend, Mr. Yamin Khan, does not understand English..... (The rest of the sentence was drowned in laughter.)

Sir, this Bill seeks to amend the Indian Army Act, and, before 1918, it was explicitly stated that the Act refers to the native Indian army alone. Out of deference to men like my friend, Mr. Das, who is ashamed to call himself a native of India (Mr. B. Das : "When ?"), the word "native" was eliminated but it is perfectly plain that this Act refers to the Indian army and the Indian army alone.

Mr. B. V. Jadhav : But the Chair has ruled that the word "Indian" is to be understood in the territorial sense and not in the racial sense.

Mr. N. N. Anklesaria : Then it is said that this Bill seeks to discriminate between the commission which is to be given to our future Indian officer and the King's commission which is given to the British officer. Now, I challenge my Honourable friends on this side to point me out one word in the whole Bill which talks of the creation of any such commission. The commissions are created by the royal prerogative, and, in accordance with the Statute law made by the British Parliament, and this Bill cannot and does not deal with the creation of commissions. Sir, the Army Secretary in his very lucid speech has answered all the relevant arguments, if there were any, from this side of the House and I am not going to repeat what the Army Secretary stated. But I must point out, Sir, that this Bill raises a constitutional question of the very first importance. When my Honourable friend, Mr. Ranga Iyer, talked of the British army leaving India, some of my friends were laughing. I must say their laugh was very foolish, because it has been the declared policy of the British Government that the British army should leave India.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney : Where is that ?

Mr. N. N. Anklesaria : If you want to look for it, you will find it in the Simon Commission's report. (Laughter.) That has been the declared policy of the British Government ; but there is one condition. In the interests of this country, if the British army has to depart from India, the British army must be replaced by an equally efficient Indian army. Till an equally efficient Indian army replaces the British troops here, it is common sense, it is in the interests of this country, that the British army should not depart. But, Sir, that, I say, raises a constitutional question of the highest importance. Is it the contention of the opponents of self-government for India that so long as there is not an efficient Indian army, so long India shall not have self-government ? Sir, the question has been answered by the Simon Commission on behalf of the British Government. They say, in so many words, that the British troops cannot be expected to serve as mere mercenaries in India under the Indian Government when India does get self-government, and they must depart. But they can be allowed to depart in the interests of this country only, as I said, when an

[Mr. N. N. Anklesaria.]

efficient Indian Army can replace them ; and steps are being taken, for a number of years, to create an efficient Indian army which would replace the British Army in India. The question then arises only for the transitional period during which the British army or a portion of it at least should remain in India. In this connection, I cannot do better than read a few lines from the Simon Commission's Report which clearly states the position.....

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : Is it the declared policy of the Government ?

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry Gidney : Do not quote from the dead.

Mr. N. N. Anklesaria : They say :

“ But apart from this, the experiment of Indianisation has not yet advanced nearly far enough to justify so considerable a departure from established organisation, and very serious questions would remain to be considered and answered as to the effect of combining the service of two kinds of military forces raised and controlled by two different authorities. Neither British politicians nor Indian politicians can wisely decide such matters without special knowledge and expert advice. We are only concerned here to convey a double warning—a warning, on the one hand, that Britain cannot indefinitely treat the present military organisation of India as sacrosanct and unalterable, but must make an active endeavour to search for such adjustments as might be possible ; and a warning, on the other hand, that Indian statesmen can help to modify the existing arrangement in the direction of self-government only if they too will co-operate by facing the hard facts and by remembering that those who set them out for further consideration are not glouting over obstacles, but are offering the help of friends to Indian aspirations.”

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : But has all this been accepted by the Government ?

Mr. N. N. Anklesaria : The policy of *adjustment* which is spoken of by the Simon Commission is being implemented by the present measure. In the interests of our country we must heed the other warning given by the Simon Commission : we must face hard facts. The army exists, if it exists at all, to carry out the purposes for which an army exists, and a paramount consideration as regards the army is its military efficiency ; and anything which in any way retards or impairs military efficiency should not receive any encouragement from this House. As I said, most of this discussion was irrelevant for the purposes of this Bill ; and it was somewhat due to the statements of the Honourable the Army Secretary about his intentions for the future, as to what he was going to do or what the Government was going to do about the rights and privileges, rank and precedence of the future Indian officer *vis-a-vis* the British officer, that has been responsible for much of the irrelevant talk which has taken place in this House. We are concerned only with the contents of the present Bill. What is going to be done by the King's Regulations or by the Crown's prerogative with regard to fixing the rank and precedence of the future Indian officer *vis-a-vis* the British officer is, at present, no concern of this House, and cannot possibly be the concern of this House under the present Constitution.....

Mr. B. Das : You will not be here next year to interpret the function of this House.

Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh : Why ? He can come as a Nominated Member ! (Laughter.)

Mr. N. N. Anklesaria : So far as this Bill goes, it places our Indian army under the control of this Indian Legislature. (*An Honourable Member* : "No.") It seeks to, if you pass it. But if you reject it, the result would be that the process of Indianisation would be retarded. I, therefore, ask this House not to chase mere shadows and mere appearances, but to grasp firmly the realities and pass this Bill.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : Sir, it was in 1922 that I moved a Resolution in the Legislative Assembly for the Indianisation of the Indian Army ; and I laid down a definite process by which we could achieve, within 20 years, complete Indianisation of all Indian regiments. My scheme was that all recruitment of British officers to Indian regiments should stop and Indians should be given King's Commissions to fill up all the posts as they fell vacant. By this I intended that the Indian Lieutenants, when they joined the Indian Army, should be working under the British officers, getting their tradition, acquiring their habits, learning from them the manners and ways of conducting a war, and thus, by peaceful elimination and gradual development, we would have got a completely Indianised Indian Army in 22 years time. Unfortunately, that scheme of mine was not carried. When I made my speech on that afternoon just about this time, the Assembly adjourned for another day ; and the Army Secretary at that time—now Sir Ernest Burdon—came like a bolt from the blue and announced a scheme to Indianise eight units at once. That caused such a glamour in the minds of many supporters of mine that although in the beginning I was counting a great majority in my favour, the people who were caught by this sudden announcement and did not understand its real implications, all left me. The result was that although I was asked to withdraw my Resolution I did not do it. I challenged a division, and I got only 16 votes. I lost the vote of even Sir Hari Singh Gour, who was one of the prominent Members of the Democratic Party at that time. I am not speaking of the present Democratic Party. Although I lost my Resolution then, I stand today justified in challenging a division on that day. I said at that time that the Indian officers who would be working separately in separate units would be treated differently from those in other regiments and that they would resent it, and I did not accept even the Indianisation of eight units scheme as it fell too short. If you talk to the Indian officers you will know, and if the Army Secretary says he does not know, then it is his fault that he does not know the real feelings of those officers who are working in those regiments. I know the feeling of those officers. I had a talk with them and I know that they resent a great deal today that they are not being treated properly as the officers in other regiments are being treated. That, I felt, would be the greatest blow at the efficiency of the Indian army. When we are contemplating that we should have peace in the country which is dependent upon having a satisfied army, we must see that those conditions are present where our army officers feel contented and not have any kind of resentment in their minds. If Government fail to note it, that is not the fault of those friends of the Government who come and give a timely warning ; it is the fault of those who carry on the Government at the present day. By this Bill I say that what was granted even in 1922 is being taken away. No Indian worth his salt would ever agree to accept a position of inferiority for his fellow Indians simply because they happen to be Indians. The position today is that Government are making a distinction between Englishmen and Indians which

[Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan.]

had never existed since the King's Commission was granted to Indians. The officers who will work under these conditions—may I ask whether they will feel contented when they go to the polo ground, when they go to the race course, when they go to the clubs—will they not find a different treatment to that meted out to their brother officers in other regiments ?

Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar : No, no.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : He does not know because he has lived in a different category.

Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar : I have lived there more than my Honourable friend has done.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : I have never lived as an officer, but I know the feelings of those officers today, and I know what they are talking about. I can never agree to a discontented army being brought into existence in India. May I ask the Army Secretary whether or not an Indian who goes to England to be trained at Sandhurst enjoys the same rights and privileges as any British officer in the British regiments ? He does enjoy because he answered in the affirmative the question of my Honourable friend, Sir Henry Gidney, on the point. If he enjoys those privileges, which are being enjoyed by a British officer in the British regiment, are those advantages and privileges given by this Bill to Indians or are they going to be taken away ? That is the only issue before the House. The point is that whatever rights our boys who go to England to be educated at Sandhurst enjoy by getting the King's Commission will be taken away from them because they will not be allowed to go to England any more. They will not be educated at Sandhurst and they will not be given the King's Commission. They will be given something different and that different thing is stated in this Bill as the Indian commission. That Indian commission which is not the King's Commission.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : It is a King's Commission.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : It is Indian Commission given in the King's name. If it is a King's Commission, then what is the harm in my Honourable friend accepting the amendment of Sir Abdur Rahim ? If it is a King's Commission, then what is the hitch in accepting the amendment of Sir Abdur Rahim ? I think that it is going to be something different from what it is today, and if it is going to be something different, let us know what that is. If it is a King's Commission, then what is the whole trouble about ? The real point is that the Government and the War Office in England are not ready to concede to Indians the same rights and privileges which they are enjoying today. They fear that because the British officer enjoys a certain privilege in the Indian regiments by becoming an officer of the Indian regiment, the Indian officer can claim to be an officer in the British regiment, and that they do not want to allow. May I ask, if an Indian can sit as a Member of Parliament, if an Indian can be the Governor of a Province, or can sit as an Executive Councillor here, then why should they be treated differently only in this case when they are not being treated differently at present ? That is the only thing on which we have to give a decision. I would not like an institution to be created in this country which will not put the Indians on the same plane of equality and which will not allow them the privileges which they are enjoying today by going to Sandhurst.

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer : Is the Honourable Member aware that Mr. Ramsay Macdonald in his "Government of India" said that an Indian can become the Secretary of State for India, but I can tell my Honourable friend that it is much more difficult for an Indian to command British troops.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : My Honourable friend's mentality is there. He says that an Indian can become the Secretary of State for India but he cannot command the British troops. I say he does command today, he has got the right to command the British troops today, but by this Bill that right is being taken away. If my Honourable friend gives his vote for this Bill he will unconsciously give away that right.

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer : But that right always exists in King's temporary commissions even, as during the War they should be given to Indians.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : No. My Honourable friend does not know the thing at all. In the case of a mixed brigade where there would be an Indian regiment and a British regiment and the senior Colonel is an Indian who has been trained at Sandhurst, then he will get the command of the brigade and not the Colonel who may be a British officer, in charge of the British regiment, if he is junior to the Indian Colonel, and the Indian Colonel will command not only one regiment, but he will command the whole brigade.

Mr. C. S. Ranga Iyer : But such a situation can only arise 20 years hence.

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : If it is going to arise only after 20 years, then why should not Government agree to this today and they will be quite safe for another 20 years. Why don't they agree today? The only issue at present is whether this House representing the country should say, well, my boys, we accept an inferior position for Indians in future. Is this the verdict that is going to be given by the elected representatives of India? Are Government justified in asking the elected representatives of India to accept an inferior position for the Indians for the emergency which will arise 20 years hence? If they knew that no Indian cadet, who comes out of Dehra Dun, will command for 20 years, then why did the Government oppose the amendment of Sir Abdur Rahim? It is a great pity that Government carried that amendment with the help of the officials who have got their lips sealed. If Government had given freedom to the Official Members to vote as they liked, I am quite sure that the Indian Official Members would have gone into the lobby with Sir Abdur Rahim. (Hear, hear.) It is a greater pity that Non-Official Indians, who were free to vote as they liked and were in no way bound to vote with the Government, voted with Government to serve their own personal interests. The more pitiable thing is that some Elected Members went to the Government lobby in order to flatter the Government. They must remember that they are doing great injury to the cause for which they are fighting. I say by creating this spirit and laying down this principle, Government is inviting opposition in the country and is inviting ridicule on the people who are supporting the Government. Government may glory that they have carried this amendment by three votes but really they have lost by 300 votes. The opposition in the country will drive away every supporter of the Government and they have given a weapon in the hands of the opposition in the country and they have

[Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan.]

made this constitution ridiculous. People will think that Government control only a few votes of those people who were never intended to vote in this way in this House. It was never the intention that the nominations should be made on this basis, namely, whether a man will support the Government or not and if the Government has carried by three votes, let them not glory in it. I am one who has supported the Government in spite of the jeers of my friends opposite. I have stood like a rock on the side of the Government on the Ordinance Bill, the Reserve Bank Bill. I did not listen to their jeers. Here the question is whether Indians are going to accept an inferior position.

(Interruption by Captain Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar.)

This gives you an inferior position in the eyes of the world. I can never tolerate a position if I am given an inferior status anywhere. If I can stand for election as a Member of Parliament and if in my own country I am going to be called as somebody inferior, nothing can be resented by me to a greater degree. That is the sense I feel. I do not know how my other friends are feeling. This is a most vital question which will affect the future administration. This will give a weapon in the hands of our opponents. Here is not a question of whether a few pennies will go into your pocket or whether they go into other men's pockets. This Bill is going to assign an inferior status to Indians in the future. That is a thing to which I cannot agree. This Bill takes away even the privileges which we enjoy at present and if the Government carries this Bill today, they will be inviting great trouble in the future for their supporters. Even great supporters of Government cannot see eye with them in this matter.

Now, I shall refer to the practical difficulties. The Army Secretary said that the question of inferiority will not arise. I asked him a question which was never answered. That point is, if the Indian army is going to make an attack on the enemy and the seniormost brigade officer is killed, then if there is an Indian Regiment and a British Regiment working side by side, will the Indian Colonel take charge of the British army?

Mr. H. A. F. Metcalfe : On a point of order. Is not the Honourable Member going outside the rules of business when he suggests that India is about to make war on another nation?

Mr. Muhammad Yamin Khan : Indians are always fighting side by side with the British in India and outside India. Indians have shed their blood in India for the British Government and laid down their lives for the Empire outside India—in France, in Palestine and other countries. So I do not think my Honourable friend, the Foreign Secretary's interruption has anything to do with the speech I am making. I was putting the point, if this brigade officer is killed, then will this army wait till the orders are issued from headquarters? Who is going to take up the command? That command must be taken up at once. (Mr. Anklesaria wanted to interrupt.) Let me proceed with my argument. My Honourable friend, Mr. Anklesaria, is an *ultra-loyalist*. I do not know what he has got in his mind. If there is any delay in issuing orders, will it not jeopardise the tone, morale and lives of the army when the enemy is attacking? Is that demand to be met at once, and the command orders

are to be given in a moment's time, or they are to wait till orders are issued, and thus that process may involve destruction of the whole army? If that is going to happen, where shall we stand? Are we going to be asked to vote for such a measure which will place the Indian Army and the Indian troops in such a position? At least I cannot agree to such a ridiculous position which may destroy the whole Army at once.

Then, another thing which the Honourable Member has not taken into consideration is this. He is cutting away the relations between the British units and the Indian units. If the British units feel that they are not equal to the Indian units and if the Indian officer in the Indian units does not feel that he is equal to the British officer, then there can never exist that comradeship which we all desire. I want that there should be such love and friendship between them that each type of officer will be ready to lay down his life for the other regiment, as has happened in the past. Sir, I want that the Indian officer should feel so friendly for the British officer and *vice versa* that, in time of need, each must work for the safety of the other and in full co-operation. (Hear, hear.) But here one will be smarting under a feeling that he is inferior to the other, and that will take away the spirit of full comradeship and you are bringing in a kind of sarcasm and opposition in the country for the British regiments. My Honourable friend, Mr. Ranga Iyer, is opposed to the proposal. He wants to drive away all the British units from India today! I do not know whether he means seriously or whether he wants to take up this attitude of opposition only in order to take shelter behind it to give his vote in a particular manner. I think he is an honest man, and I trust as an honest man he will act. If he sincerely thinks that within twenty years the British regiments will be driven away from India, he is mistaken. Sir, the British regiments cannot be driven out of India for twenty years, and, therefore, we have to take up the position which we have taken today, and if that position is to be taken today, this contention here is simply because a few persons sitting in the War Office do not agree. Sir, if the life and the prestige and the honour of the British soldier in the Indian Army cannot be entrusted to Indians, how then can the lives of Indian soldiers be entrusted to British people? (Hear, hear.) By using one word, my friend will have twenty words from his opponents; he is not serving the country properly, he is not serving the right cause. Sir, true friends are those who give proper advice at the proper time even though that advice may not be so sweet as the people think it ought to be. Sometimes the advice which has to be tendered is very very harsh, but that is for the good of the people, and I stand here, Sir, to give that advice. I do not think that this Bill will serve any useful purpose or will do any good. We were asked—what will happen to the boys coming out of Dehra Dun? I say—give them the King's Commission, send them to England for two months, give them training and bring them to a level of equality, and bring them out on equal terms, then introduce a proper Bill, with proper safeguards, and I still want proper safeguards since the British Army and the Indian Army must go on side by side. With these words, Sir, I oppose the motion.

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

Several Honourable Members : The question may now be put.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. E. Lumby : Sir, at the start I should like to refer to a few matters which are rather outside the main question with which we have been dealing today, but which arise out of the speech of my Honourable friend, Sir Muhammad Yakub. The pace of Indianization was one of the main things with which he dealt. I want to explain, first of all, that the figure of sixty which is to be the outturn of the Dehra Dun Academy has been fixed on the basis of the one division of all arms and including ancillary services which, as has been announced by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, is to be Indianized as the next step in carrying out the policy of Indianization. The figure of sixty is one that could not possibly have been accepted at Sandhurst, and so if Indianization was to be extended, there was no question but that it would be necessary either to stop sending Indian cadets to Sandhurst altogether, or to have an Indian Academy and at the same time to send a small number of cadets to Sandhurst. The Indian Military College Committee decided that the latter course would be most undesirable, because there would almost certainly be an inferiority or superiority complex as between the two classes of officer. They decided that it would be much the best to have all Indian cadets trained in future for all branches of the army at an academy in India, instead of at Woolwich and Sandhurst.

It was also stated that under the new proposals units of the Indian army would cost more than they do now. This will not be the case. I want to make it clear that, as was pointed out by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to the Indian Military College Committee, if we were to give the rates of pay, which we now give to the Sandhurst-trained officer, to the Indian Commissioned officer, it would be perfectly true to say that the cost of Indian units, when Indianized, would be greater than at present ; but just as it is proposed in the case of most of the civil services to fix the rates of pay of new entrants on an Indian basis, so it has been decided to fix the pay of future Indian entrants into the Indian Army on an Indian basis, and the difference between the pay of the British officer and the Indian officer will represent a sort of overseas allowance. With the reduction of rates of pay, I can assure the House that Government intend to do everything they possibly can to ensure that the standard of living of the officers who come out of Dehra Dun is not forced up unnecessarily by their predecessors and that they are able to live on their pay.

Mr. S. G. Jog : Why then is not the pay of the British Officer similarly reduced ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. E. Lumby : That is a different matter. During their first year, after passing out of the Academy, these young officers will be attached to British units in this country, and, during that attachment, they will receive an extra allowance to enable them to meet the extra cost of living.

As regards the point raised by my Honourable friend, Sir Muhammad Yakub, about the elimination of the Viceroy's Commissioned officers, the point is that in the units that are being Indianised there will be no need of a link such as the Viceroy's Commissioned officers provide, and provide most efficiently, between the British officer and the rank and file. The officers of the Indianized units will ultimately be all of the same race, and no link will be necessary in their case ; but, so long as there are non-

Indianized regiments, the Viceroy's Commissioned officers will remain in those regiments to act as a link.

It was suggested by one speaker that Government had been guilty of a breach of faith over the Skeen Committee's Report. It was stated that the Indian Military Academy arose out of that Report, and various sections of it were quoted as though they had been accepted by Government just as the proposal to start an Indian Military Academy has since been accepted by Government. The Skeen Committee Report, in so far as it related to an Indian Sandhurst and to the abolition of the eight Indianising units, was not accepted by Government because even at that time they had in mind the necessity, when they did establish an Indian Military College, of introducing the new form of commission which is now proposed. It was quite clear that, sooner or later, it would be necessary to introduce the Dominion form of commission, and, after very careful consideration, Government held that the correct moment at which to introduce it was when the very first batch of cadets passed out of the Academy. Otherwise you will merely have the same condition to which objection is now taken, but at a later period, the only difference being that there will be a distinction or a supposed distinction, between Indian and Indian instead of between British and Indian.

Mr. K. C. Neogy (Dacca Division : Non-Muhammadian Kurat) : Will the Honourable Member be pleased to refer to section 40 of the Canadian Act regarding the militia and defence of Canada and point out in what respect the position laid down there differs from the position which would arise under the present Bill ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. B. Lumby : May I have a copy of it ?

Mr. K. C. Neogy : Yes. That section is very germane to the discussion.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. B. Lumby : Sir, my Honourable Friend, Sir Cowasji Jehangir, pointed out that the analogy of the Dominions was a faulty one. That fact I myself pointed out in my previous speech. We can only carry the analogy of the Dominions up to a particular point. But, as I have already said, the change of the form of Commission had to be made at some particular moment—either when the Dominion stage is reached or before, and it was considered that the moment when the first batch of cadets passed out of the Academy was the best moment to make it. Now, Sir, as regards the question of inferiority and superiority, I have stressed the point, and stress it again, that within the Indian army there is not to be any difference between the King's Commissioned officers in His Majesty's Land Forces and the King's Commissioned officers in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces, and the fact that the British officer and the Indian officer will be on the same level in the Indian army will, I think, have a great effect in quelling any suggestion that there is a difference between the Indian Commissioned officer of the Indian army and the British officer of the British army.

I admit that ultimately we shall have the difficulty of mixed formations upon which my Honourable friend, the Leader of the Opposition, has laid so much stress, but I am absolutely convinced that there can never be any question of the junior British officer being placed in command over a senior Indian officer. It seems to me that there are only two alternatives—either the senior Indian officer will be given command or else we have

[Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby.]

got to abolish mixed brigades. The mixed brigade is not a necessity at all. Last summer, for instance, on the North-West Frontier, there were two purely Indian brigades operating and there is no reason why this difficulty should not be got over when it arises 20 or 25 years hence. As regards war, the position is not provided for as regards the Dominions at the present time.

Mr. K. C. Neogy : There, again, my Honourable friend is wrong as he will find out if he refers to that very Act which I have placed before him. Will my Honourable friend now read out section 40.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : Section 40 runs thus :

“The Governor in Council may make regulations, applying to officers and others belonging to His Majesty’s regular forces, and to officers of any military force of any part of His Majesty’s dominions, when serving in Canada, and to officers of the militia, as to the persons to be invested as officers or otherwise with command over the militia or any part thereof, or any person belonging thereto, and as to the mode in which such command is to be exercised : Provided that command shall not be given to any person over a person superior in rank to himself.”

Mr. K. C. Neogy : Is my Honourable friend prepared to accept provision to that effect as a part of this Bill ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : No, I am not prepared to do that.

Mr. K. C. Neogy : Then why mention Canada as an analogy ?

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : I understood the analogy to be correct and I am not certain that I am wrong. To get back to war, in time of war it is essential that there should be some means of regulating powers of command as there was in the Great War. The position of the officers of the British army, the officers of the Dominions and the Indian Commissioned officers.....

Mr. K. C. Neogy : As I said, my Honourable friend is again wrong here if he will refer to subsequent sections of the Canadian Act.

Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R. Lumby : You cannot run an army in watertight compartments. An army must be efficient or you might as well dishand it. I can assure this House that this scheme has been worked out with efficiency as the main object. I have been connected with this question of Indianization for the best part of ten years and I have seen many schemes prepared for bringing about the results of which it is proposed to lay the foundation in this Bill, and I have not been able to find one in which more holes could not be picked than can be picked in the present one. I am quite prepared to admit that the proposal is not a perfect one, but this is a very difficult matter. Some arrangement has got to be made to cover what was referred to by an Honourable Member as the transitional period. After all, it is the Commander-in-Chief who has got to administer the army and it is for him primarily to see that the army is contented and efficient. The Commander-in-Chief has given his approval to this scheme and we may take it, therefore, that scheme is a perfectly good and workable one which will not lead to the troubles which some Honourable Members anticipate. That is the note on which I want to end. Efficiency has been the key-word of the consideration of this whole matter and the arrangements that are proposed can be made to work efficiently, provided that the Indian officer coming out of Dehra Dun is not started off with the idea that he has got to have an inferiority complex. (Applause.)

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That the Bill further to amend the Indian Army Act, 1911, for certain purposes, as amended by the Select Committee, be passed.”

The Assembly divided :

AYES—51.

Abdul Aziz, Khan Bahadur Mian.
 Ahmad Nawaz Khan, Major Nawab.
 Ali, Mr. Hamid A.
 Allah Baksh Khan Tiwana, Khan Bahadur Malik.
 Anklesaria, Mr. N. N.
 Bagla, Lala Rameshwar Prasad.
 Bajpai, Mr. G. S.
 Bhadrapur, Rao Bahadur Krishna Raddi B.
 Bhoze, The Honourable Sir Joseph.
 Buss, Mr. L. C.
 Chatarji, Mr. J. M.
 Dalal, Dr. R. D.
 DeSouza, Dr. F. X.
 Dugud, Mr. A.
 Gidney, Lieut.-Colonel Sir Henry.
 Grantham, Mr. S. G.
 Grigg, The Honourable Sir James.
 Hockenhill, Mr. F. W.
 Hudson, Sir Lealie.
 James, Mr. F. E.
 Jawahar Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sir.
 Kamaluddin Ahmad, Shams-ul-Ulema Mr.
 Lal Chand, Hony. Captain Rao Bahadur Chaudhri.
 Lee, Mr. D. J. N.
 Lumby, Lieut.-Colonel A. F. R.

Metcalfe, Mr. H. A. F.
 Morgun, Mr. G.
 Mujumdar, Sardar G. N.
 Mukherjee, Rai Bahadur Sir Satya Charan.
 Noyce, The Honourable Sir Frank.
 Perry, Mr. E. W.
 Raisman, Mr. A. J.
 Rajah, Raja Sir Vasudeva.
 Rajuh, Rao Bahadur M. C.
 Ramakrishna, Mr. V.
 Rangu Iyer, Mr. C. S.
 Rastogi, Rai Sahib Badri Lal.
 Rau, Mr. P. B.
 Richards, Mr. W. J. C.
 Row, Mr. K. Sanjiva.
 Scott, Mr. J. Ramsay.
 Scott, Mr. W. L.
 Sher Muhammad Khan Gakhar, Captain Singh, Kumar Gupteshwar Prasad.
 Singh, Mr. Pradyumna Prashad.
 Sircar, The Honourable Sir Nripendra.
 Spence, Mr. G. H.
 Studd, Mr. E.
 Trivedi, Mr. C. M.
 Zakaullah Khan, Khan Bahadur Abu Abdullah Muhammad.
 Zyn-ud-din, Khan Bahadur Mir.

NOES—48.

Abdul Matin Chaudhury, Mr.
 Abdur Rahim, Sir.
 Aggarwal, Mr. Jagun Nath.
 Ahmed, Mr. K.
 Anwar-ul-Azim, Mr. Muhammad.
 Ba Maung, U
 Badi-uz-Zaman, Maulvi.
 Bhuput Sing, Mr.
 Chinoy, Mr. Rahimtoola M.
 Das, Mr. B.
 Dudhoria, Mr. Nabakumar Sing.
 Dutt, Mr. Amar Nath.
 Ganjal, Mr. N. R.
 Hari Raj Swarup, Lala.
 Hoon, Mr. A.
 Ibrahim Ali Khan, Lieut. Nawab Muhammad.
 Ismail Ali Khan, Kunwar Hajee.
 Ismail Khan, Haji Chaudhury Mubammad.
 Isra, Chaudhri.
 Jadhav, Mr. B. V.
 Johangir, Sir Cowasji.
 Jog, Mr. S. G.
 Lahiri Chaudhury, Mr. D. K.

Lalchand Navalrai, Mr.
 Liladhar Chaudhury, Seth.
 Mahapatra, Mr. Sitakanta.
 Maswood Ahmad, Mr. M.
 Mody, Mr. H. P.
 Murtuza Saheb Bahadur, Maulvi Sayyid.
 Neogy, Mr. K. C.
 Pundian, Mr. B. Rajaram.
 Pandya, Mr. Vidya Sagar.
 Parma Nand, Bhai.
 Patil, Rao Bahadur B. L.
 Raghbir Singh, Rai Bahadur Kunwar.
 Reddi, Mr. P. G.
 Reddi, Mr. T. N. Ramakrishna.
 Roy, Rai Bahadur Sukhraj.
 Sadiq Hasan, Shaikh.
 Sant Singh, Sardar.
 Sen, Mr. S. C.
 Shafee Daoodi, Maulvi Muhammad.
 Singh, Mr. Gaya Prasad.
 Uppi Saheb Bahadur, Mr.
 Wilayatullah, Khan Bahadur H. M.
 Yakub, Sir Muhammad.
 Yamin Khan, Mr. Muhammad.
 Ziauddin Ahmad, Dr.

The motion was adopted.

THE INDIAN TARIFF BILL.

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar (Law Member) : Sir, I move :

“ That the Bill to consolidate the law relating to customs duties be taken into consideration.”

Sir, this Bill has become necessary because the different Tariff duties are now to be found in a very large number of enactments. Since the Tariff Act of 1894 was passed, there have been various amendments and extensions and so on, and the whole object of this Bill is to put all of them together so that they could be conveniently found and we may have a self-contained Act. As a matter of fact the position at the present moment is such that anyone desiring to know what is the duty on a particular item has got to seek his guidance from a manual which has been issued. The present Bill does not involve any change in the present law and I do not think I will be justified in taking up the time of the House. Sir, I move.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : Motion moved :

“ That the Bill to consolidate the law relating to customs duties be taken into consideration.”

Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad (United Provinces Southern Divisions : Muhamadan Rural) : Sir, I take this opportunity to offer the thanks of the House to the person who thought of this idea of putting the Tariff Act in an arranged form, because it has been a source of very great trouble to every one of us who wanted to consult the Tariff Act. I should like to add one word, that, if it be possible, we may have an index attached to this Act. I hope the Honourable Member will take this point also into consideration when the Act finally goes to the press. With these words, I support the motion.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That the Bill to consolidate the law relating to customs duties be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 13 were added to the Bill.

The First Schedule was added to the Bill.

The Second Schedule was added to the Bill.

The Third Schedule was added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Preamble were added to the Bill.

The Honourable Sir Nripendra Sircar : Sir, I move :

“ That the Bill be passed.”

I can assure my Honourable friend, Dr. Ziauddin, that I shall certainly consider if an index can be added for the convenience of people who have got to find out the various duties from the Schedules.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The question is :

“ That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Shanmukham Chetty) : The Chair would remind the House that His Excellency the Governor General has summoned the attendance of Honourable Members tomorrow here at 11 o'clock, and the House will meet again for the transaction of business at 2-30 P.M.

The Assembly then adjourned till Half Past Two of the Clock on Wednesday, the 29th August, 1934.