

**THE
Punjab Legislative Council
Debates.**

From 26th July to 1st August 1929.

Vol. XIII.

OFFICIAL REPORT.



PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE
COUNCIL.

President :

The Honourable Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Shahab-ud-Din.

Deputy President :

Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib-Ullah.

Secretary :

Sardar Abnasha Singh.

Assistant Secretary :

Pandit Tej Kishen Kaul.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS AND MINISTERS.

The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain, Kt., K.C.I.E.,
Revenue Member to Government, Punjab.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow, O.B.E., I.C.S., Finance Member to Govern-
ment, Punjab.

The Hon'ble Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh, Kt., Minister for Agriculture, (Sikh)
Landholders.

The Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal, M.A., Minister for Education, Punjab Uni-
versity.

The Hon'ble Malik Firoz Khan, Noon, Minister for Local Self-Government,
Shahpur East (Muhammadan), Rural.

I.—OFFICIALS NOMINATED.

Anderson, Sir George, Kt., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction, Punjab.
Astbury, Mr. A. R., C.I.E., M.I.C.E., Secretary to Government, Punjab,
Public Works Department (Buildings and Roads Branch).

Beazley, Mr. J. G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Offg. Chief Secretary to Government,
Punjab.

Calvert, Mr. H., C.I.E., I.C.S., Financial Commissioner and Secretary to
Government, Punjab, Development Department.

Gill, Colonel C.A., D.P.H., I.M.S., Director of Public Health, Punjab.

Mitchell, Mr. Alan, I.C.S., Offg. Secretary to Government Punjab, Trans-
ferred Departments.

Muzaffar Khan, Khan Bahadur Nawab, Director of Information Bureau,
Punjab.

Ogilvie, Mr. C.M.G., O.B.E., I.C.S., Home Secretary to Government,
Punjab.

Penny, Mr. J. D., I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Punjab, Finance Depart-
ment.

Sale, Mr. S. L., I.C.S., Legal Remembrancer and Secretary to Government,
Punjab, Legislative Department.

Smith, Mr. J. B. G., C.I.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department,
Irrigation Branch.

Townsend, Mr. C. A. H., C.I.E., I.C.S., Financial Commissioner, Punjab.

Wilson, Mr. W. B., I.C.S., Revenue Secretary to Government, Punjab.

II.—NON-OFFICIALS NOMINATED.

Abdul Ghani, Khan Bahadur Maulvi, Representative, General interests.
 Dalpat Singh, Honorary Captain, Sardar Bahadur, I.O.M., M.V.O., Representative of the Punjabi Officers and Soldiers of His Majesty's Indian Forces.

Ghani, Mr. M. A., Representative of the Labouring Classes.

Maya Das, Mr. Ernest, B.A., Representative of Indian Christians.

Rattan Chand, Rai Bahadur, Lala, O.B.E., Representative, General interests.

Roberts, Mr. Owen, Representative of the European and Anglo-Indian Communities.

Shaye, Dr. (Mrs.) M. C., Representative of the European and Anglo-Indian Communities.

Sheo Narayan Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar, C.I.E., Representative, General Interests.

III.—ELECTED.

Afzal Haq, Chaudhri, Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana (Muhammadan), Rural.

Ahmad Yar Khan, Daultana, Mian, Multan East (Muhammadan), Rural.

Akbar Ali, Pir, B.A., LL.B., Ferozepore (Muhammadan), Rural.

Ali Ahmad, Chaudhri, Gujranwala (Muhammadan), Rural.

Balbir Singh, Rao Bahadur Captain Rao, O.B.E., Gurgaon (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

Baldev Singh, Chaudhri, B.A., B.T., North-West Rohtak (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

Bishan Singh, Sardar, Sialkot-cum-Gurdaspur (Sikh), Rural.

Bodh Raj, Lala, M.A., LL.B., West Punjab Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.

Buta Singh, Sardar, B.A., LL.B., Multan Division and Sheikhupura (Sikh), Rural.

Chhajju Ram, Chaudhri, C.I.E., Hissar (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

Chhotu Ram, Rai Sahib Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B., South-East Rohtak (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

Daulat Ram, Kalia, Rai Bahadur Pandit, M.B.E., East and West Central Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.

Dhanpat Rai, Rai Bahadur Lala, Punjab Industries.

Din Muhammad, Mr., M. A., LL.B., East and West Central Towns (Muhammadan), Urban.

Duli Chand, Chaudhri, Karnal (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

Faiz Muhammad, Shaikh, B.A., LL.B., Dera Ghazi Khan (Muhammadan) Rural.

III.—ELECTED—CONTD.

- Fateh Singh, Sardar Sahib Sardar, Ferozepore (Sikh), Rural.
- Fazl Ali, Khan Bahadur Chaudhri, M.B.E., O.B.E., Gujrat East (Muhammadan), Urban.
- Firoz-ud-Din Khan, Bana, B.A., LL.B., South-East Towns (Muhammadan), Urban.
- Ganga Ram, Rai Sahib Lala, Ambala-cum-Simla (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Gokul Chand, Narang, Dr. M.A., Ph. D., North-West Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.
- Gopal Das, Lala, Lahore and Ferozepore-cum-Sheikhupura (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Gopi Chand, Bhargava, Dr. M.B., B.S., Lahore City (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.
- Gray, Mr. V. F., Punjab Chamber of Commerce and Trades' Association, Commerce.
- Habib-Ullah, Khan Bahadur, Sardar, Lahore (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Harbakhsh Singh, Sardar, B.A., Hoshiarpur and Kangra (Sikh), Rural.
- Hari Singh, Sardar, Ambala Division (Sikh), Rural.
- Hira Singh, Narli, Sardar, Lahore (Sikh), Rural.
- Joti Parshad, Lala, South-East Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.
- Kartar Singh, Bedi, Baba, Lyallpur (Sikh), Rural.
- Kesar Singh, Chaudhri, Amritsar-cum-Gurdaspur (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Kesho Ram, Sekhri, Lala, B.A., LL.B., Amritsar City (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.
- Khan Muhammad Khan, Wagha, Malik, Sheikhupura (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Labh Singh, Mr. M.A., LL.B. (Cantab.), Rawalpindi Division and Lahore Division North (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Maqbool Mahmood, Mir, B.A., B. Lit., Amritsar (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Mehar Chand, Pandit, B.A., Jullundur-cum-Ludhiana (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.
- Mohan Lal, Rai Bahadur Lala, B.A., LL.B., North-East Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban.
- Mohindar Singh, Sardar, Ludhiana (Sikh), Rural.
- Mubarak Ali Shah, Sayad, Jhang (Muhammadan), Rural.
- Muhammad Abdullah Khan, Khan, Muzaffargarh (Muhammadan), Rural.

III.—ELECTED—CONCOLD.

Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan, Chaudhri, Jullundur (Muhammadan), Rural.

Muhammad Alam, Dr. Shaikh, West Punjab Towns (Muhammadan), Urban.

Muhammad Amin Khan, Khan Bahadur, Malik, O.B.E., Attock (Muhammadan), Rural.

Muhammad Hayat, Qureshi, Khan Bahadur Mian, C.I.E., Shahpur West (Muhammadan), Rural.

Muhammad Husain, Sayad, Montgomery (Muhammadan), Rural.

Muhammad Iqbal, Dr. Sir, M.A., Ph.D., Lahore City (Muhammadan), Urban.

Muhammad Jamal Khan, Leghari, Khan Bahadur Nawab, Baloch Tumandars (Landholders).

Muhammad Raza Shah, Gilani, Makhdomzada Sayad, Multan West (Muhammadan), Rural.

Muhammad Sadiq, Shaikh, Amritsar City (Muhammadan), Urban.

Muhammad Saif Ullah Khan, Khan Sahib Khan, Mianwali (Muhammadan), Rural.

Nanak Chand, Pandit, M.A., Hoshiarpur (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

Narain Singh, Sardar, B.A., LL.B., Rawalpindi Division and Gujranwala (Sikh), Rural.

Narendra Nath, Diwan Bahadur Raja, M.A., Punjab Landholders (General).

Nur Khan, Risaldar Bahadur, Rawalpindi (Muhammadan), Rural.

Partap Singh, Sardar, Jullundur (Sikh), Rural.

Raghubir Singh, Honorary Lieut. Sardar, O.B.E., Amritsar (Sikh), Rural.

Rahim Baksh, Maulvi, Sir, K.C.I.E., Ambala Division, North-East (Muhammadan), Rural.

Ram Singh, Chaudhri, Kangra (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

Sadullah Khan, Mian, Lyallpur South (Muhammadan), Rural.

Sewak Ram, Rai Bahadur Lala, Multan Division (Non-Muhammadan), Rural.

Shahadat Khan, Rai, Lyallpur North (Muhammadan), Rural.

Sikandar Hyat Khan, Captain Sirdar, K.B., M.B.E., (Muhammadan), Landholder.

Talib Mehdi Khan, Malik Nawab Major, Jhelum (Muhammadan), Rural.

Ujjal Singh, Sardar, M.A. (Sikh), Urban.

Umar Hayat, Chaudhri, Gujrat West (Muhammadan), Rural.

Yasin Khan, Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B., Gurgaon-cum-Hissar (Muhammadan), Rural.

Zafarullah Khan, Chaudhri, B.A., LL.B., Sialkot (Muhammadan), Rural.

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 26th July 1929.

The Council met at Barnes Court, Simla, at 9-30 of the clock, Mr. President in the Chair.

OATH OF OFFICE.

The following members were sworn in :—

Sir George Anderson, Kt., C.I.E. (official nominated).

Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie, C.M.G., C.B.E., I.C.S. (official nominated).

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdul Ghani (non-official nominated).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

DEPARTMENTAL PUNISHMENTS, AMRITSAR POLICE, FOR CORRUPTION.

***2222. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state the number of departmental punishments given to the Sub-Inspectors and Head Constables of Amritsar police during the year 1928 and the number of police officers in the Amritsar district against whom judicial cases were started for corruption ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : One Sub-Inspector and three Head Constables were punished departmentally during the year 1928. No judicial cases for corruption were started against any police officer.

DEPUTY INSPECTOR-GENERAL, CIVIL HOSPITALS.

***2223. Dr. Gopi Chand, Bhargava :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) when the present Deputy Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals retires from service ;

(b) whether Government intends to consider the claims of the Provincial Civil Medical Service for this post ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The tenure of the last incumbent of the post of Deputy Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals expired on the 5th June 1929.

(b) It is proposed to abolish the post of Deputy Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals which is accordingly now being held in abeyance. Government have created instead a new post of Assistant Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, to which an officer of the Provincial Civil Medical Service has been appointed.

WATER-LOGGING, JHANG DISTRICT.

***2224. Sayad Mubarak Ali Shah :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(i) whether it is a fact that the lands in several villages in the Jhang district have been destroyed by water-logging;

(ii) if so, whether any lands have been given by way of compensation to the sufferers in the new colonies?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) Twenty villages have been slightly damaged to the total extent of 381 acres.

(ii) No : the damage is infinitesimal compared with the total area of the district.

B. RAM DIAL, SUPERINTENDENT, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, GURDASPUR.

***2225. Mr. Din Muhammad :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that B. Ram Dial, Superintendent, Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur, has attained the age of 58 years;

(b) whether it is a fact that his period of service has exceeded 30 years;

(c) whether it is a fact that he has been granted extension, and if so, for how many years;

(d) what action the Government intends to take in the matter of his extension at the close of the present financial year?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) & (d). Yes, three; as a ministerial officer he can get two more if he is found to be efficient.

CORRUPTION AMONG PUBLIC SERVANTS.

***2226. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the year 1921-22, Government issued a circular to all the heads of departments in the Punjab to prepare black list of those public servants who are corrupt;

(b) whether it is a fact that in that circular it was directed either to do away with the services of corrupt officials or to stop their promotion or at least not to give them such posts where they will have facilities for corruption;

(c) whether it is a fact that some clerks (40—2—90 grade) in the Deputy Commissioner's office, Amritsar, were given special promotions while their names have been admitted in the black list and there are entries of corrupt practice in their character-rolls? If so, why is it so?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No. A copy of the Punjab Government circular¹ on the subject is placed on the table.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

MAGISTRATES AND MUHAMMADAN AHLKARS.

***2227. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state the number of first and second class magistrates in the Amritsar district including honorary magistrates who refuse to take Muhammadan Ahlkars in their courts?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : None.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE TO EXCISE SUB-INSPECTORS.

***2228. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether any conveyance allowance is allowed to Sub-Inspectors of Excise ;

(b) if not, whether there is any proposal under consideration to grant such an allowance to the Excise Sub-Inspectors now ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Does not arise.

EXCISE OFFICIALS AND SUPERIOR REVENUE SERVICE.

***2229. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the hard work of the officers of the Excise Department of the Punjab is a source of income to the provincial revenue ;

(b) if so, whether the Honourable Minister will be pleased to state as to why the educated deserving men of the department are not selected for superior revenue services of the province ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

DAILY ALLOWANCE TO EXCISE OFFICIALS.

***2230. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the excise officers are not given any daily allowance for the days spent in attending courts in connection with the excise cases ;

(b) if so, why the excise officers are deprived of the said allowance ?

¹Already printed, Vol. IV, pages 155—164.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Because they receive a permanent monthly travelling allowance of Rs. 40 per mensem (in Simla Rs. 50 per mensem). Attendance in court for excise cases is part of their duty.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, NAROWAL.

***2231. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the election of the Municipal Committee, Narowal in the Sialkot district was held somewhere in 1925 and that its term expired long ago ;

(b) if so, why no fresh election has been held after the previous term expired ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes : the elections of the municipal committee of Narowal were due in April 1928.

(b) The elections have been postponed pending revision of the electoral wards.

BAND ATTACHED TO HIGH SCHOOLS.

***2232. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that almost every high school in the Punjab has got its own band played by the students of the high schools ;

(b) if so, whether there are any rules or orders rendering it obligatory for the students of a school to join its band ;

(c) if the answer to the latter part of this question be in the negative, whether any cases have come to the notice of the Government in which the Headmasters of high schools have exercised compulsion in this matter ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Information is being collected and will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as it becomes available.

SUB-INSPECTORS OF POLICE AND POLICE MUHARRIRS.

***2233. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any rules which prescribe the period of stay of Sub-Inspectors of Police and Police Muharrirs at thanas in the province ;

(b) if so, whether there are any such officials in the Sialkot district whose usual term of service at one thana has already expired, but they are still being retained there ;

(c) if the reply to part (b) be in the affirmative, what are the public grounds for extending the period of stay of such officials in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes. Police Rule 14.11 (3) as amended by correction slip No. 271, dated the 15th June 1925 limits the stay of a Sub-Inspector in the same police station for a period of three years provided that this period may be extended with the express approval of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police. There are no rules prescribing the period of stay of Police Muharrirs at thanas.

(b) Yes. There is one Sub-Inspector by name Zul Kernain Khan who has held charge of the Narowal Police Station for more than three years.

(c) The public grounds for extending the period of stay of this officer were that he was engaged in the investigation of a series of burglary cases when his term of three years expired and it was considered in the public interests to prolong his stay in order to complete the cases.

HOUSE RENT ALLOWANCE TO EXCISE SUB-INSPECTORS.

***2234. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** (a) Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Sub-Inspectors of Police who are posted in cities and towns are granted house rent;

(b) If the answer be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state why no house rent is granted to Excise Sub-Inspectors posted in cities and towns where no Government quarters are provided for them?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) This is due to the fact that Police Sub-Inspectors have, as a rule, to live near police stations to which they are attached. This is, however, not the case with Excise Sub-Inspectors, who have no necessity to live in or near a particular locality.

SUPPLY OF UNIFORM TO EXCISE SUB-INSPECTORS.

***2235. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state whether it is a fact that no uniform is supplied to the Excise Sub-Inspectors? If so, why?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Yes. The reasons why no uniforms are supplied are—

(a) The value of the services of an Excise Sub-Inspector is minimised if he parades the country proclaiming his office.

(b) A Sub-Inspector is always expected to be on detective duty and is therefore much more useful in plain clothes than in uniform.

ANIL CHANDRA MUKERJEE, SECRETARY, GANDHI ASHRAM, BENARES.

***2236. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Anil Chandra Mukerjee, Secretary, Gandhi Ashram, Benares, was arrested on or about the 2nd May

[Lala Bodh Raj.]

under the orders of the Punjab Police and brought to Lahore and kept in custody of the Punjab Police ;

- (b) whether it is a fact that Acharya Kriplani, Director, Headquarter office, Meerut, applied to the Superintendent of Police for interview with the said gentleman and for the supply of private food and bedding, but he was not permitted to do so ; if so, what are the reasons ;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Superintendent while refusing the interview addressed Acharya Kriplani with the remarks that " It is Punjab and not Meerut " ;
- (d) whether the matter was taken up to the High Court ; and if so, what rules were laid down on the subject by the Honourable Judge of the High Court deciding the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) Mr. Acharya Kriplani applied to the Superintendent of Police on special duty for an interview with the prisoner to enquire into the state of his health. As Mr. Kriplani was not related to the prisoner and the Superintendent of Police had satisfied himself that the prisoner was in good health, the interview was not granted.

(c) The Superintendent of Police explained to Mr. Kriplani that procedure with regard to interviews probably differed in the United Provinces and the Punjab and that in Lahore the police were bound to comply with the Punjab rules.

(d) The High Court ordered that Mr. A. R. Kapur, Advocate, should be permitted to interview the prisoner at such reasonable time as the police authorities might name.

DISPUTE REGARDING A WELL AND A VACANT SITE IN MULTAN.

***2237. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to question¹ No. 1149 (starred), asked on the 8th March 1928, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any settlement has been made between the parties concerned ;
- (b) if not, whether the Collector has given sanction for filing a suit for such plots as have been held to be Government property ;
- (c) if the reply to the above be in the negative, what action the authorities have taken to protect the rights of Government and to prevent the matter taking the shape of Hindu-Muslim question ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Attempts were made to effect an amicable settlement, but without success.

(b) The Collector acting as Advocate General has given leave for the filing of a suit under section 91, Civil Procedure Code, in respect of the greater portion of the disputed area.

(c) No further action by Government is in contemplation.

EXCISE SUB-INSPECTOR CANDIDATES.

***2238. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether during the last five years there were any Excise Sub-Inspector candidates who were not given any probationary chance before they reached the age of 25;
- (b) if so, how long they had been on the waiting list;
- (c) whether it is a fact that after a candidate has reached the age of 25, his name is removed from the list and he is left to himself to seek a job somewhere else;
- (d) if so, what steps Government intends to take in the matter of providing jobs to such accepted candidates before they become overage for Government service?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) Candidates remained on the waiting list from 3 months to 7 years.

(c) According to paragraph 184 of the Punjab Excise Manual, volume I, Commissioners revise their lists of candidates every January and remove, if they think fit, the names of overage candidates.

(d) None. Government accepts no responsibility for providing posts for accepted candidates.

EXCISE SUB-INSPECTOR CANDIDATES.

***2239. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether the Excise Sub-Inspector candidates are given any training or if they are required to pass any test before they are given the appointment;
- (b) if not, why?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Excise Sub-Inspector candidates receive their training on appointment as probationary Excise Sub-Inspectors; and are not confirmed until they pass the departmental examinations in Excise and Criminal law.

(b) Does not arise.

LETTER OF MR. SAYAD HASAN TO THE INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, MULTAN.

***2240. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the facsimile letter from Mr. Sayad Hasan addressed to Chaudhri Fateh-ud-Din, Inspector of Schools, Multan, and published in the *Hindu Herald*, dated 16th May;

[Lala Bodh Raj.]

- (b) if so, does the department contemplate taking any action against the writer of the letter for breach of rules of discipline and secrecy ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

- (b) The purport of the letter has been misunderstood.

EXCISE SUB-INSPECTORS, AMBALA DIVISION.

***2241. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the number of Excise Sub-Inspectors serving in the Ambala division, how many of them come from outside the division, how many of them are statutory agriculturists and how many of the statutory agriculturists belong to the Ambala division ;
- (b) what is the number of approved candidates on the list of the Commissioner of Ambala and how many of them are statutory agriculturists of the Ambala division ;
- (c) what is the total population of the Ambala division and the total population of Hindu Jats in the division ;
- (d) how many Hindu Jats there are (i) among Excise Sub-Inspectors and (ii) among approved candidates on the list of the Commissioner of Ambala ;
- (e) whether he has ever drawn the attention of the Commissioner of Ambala to the poor proportion of statutory agriculturists among Excise Sub-Inspectors ; if not whether he intends doing so now ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Twenty-one. Two of them come from outside the Division. Of twenty-one, thirteen are statutory agriculturists and all the agriculturists belong to the Ambala Division.

(b) Thirteen. Of these, eight are statutory agriculturists of the Ambala Division.

(c) The total population of the Ambala Division is 2,614,654 and that of Hindu Jats is 684,508.

(d) (i) Nil.

(ii) Two.

(e) No.

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS IN ROHTAK, ETC., DISTRICTS.

***2242. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state the amount of money spent in the districts of Rohtak, Karnal and Gurgaon on the improvement of drainage in rural areas in 1924-25, 1925-26, 1926-27, 1927-28 and 1928-29 ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : A statement is laid on the table—

Statement.

Year.	Guragon.	Karnal.	Rohtak.	Total.
1924-25	59,496	49,252	..	1,08,748
1925-26	36,868	94,828	115	1,31,811
1926-27	38,972	1,02,675	57,642	1,99,289
1927-28	93,550	1,54,874	1,04,243	3,52,667
1928-29	54,498	1,97,348	89,046	3,40,892
Total ..	2,83,384	5,98,977	2,51,046	11,33,407

HIGH SCHOOL IN ROHTAK.

***2243. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- the names of high schools in the district of Rohtak maintained by (i) Government, and (ii) local bodies;
- the number of teachers in the schools referred to in (a) in the Anglo-Vernacular section of the educational service (provincial or subordinate), the number of those among these teachers who come from outside the Ambala division, and the names and tribes of those who belong to statutory agricultural tribes;
- whether it is a fact that teachers in the high schools maintained by local bodies were appointed by the Inspector of Schools?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member as soon as it is ready.

VERNAICULAR MIDDLE SCHOOLS.

***2244. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- the number of vernacular middle schools with provision for teaching English as an optional subject in each of the districts of the Ambala division, the number of teachers who teach English in these schools and the names and tribes of those among them who belong to statutory agricultural tribes;

[R. S. Ch. Chhotu Ram.]

- (b) the number of schools referred to in (a) from which English as an optional subject has been abolished and the names and tribes of the teachers who have been thrown out of employment as a consequence of this abolition?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.

***2245. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the number of Hindu and Sikh Assistant District Inspectors of Schools in the province and the number of statutory agriculturists in each group?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The statement giving the requisite information is laid on the table—

No. of Hindu Assistant District Inspectors.	No. of Hindu Assistant District Inspectors who are statutory agriculturists.	No. of Sikh Assistant District Inspectors.	No. of Sikh Assistant District Inspectors who are statutory agriculturist.
33	11	28	14

The above figures do not include Assistant District Inspectors of Schools serving under the Delhi Administration.

APPOINTMENTS IN THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.

***2246. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the number of professors, lecturers, and teachers whether in the provincial or subordinate branch of the educational service in the Anglo-Vernacular section, who have been employed since he assumed office and the number, names and tribes of those among them who are statutory agriculturists?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The honourable member is referred to the consolidated annual statement showing the proportionate representation of the various communities in the different departments of the Punjab Government a copy of which has already been placed on the table.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Does the consolidated list indicate whether the persons employed are statutory agriculturists or not, and whether the incumbents of various posts are professors, lecturers, etc.?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : As the honourable member is aware the consolidated statement gives the total number of statutory agriculturists in a particular cadre. It does not refer to individuals.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.

***2247. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the total number of Assistant District Inspectors of Schools in the Ambala division, the number of Hindus among them, the number of statutory agriculturists among the Hindu Assistant District Inspectors of Schools and the proportion of Hindus to the total population of the division ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the table—

No. of A. D. I's. of Schools in the Ambala Division.	No. of Hindu A. D. I's. in the Ambala Division.	No. of Hindu A. D. I's. in the Ambala Division, who are statutory agriculturists.	Proportion of Hindus to the total population of the Ambala Division according to the census of 1921.
25	13	9	68.3%

JAT DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OR INSPECTOR OF POLICE.

***2248. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- whether there is any Hindu Jat among the Deputy Superintendents or Inspectors of Police in the province ;
- if so, what is his name and district of residence ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR THE JAT HIGH SCHOOL, ROHTAK.

***2249. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- the date on which the application of the Jat High School at Rohtak for acquisition of land was received in the office of the Director of Public Instruction ;
- the date on which the first notification for the acquisition of land appeared in the *Government Gazette* ;
- the stage at which the acquisition proceedings stand at present ;
- the time by which it is expected to publish the final notification ;

[R. S. Ch. Chhotu Ram.]

(e) the reasons for the delay which has occurred already ;

(f) the steps which it is proposed to take to expedite acquisition proceedings ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The original application was received on October 12th, 1926, and the revised application was received on June 18th 1927.

(b) March 14th, 1928.

(c) The Land Acquisition Officer has summoned interested persons under section 9 of the Land Acquisition Act to appear before him on July 25th, 1929.

(d) The final notification was published on May 14th, 1929.

(e) The intricate nature of the proceedings.

(f) Proceedings will be expedited as much as possible.

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENTS AND INSPECTORS OF POLICE.

***2250. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state the number and names of Deputy Superintendents and Inspectors of Police in the existing cadre who come from the districts of Hissar, Karnal, Gurgaon and Rohtak ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow :

Deputy Superintendents of Police .. Nil.

Inspectors of Police ..	1. Nazir-ul-Haq, Karnal.
	2. Moti Ram, Karnal.
	3. Wajid Ali, Gurgaon.

PROTECTION TO ZAMINDARS AGAINST ODS.

***2251. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

(a) the number of zamindars killed by Ods in the districts of Rohtak, Hissar and Karnal in 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928 and 1929 ;

(b) the steps which were taken by magistrates or police in the districts mentioned in (a) in pursuance of the instructions issued by Government to afford protection to zamindars and if no steps were taken, the action which Government intends to take against its officers for the neglect of duty ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazal-i-Hussain : (a) No zamindars were killed by Ods in the districts of Hissar and Karnal during the period referred to. In the Rohtak district, however, three zamindars were killed in 1928 on three different occasions and one during the present year.

(b) The District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police of the districts concerned have invariably taken all possible action under the law.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ELECTRIC CHARGES FOR THE BAR ROOM, AMRITSAR.

1149. Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri : Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government intends to make in future the members of the Amritsar bar pay the electric charges for the bar room fans ;
- (b) if so, how much will the Government save by not paying the charges themselves ;
- (c) whether this course is proposed to be adopted on account of the financial stringency or for any other reason ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) Government have no information on the point.

(c) After a careful consideration of the matter Government have decided that charges for electric current, whether consumed on lights or fans, should be paid by the Bar Associations in the same manner as they now pay for punkha coolies and lamps in places where there is no electric supply. The cost of electric installation continues to be paid by Government as part of the cost of wiring the courts and offices.

CATTLE GRAZING.

1150. Sardar Hira Singh, Narli : Arising out of the answer to part (b) of question¹ No. 1058, unstarred, will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state why copies of records were not supplied by the office of the Financial Commissioners ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Because the rules did not allow the grant of such copies.

RELATIVES OF ASSISTANT REGISTRARS IN THE CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

1151. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the year 1923, the Registrar of Co-operative Societies made enquiries as to the number of relatives of each Assistant Registrar in the department ;
- (b) if so, whether he will be pleased to state the results of enquiries made in respect of each officer ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes, but the enquiries were not completed ;

(b) The information is being obtained and will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION AMONG CO-OPERATIVE INSPECTORS.

1152. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the number of co-operative inspectors employed on the duty of consolidation of landholdings in the province;
- (b) how they are distributed communitywise; e.g., Hindus, Sikhs and Musalmans;
- (c) whether it is a fact that any one community predominates; and, if so, what steps the Government propose to take to see that other communities obtain their due share?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Eight;

(b) Six Musalmans and two Sikhs;

(c) Promotions to the post of Inspector, Consolidation Societies, are made from amongst Sub-Inspectors entirely on their merits for this difficult work.

CO-OPERATIVE INSPECTORS IN GURDASPUR DISTRICT.

1153. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) how many co-operative sub-inspectors for consolidation duty were taken in the Gurdaspur district during the year 1927-28;
- (b) how are they distributed communitywise, e.g., among Hindus, Musalmans and Sikhs;
- (c) who was the Assistant Registrar in-charge of co-operative work in the Gurdaspur district during this period?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) During the year 1927-28 three Sub-Inspectors for consolidation duty were taken from the Gurdaspur District.

(b) They were—

- 1 Hindu.
- 1 Muslman.
- 1 Sikh.

(c) During the year 1927-28 the following were Assistant Registrars in charge of Gurdaspur District :—

- 1. S. Beant Singh.
- 2. Chaudhri Banta Singh.
- 3. Chaudhri Ali Muhammad.
- 4. Chaudhri Abdul Hamid.

SIKH REPRESENTATION IN THE MEDICAL SERVICE.

1154. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether there is any Sikh permanent Civil Surgeon in the Punjab;

- (b) if so, the number and names of such Sikh gentlemen ;
- (c) if not, what steps Government proposes to take to see that the Sikh members of the Indian Medical Service obtain their due share in these appointments ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) Colonel Sodhi and Sardar Bahadur Diwan Singh, Duggal.

(c) Does not arise. But the Sikh member of the Indian Medical Service in the Punjab is having his due share in these appointments. This Government has no control over the posts open to Indian Medical Service outside this province.

1155. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Resident Engineer, Simla municipality, is not a qualified engineer ;
- (b) the names of the first class municipalities in the Punjab where Municipal Engineers are not qualified engineers ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready. It will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

SIMLA MUNICIPALITY AND TERMINAL TAX.

1156. Sardar Ujjal Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Simla municipality deputed one of its officials to study and report on the system of terminal tax in certain first class municipalities of the Punjab
- (b) if so, what action has been taken on the report submitted by that official ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) The committee has framed and published a proposed schedule, and has still to consider and decide any objections that may be received.

CLOSURE OF MUNICIPAL WORKSHOP, SIALKOT.

1157. Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government kindly state the reasons for closing the municipal workshop lately erected for the purpose of carrying out repairs in connection with the Sialkot Waterworks ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The workshop has been closed by the municipal committee of Sialkot as it was found that the work done at the workshop could be executed more economically through the agency of private firms.

OCTROI REVENUE, SIALKOT.

1158. Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan: Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Messrs. Uberoi, Limited, Sialkot, and other sports firms of Sialkot applied for the composition of octroi revenue ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the applications of all excepting Messrs. Uberoi, Limited, were rejected ;
- (c) if so, why ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Managing Director and one other shareholder of Uberoi, Limited, are members of the Municipal Committee, Sialkot ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the Government or the Commissioner rejected the resolution of the Sialkot Municipal Committee, sanctioning the composition, and so in the first week of April 1929, Uberoi, Limited, had to pay Rs. 175 ;
- (f) what was the total amount of octroi recoverable on goods imported by Messrs. Uberoi, Limited, according to their own books for the year 1928-29 ;
- (g) whether the Sialkot Municipal Committee have suffered any financial loss by the sanction of this composition ;
- (h) if so, how much ;
- (i) what steps Government proposes to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes, (1) Messrs. Uberoi, Limited, (2) The Pioneer Sports Works and (3) M. Faiz Ali, Proprietor, Flour Mills, applied for the composition of octroi revenue.

(b) Application of No. (1) for 1928-29 only was accepted. Application of No. (2) was rejected but the Committee is reconsidering it. Application of No. (3) was also rejected in the first instance but was subsequently accepted.

(c) The applications of Nos. (2) and (3) were rejected in the first instance as the Commissioner had suggested in the case of Messrs. Uberoi, Limited, that no composition should be entered into and that octroi should be levied in the ordinary course.

- (d) Yes.
- (e) No.
- (f) Rs. 185-5-9.
- (g) No.
- (h) Does not arise.
- (i) Does not arise.

PUBLICATION OF COURT NOTICES IN GURMUKHI PAPERS.

1159. Sardar Hira Singh : (i) Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the majority of Sikhs read only Gurmukhi papers ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that court notices are published in Urdu and English papers only ?

(ii) If the answer to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, will Government kindly state the reasons for not publishing court notices in Gurmukhi papers, especially when the parties to a case are Sikhs ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Government have no information on this point.

(b) No. Four Gurmukhi papers are entitled to receive advertisements.

(ii) Does not arise.

DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT TO ZAMINDARS AND NON-ZAMINDARS OF MAUZA SABHRO.

1160. Sardar Hira Singh : (i) Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that all the zamindars of Mauza Sabhro, district Lahore, have been declared members of criminal tribes ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the non-zamindar residents of the said village have not been declared members of criminal tribes ;

(ii) If the answer to (i) be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for making this distinction between the zamindar and non-zamindar inhabitants of the said village ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (1) (a) The total male adult population of village Sabhro is about 1,880 souls of whom 600 Jats, 150 Chuhars and 7 Sayyads have been brought under the operation of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, on account of their being addicted to the systematic commission of non-bailable offences.

(b) No.

(ii) Does not arise.

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, RUPAR.

1161. Rai Sahib Lala Ganga Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) when the Municipal High School, Rupar, was transferred to the Government ;

(b) the number of students class-wise from V to X class for three years previous to the transfer of the school ;

[R. S. Lala Ganga Ram.]

- (c) how many students appeared in the Matriculation examination of the Punjab University for three years previous to the date of transfer, the pass percentage for these years; how many students obtained scholarships and how many were placed in each division;
- (d) after the date of transfer up to 15th March 1929 what has been the number of students class-wise;
- (e) after the date of transfer how many students appeared in the Punjab University Matriculation examination annually; what has been the pass percentage for each year; how many scholarships were won; how many students have been placed in each division;
- (f) what annual recurring grant Government used to allow to the Municipal High School, Rupar; what was the monthly expenditure on staff of the municipality at the time of transfer and what was the income from fees;
- (g) what the Government now expends monthly on the staff and what is the income from fees;
- (h) what the Government expends after the transfer of the school on school buildings, furniture, salary and other miscellaneous things;
- (i) what has been spent on the boarding house building and what has been the number of boarders on 15th March, 1929; what is the income of fees from the boarding-house; what monthly expenses are borne by the Government; what is the gain or loss in the running of the boarding-house;
- (j) in what respects has the school advanced from the date of transfer of the school, as regards the number of boys, education, management, percentage of pass marks, the winning of scholarships;
- (k) whether it is a fact that there are two Hindu and Muhammadan recognised schools and one unrecognised Khalsa High School working for many years in Rupar?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

GOVERNMENT INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE, PASRUR AND ROHTAK.

1162. Rai Sahib Lala Ganga Ram : Will the Government please state—

- (1) the number of students class-wise in the Government Intermediate College at Pasrur and Rohtak, and the subjects that are taught in them;
- (2) the group of subjects that are allowed there;

(3) the number of rooms and their sizes ;

(4) the number of professors (including the Principal) and the amount of their monthly salary bill ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when available.

CRIMINAL CASES IN MURREE AND KAHUTA TAHSILS.

1163. Risaldar Bahadur Nur Khan : (a) Will the Honourable Revenue Member please lay on the table a statement showing the number of criminal cases challaned by the Forest Department in the Murree and Kahuta tahsils of Rawalpindi district in the years 1927, 1928 and 1929 ?

(b) How many of these cases resulted in acquittal and convictions ?

(c) How many such cases are at present pending in courts ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a), (b), and (c). A statement is laid on the table.

STATEMENT SHOWING CASES CHALLANED IN THE MURREE AND KAHUTA TAHSILS OF THE RAWALPINDI DISTRICT FOR THE YEARS 1926-27 TO 1928-29.

Year.	Last balance.	New cases challaned.	Total.	Conviction.	Acquittals.	Balance.
MURREE TAHSIL.						
1926-27	590	515	1,105	532	110	463
1927-28	463	678	1,141	291	15	835
1928-29	835	462	1,297	435	38	824
KAHUTA TAHSIL.						
1926-27	2	25	27	14	10	3
1927-28	3	16	19	9	8	2
1928-29	2	63	65	27	6	32

DIET MONEY PASSED TO GOVERNMENT.

1164. Lala Bodh Raj : With reference to the reply to unstarred question No. 1018 asked on 18th March 1929, will the Honourable Finance Member please lay on the table the information that has been collected so far ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The amount of diet money that has lapsed to Government on this account during the past five years is as follows :—

				Rs.	A.	P.
(1) 1924-25	..	..	..	1,77,848	10	8
(2) 1925-26	..	..	..	1,29,292	10	1
(3) 1926-27	..	..	..	1,20,685	2	7
(4) 1927-28	..	..	..	1,16,971	1	10
(5) 1928-29	..	..	..	1,11,876	1	4

REPORT ON THE QUESTION OF RELATION OF LANDLORD AND TENANTS
OF TAHSIL UNA, DISTRICT HOSHIARPUR.

1165. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- whether it is a fact that Chaudhri Sultan Ahmed, Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur, was deputed by the Government to report on the question of relation of Landlord and Tenants of Tahsil Una, District Hoshiarpur ;
- if so, whether any report has been made by the said officer ;
- if the reply to the above be in the affirmative whether Government intend to lay the report on the table ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) Not for the present.

RESIGNATION OF MR. KENNAWAY.

1166. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- whether it is a fact that Mr. Kennaway, Commissioner, Lahore Division, has tendered his resignation
- what were the reasons for his resignation ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : Mr. Kennaway, in May 1929, applied for leave preparatory to retirement, which was granted to him.

CLERKS OF THE COMBINED INSTITUTIONS IN THE AMBALA DIVISION.

1167. Lala Joti Parshad : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please place on the table a list showing community-wise the clerks of the combined institutions in the Ambala Division ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : A statement is laid on the table.

Name of combined institutions.	Name of clerks.
Government Middle and Normal School, Rohtak	M. Muhammad Latif, Clerk.
Government High and Normal School, Karnal ..	{ 1. M. Allah Diya, Clerk. 2. S. Muhammad Razi, Assistant Clerk.

NORMAL SCHOOLS IN THE AMBALA DIVISION.

1168. Lala Joti Parshad : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly lay a statement on the table showing the following :—

- the places with their population community wise where there are normal schools in the Ambala Division ;
- the names of those who are in charge of these schools ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Rohtak, Gurgaon, Karnal, Hissar, and Palwal.

For information regarding the population, the honourable member is referred to the last Census Report.

- The names of teachers in charge are :—

	Institution as a whole.	Training class.
Rohtak	Lala Sarup Singh ..	S. Khurshed Hassan.
Karnal	Lala Ram Lal Kanwar	<i>Vacant.</i>
Gurgaon	M. Said-ud-Din Ahmad..	M. Izhar-ul-Hassan.
Hissar	Mr. N. C. Roy ..	M. Muhammad Ismail.
Palwal	Lala Ram Kishen ..	Lala Diwan Chand.

GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY AND ADDITIONAL GRANTS, 1929-30.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow (Finance Member) : Sir, I beg to present the additional and supplementary grants specified in the list of Government business. They have all been recommended by His Excellency the Governor.

IRRIGATION GRANT.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member): Sir, I beg to move—

"That an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 17,41,142 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st of March 1930, in respect of Irrigation."

Mr. President: The demand moved is—

"That an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 17,41,142 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st of March 1930 in respect of Irrigation."

Lala Kesho Ram Sekhri [Amritsar City (Non-Muhammadan) Urban]: Sir, I would like to have certain information from the Honourable Revenue Member. It is stated on page 7, item (12) of the Supplementary Estimates that "in the year 1860, the direction of the natural flow of the Chakki Torrent was diverted from its old bed to a new one by making a Dhangu Cut in order to protect the Upper Bari Doab Canal Irrigation Works. As a result of this diversion several acres of land in villages of the Nurpur Tahsil of the Kangra District lying along the diverted channel were washed away by erosion. It has now been decided that compensation amounting to Rs. 50,796 should be given, and as the present grant is not sufficient to meet this expenditure a supplementary demand for this amount is presented." I would like to ask what was the amount that was already budgetted for, why after 1860 the arrangement has only been made in the year 1929, and whether the compensation is within time.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: I am sure the Council would not like me to say anything which would reflect on the weakness of the administration in the years 1860—1920 during the period of 60 years. That was the period, the Council will remember, of pre-Reform days. Therefore I hope the honourable member will be satisfied that the Reformed Government has been more active than the Government that it has replaced.

Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri: It has taken nine years to come to this decision?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Surely, the honourable member would not put me the difficult task of criticising the administration of the Revenue Department that preceded mine; but I can assure the Council that for a long term of years this case has been pending.

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal: I would also like to know what was the amount recommended by the Committee that was appointed to go into this question. Was it Rs. 50,700 or was it more? If more, what was the amount of compensation allotted and why are the people concerned being deprived of the full amount recommended?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: So far as I recollect the amount specified was the amount of price arrived at with reference to the prices prevailing at the time the erosion took place. As to the exact figures naturally I do not recollect.

Mr. President: The question is:

"That an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 17,41,142 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending 31st of March 1930 in respect of Irrigation."

The motion was carried.

IRRIGATION—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE GRANT.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain (Revenue Member) : Sir,
I beg to move—

"That an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 1,68,425 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Irrigation—Capital Expenditure."

Mr. President : The demand moved is—

"That an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 1,68,425 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Irrigation.—Capital Expenditure."

Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram [Multan Division (Non-Muhammadan), Rural] : Sir, in connection with this demand there is one item of Rs. 99,000 for aeroplane survey of the Sutlej from its confluence with the Beas to the Panjnad. I wonder whether this big sum is really required for this purpose. I want to know whether this is a work on which such a large sum must necessarily be spent or whether this sum cannot be spent better on other irrigation works for which we require money. I should like also to know whether this is a work of urgent necessity.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : Sir, I have every sympathy with the sentiments that my honourable friend has expressed. I also feel the same way. The Honourable Member sitting to my left, if not by disposition, at all events by needs of fostering the most vigilant control of expenditure would not allow this expenditure unless it happens to be absolutely necessary. Those who are interested in the success of the Sutlej Valley Project, and I trust I may count the honourable member as one, will bear me out that it is in the interests of the province that no steps should be left untaken which would in the future make it difficult for the department to cope with the difficulties in case they arise in the matter of the Sutlej river running away somewhere and so on. The matter has been gone into at considerable length and it was only when I was cornered and it was necessary to spend the money that this expenditure was agreed to.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 1,68,425 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Irrigation—Capital Expenditure."

The motion was carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH GRANT.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon (Minister for Local Self-Government) : Sir, I beg to move—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 50,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Public Health."

The motion was carried.

MISCELLANEOUS (RESERVED) GRANT.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow (Finance Member): Sir, I beg to move—

"That an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Miscellaneous (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

CIVIL WORKS (TRANSFERRED) GRANT.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture): Sir, I beg to move—

"That an additional sum not exceeding Rs. 1,30,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Agriculture) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Civil Works (Transferred)."

The motion was carried.

PROVINCIAL LOANS AND ADVANCES (RESERVED) GRANT.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member): Sir, I beg to move—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,00,000 be granted to the Governor in Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Provincial Loans and Advances (Reserved)."

The motion was carried.

PROVINCIAL LOANS AND ADVANCES (TRANSFERRED) GRANT.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon (Minister for Local Self-Government): Sir, I beg to move—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Provincial Loans and Advances (Transferred)."

Mr. President: The demand moved is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Provincial Loans and Advances (Transferred)."

Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram: Sir, may I know what interest is charged to municipalities for such loans?

Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: I think it is regulated periodically. I am not in possession of information as to what interest is being charged at present. Perhaps the Finance Secretary will be able to answer the question.

Mr. J. D. Penny (Finance Secretary): The rate for this year is not yet fixed. Last year it was six per cent. The rate of interest is fixed for each year with due regard to the rate at which Government borrows.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000 be granted to the Punjab Government (Ministry of Local Self-Government) to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Provincial Loans and Advances (Transferred)"

The motion was carried.

IRRIGATION GRANT.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member):
Sir, the demand as it stands at present reads as follows:—

"That a token sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the Governor-in-Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Irrigation."

I understand that there is a possible difficulty in treating this demand as a token demand. So far as the merits of the case go, they are not affected one way or the other, whether it is moved either as a token demand or ordinary demand. Therefore, I would omit the word 'token' and substitute Rs. 3,200 for Rs. 10. The demand will then read.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,200 be granted to the Governor-in-Council to defray the charges that will come in course of payment for the year ending the 31st of March 1930 in respect of Irrigation."

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB TENANCY (AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member):
Sir, I beg to present the Select Committee's Report
10 A.M. on the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration."

In view of the fact that the Select Committee has made no change, it is hardly necessary for me to make any observations on the report.

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : Now the Council will proceed to consider the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment Bill) clause by clause.

The question is that—

"Sub-clause (2) of clause 1 and clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : The question is that—

"That the preamble stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That sub-clause (1) of clause 1 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, I beg to move—

"That the Punjab Tenancy (Amendment) Bill be passed."

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB PURE FOOD BILL.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon (Minister for Local Self-Government): Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Punjab Pure Food Bill.

THE PUNJAB MUNICIPAL AND SMALL TOWNS AMENDING BILL.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: Sir, I beg to introduce the Punjab Municipal and Small Towns Amending Bill.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Punjab Municipal and Small Towns Amending Bill be taken into consideration."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President: Now the Council will proceed to consider the Punjab Municipal and Small Towns Amending Bill clause by clause. The question is—

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram [Multan Division (Non-Muhammadan) Rural]: Sir, with reference to this clause (?) I find that if one word is added it will make the meaning more clear. I mean where it is said "and the notified area committee shall continue in office, and shall, notwithstanding, anything contained in this Act, be deemed to be the Municipal Committee until the appointment and election of members." I feel that this clause is not distinct unless the word new is added before the word 'members' because in the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is made clear the word 'new' is put there and when one reads this clause he does not find it so clear as it would become if the word 'new' is put in after the word 'of' and before the word 'members.' If this suggestion is adopted it will make the section quite clear.

Mr. President: The amendment moved is—

"That in the last but one line of sub-clause (2) of clause 2 the word "new" be inserted between the words "of" and "members."

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: I do not think that the fears of the honourable member are justified because the notification can only take place about the election of the new members. No notification is necessary about the election of the old members because they were already notified. I do not, therefore, think there can be any ambiguity on the subject and I, therefore, cannot accept this suggestion.

Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram: My contention is that the old members who were members of the Small Town Committee when it is declared a Municipal Committee do require a notification to become members of the Municipal Committee. It would be much better to have the word 'new' in between the two words that I have suggested, because then they will be new and it will be necessary that the old members of the Small Town Committee should cease to exist as members of the new municipal committee. Therefore, I submit that this suggestion should be accepted if it is feasible and necessary.

Mr. President : The question is:—

"That in the last but one line of sub-clause (ii) of clause 2 the word "new" be inserted between the words "of" and "Members."

The motion was lost.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the preamble stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That clause 1 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Sir, I beg to move —

"That the Punjab Municipal and Small Towns Amending Bill be passed."

The motion was carried.

THE PUNJAB REGULATION OF ACCOUNTS BILL.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow (Finance Member): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Bill. It will not be necessary for me to dilate on the previous course of legislation in this House with regard to this important subject.

Although honourable members of the Council who now constitute this House were not all present when the former Bills were introduced and discussed, they are no doubt familiar with the main features of the debates which took place in the years 1924, 1925 and 1926. I shall, therefore, proceed forthwith to state the grounds on which Government introduces this legislation, and to that end I cannot do better than recall to mind the words of His Excellency the Governor (Sir Malcolm Hailey) in his address to the Council on the 25th October 1926. This address was not heard by some of the members now present, and with your permission, I will read to the House the actual words used by His Excellency in explanation of the attitude which Government then maintained in regard to this subject and which they maintain to-day. Sir Malcolm Hailey said:—

"I wish at the outset to make clear the position of Government on the Bill. We have from the first been convinced of the necessity of some measure for securing the better keeping of accounts as between certain classes of creditors and debtors. We have been convinced again that the Legislature should intervene to guarantee to the debtor some means of ascertaining exactly how his account stands and how it is composed. But we have foreseen and indeed experienced the greatest difficulty in the actual drafting of a measure which would not result in interference with the ordinary methods of keeping trade and commercial accounts, or would not prove to be so lacking in precision or definition as to involve the increase of litigation or uncertainty in its result. Above all, we have been impressed with the danger of any measure which would so seriously affect the lender as to hamper the reasonable and legitimate grant of credit to the borrower.".....

[Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow.]

His Excellency continued :

" I have considered the question very anxiously and I have finally come to the conclusion that, in its present form the drafting of the Bill (i.e., the Bill then before the House) falls so far short of the requirements I have already described that I could not conscientiously commend it for the final assent of the Governor-General."

He then went on to say :

" I wish to give its supporters the assurance that we have not varied in our conviction that some measure is required for the regulation of accounts. It will remain for us to place before your successors in the form of a Government measure a Bill somewhat simpler, and possibly of more restricted scope, which will serve to secure the end in view without involving the dangers which I have apprehended in this measure."

The present Bill which I wish to introduce represents the efforts of the present Government to give effect to the intentions of His Excellency the Governor, Sir Malcolm Hailey. Before proceeding to bring to notice the main features of the Bill, I have the great pleasure of informing this House that Government has been assisted in its task by honourable members, representatives of all parties (*hear, hear*), who have sacrificed their valuable time, and at considerable inconvenience to themselves, in response to the invitation of Government, taken the trouble to examine the preliminary draft of the Bill and to place before Government their suggestions for its improvement and simplification. I express the sincere gratitude of Government for the assistance and co-operation so willingly rendered. The work of these honourable members has resulted in the preliminary draft being improved in many respects, principally in the removal of ambiguities and possible misinterpretations. The fact that these honourable members representing as they do all parties in the House, assisted so readily with co-operation and advice in the preparation of the Bill may be taken as a happy augury of the spirit in which I trust the Bill will be considered. As regards the main features of the Bill, I would refer the House to the statement of objects and reasons. The aim has been to secure as between certain classes of creditors and debtors an improved system of keeping accounts which will give to the latter a means of ascertaining periodically how their accounts stand and how they are composed. By excepting certain classes of loans it expressly avoids interference with accounts connected with trade and commerce and industry. Subject to these restrictions, the Bill is of general application. The term " money-lender " (the special significance of which in England and in the English language by no means applies to the vast majority of creditors in this province) has been throughout replaced by the term " creditor," suitably defined.

[The definition of loan will, it is hoped, commend itself to the House as an improvement on the definition contained in the former measure. Around the penalty for non-compliance with the provisions of the Bill, considerable controversy is, it is feared, still likely to gather. But it is hoped that the contentious atmosphere which any proposal on this subject is likely to arouse may be dispelled or at any rate greatly reduced by the discussions of the select committee to which I hope later to propose that the Bill be referred (Applause).]

Mr. President : The question is :—

“ That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Bill.”

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal [North-East Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban] : Sir, I rise to make a few observations in connection with this Bill.

Mr. President : Is the honourable member opposed to the motion for leave being given to introduce the Bill ?

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal : Yes, Sir. I beg to submit that the leave to introduce the Bill should not be allowed at this time, when the atmosphere in the Punjab is calm. This Bill when it was introduced before, was an apple of discord, and I am of opinion that there are certain objectionable features still in it which will rouse feelings. Although there is a great improvement in the drafting as well as in the provisions of the Bill, yet in my opinion there are certain provisions of the Bill which will probably be a subject of controversy. I am of opinion that it should not have been brought by the Government at a time when we are at the end of our term of membership. I suggest for the consideration of the Government that this Bill, if it is to be brought, should be brought in at a time when the new council comes into existence. For aught we have read in the papers, the party which wants this Bill will be in power and it will be entirely for them to bring in any measure by which they will be judged what consideration they want to show to the minorities in the Punjab. I am of opinion that on these grounds leave should not be given for the introduction of this Bill, and I strongly urge upon the Government that they should not proceed with it and it should be left entirely to the new council that will come into existence under the Reforms Bill. At present there is a commission sitting and one does not know what the constitution of the new council will be, and I think it will be in the general interests of the province that such a controversial measure as this is not introduced at this time.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Sir, the matter has been very carefully considered and as the House is aware the introduction of this Bill has been put forward not now, the question has been brought up many times in the course of the last few months. Some honourable members have expressed their desire that the intention of His Excellency Sir Malcolm Hailey as pronounced in his address should be given effect to and Government have produced this Bill in accordance with his intentions. I do not think at this stage it is necessary for me to say more.

Mr. President : The question is :

“ That leave be granted to introduce the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Bill.”

The motion was carried.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Sir, I beg to move :

" That the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang,
Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,
Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan,
Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal,
Mir Maqbool Mahmood,
Mr. V. F. Gray,
Sardar Harbakhsh Singh,
Chaudhri Zafulla Khan,
Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie,
Mr. S. L. Sale,

Nominee of the Honourable the President, and the mover."

Mr. Labh Singh : Sir, I rise to a point of order. Is this motion in order? The agenda circulated to us makes no mention that this Bill will be referred to a select committee.

Mr. President : May I ask the honourable Mr. Mohan Lal, whether his consent was taken to serve on the select committee?

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal : Yes, Sir, but that does not preclude me from opposing the motion for leave to introduce the Bill.

Mr. President : I simply wanted to know whether the honourable member had consented to serve on the committee.

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal : I have given my consent to serve on the committee.

Mr. Labh Singh : I want to know whether this motion to refer the Bill to a select committee is in order in view of the fact that we have had no notice of this motion in the agenda that has been circulated to us.

Mr. President : The honourable member, I presume, is aware that notice of the motion was received somewhere about the 22nd instant and that the printed agenda containing the motion was circulated on the 28rd. The names of the members of the select committee were received only this morning.

Mr. Labh Singh : I submit, Sir, that ordinarily it was to be anticipated that members would be in transit on the 23rd or the 24th and if notices have been posted to their home addresses, they are not likely to reach them and they have not in fact reached them. In view of this, Sir, I submit that this motion is not in order.

Chaudhri Duli Chand : I have received my copy all right.

Mr. Labh Singh : You are a specially privileged member.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : If the information that it was going to be referred to a select committee was not in his possession, how did Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram give notice of a motion to circulate the Bill for eliciting public opinion.

Mr. President : When did Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram receive the printed copy of the agenda?

Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram : I only gave this amendment after seeing what is printed in the first agenda, that is, that the Bill be introduced.

Mr. President : What is the objection of Mr. Labh Singh? Is it that the names of the members of the select committee were not published in time?

Mr. Labh Singh : My objection is much more fundamental, Sir. My objection is that the motion itself has never been circulated, that we have had no notice of it. As a matter of fact, if I am not disclosing matters which I should not disclose, I understand that the gentlemen representing this part of the House who were taken into confidence by the Honourable Member who is in charge of this Bill and who is responsible for this motion were assured that this motion will not be taken up this session, and later on they were told that certainly this motion would not come up before the 1st August. In spite of this, it is now being thrust on us absolutely un-awares.

Mr. President : No reference need be made to private arrangements.

Mr. Labh Singh : I have made the reference with your implied permission and subject to correction.

Mr. President : Suppose the gentlemen referred to were to stand up and contradict the honourable member's statement. That might lead to unpleasant controversy.

Mr. Labh Singh : I shall gladly accept the contradiction, as indeed I am bound to do.

Khan Bahadur Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : I find that the Leader of the Party on that side of the House has already tabled an amendment similar to this. He is now in Lahore and so he must have received his agenda in time to enable him to table this amendment.

Mr. President : What is the objection of the honourable member Mr. Labh Singh?

Mr. Labh Singh : My objection is that this motion at this stage is out of order in view of the fact that we have had no notice of the same. Unless you are pleased to suspend the rule relating to notice, this motion cannot be taken up now.

Mr. President : As sufficient notice was not given, I would suggest that the motion be taken on the 1st August. I hope the Honourable Mover will have no objection.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : [So far as Government is concerned, there is no objection to doing that.

Mr. President : As there is no other business on to-day's list, the Council stands adjourned.

The Council then adjourned till 9-30 A. M. on Saturday, the 27th July 1929.

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 27th July 1929.

The Council met at Barnes Court, Simla, at 9-30 of the clock. Mr. President in the Chair.

[STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SIDHNAI CANAL, MULTAN DISTRICT.

***2252. Mian Ahmad Yar Khan, Daultana :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the area commanded by and under the irrigation of the Sidhnai Canal in the Multan district;
- (b) the area that was irrigated for *kharif* during the months of April, May and June 1929;
- (c) the number of days on which the canal ran during the above three months?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) 821,986 acres.

(b) 41,245 acres.

(c) 58 days.

WESTERN BAR DIVISION OF THE PAKPATTAN CANAL.

***2253. Mian Ahmad Yar Khan, Daultana :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the area available for irrigation (allotted to people by sale, etc.), on the 15th of April 1929 on the Western Bar Division of the Pakpattan Canal in the Sutlej Valley Project;
- (b) the area that received irrigation in the above division in the months of April, May and June 1929;
- (c) the number of days on which the canal ran in the Western Bar Division during the above three months?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) 75,052 acres.

(b) 28,505 acres.

(c) 162 days.

¹ Excludes days on which supply at the head of the Division was less than 100 cusecs.

PERENNIAL CANAL AREAS, SUTLEJ VALLEY.

***2254. Mian Ahmad Yar Khan, Daultana :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether there is scarcity of water in the perennial canal areas of the Sutlej Valley ;
- (b) What action he proposes to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) There has been a scarcity of water in the perennial canal areas of the Sutlej Valley Project this year owing to the abnormally low river, most probably the consistently lowest on record for 29 years.

(b) In view of the fact that there is no reason to suppose that the supply will be anything less than normal in the future, no action is at present contemplated.

PRISONER BHAI LAHORA SINGH.

***2255. Sardar Hira Singh :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) the nature of offences and the term of imprisonment awarded on each count to Bhai Lahora Singh of Mauza Thather, district Lahore ;
- (b) the term of imprisonment undergone by him so far under each count ;
- (c) the term of imprisonment he has yet to undergo after deducting the normal remissions to which he is entitled under the jail regulations ;
- (d) the date of his release ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that he was brought before the District Magistrate of Lahore and was offered conditional release ;
- (f) whether it is a fact that Government has offered to release conditionally any other Gurdwara prisoner besides the said Sardar ;
- (g) if the answer to (f) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for meting out a differential treatment to Sardar Lahora Singh ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Under section 895, Indian Penal Code, seven years' rigorous imprisonment and under section 452, Indian Penal Code, two years' rigorous imprisonment to run consecutively and under section 297, Indian Penal Code, one year's rigorous imprisonment which was subsequently remitted by His Excellency the Governor in Council.

(b) Under section 895, six years two months and five days, and under section 452, one year six months and fourteen days.

(c) and (d) He was released on June 4, 1929.

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes.

(g) Does not arise.

SARDAR SADHU SINGH, ZAILDAR.

***2256. Sardar Hira Singh :** Will the Honourable the revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the residents of Mauza Sathiyala, district Amritsar, sent representations to His Excellency the Governor and the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar, complaining against the malpractices of Sardar Sadhu Singh, zaildar of Sathiyala ;
- (b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, what action has been taken by the Government against the zaildar ;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the fact that a case against the said zaildar is pending in the court of the Tahsildar of Amritsar ; if so, the nature of this case ;
- (d) the area of land owned by the said zaildar and the chief sources of his income ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) The complaints were, on investigation, found to be baseless and so no action was taken against the zaildar.

(c) No. The honourable member has perhaps in mind the complaint made by a patwari that the zaildar had taken away his *khassra girdawari*, but on enquiry the complaint was found to be false.

(d) The zaildar owns 107 *kanals* valued about Rs. 9,000. Government has no information as to the chief source of his income.

RESETTLEMENT OF AMRITSAR DISTRICT.

***2257. Sardar Hira Singh :** (i) Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether orders have been issued for the resettlement of the Amritsar district ;
- (b) whether Government have considered the desirability of applying the new terms of settlement, *viz.*, 40 years in this district ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the productive power of the lands of this district is on the decline ?

(ii) If the answer to (i) above be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Member kindly state the reasons which have led him to order the resettlement of the Amritsar district ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) No. Under section 9 (2) (iii) of the Land Revenue Amendment Act the new period of settlement does not apply to assessments in force when the Act was introduced.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

HARDSHIP OF THE ZAMINDARS OF MOUZA SABHRA.

***2258. Sardar Hira Singh :** (i) Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the agricultural lands of Mauza Sabhra, district Lahore, extend to a distance of three miles round the village;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the residents of the said village having been declared members of criminal tribes have to return to the village as soon as they hear the bell ringing;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the zamindars have to work in their fields day and night;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the residents of the village cannot stir out of the village without the permission of the Tahsildar of the Criminal Tribes?

(ii) If the answers to (i) above be in the affirmative, what action do the Government propose to take in the matter so as to relieve the zamindars of some of the hardships which they are undergoing?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a) Yes.

(b) No, only 174 men whose movements have been restricted.

(c) Surely the honourable member is not serious in making this very general statement.

(d) No permission is required for them to go to their fields at any time during the day.

(ii) Does not arise.

PRISONER, SARDAR TEJA SINGH OF BHUCHAR.

***2259. Sardar Hira Singh :** (i) Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the remissions earned by Sardar Teja Singh of Buchar, district Amritsar, have been confiscated by the jail officials of the Rawalpindi jail where he is undergoing 8 years' imprisonment;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the remissions earned by Sardar Kharak Singh of Sialkot were likewise confiscated;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Sardar Kharak Singh was ultimately allowed to take advantage of the remissions earned by him?

(ii) If the answer to (i) be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state the reasons for not granting similar concessions to Sardar Teja Singh?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (i) (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(ii) Does not arise.

BOARDING HOUSE OF HIGH SCHOOL, KASUR.

***2260. Sardar Hira Singh :** (i) Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that some Hindu and Sikh students of the Government High School, Kasur, were punished for cooking *jhatka* meat in the boarding house ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Hindu and Sikh students are not allowed to cook *jhatka* meat while the Muslim students are allowed to cook *halal* meat ?

(ii) If the answer to (i) above be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Minister kindly state the action taken by him against the person or persons concerned in imposing this restriction upon the religious liberty of Sikh and Hindu students ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (i) (a) No. No boys have been so punished.

(b) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to part (a) of his question¹ No. 2192 (starred).

(ii) Does not arise.

RELEASE OF SARDAR LAHORA SINGH.

***2261. Sardar Hira Singh :** (i) Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Sardar Lahora Singh of Thather, district Lahore, has been ailing for some time past so much so that his health has been completely ruined ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Sardar Kartar Singh, Jhabbar, of Sheikhpura was unconditionally released on the ground of ill-health ?

(ii) If the answer to (i) be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Member kindly state why conditional release was offered to Sardar Lahora Singh ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS, PUNJAB.

***2262. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) the names of the first class municipalities in the Punjab where the Municipal Engineers are not qualified hands ;

(b) the names of such engineers and the reasons for keeping them in service ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready. It will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

¹ Volume XII, page 1189; and the Appendix *infra*.

DELHI-MONTGOMERY ROAD.

***2263. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) when the portion between Hansi and Hissar of the Delhi-Montgomery road was constructed;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this portion is in a bad condition, and is getting unfit for motor traffic;
- (c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to remove this inconvenience of the people of the Hissar district caused on account of the bad condition of the above road?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The metalling of the Hansi-Hissar section of the Delhi-Montgomery road was completed in 1927.

(b) A number of miles have worn quickly owing to the local kankar having proved to possess low resisting power and the motor lorry and cart traffic having developed directly the road was completed to a degree which was unexpected. Alternatives to the use of local kankar are—

- (1) the use of "bhatta" kankar from the Bawani Khara quarries about 12 miles from Hansi, and if this fails,
- (2) stone from Delhi or Jatusana, but these will be much more expensive than kankar.
- (c) Repairs are in hand and it is proposed shortly to resurface these miles.

ALLOTMENT FOR ROADS IN HISSAR DISTRICT.

***2264. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) what amount has been allotted for roads in the Hissar Sub-Division (roads and buildings) in the current year;
- (b) what is the amount actually required for the needs of the district?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Amounts allotted during the current financial year for roads in the Hissar Provincial Sub-Division, are :—

				Rs.
Original Works	..	..	..	1,80,000
Repairs	..	..	..	1,27,000
or a total of ..				3,07,000

(b) The amount actually required for roads in charge of the Public Works Department in this district, including part of the Rohtak-Bhiwani road which lies in the civil district of Hissar but not in the Hissar Sub-Division, is —

				Rs.
Original Works	..	..	..	2,50,000
Repairs	..	..	..	1,81,000
Total ..				4,31,000

GRANT OF LEAVE, ETC., TO DISTRICT TREASURERS.

***2265. Lala Joti Parshad :** With reference to the answer given to starred question¹ No. 1820, on the 27th February 1929, will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether the Honourable Member is perfectly correct in saying that district treasurers are servants of divisional treasurers ;
- (b) whether it is not a fact that a district treasurer himself is a Government servant and has to give security to Government to the extent of ten thousand rupees cash and landed property worth twenty thousand ;
- (c) what does he mean by divisional treasurers ;
- (d) if my question¹ No. 1820 be taken to be related to divisional treasurers, what would be the Government's reply on the point ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes, so far as the great majority of the districts in the Punjab are concerned ; but in six districts the treasury contract is held not by the division but by the district. In them, therefore, the district treasurer is not the servant of the divisional treasurer.

(b) In no district is the district treasurer a Government servant. The amount of security he gives varies from district to district.

(c) By divisional treasurers is meant treasurers to whom the treasury contract for the whole, or, the greater part of a division is given.

(d) Divisional treasurers get no privilege leave, pension, or travelling allowance when visiting sub-treasuries ; but these matters are taken into consideration in fixing the amount of their remuneration.

WATER-SUPPLY, BHIWANI.

***2266. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Hissar District authorities have under consideration a scheme for constructing water-works in the town of Bhiwani ;
- (b) when are the works to be started ;
- (c) what are the sources for the supply of water ;
- (d) if it is to be the canal water then whether there would be an increased supply in the canal ;
- (e) if the answer to (d) be in the affirmative whether that increased supply would be for water-works only or for irrigation purposes also ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) A water-supply scheme for Bhiwani is under consideration by the Urban Sanitary Board and the Municipal Committee of Bhiwani.

(b) It is likely that the Urban Sanitary Board will make a fifty per cent. grant-in-aid and the scheme will be started as soon as the municipal committee arrange for the rest of the funds.

(c) A minor distributary of the Western Jumna Canal.

[Hon'ble Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.]

(d) The scheme as prepared does not contemplate any remodelling of the canal distributary.

(e) Does not arise.

DISTRICT CANAL COMMITTEE.

***2267. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state the functions of a district canal committee?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The functions are advisory, consultative, suggestive and informatory.

MOTOR LORRIES PLYING FOR HIRE FROM HISSAR, ETC.

***2268. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of lorries and cars which ply for hire from Hissar, Rohtak, Hansi and Fatehabad or Sirsa;

(b) whether there is any motor shed in the town of Hissar;

(c) if the answer to (b) be in the negative what steps Government propose to take to supply one?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) On the 25th June 1929 there were 284 lorries and cars plying for hire in the Rohtak district.

In the Hissar district 89 motor vehicles are licensed to ply for hire. It is regretted that separate figures for motor vehicles plying for hire from Hissar, Hansi, Fatehabad, or Sirsa are not available. The road certificates are valid for all the roads in the Hissar district.

(b) No.

(c) Proposals for the erection of two sheds are under consideration. One is to be built outside the town by the Municipal Committee, and the other in the Kutchery compound by the Public Works Department.

CHALLAN UNDER SECTION 109, CR. P. C.

***2269. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of challans made under section 109, Criminal Procedure Code, and also the number of persons challaned from each of the districts of Hissar, Gurgaon, Karnal and Rohtak during the last five years;

(b) the number of cases so challaned that were dismissed by the courts;

(c) the number of persons who were called upon to furnish securities;

(d) the number of persons who underwent imprisonment on account of failure to furnish securities?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The information asked for by the honourable member is contained in the statement now laid on the table—

District.	Year.	Number of chajans made under section 109, Criminal Procedure Code.	Number of persons chal- langed under section 109, Original Proce- dure Code.	Number of cases so chal- langed that were dismissed by the courts.	Number of persons who were called upon to furnish secu- rities.	Number of persons who underwent im- prisonment on account of failure to fur- nish securities.	REMARKS.
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Hissar	1925 1926 1927 1928	30 18 42 42	30 17 42 42	13 5 12 7	16* 12* 29* 35	3	Figures for 1924 not available as the register containing this information has been destroyed by white ants. *One absconded.
Gurgaon	1924 1925 1926 1927 1928	7 13 24 46 33	10 16 30 47 40	4 3 10 18 21	4 10 18 29 12	3 4 11 13 8	
Karnal	1924 1925 1926 1927 1928	107 115 99 73 210	107 115 99 73 210	52 50 58 20 135	55 65 41 53 75	15 29 17 38 50	
Rohtak	1924 1925 1926 1927 1928	21 61 55 57 63	21 61 55 57 63	4 7 2 5 9	17 34 53 52 54	7 20 27 17 9	

EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS AND TAHSILDARS.

***2270. Lala Joti Parshad :** With reference to the answer to parts (a) and (b) of unstarred question¹ No. 876, put on 25th February 1929, will the Chief Secretary kindly state—

- (a) what steps Government is taking to give Hissar district its due share in the above services ;
- (b) out of these Extra Assistant Commissioners and Tahsildars, how many are non-agriculturists ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Recruitment to these services is not made on a district basis. The claims of candidates whose rolls are forwarded to Government by the Commissioner, Ambala Division, are carefully considered and weighed with the claims of other candidates when selections are made.

(b) Of the Extra Assistant Commissioners and Tahsildars belonging to the districts of Rohtak, Hissar, Karnal and Gurgaon 2 and 1 respectively are non-agriculturists.

ROHTAK-JHAJJAR-REWARI RAILWAY LINE.

***2271. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the municipal committee, Jhajjar, was informed by the Communication Board that Rohtak-Jhajjar-Rewari railway line was in contemplation of the Government ;
- (b) what has been the final decision of the Government in this matter ; if there has been no decision so far, then the cause of delay ;
- (c) whether it is not a fact that the whole *ilaga* feels the necessity of railway communication between Rohtak and Jhajjar and between Jhajjar and Rewari ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The honourable member's attention is invited to the reply given to his starred question² No. 1115. Traffic surveys of possible alignments in this area from (a) Sholaka to Rewari *via* Nuh and (b) Palwal-Rewari have recently been made but not yet considered and what the Communications Board informed the Municipal Committee of Jhajjar was that the consideration of a Railway from Rohtak to Rewari *via* Jhajjar depended upon the results of the traffic surveys of the lines mentioned above.

(b) As these traffic surveys have not yet been considered no decision has yet been taken in the matter.

(c) This is a matter of opinion rather than of fact.

JHAJJAR-REWARI ROAD.

***2272. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state the action taken by the Government on Resolution No. 21, dated the 28th April 1929 in connection with Jhajjar-Rewari road, copies of which were sent by the Jhajjar Committee to the Punjab Government and the Punjab Communication Board for consideration ?

¹ Volume XII, page 368.

² Volume XI, page 446.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The resolution mentioned by the honourable member cannot be traced as having been received either by Government or by the Communications Board.

THEFT OF RECORDS FROM MUNICIPAL OFFICE, REWARI.

***2273. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some files concerning some unlawful encroachments on public street made by Devi Sahai, Ram Gopal, Mahajans, and Chhote Lal, Brahmin, were stolen from municipal office, Rewari ;
- (b) whether during the course of investigation by the police somebody admitted the crime in the presence of members of the committee ; and if so, what steps and legal action have been taken against the offenders ;
- (c) if the answer to (b) be in the negative, what action does Government propose to take in this case of theft of public records ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The files in question were found to be missing and an enquiry is being held to discover whether they were stolen or not.

(b) and (c) The matter is still under investigation and as the investigation may result in a judicial enquiry, Government can make no statement at this stage.

ACTION AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS.

***2274. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the action taken against corrupt officials in the various departments of Government in the Ambala division during the year 1928-29 ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The information asked for by the honourable member can be ascertained from the statement laid on the table, which gives the action taken against corrupt officials in all departments by divisions, except in the case of the Hydro-Electric Branch, Public Works Department, the Forest Department, the Criminal Tribes Department, the Irrigation Branch and the Veterinary Department, the information concerning which is available for the Province as a whole.

[The Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow.]

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS IN THE PUNJAB FOR THE YEAR 1928-29.

Head of Department or office.	Offence.	Numbers and designation of officers punished.	Nature of punishment awarded.
1	2	3	4
Chief Conservator of Forests, Punjab.	Misappropriation of Government money, section 409, Indian Penal Code.	One Range Clerk	Dismissed and sentenced to 3 months' rigorous imprisonment with a fine of Rs. 150.
Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Hydro-Electric Branch.	Entering false measurements in the measurement book.	One Overseer	Dismissed and proscribed from further employment in the Public Works Department.
Deputy Commissioner for Criminal Tribes, Punjab.	Acceptance of illegal gratifications	One Traffic Foreman	Dismissed and proscribed from further employment in the Public Works Department for a period for five years.
Inspector-General of Prisons, Punjab— (Campbellpur Jail)	Immoral tendencies	Two teachers, Reformatory Settlement, Amritsar.	Services dispensed with.
	Ditto	One Superintendent, Chak No. 19—9 R. East.	Ditto.
	Granting unauthorized interviews	One Warder	All kinds of leave stopped for one year.
	Allowing relatives of a prisoner to see him in barrack.	One Warder	Severely reprimanded.
	Going after a released prisoner	Ditto	Ditto.
	Introducing prohibited articles into Jail	Ditto	Fined Rs. 2.

(Ladiviana Jail)	Ditto	ditto	Ditto	Dismissed.
(Shethnagar Jail)	Passing in the clothes of an undertrial prisoner and receiving Rs. 1 from him.		Ditto	Fined Rs. 1.
(Lahore Central Jail)	Introducing prohibited articles into Jail.		Three Warders	Dismissed.
	Ditto	ditto	One Warden	Sentenced to 4 months' rigorous imprisonment.
	Ditto	ditto	Ditto	Sentenced to 3 months' rigorous imprisonment.
	Allowing an unauthorised interview		Ditto	Suspended for 15 days.
(Lahore Borstal Institution)	Ditto	ditto	Ditto	Seven days extra drill.
	Ditto	ditto	Ditto	Suspended for 15 days.
	Ditto	ditto	Ditto	Reprimanded.
(Rohitak Jail)	Ditto	ditto	Ditto	Fined annas eight.
	Illegal gratification and possessing prohibited articles in Jail.		Ditto	Fined Rs. 3.
(Gurdaspur Jail)	Introducing prohibited article into Jail.		Ditto	Dismissed.
	Ditto	ditto	Ditto	Dismissed and sentenced to 1 day's simple imprisonment.
(Ferozepore Jail)	Receiving money on behalf of prisoners from their relatives.		Ditto	Suspended for 2 months.
	Extorting wheat from a prisoner confined in cells.		Ditto	Suspended for one month.
	Introducing prohibited articles into Jail		Ditto	Ditto.
	Ditto	ditto	Ditto	Sentenced to imprisonment for the period of days he was an under-trial prisoner.

[Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow.]

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS IN THE PUNJAB FOR THE YEAR 1928-29—continued.

Head of Department or office.	Offence.	Numbers and designations of officers punished.	Nature of punishment awarded.
1	2	3	4
(Montgomery Central Jail) ..	Found in possession of unauthorised letter	One Warder	Sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment.
Ditto ..	Allowing prisoners to hold an unauthorised interview.	Ditto	Seven days' pack drill.
Ditto ..	Found in possession of prohibited articles inside Jail.	Ditto	Barack confinement for 15 days.
(Jhang Jail) ..	Attempting to interview prisoners and to take prohibited articles into Jail.	Ditto	Fined Rs. 5.
(Ferozepore Jail) ..	Misappropriating Government money and property.	One Acting Assistant Jailor	Dismissed. Sent up for judicial trial.
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, PUNJAB.			
(Office of the Superintendent, Lawrence Gardens.)	Sections 408-106, Indian Penal Code, on 3 counts.	One Overseer and one Head Clerk.	Both sentenced to 6 months' rigorous imprisonment on each count and a total fine of Rs. 450.
(Deputy Director of Agriculture, Montgomery).	Ditto ditto	An employee.	Approved.
	Tampering with records and commission of forgery.	One Mubaddam	Dismissed.
	Embezzlement	Ditto	Died before an enquiry could be held.

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE, PUNJAB. Assistant Inspector-General, Government Railway Police, Punjab).	Made an illegal and unjustifiable arrest with dishonest intent.	One Head Constable	Dismissed.
	Purchased a ticket for a passenger from whom he accepted an illegal gratifica- tion.	One Constable	Dismissed.
	Acceptance of illegal gratification	Ditto	Ditto.
	Accepting an illegal gratification of Rs. 6 from the servant of Seth Manakjee who brought a warrant to the Kotwali for service.	Ditto	Ditto.
(Superintendent of Police, Jhang) (Superintendent of Police, Multan)	Taking a bribe of Rs. 100 from the ac- cused in a case of F. I. R. No. 66 of 1927, Police Station Kahirwala.	Ditto	Ditto.
	Accepting an illegal gratification of Rs. 3 from one Fules Ram, while posted as Assistant Moharrir at Police Station Lodhnan.	Ditto	One year's approved service permanently forfeited for increment.
	Strongly suspected of taking a bribe of Rs. 7 from one Karim Baksh in con- nection with the service of a bailable warrant.	One constable	Awarded a Black Mark.
	Strongly suspected of having taken Rs. 2 as an illegal gratification while posted as Assistant Clerk, Police Station Karor.	Ditto	Dealt with under Rule 17-31 of the Police Rules.
(Superintendent of Police, Jhe- lum).	Bribery	Two head constables	Awarded a Black Mark each.
	Ditto	Four constables	Dismissed.
	Ditto	One constable	Reduced.
	Ditto	Ditto	Awarded a Black Mark.

[Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow.]

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS IN THE PUNJAB FOR THE YEAR 1928-29—CONTINUED.

Head of Department or office.	Offence.	Numbers and designation of officers punished.	Nature of punishment awarded.
1	2	3	4
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE, PUNJAB.			
(Superintendent of Police, Rawalpindi).	Corruption	One head constable	Reduced to foot constable.
	Ditto	Two constables	Ten days' Quarter Guard each.
	Ditto	One constable	Discharged.
(Superintendent of Police, Attock)	Bribery	Two constables	Dismissed.
(Superintendent of Police, Mianwali).	Accepting Rs. 2 for service of a false summons.	One constable	One year's rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 10 on three charges under section 183, Indian Penal Code, sentences to run concurrently.
	Local Police Officers corruption committee had reasons to find that their honesty was doubtful.	Three head constables	Notices served as required by Police Rule 17.31 and entries to this effect made in their Character Rolls.
(Senior Superintendent of Police, Lahore).	For receiving an illegal gratification.	One head constable	Reduced to foot constable on Rs. 20.
	Ditto	Two constables	Dismissed.
	For extorting illegal gratification	One constable	Reduced from Rs. 18 to Rs. 17 for one year.

(Superintendent of Police, Amritsar).	Passing off as an S. P. C. A. Officer and receiving an illegal gratification.	Ditto	Dismissed.
	For making a false report on a passport application and receiving illegal gratification.	One head constable	Ditto.
	For extorting Rs. 4 from one Bishen Singh under threat of running him for answering the call of nature in the boundary of Tarn Taran Mandi.	One constable	Ditto.
	For extorting Rs. 2 from 2 visitors to the Tarn Taran Fair under threat of criminal prosecution.	One constable	Dismissed.
	For accepting an illegal gratification ..	Ditto	Reduced from Rs. 19 to Rs. 17 for 25 months.
(Superintendent of Police, Gajranwala).	Section 161/384, Indian Penal Code ..	Ditto	Black Mark (on being sent up for trial the magistrate giving the benefit of doubt discharged him, hence dealt with departmentally).
	For beating certain men of Chak No. 74, extorting money from them and entering false report in the daily diary.	One sub-inspector	Dismissed.
	For illegally summoning certain men of Chak No. 64 in a non-cognizable case and wrongfully torturing them with intent to extort money.	One constable	Reduced from Rs. 19 to Rs. 17 grade.
	For assisting and abetting a Sub-Inspector in his illegal acts of torture and extortion and with the above object making a false entry in the daily diary.	Ditto	All approved service forfeited and awarded 15 days' Quarter Guard.
	For extorting money and other articles from the relatives of deceased whose dead body he was securing for post mortem examination.	Ditto	Dismissed.

[Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow.]

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS IN THE PUNJAB FOR THE YEAR 1928-29—*contd.*

Head of Department or office.	Offence.	Numbers and designation of officers punished.	Nature of punishment awarded.
1	2	3	4
INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE, PUNJAB— <i>contd.</i>			
(Superintendent of Police, Sheikhpura).	For attempting to force the payment of an illegal gratification. For unnecessarily interfering in a non-cognizable offence actuated by some illegal gratification and making a false entry in the daily diary.	One constable Ditto	Dismissed. Do.
(Superintendent of Police, Hissar)	For extorting Rs. 30 in a theft case.	One head constable	Do.
(Superintendent of Police, Gurgaon).	Extortion of money	Two head constables and one constable.	Do.
(Superintendent of Police, Rohatak).	Extortion of Rs. 5 from an accused in case F. I. R. No. 45 of 1928 under section 379, Indian Penal Code, Police Station Rohatak.	Two foot constables	Do.
(Superintendent of Police, Karnal).	For accepting money as bribe from one Alta Muhammad after intimidation.	One head constable	Dismissed with effect from 24th April 1928 but reinstated on appeal with effect from 8th July 1928.
	For failing to register a case under the Arms Act presumably for corrupt motives.	One head constable	Dismissed.
(Superintendent of Police, Ambala).	For taking illegal gratification of Rs. 2 from the father of a person whose character was to be verified.	Two constables	Do.

(Superintendent of Police, Jullundur).	For extorting a blanket from Bhagta who was suspected and was present during the investigation of F. I. R. No. 69 under section 457 on 24th January 1928. The blanket was recovered.	One constable	Ditto.
(Superintendent of Police, Ludhiana).	For extortion of money and fabricating a false case.	One head constable	Ditto.
(Superintendent of Police, Ferozepore).	For receiving Rs. 9-8-0 as illegal gratification.	One constable	Awarded a Black Mark and confined to Quarter Guard for a period of 15 days.
	Extorting a bribe of Rs. 200	Ditto	Dismissed.
	For being reported to have gained money from gamblers.	One constable	Discharged.
	For accepting Rs. 3 for producing a petitioner before Deputy Superintendent of Police.	Ditto	Awarded a Black Mark.
	For accepting Rs. 3 as illegal gratification while posted as Muharrir Head Constable at Police Station Baga Purana.	One head constable	Dismissed.
	For being strongly suspected of having accepted illegal gratifications in addition to having committed certain departmental irregularities.	One head constable and one constable.	Awarded a Black Mark each.
REGISTRAR, HIGH COURT.			
(District and Sessions Judge, Hissar).	Corruption	One copy clerk	Suspended for 3 months.
	Do.	Two Naib Nazirs	Fined Rs. 5 and Rs. 15, respectively.
	Do.	One Process Server	Suspended for two years.
(District and Sessions Judge, Ludhiana).	General reputation bad	One Recorder and one Ahlmad	Transferred from their present posts to other posts.
(District and Sessions Judge, Lahore).	Corruption	One execution Batiff	Made to retire.
(District and Sessions Judge, Sialkot).	Illegal gratification	One Naib Sheriff	Remained under suspension from 26th November 1928 to 25th February 1929. He was severely reprimanded and warned to be careful in future.

[Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow.]

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN AGAINST CORRUPT OFFICIALS IN THE PUNJAB FOR THE YEAR 1928-29—contd.

Head of Department or office.	Offence.	Numbers and designation of officers punished.	Nature of punishment awarded.
1	2	3	4
FINANCIAL COMMISSIONERS, PUNJAB.			
(Ambala Division)	Corruption	One Naib-Tahsildar	Debarred for appointment as Tahsildar.
	Do.	Ditto	Reverted to the post of Kanungo of the lowest grade.
	Section 406/408, Indian Penal Code	One Tahsil Moharrir	Dismissed. Criminal proceedings have been started against him.
(Jullundur Division)	Section 162/109, Indian Penal Code	One Tahsil Peon	Dismissed and sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment.
(Lahore Division)	Corruption	One Tahsildar	Dismissed.
	Delaying records for extracting illegal gratification.	One Vernacular Record Room Clerk.	Increment of pay stopped for one year.
	Taking an illegal gratification of Rs. 2...	One Head Registration Moharrir.	Remained under suspension from 4th February 1929 to 3rd April 1929. No pay allowed during this period which will not count as duty.
	Taking an illegal gratification of Rs. 2 ..	One Officiating Assistant Registration Moharrir.	Remained under suspension from 4th January 1929 to 3rd April 1929 during which he was paid no pay.
(Rawalpindi Division)	Corruption	Two Patwaris	Degraded.
	Suspected of corruption	One office Kanungo	Reduced to Field Kanungo.
	Complaint of corruption	One Patwari	Transferred from Pura Circle to a remote circle.

	Corruption	..	One Judicial Copyist	Dismissed.
	Made false reports on 3 warrants of arrest issued for recovery of arrears of Haliyat Tax by accepting something from the persons to be arrested.	..	One Tahsil Peon	Do.
(Multan Division)	Corruption	..	Three Patwaris	Do.
	Do.	..	One Patwari	Remained under suspension for 6 months during which he was not given any pay
	Do.	..	One Colony Patwari	Degraded from 2nd to 3rd grade.
	Falsifying Khaaras	..	Twenty Patwaris.	Dismissed.
Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch.	Section 420, Indian Penal Code	..	One Assistant Clerk	Imprisoned and fined. Dismissed and proscribed from further service under Government.
	Deliberate fraud	..	One Zilladar	Dismissed and proscribed from further service in the Public Works Department.
	Concealment of Irrigation	..	One Patwari	Ditto
	Section 409, Indian Penal Code	..	One Accounts Clerk	Imprisoned and fined. Dismissed and proscribed from further service under Government.
	Bribery	..	One Eir Chaprasi	Dismissed.
	Do.	..	Ditto	*Reduced to ploughman.
	Do.	..	Ditto	*Pay reduced.
	Alleged bribery	..	Ditto	Pay reduced for one month.
Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab.	Acts of misconduct while he had been working as a Tahsildar.	..	One Extra Assistant Commissioner.	Dismissed.

*Light punishment was given in these cases, as these chaprasis were old servants of the farm and had done good work before.

[Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow.]

The following Heads of Departments have no cases to report :—

1. The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor, Punjab.
2. The Curator, Central Museum, Lahore.
3. The Joint Secretary to Government, Punjab, Transferred Departments.
4. The Inspector-General of Registration, Punjab.
5. The Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab.
6. The Director of Industries, Punjab.
7. The Director, Information Bureau, Punjab.
8. The Warden of Fisheries, Punjab.
9. The Director of Public Instruction, Punjab.
10. The Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Punjab.
11. The Director of Public Health Punjab.
12. The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch.
13. The Reclamation Officer, Punjab.
14. The Legal Remembrancer to Government, Punjab.
15. The Secretary, Punjab Legislative Council.
16. The Superintendent, Government Printing, Punjab.

CLASSICAL TEACHERS IN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

*2275. **Lala Joti Parshad** : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the minimum number of students in Government secondary schools for maintaining posts of classical teachers ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that in some Government secondary schools the number of students taking a classical language is very small and still the teacher is employed by Government ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No number has been fixed.

(b) Does not arise.

MORTALITY FROM SMALL-POX.

*2276. **Lala Joti Parshad** : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state —

- (a) the total mortality in each tahsil of the Hissar district from smallpox during the period from 1st October 1928 to the end of April 1929 giving the figures for each tahsil separately for each month ;
- (b) what steps the Government contemplate to take to prevent the recurrence of this epidemic in the district ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) It is understood that steps are being taken by the district board to increase the vaccination staff in the district.

STATEMENT SHOWING MORTALITY FROM SMALLPOX IN DIFFERENT TAHSILS OF THE HISSAR DISTRICT DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1st OCTOBER 1928 TO 30TH APRIL 1929.

	Hissar.	Hansi.	Bhiwani.	Sirsa.	Fatehabad.
October 1928 ..	17	2	..	5	19
November 1928 ..	35	4	..	..	..
December 1928 ..	163	4	3	7	19
January 1929 ..	44	7	12	8	4
February 1929 ..	53	26	44	11	13
March 1929 ..	36	23	34	11	..
April 1929 ..	23	20	38	35	20

MAINTENANCE OF VEGETABLE GARDENS BY THE P. W. D.

***2277. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) the total cost incurred in maintaining the vegetable gardens by the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, Punjab (which are intended for officers only) during the year 1928-29 ;

(b) what has been the income from the sale of vegetables of these gardens during this period ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No vegetable garden intended for officers only are maintained.

(b) Does not arise.

CASES OF THEFTS, DACOITIES AND MURDERS.

***2278. Lala Joti Parshad :** (a) Will the Honourable the Finance Member please lay on the table a comparative statement showing the number of cases of thefts, dacoities and murders reported, challaned, untraced and convicted in the districts of Hissar, Gurgaon, Karnal and Rohtak, respectively, for the last three years ?

(b) If so, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) The information required by the honourable member cannot be collected without the expenditure of an unjustifiable amount of time and labour.

(b) Is not understood.

HAISIYAT TAX, HISSAR DISTRICT BOARD.

*2279. **Lala Joti Parshad:** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether there is any proposal before the Hissar District Board to levy haisiyat or professional tax; If so, what are its grades;
- (b) in what other districts of the Punjab this haisiyat tax or professional tax is imposed; What are the grades in each of these districts;
- (c) whether the grades are not higher in Hissar district;
- (d) if the answer to (c) be in the affirmative, what action Government propose to take to bring the grades in Hissar in conformity with those in force in other districts?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.—(a) No proposals have so far reached Government. It is understood that the District Board of Hissar is contemplating the introduction of a haisiyat tax of the nature specified in Punjab Government letter No. 25292 (L.S.G.—Bds.), dated the 1st September 1928, a copy of which is laid on the table.

(b) Haisiyat tax has been imposed in the districts of—

- (1) Attock,
- (2) Shahpur,
- (3) Sialkot, and
- (4) Montgomery in accordance with the specification contained in the Punjab Government letter quoted above. Professional tax has been imposed in the districts of—
 - (1) Rohtak,
 - (2) Ferozepore,
 - (3) Multan,
 - (4) Lahore,
 - (5) Mianwali,
 - (6) Hoshiarpur,
 - (7) Jullundur, and
 - (8) Kangra.

The grades of tax payable range from one rupee to ten rupees per annum.

(c) As explained in (a) above, the proposals of the district board have not yet reached Government, but no proposals will receive sanction if the rates proposed exceed those given in the specification already referred to.

(d) Does not arise.

No: 25292 (L. S.G.—Bds.), dated the 1st September 1928.

From—J. G. BRAZLEY, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Secretary to Government, Punjab, Transferred Departments,

To—All Deputy Commissioners in the Punjab.

SUBJECT:—*Imposition of haisiyat taxes by district boards.*

I AM directed by the Punjab Government (Ministry of Local Self-Government) to inform you that the Government of India have intimated their readiness to sanction the imposition of haisiyat taxes by district boards

at the rates shown in the schedule to the enclosed specification. I am, therefore, to request you to suggest to the district board of your district the desirability of submitting, after complying with the procedure laid down in section 81 of the Punjab District Boards Act, 1888, proposals for the imposition of a tax in accordance with the specification. It will be open to the district board to propose to exclude other sources of income besides those referred to in paragraph 2 of the specification, but in other respects its proposals should be in strict conformity with the specification.

SPECIFICATION OF TAX.

1. *Class of persons to be taxed.*—All persons resident in the area subject to the authority of the district board exclusive of notified areas as defined in sub-section (2) of section 241 of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911.

2. *Rates of tax and system of assessment.*—The tax shall be levied at the rates shown in the attached schedule, and shall be assessed in accordance with rules made by the Local Government with reference to the incomes of the persons from whom it is leviable :

Provided that—

(1) for the purpose of calculating such incomes no account shall be taken of income derived from land subject to local rate, or from livestock or agricultural produce owned by persons mainly dependant on agriculture for their livelihood, or from pensions received on account of service in His Majesty's Naval, Military or Air Forces ;

(2) no tax shall be leviable in any year from the first day of April to the thirty-first day of March next following from any person who is resident in the area subject to the authority of the district board for less than one hundred and eighty days in such year :—

SCHEDULE.

Amount of annual income.						Amount of tax.
						Rs.
Exceeding Rs.	400, but not exceeding Rs.	500	..	..	..	4
"	500	750	..	..	..	6
"	750	1,000	..	..	..	8
"	1,000	1,200	..	..	..	10
"	1,200	1,500	..	..	..	13
"	1,500	2,000	..	..	..	17
"	2,000	3,000	..	..	..	20
"	3,000	5,000	..	..	..	35
"	5,000	7,500	..	..	..	55
"	7,500	10,000	..	..	..	80
"	10,000	15,000	..	..	..	110
"	15,000	20,000	..	..	..	160
"	20,000	30,000	..	..	..	220
"	30,000	40,000	..	..	..	330
"	40,000	50,000	..	..	..	440
"	50,000	..	..	..	..	500

FAILURE OF WESTERN JUMNA CANAL AND REMISSION OF WATER RATE.

***2280. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Western Jumna Canal failed to give required supply of water in the last *rabi* in the Hissar district, especially during the period when the district was in the grip of severe famine;
- (b) if so, what steps Government have taken for the remission of water rate?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The Western Jumna Canal did not run full supply at the critical period of the *rabi* crop because the river supply was insufficient: the available water was distributed equitably over the whole canal system.

- (b) Remissions were given under Rule 20-I of the Canal Act.

[VACANCIES OF EXCISE SUB-INSPECTORS, AMBALA DIVISION.]

***2281. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) the number of vacancies of Excise Sub-Inspectors which occurred in the Ambala division during the present year;
- (b) what steps are taken to notify the fact of the existence of vacancies for the information of the public at large?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) One.

- (b) None. The Commissioners have long waiting lists of candidates from whom they make a selection.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOLS AND MATRICULATION PASS PERCENTAGE.

1169. Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) names of the Government High Schools where the average pass percentage in Matriculation for the last three years is 80 or above;
- (b) the names of their headmasters who have been in charge throughout the period?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Information is being collected and will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

OFFICE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS.

1170. Pir Akbar Ali : (a) Will the Honourable Finance Member please lay on the table a statement showing (i) designations, (ii) salaries, and (iii) community of the members of office establishment of the Inspector-General of Prisons;

- (b) whether it is a fact that a majority of the posts are occupied by non-Muslims;

- (a) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, what steps the Government has so far taken to increase the number of Muhammadans in the office?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow: (a) A statement is laid on the table.

(b) Yes.

(c) As the honourable member is aware the Jail Department is in process of re-organisation. Arrangements in the office of the Inspector-General of Prisons are also being scrutinized.

Designation.	Salary.	Community.
Superintendent	Rs. 450	Christian.
Head Assistant	150	Do.
Head Accountant	320	Hindu.
Head Manufactory Accountant	124	Muhammadian.
Stenographer	205	Hindu.
Head Travelling Book Inspector	170	Do.
Assistant Travelling Book Inspector	100	Do.
Ditto	90	Do.
Assistant (Record Keeper)	118	Do.
Assistant (Budget Clerk)	100	Do.
Clerk (Rs. 75—5—150)	100	Do.
Ditto	100	Do.
Ditto	100	Muhammadian.
Ditto	85	Hindu.
Clerk (Rs. 40—3—100)	61	Sikh.
Ditto	70	Hindu.
Ditto	61	Do.
Ditto	58	Muhammadian.
Ditto	46	Hindu.
Ditto	43	Do.
Ditto	43	Do.
Ditto	40	Do.
Ditto	40	Do.
Ditto	40	Do.
Ditto	40	Do.
Ditto	Vacant (Test examination being held to fill it).	

EMPLOYMENT OF EX-MILITARY MEN AS ORDERLIES AND CHAPRASIS.

1171. Pir Akbar Ali : (a) Will the Chief Secretary please state whether any instructions have been issued to the heads of departments to give the ex-military men preference in the matter of employment of orderlies and chaprasis ?

(b) If the answer to the above be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Member please state the percentage of the number of orderlies and chaprasis employed in the Secretariat who are ex-military men ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) No. the only instructions issued for preferential treatment related to men with service in the Great War.

(b) 18.7 per cent.

POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION IN JAILS.

1172. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : With reference to question¹ No. 2097, starred, put on 21st March 1929, will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has satisfied himself that no orders have been issued by Government that *post-mortem* examination should be made by a medical officer other than one who is connected with jail staff ;

(b) if no such orders have been issued whether there are any proposals under the consideration of Government to issue such orders ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

REPRESENTATION OF MUHAMMADANS IN THE KHUNNA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

1173. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there is not a single elected Muhammadan member on the Khunna Municipal Committee ;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to secure an adequate representation of the Muhammadans on that committee ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) The Muslim majority is distributed throughout the town so that although a Muslim candidate has a chance of success in three out of the six wards, there is not an actual Muslim majority in any ward. Communal representation has not been introduced into the constitution of any town committee under the Small Towns Act.

One of the two nominated members is a Mussalman.

Government are taking up the question of the revision of wards to try and redress the grievance pointed out.

DISTRICT BOARDS.

1174. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement in the following form of district boards in which taxes other than local rates form a source of the Boards' income :—

Name of the district board.	Income from local rate for the last year.	Income from Haisiyat tax.	Income from any other taxes not connected with income from agricultural property.	Remarks. Description of taxes shown in column 4
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The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The required information will be found in the statement in Form II appended to the annual report on the working of district boards of which a copy is supplied annually to the Council Library.

LAND REVENUE AND WATER RATE ON THE SIDHNAI CANAL.

1175. Mian Ahmad Yar Khan, Daultana : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the land revenue and water rates on the Sidhnaï Canal in Multan district are combined and that the local rate is charged on the land revenue as well as on the water rates ;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to modify this procedure ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) The fact that local rate would be leviable on the whole of the consolidated rate (including the price of water) was taken into account by Government in determining the amount of that consolidated rate, which is legally land revenue. The Haveli project may necessitate a revision of the whole system of assessments in the areas irrigated by the Sidhnaï canal. Pending such revision no modification is contemplated in the present system of assessing the local rate.

BHAKRA DAM PROJECT.

1176. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

(a) whether any conference between the Chief Engineers of the Punjab and Bombay took place regarding the withdrawal of additional waters from the Indus and its tributaries for irrigation in the Punjab ;

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether Government intends to place a copy of the report made by or a summary of the conclusions arrived at, by this conference on the table of the House ;

(c) whether the subject of the Bhakra Dam Project was also discussed at the conference referred to in (a) and if so, what were the conclusions arrived at and what are the steps taken in pursuance of those conclusions ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) and (b) The report has been laid on the table¹.

[(c) Attention is invited to the Press *Communiqué* recently published, e.g., in the *Pioneer* of 10th July 1929.

LAND REVENUE REMISSION AND TAQAVI.

1177. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) the amount of revenue proposed or sanctioned to be suspended and remitted respectively in the Rohtak district during the current year ;
- (b) the amount proposed to be distributed as taqavi in the Rohtak district ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :

		Rs.
(a) Revenue to be suspended	.. ..	2,59,518
Revenue to be remitted	.. ..	42,161
§ (b) Taqavi to be distributed	.. ..	5,01,070

RAILWAY BETWEEN ROHTAK AND BHIWANI.

1178. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether the proposal to construct a railway connecting Rohtak and Bhiwani still stands ;
- (b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, when it is expected to take the work in hand ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the answer given to Council Question ²2886 Starred.

RAILWAY LINE BETWEEN ROHTAK AND REWARI.

1179. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Local Government proposed to take over the Rohtak-Rewari road as an arterial road ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the proposal was dropped because it was contemplated to connect Rohtak and Rewari by a railway line ;

¹Not printed.

²Vide page 193 *infra*.

(c) if the answer to (a) and (b) is in the affirmative, whether the proposal to construct a Railway line between Rohtak and Rewari has been approved by the railway board and if so, when it is expected to start construction?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a), (b) and (c) Honourable member's attention is invited to the replies given to council question 12271 and 2343 (starred).

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF VARIOUS CLASSES IN PUBLIC SERVICES.

1180. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Chief Secretary kindly state—

- (a) whether the annual consolidated statement showing the representation of various classes in the public services of the province is due for publication in January every year;
- (b) whether the statement due in January 1929 is yet ready; if not when it is expected to be ready;
- (c) what are the reasons for the delay in publishing the annual statement due in January 1929?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) No. The census is held in January each year and Heads of Departments are required to report the result to Government by the end of March. The consolidated statement is published as soon as possible after all reports have been received.

- (b) The statement for 1929 is now ready.
- (c) Reports were received very late from certain Heads of Departments who have been requested to see that such delay does not occur again.

NON-OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION ON THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD.

1181. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the number of non-official members serving on the Communications Board;
- (b) whether there are any divisions which are not represented on the Board by a non-official member and if so, whether the Government intends to remove this defect when an opportunity arises for this being done;
- (c) who represents the Ambala division on the Communications Board?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Seven.

(b) Ambala and Jullundur do not happen to be represented on the Board. In the past Ambala has been represented for 8 years and Jullundur by 2 members for 6 years. When nominations to the Board are again made the claims of Ambala and Jullundur to be represented will be considered.

- (c) See answer to (b) above.

¹Page 42 ante.

²Vide pages 257-258 infra.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE EDUCATION SERVICE.

1182. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the number of teachers in the provincial and various subordinate grades of the education service (Anglo vernacular Section) serving in Government and local bodies' high schools in the Rohtak district;
- (b) the number of Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims and of statutory agriculturists under each of these three groups among the teachers referred to in (a);
- (c) the number of teachers referred to in (a) who come from outside the Ambala Division?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The required information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the consolidated statement showing the proportionate representation of the various communities serving in the different departments of the Punjab Government, a copy of which has already been placed on the table.

(c) As at (a).

TEACHERS IN VERNACULAR MIDDLE SCHOOLS.

1183. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) the number of teachers teaching English in vernacular Middle Schools with optional English in the Rohtak District;
- (b) the number of those among them who come from outside the Ambala division indicating also, how many, if any, among them are statutory agriculturists?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when it is ready.

STATUTORY HINDU AGRICULTURISTS IN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

1184. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state the number of statutory Hindu agriculturists who were appointed to any posts in his department carrying a salary of Rs. 80, or upwards, between 1st January 1927 and 31st December 1928 in the Ambala Division.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : One.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE STAFF OF GOVERNMENT INTERMEDIATE COLLEGES.

1185. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state in respect of Government Intermediate Colleges—

- (a) the number of posts carrying a monthly salary of Rs. 110, or upwards ;
- (b) the number of the posts referred to in (a) held by Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs and the number of statutory agriculturists in each of the three groups ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) 179.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the consolidated statement showing the proportionate representation of the various communities serving in the different departments of the Punjab Government. A copy of which has already been placed on the table.

MUSLIM REPRESENTATION IN HIGH COURT.

1186. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government have been in correspondence with the High Court on the subject of adequate representation of Muslims in the services under the administrative control of the High Court ;
- (b) If so, with what result ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

REMARKS ON REPORTS OF NON-OFFICIAL VISITORS TO JAILS.

1187. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that Superintendents of Jails do not send to the non-official visitors the copies of Inspector-General of Prisons remarks on the reports made by the non-official visitors of the jails ;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has now issued instruction to the Superintendents to comply with the orders of the Government without fail ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I regret that the answer to this question is not yet ready. It will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

SUPPLY OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF JAIL ADMINISTRATION
TO NON-OFFICIAL VISITORS.

1188. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government and Inspector-General of Prisons from time to time issue instructions for the improvement of the jail administration ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that non-official visitors are not supplied with copies of these orders and instructions ;
- (c) if the reply to the above be in the affirmative whether Government intend to supply these to the non-official visitors in future ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No. It is proposed to supply copies of such orders to members of the Standing Committee on Jails.

CONCESSION TO ZAMINDARS TO SINK NEW WELLS.

1189. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : With reference to question¹ No. 2144, starred, put on 26th March 1929 by Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state what concession has been granted to the zamindars for sinking new wells for irrigation purposes ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : In the case of fixed assessment, when a new well is sunk on cultivated land no addition is made to the existing land revenue, during the period of exemption, which varies from 20 to 40 years. The period for each well is so fixed as to ensure that the owner of the well will recoup double the cost of the well before any addition is made to the land revenue demand. Where the well is sunk in uncultivated land, the area brought under cultivation is exempted from all assessment during the remaining period of the current settlement and from *chahi* assessment during the period of exemption.

In the case of fluctuating assessment the area irrigated by the new well is assessed at *barani* rates only during the period of exemption, which is fixed on the same principles as in areas under fixed assessment.

GRANTS TO DISTRICT BOARDS.

1190. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : With reference to the question² No. 2145, starred, put by Mr. E. Maya Das on 26th March 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state what was the grant made to each district board during the last financial year ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : A statement giving the required information is placed on the table.

¹Vol. XII, pages 1143-44.

²Vol. XII, page 1145.

STATEMENT SHOWING AMOUNT OF GRANTS PAID BY THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD, PUNJAB, IN 1928-29 TO DISTRICT BOARDS IN THE PUNJAB.

No.	District.	Maintenance of Class II roads and special repairs.		Development.	Total.
		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
1	Hissar	3,695		42,400	46,095
2	Rohtak	43,543		9,317	52,860
3	Gurgaon	17,821		11,026	28,847
4	Karnal	16,975		15,972	32,947
5	Ambala	1,06,337		382	1,06,699
6	Simla .. ..	..		..	..
7	Kangra	10,440		..	10,440
8	Hoshiarpur	36,198		9,000	45,198
9	Jullundur	60,050		4,897	64,947
10	Ludhiana	57,053		2,666	59,719
11	Ferozepore	65,136		16,090	81,226
12	Lahore	8,340		40,340	48,680
13	Amritsar	32,433		..	32,433
14	Gurdaspur	15,117		..	15,117
15	Sialkot	8,536		6,000	14,536
16	Gujranwala	2,792		1,792	4,584
17	Sheikhpura	7,349		..	7,349
18	Gujrat	14,368		58,548	72,916
19	Shahpur	5,656		4,993	10,649
20	Jhelum	7,333		1,278	8,611
21	Rawalpindi	21,579		..	21,579
22	Attock	6,216		21,476	27,692
23	Mianwali	1,306		..	1,306
24	Montgomery	13,109		53,206	66,315
25	Lyallpur	1,600		4,598	6,198
26	Jhang	25,235		39,393	64,628
27	Multan	3,987		1,28,465	1,32,452
28	Muzaffargarh	5,204		30,920	36,124
29	Dera Ghazi Khan	2,538		53,963	56,501
	Total	5,99,954		5,59,000	11,58,954

WATER RATE ON KOR.

1191. Pir Akbar Ali : Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to the existing rules full water rates are levied on the *Kor* crops (which have received only one water before sowing and no water afterwards) ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that before 1918, the *abiana* levied on *Kor* crops was the same as that for one watering ;
- (c) If the answer to the above be in the affirmative, what steps Government intends to take to remove this hardship of the zamindars ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, but only applicable to certain channels selected by the Local Government.

(c) None.

OFFENCES OF CANAL CUTS.

1192. Pir Akbar Ali : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the offences of canal cuts have increased ever since magisterial powers have been taken away from the canal officers ;
- (b) if so, what steps Government intend to take to reduce their number ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Very possibly.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to the last paragraph (c) of the question¹ No. 1082 at the last session.

VERNACULAR FINAL EXAMINATION.

1193. Pandit Mehr Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the vernacular final examination of 1929 was held twice, once in February and the second time in March ;
- (b) whether it was due to leakage of papers ? In whose custody were the papers kept and how did the leakage occur ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. An enquiry has been held, but Government is of opinion that the report of that enquiry should be kept confidential.

SCHOOL FINAL EXAMINATION.

1194. Pandir Mehr Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the candidates taking up English in the School Final could not join the ninth class in April ;

- (b) whether some measures have been adopted to undo the harm thus done to the large number of candidates who could not join the higher classes in time, as the result of the School Final examination was declared late in June ;
- (c) what steps Government intend to take to avoid such injurious delays in future ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

COMPULSORY PRIMARY EDUCATION IN AMBALA CANTONMENT.

1195. Pandit Mehr Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Cantonment Board of Ambala resolved to introduce compulsory primary education within the limits of this Cantonment and has sent up to the Local Government the proposal formulated by it ;
- (b) if so, the date on which the said proposal was received by the Local Government ;
- (c) the approximate period of time within which it is expected that the necessary sanction will be given by the Local Government for the introduction of compulsory primary education in Ambala Cantonment ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes ;

(b) 15th December 1928 ;

(c) Sanctioned.

COMPULSORY PRIMARY EDUCATION IN LOCAL BODIES.

1196. Pandit Mehr Chand : (a) Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to place on the table a statement indicating the names of the local bodies (both rural and urban) the proposals of which for the introduction of compulsory primary education have been pending before the Local Government for more than three months ?

(b) Does the Government propose taking any steps to expedite the disposal of such cases ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : None.

HARGO LAL GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.

1197. Pandit Mehr Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Hargo Lal Girls' High School, otherwise known as the Hargo Lal Kanya Mahavidyala, Ambala Cantonment, applied to the Inspector of Schools concerned for recognition in March, 1928 ;

[Pandit Mehr Chand.]

- (b) whether it is a fact that the Inspectress concerned has neither visited the school nor replied to any of the letters received on the subject from the Honorary Secretary of the School ;
- (c) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table the correspondence, if any, on the subject ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that in September 1928 a representation on the subject was made by the management of the school to the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab ;
- (e) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table a copy of the said representation ;
- (f) what reply has been given to the management of the school by the Director of Public Instruction ;
- (g) whether the Government is aware that the said school contains more than 200 girls on its rolls and is housed in a suitable building ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

GRANT-IN-AID TO DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

1198. Pandit Mehr Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state the yearly amount of grant-in-aid allowed to the various denominational schools in the Ambala Division during the last five years ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : So far as the years 1924-25 to 1927-28 are concerned the honourable member is advised to consult the printed statement of maintenance grants-in-aid issued by the Education Department last year.

2. A statement showing the maintenance grants sanctioned during the year 1928-29 is laid on the table.

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS DURING 1928-29.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
		Rs.
	BOYS SCHOOLS.	
	AMBALA DIVISION.	
1	Sir Harcourt Butler High School, Simla	7,368
2	Jat Heroes Memorial A. S. High School, Rohtak	11,304
3	Islamia Middle School, Simla	1,632
4	Indian Boys' School, Sanawar	1,008
5	King George Middle School, Kasauli	1,428

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS
DURING 1928-29.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
	BOYS SCHOOLS—CONTD.	Rs.
	AMBALA DIVISION—concl'd.	
6	Khalsa High School, Ambala City	3,984
7	Anglo-Sanskrit High School, Ambala City	8,556
8	Mission High School, Ambala City	8,516
9	Hindu High School, Sonapat	8,196
10	Jain High School, Panipat	5,256
11	D. A.-V. High School, Shahabad	5,940
12	Khalsa High School, Chamkaur	2,706
13	Mission Middle School, Kotgarh	694
14	Rajput Boarding House, Ambala City	490
15	Brayne-Meo High School, Nuh	5,736
16	Hindu A. S. Middle School, Sadhaura	1,248
17	Muslim High School, Ambala City	3,884
18	Mission High School, Kharar	9,900
19	Muslim High School, Sadhaura	3,768
20	Khalsa High School, Kharrar	4,620
21	Hindu-Muhammadian High School, Ambala Cantonment ..	7,368
22	District Board High School, Ambala Cantonment ..	13,440
23	Sanatan Dharam High School, Pundri	3,912
24	Anglo-Sanskrit High School, Pundri	3,432
25	Islamia Anglo-Vernacular Lower Middle School, Shahabad ..	792
26	Islamia Anglo-Vernacular Lower Middle School, Kaithal ..	492
27	Gaur Brahman High School, Rohtak	3,984
28	Hali Muslim High School, Panipat	5,124
29	Central Muslim Rajput High School, Kalanaur (District Rohtak.)	4,968
30	Central Anglo-Vernacular High School, Hissar	7,032
31	Khalsa High School, Kurali	4,704
32	Islamia Middle School, Rupar	1,632
33	Sanatan Dharam Middle School, Simla	1,488

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS
DURING 1928-29.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
BOYS SCHOOLS—continued.		
RAWALPINDI DIVISION—<i>conold.</i>		Rs.
34	Jain Middle School, Ambala City	2,640
35	Arya Lower Middle School, Rohtak	576
36	Vaish High School, Rohtak	6,948
37	Muhammadan-Rajput Boarding School, Ambala City ..	684
38	Jat High School, Hissar	4,920
JULLUNDUR DIVISION.		
1	Khalsa High School, Bundala	4,421
2	Cantonment High School, Jullundur Cantonment ..	4,233
3	Islamia High School, Jullundur City	8,508
4	Mission High School, Jullundur City,	7,237
5	Anglo-Sanskrit Middle School, Nakodar	1,899
6	Khalsa Middle School, Kalra	5,866
7	Anglo-Sanskrit Middle School, Alawalpur	3,352
8	Gurudat Anglo-Vernacular High School, Kangra ..	3,335
9	Zamindar Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Sallah ..	2,223
10	Sanatan Dharam High School, Una	2,934
11	Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Charetgarh	1,709
12	Islamia High School, Dasuya	2,329
13	Sardar Bahadur Amin Chand High School, Rajwara ..	6,130
14	Khalsa High School, Mahilpur	6,156
15	Sanatan Dharam High School, Hoshiarpur	2,332
16	Khalsa High School, Gardhiwala	3,871
17	D. A. V. High School, Hariana	5,094
18	Islamia High School, Hoshiarpur	3,487
19	Khalsa Anglo-Vernacular High School, Jaspalon ..	5,048
20	J. P. Arya High School, Ludhiana	7,232
21	Islamia High School, Ludhiana	1,419

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS
DURING 1928-29.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
BOYS SCHOOLS—CONTINUED. JULLUNDUR DIVISION—conold.		Rs.
22	Khalsa High School, Ludhiana	7,785
23	Hindi Parcharak High School, Ludhiana	2,340
24	Ewing Christian High School, Ludhiana	6,397
25	Khalsa Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Ferozepore ..	1,270
26	Islamia Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Fazilka ..	1,311
27	Harbhagwan Memorial High School, Ferozepore City ..	7,930
28	Islamia High School, Ferozepore Cantonment ..	3,609
29	Arjan Das High School, Dharmkot	3,372
30	Manohar Lal, High School, Ferozepur Cantonment ..	6,658
31	Mission Vernacular Middle School, Moga	4,360
32	Dev Samaj High School, Moga	5,254
33	Khalsa High School, Jullundur	12,281
34	Mission High School, Palampur	4,338
35	Khalsa High School, Moga	6,696
36	Mathra Das High School, Moga	10,144
37	Rajput High School, Indaera	5,024
38	D. A.-V High School, Dasaya	2,139
39	Khalsa High School, Baddon	5,444
40	G. N. D. Malwa Middle School, Roda	1,186
41	Khalsa High School, Muktsar	1,601
42	Sud Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Garhi	1,150
43	Doaba Arya High School, Jullundur City	2,069
44	A. S. High School, Dera Gopipur	1,637
45	Khalsa High School, Hoshiarpur	1,601
46	Khalsa High School, Anandpur	3,992
47	R. K. High School, Jagraon	3,088
48	A. S. High School, Mukerian	1,997
49	S. D. B. A. V. Middle School, Amb	1,418
50	S. D. A.-V. Middle School, Ferozepore City	417

[Hon'ble Mr. Marohar Lal.]

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS
DURING 1928-29.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
BOYS SCHOOLS—CONTINUED.		
LAHORE DIVISION.		Rs.
1	Wattan Building Islamia School, Lahore	1,776
2	Sat Sabha Lower Middle School, Lahore	316
3	Sanatan Dharam Lower Middle School, Wachhowali, Lahore ..	420
4	St. Francis Lower Middle School, Lahore	1,068
5	Cantonment Aided High School, Lahore	6,384
6	Khalsa High School, Amritsar	16,356
7	Majha Khalsa Middle School, Kairon	3,468
8	M. A. O. Middle School, Amritsar	1,488
9	C. M. S. Middle School, Majitha	2,520
10	Muslim High School, Batala	3,228
11	Mission Anglo-Vernacular High School, Dhariwal	5,172
12	Croase Islamia High School, Fatehgarh	4,908
13	D. A. V. Middle School, Bahranpur	1,272
14	Public Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Balun (Dalhousie) ..	2,376
15	King George Hindu High School, Gujranwala	5,904
16	Khalsa High School, Gujranwala	10,752
17	Islamia High School, Gujranwala	4,788
18	Mission High School, Gujranwala	9,936
19	A. N. High School, Emtanabad	5,856
20	Scotch Mission High School, Sialkot	7,524
21	Church of Scotland Mission High School, Daska	8,184
22	Arya High School, Bhopalwala	7,280
23	Khalsa High School, Narowal	6,828
24	Khalsa High School, Sialkot	5,448
25	Mission High School, Narowal	6,048
26	Anglo-Vernacular Mission Middle School, Marttumpur ..	1,416
27	T. I. High School, Qadian	6,636

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS
DURING 1923-29.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
BOYS SCHOOLS—CONTINUED.		
LAHORE DIVISION—contd.		Rs.
28	A. L. O. E. High School, Batala	8,208
29	Baring High School, Batala	6,768
30	S. B. B. S. Khalsa High School, Lahore	6,564
31	Muslim High School, Lahore	5,232
32	Islamia High School, Sheranwala Gate, Lahore	8,448
33	D. A. V. High School, Patli	4,140
34	Mission High School, Lahore	15,840
35	Islamia High School, Bhati Gate, Lahore	5,416
36	Sanatan Dharam High School, Lahore	3,840
37	Dyal Singh High School, Lahore	11,424
38	D. H. Dev Samaj High School, Lahore	3,864
39	D. A. V. High School, Amritsar	2,316
40	G. G. S. Khalsa High School, Sarhali Kalan	9,900
41	Hindu Sabha Collegiate School, Amritsar	6,492
42	S. G. A. D. Khalsa High School, Tarn Taran	6,804
43	G. T. B. Khalsa High School, Baba Bakala	9,588
44	M. A. O. High School, Amritsar	10,080
45	P. P. N. High School, Amritsar	8,596
46	Ganda Singh High School, Sialkot	6,348
47	K. C. Arya High School, Sialkot	5,232
48	S. M. Middle School, Sialkot Cantonment	4,104
49	Public Middle School, Gharial	1,212
50	Christian Training Institute, Sialkot	5,868
51	Mission High School, Wazirabad	5,676
52	G. S. A. S. High School, Hafizabad	5,016
53	G. N. Khalsa High School, Sangla Hill	3,408
54	Muslim Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Baddomali	1,500
55	Islamia High School, Sialkot	8,796

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS
DURING 1928-29.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
BOYS SCHOOLS—continued.		Rs.
LAHORE DIVISION—continued.		
56	G. D. Islamia High School, Maingri (District Gurdaspur) ..	3,360
57	Sanderson Hindu High School, Baramanga (District Gurdaspur)	6,360
58	Khalsa Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Nawanpind ..	2,184
59	Khalsa Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Saini Bar, Chak No. 7	936
60	Khalsa High School, Ramdas	1,044
61	Johnston Memorial Anglo-Vernacular Lower Middle School, Raiwind.	612
62	Islamia Middle School, Kasur	828
63	Public Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Ugoke	1,392
64	D. A.-V. High School, Qadian	2,412
65	D. A.-V. High School, Batala	756
66	G. N. Kh. Anglo-Vernacular Middle School, Dera Sahib ..	498
67	K. D. Islamia Middle School, Mianpura	876
RAWALPINDI DIVISION.		
1	C. M. Z. High School, Gujrat	16,148
2	S. D. High School, Gujrat	5,602
3	Scotch Mission High School, Gujrat	2,980
4	S. K. High School, Kunjah	3,754
5	S. H. S. High School, Dingah	2,425
6	Khalsa Middle School, Kharian	1,696
7	Khalsa High School, Kallar	2,802
8	Khalsa High School, Rawalpindi	9,368
9	Mission High School, Dalwal	12,820
10	Khalsa High School, Chakwal	5,078
11	S. D. High School, Bhown	1,857
12	O. B. Islamia High School, Shahpur Sadr	8,186
13	Khalsa High School, Sargodha	7,412
14	S. D. High School, Sargodha	5,174

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS DURING
1928-29—CONTINUED.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
BOYS SCHOOLS—CONTINUED.		Rs.
RAWALPINDI DIVISION—contd.		
15	R. M. R. High School, Mianwali	3,076
16	Khalsa High School, Sukho	5,226
17	Khalsa High School, Sayyad	7,800
18	Islamia High School, Gujar Khan	2,979
19	Denny's High School, Rawalpindi	6,811
20	Mission High School, Rawalpindi	12,692
21	Islamia High School, Rawalpindi	4,842
22	D. A.-V. High School, Rawalpindi	8,919
23	S. D. High School, Rawalpindi	11,739
24	Islamia A.-V. Middle School, Sukho	852
25	Mission Middle School, Jhelum	5,023
26	Mission Middle School, Sangohi	2,099
27	D. A.-V. Middle School, Bhown	1,857
28	Khalsa High School, Faruka	5,863
29	K. R. A. S. High School, Bhara	7,297
30	Khalsa Middle School, Pindigheb	600
31	Mission School, Jalalpur Jattan	1,851
32	Islamia A.-V. Middle School, Jalalpur Jattan	1,639
33	Khalsa School, Sanghoi	2,662
34	Khalsa School, Mittha Tiwana	2,005
35	Khalsa High School, Gujar Khan	5,024
36	Islamia Middle School, Jhelum	825
37	S. D. High School, Jand	5,035
38	Khalsa High School, Tanda	4,354
39	Islamia High School, Dharyala Jalip	1,645
40	S. Mota Singh Khalsa Middle School, Nila	1,879
41	S. D. High School, Jalalpur Jattan	2,100
42	D. A.-V. High School, Chakwal	2,813

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS
DURING 1928-29.—CONTINUED.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
BOYS SCHOOLS—CONTINUED.		
RAWALPINDI DIVISION—concl'd.		
		Rs.
43	D. A.-V. High School, Shahpur	2,500
44	Khalsa High School, Shahpur	1,200
45	K. D. High School, Miani	4,000
46	Kh. Middle School, Sagri	2,202
MULTAN DIVISION.		
1	Muslim High School, Lyallpur	8,580
2	Dhanpat Mal A. S. High School, Lyallpur	8,952
3	Bhiratri High School, Leiah	5,994
4	Islamia High School, Chiniot	6,816
5	Islamia High School, Jhang	4,872
6	Islamia High School, Chak No. 333	3,516
7	Cantonment A.-V. Middle School, Multan Cantonment	4,908
8	Hindu High School, Dera Ghazi Khan	1,784
9	Islamia High School, Multan	4,692
10	D. A.-V. High School, Multan	8,904
11	Sanatan Dharam High School, Multan	4,560
12	K. G. Hindu High School, Jhang	9,948
13	Malik Bhagwan Das High School, Chiniot	4,200
14	Bar Khalsa High School, Chak 31, Lyallpur District	6,432
15	Zamindar Islamia High School, Dasuhs	9,420
16	Sanatan Dharam High School, Lyallpur	8,400
17	Khalsa High School, Lyallpur	5,598
18	A.-V. Middle School and Patschala, Chiniot	1,586
19	G. A. S. Middle School, Ahmadpur	588
20	Khalsa Middle School, Lyallpur	1,380
21	Muslim Boarding House, Gojra	1,092
22	Mission Boarding House, Gojra	564

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS
DURING 1928-29.—CONTINUED.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
BOYS SCHOOLS—CONCLUDED.		
MULTAN DIVISION.—concluded.		Rs.
23	Khalsa Boarding House, Gojra	1,788
24	Islamia Boarding House, Toba Tek Singh	1,162
25	Khalsa Boarding House, Toba Tek Singh	612
26	Khalsa Boarding House, Jaranwala	1,092
27	Islamia Boarding House, Muzaffargarh	1,593
28	D. A.-V. High School, Karor Lal Iqan	2,412
29	A. S. High School, Dera Ghazi Khan	1,162
30	Islamia Lower Middle School, Dera Ghazi Khan	552
31	A.-V. Mission School, Khushpur	120
32	Islamia Boarding House, Jaranwala	576
33	Hindu Boarding House, Jaranwala	612
34	Khalsa Boarding House, Kamalia	384
35	Khalsa Boarding House, Montgomery	384
GIRLS' SCHOOLS.		
AMBALA DIVISION.		
1	A. P. Mission Boarding A.-V. Middle School, Ambala City	2,460
2	Vedic Girls' Primary School, Ambala Cantonment	408
3	Jain Girls' School, Ambala	324
JULLUNDUR DIVISION.		
1	Arya Putri Patshala, Jullundur Cantonment	480
2	Dev Samaj Girls' High School, Ferozepore	4,200
3	Sikh Kanya Mahavidyala, Ferozepore	4,806
LAHORE DIVISION.		
1	Maharani Burdwan Girls' High School, Lahore	2,300
2	Kinnaird High School for Girls, Lahore	7,405
3	Alexandra Girls' High School, Amritsar	6,520
4	Avalon High School for Girls, Pathankot	9,006
5	A. P. Mission Middle Girls' School, Sialkot	2,500

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

STATEMENT OF GRANTS SANCTIONED FOR AIDED INDIAN SCHOOLS
DURING 1928-29—CONTD.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
GIRLS SCHOOLS—CONCLUDED.		Rs.
LAHORE DIVISION— <i>continued</i> .		
6	Scotch Mission Girls' Middle School, Sialkot	1,036
7	Arya Girls' Middle School, Sialkot	1,080
8	Christian Middle Girls' School, Narowal	1,600
	Scotch Mission Girls' Middle School, Daska	515
10	Sikh Middle Girls' School, Sialkot	414
11	Mission Girls' Boarding School, Sangla	4,799
RAWALPINDI DIVISION.		
1	Sri Guru Nanak Girls' Primary School, Campbellpur Cantonment.	300
2	American Mission Anglo-Vernacular Girls' Middle School, Rawalpindi City.	540

MULTAN DIVISION.

Nil.

LIST OF SPECIAL GRANTS TO UNAIDED SCHOOLS OR DEPARTMENTS OF
SCHOOLS, 1928-29.

		Rs.
1	Balak Ram High School, Panipat	1,500
2	Islamia A.-V. Middle School, Lalamusa	1,200
3	D.-A. V. High School, Kathgarh	1,352
4	Rajput High School, Dalbaha	2,959
5	D.-A. V. High School, Daulatpur	900
6	R. D. High School, Nadalon	1,000
7	Arya High School, Dina Nagar	1,002
8	Johnstone Memorial A.-V. Middle School, Raewind	498
9	Khalsa High School, Ramdas	702
10	A. V. Lower Middle School, Chak No. 148/8L (Montgomery)	504
11	Lower Middle School for Criminal Tribes, Kacha Khu, Multan.	504
12	D. A.-V. High School, Kanjrar	800
13	D. A.-V. High School, Batala	498
14	Khalsa A.-V. Middle School, Khanewal	1,000
15	Sanghar A.-V. Middle School, Taunsa	1,184
16	Public Hindu High School, Rupar	2,400
17	P. A. S. High School, Khanna	1,200
18	Islamia Middle School, Eminabad	1,000
19	Khalsa A.-V. Middle School, Katni Kalan	800
20	D.-A. V. High School, Montgomery	1,000
21	The Khalsa Collegiate High School, Lyallpur	5,598
Total		28,081

LIST OF SPECIAL GRANTS TO UNAIDED SCHOOLS OR DEPARTMENTS
OF SCHOOLS, 1928-29.—CONCLUDED.

Serial No.	Name of Institution.	Amount.
	COMPENSATORY GRANTS.	Rs.
	AMRALA DIVISION.	
	NIL.	
	JULLUNDUR DIVISION.	
1	A. S. High School, Dehra Gopipur	162
	LAHORE DIVISION.	
1	S. D. Lower Middle School, Waachhowali	264
2	Sat Sabha Lower Middle School, Lahore	100
3	Islamia High School, Bhati Gate, Lahore	1,000
4	Islamia Middle School, Kasur	180
5	Hindu Sabha Collegiate School, Amritsar	600
6	Islamia High School, Sheranwala Gate, Lahore	1,500
7	S. D. High School, Lahore	1,200
8	P. B. N. High School, Amritsar	1,000
9	D. A.-V. Middle School, Behrampur, Gurdaspur	240
10	Public A. V. Middle School, Baloon	300
11	S. M. High School, Daaka	360
12	Public High School, Ghartai	300
13	Muslim High School, Baddomali	480
	Total ..	7,524
	RAWALPINDI DIVISION.	
	NIL.	
	MULTAN DIVISION.	
	NIL.	

RESOLUTIONS.

RESOLUTION RE AMENDMENT OF THE PUNJAB ALIENATION OF LAND ACT.

Mr. President : The Council will now resume discussion of Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan's resolution¹ which was before the House when it was adjourned at Lahore.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member) : Sir, it is a long time it seems to me since I was on my legs in this House speaking on the very important resolution moved by the honourable member sitting opposite me (Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan) which, as the Council will remember ran as follows :—

"That this Council recommends to the Government to amend the Punjab Alienation of Land Act so as to protect the land of members of agricultural tribes who are adjudicated insolvents, from sale in insolvency proceedings."

It will be remembered that this resolution was discussed at a very considerable length on the last day of the Lahore session, and the discussion was not only lengthy but also very heated, if I am not mistaken. As many as six members supported the honourable mover in forcible and lengthy speeches when an equal number strongly and vehemently opposed his motion. After this full and lengthy debate I got up and was stating the position of Government, the action Government had taken with reference to the point raised by the honourable mover, and in order to make it intelligible to the honourable members at what stage of my speech I actually was, I wish to remind them, firstly, that although a large number of important questions of policy in regard to the Land Alienation Act were raised and discussed, still, if I may say so, a very large number of them were irrelevant to the resolution under discussion. The resolution is quite limited in its scope. All the mover wants discussed is whether the interpretation of section 16 of the Land Alienation Act in a recent High Court ruling, so far as it relates to sale by receiver of the property of an insolvent member of an agricultural tribe in insolvency proceedings is correct or not. His contention is that in a recent single Judge ruling of the High Court at Lahore it has been ruled that the receiver has the right to sell agricultural land of an insolvent member of an agricultural tribe to a member of an agricultural tribe. His allegation is that this is contrary to section 16 of the Act. He contends that this ruling is wrong. He says that in case it is held that this ruling is right then this ruling violates the spirit of the provisions of the Land Alienation Act, i.e., section 16. So, he says, Government must take some action, and the only action that Government can take is to amend the section with a view to make it give expression to the spirit of that section. Some members have contended that the ruling he has referred to is wrong and others have said that it is right. In any case it is not within my power to make any prolonged speech on the subject. I was stating last time that Government long before now, was apprised of the fact that there was considerable feeling in rural areas against this interpretation of the law. Therefore Government took steps to make enquiries from local officers as to what was the extent of the operation of this view of the law, with a view to determine whether this was

¹ "That this Council recommends to the Government to amend the Punjab Alienation of Land Act so as to protect the land of members of agricultural tribes who are adjudicated insolvents, from sale in insolvency proceedings."

being done in a very large number of cases or was in the nature of isolated cases, also to see whether this single Judge pronouncement could not be brought before a division bench or a full bench in case another case went up to the High Court. It must be obvious to all of us that legislation itself and in particular legislation of an amending sort cannot possibly be resorted to unless Government is satisfied that the judicial interpretation of an existing provision of the law is final so far as the highest tribunal of the province is concerned. We all know that judicial pronouncements abound in not only single judge pronouncements but also division bench pronouncements being modified, sometimes altogether over-ruled by other division benches or full benches. Luckily a case dealing with the point in question was in the High Court and only recently has been, I understand, referred to a division bench. The name of the case is *Mirza versus Jhandu*. Government when apprised of this fact instructed the Government Advocate to interest himself in this reference, and when the reference came on, to appear in the reference to see that the interpretation of section 16, when discussed, is adequately discussed from all points of view. Government knowing that one of the honourable members of this House who spoke for the motion last time and whose speech was full of judicial references, although most of us were not quite able to follow them but which made all the same a valuable contribution to the discussion of this subject, have asked the Government Advocate to make a full reference to them, and have requested the honourable member to render all assistance he can, to the Government Advocate. No doubt he will have an opportunity of assisting Government Advocate when that ruling comes before the division bench. In the circumstances, Sir, need I add anything to what I have said in this connection before? The single bench ruling, which is objected to being under reference to a division bench, it is obvious that Government can take no action other than it has already taken in the matter. If the division bench over rules the single bench ruling, the matter so far as the honourable mover and his supporters are concerned is settled. In case that ruling is affirmed, then the question arises, what will Government do? The policy of Government on the subject was enunciated by me when I commenced my speech in the last session. Since then I have had an opportunity on behalf of Government to enunciate it on another occasion, and that was when I went to Gujranwala in connection with the Land Revenue Amendment Act meeting on the 23rd of May 1929. With your permission, Sir, I will read the portion of my speech relating to the subject, because on a matter of such vital importance as the enunciation of Government policy and on a matter of such controversial nature it is best not to rely upon what one remembers of it.

I said :—

"The Association's address raises the question of the Land Alienation Act. It affords me great pleasure to see that Government's announcements in the Legislative Council are so carefully followed by the countryside. The policy of Government with reference to the Land Alienation Act as enunciated by me in the Legislative Council has, I am glad to say, the support of the country at large. On the one hand, it is not the intention of Government to seek to add to the degree of protection which the Act was designed to afford to certain classes. On the other hand, Government could not for a moment contemplate any reduction in that degree of protection so long as the classes which it protects desired its continuance. The time may come when those who are now in its favour may not need the assistance of its provisions to the same extent as they do at present, while those who are now opposed to it may still desire their

[Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

modification. When the time comes a common ground for alteration may emerge by the consent of the two parties concerned. Till then, all parties concerned will be well-advised in leaving this matter rest where it does at present—Neither try to expand its scope, nor try to encroach upon it."

In case the division bench affirms the single bench ruling which is being attacked by this resolution, Government will approach the subject in the spirit of the statement that I have just read.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan [South-East Towns (Muhammadan), Urban], (Urdu) : Sir, I listened very carefully to the various speeches delivered against this resolution, when it came up for discussion on the 28th of March last, and to-day before coming to the Council Chamber I went through the official report of these speeches. The various objections that were raised against this resolution may be treated under three or four different headings. The most important objection that was put forward by Lala Mohan Lal and to which, my honourable friend Dr. Narang was pleased to give his support was that the ruling given by Mr. Justice Dalip Singh was perfectly correct and that it does not in any way contravene the provisions of the Land Alienation Act, inasmuch as it simply allows the sale of the land of an agriculturist to another agriculturist in execution of the decree or order of a civil or revenue court. It may be that my honourable friends consider that the policy underlying the Land Alienation Act is that the property of a member of the agricultural tribes should not be sold to a non-agriculturist, but I beg to differ from them. In my humble opinion this is not the spirit of this Act. Under section 16 of the Alienation of Land Act, the lands of the agriculturists are protected from being sold in execution of the decrees or orders of a civil or a revenue court, that is to say, that the land of an agriculturist cannot be compulsorily sold even to another agriculturist. Under the ruling given by Mr. Justice Dalip Singh the land of an agriculturist can be sold compulsorily to another agriculturist. If the Government were to acquiesce in this ruling it would simply mean that it is going against its settled policy. Under these circumstances, it would not be fair to say that this ruling does not contravene the spirit of the Land Alienation Act, and that it does not go against the declared policy of the Government. I may, therefore, be allowed to say that the objection raised by the opponents of this resolution is not a weighty one.

The second objection raised against my resolution was that the Alienation of Land Act has proved harmful to the interests of petty zamindars ; that big zamindars are growing fat at the expense of small land holders and that the time is not far-off when the petty land-holders would disappear altogether and the big landlords would be the masters of all they survey, and there would be no one left to dispute their right. I submit, that this argument is beyond my comprehension. I have tried my best to understand the import of this argument, but I have failed to grasp the logic of it. The net result of the ruling given by Mr. Justice Dalip Singh would be that the greater portion of the lands of petty landlords would pass into the hands of big zamindars, and this is what my resolution seeks to prevent.

The third objection to my resolution was a legal one. It was pointed out to me by some of the honourable members that the immoveable property of an agriculturist cannot be sold or auctioned under the orders of a court. It is the receiver who auctions or sells the land of an agriculturist. This

means, in other words, that the official receiver steps into the shoes of an insolvent and is vested with the rights and liabilities of the insolvent himself. In the eyes of the law no difference thereafter remains between the receiver and the insolvent, which means that receiver can do things which the insolvent could himself do. If the proprietor of land can sell his land to an agriculturist, the receiver, who under the law, becomes the representative of the insolvent, is certainly entitled to sell the land for the liquidation of the debts of the insolvent. This, in short, was the argument put forward by some of my friends, who adorn the legal profession. On the face of it, this argument seems to be a plausible one, but when we look deeply into it, we find that it has no legs to stand upon. My honourable friends, some of whom are well-known legal luminaries forgot one thing in making this statement and it is this, that the receiver is an officer of the court. He is a creature of the law. He is bound to carry into effect the orders of the court. By himself he cannot take any action. He cannot mortgage or sell the land of an insolvent without the sanction of the court. He cannot auction the land of an insolvent except when the District Judge orders him to do so. In short, the orders of a receiver are in effect the orders of a civil or revenue court. And since the lands of an agriculturist are immune from being sold in execution of the decrees or orders of a civil or revenue court, under section 16 of the Alienation of Land Act, the judgment which has ruled to the contrary, does certainly violate the spirit of this section. I am, therefore, perfectly justified in saying that the argument advanced by the opponents of this resolution does not hold water.

Some of the members opposed my resolution on the ground that if the land of insolvent agriculturist is not sold to other agriculturists, how are the creditors to recover their debts? I submit, Sir, that this Act has been in force for no less than 29 years, and during all this period there has been hardly any complaint in regard to the non-recovery of debts. The selling of the lands of agriculturists is not the only way of recovering one's debts. The courts are not precluded, under certain circumstances, from arranging for the liquidation of debts under a decree by either a mortgage or a temporary alienation of the property of the insolvent debtor. As a matter of fact the courts are entitled to alienate by way of mortgage the property of an insolvent debtor for such a long period as 60 years. Thus, there is under the existing conditions no apprehension of non-realisation of debts, and so far no difficulty has ever presented itself. But, even admitting, for the sake of argument, that if this ruling were upset, the creditors would experience difficulty in the realisation of their debts, I would submit that this question is not relevant to the subject under discussion. If the Government adheres to its policy of protecting the lands of agriculturists from being sold in insolvency proceedings, then my submission is that the ruling aforesaid has contravened the provision of section 16 of the Land Alienation Act. It is no business of mine to see whether debts are recovered or not. It is the duty of Government so to amend the law, as to remove all chances of misinterpretation. If the wording of section 16 is ambiguous, it behoves the Government to make it more explicit, so as to prevent any Judge, be he a district or a High Court Judge, to put such an interpretation on the law as would throw one of the major communities of this province into the deepest depth of misery and woe.

[Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan.]

I have said all this with a view to meet the arguments of my opponents. As a matter of fact the recovery of debts is not such an unusual phenomenon as my honourable friends would have us believe, and my resolution does not seek to place any restrictions on the recovery of debts. I do not wish to make a lengthy speech, nor do I wish to prolong the discussion on this matter. My only aim in moving this resolution was to invite the attention of Government to the state of affairs that has come to pass as the result of the judgment passed by Mr. Justice Dalip Singh. The Government admits that the subject matter of the resolution is an important one and I am content that Government sees eye to eye with me in this matter.

I may mention that there is considerable feeling in rural areas against this interpretation of the law. A number of deputations have waited upon His Excellency the Governor. Meetings have been held in all parts of the country protesting against this ruling of the Honourable Mr. Justice Dalip Singh and a number of resolutions have been passed. The rural people have left no stone unturned to bring their deep sense of grief and resentment to the notice of the authorities.

There are quite a large number of lawyers in this Council and I am sure that a great many of them have had personal experience of the insolvency proceedings. They are also probably well aware of the fact that a zamindar is not willing to go to an insolvency court. It is as a last resort that he is dragged into an insolvency court. He would consider it an insult to be called a 'diwalaya.' His friends and relations would look down upon him and he will not be able to contract marriage alliances amongst his own people. On the other hand, in the cities a person cannot become a Seth unless he has been declared an insolvent at least once or twice. There are any number of such Seths in Bombay, Karachi, Calcutta and Lahore.

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal : This is an irresponsible statement and I challenge it.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : Certainly not. I can cite as many instances as you like. Now, Sir, to turn to the matter under discussion, I again repeat the statement that a zamindar goes to an insolvency court, when circumstances compel him. He would never willingly go to an insolvency court. But if this ruling is allowed to stand, it would mean that every creditor or a number of creditors joining together would be able to drag a zamindar into an insolvency court and there have him adjudicated an insolvent. What the Alienation of Land Act seeks to prevent would be achieved by the creditors by having recourse to insolvency proceedings. Every creditor would have the agriculturist debtor at his mercy. All that the former will have to do will be to have the debtor declared insolvent. The court will appoint an official receiver, who in his turn will have the land of the debtor sold and thus accomplish his ruin. Sir, I come from a place, which is called the Queen of Colonies, i.e., Lyallpur. It is supposed that the colonists are very rich, but the hard fact is that there are hardly 5 per cent. of the zamindars, who are not in debt. They are gradually paying off their debts and in a few year's time they hope to completely wipe off their debts. They are living on this hope that if they themselves do not live to enjoy

their lands, they would leave them to their children unencumbered to live comfortably. If, however, this ruling is allowed to stand, and the agriculturists lose the sense of security, there would be a rush for insolvency proceedings against them, and the results of this may better be imagined than described. I should like to warn the Government that if this state of affairs is allowed to continue for any length of time, the result of agitation amongst the agriculturists against this ruling would seriously affect the interests of peace and order in the province. I should also like to tell the opponents of this resolution to beware of the wrath of the people whom they are anxious to dispossess of their lands, and thus take away from them their only means of subsistence. If my honourable friends were gifted with fore-sight or if they could peep into the future they would simply tremble to think of the consequences which this ruling is likely to entail.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : You would abet murders and robberies.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : Certainly not. But the short-sighted policy pursued by the representatives of non-agriculturists in opposing this resolution would be responsible for the consequences hinted at by the honourable doctor.

Now I turn to another point. The Honourable Revenue Member in the course of his speech was pleased to acknowledge the very great importance of this ruling. I agree with him that Government will not be in a position to take any action unless the case *Mirza vs. Jhando*, which has been referred to a Division Bench is decided. But I should like to point out to him that the decision of the Division Bench will not be final. It can be upset by a full bench. Supposing the Division Bench upholds this ruling, what would the Government do in that case? Will the Government prefer to wait till such time as would enable a full bench to upset this ruling? Let us hope that the Government will not act according to the couplet—

ہم نے مانا کہ تغافل نہ کرو گے لیکن
خاک ہو جائیگے ہم تم کو خبر ہونے تک

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The Government is already in the know of things.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : If that is so, I will amend the couplet by saying—

ہم نے مانا کہ تغافل نہ کرو گے لیکن
خاک ہو جائیگے ہم تم پہ اثر ہونے تک

The Honourable Member for Revenue was pleased to declare that it is the settled policy of Government at the moment neither to go forward nor to go backward. But my resolution does not ask the Government to go forward. The Government should stick to its settled policy, and it is its duty to see that this policy or the spirit of this policy is not violated by such like rulings. It should put a stop to this source of evil or nip this evil in the bud, lest it should grow and destroy the peace of the province. I am prepared to acknowledge the fact that at the present time the Government are not in a position to take any action in the matter, but may I hope that if this ruling is upheld by the Division Bench, they would seriously consider

[Ras Firuz-ud-Din Khan.]

the question as to how the declared policy of the Government can be maintained. As the Honourable Revenue Member has given an assurance that if such an emergency arises, the Government would give sympathetic consideration to the grievances of the zamindars, I do not propose to press my resolution and I accordingly beg leave to withdraw it.

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.

RESOLUTION RE REDUCTION OF ARIANA RATES.

Sayad Muhammad Husain [Montgomery (Muhammadan), Rural],
(Urdu): Sir, I beg to move—

“That this Council recommends to the Government so to reduce the *ariana* rates as :—

- (i) to cover the ordinary remissions allowed on account of *kharaba* ;
- (ii) to reconsider the present rates on the non-perennial areas”.

Sir, it is a tale of woe that I have to relate to-day. It is the tale of the various tyrannies and oppression practised by the irrigation department on the poor, defenceless zamindars. It would be within the recollection of this house that at the time of the last *rabi* crop a general remission was granted by the benign Government, so as to enable the zamindars to tide over a difficult period. I assure the Honourable Revenue Member that the people concerned are very grateful to the Government for this sign of kindness. But as ill-luck would have it, the following *khazir* crop also proved a failure and again the Government came to the rescue of the poor zamindars, and remitted something like 40 lakhs of rupees. I hope the honourable Chief Engineer would forgive me if I point out to him that all this money has gone into the pockets of the patwaris, zilladars and other officers of the canal department. If I am not mistaken and if my information is not wrong, Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 per acre were taken from the zamindars by the officials of the canal department on the distinct understanding that the former would be given *kharaba* remissions. But when the time of actual remissions came, the poor zamindar found to his cost that all the money he had given was to bring no return to him in the shape of *kharaba* remissions. Both the Financial Commissioners, I mean Mr. Craik and Mr. Towasend will bear me out, that when they went on tour in December last to the district of Montgomery they received written as well as oral complaints from all sorts of people, ranging from an ordinary zamindar to the Deputy Commissioner, telling woeful tales of how the canal department officials had extorted money from poor people. The poor zamindars were losers in every way. They paid money by borrowing it from money lenders and they did not get the *kharaba*.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Serve them right.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I wish the Government had not decided to give *kharaba*. Had Government given 20 lakhs instead of 40 lakhs in the form of general remissions, the people would have benefited to the same extent, but as it is, the poor zamindars have been the losers in both ways. I am telling the plain truth that the officials of the irrigation department have plundered the people.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No body has said that the honourable member is not speaking the truth. But I would ask him to

speak in such a manner as would be intelligible to all the members of this Council.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I am speaking in plain Urdu and I am sure that Government officials, who have passed the greater portion of their lives in the Punjab are capable of understanding my meaning.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Your speech is not intelligible even to me.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : This is perhaps due to the fact that you have become more anglicised than the Englishmen themselves. As I was saying, Sir, the canal department is full of corrupt people, and it is a pity that nothing has come out of the cases that were started against corrupt officials. The reasons for the failure of prosecutions is to be found in the fact that the people give bribes clandestinely and the evidence produced before the courts of law was not sufficient to secure the conviction of the accused. Anyhow, it is a fact that the zilladars and Deputy Collectors are waxing rich at the expense of the poor zamindars and it would be only fit, if all of them were turned out of this department bag and baggage.

Mr. Labh Singh : Is it permissible, Sir, to cast reflections on services like this.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Exactly, when the entire service is corrupt why should I not do so? I challenge any body to say that the service is not corrupt.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Probably you too had to pay.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I did not pay.

Lala Kesho Ram Sekhri : You did not get the *khara* and that is why you are speaking against them.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I have merely stated facts. The Indians are cutting the throats of their brethren and it is time the Government took stringent measures against them.

Mr. President : If the honourable member has that complaint, he might table a motion to that effect and discuss it separately. He cannot make such sweeping charges against a department only incidentally and indirectly.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Sir, I made these statements in order to avoid casting reflections. My only aim in so doing was to bring to the notice of the Government the grievances of the zamindars. I want to save my countrymen from moral degradation and corruption, and with this end in view I put forward a scheme some time ago. It was to this effect that in future water should be distributed according to the volumetric system. But unfortunately this province is still in a very backward condition, and it is not possible to make this system a success among the masses. Some educated people may be able to derive benefit from this scheme, but it cannot succeed on account of the ignorance of the people at large.

I also suggested an alternative, *viz.*, that the rates of *abiana* may be reduced by 25 per cent. or 20 per cent. The Government is called upon to reduce the *abiana* and grant remissions and it would be as well to issue executive orders to this effect. But there is one drawback in this scheme. If

[Sayad Mul ammad Husain.]

the *kharaba* were reduced by 25 per cent., the irrigation department officials, being deprived of one of the principal sources of their income, would retaliate by stopping the supply of water at times when it is needed most.

Some of my honourable friends have just pointed out to me that if the revenue department were entrusted with the assessment of the *kharaba*, they would be satisfied. But in my opinion this alternative is also open to the same objections, viz., that the officials of the canal department would begin harassing the people by cutting off water supply. If the *abiana* rates were reduced as suggested by me, the zamindars would cultivate only such portions of their lands, as are likely to mature. This would curtail the powers of the zilladars to some extent. I have every hope that the irrigation experts in this Council would throw some light on the subject under discussion and if they can devise ways and means, acceptable to both the parties concerned, it would give me great pleasure to amend my resolution in the light of the same.

Now as regards the second part of my resolution, it relates to only that part of the country, which I have the honour to represent in this Council. I mean the area, which is denied perennial irrigation. The honourable members of this house are not probably aware of the fact that the *abiana* rates for perennial and non-perennial areas is the same so far as the *kharif* crop is concerned. The *abiana* rates for the *rabi* are different. But it is true all the same that so far as the *kharif* crops in non-perennial areas is concerned, there seems hardly any justification for charging the same rate of *abiana*. There is a world of difference between the condition of the perennial and non-perennial areas. For example, the perennial areas get water in the first instance, while the non-perennial ones receive their water supply later on. In the Nili Bar, the non-perennial areas received their water supply late in the season. As a matter of fact water was not made available till the sowing of the cotton crop.

Mr. J. B. G. Smith : Are you talking only of the Nili Bar or everywhere ?

Sayad Muhammad Husain : In particular I am talking of the Nili Bar.

Mr. J. B. G. Smith : Do you include the rest of the area in the Punjab ?

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Particularly I am talking of the Nili Bar.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : We take it your observations are limited to the Nili Bar. That would be best.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Yes, Sir, the people of Nili Bar, especially those of the non-perennial section are labouring under great disadvantages. The water supply is deficient, and what is worse water is not supplied at the proper time. I was told by the Chief Engineer that water supply in this area would be discontinued on or about the 10th October, and even earlier. This would cause great hardship to the people. The Director of Agriculture has expressed the opinion that it is essential for the growth of cotton to water it in the months of October and November, and in case the cotton crop is not irrigated in these months, it is sure to fail partially. If water supply is

discontinued about the 10th of October, it is evident that the people of the non-perennial section would be put to no end of trouble and suffer accordingly. It would, therefore, be only just and proper if the *abiana* rates in the non-perennial section are reduced.

Then there is another disability under which the people of the non-perennial areas are labouring and it is this. While the *wad-wattar* has been remitted in other parts of the province, it has been imposed with great rigour in the Nili Bar.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : What is meant by *wad-wattar*.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : When the rice crop is removed, a good deal of moisture still remains in the soil, and in this soil grams or pulses are sown.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : The honourable member is not addressing the Chair.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : It is not necessary to explain to the Honourable the President the meaning of the word *wad-wattar*. He knows all about it.

Mr. President : The honourable member is one of the oldest members of the House and he ought to know the rules of debate. He should address the Chair and not direct his speech to any part of the House.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Very well, Sir, I was explaining that the people of the non-perennial area sowed grams, etc., when the rice crop was removed. They were not informed that *wad-wattar* would be imposed upon them, consequently the imposition of *wad-wattar* come to them like a bolt from the blue and has caused great discontentment amongst the people. I was especially requested by my constituents to stress this point in the Council.

I have one more request to make and then I will resume my seat, and it is this that the *abiana* rates ought to be reduced.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : So as to make up for the increase in land revenue.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Sir, the circumstances under which *abiana* was increased are too well known to be mentioned here. There was an increase of about one crore of rupees under the head *abiana*, and if there are any reductions to be made, they should be made under this head.

Mr. President : Is the honourable member now discussing the general question of reduction of *abiana* or a reduction in *abiana* to the extent of *kharaba*?

Sayad Muhammad Husain : It is only incidental to that, that I am discussing that *kharaba* is all the more necessary because there was an increase of about a crore of rupees and the Government have very often given pledges that they will make reduction. In all civilised countries, taxes are imposed having the fullest regard for the taxable capacity of the people. This increase of about one crore was a burden, which the poor people were not in a position to bear and I, therefore, earnestly pray the Government to reconsider the *abiana* rates. With these words I move my resolution and request the Government to do the needful in the matter.

Mr. President : The resolution proposed runs —

"This Council recommends to the Government so to reduce the *abiana* rates as—

- (i) to cover the ordinary remissions allowed on account of *kharaba*; and
- (ii) to reconsider the present rates on the non-perennial areas."

Sardar Ujjal Singh (Sikh Urban) : Sir, my honourable friend from Montgomery is fortunate enough in possessing land which is rich and fertile and probably has no complaint about the water supply. But I am not in that happy position although I possess a fairly large area of land on the Lower Bari Doab Canal. I do not quite agree with the honourable member about what he has said in regard to the general corruption in the revenue department. There is no doubt that there is a great deal of truth in the statement that the subordinates of the department indulge in corruption to a great extent.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I only referred to the subordinates of the department, that is, zilladars, etc.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : You are talking of your area; while he is talking of his area.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : But my honourable friend will also see that the fault does not lie with the subordinates alone. To some extent the zamindars themselves are also responsible. (*Hear, hear*).

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Sometimes even Executive Engineers are responsible.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : I do not want to dilate upon this subject, but there is some truth in the fact that in order to have a little more *kharaba* legitimate or illegitimate, zamindars do pay a little sum to the zilladars or patwaries. But no doubt there is a great deal of truth in the fact that zilladars and patwaries and other subordinates do torture some of the zamindars who are not in the happy position to pay them the sum they want.

Sir, my honourable friend wants that the system of *kharaba* ought to be done away with and that a fixed assessment of water rate ought to be introduced instead of a fluctuating assessment. Now, it may be all right in the case of land which is rich and in which ordinarily there is very little *kharaba*, but in the case of poor land zamindars cannot afford a fixed assessment and they also cannot afford in the case of lands which are situated at the tails of canals where the water supply is not constant. If fixed assessment is made, those zamindars who have got lands at the tails will suffer a great loss. Then, another difficulty arises. Supposing there is a copious supply of water during the whole of the season. Take the case of the cotton crop. If during October when the cotton crop needs more water, there is a deficient supply of water then the crop suffers and if on account of that the zamindars are not allowed *kharaba*, they will stand to lose more, if fixed assessment is made. So in order to avoid this contingency, it is necessary where the supply of water is not constant and where it can never be constant that *kharaba* system should be retained. Water supply depends upon various factors. Irrigation department may or may not deliberately curtail the supply but it depends upon the supply in the rivers and it might be that on account of lack of water supply in the rivers that the

Irrigation Department might not be able to give sufficient supply for maturing cotton crops.

Sir, talking about tails, my land unfortunately is situated in the tail division of the Lower Bari Doab, i.e., the Khanewal division. I generally find that people on the upper reaches always get better supply of water than people in the Khanewal division, and if assessment is fixed, if water rates are fixed for all, we on the tail are bound to lose, and on this account too I would certainly oppose the resolution moved by my honourable friend.

Sir, coming to the question of perennial and non-perennial canals, I have got some sympathy with my honourable friend who has moved this resolution, but he is not quite correct when he says that people on non-perennial canals reap less benefit from canal supply than people on perennial canals. As a matter of fact those on perennial canals have a little grievance that non-perennial people have generally got a greater supply of water for *kharif* crops than people on perennial canals, and the cotton crop is by far the most valuable crop. As a matter of fact I do not know whether that system exists now, but on perennial canals if people want to have a greater supply of water they have got to pay extra water rates. I believe Mr. Roberts of Khanewal did get that extra supply of water and had to pay half as much water rate for *kharif*. I believe that people on non-perennial canals do get about 10 to 15 per cent. more water than those on the perennial canals and they have got to pay the same rate. I quite realise that the shutting out water from cotton crop from the 10th of October damages cotton crop to a little extent and specially when the crop is sown late, but this is not the whole truth. People on non-perennial canals some times instead of giving water to cotton crop which badly needs water in October, utilise that water for sowing rabi crop which it is not their due. I quite feel that the supply of non-perennial canal should not be closed on the 10th of October, but I think the Agricultural Department should be consulted and the supply ought to be closed, say about the 20th of October.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : It cannot be done.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : I am not in a position to say which date would be more suitable.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The date you mention may be suitable, but it cannot be done.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : It may be but certainly in some cases the closure on the 10th of October does a great deal of harm to the cotton crop.

With regard to the volumetric system, it is no doubt a very useful system, but this again depends upon the quality of land. Where the land is good and the zamindars does not expect much *kharaba* he would go in for the volumetric system, but it is not possible for small zamindars owning one square or two or three squares of land to resort to that system. I know that the Executive Engineer in my division presses upon the zamindars to have resort to volumetric system if they want to. As a matter of fact so far as I know the Irrigation Department would welcome the volumetric system because it would do away with so much of their staff. But in the case of poorer lands even with a sufficiently large area, one would not go in for the volumetric system because it would not pay.

[Sardar Ujjal Singh.]

With regard to the general remarks which have fallen from the lips of my honourable friend, I am quite in sympathy with him. Every zamindar feels that *abiana* rates in general ought to be reduced. Of course this is not the occasion to say much on the subject, on some other occasion I may do so, but on this resolution put forward by my honourable friend I cannot see eye to eye with him.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq [Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana (Muhammadan), Rural] (Urdu): Sir, I would like to begin my speech by drawing the attention of the House to the fact that the resolution now under discussion consists of two different parts, each of which, being of utmost importance ought to have been presented to the House for consideration, separately. I even venture to anticipate that you would, at some later stage of its discussion, feel the necessity of presenting the two parts separately. Now, coming to its general aspects, I may submit that the principle involved in the remissions allowed on account of *kharaba* is very sound, and that therefore it has commanded the approval of the public for many years. I will even say that it has existed from time immemorial, and no zamindar can refuse to recognise its benefit. If a tenant suffers loss on account of the scanty yield of his land, there is no reason why the landowner should not also share the loss with him. In doing away with the *kharaba* system we will be inflicting a great loss on the cultivators, instead of conferring any boon on them. The resolution has been moved, not on account of there being any defect in the system itself, but because, it is alleged that the existing method of distribution of the *kharaba* is such as to directly encourage corruption. The subordinate servants illegally force the zamindars to pay them in cash what they receive in the form of *kharaba* remissions. In this way the Government's own servants snatch away what little bounty it grants to the poverty-stricken zamindars. Now my friend, the mover of the resolution, arguing that the removal of the cause would automatically bring about the removal of the effect, has brought the present resolution. He thinks that the *kharaba* distributions afford a chance to the subordinate staff to accept bribes; therefore in stopping the *kharaba* remissions we will be suppressing a great evil. In thus thinking he has over-shot the mark. In trying to strike at the evil, he has also struck at the good. Besides the mode of his reasoning is also fallacious. Stoppage of *kharaba* remissions can in no way check corruption. The subordinate servants will regard it only as a petty drop in the source of their income.

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They will invent new methods of practising bribery. Whereas at first they practised it on the zamindars of the heads, now, the water supply being in their hands, they would practise it with equal convenience on the zamindars of the tails. Further assuming that we reduce the *abiana* rates, the zamindars are not likely to consider it as any compensation for the stoppage of *kharaba* remissions. They will regard the *abiana* as always having been fixed at this figure so that whenever there will be any crop failure in future they will again clamour for an exemption from the *abiana*. If you fix the *abiana* rates without making provisions for exceptional circumstances, the agitation of the zamindars is bound to continue. As I have already stated,

the real purpose of moving this resolution is the suppression of corruption prevailing amongst the Government employees. But I say it is only a round-about way of tackling this problem. In order to uproot this evil we should try to strike at it directly. Here at this stage I recall a story of a king who had a very corrupt officer in his employ. The king knew of his malpractices and in order to lessen the chances of his practising corruption, posted him on the sea shore to count the tides. But genius as he was, here too he invented another method of satisfying his corruption habits. He stopped every ship and boat that came that way by saying that he was there by the King's orders to count the tides, and would not let them pass under the pretext of preventing disturbance in the discharge of his duty. The sailors and boatman, in order to secure their passage without molestation offered him bribes, which he accepted joyfully. Similarly, if you will stop one source of income of these officials, they will invent other ways. It is time that the Government should realise this grave danger to the public and take some strong action against such officials. Whenever the attention of Government has been drawn to this evil practice, the Government members have always evaded their responsibility by saying: "People offer it and tempt the officers to accept it. Let them not make such offers, and there would be no corruption." Sir, I ask whether 2½ crores of people of this province are easier to control or a few thousands of officers. If the Government seriously make up their mind to suppress corruption with a strong hand, their officers will never dare to accept anything illegally. The position of Government in dealing with this much discussed topic of corruption is the same as if you set the dogs at a hare and when they have killed it, excuse yourself by asking, "Why did it not save itself; why did it not run hard? If it is killed it is its own fault."

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : If in place of the dogs we put in their own brethren ? "

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : If they possess the dogs' teeth, the life of the hare would still continue to be in danger. Coming to my point, Sir, I make bold to say that so long as indetermination and weakness of purpose continue to be the guiding principles of Government in dealing with this end there is no hope for the country being relieved of this. But if within any length of time the Government and its officers realise their responsibility in the matter, I think that even without the initiation of *Swaraj*, half the country will find peace and rest and be completely purged of this evil. (The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Would there be no corruption after *Swaraj*). No! When under the Swarajist Government, some departments are put under my control, I believe my own example of integrity would inspire many to do likewise. The corrupt officials would have to abandon their bad habits when they will find me incorruptible and strict towards defaulters.

Pir Akbar Ali : Are you sure your officers would be strictly honest ?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Yes, Sir, they will have to be honest.

Mr. President : Order, order, I think the honourable member is wandering away from the motion before the House. The general question of corruption is not at this moment the subject of discussion.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Sir, I may remark that the *kharaba* system is highly commendable, if it is only regulated in a way as not to leave any scope for corruption. By experience it has been proved that whenever and wherever any officer has tried to check corruption with a strong hand, he has always been successful. In my district the Superintendent of Police is himself an honest man, and keeps a vigilant eye over his subordinates. Hence none of his subordinates have dared to accept a single pie for years.

Mr. E. Maya Das : What has the Police Department got to do with the matter under discussion?

Mr. President : I have already requested the honourable member not to discuss the general question of corruption.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Well, Sir, to put it briefly, I cannot agree with the first part of the resolution; and, as regards the second part of it, I submit that no zamindar can be so insane as to disagree with it. Zamindars are already hard pressed under the heavy weight of different taxes, and it is but justice to lessen their burden by granting them reductions in the rates on the non-perennial areas.

Mr. J. B. G. Smith (Chief Engineer, Irrigation): Sir, the resolution moved by the honourable member from Montgomery (Sayad Muhammad Hussain) is not very explicit and I did not quite know what his precise meaning was until he began to speak this morning. (A voice: Till he finished). It was clear then that he advocated the abolition of *kharaba* in order to do away largely, if not entirely, with corruption. The second part of his resolution.....

Sayad Muhammad Husain : A word of personal explanation, Sir.

Mr. President : Order, order.

Mr. J. B. G. Smith : Secondly, he desired a general reconsideration of the *abiana* rates. He meant by reconsideration, reduction.

Now, as to the first part, the House has listened to his denunciation of the *kharaba* system. He said that it is the *kharaba* system, principally which is responsible for the general demoralisation not only of the irrigation branch personnel, but of the zamindars of the agricultural parts where irrigation exists. With your permission, I would like to bring one fact to notice. The honourable mover has been very voluble on the matter of corruption both to-day and previously. I do not propose to deal with that aspect in my speech. I will leave that to the Honourable Member for Revenue to deal with, although I am glad that my honourable friend from Mian Channu (Sardar Ujjal Singh) did have something to say in opposition to what the honourable member from Montgomery said. Now, what I wish to bring to the notice of the House is this. When the honourable member spoke to me about this in April, I promised him an examination of the question at the Standing Canal Committee. The Honourable Member for Revenue chose the date for the meeting with the greatest care, two days before the meeting of this Council, I mean this session. It was a surprise when we entered the Committee Chamber that there were only four non-official members.

out of a possible seven and the honourable mover was not one of those present. (A voice : He probably missed the train). I regret to say that my impression of his speech this morning is that he did not even read the notes on this subject which Government took the greatest trouble to prepare. (Hear, hear). (A voice : He did read the notes). It did not seem apparent. I will not burden you with the trend of discussion which took place at that Committee. Probably some of my honourable friends, who attended that Committee will inform the House as to the general tenor of that discussion. Sardar Ujjal Singh has already given you an idea of it in spite of the fact that he was not there. (Laughter).

To come back for one moment to the matter of corruption, in case it should be lost when the Honourable Member for Revenue deals with it, I would like the House to understand quite distinctly that a certain non-official member at the Committee in arguing for the retention of *Kharaba* stated that *faslana* was not considered to be either bribery or corruption. (A voice : What more can we say) ? He argued that zamindars ordinarily pay this *faslana* in order to get something, licit or illicit. At any rate he said it was not bribery. Further on that question I will not speak.

As regards the second part, the honourable member from Montgomery stated originally that he alluded expressly to the Nili Bar Colony, or to be more precise, the perennial and non-perennial area in the Nili Bar Colony. (Sayad Muhammad Husain : Only non-perennial.) Very well. (Sayad Muhammad Husain : In particular). Yes, in particular (Laughter). Now Government admits straight away that the experience of this year has been unprecedented. We had a reply to that effect in the House to-day. For thirty-nine years the river has never been low as it has been this year. To compare the conditions in May this year with those of last year, this year's supply in the river was about 6,000 cusecs, while last year it was 22,000 cusecs.

But in any case the Sutlej Valley Project with Irrigation in Nili Bar has not yet had a chance. It has only been running for its first year practically and it has not had a chance throughout the greater part of its areas. But to deal with the specific point raised by the honourable mover as to the rates. The rates on the Sutlej Valley for the non-perennial area are not more, and they are in two cases less than they are on non-perennial areas on the other perennial canals.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Will you kindly explain those two cases.

Mr. J. B. G. Smith : On the Sutlej Valley rabi, oil-seeds, barley, oats, peas are 2/8 against 3/12 on the other non-perennial channels. Bajra, gram, massoor and pulses are 2/8 against 3/4 (8th class of the rates). Now the honourable mover referred chiefly to cotton and argued on the authority of the Director of Agriculture that it was impossible to have a good crop in cotton for the water is shut off on the 10th of October. That may or may not be so, but the honourable member from Mian Channu has told the House how when there is water in the *Kharif* season, when the river is flowing its normal volume, the non-perennial canals on the Sutlej Valley Project get far more water than the perennial systems. What justification, then, can you have for reducing the rates of cotton, or bajra or anything else on the

[Mr. J. B. G. Smith.]

Sutlej Valley non-perennial area or elsewhere? What justification can the House have for such step? To deal with this specific date of 10th October I doubt if that date can be altered. Firstly it is a matter of agreement which is the basic foundation of the whole of the Sutlej Valley agreement with the native states of Bikaner and Bahawalpur. For that reason we have to close down water on the 10th October and you will have to do it in future.

To deal generally with water rates, as not only the honourable mover, but the members who have spoken previous to me have dealt with it, to take the general question of *abiana*, the average water rate on the perennial canals for the last 5 years is Rs. 4.4 per matured acre. The working expenses are Rs. 1.6, i.e., irrigation working expenses. In non-perennial inundation canals your average *abiana* is 1.46 and your working expenses 1.5. So far as your non-perennial areas go you have nothing to come and go on. You barley cover the actual expenses. Mind you, I am not bringing non-perennial areas on the Sutlej Valley into consideration. They stand on a different footing.....

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Will you kindly explain that also ?

Mr. J. B. G. Smith : In their case you have not had them running even for two years, how can you tell ? It is too early yet. There is not much more to say in support of a continuation of the existing *abiana* rates. But considered with the figures that I have just given you, you might consider one thing more : that is what is the cash rental of an acre of irrigated land in the Punjab ? The settlement reports of the Lower Jhelum Colony show that for the years 1917-21 the average cash rental was Rs. 14-2-0. That, mind you, was at the time of the greatest depression of the financial period through which we have recently passed. Does that same rate exist to-day ? I am speaking unauthoritatively, but on generally good information that it is Rs. 20. This is a fairly low margin. I have it on the authority of deputy commissioners that Rs. 30 an acre is a fair price frequently paid, and that prices have frequently touched Rs. 50 an acre.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Sardar Ujjal Singh gets something like Rs. 20.

Mr. J. B. G. Smith : We will leave it at that. Rs. 4-4-0 is the *abiana* rate. Is that in comparison anything excessive ? But wait a bit. I have got to give the House one word of warning and I would ask you to mark that word well. Most people have some idea about the threat of water logging, but the reclamation of alkaline lands has not loomed on the horizon except in a very indefinite sort of way, I was going to say that it was not on the horizon of non-official mind, but I would include the official also and say that it has scarcely appeared even on the horizon of the official. One thing still more important is the consideration of your future research. There has got to be research, and more research, if the Punjab is going to continue to be what it is or if you are going to improve. The necessity for research has not appeared on the horizon of anybody with the exception of just a few of those who seem to be blessed with the power of long vision and those you can count on the fingers of one hand. So I will conclude by saying this much that for waterlogging, for reclamation of alkaline land, and for research you need more money. The Honourable Member for Finance will

have to dip his hands in his pockets very deep. He can only dip in the *abiana* pocket and I do not think for one moment that this House would consider deliberately making the task of the Honourable Finance Member one whit harder than it is going to be. With these words I conclude (Official Cheers). (At this stage Pir Akbar Ali rose to move his amendment).

Mr. President : Does the honourable member wish to move his amendment?¹ If so, does he consider it in order, and not beyond the scope of the original motion? I think the honourable member's amendment is out of order inasmuch as it goes far beyond the scope of the original motion.

Pir Akbar Ali : I submit that it is quite in order. The motion before the House is that the prevailing rates on the non-perennial canals be reconsidered and my amendment is that along with that the prevailing rates on the perennial canals as well as on the non-perennial canals be reconsidered.

Mr. President : The motion is that such and such a thing be done for one district and the amendment is that it be done for the whole of the province.

Pir Akbar Ali : I submit that in the motion no district is mentioned.

Mr. President : I consider the amendment to be out of order and rule it out accordingly.

Pir Akbar Ali : Then I may be allowed to speak on the original motion (then continued in Urdu) : Sir, the resolution now before the House consists of two parts. The first part relates to *khara'a* and the second part to the reconsideration of the present rates on the non-perennial areas. Sir, so far as the first part is concerned it seems to me that the honourable mover has proceeded on a wrong assumption. He probably thinks that Government allows 25 per cent. *khara'a*, while as a matter of fact *khara'a* is allowed only to the extent of one or two per cent. And even out of this one or two per cent. the larger portion actually goes to the pockets of the zilladars and other officials of the Revenue and Canal Departments. But, Sir, these officials are not alone to blame. The big zamindars are equally responsible for this sad state of affairs. In the first place the zilladars and patwaris try to usurp the larger part of the money that should go to the zamindars, and secondly, the big zamindars seek to deprive the deserving persons of the remaining portion. Sir, my honourable friend from Hoshiarpur has raised the question of corruption prevailing in the Canal and Revenue Departments. Sir, with regard to this, I would submit that though this question requires a lengthy discussion, yet I would cut short and say that it does not wholly rest with the Government to stop corruption. They cannot stamp it out from their departments unless the zamindars are prepared to co-operate with them. Sir, in my opinion the best way to deal with corruption is to encourage the honest officials by special promotions and other rewards and to punish the corrupt ones by withholding their promotions. But Government appears to have failed so far to observe this salutary principle. As a matter of fact, I do not know of any case in which an honest officer may have been given special promotion for his honesty and a corrupt officer may have been punished for his dishonest ways. The departments of Canal, Police and

¹ That in clause (ii) before the word 'non-perennial' add the words 'perennial and'.

[Pir Akbar Ali.]

Public Works are already notorious for their mal-practices and the prolonged negligence on the part of the Government would prove highly prejudicial to the best interests of the administration. The corruption is so deep-rooted in these departments that, even *faslana*, which is obviously a sort of illegal gratification, is considered to be a legal charge. *Faslana* is taken in two different forms, that is, in the first place a share of the produce is given to the patwaris and in the second place when the officers such as zilladars, sub-divisional officers, and even the Chief Engineer, visit the rural areas, the zamindars are required to render certain services to these officers.

(At this stage the Honourable President vacated the Chair and the Deputy President occupied it.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Are there no contractors in your district ?

Pir Akbar Ali : Contractors make no difference. If you kindly enquire into the matter you will find that this arrangement is absolutely of no avail to the zamindars. Sir, the zamindars do not pay *faslana* with a view to gain something, but in order to avoid the loss which may otherwise be inflicted on them. The authorities sometimes threaten the zamindars at the tails that their water supply will be stopped in order to provide more water to the zamindars at the heads of the canals and sometimes the zamindars at the heads are threatened on similar grounds. I am sorry to say that nothing has so far been done by the Government to stop this practice. On the other hand, the Government member has talked of this matter in such a way as to suggest the idea that this sort of dealing with the zamindars is justified.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Not at all, Sir. It was stated only as a matter of surprise that a member of this House should hold such opinion.

Pir Akbar Ali : Sir, there can be no doubt as to the *bond fides* of the honourable mover of the resolution, but I can say without any fear of contradiction that by carrying into effect the first part of the resolution the zamindars do not stand to gain anything. But I want to add that applications for the grant of *kharaba* are submitted to the officers who do not go to the fields at the time when the crops are standing. They visit the areas at the time when the crops are removed and hence they cannot correctly estimate the *kharaba*. Therefore I would request the Government to issue instructions to their officers to the effect that for the purpose of ascertaining *kharaba* they should visit the areas at the time when the crops are still standing. I think it would not be out of place to mention that in the district of Ferozepore and perhaps also in the district of Montgomery if a zamindar exceeded the permissible percentage irrigation, it was proposed that no *kharaba* be allowed. I discussed the matter with the local authorities and now I hear that this proposal has been abandoned. If it is correct, so much the better and in case the practice is still going on I would request the Government to stop it.

The next point to which I would draw the attention of the House is that no *abiana* was ever charged on account of *wad watter* on the Grey Canals, although perhaps the Financial Commissioner on some remarks in Mr. Currie's

Settlement Report is inclined to hold it otherwise. But it is a fact that from the beginning no *abiana* has ever been charged on the Grey Canals. From the administrative and some other points of view the present canals are better than the old Grey Canals. But at the time of Grey Canals the zamindars who got water got it in more quantity than they do now, but still they had to pay nothing on account of *wad watar*. Now since *abiana* on account of *wad watar* has been charged the difficulties of the zamindars have considerably increased. Their difficulties take an acute form when there occurs a breach in the canals and particularly so when there is no proper and immediate assistance available to close the breach. Consequently the water continues to flow for many days together resulting in the total destruction of the crops. Moreover, Sir, when water rates are charged for water supplied for the purpose of *kharif* crops, I see no justification in levying water rates on account of *wad watar* which is made use of for the *Rabi* crops when in fact no water is supplied to *Rabi* crops. Sir, this practice is open to serious objections and zamindars regard it absolutely unjustified. They say that Government has taken the price of water supplied to them in *Kharif* and ask why they should charge on account of water which has not been supplied to them.

With regard to the second part of the resolution which appears to me to be more important, I beg to submit that the water rates now in force should be reduced. Sir, when the water rates were enhanced the produce of lands was plenty, the prices of crops were high and the labour was cheap.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Is the honourable member speaking on the amendment which was ruled out by the Chair ?

Pir Akbar Ali : No, Sir, I am not speaking on the amendment which was ruled out by the Chair.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : So far as point 'B' is concerned, you will remember, Sir, that it was limited by the President to the Sutlej Valley Canal system.

Pir Akbar Ali : No, Sir, the motion refers to all non-perennial canals.

The Deputy President : The honourable member's time is up.

Pir Akbar Ali : With your permission I will take five minutes more.

The Deputy President : The honourable member can take one or two minutes.

Pir Akbar Ali : I hope you would kindly allow me five minutes.

The Deputy President : The honourable member will please try to finish his speech within one or two minutes ?

Pir Akbar Ali : Very well, Sir. I was submitting that when water rates were enhanced there was plenty of produce.....

The Deputy President : Will the honourable member kindly resume his seat ? His time is over.

Sardar Buta Singh [Multan Division and Sheikhupura (Sikh) Rural], (Urdu): Sir, I should confess that when I first looked at the resolution I could

[Sardar Buta Singh.]

not make anything out of the first part of it. I did not know what percentage of *kharaba* is generally allowed to the zamindars. I hoped that the honourable mover would help me in the matter but to my utter astonishment I found him as ignorant as I was. The speeches delivered by the other honourable members as well did not throw any light on this subject. Sir, the system of allowing *kharaba* has been in existence for the last so many years and is undoubtedly a good one. I am at one with my honourable friend Chaudhri Afzal Haq when he says that the resolution if accepted would not solve the problem, but on the other hand, would put the Government as well as the zamindars in a false position. Sir, if the object of the resolution was to discuss the conduct of the revenue officials such as zilladars, would it not have been better for the honourable mover to have tabled a resolution to this effect? The discussion that has taken place was not directly relevant to the subject matter of the resolution and it was only a side issue. It has been said that the people have become accustomed to offering bribes and it is, therefore, very difficult for the Government to eradicate corruption without the co-operation of the public. But this statement does not appeal to me to be true. As a matter of fact the people are tired of the extortions made by the petty officials of the Government. I have been working with the Co-operative Department for the last 9 or 10 years and my experience of that Department tells me that it is absolutely free from corruption and do you know why it is so? The Co-operative Days are celebrated and availed of by the Co-operative Department for impressing on the zamindars the necessity of refraining from offering bribes to officials. A regular propaganda should be started to make the public realise their duties in this respect. The Honourable Revenue Member recently called a meeting or Diwan of the zamindars in the Sheikhupura District and explained to them the policy of Government in regard to the Land Alienation Act and the rights and privileges accruing to the zamindars under the Punjab Revenue Amendment Bill. If in this way meetings of the zamindars are called by high officers in different parts of the province and if, in this manner the zamindars are made to realise their duties towards the administration, I am sure that corruption if not totally stamped out, would be substantially reduced. In my opinion the most effective way of dealing with corruption is to take those officers to task whose general reputation is bad. Under section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code a person can be proceeded against on the ground that his general reputation is bad and can further be bound over and sent to prison if he fails to furnish security for a year or two.

Similarly in the case of certain political workers, necessary amount of judicial evidence is not wasted upon for convictions. May I know why the same principle is not followed in the case of corrupt officials?

The Deputy President : Will the honourable member please speak to the motion before the House?

Sardar Buta Singh : Sir, the resolution is not happily worded and I do not agree with the first part of this resolution. In my opinion the system of allowing *kharaba* should continue. The officers concerned should be ordered to deal fairly and honestly with the zamindars and in case a complaint is received against any of them, it should be promptly

taken notice of. With regard to the question of *faslana* a circular letter may be issued to all concerned. In the end, Sir, I beg to oppose the first part of the resolution. With regard to the second part I would request the Government to do the needful.

Mr. C. A. H. Townsend (Financial Commissioner): Sir, I had not intended to speak to-day, but some of the remarks which have fallen from the last speaker cannot go unanswered. He said, I understand, that officers do not hear complaints of dishonesty from cultivators against subordinates of Government. I am, Sir, at the head of an important department of Government: and so far as I personally am concerned, and so far as I can make my subordinates, all complaints are heard. I keep what is called a *Khulla Darbar*, and the conduct of one subordinate of Government is now being inquired into (he does not belong to the department of which I have the honour to be the head) owing to complaints originally made to me some months ago. This debate has largely developed into a general discussion of corruption. The last speaker said that, as under the Criminal Procedure Code people can be punished for their general reputation, so officers who have a notorious reputation for dishonesty should also be punished. Well, some months ago a case relevant in this connection came to my personal notice. It did not relate to the Revenue or Irrigation Department, but to the Excise Department. In it a very distinguished predecessor of mine, Sir John Maynard, a name always held in honour in this House, took action, as Financial Commissioner, on reputation as regards some subordinates of the Excise Staff. They were not—I am speaking from memory actually dismissed, but their promotion was stopped or they were reduced in grade. They all protested, and, although Sir John Maynard ceased to be Financial Commissioner some years ago, it was only last year that I, as Financial Commissioner, had to deal with the case of one of those subordinates. I came to the distinct conclusion that he had been unfairly treated, and that the orders which had been passed reducing him on a reputation for dishonesty were largely based on stories got up by his enemies. Therefore, in ordinary equity we had to restore him to the rank which he would otherwise have held, and to do what we could to repair the injustice which we considered had been done to him. Nor, Sir, was my experience unique. Some of the Financial Commissioners who intervened between Sir John Maynard and myself had also had the same experience, and were compelled, acting in accordance with their conscience, to cancel the orders given by Sir John Maynard. Against that distinguished officer I do not of course make the very least insinuation. I only wish to bring it to the notice of this House that it is extremely dangerous to act on reputation in these matters (*hear, hear*) and I would ask the House to bear this matter in mind in weighing the remarks which have fallen from the last speaker.

Lala Gopal Das [Lahore and Ferozepore-cum-Sheikhupura (Non-Muhammadian), Rural]: Sir, I have heard the
 12 noon. speeches of honourable members with attention, specially the speech of the honourable the mover. I cannot, Sir, understand how *kharaba* can be abolished and how it can be replaced by a reduction in the *abiana* rates. If the *kharata* is given up altogether, then I would like to know how those zamindars that are at the tails of the canals would derive

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the proper benefit that they get from it now. I understand if this suggestion is adopted the gain that will accrue will be to those zamindars who happen to be above the tails, and not to those who get inadequate supply of water and suffer weak crops. Thus, they who are well off will be gaining at the cost of the poor zamindars at the tails who are the real sufferers. The honourable mover has definitely stated that the *kharata* does not go to the zamindars at all, but that it is pocketed by certain subordinates of the Canal Department or the Revenue Department. I think this allegation is not true. He also said that such people who do certain mischievous acts by usurping the money that ought to go to the zamindars are not punished. If I mistake not, only recently the Government has dismissed a zilladar on charges of corruption in the Tahar Sub-Division. In my opinion the abolition of *kharata* will be detrimental to the interests of the zamindars. I would not like to repeat the arguments that have been offered by my honourable friends but will only say that I do not agree with the honourable mover in the first instance, but in the second I think there is a case which deserves a little sympathy, and that sympathetic attitude can be met by Government if they think that no loss will accrue from it. With these remarks I take my seat and oppose the motion.

(At this stage the Honourable President resumed the Chair.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member): Sir, the resolution consists of two distinct parts. The first one is that ordinary *kharaba* remission should be abolished and the money which is ordinarily paid by way of *kharaba* remission should go towards reducing the water rates. This is its object. The honourable mover has not told us what is the average annual remission and he has not told us what is the average annual demand and what percentage the *kharaba* remission bears to the demand, and what would be the extent of reduction in case his resolution were accepted by Government.

Sayad Muhammad Husain: Will the Honourable Revenue Member throw light on the subject now?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Certainly he will. The facts are these. During the five years ending the 31st March 1928 the total annual average demand was 8½ crores of rupees. That is the average annual demand on the basis of figures for five years ending the 31st March 1928. The average annual remission for the same period is 13½ lakhs. This gives very nearly the average of 8½ per cent. of the demand. Therefore, if there is to be a reduction in the water rates the reduction would be 8½ per cent. of the demand, and I have been told by those who have made calculations that it means the reduction of 5 pice per acre on the rate which prevails at present. Well, I do not despise 5 pice. It is a definite sum, and if there are hundreds of thousands of five pice, they do mount up to a lot of money, but whether really it is worthwhile to reduce the water rates per acre by 5 pice and do away with *kharaba*, is a matter on which I shall be very glad to have the views of this Council. Personally, and mind you when I say personally, I mean as an individual member and not as a Member of Government, I do not think it is worth while. These are, Sir, facts so far as the main point of the resolution is concerned. Now I proceed to answer the debate because it would be

a great pity indeed even if matters, not very directly relevant to the resolution, but still in their own way very important statements made in this Council, were allowed to remain either uncontradicted or unchallenged or without being commented upon especially as there are a large number of members for whom I have the greatest respect and for whose opinions I have indeed very great regard, and it would not do to allow their very great faith in the power of Government to do things which during the last nine years as a Member of Government I have found myself and the Government incapable of achieving. The honourable member from Hoshiarpur stated that if he assumed the position of a Member of Government, in a day he would be able to stamp out corruption in those departments which were placed in his charge.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Why not give him half a day to stamp out half the corruption ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I would, if it were in my power to instal him in my place at once, and see how far he redeems the pledges he is ready to give this Council or fulfils the hopes that he entertains in this matter or justifies the faith he has in his capacity. Nine years ago I myself was extremely keen on stamping out corruption in my country. But I must say, even before entering office, I never expected that this evil could be altogether stamped out, and the utmost I expected to achieve was that with vigilance it could be substantially reduced, and further that it could be reduced only if Government were anxious to do its duty in this matter, although Government by itself, however, hard it struggled could not achieve any success unless the non-official world were also ready to co-operate with it in its efforts to stamp out or reduce corruption. As a lawyer perhaps I was not of as hopeful a frame of mind as the honourable member from Hoshiarpur, although his training in one of the most important administrative departments of Government for a number of years ought to have made him less hopeful than he appears to be.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : That is because Government do not take the necessary action.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The department that he for some time got his training in was the police. Let me, Sir, before I forget make a few points absolutely clear to this Council and through this Council to the Punjab public. Firstly, many members have insinuated that Government does not state in unequivocal terms its condemnation of corruption whether in the shape of *faslana* or in any other shape. Here I stand on behalf of Government—entire Government, Reserved as well as Transferred—to state that Government condemn thoroughly corruption in all its forms whether in the shape of *faslana* or in the shape of daily services rendered to officers or in the shape of bribery in individual cases. Sir, Government has since the Reforms and in this case I must say with reference to Government which preceded the reformed Government that it was no less anxious than the present Government to stamp out corruption. (*Hear, hear.*)

It must be said to the credit of the Government which in the pre-reform period was run by Sir Michael O'Dwyer that one of its most brilliant achievements was the crusade started against corruption. (*Hear, hear.*) We have

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done our best to carry out that work and in that work we have been assisted to a very large extent by the reformed Legislative Council. This Council will remember that as early as 1922 a Corruption Committee sat. The Government was ready to constitute it. It made a very excellent report after due investigation. Many of the members of that Committee became aware of forms of corruption which were, I have no doubt, unknown to them before they started on the investigation. They made their recommendations to the best of their ability. Government went into those recommendations, approved some, was not in a position to approve others. As a matter of fact the evil is so great, the evil is so deeprooted and the ordinary principles of justice and fair play which come into action as soon as a single man is hauled up for being dealt with for corruption are so stringent that Government finds itself in many cases helpless in the matter.

There are three ways in which Government can try to reduce or stamp out corruption. One is to hand over the person complained against to the judicial courts for trial. Whenever sanction to prosecute a Government servant is asked, Government has never, or very seldom if ever, refused to grant sanction. Why is it, then, that this method of stamping out corruption is not as effective as it ought to be? Is it that our judiciary is at fault? or is it that the requisites needed for securing conviction in judicial courts are lacking? In most cases it must be said that it is the latter. There are a large number of people crying bitterly against a particular official, saying that he is corrupt. The Council will concede that in these days of propaganda—propaganda is a very good thing, we all believe in it, but it has its drawbacks, one has to be very careful. How am I to know that a particular individual has really a bad reputation? The head of a department receives a deputation of leading men of an *ilaga*, perhaps including a member or two of this honourable Council, assuring the head of the department that such and such a person is corrupt, that there are hundreds of thousands of people who are ready to speak to this effect. Barely the head of the department has been 24 hours older, than another deputation from the same *ilaga* also including a member of the Legislative Council comes and assures the head of the department "We came to know that a deputation had come and falsely accused a man whose honesty is unimpeachable and a more honest man it has not been their fate to know before." If Government on such allegations and accusations and defences of interested people were going to transfer him, what will become of the administration? The Council will recognise that neither the head of the department nor any member of Government can possibly conscientiously decide which deputation to believe. At the most what he can do is to refer the matter to the local officers for favour of enquiry. That local officer though slightly in a better position than the head of the department to know which version of the case is correct, more often than not, is not in a position to come to a definitely clear finding which side to believe unless evidence is led as to individual instances of that officer's corruption. I have not the slightest doubt that the honourable Sikh member from Sheikhpura (Sardar Buta Singh), although in the excitement of the moment he suggested Government proceeding by way of reputation as is admissible in cases tried under section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code or in a still more easier way of dealing with corrupt people as in the case of political

workers being dealt with under the Regulations of 1918, in his calmer moments or in a committee to which a matter like that may be referred, if his opinion were invited, he would probably realise the difficulties of justly and fairly fastening upon that man the very serious responsibility of having been corrupt unless that man had had a fair and just trial. I mean no disrespect either to my own country or to my continent, but it is generally said that the British standards of justice and fair play have now become quite as prevalent in the orient as they have been in the occident. From the point of view of the man who is arraigned before a court of justice or even before the head of his department, we must take his point of view and see that he is being accused of a very serious offence and he must have a fair trial. You must not allow your general view point, that there is corruption, to enable you to go further and say that this man is corrupt. That is one side or one aspect of the case.

There is another one and a much more serious one. I can give the Council the assurance that during the last nine years very strenuous efforts have been made by Government, and as we are discussing a matter connected with irrigation, I, as Revenue Member must state that I have been most unlucky. Whenever I have sent an officer of my department to a judicial court for trial, even when as a lawyer I felt that the case was such in which there was very little chance of failure, I have been disillusioned. In more cases than one my zeal for stamping out corruption has led to Government losing money. In one case an officer actually offered to make good the money which he was alleged to have misappropriated. We were not going to retain him in service in any case, for he was a temporary man. However, my zeal for stamping out corruption overran my discretion and I said 'No, he must be tried. It is not a question of money; it is a question of principle.' He was actually challenged, tried and acquitted. (A voice: Honourably?) Not quite. And to add insult to injury he put in a claim for having been out of pocket in defending the case. I resisted that claim. He was acquitted, but it was felt that he had done it, and that he could now go to court for damages if he liked. Well, naturally when I found that by that method there was not much help forthcoming I instituted a system of enquiry, but not an enquiry by departmental officers only, but with the help of an institution that we called 'panel of officers'. Selected men from the judicial department, from the executive department, from the police department, men selected for their honesty integrity, ability, the very best men that Government could think of, were put on this panel; and up till now we have had no complaint against anybody. This panel of officers go into the matter, investigate and report that evidence is or is not forthcoming. The case comes up, and, in some cases I am very happy that it is a good case. I send up the case to court, but I cannot say that much success has attended my efforts. Then I feel that I am unlucky in the judicial courts and say let us set up a departmental commission to do this work. They are now functioning; but in many cases it must be admitted with some regret that those who in the month of January are most anxious that Government should institute C. I. D. investigation and are very keen in the month of March that the man should be prosecuted, when he actually comes up for trial in the month of June, their zeal and enthusiasm evaporate, the friends and relations of the person concerned have been able to appeal to those very zealous and enthusiastic public spirited men. 'What is the good to be gained by this

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 prosecution? The man will be dismissed, he has children, he has sons to be fed and daughters to be married.' I must admit and I have not the slightest doubt about it, that the honourable members of this Council will agree with me, that the character of the countryside—and I include in countryside cities also—is not always so strong as to resist the appeal. I do not mean any insinuation against any member. I have no desire to do so. As a matter of fact it is only my confidence in the members and in my deep-rooted respect for them that enables me to take the risk of saying that in many cases of corruption when a man is believed to be corrupt and he is hauled up before one head of the department or other, cases are not unknown when members of this Council approach the head of the department saying that this man is being falsely accused. They may be right, they may know that he is honest, but the fact remains that the intercession of members of the Council with the heads of departments does not make the task of stamping out corruption any easier. I, however, give a very definite and clear assurance to this Council and to the public outside that Government is most anxious to stamp out corruption or to reduce it substantially, if stamping out is not possible. Government is prepared to do all that is necessary to achieve this end. It is well known that His Excellency Sir Malcolm Hailey whenever he went on tour, and he did so pretty often, made it known generally that if anybody came to him and accused any one before him he would look into the matter provided the accuser left a note signed by himself that he would stand by that complaint. That practice is still open to every one, and any member of Government or head of department would be glad to receive complaints but remember pursuing complaints and generally failing to achieve success, only encourages corruption instead of reducing it. If corrupt people believe that Government starts investigations and these investigations end in smoke and come to nothing, does it not encourage corrupt people? Now, Sir, I come to certain suggestions which are, I may say, of constructive nature. One of them came from the honourable member from Sikh Sheikhpura. He said that a great deal of propaganda should be done amongst officers as well as amongst the people by preaching, and preaching *ad nauseum*, the wickedness of corruption, the wastefulness of corruption and the fact that Government looks with intense disapproval on it and is prepared to bring corrupt persons to book only if it could have the necessary evidence to do so. I think, Sir, that is an excellent suggestion and as a matter of fact that suggestion was made to me by him and some other members some time ago. As the result of that suggestion the Chief Engineers of the Irrigation Department decided to issue a circular note to all the zamindars stating that all sorts of bribery are strictly prohibited, that if there is any proof forthcoming those who receive bribes will be very severely dealt with.

It was said just now that when a member of this Council stated that *faslana* is not really bribery, Government mentioned that with a sort of pleasure. No Sir, it was mentioned with very great regret and shame, but does the Council expect the Government to proceed to prosecute the honourable member of the Council. Is it not always urged by the Council that it is the person who receives the bribe who should be proceeded against so that people may be forthcoming as witnesses. If we begin to proceed strongly and severely against the people who give information, surely the chances of

securing conviction of those who receive bribes will be considerably reduced. That is the reason why Government cannot proceed against those who give information. But let me assure the Council that nonetheless Government very strongly disapproves of it.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Did not the honourable member who ever he is refer to the patwaris ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I have not quite followed the honourable member. But I do not think it is really worthwhile pursuing it.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : My point is that patwaris start on Rs. 18. That is not a pay on which an educated man can live. Government, therefore, encourages corruption directly. That is the complaint that I have often heard.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : That is the same complaint that has been heard about peons in the High Court who receive some sort of tips from clients with the connivance of the counsel and I have no doubt the Honourable Judges of the High Court look with intense disapproval on this practice just as the Government does. The question of fixing the pay in accordance with the funds available to Government is naturally not a very easy one to settle. I have no doubt the honourable interrupting member who has particularly financial bent of mind realises that if he considered Rs. 80 as a living wage, it when worked out, would mean about additional 50 lakhs or may be a crore to the expenditure of the province. If he is prepared to add to taxation to that extent I have no doubt Government will be prepared to consider that as well. To return to the subject in hand, I think I have said enough on the question of corruption which seems to have been the basis on which the first part of the resolution of the honourable member is based. I am at one with the honourable member that there is corruption, and that *kharaba* remissions offer first opportunities to corrupt officials. I look to him as well as to my officers to make efforts to reduce this evil. He knows perfectly well that in the Lower Bari Doab Colony Government granted remissions last *kharif* because it was felt that justice demanded that when crops have not been good, when they are very considerably below average, and the rules say that when crop is below annas 8 some remission may be given, and when below annas 4 remissions should be given. We took steps to make special inspections. I was told that there was a great deal of corruption prevailing. At once a circular letter was issued that whenever there is a complaint of corruption, the man should be suspended and proceeded against. I was not content with that. A Criminal Investigation Department officer was appointed to go into that matter. He did. He was very hopeful to begin with, and then the colleagues of my honourable friend, some leading zamindars of the *ilaga* began to throw their weight in favour of the corrupt officials. . . .

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Because the thing was so much delayed (laughter).

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Well, Sir, we actually proceeded in the matter, and out of a lot of material that was available we found some officer who could be proceeded against, if some zamindars of the *ilaga* had stuck to their first statements. Still there is something left

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out of that heavy bag, and the matter is being proceeded with. So the action taken by the irrigation department in the particular case the honourable mover had in mind is now before the Council; as to the result wait and see. Can it be said that any one could have done more than this?

I know that a large number of members of this Council disapprove of the idea of the abolition of *kharaba*. There is a great deal to be said for those who oppose the idea of doing away with *kharaba* remissions. We realise that in theory *kharaba* is most just and most fair, but in practice that justice and fairness is very much discounted on account of the innate weakness of human nature on both sides—the official and the non-official. I think I have put the case fairly and justly. In view of that, Government is not prepared to do away with the good thing because the machinery and the people concerned, the zamindars are both weak. It should be our effort to improve both. I do not agree with the honourable member for Hoshiarpur that the little 'khargosh' rabbit who is employed either as a policeman or a judicial officer or as a sub-overseer is invested by Government with a dog's teeth. This 'khargosh' on being employed by Government develops a dog's teeth when it has opportunities of being corrupt. What about the 'khargoshes' generally whose co-operation I do not have? They are all friends and give me no help in this.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Because they are helpless.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I have no doubt that the honourable member seeing the view of the Council is against him, will withdraw the first part of the resolution. If he does not, I have no doubt the Council will reject it.

Now I come to the second part of the resolution. I see that the second part has been practically limited to Sutlej Valley Project, but a definite amendment to that effect by the member himself or some one else had not been made. As regards the date of 10th October, he is perfectly right that it is a fixed date which Government is not in a position to change from 10th to 15th or any other date, subsequent to that date, because under the contract between the Government and the States of Bahawalpur and Bikaner our non-perennial canals should not be running after the 10th October. That is the reason why though irrigation is most beneficial to cotton after the 10th October, Government finds itself helpless in the matter.

Now as to rates. The rates fixed are the same rates as prevail in non-perennial areas elsewhere except in two cases where they are definitely lower. I do not think this year's experience of non-perennial canals of the Sutlej Valley Project can be urged as a reason for reducing the rates. This is the first year. Members of this Council are always most sympathetic to a member who is making his maiden speech. Is there any reason why when these canals are having their maiden flow you should not be sympathetic? After all this is the first year and we have not had long enough experience, to say that the running of non-perennial canals in the Sutlej Valley Project is as compared with other non-perennial canals so much poorer as to justify a lower rate being necessary than elsewhere. As the honourable members are aware already orders have been issued by the Chief Engineer with the concurrence of Government that in view of the fact that these canals are new,

and there are breaches as the honourable member from Ferozepore stated, and people are new to their lands, field to field *kharaba* should prevail for some time, field to field *kharaba* which is not existing anywhere in the Punjab. In view of these difficulties Government does not want to do anything which might be resulting in hardship to the people, because in their prosperity is the strength of Government, and if they do not earn anything, the *abiana* cannot be realised. If, therefore, there is a recurrence of this abnormal scarcity of water the honourable member who represents that area may rest assured that Government will be ready to deal with it in a fair and just manner. I regret that in view of the shortness of the experience obtained I am not in a position to accept this suggestion at this stage. (Cheers.)

Sayad Muhammad Husain [Montgomery (Muhammadan), Rural] : Sir, I am very thankful to the Honourable Member for his great speech which he has delivered and for the facts and figures he has placed at my disposal. After hearing his speech and the speeches of my learned colleagues I come to the conclusion that the first part of my resolution should be omitted with your permission. In my zeal for the uplift of the poor zamindars I have tried to do away with all the *kharaba* but I find that we have not yet reached that stage when *kharaba* should be done away with at once. I want to drop the first part of my resolution. But at the same time I want to add that the Canal Department cannot be divested of their responsibility to stamp out corruption. I give them one concrete example. In the district of Lahore where on account of the strict and vigilant officers like the Deputy Commissioner and the Superintendent of Police corruption has been practically stamped out from the police department. I being an inhabitant of the neighbouring district of Montgomery know perfectly well that corruption in the police of Lahore is practically extinct and I must say that I might approach the Inspector-General of Police to transfer all the sub-inspectors of the Montgomery district to Lahore that they might have their training under Lahore officers so that we also might have honest officers.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Is the honourable member sure that these sub-inspectors of Lahore will not get corrupted in Montgomery (Laughter).

Sayad Muhammad Husain : If the Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police of Lahore can achieve so great a success in stamping out corruption from Lahore surely our Chief Engineer can check it.

Can he tell me how many zilladars he has dismissed summarily in this year when so much corruption prevails?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Several. Two or three, I think.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : Two or three is a very negligible number. As regards the second part of the resolution, I never expected that answer from the Government. I never expected such an answer from the Honourable the Revenue Member. I am a representative of that part of the country and the people there are undergoing great hardship. I told the Chief Engineer in the very beginning of my speech and I say again definitely that there is a great distinction between *rabi* rates and *kharif* rates. We in the perennial section receive irrigation sometimes for three or four occasions, but the non-perennial section gets it only in the first quarter. Unfortunately the Chief

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Engineer does not seem to know the difference between *baira* and *masra*. *Bajra* is *kharif* and *masra* is *rabi*. Gram is not *kharif*, it is *rabi*. *Bajra* is not unfortunately sown to a great extent in the Nili Bar, because there are so many sparrows which take away these things. They include *bajra* in the fodder crop. The Honourable Revenue Member said that we have got a definite understanding with the Durbars of Bahawalpur and Bikanir. He said that we could not go one day beyond the 10th October. You cannot go because you have got a contract. From his great experience as a Revenue Member and as a lawyer, the honourable member must know that it is only at that time that these crops want irrigation and if water is stopped after the 10th October or even earlier as the case may be, do you think that they will stand upon the same footing as the cotton and other crops which will receive and which have been receiving irrigation even; say, towards the end of October. This is a thing which is put before you. This is the thing which people have felt, in fact some of the big zamindars have felt great trouble to find out tenants. In the other districts the tenants come in hundreds on *batai*, but here we cannot find even three or four. We have reduced one-fourth share of the *batai*. If such be the case, then surely Government should take some action in reducing *abiana* rates in non-perennial section of the Nili Bar area which includes of course, Ferozepore, the Gray canal and the Multan district and even the Montgomery. I have been specially instructed by my constituency to move this resolution with great strength and to bring to the notice of the House the great hardship that prevails among the people. In view of this some action must be taken by the Government at once and they should not wait for two or three years. What benefit will they derive, when they know for certain that they will not get water beyond the 10th October. The Honourable Revenue Member can consult the Honourable Minister for Agriculture, if he likes and find out for himself what great difference arises between those cotton crops which receive irrigation later on and those that enjoy irrigation till 10th October. There is much difference. Specific relief can be granted even now. One challenge has been thrown out by me and no body till now has answered that challenge. I laid great emphasis on *wad watar* and explained it in great detail. For *wad watar*, *abiana* is not being charged either on non-perennial or on the perennial section. Why is it so? Why is this further hardship imposed upon my constituency? I mean the non-perennial section of the Nili Bar. Why have they not been given even *kharab*? Without giving them *kharab*, there is no excuse for the Government to charge those people. If the Government is not able to see eye to eye with me on this subject at this stage, and if they want to wait for another year, surely they can do away with *wad-watar* at once and at this stage. They never gave me the answer to my question and I am very sorry that the Government either forgot to answer the question on which I laid so much stress or that they did not answer intentionally. I will be very glad if some light is thrown on this point. Instead of giving an answer to my question, the Honourable Chief Engineer simply said that I did not attend the meeting of the canal committee. I am very sorry for that. But there are certain factors which are beyond human control and it is due to one of such causes that I was unable to attend the meetings of the canal committee. My children were ill. I was away

outside in the Multan district. I felt very sorry in not being able to attend the meetings. I had no control over it. Instead of saying that you are going to do away with *wad-watta*, you want to shelve this particular question. I will still appeal to the Honourable Revenue Member to comply with my request and accept my resolution. If he will not do that, I will appeal to my honourable colleagues who still represent other parts of the Nili Bar and request them to exercise their influence in canvassing support for the second part of my resolution. Their responsibility is the same as mine. With these few words and with your permission, I beg leave to withdraw the first part of the resolution. I have no hesitation in saying that with the help of all honourable members, the second part of the resolution will be accepted by the House.

Mr. President : Does the honourable member mean to retain the second part as it stands? Does he give up the first part?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I think the honourable member has limited his resolution to the Nili Bar.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I understand that it will be carried by the House.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : May I speak, Sir?

Mr. President : The Honourable Member has already spoken.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I did speak, Sir, but the the honourable member has now limited himself to part (b) of his resolution and he lays much stress on the resolution as it stands, that is to say, that the rates on all non-perennial canals be reduced.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : If it is the wish of the Government, I accept it.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Do you rule Sir, that the resolution be discussed as it stands or that it be limited to Nili Bar as desired by the mover. The honourable member so often changes his mind that we do not know what he wants.

Mr. President : I will put the two parts separately.

Sayad Muhammad Husain : I want only the second part of the resolution.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member's proposal is definitely that on all non-perennial canals of the Punjab rates be reduced because they are not doing as well as perennial canals. There is Sir, I have no doubt, no contention that the finances of the province are so affluent that there is a case for giving away say 40 or 50 lakhs of rupees out of the annual income of the province. I consider that this council is anxious that primary education be made compulsory which means increase of expenditure. I consider that it is the desire of the House that public health schemes with reference to cholera and other epidemic diseases be pushed through which again cannot be done without additional expenditure. Therefore the honourable member's proposal that rates on non-perennial canals in the Punjab be reduced cannot but mean that they should be increased in the case of perennial canals. If that is the view of the Council, no doubt Government would be quite prepared to consider it. If Government comes to the conclusion that really perennial canals can pay higher rates than they do

[Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

at present, that non-perennial canals should pay a lower rate than they pay at present, Government will be prepared to readjust the proportions of *abiana* between these two systems of canals. It is also possible that if that revision is taken up the opportunity may be availed in order to get a little more income for the beneficent activities of the departments in which this Council is so vitally interested, for instances, agricultural research, primary education, medical relief, improved means of communication. All these require more money. But it should be clearly understood that the voting on this is more or less on the financial issue rather than on an administrative issue. If the administrative department, that is Irrigation Department, is assured by the honourable member and is convinced that the proportion that at present prevails between non-perennial rates and perennial rates is unfair to the non-perennial, then no doubt it is its duty to revise the rates so as to increase the rates on perennial ones, no doubt, as I have said in a fair and reasonable manner. But whatever the increase may be, if the Council desires, it will be to such an extent as to make it unnecessary for the Government within the next few years to have to raise it again.

Mr. President : I propose to divide the resolution into two parts and place each part before the House separately. The first part of the resolution is—

"This Council recommends to the Government so to reduce the *abiana* rates as to cover the ordinary remissions allowed on account of *kharaba*."

Is it the pleasure of the House that this part of the resolution be withdrawn?

The House having signified its assent, the motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. President : Now I propose to put the second part of the resolution. The question is—

"This Council recommends to the Government to reconsider the present rates on the non-perennial areas."

The Council divided : Ayes, 29 ; Noes, 89.

AYES 29.

Mian Ahmad Yar Khan, Daultana.
Mr. Din Muhammad.
Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.
Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan.
Maulvi Sir Rahim Bakhsh.
Dr. Sir Muhammad Iqbal.
Shaikh Faiz Muhammad.
Chaudhri Duli Chand.
Pir Akbar Ali.
Rai Shahadat Khan.
Chaudhri Ali Ahmad.
Sayad Muhammad Husain.
Chaudhri Yasin Khan.
Khan Bahadur Malik Muhammad Amin Khan.
Risaldar Bahadur Nur Khan.
Malik Khan Muhammad Khan,
Wagha.

Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Hayat, Qureshi.
Chaudhri Umar Hayat.
Makhdumzada Sayad Muhammad Raza Shah, Gilani.
Khan Muhammad Abdullah Khan.
Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan.
Sardar Buta Singh.
Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan.
Chaudhri Afzal Haq.
Sardar Hari Singh.
Sardar Partap Singh.
Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah.
Baba Kartar Singh, Bedi.
Sardar Sahib Sardar Fateh Singh.

NOES 39.

Col. C. A. Gill.
 Mr. H. Calvert.
 Mr. C. A. H. Townsend.
 The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan,
 Noon.
 Khan Bahadur Nawab Muzaffar
 Khan.
 Mr. W. R. Wilson.
 Sir George Anderson.
 Mr. A. B. Astbury.
 Mr. M. A. Ghani.
 Mr. J. B. G. Smith.
 The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal.
 The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra
 Singh.
 The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow.
 The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-
 Husain.
 Mr. A. Mitchell.
 Mr. J. D. Penny.
 Mr. C. G. M. Ogilvie.
 Mr. J. G. Beazley.
 Dr. (Mrs.) M. C. Shave.

The motion was lost.

Khan Bahadur Maulvi Abdul Ghani.
 Mr. S. L. Sale.
 Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang.
 Mr. Labh Singh.
 Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal.
 Rai Bahadur Pandit Daulat Ram,
 Kalia.
 Rai Sahib Lala Ganga Ram.
 Lala Gopal Das.
 Rai Bahadur Lala Rattan Chand.
 Lala Kesho Ram, Sekhri.
 Pandit Mehr Chand.
 Sardar Narain Singh.
 Rai Bahadur Lala Dhanpat Rai.
 Mr. V. F. Gray.
 Sardar Ujjal Singh.
 Lt. Sardar Raghibir Singh.
 Sardar Bahadur Capt. Dalpat
 Singh.
 Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sheo
 Narain Singh.
 Sardar Bishan Singh.
 Mr. E. Maya Das.

RESOLUTION RE: COMPULSORY PRIMARY EDUCATION.

1 P. M.

Sardar Ujjal Singh (Sikh Urban): Sir I
 beg to move—

“That this Council recommends to the Government to appoint a committee of the Punjab Legislative Council to find out ways and means for introducing compulsory primary education in the Punjab.”

Sir, the resolution which I have the honour to move does not ask for the introduction of the system of primary education at once in this province, but only seeks to appoint a committee, the business of which will be to go into the details of the great problem, to formulate a scheme by which compulsion may be introduced in this province and to find out the total cost recurring and non-recurring which will be involved if this system is introduced and then to find out means by which this expenditure is to be met. Sir, I need not at this stage dilate upon the urgency or the utility of education in general and far less upon the necessity of education for the masses. In the year of grace 1929 it will be an insult to the intelligence of the members of this House to state that education is a great necessity for which it is the duty of the State to make provision. In this democratic age we all are returned to the Councils on elective basis. Our masters are the electors and if our masters are not properly educated, it is certainly a great danger to entrust powers to those masters. It is a matter of great urgency now as the coming reform scheme, I believe, will be on a wider basis of franchise. If the greater powers are to be entrusted to the electors, those electors ought to be

[Sardar Ujjal Singh.]

educated. Besides, in this Council we have been voting large sums of money on public health, on various schemes of co-operation, on agriculture, on medical relief. I submit, Sir, that full benefit of these schemes and from the money spent upon them cannot be derived if the masses are uneducated, illiterate, and ignorant to the extent of not utilizing these advantages. The *Sahukars* and the *banias* cheat the ignorant cultivators. If a provision of compulsory education is made and the cultivators are educated and are able to read and write, it will be difficult for any *sahukar* or *bania*, however, clever he may be, to cheat them.

Now, Sir, history of all the countries of the world shows that the question of mass illiteracy has been best solved by a provision of a system of compulsion. I would not like to go into the details of the various schemes of compulsion introduced in other countries, but I will roughly state that it was Germany (Prussia) which gave a lead in this matter and introduced a system of compulsion as far back as 1717, and it was followed by almost all the countries of the world. France in 1882, England in 1880, Japan in 1900 and in almost all the countries in the world to-day with the exception of a few countries in Africa, you will find a system of compulsory elementary education. Sir, in these countries the masses have had to suffer from the restraint of legislation. In France parents who are recalcitrant and who do not send their children to schools are fined to the extent of 50 francs and have to undergo imprisonment for a number of days. In the United States of America the parents who do not send their children to schools are liable to a fine varying from 200 to 400 dollars and imprisonment for a few months. Sir, if other countries are able to put up with such serious restrictions and are able to find money for the provision of compulsory education, it would not be a difficult task for us to cope with it. What do we find as a result of the system of compulsory education in other countries? To take an example nearer home, of Japan where the system of compulsory primary education was introduced in 1900 only. At present we find that about 9½ million pupils are in elementary schools, that is, about 16 per cent. of the total population are receiving elementary education. In the United States of America about 22 per cent. of the population are receiving elementary education. In Great Britain about 20 per cent., but in the Punjab not more than 4 per cent., are receiving elementary education a figure which I shall just show is misleading. Out of the great number of scholars reading in elementary or secondary schools receiving elementary education not more than 77,000 reach the 4th primary stage and the rest drop on the way. If we calculate figures, as we calculated in the case of the other countries, then the percentage of pupils receiving elementary education would not be more than 1.5 per cent. Now, Sir, I would just like to say a few words on the history of State efforts made in India with regard to the system of elementary education. As far back as 1882, a Commission was appointed to go into the state of education in this country and that Commission, having in view the ignorance of the masses reported particularly on elementary education as below—

“That it is desirable in the present circumstances of the country to declare the elementary education of the masses, its provision, extension and improvement to be the part of educational system to which strenuous efforts of the State should now be directed in still larger measure than hitherto.”

It went on to say—

"An attempt should be made to secure the fullest possible provision for the expansion of primary education by legislation to suit the circumstances of each province."

Now, Sir, let us see what progress has been made since then in our own province. We have no doubt a system known as the voluntary system of compulsion. I do not condemn this system. I fully realise that it has done some good though not that much which was expected of it. Even I find from the Education Report of 1927-28 submitted by the department that the department itself is not satisfied with the progress that has been made in elementary education. The Report says—

"This is however by no means a sufficiently satisfactory advance and the distribution of compulsory areas is also still very uneven."

The Report further says—

"If for nothing else at least for preventing serious wastage in the progress of children from the infant class to the end of the primary school course, a much more rapid expansion of compulsory education is an urgent necessity."

So, there is no misgiving on this point, that the department itself fully realises the necessity of compulsory education. We have, Sir, about 1892 rural areas, as far as I can see from the reports where compulsion is applied and about 55 urban areas are under compulsory system. That is no doubt some progress but, Sir, these figures disclose a very despondent feature. With all our boasted progress and talk about mass illiteracy, the progress since 1923-24, if at all, has been at a snail's pace. In 1926-27, the number of boys in the fourth primary class were 76,650, in 1927-28 the boys in the same class are no more than 77,485, that is an increase of 800 scholars in the fourth primary class. That is an increase of hardly one per cent. Of course there had been greater leakage, the number in the infant class is certainly much more now. Thus, Sir, there has been no great progress. Calculated at this pace, it will take several decades, to diffuse education amongst the general masses.

I will just refer again to Japan about the progress made there since 1900 when compulsory education was introduced. It has been said that in Japan now-a-days you hardly find a rickshaw coolie waiting for fares who would not only read newspapers, but would read books. The number of scholars in Japan now compare most favourably with any European country in this matter.

Sir, I fully realise the magnitude of the problem. There are two aspects of this problem. The first is the legal aspect,—and the second is the question of financial burden, the cost involved. As to the first, Sir, there is an objection by a class of people, that legislation of any kind is injurious; and it is not generally liked by the people. But, Sir, we ought to profit by a system of compulsion that we have introduced, voluntary compulsion that exists to-day in this province. From the report, I find that there have been no serious complaints from the parents. There were only 34 prosecutions that were launched at Lahore. In other places mere persuasions have been successful. But even if persuasions are not successful, you have got to resort to the rigors of legislation. I will say that where in this country there are other laws, which have to be obeyed—be those laws ever so unwholesome—by the people, there is no reason why this legislation which is generally liked by the people should not be introduced. I would

[Sardar Ujjal Singh.]

like to qualify my remarks in this matter, that I do not want compulsion to be introduced for girls at the same time. I would like the committee to consider compulsory elementary education for boys only and the education of girls should for sometime to come remain on a voluntary basis.

Sir George Anderson : Between what ages for boys ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Certainly it will be the business of the committee to go into the scheme thoroughly, but in my opinion it will be between the ages of 6 and 12, and may be for four years or five years. A boy between the ages of 6 and 12 ought to be in the school for four or five years. In other countries scholars have to be in schools from 4 to 8 years. In Japan it is about 4 or 5 years and in England it is about 7 years and up to the age of 15. That is my information and the Director of Public Instruction will correct me if I am wrong.

Now, Sir, it is estimated that about 18 or 14 per cent. of the male population are between the ages of 6 and 12. That is not the exact figure but that is roughly the figure. At present we have 7.5 per cent. of males at school in the primary classes as given in the report, that is about 851,000. So we have first to make provision to see that those 7.5 per cent. of the scholars remain in school for four or five years. That is the first thing. Then we have to make provision only for an extra six per cent. of the male population between the ages of 6 and 12 to be in the school. So the provision for 7.5 per cent. who are already in the school will not involve any further cost. Besides, I do not know exactly, but I think at present there are 80 scholars for one teacher.

Sir George Anderson : Roughly.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Yes ; and if you have five more scholars given to one teacher, and I think it is not much, in that case you are able to give education to a large number of scholars without incurring any cost. At present we are spending as much as Rs. 34,81,446 on primary education, a great portion of which comes from the Government funds, that is about Rs. 19,66,000. The rest comes from district board funds and municipal funds. Roughly if we calculate on the basis that we have to make provision for the education of another five or six per cent. of scholars, we will require about Rs. 85 lakhs for our scheme. I am just stating these figures roughly. It is not my business to go into the whole scheme at this stage. That is why I have suggested that a committee ought to be appointed to go thoroughly into the whole problem. Certainly the committee will be able to find some solution for it and will be able to meet the various difficulties that confront a legislation of this kind. The committee might suggest an extra taxation which ought to be ear-marked for this system, it might be able after reviewing all the budgets of the boards and municipalities to find out some means and apportion some expenditure on the State and on the boards and municipalities. But as I have said it will be the business of the committee to go to into the detailed scheme. Also, I do not propose to anticipate the decisions of the committee, but I think the committee might suggest that this system might be introduced in stages. It might take about 5 to 7 years in which to spread the whole expenditure, so that in 6 or 7 years there ought to be a

compulsion throughout the province. In the beginning special areas might be selected in which there are a greater number of primary schools and in which facilities are already provided. These should be taken as the first instalment. But as I have said already the committee will go into the detailed scheme.

Sir, times without number we have been told that this country is not fit for democratic institutions and times without number the argument has been repeated that the masses are illiterate. It is certainly moving in a vicious circle. Even as recently as a few days back, there has been a great fuss made about the illiteracy of the masses in this country. I will just read from a paper where a propaganda of this kind is going on even in the Dominions. One Mr. Allen while speaking in Canada said—

"In my opinion it would be most difficult inasmuch as such a Government."

Meaning thereby the introduction of responsible government in India,—

"Depends upon the electorate which in the case of India would have at its best an enormous mass of illiterate people who are interested not in political problems, but in the cultivation of their own little plots."

So, Sir, if we mean business and if we are really earnest that constitutional reform should be a success here we must make strenuous efforts to educate our masters. As far back as 1910, the late Mr. Gokhale introduced his resolution in the Legislative Assembly. Since then, up till now after the lapse of 19 years nothing much has been done.

Mr. H. Calvert : Question. In Bombay or in the Punjab ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : Even taking the Punjab. In Punjab there are 41 scholars in IV primary class per 10,000 population as against 64 in Bombay and 54 in Madras.

Mr. H. Calvert : Does it apply to Bombay or the Punjab ?

Sardar Ujjal Singh : I am not aware of the facts in Bombay. It might be true or it might not be true. No doubt we have done better than many other provinces, but still we have got to go a long way. Education has been transferred and one would naturally expect from the Minister of Education that a Bill of this kind would have been introduced in this Council for the provision of compulsory primary education. But, Sir, nothing of the sort has been done and I would certainly appeal to the Honourable Minister for Education to accept this innocent resolution which will strengthen his hands. This committee will go into the various schemes that might be put before it by the Government members and by the non-official members and find out all the ways and means by which compulsion can be easily introduced with these words, I commend the resolution for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. President : The resolution proposed runs :

"That this Council recommends to the Government to appoint a committee of the Punjab Legislative Council to find out ways and means for introducing compulsory primary education in the Punjab."

The Council then adjourned till 9-30 A.M. on Monday, the 29th July 1929.

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Monday, the 29th July 1929.

THE Council met at Barnes Court, Simla, at 9-30 A.M. of the clock, Mr. President in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

BAR-ROOM, HISSAR.

***2282. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) the strength of the bar at Hissar ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the present bar room is quite insufficient for their accommodation ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that lawyers are put to great inconvenience in summer owing to the insufficiency of accommodation ;
- (d) if the reply to (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to provide additional accommodation for the bar ?

The Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) 88 lawyers.

(b) Yes.

(c) Possibly.

(d) It is proposed to provide this district with a new Type A bar room at an estimated cost of Rs. 9,700.

ELECTIONS OF THE HISSAR DISTRICT BOARD.

***2283. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) when the last election of the Hissar district board was held ;
- (b) when the names of successful members were notified in the *Punjab Gazette* ;
- (c) what was the cause of this long delay ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) In December 1928.

(b) On the 19th of April 1929.

(c) It is not always possible to publish the results of the elections immediately after they are held as it is desirable that the notification publishing the result of the elections and the notification appointing nominated members should be published simultaneously so that all members of a new

[Hon'ble Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.]

board may assume office at the same time. In the present instance the elections were concluded shortly before the Christmas holidays, and the intervention of the holidays also contributed to the delay. The recommendations of the local officers reached Government in the last week of January, but further information had to be called for. Government are of opinion that delays such as occurred in this case are undesirable and are issuing instructions which it is hoped will have the result of eliminating them in future.

SALE OF VEGETABLE GHEE.

***2284. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state as to what action is being taken by Government to stop the sale of vegetable *ghee* in the Punjab ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Government have assisted several municipal committees to frame bye-laws to control the sale of vegetable substitutes for ghee.

The Pure Food Bill now before this Council contains provisions to make such control more effective.

AGRICULTURAL FARMS.

***2285. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state the number of agricultural farms which Government proposes to start during the current year and the places where they are proposed to be started ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Farms at Attari, Khangarh, Nagrota, and Vihari.

HISSAR DISTRICT BOARD.

***2286. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) who are the nominated non-official members in the Hissar District Board, and whether there is any non-agriculturist amongst them ;
- (b) the total number of voters in the district board, Hissar ;
- (c) how many of them are agriculturists and how many non-agriculturists ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The following are the nominated non-official members of the district board of Hissar and there is no non-agriculturist amongst them :—

- (1) Risaldar Ashraf Ali Khan of Chang,
- (2) Khan Sahib Subedar Major Abdul Hamid Khan, Rajput of Baliali village,
- (3) Sardar Ajmere Singh of Ratangarh, Fatehabad tahsil,
- (4) B. Mani Ram, Sadh, Ratta Khera, and
- (5) Sardar Partap Singh, Zaildar of Dabwali.

(b) The total number of voters of the district board of Hissar is 50,504.

(c) The total number of voters who are agriculturists is 42,820 and of non-agriculturists is 7,684. It will interest the honourable member to know that four non-agriculturists have been elected members of the district board.

VAIDS AND HAKIMS EMPLOYED BY LOCAL BODIES.

***2287. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state the number of vaids and hakims employed in the service of the local bodies of the province in the years 1926, 1927 and 1928 ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The necessary information is not yet available and will be communicated as soon as possible.

DIRECT NOMINATION TO THE POST OF TAHSILDAR.

***2288. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) how many candidates, Hindus, Sikhs and Mussalmans, applied for a direct nomination to the post of Tahsildar during the last year ;
- (b) how many from each community were accepted ;
- (c) how many applicants there are on the waiting list at present ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The names of 77 candidates were considered at the last selection—

Hindus	88
Muhammadans	31
Sikhs	11
Christians	2

77

(b) Ten were selected—

Muhammadans	5
Hindus	2
Sikhs	2
Christian	1

10

(c) There is no such thing as a waiting list.

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal : Will the honourable member please state whether the Hindus are agriculturists or non-agriculturists ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I shall be very glad to answer that question if the honourable member will give notice of it as I do not remember the division by classes.

SECTION 30 MAGISTRATES IN THE HISSAR DISTRICT.

***2289. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) the number of section 30 magistrates in the Hissar District ;
- (b) the number of private complaints and challans before each ;
- (c) how many private complaints were lodged last year in the court of each ; out of these, how many were dismissed and how many were successful in the court of each of these magistrates ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) There are two section 30 magistrates, in addition to the District Magistrate.

(b) On the 1st July last, the position stood as followed :—

Court.	Private complaints.	Chalans.
1. Khan Bahadur Mian Abdul Aziz ..	Nil.	4
2. Chaudhri Jai Narain Singh ..	14	55
3. Khan Sahib Mian Hakim Din ..	60	25

(c) During the calendar year 1928, there was only one section 30 magistrate in addition to the District Magistrate and the position was as follows :—

Court.	Complaints lodged.	Dismissed.	Successful.
1. Khan Bahadur Mian Abdul Aziz..	5	5	Nil.
2. Chaudhri Jai Narain Singh ..	171	163	8

Ods.

***2290. Lala Joti Parshad :** With reference to the answer to question¹ No. 1884 (starred) put on the 28th February 1929 by Rai Sahib Chaudhri Ohhotu Ram, will the Honourable Revenue Member please state what information the police has collected in regard to the Ods during this cold weather and what further action the Government is contemplating on the above report ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A summary of the information collected by the police in regard to Ods is laid on the table.

¹ Vol. XII, pages 533-34.

Government proposes to deal with this matter by seeking the interest and co-operation of the United Provinces Government and adjoining Indian States and has in fact already invited proposals for joint action, so as to secure a speedy and satisfactory solution of the problem.

Summary.

Karnal.—Eight deras visited the district: the portion of the district mainly affected was the southern portion adjoining Jind State and Rohtak district.

Of the 8 deras only 2 were large: one consisted of some 70 men and women with about 3,500 sheep and 100 donkeys: the numbers of the second dera were not ascertained but they had a very large number of sheep.

Both the big deras came from Jind territory and passed through to Rohtak district.

Rohtak.—Eighteen deras visited the district: they came from Hissar district and Dujana and Jind States: some returned whence they came and others went on to the Gurgaon district.

The approximate numbers of sheep and goats brought by these gangs varied between 100 and 6,500. Only one gang had 6,500 whilst the others had less than 3,500, but the total number owned by all the gangs is put at 36,800.

Gurgaon.—Eight deras visited the district: two of the largest had 1,500 sheep and goats each: two others 1,000 each: the remainder between 900 and 600 each. The gangs came from Dujana, Patiala and Bikanir States and from Rohtak district and moved on to Delhi, Rohtak and Hissar districts.

Hissar.—Eight deras visited the district: the largest is said to have had as many as 50,000 sheep and goats but I should doubt the accuracy of such a figure: another gang was said to have had 25,000 sheep and goats and still another 8,000 sheep and goats: the remainder are said to have had between 1,000 and 3,000, with the exception of one small gang with only 350. One gang is said to have traversed the Lyallpur, Montgomery and Ferozepore districts before entering Hissar and to have gone off towards Patiala and Karnal. The information regarding the routes followed is extremely vague but the gangs seem to have been wandering in the adjoining territories of Patiala, Bahawalpur and Bikanir States as well as in the British districts.

Ambala.—Six deras visited the district: of these three were of fair size having 2,200, 2,000 and 1,000 sheep and goats respectively: these gangs all traversed the Morindah jurisdiction coming from Ludhiana or Patiala State and seemed to travel towards Kalsia State. Another gang belonging to Ludhiana district came to Rupar from Hoshiarpur and left for Nalagarh State: they had visited various places in the Ferozepore district from Fazilka onward towards Ludhiana, passed through Ludhiana, Jullundur and Hoshiarpur districts before coming to Rupar: this gang had 660 sheep and goats and 60 donkeys. The other gangs were small and of no importance.

SECRETARY OF THE SIMLA MUNICIPALITY.

***2291. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary of the Simla Municipality is connected in an honorary capacity and also in a paid capacity with no less than ten or twelve local institutions ;
- (b) if so, a list be placed on the table showing the institutions where he is working honorarily and where he is paid ; in the latter case what are the emoluments received by him per month from each institution ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that he holds committee meetings of such institutions in the municipal office during the usual municipal working hours of 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. ;
- (d) if the answer to (a) and (c) are in the affirmative what are the reasons for permitting him to work in an honorary or paid capacity with so many local institutions ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) It is understood that the Secretary of the Municipal Committee of Simla does honorary service as a member of the Governing Body or Managing Committee of four local hospitals or nursing associations, three schools and certain other public bodies in Simla, including the local branches of the Indian Red Cross Society and St. John's Ambulance Association.

(b) As regards the suggestion that the gentleman in question has other sources of income Government regret that they are unable to furnish any information as to the private affairs of a municipal employee.

(c) Yes.

(d) The matter is primarily one for decision by the municipal committee concerned. Government have received no complaints that the work of the committee has suffered owing to the activities of the Secretary in other directions, on the contrary Government has frequently seen commendations by the committee of the gentleman's work as Secretary.

PROMOTION IN THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

***2292. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) the total number of gazetted appointments in the department of Agriculture filled up since 1st April 1925 including temporary and officiating appointments ;
- (b) the number of such posts given to those who were already serving in the department ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that none of such posts have been given to men in the Entomological and Chemical sections of the Punjab Agricultural College ; if so, what are the reasons for it ;
- (d) what steps Government propose to take in order to equalise the prospects of promotion among equally qualified men in the department ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) 67.

(b) 89.

(c) No. In order to compensate subordinate officers (Agricultural Assistants) in Specialist Sections for the fewer opportunities of promotion which fall to them, Government created three selection grade posts in the Subordinate Agricultural Service, and these are awarded to men in the Specialist Sections only.

(d) Government cannot undertake to equalise prospects in all departments or in all sections of any one Department.

SECRETARY, DISTRICT BOARD, LAHORE.

***2293. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary, District Board, Lahore, has business dealings with some of the approved contractors of the Board directly or in the name of his son who is only a school boy ;

(b) if so, what action Government intends to take against him ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The Secretary has had the following business transactions with firms which are approved district board contractors :—

(i) in 1926 he purchased certain steel beams from the Mokand Iron Works for Rs. 275. It may be noted that this firm was not at the time on the Board's list of approved contractors but was placed thereon in 1929.

(ii) in 1927 he ordered through the Punjab Engineers' Supply Company, Limited, a knitting machine for the use of his son, whom he is having trained to run a small factory.

(b) The Secretary has no hand in the appointment of district board contractors and there is no reason to suppose that these transactions were not *bona fide*. Government do not, therefore, propose to take any action in the matter.

SECRETARY, DISTRICT BOARD, LAHORE.

***2294. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary, District Board, Lahore, is a Naib-Tahsildar on deputation ;

(b) whether it is a fact that he has incurred debts in carrying on his private business of machinery ;

(c) if so, whether Government intends to take any action against him ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) No. He does not carry on any private business in machinery.

(c) Does not arise.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, KASUR.

***2295. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to starred question¹ No. 2160 asked on the 26th March 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Sub-Divisional Officer, Kasur, telephoned on or about the 21st February 1928, the date fixed for the election of President, Municipal Committee, Kasur, to the Municipal authorities not to permit S. Maula Dad Khan to participate in the election of the President and to ask him to see the Sub-Divisional Officer if he attends the meeting ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the said order was noted by the Assistant Secretary of the committee and communicated to S. Maula Dad Khan when he attended the meeting and was read over to other members of the committee ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that S. Maula Dad Khan consequently did not take part in the election of the President and later on he wrote a letter of protest to the Deputy Commissioner of Lahore ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) and (b) The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply to council question No. 2160* which was not ready at the last session of the Council but has since been forwarded to the Secretary of the Council for the information of the honourable member.

(c) The Deputy Commissioner has been unable to trace the receipt of any letter of protest from the gentleman referred to.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, KASUR.

***2296. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the starred question¹ No. 2160 asked on the 26th March 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the municipal committee, Kasur, wrote to the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore, on or about the 24th March 1929 stating the orders of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Kasur, in obedience to which S. Maula Dad Khan, Municipal Commissioner, was not permitted to participate in the election of the President ;
- (b) if so, whether the Honourable Minister will lay on the table a copy of the letter referred to above addressed by the Secretary to the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore ;
- (c) what were the reasons for the interference of the Sub-Divisional Officer in the matter ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) In the course of the collection of the information necessary to enable Government to reply to question¹ No. 2160 (starred) asked at the last session of this Council a letter giving the information asked for was written by the Secretary of the municipal committee to the Deputy Commissioner.

¹ Vol. XII, page 1150 and Appendix *infra*.

(b) As the question has now been duly replied to, Government do not consider it in the public interest to lay a portion of the correspondence on the table of the house.

(c) The attention of the honourable member is drawn to the reply to part (c) of his question¹ No. 2160 (starred).

QURESHIS OR MIRASIS.

***2297. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation of the Jamait-ul-Quresh waited upon His Excellency the Governor in the month of November 1928, or so, urging the grievances of the Qureshis or the Mirasis in the matter of grants of lands to them;

(b) if so, what action has been taken on their representation?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The honourable member is referred to the answer given to questions Nos. 2202² and 2203³ on 28th March 1929.

GRANT OF LAND TO QURESHIS.

***2298. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether any grants of land have been made to the proprietors of water-logged areas in Gujranwala district;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Qureshis or the Mirasis resident in the district have not been given the benefit of such grants; if so, what are the reasons for such discrimination?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The honourable member is referred to the answer given to question Nos. 2202² and 2203³ on 28th March 1929.

QURESHIS AND POLICE SERVICE.

***2299. Lala Bodh Raj:** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) whether the Qureshis known as Mirasis are debarred from police service;

(b) if so, what are the reasons?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stew: (a) The honourable member is referred to the answer given to part (a) of council question⁴ No. 2204 (starred).

(b) Does not arise.

¹ Vol. XII, page 1150 and Appendix *infra*.

² Vol. XII, page 1277.

³ Vol. XII, pages 1277-78.

⁴ Vol. XII, page 1278.

ARTICLE HEADED 'MUSLIM SHAHI IN JHANG DISTRICT.'

***2300. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Chief Secretary please state—

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an article 'Muslim Shahi in Jhang district' published in the *Hindu Herald*, dated the 11th July 1928;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry was held into the allegations appearing in that letter?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Not until notice of this question was received.

(b) No.

CHAKBANDI OF TALIRI AND GANESH CANALS.

***2301. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that any representation was made in the month of May 1929 by the zamindars of Muzaffargarh district concerning the changes effected in the chakbandi of the Taliri and the Ganesh canals;

(b) If so, what action has been taken in the matter to redress their grievances?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) On enquiry it was found that the statements made in the representation were not correct and the Superintending Engineer was requested to send a suitable reply.

ASSESSMENT UNDER THE PUNJAB LAND REVENUE AMENDMENT ACT.

***2302. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state the names of the districts where the assessment of revenue is to be modified in accordance with the provisions of the newly enacted Punjab Land Revenue Amendment Act?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I am grateful to the honourable member for putting this question, as it enables Government to make a very definite and clear repudiation of the reports which some Lahore papers published in the first week of June, to the effect that I was showing favour in selecting districts in the matter of revising assessments under the Land Revenue (Amendment) Act. This rumour must have been born of ignorance, as the selection of districts was governed by the promise made by my predecessor on behalf of Government several years before I came into office. The districts are Gujranwala, Sheikhpura, Gujrat, Shahpur, Attock, Mianwali and Jhang.

MULTAN MUNICIPALITY AND LOCAL OPTION ACT.

***2303. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to reply to part (b) (ii) of starred question¹ No. 1789 asked on the 27th February 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state if any further enquiries have been made and with what results?

¹ Vol. XII, page 464.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Further enquires have been made and the question has been carefully considered. Eighteen cases of illicit sale by aerated water vendors and seven cases of illicit distillation have been detected at Multan by the Excise staff during the last two years. It is also believed that illicit liquor is smuggled into the city from the colony villages of Khanewal. The Committee wishes to locate the single shop in a remote and inaccessible quarter of the town.

It has not yet fulfilled its promise to pass bye-laws to deal with the illicit sale of liquor by aerated water vendors. The Collector has, therefore, passed an order under the proviso to Section 6 of the Punjab Local Option Act, 1929, declining to give effect to the wishes of the municipal committee.

OCTROI DUTY ON VEGETABLE OIL.

***2304. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to part (b) of starred question¹ No. 1790, asked on 27th February 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state if the terminal tax schedule has been sanctioned?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : No : the case has been referred back to the municipal committee whose reply is awaited.

MUZAFFARGARH DISTRICT BOARD.

***2305. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to starred question² No. 1968, asked on 6th March 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state if the draft of the business rules of the district board has been approved by the Government?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The District Board has not yet submitted its revised rules of business for the approval of Government. It is, however, understood that the board has approved of the rules and has published them for objections.

DERA GHAZI KHAN MUNICIPALITY.

***2306. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to part (c) of starred question³ No. 1970, asked on 6th March 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state what steps have been taken by the municipal committee, Dera Ghazi Khan, to improve its financial condition?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The municipal committee of Dera Ghazi Khan is taking steps to revise its octroi schedule and such a revision is likely to improve its financial condition.

SEPARATION OF JHANG FROM MAGHIANA MUNICIPALITY.

***2307. Lala Bodh Raj :** With reference to the reply to starred question⁴ No. 1985, asked on 18th March 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state if the opinion of the local officers has been received and whether any final decision has been arrived at in the matter?

¹ Vol. XII, pages 464-65.

² Vol. XII, page 726.

³ Vol. XII, page 726.

⁴ Vol. XII, page 836.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: No. The matter is understood to be still under the consideration of the municipal committee of Jhang.

VEDIC KANYA PATHSHALA, SHAHPUR.

***2308. Lala Bodh Raj:** With reference to the reply to starred question¹ No. 1986, asked on the 18th March 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Education please state if the pathshala referred to has been paid the sanctioned grant-in-aid? If not, what are the reasons for so much delay?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: An enquiry in the matter has been made and the result will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as possible.

CANAL CLERKS.

***2309. Lala Bodh Raj:** With reference to the reply to starred question² No. 2082, asked on 21st March 1929, will the Honourable Revenue Member please state if any final decision has been arrived at in the matter?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Yes, the matter has been carefully reconsidered. Since the last list was published there have been many casualties, and a new list of promotions, etc., is now under preparation.

AHMEDPUR BRANCH CANAL.

***2310. Lala Bodh Raj:** With reference to the reply to starred question³ No. 2140, asked on the 26th March 1929, will the Honourable Revenue Member please state if the information referred to has been received?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: The honourable member is referred to the final reply issued on 19th April 1929, to his question No. 2140, which was as follows:—

- (a) As far as records go the Ahmedpur Branch was dug to the designed bed level from R. D. 88,900 to R. D. 98,000. After being in flow for 6 months, the level is correct now.
- (b) Does not arise.

Post Mortem EXAMINATION OF THE DEAD BODIES OF FEMALES.

***2311. Lala Bodh Raj:** With reference to the reply to starred question⁴ No. 2220, asked on the 28th March 1929, will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state if the Government is prepared to consider the desirability of making arrangements referred to in the question?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon: No.

¹ Vol. XII, page 837.

² Vol. XII, page 994.

³ Vol. XII, page 1142 and Appendix *infra*.

⁴ Vol. XII, page 1285.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

FAILED STUDENTS IN SECONDARY DEPARTMENTS.

1199. Pandit Mehar Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the percentage of plucked students, class by class in the secondary department of the various divisions of the province during the last five years ;

(b) whether the Government proposes taking any steps to reduce the percentage ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The value of this information (even if it could be procured) would not be commensurate with the time and labour spent on its collection.

TEACHING OF HINDI IN LOWER AND UPPER MIDDLE DEPARTMENTS.

1200. Pandit Mehar Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the names of the Government High Schools where there is no provision for teaching Hindi in the Lower and Upper Middle departments, while this subject is being taught by the school concerned in the High department :

(b) what steps, if any, do the Government propose to take to remove this anomaly ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) If the subject is taught in the high classes, there is provision for its teaching in the middle classes.

(b) Does not arise.

FEE CONCESSIONS TO THE DEPRESSED CLASSES.

1201. Pandit Mehar Chand : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Government intend to introduce the system of concession in tuition fees to students of the depressed classes attending recognised schools ;

(b) if so, when ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration ; and it is hoped to publish a Government Resolution on the subject shortly.

RURAL SANITARY BOARD.

1202. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing—

(a) the names of works for which the Rural Sanitary Board recommended grants to be made during the last financial year ;

(b) the name of the district concerned, the name of the work, the estimated cost of the work and the percentage of grant also to be stated ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

[Hon'ble Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.]

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NAMES OF WORKS FOR WHICH THE RURAL SANITARY BOARD, PUNJAB, RECOMMENDED AND SANCTIONED GRANTS DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR, 1928-29.

Serial No.	Name of work.	Name of District.	Estimated cost of the work.	Percentage of Grant recommended and sanctioned.
1	Improvement to Jai Nurewala village in Khushab tahsil.	Shahpur	Rs. 9,300	75% = 6,975.
2	Improving a well at Narhan village in Hamirpur tahsil.	Kangra	1,618	50% of the fund after deducting Rs. 400 payable by the villagers = 603
3	Bet Illaga Water Supply Scheme	Hostiarpur	2,100	100% = 2,100.
4	Water Supply Scheme in Saketri and Kalewal villages	Ambala	5,270	75% = 3,953.
5	Trial Borings in Kutabpur and Dalwal villages of Kathal tahsil.	Karnal	1,200	75% = 900.
6	Water Supply Scheme in Gul Baharpur Kalan, Gul Behar Khurd, Bawrayana and Kammanwala villages in the Sialkot District.	Sialkot	6,188	75% = 4,641.
7	Digging catchwater drains for Kheri Madanpur tank in Jhajjar tahsil.	Rohtak	1,239	75% = 929.
8	Survey of Springs in the Jhelum and Shahpur district.	Jhelum and Shahpur	2,487	100% = 2,487.
9	Trial Borings for Water Supply to Bhartana, Korawa and Alakpur villages.	Hissar	2,381	100% = 2,381.
10	Trial Borings for Water Supply in Injura, Busal, Khanda, Dhawal, Ratwal, Fird, Bakhruwar and Ahmdal villages.	Attock	18,181	100% = 18,181.
11	Tunman Water Supply Scheme	Attock	77,671	100% = 77,671.
12	Trial Borings in Lohangabani, Sukerana and Bhankpur villages.	Gurgaon	6,591	100% = 6,591.
13	Water Supply Scheme for Gopal Mochan Fair Ground.	Ambala	6,090	100% = 6,090.
14	Trial Borings for Water Supply of Chhidra village	Mianwali	4,088	75% = 3,066.
15	Water Supply in Chak No. 115-G. B., Jaranwala tahsil	Lyallpur	5,147	50% = 2,574.
16	Constructing 8 feet dia. well in Gurdaspur village	Ambala	2,789	.. = 1,000.
17	Water Supply Scheme for Ghendi village	Mianwali	2,500	100% = 2,500.
18	Ditto Kabri village	Do.	9,665	100% = 9,665.
19	Ditto Nangani village	Do.	4,466	100% = 4,466.
20	Ditto Sultan Khel village	Do.	24,000	100% = 24,000.

GRANTS FOR EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS.

1203. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the amount of grants for construction of new educational buildings given to district boards during the past ten years by districts ;
- (b) what is the approximate annual cost of maintaining these buildings ;
- (c) what has been the actual cost ;
- (d) what steps have been taken to ensure that the buildings are being properly maintained ;
- (e) how many of the district boards are financially able to bear the extra burden imposed by having to maintain these buildings and which keeps increasing year by year ;
- (f) whether it is a fact that some of the district boards are on the verge of bankruptcy, and if so, whether Government is considering the question of making a contribution to them for meeting the cost of annual maintenance also ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

(b), (c) and (d). Government has no information on the subject as this is the concern of local bodies.

(e) and (f). Government is not in a position at present to give definite answers to these parts.

GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

1204. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) the Government Industrial Schools maintained during the last financial year ;
- (b) the cost of maintenance of each ;
- (c) private industrial schools which received financial assistance from Government ;
- (d) amount of financial assistance given to private industrial schools in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a), (b), (c) and (d). A statement is laid on the table.

Serial No.	(a) Government Industrial Schools maintained during the last financial year.	(b) The cost of maintenance of each.
		Rs. A. P.
1	Government Technical School, Lahore (including School for Blind, Lahore).	55,478 14 3
2	Government Industrial School, Ambala	7,269 2 6
3	Ditto Amritsar	1,666 11 3
4	Ditto Dera Ghazi Khan	10,372 15 0
5	Ditto Ferozepore	10,213 12 0
6	Ditto Gujranwala	9,807 13 0
7	Ditto Gujrat	14,651 10 3
8	Ditto Hoshiarpur	12,629 14 3
9	Ditto Jullundur	9,918 11 3
10	Ditto Kasur	10,639 14 3
11	Ditto Kulu	6,449 3 0
12	Ditto Ludhiana	11,375 10 5
13	Ditto Lyallpur	10,254 4 0
14	Ditto Montgomery	6,350 14 6
15	Ditto Multan	18,174 3 7
16	Ditto Rawalpindi	7,166 3 0
17	Ditto Rohtak	11,779 14 3
18	Ditto Sargodha	6,696 11 3
19	Ditto Sialkot	15,661 10 3
20	Ditto Bhiwani	609 8 0
21	Ditto Jhang-Maghiana	784 8 0
22	Special School at Jullundur	} 49,894 14 10
23	Ditto Sialkot	
24	Ditto Ambala	
	Miscellaneous expenditure	678 12 0
Serial No.	(c) Private Industrial Schools which received financial assistance from Government.	(d) Amount of financial assistance given to each school.
		Rs.
1	Mission Industrial School, Gurgaon	3,010
2	Municipal Board Industrial School, Amritsar ¹	3,832
3	Victoria Diamond Jubilee Hindu Technical Institute, Lahore.	12,148
4	Blind School, Amritsar	300
5	Arya Samaj Orphanage Industrial School, Ferozepore Cantonment.	2,143

¹This school was provincialised with effect from 1st October 1928.

ANNUAL INCREMENTS TO TEACHERS OF DISTRICT BOARD SCHOOLS.

1205. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some district boards have been unable to grant annual increments to their school teachers;
- (b) if so, what is the cause;
- (c) what are the names of the district boards?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

FAZILKA-ABOHAR-MALOUT-SIRSA ROAD.

1206. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) when the Road Fazilka-Abohar-Malout-Sirsa was taken over by the Public Works Department;
- (b) whether this road passes through village Kilianwali in Fazilka Tahsil;
- (c) whether there is a proposal to realign the road in the limits of Kilianwali village and, if so, for what reason;
- (d) what is the area and valuation of road land proposed to be abandoned;
- (e) what is the estimated value of trees on the side of the road to be abandoned?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The various sections between Sirsa and Fazilka of the Delhi-Montgomery Road were taken over by the Public Works Department between 1924 and 1926.

(b) This road passes about a mile to the North-East of Kilianwali village.

(c) As Mandi Dabwali and its railway station have been built astride of the old alignment of the road, the affected portion has been realigned.

(d) and (e). The land under the old alignment, measuring 37½ acres and the trees standing thereon, have been handed over to the revenue authorities for disposal. No valuation is made in the Public Works Department for such purposes.

BIKANER CANAL.

1207. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a series of observations have been made on the Bikaner Canal to ascertain the actual losses by percolation and evaporation between the discharges let on at the head and those that arrive at the end of 80 miles of lined channel;
- (b) if so, a statement showing the results noted may kindly be laid on the table?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is placed on the table.

[Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

BIKANER MAIN CANAL DISCHARGE AND

Date.	CANAL HEAD MORNING.		Discharge by Head Meter.	Time of observation.	Observer.	Morning Gauge R. D. 28,550. feet.
	Gauge.	Discharge (Reputed).				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1st	6.05	1,260	..	..	..	6.32
2nd	6.05	1,260	..	..	..	6.33
3rd	6.05	1,260	..	..	..	6.32
4th	6.7	1,540	..	..	..	6.36
5th	6.85	1,540	..	..	..	7.12
6th	6.9	1,540	..	..	..	7.18
7th	6.9	1,540	..	..	..	7.21
8th	6.9	1,540	..	..	..	7.22
9th	3.5	400	..	..	..	5.03
10th	3.6	400	..	..	..	3.55
11th	3.6	400	..	..	..	3.53
12th	3.6	400	..	..	..	3.6
13th	3.6	400	..	..	..	3.6
14th to 29th						No observa-
30th	5.5	1,080	1,211	7.0	Tate (Lawley) ..	5.8
31st	5.6	1,120	1,228	6.45	Tate ..	5.92

¹Supply rising
²Gauge was 7.19 feet at commencement and over 7.20

ABSORPTION LOSS OBSERVATIONS, MAY 1929.

Gauge R. D. 28,560 feet as read by Observer.	Discharge by current meter or velocity rods.	Discharge by R. D. 27,500 Meter.	Discharge by Weir Formula.	Time of observa- tion.	Observer.
8	9	10	11	12	13
6.31	..	1,285	..	8.0	Gupta.
6.35	..	1,283	..	18.0	Tate.
{ 6.35 }	.. {	1,280 }	.. {	6.35	Gupta.
{ 6.35 }	.. {	1,283 }	.. {	18.0	Tate.
{ 6.64 }	.. {	1,396 ¹ }	.. {	8.40	Gupta.
{ 7.11 }	.. {	1,539 }	.. {	18.30	Tate.
7.14	..	1,555	..	8.15	Tate.
{ 7.19 }	.. {	1,565 }	.. {	8.0	Tate.
{ 7.205 }	.. {	1,571 }	.. {	10.0	Gupta.
{ 7.20 ² }	.. {	1,561 }	.. {	7.0	Tate.
{ 7.201 }	.. {	1,563 }	.. {	7.15	Gupta.
7.22	1,576 V. R.	1,568	..	7.0	Gupta.
..
..
..
{ 3.6 }	508	522 }	522 {	7.30	Tate.
{ 3.6 }	c. m.	529 }	522 {	8.0	Babu Ram.
3.61	..	522	522	8.30	Tate.
tions taken.					
{ 5.83 }	.. {	1,135 }	.. {	7.30	Gupta.
{ 5.8 }	.. {	1,125 }	.. {	8.30	Tate.
5.925	..	1,100	..	7.55	Tate.

during observation.

at end of discharge observation pointing to rising supply.

[Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

BIKANER MAIN CANAL DISCHARGE AND

Date.			Discharge at R. D. 400,500 feet meter.	Time of observa- tion.	Observer.	Discharge of A, B and C Distri- butories.	Gross Discharge at R. D. 400,500 feet.
1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1st	{ 1,158 1,140	14.0 16.30	Faiz Muhammad, S. O. Gupta ..	{ 27.5	{ 1,185.5 1,167.5
2nd	1,155	7.20	Gupta ..	31.5	1,186.5
3rd	1,168	8.35	Faiz Muhammad ..	31	1,199
4th	1,170	10.45	Ditto ..	32	1,202
5th	1,402	11.15	Ditto ..	30	1,432
6th	1,454	12.0	Ditto ..	30.5	1,484.5
7th	{ 1,453 1,454	8.45 10.0	Ditto .. Tate ..	{ 33	{ 1,486 1,487
8th	{ 1,430 1,461	7.30 9.0	Faiz Muhammad .. Tate ..	{ 33	{ 1,463 1,494
			1,453	13.0	Faiz Muhammad ..		1,486
9th	{ 1,498 1,484	8.0 8.30	Ditto .. Tate ..	{ 33	{ 1,531 1,517
10th	{ 672 654	8.10 8.30	Do. .. Faiz Muhammad ..	{ 6	{ 678 660
11th	443	10.40	Ditto ..	..	443
12th	465	11.45	Ditto ..	..	465
13th	391	18.15	Ditto ..	..	391
14th to 29th							No observa-
30th	919	19.30	Faiz Muhammad ..	14 (evening)	..
31st	1,062	19.0	Ditto ..	20	1,062

ABSORPTION LOSS OBSERVATIONS, MAY 1929—CONCLUDED.

Loss (in 373,000 feet.	AVERAGE MORNING AND EVENING GAUGES R. D.			Average Depth.	Wetted Peri- meter.	Loss per million square feet.	REMARKS.
	131,400.	209,600.	372,000.				
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
49.5	6.64	7.05	6.2	6.5	71	1.87	
70	6.67	7.12	6.22	6.5	71	2.64	
75	6.67	7.18	6.22	6.5	71	2.63	
79	6.66	7.18	6.23	6.5	71	2.93	
..	7.46	7.8	6.99	..	..	..
70.5	7.48	7.9	7.11	7.3	73	2.59	
77	7.48	7.9	7.11	7.3	73	2.83	
76						2.79	
69						2.59	
75	7.48	7.9	7.12	7.3	73	2.76	
49	5.88	6.65	6.42	7.3	73	1.85	
..	3.86	4.4	3.9	..	..	..
..	3.82	4.2	3.8	..	..	..
..	3.81	4.25	3.75	..	..	..
..	3.80	4.3	3.73	3.8	63	..	
..	6.06	6.4	5.17	..	..	..
48	6.21	6.75	5.78	6.1	69	1.47 27.13 — 2.47 11	

tions taken.

BIKANER CANAL.

1208. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that water above the head of the Bikaner Canal in the River Sutlej has to be shared among partners ;
- (b) if so, who are these partners and what is the proportionate share of each ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :

- (a) Yes.
- (b) The proportionate share is in accordance with the terms of agreement, a copy of which is placed on the table¹.

FAILURE OF CROPS IN DOABA.

1209. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the crops of the Zamindars of the Doaba have not been successful since the year 1886 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Zamindars have requested the Government to postpone the collection of land revenue ;
- (c) if the answer to (b) above be in the affirmative, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken by Government in this matter ? If no action is contemplated, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for the same ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Petitions were received from 15 villages in the Hoshiarpur district asking for the postponement of the collection of land revenue.

(c) A sum of Rs. 74,490 was suspended of the demand of *kharif* 1928 in 426 villages, and Rs. 1,01,685 of that of *rabi* 1929 in 610 villages in that district.

WELLS IN THE DOABA.

1210. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of wells in the Doaba have dried up ;
- (b) if so, what action do Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is engaging the attention of Government.

WATER SUPPLY IN THE DOABA.

1211. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a durbar was held in 1929 by His Excellency the Governor in Jullundur ;

¹ Copy kept in the Library.

(b) whether it is a fact that the zamindars of the Doaba brought to His Excellency's notice the deplorable condition of water-supply in the Doaba ;

(c) if the answer to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what action has been taken by Government in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government is at present examining all the data available to show in what portions of the Doaba the fall in the water table is most marked, and two senior officers of the Irrigation Department will tour in it next winter to study the problem on the spot. The honourable member may rest assured that Government will take every reasonable measure in the matter that is possible. But no speedy remedy will, it is feared, be forthcoming.

GRANT OF LANDS TO RAJPUTS.

1212. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(i) (a) whether it is a fact that the Rajput inhabitants of the Jullundur, Hoshiarpur and Ludhiana districts have not been granted lands in the bar ;

(b) whether it is a fact that on the occasion of the recent tour of the Honourable Revenue Member in the Hoshiarpur district, the claims of Rajputs for the grant of land were brought to his notice ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Honourable the Revenue Member promised to grant lands to the Rajputs of the Hoshiarpur district ?

(ii) If the answers to (a), (b) and (c) be in the affirmative, whether Government intend to take any steps to grant lands also to Rajputs of Jullundur and Ludhiana districts ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a) Not quite.

(b) Yes.

(c) Not quite, but did promise to have the matter carefully examined.

(ii) In case more land for peasant grants becomes available in the future, Hindu and Muslim Rajputs of these districts will be selected to see how far they have made progress as self-cultivating agriculturists.

RELIEF TO ZAMINDARS OF THE DOABA.

1213. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(i) (a) whether it is a fact that the crops in the Doaba have failed ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the tahsildars have been very peremptory in demanding the payment of land revenue from them ;

(c) if the answers to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, what action do Government propose to take with a view to alleviate the sufferings of the zamindars of the Doaba ;

[Ch. Md. Abdul Rahman Khan.]

(ii) (a) whether it is a fact that the Zamindara League of Jullundur district passed a number of resolutions on this subject at its meetings held at Sanman and Phiralaras ;

(b) if so, what action do Government propose to take in the matter of these resolutions ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a) and (b). No, it is not fair to generalise from any individual case the honourable member may have in mind, if he has any.

(c) Does not arise.

(ii) (a) Government has no information.

(b) Does not arise.

MACLAGAN ENGINEERING COLLEGE, MOGHALPURA.

1214. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to lay on the table a statement giving :—

(a) the names of the senior staff of the MacLagan Engineering College, Moghalpura, communitywise ;

(b) the number of students admitted to the college at the time of the last selection communitywise ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The names of the senior staff of the MacLagan Engineering College are given in the Punjab Civil List, Part XXVI.

(b) " A " class special admission—

1 Sikh.

1 Hindu.

1 Muslim.

" B " class special admission—

4 Muslims.

1 Sikh.

1 Hindu.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, LYALLPUR.

1215. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number of professors, assistant professors, etc., in the Lyallpur Agricultural College and the number of Musalmans amongst them ;

(b) if the number of Musalmans is smaller as compared with the number of other communities, what steps do Government propose to take to make up the deficiency in the number of Musalmans ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The normal position, including officers on leave, but not including officiating appointments, is as follows :—

	Total.	Musalmans.
(a) Professors	6	1
Assistant Professors	10	4
(i) Demonstrators and Agricultural Assistants	15	5
(ii) Lecturing Research Officers. ..	4	10
Total	35	20

(b) Competent Musalmans will be recruited when thoroughly efficient men become available.

PUNISHMENT OF OFFICIALS IN THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

1216. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state the number and names of officials in the Education Department serving under Government and district boards punished departmentally for gross misconduct during the period commencing from 1st January, 1928 up to date ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : One Government official, but there is no information regarding the employees of local bodies. It is not desirable to give names.

TIME SCALE OF PAY IN THE SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

1217. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is fact that a number of deputations on behalf of the subordinate educational service association have waited from time to time on the Director of Public Instruction and the Honourable Minister for Education urging them to introduce time scale of pay in the subordinate educational service ;

(b) if so, what action has taken in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) The Honourable Member is referred to the answer given to Council Question¹ No. 1501 asked by the honourable member Lala Joti Parshad.

VERNAacular FINAL EXAMINATION.

1218. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that students failing in the vernacular final examination are not considered as having failed provided they pass the annual examination held at their schools ;

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken to put a stop to this practice ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The question is not clear, but if the honourable member refers to students in Anglo-Vernacular schools, who appear in the Vernacular Final Examination entirely at their own option, then their failure to pass this examination does not prevent them from normal promotion to the 9th class in case they otherwise qualify themselves for this promotion, because the Vernacular Final Examination is not necessary for the purposes of this promotion.

(b) Does not arise.

VERNACULAR FINAL EXAMINATION.

1219. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the vernacular final examination was held twice this year ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that some of the students who had passed in the first examination failed or did not appear in the second examination ;
- (c) if the answers to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what action do Government propose to take to remedy the loss sustained by these students ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) As the answer papers of the first examination were not marked it is not possible to give the required information.

(c) Does not arise.

FEE CONCESSIONS TO AGRICULTURISTS.

1220. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the sons of such of the agriculturists as have entered Government or private service and are put down in the school register as agriculturists are not allowed to take advantage of the rule regarding school fees remissions in the primary classes ;
- (b) if so, why ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The grant of fee concessions to agriculturists in primary classes is subject to the definition of the term "agriculturist" as given in Article 15, Chapter IV of the Punjab Education Code whereas entries in school registers showing agriculturists and non-agriculturist students are made according to the Land Alienation Act.

FEE CONCESSIONS TO AGRICULTURISTS.

1221. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the sons of agriculturists receive education in the primary classes free of charge ;
- (b) if so, why a similar concession is not extended to them in the middle and high classes ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) Half fee concessions are given in the secondary classes in certain districts to the sons of agriculturists.

MILITARY SCHOLARSHIPS.

1222. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that military scholarships for study in colleges are awarded only to such of the sons of military people as have passed their matriculation examination in the first division ;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any complaints against the hardships caused by this rule, and if so, what action Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The rule has been relaxed in case of the children of those who were killed or incapacitated in the Great War.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENTS IN NEWSPAPERS.

1223. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) the principles on which Government advertisements and notices are given to various papers for publication ;

(b) whether Government will lay on the table a copy of the rules, if any, on the subject ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) The honourable member is referred to the answer given to Question No. 2022 (starred) reported on page 907 of the Punjab Legislative Council Debates, Volume XII.

(b) No.

TACCARI FOR MAINTENANCE OF WELLS.

1224. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has framed any rules or issued orders to the effect that the zamindars of the Jullundur district should not be granted taccavi ? If not, what are the reasons for stopping the grant of taccavi in the Jullundur district ;

(b) whether Government intend to grant taccavi for the maintenance of wells in the future ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes, because Government considered it undesirable to encourage the sinking of new wells owing to the shrinkage of the sub-soil water table.

(b) Not until the investigations at present being made into that shrinkage, and into possible measures to relieve it are concluded. The matter will then be reconsidered.

FAILURE OF CROPS IN JULLUNDUR.

1225. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that *barani* crops have failed in the Jullundur district on account of the scarcity of rains ;

(b) if so, what steps do Government propose to take to help the zamindars who have not got enough money to dig new wells ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Presumably the honourable member refers to the last *rabi* harvest. In some villages it failed owing to lack of rain.

(b) The cases in question were dealt with under the ordinary rules of suspension of land revenue. Government has for the present discontinued the grant of *taccavi* for the sinking of new wells in Jullundur, as the shrinkages in the water table renders it undesirable to encourage them. But, as the honourable member is aware, Government is devoting attention to the problem, and will take any steps in reason that suggest themselves to ameliorate the condition of villages suffering from that shrinkage.

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, RAHON.

1226. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned the construction of the building of the Government High School, Rahon ? If so, when is the building likely to be completed ;

(b) if the construction of the school building has not been taken in hand when it is likely to be constructed ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer to question¹ No. 1611 (starred) asked by him in December, 1928.

1227. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that accommodation in the Government High School, Rahon, is insufficient for the needs of the town and the surrounding villages ;

(b) if so, what action Government intend to take to provide additional accommodation for the students in that school ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Government has no information. If on enquiry it is however found that additional accommodation is necessary the matter will be considered.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq [Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana (Muhammadan) Rural].
Sir, I beg leave to move the adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of public importance, namely the critical condition of a number of undertrial prisoners of the Lahore conspiracy case who have resorted to hunger strike as a protest against the treatment of political prisoners in jail.

Mr. President : The honourable member has asked for leave to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter

of urgent public importance, i.e., the critical condition of a number of under-trial prisoners of Lahore conspiracy case who have resorted to hunger strike as a protest against the treatment of political prisoners in jail. May I ask the Council whether the honourable mover has the leave of the House to move the adjournment?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow (Finance Member): Sir, I object.

Mr. President: Those who are in favour of leave being given may rise in their places.

(As less than 20 members stood up).

Mr. President: The honourable member has not the leave of the Council to move his motion.

The Council will now proceed to discuss the resolution¹ of Sardar Ujjal Singh.

RESOLUTIONS.

RESOLUTION *re* COMPULSORY PRIMARY EDUCATION.

Dr. Mrs. M. C. Shave (Nominated non-official): Sir, I should like to support the resolution of Sardar Ujjal Singh but for a different reason. The education of electors is only a side issue in a plea for the extension of primary education and it is a moot point whether it is really possible to educate any electorate to function properly, whether specious promises and sensational propaganda will not nearly always carry electors off their feet and whether it is not unseldom that the best men are not returned to committees and councils. However, to return to my reasons—the object of primary education should be to produce cleaner, healthier, happier human beings and the monstrous evils of defective hygiene and lack of sanitation which are a reproach throughout the length and breadth of this great country can never be really tackled till education becomes universal. Clean and healthy bodies, clean homes however humble, clean villages, clean towns are a far more important objective than groups of educated electors. Our primary education must be on a generous scale. We are dealing with the children of the poor, remember, on the greater portion of whom the shadow of a grim fate must fall in spite of all our and their efforts. If we make them happy in their childhood it will be easy to add such furniture of mind and soul and to teach them such self-discipline of the spirit as will make them willing co-operators in our task of running this old world of ours and theirs. I have heard in this committee querulous complaints about extravagant Government school buildings. I know the over-crowded dens and hovels, with primitive and inadequate sanitary arrangements, which many municipalities consider perfect schools or pretend they do. I know the miserable salaries teachers are frequently supposed to be content with and the class of teachers employed in consequence of this. I have seen the children of well conditioned *baniyas* being taught arithmetic in *pandas* schools (babies of three and four) in dark city *gallies* squatted on both sides of open drains, shouting multiplication tables and drawing in poison with every breath. The kind of primary education all thinkers consider merely adequate must commence at three and be under conditions as nearly approaching the ideal as a fallible humanity can arrange. We must have no more ruined eyes, round shoulders, crooked backs, adenoids and tonsils, rickets and rheumatism produced in our

¹ Page 115 ante.

[Dr. Mrs. M. C. Shave.]

schools. I speak from bitter personal experience having had the health of a child almost ruined, certainly impaired for years in a school which shall be nameless. How much more, terribly more, do the children of the poor suffer under our present arrangements. Primary education for both boys and girls requires thorough overhauling before extension dare be attempted. Reform of our present system first and extension afterwards is what we must aim at. But this is expensive and Government has no money wherewith to meet such demands. We must approach the question in a spirit of sacrifice and be willing to bear a greater burden of taxation for the greatest good of the greatest number. If India would place herself on a level with twentieth century England she must be willing to pay as much in taxes as England does. If we refuse to make this sacrifice there are other educators at work sowing the seeds of discontent and revolt. The cinematograph which might be such a powerful instrument for good is at present doing incalculable harm and the other hurtful agencies, I need not mention. If we be not vigilant and active ourselves we shall have, not electors, but throwers of bombs and rioting destructive mobs. If we ignore the claims of the underworld it will rend us and pull our world about our ears. Appreciating the difficulties let us bear in mind the urgency of the matter. Let us build on firm foundations and give generously to found a better happier world for all.

Pandit Mehar Chand [Jullundur-cum-Ludhiana (Non-Muhammadan) Rural]: Sir, the need of compulsory primary education is universally admitted. As far as I know the Education Department in this province has done much towards educating the people but they have not tried to make it very popular among the masses and it is for the department as well as the Government to see how to introduce this principle of compulsion. The Government might advance the plea that compulsory education is not possible on account of the stringency of finances, but I would suggest that compulsory education be enforced in cities as well as in big towns and villages where the primary schools already exist. Experiment may be made and for this a committee for the province may be formed to enforce compulsory attendance in schools. When this is done we shall be in a position to know who are the people who do not favour this experiment and it will give us a clear proof of the feelings of the people and at the same time, of the success we attain in this object. I may quote here the work of the Delhi municipality. They are introducing compulsion there slowly and slowly. Those schools are being supervised by a separate inspector. It is not so only in Delhi province, I believe in Bengal province also there is a provincial primary educational central committee and they are enforcing compulsory primary education now. (Voices : No). I have read it in the "Hindustan Times" (laughter). However, if they are not doing it I think it is a good thing and the Punjab should not lag behind. The Punjab should be foremost to introduce the good reform that will help the people as well as the Government in stamping out some evils. It will help the people to work out those good reforms that the Government intends to introduce. The masses will be awakened and they will be in a position to understand all that is going on. I may suggest one thing that the primary education should be of a different nature. The four year primary schools that are imparting primary education now are

practically giving very meagre education. The boys who do not continue after four years will forget all that they have read after a few years and therefore, the committee that is to be formed will have to consider this question along with other questions. As long as we do not improve the standard of the primary schools I think the compulsory primary education will be of no good to the masses. With these words I support the resolution.

Rai Sahib Lala Ganga Ram [Ambala-cum-Simla (Non Muhammadan) Rural] (Urdu): Sir, the resolution now before the House is indeed very important. It is a very innocent and non-controversial resolution. The honourable mover simply asks for the appointment of a committee to enquire into and report on the best method or methods, which may be adopted for the introduction of compulsory primary education in the province. In my opinion this resolution is so innocuous that there need be no opposition to it from any quarter of the House. It is an undeniable fact that the number of literate people in this province is extremely small. In some of the civilised countries of the world the percentage of literacy ranges from 90 to 99 per cent., and one feels mortified to find that the percentage of literacy in our province should be as low as 10 per cent. It is indeed a matter of regret and shame for both this Council and the Government that the progress of education in this province should be so meagre and tardy and in my opinion the Government should not hesitate to accept this resolution in the interest of the education of the masses. It is admitted on all hands that education is a necessity and that it is a panacea for all the ills from which the urban as well as the rural people are suffering. If this resolution is accepted and primary education is made compulsory, the country would progress by leaps and bounds, and there would be hardly any necessity for the introduction of measures like the Money-Lenders Bill and the Regulation of Accounts Bill. With these few words, Sir, I support this resolution.

Mr. Din Muhammad [East and West Central Towns, (Muhammadan), Urban]: Sir, it is a non-communal and non-controversial resolution and one of those very few definite propositions which cannot but commend the sympathy and support of every section of the House. It is an innocent resolution as the honourable mover was pleased to remark the other day but very far reaching in its effects. A self-governing country which we hope to be in the near future cannot afford to keep the masses illiterate. Sooner or later the Government is going to be transferred to them and

10 A. 22.

when that time comes we should not find them in a condition that they would not be able to exercise their vote intelligently. After all, education would lead them to realise their own responsibility and they would then know how best to choose their representatives. Every great man in Europe and America has remarked that for a successful democratic government, it is absolutely necessary that the electorate should be intelligent and educated, and in my humble judgment it is time now that we should start to tackle this problem most seriously. In the past when such resolutions were being moved the only objection that was advanced by the Government section was that of stringency of finance. But an administration which can undertake the most expensive and the most useless schemes like the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme to provide luxuries to the rich who are in no need of luxuries can surely undertake beneficial schemes like the one that this resolution asks for. After all, it is the duty of the administration to make people more civilised, more educated and

[Mr. Din Muhammad.]

more reformed. Not only that, the future need of the country demands that the masses should be educated but the present need of the administration also calls for this education. If one studies or analyses the statistics of the jail population, one is surprised to see that the vast majority of them even more than 95 per cent. are absolutely illiterate, which evidently shows that some sort of schooling, whether it be even up to the primary standard, has some chastening effect on the morals of the people. Sir, it has been found very difficult to combat crime in the province and when we compare the figures of the other countries, we find that crime is on the increase. In my humble judgment one of the chief reasons which do not deter people from moral delinquency is their illiteracy. The resolution moreover, does not in any way ask the Government to pledge this House to any expensive undertaking. It only submits that a committee be appointed to find out ways and means for introducing compulsory primary education in the province. Several reasons were urged last time when this resolution was moved as to why education is not attractive among the rural classes. For instance it was demanded that there must be some change in the syllabus of the primary schools so that rural population might find it possible to send their children to those primary schools. Similarly it was urged before the House that the district boards and municipalities were not doing much in this direction. Everywhere the stringency of finance is urged with the result that this most important problem is shelved and put aside. It is therefore the most opportune time now for us to form a committee of the members of this House so that they might go through this question most thoroughly and most exhaustively and find out adequate means to spread universal education in the province. With these few remarks I lend my hearty support to this resolution.

Sir George Anderson (Director of Public Instruction) : As a member of this House who is enthusiastic in the promotion of compulsory primary education, I have awaited this debate with eager expectation. But, Sir, I must admit that I rise to speak with feelings of disappointment. I had hoped that the honourable mover would have used this opportunity of broadcasting a message of hope, a message of encouragement, a message of inspiration to the thousands and the tens of thousands of those who are devoting their lives to the cause of education ; but I have heard few words of encouragement. I had hoped, again, that we might have benefited by the narration of valuable experiences. For example, my honourable friend the mover informed us the other day that he possesses a large estate, but I would wish that he had informed us with what success he has introduced compulsory education on that estate.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : There are no schools there.

Sir George Anderson : What a pity ! how terrible ! What a glorious scope lies before the honourable member ! I had hoped again that we should have received valuable criticism. These benches welcome criticism so long as it is constructive ; but I have not heard much criticism as yet that may be termed constructive.

I have much sympathy, however, with the honourable mover in that he spoke in most depressing circumstances. I always sympathise with a member who is called on to speak at the fag end of a long and weary sitting ;

yet that was the honourable mover's lot. He must also have been depressed, as I myself was depressed and perhaps many other honourable members were depressed, by the division that was taken on the previous resolution. The object of the present resolution is to find out ways and means of meeting additional expenditure, and I therefore, suggest that the words of the Honourable Revenue Member who has done so much for education and to whom we all offer godspeed in the important work that lies before him, are most appropriate to this debate. In summing up the previous debate, he pointed out to this House that there were two alternatives. We can either reduce contributions to revenue or else we can continue to develop and even to expand our beneficent activities; yet 29 honourable members voted for the former alternative and only 39 for the latter alternative. May I observe, Mr. President, that once again have the official benches come to the rescue of this province; once again have they voted for development; once again have they supported education.

My honourable friend, the mover, spoke for some 25 minutes, but if I had to give the gist of his speech in a few seconds it would be as follows:—"I have no definite criticisms to offer; I have no constructive suggestions to make; but let us appoint a committee and ask that committee to thrash the matter out." May I ask what is to be thrashed out? May I ask what new factor has been brought to light? I have tried myself to thrash out the honourable mover's speech, but all that remains are a few platitudes, some doubtful history, some unfortunate statistics and, I regret to say, a serious overstatement.

Let us consider the statistics first. My honourable friend quite rightly dealt with the enrolment of Class IV. It is true, as he stated, that in 1927-28 the enrolment in that class was about 77,000 and that in the previous year it was about 76,000. My arithmetic is the same as that of my honourable friend; and there was an increase of only 900. How that came about I cannot say; but I am making enquiries. But I think it unfortunate that the honourable member did not pursue his investigations further. In the previous year, the increase in the enrolment of Class IV was not 900 but 9,000; in the year before that it was about 6,000; in the year before that it was between 3,000 and 4,000; and in the year before that it was 7,000. Therefore, if we consider the results of the quinquennium, we shall find them to be far more satisfactory than was suggested by the honourable member. Indeed, during the quinquennium the increase in enrolment in that important class was well over 25,000.

Then, I wish that the mover had also considered an even more important statistical table, the enrolment of Class V. Had he done so, he would have found that in the same quinquennium the increase in enrolment in that class was over 28,000. Therefore, I suggest that though these figures are not entirely satisfactory, they yet are by no means as depressing as the honourable mover has suggested.

Again, my honourable friend, the mover, stated that the expenditure on primary education was Rs. 89 lakhs. I admit that these statistics are very confusing, but I have tried to point out that more than half of our primary pupils are now enrolled in the primary departments of middle schools and that the expenditure on those pupils is debited not to primary but to

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secondary education. Therefore, I am afraid that the figure named by my honourable friend must be more than doubled and therefore his financial argument falls to the ground.

May I now make a few remarks upon the historical researches of my honourable friend, the mover. I shall not follow him into all his researches, but I had to raise my eyebrows when he informed this House that compulsory education was introduced in Germany in the year 1770. I am aware of the fact that Frederick the Great did something to promote education in the Electorate of Prussia; but surely we have been told by Bryce that in those days Germany was merely a geographical expression, and that it was not a political entity. Why, Sir, those were the days of the Holy Roman Empire. The late German Empire was founded only a few years before my birth. I am prepared to admit with reluctance that I am now of advanced age, but I refuse to agree by implication that I am now 150 years of age.

I can forgive the honourable member many things. Statistics are confusing, and knowledge of history becomes rusty as years go on, but I am unable to accept without protest what I consider to have been a serious overstatement on his part. The mover mentioned the name of Mr. Gokhale. It is more than appropriate that that name should be mentioned in a debate of this kind. It is one of the great privileges of my life to have been on terms of intimacy with Mr. Gokhale. I admired his capacity, and even more his character. What appealed to me in particular was his generosity of feeling even towards those with whom he differed. I am confident that had Mr. Gokhale been alive to-day and had he been a member of this Council, he would have been more than upset by the statement of my honourable friend that since his Education Bill nothing has been done. To that statement I take strong exception.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : I said nothing or practically nothing has been done.

Sir George Anderson : I trust there has been a misunderstanding, and that my honourable friend will withdraw his statement at an early opportunity. I shall now try to show what has been done. I think that the Council will agree with me that it is necessary first to make careful plans and preparations and first to lay sure and secure the foundations on which to build the edifice of compulsion. A hasty or impetuous introduction of compulsion might easily prove to be a sham and a delusion. Moreover, it would be inadvisable and it would also be unfair to compel children to attend schools unless there were a good guarantee that the instruction and the training given in those schools would be beneficial to the pupils.

I wish now to amplify this contention. The Council will agree with me that for the success of compulsion there must be an adequate proportion of trained teachers, and that those teachers should possess adequate general qualifications. I have no desire to be unkind, nor to be unduly critical as I appreciate the difficulties. As an illustration, may I state that there is a province in India in which there are 83,000 teachers, that only 40,000 of these are trained and that of these 40,000 teachers only 15,000 have themselves gone beyond the primary course. I shall now explain the position in the Punjab and show how far we have been successful in laying sure the foundation

in this important matter. In the first place, Sir, for ten years or more we have insisted on the Vernacular Final as the minimum qualification for admission to the normal schools with the results that we have a sure basis of teachers possessing what may be called middle pass qualifications. In the second place, we should examine the field of recruitment. Therefore, a scrutiny of the figures of candidates for the Vernacular Final examination is of importance. In the year 1921, there were 3,452 candidates, but in 1928 there were as many as 19,000 candidates. It is true that some of these were anglo-vernaular candidates, but it would be safe to say that within the period of seven years the number has gone up from 3,400 to about 15,000. Is that nothing? The effect of this remarkable increase is that we are now assured of the future recruitment of teachers possessing that qualification.

May I now discuss the number of trained teachers. In 1928, there were 20,000 trained vernacular teachers; and even after making good the normal leakage through death and retirement that figure is double what it was seven years ago. Is that nothing? Another matter of importance is the proportion of trained teachers which now stands at 65 per cent; and this is by no means unsatisfactory when we take into account that a large number of the untrained teachers are oldish men who could not reasonably be expected to receive training, while the bulk of the other untrained teachers are young men who are gaining valuable experience, before proceeding to a training institution. Therefore, our proportion of trained teachers is by no means unsatisfactory. Again, in this year 2,560 juniors and 1,120 seniors are under training, and therefore we should be in a position not merely to maintain our comparatively high proportion of trained teachers, but also to meet a sudden emergency or a sudden call on our resources. May I refer once again to Mr. Gokhale? I remember that when he brought forward his Compulsory Primary Education Bill in the old Imperial Legislative Council, one of the great objections to the acceptance of the Bill was the paucity of trained teachers. I am glad to be in a position to assure my honourable friend that this objection does not obtain in the Punjab to-day. (*Hear, hear*).

I now consider the problem of the provision of schools. My honourable friend will agree with me that it would be unwise to introduce compulsion unless the schools are organised on such a basis that the pupils would be likely to benefit by the training. May I again repeat, Sir, that I have no desire to be critical, or to be unkind as I realise the difficulties, but I would state by way of illustration that there is a province in India which has 52,000 primary schools. Of these 52,000 schools, 40,000 are one-teacher schools and the vast majority of these have only three classes with the result that the children can have little chance of gaining literacy. What is the position in this regard in the Punjab to-day? My honourable friend will agree with me that it would be unwise to base our system of compulsory education on the one-teacher school. The number of such schools in the Punjab is 1,500 which is rather more than it should be, but it is almost a negligible factor.

There is another matter which fills me with joy because in regard to it there is complete unanimity between this Council and the Government. Whenever a debate takes place on this subject, there is one long cry "We want six-class schools." I entirely agree. We have done our best to develop along those lines. In 1921-22 the lower middle schools were 412 in

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number ; on 31st March last, there were 2,255. Is that nothing ? And the number of full middle schools has advanced from 244 to 593 with the happy result that in this year of grace there are more primary pupils enrolled in the primary departments of secondary schools than there are in primary schools.

My third essential foundation is the favourable attitude of the people and of the parents towards education ; and in that respect also there has been much progress. The mere fact that enrolment has advanced from 626,000 in 1921-22 to 1,248,000 seven years later—the increase is double—shows that the parents of this province are more and more prepared to send their children to schools. As to whether they are more prepared to keep their children at school is more doubtful. That is the important problem, but, as I have already informed the Council, considerable progress has been made in that the enrolment in class IV has advanced within five years by 25,000, and that of class V by 23,000. I have in my hand, Sir, interesting statistics which I have prepared and which I shall be delighted to show to honourable members who care to see them. I have totalled the enrolment in each class in each district. Some districts are disappointing. I shall not mention the disappointing districts just at present because I happen to be in a good temper, and I shall therefore mention merely the good districts. These are Sialkot, Lahore, Amritsar and Multan. As to why Sialkot has a good record, I am unable to explain, but I understand very clearly why Lahore, Multan and Amritsar have good records. The reason is that they have been under compulsion for a long number of years, and compulsion has been applied in them with greater thoroughness than elsewhere. It is interesting that the statistics tally with this consideration.

Again, my honourable friend has referred to voluntary compulsion. The time at my disposal is fast disappearing, and I shall not therefore attempt to explain again what is meant by voluntary compulsion. It is pleasing at any rate that the number of rural areas now under compulsion is 2,357, and that of municipalities is 58. In this connexion, I intend to commit an indiscretion and therefore hasten to observe that I am merely voicing my own personal and private opinions. Mr. President, from my youth up I have been nurtured on the pure milk of Gladstonian liberalism (*hear, hear*) and I still glory in those principles. With John Bright, I am of opinion that a people can never be made temperate merely by an Act of Parliament. Similarly, I am of opinion that a people cannot be made enthusiastic in education, and this is the important consideration, merely by a legislative enactment. I would suggest for the consideration of this House that it may be safer to build our system of compulsion on the sure foundation of popular support and popular enthusiasm than on the less secure foundation of possible antagonism accentuated and fanned by the importunities of pettifogging and perhaps corrupt attendance officers. I offer this suggestion for what it is worth.

To sum up, I submit that, with all our faults, and they are many, with all our limitations, and they are many, we have done something to build the foundations, on which to construct a system of compulsory education. May I now refer in conclusion to two of our major difficulties. The first, as has been suggested, is the great difficulty of devising a machinery and of organising an agency by which the Act shall be carried out and by which defaulting

parents shall be brought to book for their failure to send their children to school. But this is easier said than done, especially in rural areas where it is difficult to make satisfactory provision for attendance committees and for attendance officers. However, I find that the Ministry has been by no means idle. I have a large file in my room, in which opinions and suggestions have been collated; and we trust that at an early date we shall have succeeded in devising better arrangements than now exist in this connexion.

In regard to finance, I calculate that in order to bring 75 per cent. of the boys to school under compulsion we require 12,000 additional teachers; and at an initial salary of Rs. 20 per mensem the amount required will be Rs. 29 lakhs. But there are two very embarrassing considerations to be taken into account. In the first place, as a proud and loving parent, I rejoice, as do many other parents equally loving and equally proud rejoice, that children have been born into this world since the last census was taken. Therefore, I calculate that on the figures of 1931 we shall require not 12,000 but 16,000 additional teachers. These will cost about 38 lakhs. In the second place, though to affluent members of this Council a mere rupee a month may appear negligible, when as many as 16,000 teachers are taken into account and when it is realised that it will take about fifteen years in which to strike the average a very large sum of money will be required which I calculate at Rs. 67 lakhs. I am glad to hear that this Council is in agreement with the proposition that we should maintain our proportion of lower middle schools; and this should cost an additional Rs. 18 lakhs. And these figures do not include capital expenditure.

In conclusion, may I state yet again that I yield to nobody in this House in my earnest desire to witness that great and glorious day when the Punjab has achieved the goal of compulsory education? But let my last word be one of warning and at the same time a word of gallantry. Let us not, Mr President, in our eagerness to achieve this goal, forget the even greater necessity that we should improve and develop the education of girls. (*Applause.*)

Mr. E. Maya Das [Non-official nominated]: Sir, the ultimate object of the honourable member who has moved this resolution is, that the people of the province may become literate and that the children of the coming generation may have the advantages of education. Putting it in simple language it might be said that his object is that people may be able to read newspapers, able to keep accounts in a simple manner and able to write letters, and I think we are all in agreement with this object. But the method which he suggests for securing this object I think is not the most suitable for being adopted at the present time.

The problem of education in the Punjab is more a rural problem than urban one, and therefore I will confine my remarks mostly to the rural question. The financial difficulty has been explained and is a very serious one, but presuming that the money will be forthcoming we have yet another difficulty to consider. I would put it very bluntly, that the difficulty is the opposition from the people. Sir, you will permit me to make mention of an actual incident. A friend of a zamindar came to visit him after very many years and he asked him amongst other questions, "Well, Sir, how many sons have you got?" He replied, "Sir, I had three sons, but now I have only two". "Why, what has happened to the third?" was the next question

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asked. "*Us ne to middle pass kar liya hai,*" was the answer. In his eyes that third son of his was of no further use to him. And is that strange when we make our children fit in the shade of a school room during the hottest part of the day? They certainly become unfit to stand the sun's heat and work in the open the whole day long. It is far more important for a zamindar that his son may be there to help him rather than that he may pass an examination.

Then, Sir, I beg to point out that actually in the Jullundur district, people have objected to compulsory education. (A voice: But in Amritsar they are asking for it.) And why is it that people object? I have some reason to believe that when the officers of the Education Department are pressed to find out areas where compulsory education may be started, they make out lists of areas and make their enquiries in such a quiet way, so that the people concerned do not even know what is going to take place, and it is given out that the people have been consulted, but through fear they really do not consult the people and it is given out that the parents of the children concerned are willing that compulsory education may be started. Sir, I beg to point out that generally the people are opposed to compulsory education because it does not suit their needs. (A voice: you are probably talking of olden days.)

Then, Sir, I would point out that I dislike the word "compulsion" entirely. I think that in any matter of whatsoever importance, compulsion is about the very worst weapon to make use of. Need I go far, Sir? What is happening in Afghanistan to-day? Compulsion has brought ruination, and I hope, Sir, that there is no water carrier any where here in the neighbourhood waiting for the opportunity to be brought about by the introduction of compulsory education. Moreover, Sir, compulsion on a voluntary basis has already been tried. It has been under trial and from the experience available we can judge how far compulsion in rural areas would be useful.

It has been mentioned that compulsion has been useful in many countries. Yet, it was useful when the conditions prevailing in the country had reached a certain stage and the country was ripe for it. I am fully in agreement that our country will be ripe for compulsory education some day, but it is not ripe for it to-day.

Sir, we are all in agreement as to the object and I beg to suggest a few means by which that object can be achieved. I have heard of the contract system having been tried in some places. The contract system is one by which a teacher is paid by the results he achieves. He is paid a certain amount when a boy has been able to master a certain book or books. Of course care is taken to see how much the boy knows in the beginning. This system I have not yet heard of having been tried in the Punjab. In view of conditions prevailing in rural areas our needs at the present time are such that our children should be taught in spare hours only. At present our children are being taken away from the work, which their parents want them to do. They, as I have already pointed out, do not become useful members of the community, for after having studied a little they become more or less unfit for village life and they gradually drift into the towns.

We have heard of night schools for adults, but I would like to hear of evening schools for children. I would like to hear of the magic lantern and the cinema being used for teaching children much more than they are being used at present, and I believe that in America these means are made use of to a great extent.

Then Sir, as regards the last observation of the Honourable the Director of Public Instruction, I quite agree that what we need is the education of girls. I am convinced of this that compulsory education will come round when our mothers are able to teach, when there will be a school round each mother's knee. Sir, the attitude of the people towards the education of girls is a matter of very great satisfaction. Within the last few years the change has been marvellous, and it is so gratifying to see how the newly opened Government high schools for girls are in demand. In one place the accommodation is about half of what the attendance requires, and the accommodation in the boarding house is also about the same. I would beg the honourable mover of this resolution to press that suitable accommodation for girls' high schools be arranged.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : That is why he has asked for a committee.

Sir George Anderson : For girls ?

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Yes.

Sir George Anderson : No, not for girls.

Mr. E. Maya Das : Then I would suggest that in the selection of teachers for primary schools preference should be given to those men whose wives could teach in a girls' school.

Then, Sir, before I resume my seat, I would make one more observation and that is about the limit of absorption. If we put a teaspoonful of sugar into a cup of tea, we can stir it and dissolve it. But we cannot go on adding sugar indefinitely because the limit will soon be reached when the tea will not be able to absorb any more of it. Now, Sir, I beg to point out that in the matter of pressure for the expansion of primary education and in the matter of committees to enquire into this we have long since reached the limit of absorption. Any further action in this direction will only be a waste of time and energy.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq [Hoshiarpur-cum-Ludhiana, Muhammadan (Rural)] (Urdu) : Sir, I was not very much surprised to hear the remarks offered by the honourable member from Ferozepore in the concluding portion of his speech. I know as well as other members of the House that he is exceptionally fond of wasting his eloquence on proving a rule or a law to be true and justified although the whole House may be of the contrary opinion. I can, therefore, safely ignore his remarks. Coming now to the important question before the House, I am perfectly sure that it is the opinion of the members of all parties in the Council that compulsory education is the one panacea of all the evils from which this country, and for that matter this province is suffering, and that there is no better way to purge the country of those evils. Sir, I have tried to follow the speech of the learned Director word for word and I shall be excused if I say that the Honourable Director meant

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to convey by his long dissertation, of course in clear and unambiguous terms, what the honourable member for Ferozepore has repeated at some length in his speech. However, to give the due to the learned Director it must be acknowledged that he has undoubtedly taken great pains to show, by means of statistics and otherwise, that compulsion in primary education is harmful and that voluntary system, such as exists at present, is the right method of imparting education to the masses. But I shall be again excused if I venture to submit that in this vital matter we should not be blindly guided by his personal predilections. We have to see what opinions the representatives of the public hold on this subject. It is their considered view which should count because they can and do better understand the needs of the people by whom they have been sent here. And as I have already submitted they are, I am sure, all unanimous so far as the question of the introduction of compulsory education is concerned. The system of voluntary compulsion, of which the learned Director of Public Instruction and others of his way of thinking appear to be so much enamoured, will not take us to the goal we have in view. I remember to have demonstrated in my speech, which I delivered before this Council in 1927 and which lasted for about an hour-and-a-half, that the system of voluntary education was sure to prove an impediment in the progress of the province rather than of any help in accelerating the speed of education among the masses. I further explained on that occasion that out of 65 lakhs of rupees, which the Education Department was spending on the system of voluntary compulsion, 58 lakhs were being wasted and that the province was benefiting to the extent and value of only 12 lakhs of rupees. I may mention here that I had studied this problem very carefully and the opinion, which I expressed at that time, was not so much mine as that of the Government of India and other eminent educationists. In the annual report of the Government of India, it was clearly stated that the wastage of 58 lakhs of rupees was too much for the resources of our province. After what I had said on that occasion I was surprised to hear the learned Director saying that we seldom offered any constructive criticism. That is a sort of plea usually raised to confuse the issue. The fact is that the opinions of the most learned and esteemed members of the public, not only in the matter of education but in all matters of administration, are flouted and the opinions of the Government members are considered to be of the greatest value. That is not the attitude which a representative Government, as it claims to be, should adopt. It must give more weight to the public opinion. And if, perchance, the Government officers can not persuade themselves to adopt the opinions, expressed after due consideration, of the representatives of the public, they had better vacate their places to make room for men who can better understand and appreciate our needs and aspirations. I fail to understand why this system of voluntary compulsion is being thrust upon us in spite of our opposition. It is a system devoid of any real benefit to the people at large and has been rightly discarded by all civilised countries which wanted to force the pace of education among their people, and in fact the very expression, voluntary compulsion, is a contradiction in terms. However, it is worthy of note that the learned Director has been pleased to admit that all the requirements necessary at the initial stages

for the introduction of compulsory education are available and wherever compulsion has been introduced, the people have not been found lacking in enthusiasm for the education of their boys. But the wonder of all wonders is that in spite of such happy signs, he is not prepared to go a step farther and to introduce compulsory education.

Last time when I raised my voice against the indifference of the Education Department to this all important question of compulsory education, some friends of mine complained that I, in my zeal for the cause of education, had forgotten the serious efforts made by Sir George Anderson for spreading education in the province. I admit that Sir George Anderson has done more for the cause of education than perhaps any other Director might have done (*hear, hear*). I respect him for his efficiency and ability. But all the same I am not satisfied with the present slow progress in education. I wonder why he is so averse to the introduction of compulsory education when the experiences of all the countries of the world and particularly of his own country clearly point out that so long as compulsion is not introduced, illiteracy from amongst the people cannot be removed.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Experiences of the western countries or the eastern countries ?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : I am referring to the countries of which the Honourable Member appears to be so fond and proud, and particularly to England.....

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : That is the epitome of the world (*laughter*).

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : These words ill-suit the mouth of an eminent educationist like Sir George Anderson that compulsion in primary education is fraught with insurmountable difficulties. When he was impressing upon the House that on the introduction of compulsory education, the country will witness worst conditions, I was wondering whether he had also forgotten the example set by his own country in respect of compulsory education. If he, and I should say Government, really believes that voluntary is the only effective system, why is it not tried in other branches of administration ? Why is it that the thieves are compelled to undergo the rigours of jail life when it is believed that voluntary system is more wholesome and more effective in bringing about the reformation of thieves ? Why is it that in some parts of the province fines are imposed on the parents who do not send their boys to schools ? I find that compulsion is resorted to only in cases in which it suits the convenience and the pleasure of Government although it may not be necessary in the eyes of the public. Under these circumstances I am inclined to think that the officers of our Government are not endowed with the quality of clear thinking, which is so very necessary for leading nations to the high road of progress. Our Education Department has not yet been able to define its policy which it must pursue. We have not yet been definitely told whether it looks upon our demand for the introduction of compulsory education with favour or not. The learned Director has not committed himself beyond saying that compulsion in education will prove harmful. (*A voice : The honourable member has misunderstood the honourable Director of Public Instruction*). I shall be very glad to hear from the Honourable Minister for Educa-

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tion that he intends to introduce compulsory education to the fullest extent. I shall rather congratulate him if he were to say so. Since 1927 I have been waiting to know the attitude of Government towards compulsory primary education, but more than two years have elapsed and Government has not so far indicated, by a word of mouth or by any action on its part, what attitude it is going to adopt in this matter. In the report of the last year on Education Department we do not find any mention made whether this principle is acceptable to Government or not. Of course we know that the Ministry of Education issued instructions to its officers that efforts should be concentrated on admitting such boys to primary schools who should show an inclination to continue their studies for four or five years and that such schools should not be filled with the boys of unwilling parents. That is, no doubt, very good and it will have borne its fruit. But it is a pity that the question of compulsory education is not being attended to. Mr. Gokhale and after him many eminent leaders of the public have been insisting on the introduction of compulsory education but their voice has proved a cry in the wilderness. They went so far as to assure the Government that they were prepared to help it in removing the difficulties that might come in its way while introducing compulsory education and that they would also persuade their countrymen to shoulder the burden of extra taxation if need be, but in spite of all these assurances the Government has not budged an inch. I would request the honourable members of the House to lay, in their turn, definitely before Government this proposition that they must have compulsory education introduced at once. They should further demand its decision on this issue and require it to declare definitely whether it is prepared to accede to our wishes or not. We must have a decision on that point once for all. As I explained in my speech referred to, it will take 131 years and six months to make an average man literate, with the present rate of progress. I remember to have challenged Government to rebut this statement. In arriving at this figure I omitted to take into consideration two important factors. In the first place I did not take into account the increase in population that will take place during these years and then I forgot to calculate the number of boys that would lapse into illiteracy during this long interval. If these two factors are also taken into consideration I can say, without fear of contradiction, that a life-time of Noah will be required to bring this country to the level of other civilised countries in the matter of education.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : That is no doubt a very long period.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : But you will have to wait till such time. The members of this Council have more than once expressed their willingness to help Government in every way to encounter the difficulties that may have to be experienced while introducing compulsory education. The honourable Director has found the people enthusiastic and willing to send their boys to schools wherever they have been tried and over and above this no appreciable success has attended voluntary system. It is, therefore, but just that compulsory system should be tried and the proposed committee should be appointed to consider the ways and means for introducing compulsory education. The financial difficulty to which

the learned Director alluded in the concluding portion of his speech is also not so great as it appears to be. Government can well utilise the sum of 58 lakhs of rupees, which, as I explained, was being wasted, to give effect to the system of compulsory education and in that case it will not feel any financial stringency.

To answer the charge that no constructive criticism is offered, I will propose that the Compulsory Education Bill of England should be introduced and enforced here with such modifications as may be necessary in view of the circumstances of this province. I understand that in France and in England the boys found wandering in the streets, are arrested by the police and sent to the nearest school where the headmaster does not let them go till the school is closed. Beyond that the factory proprietors are required to see in these countries that those in their employ have received not only primary education, but secondary education as well.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : We made efforts in this direction here in the Punjab too, but no co-operation was coming forth to enable us to achieve that end.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : I am not prepared to admit this. I am sure that if we were to try seriously and honestly to achieve this end, there is no reason why we should fail. I have seen no report of the Education Department in which the system of compulsory education may have found any support. Before I close I would respectfully request the learned Director of Public Instruction to try to create an atmosphere, with his zeal for which he is so well-known, in which the task of introduction of compulsory education may become comparatively easier and smoother. It is no use saying that we have done this and that. We want nothing short of compulsion in primary education. Our souls will not find peace till we have seen that proper facilities have been provided for the education of our boys. It should be known that we do not come here to bandy words and to waste our energies in useless talk. We want a clear cut line chalked out so that there may be no more blind groping in the dark. If nothing more, Government should in fairness admit for the present that it will introduce the system of compulsion sooner or later and that it does not intend sticking to its present policy of *laissez-faire* for an indefinite period.

Mr. H. Calvert (Financial Commissioner) : Sir, I welcome any discussion on the extension of compulsory primary Education because in widespread education,

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my mind, lies the only solution of most of our rural ills (*hear, hear*). I regard widespread education as the only real and effective remedy for the backwardness of our agriculture: I regard it as the only real and satisfactory method of removing the obstacles to the spread of the co-operative movement and I regard it as an essential condition precedent to all measures aimed at improving the health and efficiency of the population at large. Now, Sir, in the Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture we stressed this point very strongly indeed. The honourable mover rather tried to make our flesh creep and our hair stand on end by giving figures showing how backward the Punjab was. I hope to bring to the attention of honourable members a few facts which will show not only how advanced the Punjab is but how it is advanced beyond any other province in India and beyond the whole of the rest of India put together.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : But how does it stand as compared with other countries ?

Mr. H. Calvert : The honourable member gave figures for other countries like America and England and he quoted the percentages of the total population. Now, Sir, it is not fair to compare the number of boys and girls attending schools in countries where both boys and girls are under a compulsory Act. Further he compared the total population of different countries quite omitting the distribution of the population between the age limits. If he had taken the proportion of boys in the Punjab of school-going age and compared with that the proportion of boys in other countries of school-going age he would have arrived at figures far more complimentary to those who have been in charge of education in his province.

Now, Sir, some mention has been made of certain provinces in India and I should like to bring to the notice of honourable members the actual facts in those provinces. Sir George Anderson has told us that in the Punjab the number of rural areas to which compulsion applies is 2,357 and I believe that covers round about 9,000 villages or more than one-fourth of the total number of villages in the Punjab. Now, let us come to Bengal. In Bengal there have been resolutions and there has been discussion on this question of compulsory primary education and in 1919 they passed a compulsory education Act. To-day, Sir, only one local authority, one municipality has adopted compulsory primary education and not a single rural area in Bengal has got it. We pass on to Bihar and Orissa. In Bihar and Orissa, only one rural area has introduced compulsory primary education ; out of a population of round about 45 millions—twice that of the Punjab—only one rural area in Bihar and Orissa has introduced compulsory primary education compared with 2,357 of the Punjab.

Then, Sir, mention has been made of a very distinguished gentleman, the late Mr. Gokhale. Mr. Gokhale, Sir, is honoured in Bombay by a marble statue, but he is not honoured in Bombay by the people adopting his advice. (Laughter). Bombay has a Compulsory Primary Education Act. So far only seven municipalities have adopted compulsory primary education and not a single rural area at Bombay as compared with 2,357 in the Punjab.

Now, passing on to Madras, we find very much the same state. The Compulsory Primary Education Act of Madras was passed in 1920. Practically no progress has yet been made in it in introducing compulsory primary education in any rural area. Only 21 out of 80 municipalities have adopted it. In the United Provinces, although power has been given to district boards to introduce compulsory primary education the matter there is still under discussion. Now, Sir, I hope that will show not only that the Punjab is in a far more satisfactory position than we were led to believe by the speech of the honourable mover but that its compulsory education areas are probably 200 times as many as the whole of the rest of India put together.

It is hardly for me to suggest the ways and means whereby the funds could be raised to spread further compulsory education in the Punjab. But in the course of our consideration of the rural problems throughout India, the Royal Commission did try to see what was being done in other countries, to get the funds and we were struck by the example of Italy. Italy is interesting to the Punjab because South Italy is probably more backward than the

Punjab and certainly more poor. Now, Sir, in Italy the district boards are given power to raise the local rate up to a sum equal to the land revenue. The land revenue in the Punjab at the present moment is rather less than half, in terms of produce, of what it was 50 years ago; that is to say, per acre the zamindar has to sell half the amount of wheat or less than half the amount of wheat which he was selling fifty years ago to pay his land revenue. The actual burden of land revenue has been declining in this province for over 50 years. Now, if 50 years ago the zamindars of this province, when the province was poor, could pay land revenue double the present rate, surely this province can now follow the example of Italy and press for a Bill empowering district boards to raise the local rate equivalent to the land revenue. I just throw out that suggestion because although this Council may not agree to have a committee, as obviously there is no need for one, the honourable mover might surely gather together his friends and try and educate them to support a measure such as that I have suggested. If, Sir, the people of this province will agree to shoulder a burden such as their forefathers shouldered 50 years ago then, there will be ample funds to bring about a really educated, intelligent, healthy and efficient peasantry (*hear, hear*).

Sardar Partap Singh (Jullundur, Sikh, Rural) (Urdu): Sir, the honourable Director of Public Instruction has rightly remarked that the splendid structure of compulsory education should be erected on firm grounds, but I am sorry to point out that a sort of tricky argument has been chosen to dam our united proposals. The present system of compulsion, which is being tried in some parts of the province, is not very hopeful. As Shaikh Saadi said:—

بتوسم کہ بہ کعبہ نہ روی اسے اعرابی — این راہ کہ می روی بہ ترکستان است

We are not going in the right direction. It is no exaggeration to say that the present system of education does not suit the requirements of the people of the province and particularly of the rural population and it requires no great intelligence to judge that, if this system is to be compulsorily introduced, it will mean a huge waste of public money. I do not mean to say that I am opposed to compulsion in primary education, but I would like that the present system of education should be modified according to our needs. The honourable member for Ferozepore, while opposing the resolution, said that the people of Jullundur district objected to compulsion being introduced in that district. But that is only a half truth and must have created misunderstanding amongst the members of the House. The honourable member ought to have also stated the reason on which their objection is based. To clear that misunderstanding I may be permitted to say that the people of the Jullundur district are not so much opposed to the introduction of compulsion as to the present system of education. It is now a matter of common knowledge that the existing system is responsible for a regular annual addition to the number of our unemployed youngmen. The zamindars in particular do not stand to gain anything by this system. They want that primary education should be imparted in the mother tongue of the people. Under the present system the boys waste four years of their precious lives in primary schools. In that short period they cannot learn to speak, write and understand the Urdu language.

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which is the medium of instruction at present. That is why the people in the rural areas do not look upon the present system of education with favour. They want the system to be changed to meet their requirements. As the resolution seeks to thrash out the whole problem of compulsion in primary education including the question of system according to which it should be imparted and the curricula which should be prescribed, I wholeheartedly support it.

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang [North-West Towns, Non-Muhammadan, (Urban)]: Sir, before I discuss the resolution before the House, I want to congratulate Sir George Anderson on his masterly speech which we have had the good fortune of hearing after a long time. But, after I have paid him this very well deserved compliment, I am very sorry that I have to add that the whole of his speech was irrelevant. It was delivered with great eloquence and force, but unfortunately with due deference, I would say with utter disregard to the wording of the resolution before the House. If he had actually a consciousness of what the resolution required, then, I would submit that the whole of his speech was really an affront to the House, although I am sure he did not mean it. The resolution simply asks for the appointment of a committee of some members of this Council to go into the ways and means of introducing compulsory education in this province. What has he discussed? He has discussed figures and statistics, the difficulties in the way of the introduction of compulsion in this country, the paucity of trained teachers, the unwillingness of parents, the unsuitability of rural areas for the introduction of compulsion in primary education. What has that got to do with the resolution before this House? It will be the function of the committee which my honourable friend the mover of this resolution wants this Government to appoint which will go into that question. Is Sir George Anderson, again speaking with the utmost respect, justified in anticipating what that committee would do? From his speech it appears that it would be absolutely a waste of time and energy to appoint such a committee because, as it were, in his omniscience, he knows that such a committee would be an utter failure and that they would not be able to find ways and means for the introduction of compulsory primary education in this province. I would submit that is hardly fair to this House, hardly fair to the mover of this resolution and hardly fair to the committee which this House is asking the Government to appoint. It is really telling the House: you are asking for something utterly useless, something which will be a sheer waste of time and energy and which will be an unnecessary burden on the State exchequer. Otherwise what was the meaning of the whole of his speech delivered with so much eloquence and force, and unfortunately the speakers that have followed him have fallen into the same error. The honourable member, Mr. Calvert, who has also made a very powerful speech, full of statistics, has fallen into the same error. He has pointed that the Punjab is doing very well and that other provinces of India lag far behind. When he was discussing this and pointing out that the Punjab was not so bad as other provinces, I was reminded of a verse which I read long ago in Omar Khayam, a line of which says—

Dar kamtar zi khud nazar kun-o-shad bizi.

در کمتر از خود نظر کن و شاد بزی

"Look at those who are worse off than yourself and be happy." If you have got a coat to wear, look at another man who has not got even a shirt; if you have not got a shirt, look at a man who has not got trousers, and so on. That is no answer. That is really no consolation. I do not for a moment under-estimate the great work, comparatively speaking, that the Ministry of Education in this province has done. I gratefully acknowledge what has already been done and it is a great credit really to the reformed government inadequate as the reforms may be, that it has done much more during the past nine years than the un-reformed Government was able to do in a much longer time previous to that. That is really a compliment to the reformed Government. But is that enough? I would not like to fall into the same error which I have pointed out in others by going into the merits of compulsion or the demerits of it. But I think I shall be failing in my duty if I did not try to expose the hollowness of the objections which have been raised against the proposition of my honourable friend Sardar Ujjal Singh. It has been said, well, in order to introduce compulsion you require some basis for the introduction of compulsion. And what is that? We require 12,000 to 16,000 trained teachers. For what? For teaching little infants below the age of 10 how to read and write, to a very elementary extent their own vernacular. I would submit that for ages and ages India has done without trained teachers, and what has been the result of the education that those untrained teachers gave to their *alumni*? Since the introduction of trained teachers in this country, how many Gautamas, how many Kanads, how many Buddhas, how many Shankaras, how many Saadis and how many Hafizes have been produced in this country with all the training that the teachers have been receiving in these training institutions? I am not under-rating them. Again something is better than nothing and these trained teachers may be a necessity in the changed circumstances of this country. But what I am submitting is this: that these are really excuses for postponing and for delaying what the country as a whole now strenuously wants. I would ask Sir George Anderson whether he lays down any time limit within which the principle of compulsion would be made universal in this province. If he lays down any time limit then we shall be working on some definite basis and there will be room for argument, but he leaves everything vague and in fact in the fairly long speech that he made, I failed to discover whether he was in favour of the proposition that has been put before the House or he was against it. His speech as I have already submitted was not on the resolution but on the *pros* and *cons* of the introduction of compulsory primary education in this province. I thought that he would jump at this proposal which is being made because I have not the slightest doubt that Sir George Anderson is not one of those officers who would not like the searchlight of public criticism to fall in full blaze upon their departments. I am quite sure that he has nothing to conceal and if a committee of this House were to be appointed he would be very glad to put before that committee what he says his department has hitherto done. It would be clear that the criticisms which are sometimes hurled against his department that some of those primary schools, which are so much advertised and so much boasted of are really fictitious that some of them really do not exist, and that there are teachers who are receiving pay from the Government, who are working elsewhere and who have got only registers in which

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a number of names are entered—I do not say that these criticisms are well-founded or are correct. But the fact remains that this criticism is made and I am sure Sir George Anderson should have welcomed this resolution and said “Come along I wish to show you what work we have done, tell us the ways and means, I, for one, am with you and shall introduce this element of compulsion in primary education with the least possible delay.” Instead of that he comes forward with a very powerful and eloquent speech on the impossibility of the introduction of the compulsory primary education in this province.

Sir George Anderson : It is introduced.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Well, I know what has been introduced. As that point has also been raised by Mr. Calvert, it would be worth while saying a few words on that point also. Indeed Government have entrenched themselves in a strong position, so far as some part of this question is concerned. This is what they say : “We have passed a Bill, we have authorised your representative bodies, district boards and municipalities, to introduce the element of compulsion in primary education if they like. We have given you power and if you do not exercise it, it means that either you do not believe in it or that your people whom you are supposed to know better than we do, do not want it.” This argument is very plausible but the Government forgets that Indians, I must confess with great shame, have lost all initiative under the political conditions they have been in for a long time. It is no use telling us we have authorised your district boards, we have authorised your municipalities, if they like they can introduce this principle of compulsory education whenever and wherever they like. Well, those municipalities and those rural and district boards which can afford have certainly done something in this direction. We have had from Sir George Anderson himself that as many as 58 municipalities have introduced this principle of compulsion and as many as 2,357 rural areas are now receiving benefit of this system. But is that adequate again? What are the insurmountable difficulties in the way of making it more general or in fact universal in this province? The difficulties as pointed out are paucity of teachers, the unwillingness of parents and the financial difficulty. I am entirely at one with Mr. Calvert, if I understood him rightly, when he quoted the instance of Italy.

The people of Italy volunteered to pay extra taxes for the encouragement of compulsory education in their country, and I would certainly appeal to the people of this province to volunteer to pay more for the introduction of compulsory education in their province. (*Hear, hear*). For aught I believe there cannot be any compulsory education anywhere unless it is also free. You cannot compel a man to do something if he has to pay for it. If you say : You have nothing to pay for it as a member of the State as a citizen of the State you must get rid of ignorance, you must educate your children, then there would be reason in it. Therefore, to those who do not want compulsory education and who are not prepared to pay for it my submission is that their demand would not be listened to unless they

are also themselves prepared to make sacrifices. Put an additional percentage on land revenue. Put an additional percentage on other taxes, and on those people who want compulsory education. (Voices : no, no). It seems to me that Sir George Anderson has been dealing with *these* people (members of unionist party) and therefore he is afraid that these people's demands are simply hollow hypocritical and insincere. If these demands are really unnecessary, are hypocritical and are absolutely hollow, I see no justification for blaming the Government at all. If we are not prepared to pay, we must be content to remain ignorant ; we must be content to remain backward ; if we are not prepared to pay for our advancement. I am prepared, so far as I am concerned, to advocate an additional centime. As my honourable friend Sardar Sikandar Hayat Khan would put it we are prepared to pay a *centime additional* on the taxes that we pay provided that that *centime additional* is spent on the advancement of compulsory education and is not spent on other things from which we have nothing to gain. I am prepared to pay from my own pocket as everybody ought to for the advancement of compulsory education in this province. Perhaps those who have been taking interest in this movement would know that when Mr. Gokhale introduced his Bill in the old Imperial Legislative Council, Lala Lajpat Rai in order to strengthen his hands established a Free Elementary Educational League in Lahore and collected a fairly large amount for that purpose and opened a number of schools in the city of Lahore. Unfortunately as is the case in this country voluntary movements which depend upon voluntary subscriptions cannot be permanent and cannot flourish. After a few years that league came to an end and when the funds were nearly exhausted the schools that then existed—I had the honour of managing some under the direction of Lala Lajpat Rai—were made over to a big educational institution in Lahore and I am sure one of them still exists and is prospering. This is the attitude of those who want compulsory education. Now there is one difficulty more which has been suggested and that is the unwillingness of parents, and I believe it was Mr. Mayadas who suggested that the parents think that a child who is sent to school is lost to the parents for all practical purposes. Well to a certain extent it is true ; but is the time table of primary schools immutable like the laws of the Medes and Persians that no suitable alterations could be made in it ? If there is a boy who is helping his father in cultivation why cannot the time table of a local school in that area be so modified as to make it easy and convenient for that cultivating agricultural parent to send his child to school when he is not wanted on the farm.

Sir George Anderson : Curriculum or time table ?

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang : Curriculum and also time-table, I mean both. Time-table should be changed and also curriculum. There are certain things which are really found in primary schools and which are not considered to be comparatively necessary. No time should be wasted on them. If for two hours a day a child is taught, in 3 or 4 years he will be fairly proficient in his vernacular and even if afterwards he discontinues his studies, as I was just pointing out to a friend, he will still retain just something. You put oil in a vessel and then invert the vessel and pour out the whole oil, still some greasiness would stick to it. In the same way if a child discontinues his education after the 4th year he will be in a position

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to read the names of railway stations and addresses on letters and even that little knowledge would be of some use to them.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Even to check accounts.

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang : In some way to check accounts too. If there are children in a carpet factory—I am referring to this because I know of this particular instance—if boys work in a carpet factory and cannot join school because their parents who live by carpet weaving cannot spare them, well, change the time to suit their convenience.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : If they do not agree to any time?

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang : Then compel them. Take them by the ear and compel them.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The factory owners.

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang : He (Mr. Sadiq) is in favour of this resolution. He will do all that is possible and will exercise his influence on the factory owners and on the weavers in those factories and in the same way *mutatis mutandis* it would apply to all factories. So that, it is not an insurmountable difficulty at all. The real difficulty lies in this that you have made education very dear in this country that too much time and money are wasted on unnecessary things. This is the subject to which I have already drawn the attention of the department. Before you recognize a school you want such a huge building, grounds, so many rooms, verandas, this and that, play ground and gymnasium and so on. Well, we people from ages have been accustomed to read under pipal and banian trees and whenever the rain comes, well, in the old Shashtras it is mentioned it is *anadhyaya*. Do not read in the storm or rain. If there is a thunder do not read. Instead of having so many holidays let the school be closed for such days. There is no harm. In fact *anadhyayas* are good. *Pas toujours philosophic* ! After all you cannot go on reading everyday. Some time must be left for studying nature, studying storms, studying lightning and thunder and all these manifestations of nature. On these days close your books, take your boys and explain these things to them. Is that less of education? We are wasting too much on non-essentials and keeping very little for the essential things. If you economise in that direction and levy an additional tax on all classes expressly for compulsory education, I have not the slightest doubt that you will be in a position to introduce compulsory free education in this province.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan [South-East Towns (Muhammadan Urban) (Urdu)] : Sir, both the Director of Public Instruction and Mr. Calvert have admitted the necessity and expediency of introducing compulsory education in the province for the benefit of its people. In presence of such admission coming from such quarters, we need not pursue the present discussion any further. Moreover, the subject has been sufficiently thrashed out in all its aspects by the various members of the House. Sir, in the first place I will try to explain why compulsory education is necessary; and in the second place in what way the means suggested to secure the objective

we have all in view fall short of the adequate. Sir, our purpose is to spread education among the masses, and it cannot be achieved in a short time without making it compulsory. The Government members have not altogether disagreed with it; they have only proposed to attain it by another method and under a different name. They have pinned their faith in voluntary compulsion, and have offered to bestow such further powers on the district boards and municipal committees as may enable them to achieve this end with the voluntary co-operation of the public if it does feel the necessity of it: which is just like saying, "Let the patient take medicine if he has got any desire to live; we need not force him to take it." Sir, the patients always refuse to take medicine but the doctor who has their welfare in view administers it to them forcibly. The prisoners, in protestation, enjoin upon themselves hunger-strikes. They refuse to take food, but the Government feed them by artificial means against their will, either through their nostrils or by administering injections of food stuff essences. When compulsion is employed in such matters, there is no reason why it should not be employed for imparting such a useful thing as education. We admit that education is the prime factor of advance in a nation, but they refuse to give it us. We propose compulsion as a means of its immediate flourishing in the country and they reject it. I am at a loss to understand their arguments against compulsory education. Want of education is one of the prime causes of a nation's decline and stagnation, and we knowingly not only neglect it but ignore it.

Now I come to the question of encouraging primary education. In the primary standard we include only four classes and it is an established fact that the majority of children never attain to reading and writing up to the fourth class. If you remove a child from school after his fourth class, in a year or a half he will forget all the little he was taught, but still the wrong impression that he is literate will continue to linger. He will neither be of any good to himself, nor to his country nor parents. In habits such children are always sluggards and it is about such that parents often complain that they are lost to them. So, in short our present primary education means a little learning, and, as all the world knows, a little learning is a dangerous thing. The real end we strive for is general literacy among the public, and not primary education as it is given at present, and which is only a source of self-deception and self-conceitedness. Primary education is only a means for the achievement of this end, and we are to see how far this means is consistent with the end in view. Compulsory education is necessary to produce general literacy among the people, but up to what class they should be forced to study? We have seen that up to the fourth class education is too insufficient and can not serve our present purpose. Therefore, I think that we can attain this object by raising the standard from the primary to the lower middle, and if even after that we feel the necessity of retaining schools up to the fourth form, we can continue them as branch schools. Then Sir, very proudly it is stated before the House that the Punjab is ahead of other provinces in the matter of education, and that in fifty or fifty-eight municipalities, and two thousand areas, compulsory education has been introduced; but may I enquire how far it has increased the literacy among the general public? Sir, when the honourable member to my right stated that 60 lakhs were wasted on education, some

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voices were heard enquiring how it was wasted. I, with your permission, Sir, would like to explain. The honourable mover said that Rs. 84,000 were spent on primary education which the Honourable Director of Public Instruction corrected him and said "No! double the amount, for we also spend an equal sum on primary schools attached to the middle schools." Now, let us see what results we have achieved by spending such a huge sum. According to the statement made by the Director of Public Instruction, 4 per cent. sought admission to such schools; out of which 2.5, i.e.,

12 noon.

62 per cent. discontinued their studies in the second or the third class, and the remaining 1.5, i.e., 88 per cent. passed the fourth class. Out of these 88 per cent., at the most half of the number might have passed the sixth class, i.e., only 18 per cent. achieved the real standard of literacy. Thus it is quite clear that only 20 per cent. of the money spent is spent with a useful result and the rest 80 per cent. is a sheer waste. Compare the results thus attained with the amount spent, and then decide whether it was not a sheer waste of public money, and whether the officers concerned are in any way entitled to pique themselves on such a petty achievement of theirs.

Then, the Director of Public Instruction informed the House that the number of lower middle schools had reached 2,855. I congratulate him on the success of his efforts, but at the same time I remind him that much remains to be done.

Again, it has been advanced against the resolution that people do not consent to compulsory education. To this I may reply that their consent can be forced by legislation. Now, there remains the objection regarding financial difficulties. Sir, the Honourable mover of the resolution does not ask that immediate steps be taken in that direction. He only wants that a committee of the Punjab Legislative Council be appointed to find out ways and means for introducing compulsory education. This by no means necessitates an immediate expenditure. Although the wording of the resolution is not a happy one, still I have got every sympathy with the purpose at which it aims. Had the Honourable Member also added along with it

Mr. President : Order, order! The honourable member has been harping on the same point, that is to say, the standard of primary education should be raised.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : Yes, because, it is so very important.

Mr. President : It may be so, but in that case the honourable member should have tabled an amendment. There is no question before the House that the standard of education should be raised and the honourable member is speaking to an assumed amendment.

Rana Feroz-ud-Din Khan : Sir, neither have I tabled any amendment nor am I speaking on one. So far I have been simply explaining the matter to the House. Still I have to say a few things more but I leave them for some other opportunity. With these words I conclude my speech.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan [Sialkot, (Muhammadan), Rural] : Sir, I am very sorry to observe that this innocent looking resolution, as it has been described, should have imported during the course of the discussion a certain amount of unnecessary heat. The resolution asks for a committee to go into the ways and means of introducing compulsory primary education in the province. In support of this resolution the honourable mover has put forward certain considerations in order to induce the House to hold that there is room for the appointment of such a committee. The Director of Public Instruction speaking on this resolution tried to explain first as to what had so far been done by the Government in the direction of promoting primary education in this province, what further the Government proposes to do, what are the essential conditions under which alone primary education can be of any real benefit to the people of the province and what are the difficulties which are being encountered in the way of securing those conditions. Not only was that a perfectly legitimate position to adopt, not only was his whole speech entirely relevant, but my respectful submission is that any other course would have been entirely irrelevant if it had been adopted. You will permit me, Sir, to express the feelings of gratification experienced by me on hearing the speech delivered this morning by the Director of Public Instruction, a speech which was a real intellectual treat for me and I believe for the rest of the House also. (Hear, hear). I cannot see in what respect the speech was irrelevant, much less in what respect it could be described as an affront to this House. I am extremely sorry that although agreeing with a good many things which have been suggested in support of this resolution by various honourable members I have to take strong exception to the entirely unnecessary, uncalled for and to a certain extent offensive criticism of the speech of the Director of Public Instruction which one of my learned friends has lent himself to.

With regard to the spirit of this resolution, as has been said by various members, no one member of this House would differ from the honourable mover of the resolution, that is to say, the encouragement and promotion of primary and, as has been suggested by some honourable members, even of secondary education in the province. All of us are agreed that it is an essential condition of civilised life that the masses of the country should at least be literate. That position has not only not been controverted from the Government benches, but it is a principle which has been long accepted by all sides of the House and efforts are constantly being made to achieve that object. A certain amount of criticism was put forward with regard to the curricula and time-tables in various schools, suggestions which I am sure the Honourable Minister and the Director of Public Instruction will note and profit by. With these suggestions I am in entire agreement. But with all respect I submit that that is not the principal object of this resolution. The resolution is confined to this, that a committee should be appointed to go into the ways and means of encouraging primary education. The stand taken by the Director of Public Instruction was : You have not suggested anything definite which this committee will be expected to go into. If the whole object of the resolution is that the speed at which primary education is being encouraged among the masses in this province is slack, here is a summary of the past achievements of the department, here is a summary of the difficulties which are being encountered and our belief is that we have done so far the

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utmost that we could do with the means at our disposal and that we are more anxious than anybody else could be in this House to do as much as we can in the future with the means that have been placed at our disposal, and consequently there is no case made out for the appointment of a committee." It was said by one honourable member that he could not appreciate or understand the reasoning of this argument. That reminds me of an incident related by Boswell in the life of Dr. Johnson. Somebody put a question to Dr. Johnson to which the famous Doctor gave a reply and the questioner remarked 'Sir, I cannot understand this.' Dr. Johnson retorted 'Sir, I can give you a reason, but I cannot give you an understanding.' The Director of Public Instruction tried to give reasons, but he could not supply the understanding. The reasons which he has put forward so far as this resolution is concerned—not with regard to the criticism which has been offered as regards the time-tables and curricula and other things with which I am in perfect agreement—the reasons which have been advanced to show that no useful purpose could at this stage be served by the appointment of a committee, at any rate I can well understand and can sympathise with.

In my humble opinion during the past seven or eight years the Education Department has done all that it could towards the encouragement of primary education in this province. A great deal more no doubt could have been done if the means at their disposal had been larger than what they were. I consider that a great deal of credit for this achievement is due to those honourable members of this House who have been in charge of the Education Department and also to a very large extent to the present Director of Public Instruction. I am extremely glad to find that our fears that after he had gone on leave he may not find it possible to return to this province to take charge of the department again, have been proved to be groundless and we see him again at the head of this department and any kind of slackness which might have become observable during his absence is sure to be remedied at the earliest possible opportunity.

In another part of his speech my honourable friend, adopted a position which had been adopted by the Director of Public Instruction and which had been condemned by the honourable member in the earlier part of his speech and which was that you cannot carry out a full programme of compulsory primary and secondary education without very much larger financial means at your disposal. The honourable member went on to make a suggestion that if the people in the rural areas are not willing to make further contributions towards the cost of education they should be left without it and one suggestion made was that you should be prepared to put an additional percentage upon land revenue and the suggestion was very generously put forward that urban people would also be willing to pay additional taxation in order to promote education in towns and that if the urban people are willing to pay extra taxation they should have further education and if the rural people are not willing to bear extra taxation they should be deprived of any further advantages of primary education. As regards this my submission is.....

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang : I did not say anything of the kind. I never tried to make a distinction between the urban and the rural people. What I said was that the contributions should be made to a common fund.

called the compulsory primary education fund without any distinction of areas.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : If that was all, I shall accept that suggestion with this proviso. By all means tax the people for your needs and development in all beneficent departments particularly for the advance of education but lay this additional taxation where the burden at present is lightest.

Mr. President : May I ask the honourable member to leave the discussion of education tax for the time when a Bill to that effect is before the House?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, one of the difficulties, put forward by the Director of Public Instruction in the way of expansion of primary education was the lack of funds. A suggestion was made that that difficulty could be overcome by additional taxation. In accepting that suggestion I am merely conveying a warning to the House that you can have additional taxation but the burden of additional taxation must be placed where the burden is at present the lightest. Once you have equalized the burden of taxation then go on imposing additional taxation equally. But so long as this is not done it ought to be placed where it is lightest. With regard to certain other criticisms made by one of my honourable friends that the present curriculum of primary education does not give complete or even adequate literacy to the boys who are admitted to the primary schools and who go out of the primary schools and certain other references with regard to primary education, I was surprised to find that so much time was devoted to that criticism inasmuch as the principle advocated by the honourable member has already been accepted by the Education Department and the Education Department itself has admitted that the system of one teacher-schools and three class schools is defective. The policy is being pushed forward that primary education should mean education up to the end of the sixth class and that the one teacher-school should gradually disappear and that schools of four classes wherever they exist should be affiliated to secondary schools where the boys could pass from the fourth class on to the fifth and sixth classes. My submission, therefore, is that with all the sympathy in the world for the spirit of this resolution and the object which this resolution has in view nothing definite has been urged to induce this House to hold that there is room for the appointment of an extra committee to go into the ways and means for the encouragement of introduction and encouragement of primary education in the province. The honourable mover of this resolution is of course aware that one of the standing committees of this Council is the Standing Committee on Education, the object of which Committee is to advise the Honourable Minister with regard to matters of principle which might arise in connection with the administration and working of his department and any suggestion which has not so far been considered by the Education Department relating to the introduction and encouragement of primary education can well be put forward in that Committee and I am sure that it will receive sympathetic consideration. Having regard to the attitude of the department itself towards the expansion of primary education in this province I do not see that there is any need for the appointment of any fresh committee.

The Honourable Mr. Manchar Lal (Minister for Education) : Sir, we are engaged in a debate to-day where there is no real controversy. There

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

is no question that it is essential for the fullness of our life as a people and for the attainment of our true political and other ideals that education should spread rapidly and comprehensively in the country. We are all agreed on the need of the urgency of the spread of primary and, for the matter of that higher education, and I take it that every member of this House is clearly of opinion that we ought to take every possible step towards an early realization of this ideal. Before I proceed further and state the position of Government on the resolution as it stands, may I say a word with regard to what the Director of Public Instruction has said and the way in which his speech has been understood by certain members of this House. Now, Sir, with the utmost regard for the honourable gentlemen who made that sweeping statement I personally see nothing irrelevant in what the Director of Public Instruction stated. The Director of Public Instruction felt it as his duty, and he would have done less than his duty if he had not done so when confronted with a resolution of this kind, to tell us what has been already achieved in the matter of primary education in this province. Because, surely, we cannot plan to go further without knowing what had been achieved. And if it be as though not seriously suggested but merely hinted that nothing whatever has been done, then indeed the whole case for the adoption of compulsory education would fail. On the other hand, what did the Director of Public Instruction point out? He told us that the foundations for the advance of primary education in this province had been truly and securely laid. That during the last 8 or 10 years there has been a considerable increase in enrolment. We are at a stage when we have a large number of trained teachers and what is even more satisfactory is that of those trained teachers a very very large proportion indeed is of those who have attained a fairly satisfactory measure of general education. It has to be remembered that we are also, in the fortunate position of having a vanishing list of one-teacher schools. Sir, that is not all. The Director of Public Instruction went further and told us that if we were to introduce comprehensively and for every boy who can go to school, that is about 15 per cent. of the male population, compulsory education, we would require on the present figures of our population 12,000 more teachers. We have also to make necessary calculations for our increasing population. Taking this increase at 10 per cent. we require something like 15,000 teachers. That was not put forward as an obstacle in the way of introduction of primary education; because did he not in the same breath or next breath tell us that in this province at the present moment we are training something like 8,600 teachers every year? Sir, therefore, so far as the department is concerned, if compulsory education can be introduced and every boy of school going age taken to the school the department is certainly prepared to furnish the necessary equipment in the way of teachers. That is not an obstacle. That is a measure of preparation which the department undertook well in anticipation of possible demands and in order to carry out the objects which various sections of this House have in view. Now, as I understood, the honourable mover, who is responsible for this resolution said more than once that he does not desire, he does not press for the immediate introduction of compulsory education. He says that we shall have to proceed gradually because in hurry there is always waste. I think I am right in saying that, according to him it would take a period of between

5 to 8 years for the introduction of this compulsory education. Now, Sir, if that were so, I can find nothing in the speech of the Director of Public Instruction which so far as the department is concerned can show that the department was not prepared to fulfil the very wishes which the honourable member had in view. Then there are questions of detail, curricula and timetable to which I do not wish to refer. There is, however, one thing which is fully established and it is this. That it would not do for India or for any province thereof to introduce a wide measure of primary education without having as its immediate sequel a fairly effective system of secondary education.

We were told that during the course of the last 4 or 5 years primary schools to which I am glad reference was so strongly made by Bana Sahib opposite, have been more than quadrupled and similarly the number of middle schools has also risen. That represents a very proper preparation for the introduction of the very measure which the honourable gentlemen have in view in presenting this motion. We, Sir, if I may speak for the department, have prepared ourselves for the execution of the desires of this House for the speediest possible introduction of primary education for every single boy of this province. And if certain of these things have been mentioned they have not been mentioned as barriers or obstacles for the introduction of the measure. It was said on behalf of Government that Government is as agreed as any portion of this House in this matter, and on the transferred side the Government really reflects the opinion of this House. I personally have the utmost sympathy with as immediate, as early an introduction of compulsory education, as it is possible to secure in this province. Our friend opposite, the honourable member from Hoshiarpur, said in the course of his speech, that whatever has been done so far towards voluntary compulsory system, I think, I am using his own words, is at once a bogey and *tabah kuni*, something that brings ruin to us. It was that statement that I must demur to in the strongest possible language. To describe a system as a bogey under which your enrolment during the last 5 years or so has more than doubled....

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : At what expense?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I will come to the expense. To describe a system as a bogey that has so rapidly developed and under which you have as a matter of fact, as compared with other provinces in India a satisfactory, a more than satisfactory establishment of a large number of schools, large number of rural schools to the extent of 2,800, to describe that as a bogey is certainly an abuse of language. Another statement was made that the thing is ruinous. That is a proposition which I think is rather difficult to follow. We are told by the Director of Public Instruction, who, certainly knows his figures that a million or more boys are there in our primary schools.

We have been told by the Director of Public Instruction who knows the figures that a million or more of our boys are either in primary schools or in that part of the secondary schools to which primary classes are attached and if it be so, as has been pointed out, then as the expenditure on these one million or more boys in school who receive primary education is something in the neighbourhood of 60 or 70 lakhs, that is about Rs. 5 or Rs. 6 per boy a year. To describe that system as ruinous passes my understanding (*hear, hear*). These seems to be something peculiar in the methods adopted by my honourable friend opposite in the interpretation of figures. Sir, my

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honourable friend must also be aware, in fact, I think the honourable mover referred to it, he must also be aware, that there are 30 boys per teacher at present and the department is constantly canvassing the possibility of increasing the number of scholars per teacher. There are difficulties which will immediately suggest themselves to the minds of honourable members. Portions of this province are very sparsely populated, there are whole areas where it would be difficult for a teacher to attract more than that minimum and sometimes even a lesser number of students. But, be this as it may, constant efforts are being made to see that the average number of scholars per teacher increases and to that end serious examination of all possibilities of economy in that direction are constantly investigated. Therefore, that is not a matter which has escaped the attention of those who are responsible for the actual working of these primary schools in any measure whatsoever.

Now, Sir, since I find myself in such complete sympathy with the object that lies behind the resolution which has been moved by the honourable member Sardar Ujjal Singh, may I, at this stage, say that I personally attach no importance whatsoever to what our honourable friend from Ferozepore said about the position that exists in any part of the province as to the advance of primary education (*hear, hear*). I have gone fairly far and wide and whether it has been in a town or whether it has been in a remote village, I, for one, have never come across such a position. On the other hand, wherever one has gone, one has come across and one has felt a direct pleasure and the keenest desire to see education advance (*hear, hear*). No parents have ever come forward to tell me that their children are less efficient in the family because they have had education and in fact I may go so far as to say this that wherever there are these little primary schools and wherever there is the least possibility of raising the primary schools to the standard of a secondary school, I have been invariably pressed with very strong demand for the establishment of secondary schools. The experience of our honourable friend from Ferozepore must be a unique one. He also in the course of his suggestions referred to certain systems which we, at any rate, have tried and found ineffective. He referred as a possible alternative to the contract system by which the teacher is to carry out according to him efficiently and possibly economically his various functions. That system has been condemned after trial and I was glad to see that no other honourable member of this House blessed this idea in the least measure. Nor, Sir, I think any one would agree with this : that the children between the ages of 6 and 12 or 11 during which it is intended that the principle of compulsion is to be applied should have the opportunity of doing this elementary work of study which is regarded as necessary for every child of man, that he should be doing it in his spare time. That is a proposition, I take it, no one particularly wishes to subscribe to. That would be repugnant to the whole idea of education in a school and still more so to the idea of compulsory education. Evening classes may be all right for particular classes of population. As the Council is well aware, in order that one may not drop into illiteracy the department has done a great deal during recent years to establish what are called village libraries. In order to attack this very problem from another angle efforts have been made to establish adult schools. We cannot accept.

the view that children should pick up their odd bits of learning in their spare time and possibly by means of cinemas and things of that kind. Sir, therefore, the position is this : Government have now the utmost sympathy with the desire for the progress of primary education (*hear, hear*). The department has taken the keenest interest in this matter, and what is the best proof thereof is, it has done everything possible to make the introduction of compulsion, if that be desirable and feasible. Possibly, the claim is made and I have had the privilege of reading a document which still is confidential and which was drawn up by a committee that went all over India to investigate India's educational position, the position emerges as I speak only on a hasty examination, that we in this province are possibly better prepared than elsewhere for the introduction of this measure. Therefore, in one word, there is no question whatsoever about the object which we have in view and the ideal which we wish to attain. Government is not opposed to the principle of compulsion (*hear, hear*). The question is directly asked by my honourable friend from Hoshiarpur if we are not opposed to the principle of compulsion....

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : The question is whether you accept it or not.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Those who are not with us are against us.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : If you will please allow me to complete ; we are not opposed to the principle of compulsion. We should be glad to see it introduced (*hear, hear*). Is that enough ?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : That is not enough.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I shall be glad to be advised as to the method by which it can be introduced as early as possible (*hear, hear*).

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Not through a committee ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I am not opposed to a committee. Yet the question is how we shall do it. The honourable mover of this resolution has asked for a committee to examine this question. May I, with your permission, Sir, tell this House that at least on two separate occasions we placed before the Education Committee of this Council a large amount of material particularly bearing on the financial side with regard to this question. The matter has been examined once again ; the matter is also, if I may say so, being further examined with reference to the report of Sir Philip Hartog's Committee on which our Director of Public Instruction served and it is being examined with reference particularly to the conditions in this province. This material would also be placed duly before the Education Committee of this House. But if the House desires that this whole question, with all its many implications, legal and financial, should be examined by a particularly special committee such as that to which the honourable member has referred in the course of the resolution, Government is willing to accept that position (*hear, hear*). It is not for us, who are as anxious as any honourable members of this House may be that this ideal should be attained, to offer the least resistance or to offer anything that might be construed as any kind of obstacle to the achievement of this ideal (*Applause*).

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Does it mean that the resolution has been accepted ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : I leave it to the House to express its opinion on this matter.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : If you accept it, why leave it to us ?

Mr. President: The Honourable Minister's acceptance is not acceptance by the House. Government is only one of the several parties in this House.

Sardar Buta Singh : The Government accepts it.

Sardar Ujjal Singh (Sikh Urban) : Sir, the discussion on this resolution which I believe to be an innocent one and certainly a non-communal one, has been of a great lesson to me. I have been disillusioned on various points. I have encountered opposition from a quarter where I never expected. Sir, to be brief, I would only refer to the speech of Sir George Anderson. I had no mind to minimise the efforts of the department for the spread of education in this province. As a matter of fact, this Council, times without number has expressed its genuine appreciation of the work of the department headed by Sir George Anderson and controlled by our two distinguished Ministers. But I thought that if a thing is praised too much, possibly it leads to a state of self-satisfaction and to the slackening of efforts. Sir George Anderson has pointed out and has asked me to state what this committee is going to thrash out. I should only say that this committee will thrash out all the difficulties which Sir George Anderson in his fit of liberal enthusiasm has enumerated in this Council. It will go into the question of funds and the difficulties of teachers which probably are exaggerated and the committee will be able to put forward definite proposals on this subject.

Sir, I would not like to dilate on this important problem as the Honourable Minister for Education has been good enough to accept this resolution and the Government as a whole has expressed its sympathy with the spirit of the resolution. With these few words, I would end my remarks.

Mr. President : The resolution proposed runs :—

"This Council recommends to the Government to appoint a committee of the Punjab Legislative Council to find out ways and means for introducing compulsory primary education in the Punjab."

The question is that that resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried.

RESOLUTION RE WATER COURSES THROUGH THE FIELDS OF NEIGHBOURING ZAMINDARS.

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan [Jullundur (Muhammadan) Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, I beg to move—

"That this Council recommends to the Government that necessary legislation be introduced to allow zamindars to take water by means of water courses through the fields of the neighbouring zamindars on payment of adequate compensation to the latter in case it be necessary for irrigating their lands."

Sir, the holdings of the zamindars in the Jullundur and Hoshiarpur districts are very small and even these are wholly dependant on the well irrigation. The zamindars do not allow passage through their own fields for the water required for the purpose of irrigating the fields of their neighbours. This is a very serious difficulty confronting the zamindars of these districts. It takes even more acute form owing to the absence of sufficient rainfall. This mutual disregard on the part of zamindars in general has become a permanent source of bloody fights and litigation. In this connection I think it would not be out of place to mention that in the village of Karia, Tahsil

Nawanshehr, a serious litigation is going on amongst the descendants of the same progenitor, although attempts have very often been made by their spiritual leaders to effect reconciliation amongst them. Their relations are strained so much so that even on a very small pretence they launch prosecutions against one another. The same can be said of the people of my village Rahon in the district of Jullundur. Besides this, if the lands of the zamindars become more fertile and more productive the Government is sure to gain something by enforcing enhanced rates of *abiana*. Therefore, Sir, I would request the Government to introduce some necessary legislation in order to remove the difficulties experienced by the zamindars in the matter of well irrigation.

Now, Sir, it may be asked what sort of legislation is required. In answer to that I would suggest that it should be clearly provided by law that either on payment of adequate compensation or in exchange of land for land, a zamindar shall take water by means of, water-courses through the fields of the neighbouring zamindars in order to irrigate his own fields. In the end I may submit that the proposed legislation is absolutely necessary and that the object underlying the resolution cannot otherwise be fulfilled. With regard to well-irrigation if at all there is a mutual agreement between the parties, the licensor always dominates the licensee and the latter's position in the matter is no better than that of a slave and he has no independence whatever. With these words I commend my resolution for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. President : The resolution moved is—

"This Council recommends to the Government that necessary legislation be introduced to allow zamindars to take water by means of water-courses through the fields of the neighbouring zamindars on payment of adequate compensation to the latter in case it be necessary for irrigating their lands."

Mr. H. Calvert (Financial Commissioner) : Sir, I understand that the real difficulty to which the honourable member refers is more or less confined to cases in which an irrigator from a well wishes to dig a water course through the fields of other zamindars. In my experience I have practically never met any case in which neighbouring zamindars object to any of their neighbours from taking a water course round their own fields. I understand the honourable member has not asked for any legislation to empower an irrigator to take his water round the edges of the fields of his neighbours but across them, or through them. I hope the House will agree that in a small little village matter like this, legislation is hardly the most suitable machinery. Any attempt to increase the number of laws to which the ordinary zamindars is subject, is itself open to objection. The method of legislation is too cumbersome. If by legislation he means a Civil law then we shall have all the trouble of a long drawn out litigation with appeals and higher appeals. If he is thinking of something more summary such as criminal law then, Sir, we have the usual objection of multiplying the number of crimes and there will be ill-feeling and yet further litigation. I suppose, Sir, that no law which the honourable member could devise, and I note that he has not suggested the actual terms of the law which he would like to see enacted, no such law could be successful without certain officials visiting the spot and seeing the actual situation. Then Sir, we should have the same old trouble and a further opportunity for that perennial source of eloquence, the honourable member from Montgomery, to dilate again on the corruption

[Mr. H. Calvert.]

of subordinate officials. There is, Sir, I quite admit, a difficulty not mentioned by the honourable member, which I think there is in a similar resolution of carts being taken across the fields to the owners' own holdings. Now, Sir, I venture to place before this House the alternative method and would ask the House to reject this proposal for yet further legislation and promote instead a measure which will give the honourable member all he desires and more besides. I submit, Sir, that the House rather than have legislation should lend all the assistance in its power to promote consolidation of holdings so that each person's land will be around his own well. In the work of consolidating scattered holdings every effort is made to bring each person's land around his own well, and, further, every effort is made and usually successfully made so to arrange the land and village roads that each owner's holdings touch a road so that each can take a cart to his field without going across any one else's fields and irrigate his land with his own well without the trouble which the honourable member talks about. Now, Sir, I would, therefore, trust that the House will not agree to adding a yet further burden to the life of the cultivator by adding a new crime or adding a further source of litigation but would instead agree to press forward by every legitimate means the work of consolidation of holdings which I feel sure would entirely abolish the difficulties of which the honourable member complains.

Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan [South East Towns (Muhammadan) Urban] (Urdu): Sir, The honourable mover of the resolution has explained to the House the difficulties experienced by the zamindars in taking water to their fields through the fields of the neighbouring zamindars. I quite agree with my honourable friend, Mr. Calvert, when he says that it is not absolutely necessary that water should pass through the fields. It may be carried by means of water-courses constructed round the fields. Sir, so far as the question of well-irrigation is concerned it is possible that Mr. Calvert may be ignorant of the real state of affairs obtaining in villages. But, that does not mean that the zamindars do not experience any difficulties in this matter. In the districts of Hoshiarpur and Jullundur the holdings of the zamindars are undoubtedly very small and scattered over different places. I do admit that consolidation of holdings is a good thing. But optional consolidation of holdings cannot render us any substantial help. It may be a good thing so far as the small villages are concerned. But with regard to the big villages consolidation of holdings cannot serve our purpose unless some sort of compulsion is also introduced. I know for certain that there is an Act in force in the Bombay Presidency according to which some compulsion is being enforced in the matter of consolidation of holdings. As optional consolidation of holdings is of no use and the zamindars are too poor to sink well for every acre of land, the Government should devise some means to remove the alleged difficulties of the zamindars. The real object of the resolution is to bring home to the Government the difficulties of the zamindars in the matter of irrigation and to ask them to take some suitable steps to remove them. I hope the Government would favourably consider the resolution now before the House. With these words I support the resolution.

Khan Bahadur Chaudhri Fazl Ali [Gujrat East (Muhammadan) Urban] (Urdu): Sir, it is no doubt a very great concession to allow a zamindar to take water by means of water-courses through the fields of the

neighbouring zamindars in order to irrigate his own fields. But, Sir, have you considered what would be the consequences of the same? If this resolution is accepted it would mean that instead of effecting the consolidation of holdings you are enforcing the process of fragmentation. Supposing you authorise the construction of such watercourses, the cattle belonging to the parties concerned would pass over them and cause breaches in their banks. This would lead to strife among the parties who would be ploughing their lands near these banks. Sir, a thing which is done by sheer force cannot prosper. When one person has no right whatsoever to interfere in the peaceful enjoyment by the other of his own property I cannot see on what grounds the proposed legislation can be justified. This unlawful meddling with the rights of other people would necessarily result in the perpetration of murders and other heinous crimes.

1 P.M.

It has also been proposed that that portion of the land through which the proposed water-course shall pass, may either be acquired by the Government or the party concerned. As a matter of fact I do not know how this sort of acquisition is going to succeed. For, if you acquire that portion, you will, in a way, effect a partition in the fields through which the water-course shall pass. In my opinion, Sir, there is no other way to solve the problem except the one suggested by the learned Financial Commissioner, Mr. Calvert. According to him the remedy for our troubles lies in the consolidation of holdings. I would refrain from making a mention of the advantages accruing from the consolidation of holdings, because this is not directly relevant to the subject-matter of the resolution under discussion. Sir, the proposed measure would land us in insurmountable difficulties. I, for one, at least cannot tolerate that I should be made to suffer for the sake of a third person. It is really very shameful on our part to move the Government to arbitrate as between us in matters so trifling. I do not know where it will end. Tomorrow we may ask the Government to pass a measure authorising us to make water in the fields of other persons. With these words I oppose the resolution. But let us be careful to decide this matter in a friendly manner among ourselves rather than by any coercive legislation.

Pir Akbar Ali [Ferozepore (Muhammadan) Rural], (Urdu): Sir, Much can be said for and against the resolution which is now before the House. In fact the honourable members have not exactly understood the real significance of the resolution. Supposing there are three fields namely, A, B, and C. A and C belong to one person and B to another. The owner of A and C wants to take water from his well situate in his field A to field C. But the difficulty is that the field B belonging to the other person intervenes between, A and C. Now it depends on the goodwill of the owner of field B to let pass the water required for the irrigation of field C. The honourable mover therefore, requests the Government to introduce some necessary legislation so that the owner of the field B may not object to the passage of the water required for the field C. Sir, it has been said by an honourable member that generally a well commands a very vast area. That is not a fact. At the most the area which depends for its irrigation on a well does not exceed ten acres. Now if a field belonging to a third person comes between these ten

[Pir Akbar Ali.]

acres, he would not, merely out of jealousy, allow the owner of ten acres to take water through his fields to the adjoining fields belonging to the former. Sir, the resolution now before the House aims at removing this difficulty of the zamindars of the *chahi* tracts. The argument that the cattle belonging to the parties concerned would pass over the water-courses and cause breaches in their banks and thus create troubles, is as untenable as contrary to reason. Aqueducts by means of which well water is carried to the fields, are not as wide as are the minors of the canals. Again, Sir, it was contended that by the construction of such water-courses there might arise another difficulty, that is, the owner of the watercourses might plant trees on their banks and afterwards claim them to be his own property. Sir, rest assured that would never happen. At the most you can raise this objection that the growth of the trees would prejudicially affect the productivity of the soil. Now, Sir, with regard to the question whether this difficulty is experienced in only the Hoshiarpur and Jullundur districts or is felt in other districts as well, I would submit that my friend the Malik Sahib (Malik Muhammad Amin), was just saying that this difficulty is being very seriously felt in his district also. As to my own district, that is the district, of Ferozepore, I am not in a position to say much on my own experience although I know that this difficulty is being felt to some extent in *Waga Peit*. Another argument that can be advanced against the resolution is that it appears unreasonable to make legislation for the sake of few districts. With regard to this, I would say that there is already an Act in force in canal-irrigated areas under which a zamindar can take water through the fields of his neighbouring zamindars. Sometimes he is asked by the canal authorities to obtain himself written or oral consent of the man through whose field the intended water-course will pass. But there is no such enactment in force in the *barani* tracts. I suggest that an amendment should be made in the Canal Act, so as to provide some means for obtaining such watercourses as the honourable mover suggests. An amendment in that Act would quite serve the purpose and be a simple piece of legislation. With these words I support the resolution.

Chaudhri Ram Singh [Kangra (Non-Muhammadian) Rural] (Urdu) : Sir, the resolution moved by my honourable friend from Jullundur is not happily worded. There is no specification of the areas to which it will apply. So far as the canal areas are concerned the resolution appears to be absurd, because conditions regarding the canal irrigated land are already laid down in the *Wajib-ul-Arz*. It may be of some use to the *barani* tracts. If it is accepted, it will extend to the whole of the Punjab. There is, no mention of *chahi* areas in the resolution.

Pir Akbar Ali : Take it for granted that the resolution refers to the *chahi* areas and then support it.

Chaudhri Ram Singh : How can I do that when there is no specification of such areas in the resolution itself? Sir, the honourable mover asks the Government to make some legislation for the benefit of *chahi* areas and to effect this it is very strange that my friend from Ferozepore urges upon the Government to make an amendment in the Canal Act (*laughter*). Now, Sir, the Canal Act has nothing to do with wells and in my opinion, there is absolutely no occasion for making any special legislation on this subject. With these words I oppose the resolution.

Khan Bahadur Mian Muhammad Hayat Qureshi [Shahpur West, (Muhammadan) Rural], (Urdu) : Sir, I would make a few observations in connection with the resolution under consideration. A good many arguments have been advanced for and against it. The difficulties of the zamindars pointed out by the honourable mover are in fact real difficulties. Of course in some cases the zamindars, merely out of jealousy or rivalry with one another, do not allow their neighbouring zamindars to take water through their fields. Sir, it is very difficult to solve this problem. Let the Government try to solve it either by compelling passages of water through such fields on payment of adequate compensation or by acquiring that portion of land through which the proposed water-courses shall pass. In my opinion, my honourable friend Mr. Calvert's proposal is most reasonable. In case the Government should give an undertaking to enquire into the matter I think the honourable mover will be well-advised to withdraw his resolution.

Mr. W. R. Wilson (Revenue Secretary) : Sir, I am not quite sure whether the honourable member for Kangra (Chaudhri Ram Singh) in his reference to the *wajib-ul-ars* has not really given the answer to the resolution which the honourable member for Jullundur has brought forward. I must admit that my recollection of the Jullundur district and of Nawanshahr has become somewhat dimmed and blurred during the last fifteen years, but as far as I remember, the difficulty experienced in Nawanshahr was in those cases in which a man had a share in the well area, but had no share in the well itself. He was then under compulsion, if he was to get water to his share, to arrange for what was called *Aryatan pani*, perhaps by paying a certain price for the water from the well in which he had no share to irrigate the land in which he had a share. I do not, however, remember this particular question of difficulties being experienced by share-holders owning a well passing their water through their co-sharers' land.

At this stage the Council adjourned till 9-30 A.M., on Tuesday, the 30th July 1929.

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PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, the 30th July 1929.

THE Council met at Barnes Court, Simla, at 9:30 A.M. of the clock. Mr. President in the Chair.

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

GOVERNMENT WASTE LANDS.

***2312. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the Districts of Hoshiarpur, Jullundur and Ludhiana Government waste lands were granted to those zamindars whose lands were washed away by action of rivers or damaged by choes or whose holdings were uneconomic;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Rajputs of those districts were not granted Government lands;
- (c) if so, what are the reasons for which the Rajputs have been excluded from the list of grantees of Government waste lands?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : The honourable member's question is not quite clear. Does he mean 'waste lands' in these districts or is he referring to the Nili Bar Colony? If the latter, then he is requested to refer to the answer given to Council question¹ No. 1212.

THIRD MASTER OF THE GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, GARHSHANKAR.

***2313. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the third master of the Government High School, Garhshankar, District Hoshiarpur, has been granted Rs. 140—10—190 grade from 1st July 1928;
- (b) whether it is a fact that his promotion has involved the supersession of a large number of teachers senior to him including the then 2nd master of the same school;
- (c) the names of the teachers superseded by the 3rd master;
- (d) whether it is a fact that most of the men superseded have been well reported on by their officers and are considered efficient teachers;
- (e) if the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state what principles have been kept in view in giving promotion to the aforesaid teacher and what steps were taken to safeguard the rights of teachers senior to him from being unjustly superseded?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : In regulating promotions, many factors are taken into consideration. It is not in the public interest to state reasons for any particular promotion or supersession.

THIRD MASTER OF THE GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, GARHSHANKAR.

***2314. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that on 1st July 1928 the third master of Government High School, Garhshankar, was promoted over and above those teachers who were senior to him ;
- (b) the names of those teachers who were superseded by the third master ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : In regulating promotions, many factors are taken into consideration. It is not in the public interest to state reasons for any particular promotion or supersession.

IRRIGATION WELLS IN TAHSIL GARHSHANKAR.

***2315. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the names and number of those villages in Tahsil Garhshankar where the irrigation wells have been completely dry and yet *chahi* rates are being charged from the peasants ;
- (b) the total area commanded by such wells ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

ZAMINDARS IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

***2316. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government have received any report from the district officer, Hoshiarpur, as to the bad economic condition of certain zamindars in that district whose irrigation wells have become dry ;
- (b) if so, what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to remedy the difficulties of such zamindars in *ilaga* Garhshankar ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

The shrinkage however in the water-level in many wells in the Hoshiarpur district is receiving the serious attention of Government.

FAILURE OF CROPS IN HOSHIARPUR, JULLUNDUR AND LUDHIANA DISTRICTS.

***2317. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the crops have absolutely failed in Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana and Jullundur districts ;
- (b) if so, what steps the Government has taken to afford relief to the zamindars of these districts ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) and (b). Enquires made from the districts concerned show that the honourable member's information is not correct. There was some failure of crops, which has been adequately dealt with under the ordinary rules.

FAILURE OF CROPS IN VILLAGES OF HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

***2318. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in several villages in Thana Janda, district Hoshiarpur, crops failed during the last and the present year ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that in spite of those villages petitioning for relief to the Deputy Commissioner, no relief has been given to them ? If so, why ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes ; to some extent ; but the crops failed completely in no village.

(b) No villages petitioned for relief, but land revenue to the amount of Rs. 2,995 was suspended in Kharif 1928, and Rs. 1,217 in Rabi 1929.

FAILURE OF CROPS IN HOSHIARPUR, LUDHIANA AND JULLUNDUR DISTRICTS.

***2319. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the district officers of Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana and Jullundur corresponded with the Local Government on the subject of the failure of crops this year in their respective districts ;
- (b) if so, will the Honourable Member be pleased to lay that correspondence on the table ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

COMPENSATION FOR RAWALPINDI RIOTS.

***2320. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether the citizens of Rawalpindi who suffered losses in the riots of 1926 were promised compensation ;
- (b) whether any lists of those persons who were to be compensated were made ;

[Sardar Ujjal Singh.]

(c) if so, what action has been taken in this matter by the Government?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) Government has decided to pay the compensation assessed from provincial revenues and the first instalment of rupees one lakh has been voted by the Council for this purpose on the 26th of July 1929.

NOMINATION OF EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS.

***2321. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Chief Secretary please state—

(a) the number of appointments of Extra Assistant Commissioners filled by nomination this year;

(b) whether any Sikh was nominated;

(c) if not, the reasons for the same?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Thirteen persons in all were accepted by Government this year as candidates for the post of Extra Assistant Commissioners.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

Sardar Ujjal Singh : How many Sikhs were nominated?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : One.

SELECTION OF TAHSILDARS.

***2322. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

(a) the total number of Tahsildars in the province community-wise;

(b) the number of Sikhs accepted as Tahsildars in the last selection?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The number of Tahsildars in the Province by communities was as follows on the 1st January 1929 :—

Hindus ..	..	..	..	..	40
Muhammadans ..	..	..	..	..	57
Sikhs ..	..	..	..	..	12
Christians ..	..	..	..	..	2
Total ..					111

(b) Two out of ten.

GURU TEGH BAHADUR KHALSA MIDDLE SCHOOL, TARSIKA.

***2323. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Guru Tegh Bahadur Khalsa Middle School, Tarsika (Amritsar) has been working for the last seven years;

- (b) whether it is a fact that it has not yet been brought on the list of aided schools ;
- (c) whether recommendations have been made by the Inspectors of Schools and the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, to the effect that the school should be brought on the list of aided schools ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the school satisfied all the conditions necessary for earning grant-in-aid ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that some other schools of a standing shorter than the Guru Tegh Bahadur Khalsa Middle School have been brought on the list of aided schools during the past years ;
- (f) the reasons for the delay in awarding grant-in-aid to the said school ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The school was recognised as a full middle in May, 1923.

(b) Yes.

[(c) and (d). The inspector has recommended a special grant for the school, but there is no recommendation yet for its being placed on the regular grant-in-aid list.

(e) and (f). Yes, but grant-in-aid is not awarded to schools merely on the length of their existence.

DISTRICT AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.

*2324. **Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the number of District and Assistant District Inspectors of Schools in the different divisions community-wise, and when they were first appointed to their respective posts and what are their qualifications ?
- (b) whether any minimum educational qualifications for appointment to these posts have been prescribed, and if not, on what basis selections for these posts are made ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that at some places undergraduates are working as Assistant District Inspectors, and if so, the total number of such officers community-wise ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that trained graduates are available for these posts, and if so, the reason for the retention of these undergraduates as Assistant District Inspectors ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The required information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

(b) No. Many points are considered and it is not possible to give definite basis.

(c) (i) Yes.

(ii) As at (a).

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

(d) An academic qualification is not the only factor to be considered in appointing or removing Assistant District Inspectors.

HEADMASTERS OF GOVERNMENT AND DISTRICT BOARD SCHOOLS.

***2325. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the number of headmasters of Government and District Board Schools (High and Middle) in each division community-wise ;
- (b) the number of middle schools in which Senior Vernaculars are working as headmasters ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Senior Vernacular teachers have to teach vernaculars to the high classes ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the general education of the Senior Vernacular teachers is only up to the Middle Standard, and if so, whether the Government have considered the desirability of raising the educational standard required of them?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

(b) The headmasters of vernacular middle schools are usually Senior Vernaculars ; and as soon as circumstances permit, it is hoped that the headmasters of lower middle schools will usually be Senior Vernaculars. The headmasters of Anglo-Vernacular middle schools possess Anglo-Vernacular qualifications.

(c) In some cases, this is so.

(d) No ; subsequent to passing the School Final examination, a Senior Vernacular spends two years in further study at a training institution. Government has already taken steps to increase the period of further education and training to one of three years instead of two.

ADMISSION TO NORMAL TRAINING SCHOOLS.

***2326. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state whether it is a fact that preference is given to agriculturists in admission to Normal Training Schools ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Other things being equal, preference is given to agriculturists and qualified candidates coming from rural areas for admission to the Normal Schools.

HINDI OR GURMUKHI IN NORMAL SCHOOLS.

***2327. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state whether there is any Normal School in the Punjab where Hindi or Gurmukhi is the medium of instruction ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Yes ; there is one training unit at Karnal with Hindi as the medium of instruction.

GRANTS-IN-AID TO GIRLS' SCHOOLS.

***2328. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- the number of girls' schools for which grants-in-aid has been sanctioned by the Education Department but has not been paid by the local bodies ;
- since how long the cases of these schools have been pending with the department ;
- what has Government done to help these institutions ;
- what steps the Government intend to take to put pressure upon local bodies to pay up their share of the grant-in-aid ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The Deputy Directress has brought to the notice of the Education Department the cases of fifteen girls' schools, whose grants have been assessed by the Inspectorate, but have not been paid by local bodies.

(b) The matter was reported in May last.

(c) Pressure has been brought to bear upon the local bodies concerned for the payment of these grants.

(d) Government will continue to exercise pressure.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, PUNJAB.

***2329. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state the number of employees community-wise in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : A statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing the number of employees community-wise in the office of Director of Public Instruction, Punjab.

Grade.	Number of appointments filled permanently.	Anglo-Indians.	Muslims.	Hindus.	Sikhs.	Christians.
Ra. 350—20—450/25—550 ..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Ra. 350—15—475 ..	2	1	..	1	..	..
Ra. 250—10—350 ..	4	..	2	1	..	1
Ra. 150—10—200/10—300 ..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Ra. 100—8—180/10—250 ..	12	2	9	1	..	..
Ra. 75—5—100/5—150 ..	12	1	6	2	3	..
Ra. 40—3—82/3—100 ..	27	..	11	12	4	..
Total ..	59	5	29	17	7	1

GRANTS-IN-AID TO SCHOOLS.

***2330. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that due to defective method of calculations some schools on the grant-in-aid list have to refund amounts overdrawn in the previous year while others have their grant-in-aid amounts materially reduced ;
- (b) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that this fluctuation entails great hardships on schools receiving grants-in-aid and makes it impossible for them to frame their budgets with certainty ;
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to take any action to remove the defect at an early date ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No, but the honourable member is probably referring to a recent arrangement which has been made to suit the convenience of aided schools. A few years back, grants were not paid until the assessments of grants had been received from Inspectors and checked in the Department of Education. In consequence, the schools had often to wait for some six months or more until they received the first instalment of the grant. The system has now been changed whereby schools receive the grant each month in accordance with the grant awarded in the previous year. As soon as the new assessment of grants is arranged, the necessary adjustment is made.

(b) and (c). Efforts are being made consistently with the general convenience of the schools concerned, to remove the fluctuations as far as possible.

RULES GOVERNING THE RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

***2331. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether there are any definite rules governing the recognition of schools ;
- (b) whether it has been represented to Government that the department should lay down some definite rules prescribing the minimum requirements for recognition ;
- (c) whether the Government intend taking any action in this direction ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The form of application giving the particulars required for the recognition of a school appears as appendix I to the Punjab Educational Code.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS.

***2332. Sardar Ujjal Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) The names of schools that applied for recognition in the year 1928 together with the year when each of them applied for recognition for the first time ;
- (b) which of these schools were (i) recognised, and (ii) refused recognition ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF HOSPITALS, PUNJAB.

***2333. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether the new incumbent of the post of Assistant Inspector-General of Hospitals, Punjab, has been appointed over the heads of several Hindu Civil Surgeons ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that some of them were not offered the post ? If so, why ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The appointment in question is filled by selection and not by seniority. There are 4 civil surgeons senior to the newly appointed Assistant Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, one of whom is a Sikh and 3 of whom are Hindus.

- (b) Yes ; because the appointment is made by selection.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE PRESIDENT OF MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, REWARI.

***2334. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any complaints have been received by the Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon, against the President of Municipal Committee, Rewari ;
- (b) If the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, whether any inquiries have been held into the allegations made by the members against him and, if so, with what result ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Certain complaints were addressed to the Deputy Commissioner personally.

- (b) The Deputy Commissioner being already acquainted with the matters to which they referred did not consider that the complaints called for any official action on his part.

TEH BAZARI RATES AT REWARI.

***2335. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that eight members of the Municipal Committee of Rewari submitted a proposal in writing to amend the resolution regarding Teh Bazari Rate passed by the committee on 24th April 1929 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the proposal was not laid before the meetings of the committee held on 6th May 1929, and 22nd May 1929 ;

[Lala Joti Parshad.]

- (c) whether it is a fact that the President removed the papers to his house and so the members were debarred from considering the proposal? If so, what action does Government propose to take in the matter?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes. They wanted to reduce the rents in favour of the lessees.

(b) The proposal was not laid before the Committee as it was discovered that the renting of streets by the Committee was illegal and the advice of the Deputy Commissioner was sought in the matter.

(c) No.

BHIWANI-ROHTAK RAILWAY.

***2336. Lala Joti Parshad :** With reference to answer to my question¹ No. 1729 starred, dated 25th February 1929, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state whether any funds have been allotted for the Bhiwani-Rohtak Railway in the current year, and when the construction is likely to be started?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The Railway Board has not found it possible this year to allot funds for the construction of the Rohtak-Bhiwani Railway, and their programme of construction for 1930-31 has not yet been settled.

METALLED ROAD BETWEEN HANSI AND BHIWANI.

***2337. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state—

- (a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that serious inconvenience is felt by the public for want of a proper metalled road between Hansi and Bhiwani in the Hissar District ;
(b) if so, what steps are being taken by the Government to construct a suitable metalled road?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) It is conceivable that a proper metalled road between Hansi and Bhiwani might serve as an additional convenience supplementing the existing direct railway communication between the two towns.

(b) Government as a rule undertakes the construction of arterial roads only, and this Section cannot justifiably be classified as arterial. It is open to the honourable member to ascertain what the District Board proposes to do to improve this road.

SATTA AND DARA GAMBLING.

***2338. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Satta and Dara gambling is still going on at Hissar and Bhiwani ;
(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, whether any cases have been registered under the amended Gambling Act, if not, why?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes..

(b) Fifteen persons were arrested at Bhiwani on 28th June, 1929, and are being prosecuted under the amended Public Gambling Act.

SUB-INSPECTOR IN CHARGE OF BHIWANI CITY POLICE STATION.

***2339. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) whether any complaints have been made by the public of Bhiwani against the Sub-Inspector in charge of Bhiwani City Police Station to the district authorities ;

(b) what action, if any, has been taken against the said Sub-Inspector ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

BHATTU-JAKHAL RAILWAY.

***2340. Lala Joti Parshad :** With reference to my question¹ No. 1728 starred, dated 25th February 1929, will the Honourable Revenue Member please state what progress, if any, has been made in connection with Bhattu-Jakhal Railway.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The traffic survey of the Bhattu-Jakhal area has only recently been completed. The railway connection between Jakhal and Sirsa appears to afford the best prospects but even so the indications are that the Railway Board will specify a heavy guarantee to be paid by the Punjab Government. Further action however must necessarily await detailed consideration of the survey report by the Railway Board.

ELECTIONS OF ROHTAK MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

***2341. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the term of office of the present members of Rohtak Municipal Committee has already expired and fresh elections are due since the last year ;

(b) If the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for not holding fresh elections ;

(c) when fresh elections are expected to be held ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) The elections have been postponed pending revision of the electoral wards.

(c) As soon as the new wards are constituted. The new constitution is now practically ready and it is expected that the elections will be held within the next two or three months.

Mr. President : May I request the honourable members of the House not to star the questions answers to which are only numbers, figures or statistics. Such questions in future, even if starred, shall be delegated to the list of unstarred questions.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SHEED FOR LITIGANTS IN JULLUNDUR DISTRICT COURT.

1228. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

- (a) whether any arrangement exists in the compound of the District Court, Jullundur, for sheltering the litigants from sunshine and rain ;
- (b) if not, whether Government is prepared to make such arrangements ;
- (c) if not, will it kindly state the reasons for the same ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes. There are three such shelters available.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

AUCTION OF NILI BAR LANDS.

1229. Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : With reference to question¹ No. 2061 starred, put on the 19th March, 1929, and the answer thereto will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state the date and conditions on which 300,000 acres of land earmarked for sale by open auction in the Nili Bar are proposed to be sold ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The 300,000 acres of land earmarked for sale by open auction in the Nili Bar Colony are to be sold over a period of 20 to 25 years according to the colonization programme of the Colony. The notices showing the dates and conditions of such sales are published in the leading newspapers of the province and in the *Punjab Government Gazette*, before any auction is held. The conditions are varied from time to time according to what is considered by the Punjab Government to be most suitable.

GRANT-IN-AID TO SCHOOLS.

1230. Mian Ahmad Yar Khan Daultana : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the number of schools community-wise that came on the grant-in-aid list during the last two years ;
- (b) the amount of grant-in-aid sanctioned to each of these schools ;
- (c) the number and names of the schools which were refused recognition and grant ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) and (b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

(c) The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

¹ Vol. XII, page 927.

LIST OF SCHOOLS BROUGHT ON THE GRANTS-IN-AID LIST.

Hindu.	Sikh.	Muslim.	Christian.
1927-28.			
1. S. D. Middle School, Simla (Upper Department) .. 762 2. Dadas Arya High School, Jalandhar .. 1,200 3. P. A. V. High School, Batala (Lower Middle Department) .. 762 4. A. S. High School, Punjab (High Department) .. 924 5. D. A. V. High School, Shahabad (High Department) .. 1,560 6. Hindu A. S. Middle School, Sadhaura (Upper Middle Department) .. 828 7. S. A. S. Middle School, Gadh .. 840 8. A. S. High School, Dera Gopipur .. 1,800	1. Khalsa High School, Hoshiarpur (Middle Department) .. 2,124 2. Khalsa High School, Anandpur .. 3,492 3. Khalsa High School, Baddian (High Department) .. 1,992 4. Khalsa High School, Jaspalen (High Department) .. 2,244	..	1. Mission High School, Dhariwal (High Department) .. 1,378 2. Christian Training Institution, Stalkot (High Department) .. 1,362
1928-29.			
1. S. D. High School, Jalandhar (High Department) .. 2,100	1. G. N. Khalsa A.V. Middle School, Dera Sakhi .. 498	1. K. D. Islamia A.V. Lower Middle School, Munawara .. 876	1. Mission High School, Jhelum .. 1,100

[Hon'ble Mr. Manohar Lal.]

LIST OF SCHOOLS BROUGHT ON THE GRANTS-IN-AID LIST—continued.

Hindu.	Sikh.	Muslim.	Christian.
	1928-29—continued.		
2. D. A.-V. High School, Chakwal ..	2. Khalsa High School, Shahpur City ..	2. Islamia Orphanage and Hostel, Mianwali. (The grant has not been sanctioned so far).	
3. D. A.-V. High School, Shahpur City ..	Rs. 1,200		
4. K. D. High School, Miani ..			
5. S. D. A.-V. Middle School, Amb. ..			
6. R. K. High School, Jagraon ..			
7. A. S. High School, Mukerian ..			
8. S. D. A.-V. Middle School, Ferozepore City (Lower Middle Department) ..			
9. Vaish High School, Rohtak (High De- partment) ..			
10. S. D. High School, Pundri (High Depart- ment) ..			
11. Malik Bhagwan Das High School, Chiniot (Upper Middle Depart- ment) ..			
12. S. D. A.-V. Middle School and Pathshala, Chiniot (Upper Middle Department) ..			
13. Hindu High School, Dera Ghazi Khan (High Department) ..			
Rs. 2,813 2,500 4,000 1,418 3,088 1,997 417 1,908 1,200 456 650 992			

GRANT-IN-AID.

1231. Mian Ahmad Yar Khan Daultana : Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the amount of special grant-in-aid given to Hindu, Muslim and Sikh schools during the last two years ;
- (b) the number of Board schools where special grants were refused.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Attention of the honourable member is invited to my answer to council question¹ No. 1198. The statement supplied therewith for the year 1928-29 is in respect of all the privately-managed schools in the Punjab.

(b) The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

MANDI HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

1232. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the Government is aware that serious allegations have been made in the Press against the working of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme and that it has been compared with the Bombay Back Bay scandal ;
- (b) if so, what steps, if any, has the Government taken to meet the charges brought against the scheme in the press ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) and (b) The attention of the honourable member is invited to recent accounts which have appeared in the Press of an interview which I gave to a representative of the Associated Press. In the course of this interview I dealt with such criticism as seemed to be worthy of notice.

SPEECH OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER AT THE ROTARY CLUB.

1233. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the paper recently read by Colonel Battye, Chief Engineer, in charge of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme, in the Rotary Club has been approved of by him ;
- (b) if not, whether the Honourable Minister is prepared to take the responsibility for the statements made in the said paper ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The address to the Rotary Club by Colonel Battye was entirely unofficial.

(b) Does not arise.

EXPENDITURE ON MANDI HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

1234. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the increase of 90 lakhs in the revised estimate of the expenditure for the Mandi Hydro-Electric scheme does not include the three crores of rupees estimated to be spent on the Kangra Valley Railway, an alleged necessary concomitant of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme ?

¹ Page 70 ante.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Kangra Valley Railway formed no part of 4,20 lakhs estimates to which Government gave administrative sanction.

Punjab Government were completely relieved of all capital liability on account of Kangra Valley Railway by the Government of India.

MANDI HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

1235. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that neither the original nor the revised project of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme has so far been published for the information of the public ;
- (b) if so, what are the reasons for withholding the publication ;
- (c) if the project has been published whether the Honourable Minister will be pleased to lay it on the table of the Council ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) It has not been the practice of Government in the past to publish engineering projects.

(c) Does not arise.

MANDI HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

1236. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the original estimate, the revised estimate and the final estimate for the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme including the cost of construction of the Kangra Valley Railway ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The original estimate (1924) of Stage I was 4,85 lakhs of rupees, the estimate of Stage I against which the demand of Rs. 85 lakhs was made under new expenditure in the budget session of the Legislative Council in March 1925 was 4,41 lakhs of rupees. Both these estimates included the Kangra Valley Tramway. In the 1924 estimate thirty-five lakhs of rupees and in the 1925 estimate 89 lakhs of rupees were provided on this account.

The estimate on which Government gave administrative approval amounted to Rs. 4,20 lakhs of rupees. This did not include the Kangra Valley Tramway.

KANGRA VALLEY RAILWAY.

1237. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the original cost of the Kangra Valley Railway was estimated by Colonel Battye to be Rs. 1,09 lakhs ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the revised estimate of the same was Rs. 1,84 lakhs and the second revised estimate of the same was Rs. 2,17 lakhs ;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the final revised estimate is three crores of rupees ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The cost of a broad-gauge line from Mukerian to Talwara followed by a metre-gauge line from Talwara to Shanan was estimated by Colonel Battye in 1924 at Rs. 1,18,08,445.

(b) and (c) The estimates sanctioned by the Railway Board for the Kangra Valley Railway and the costs incurred on its construction are subjects on which questions should be asked in another place as the Central and not the Local Government control these estimates and the expenditure thereon.

KANGRA VALLEY RAILWAY.

1238. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state what rights and liabilities the Punjab Government has assumed in connection with the Kangra Valley Railway?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The Punjab Government has agreed to furnish a guarantee against loss in working the Kangra Valley Railway limited to a maximum of four lakhs of rupees a year for thirteen years, the claim for each year being calculated on the accounts of that year.

OUTPUT OF MANDI HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

1239. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the total estimated output in kilowatts of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The estimated output from generating station at Shanan is 36,000 kilowatts.

COST PER UNIT OF POWER AT MANDI.

1240. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that Colonel Battye has declared that the cost per unit of power at Mandi will be 7.1 pies whereas in the Mysore State the cost of per unit of power is .948 pie;

(b) if so, whether he will please explain why under the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme it would cost 7.1 pies per unit as stated by Colonel Battye?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : It is regretted the answer to the above question is not yet ready and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

STAFF FOR MANDI HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT.

1241. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : (a) Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to supply information regarding the engineering staff of the rank of Assistant Executive Engineers and above

[Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang.]

who are at present employed on the works in the Mandi State in connection with the Mandi Hydro-Electric Project in the following tabular form :—

Name and grade.	Particulars of technical education, stating degree or diploma, etc., date and name of University.	Particulars of experience prior to his employment in hydro-electric branch with special reference to the work in which he is now engaged.	Present duties in detail.	Present salary with overseas pay, if any, with salary prior to joining the hydro-electric branch.	Names of Indian applicants for the post with particulars of their training and qualifications.
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(b) Will the Government be pleased to state the principles on which Apprentice Engineers are recruited by the Mandi Hydro-Electric Branch and supply the following information :—

Name of Apprentice Engineers paid and unpaid.	Particulars of Engineering education stating degree or diploma, etc., dates and name of University.	Practical training prior to the joining of the hydro-electric branch stating period and place of such training.	Date of appointment in hydro-electric branch, present pay, and rate of increment and nature of work done by them in the department.
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The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : It is regretted the answer to the above question is not ready and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

RESIDENT ENGINEER, JOGINDARNAGAR.

1242. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- the specific duties of the Resident Engineer stationed at Jogindarnagar ;
- what is the staff working under the Resident Engineer to assist him ;
- what are the qualifications of the present Resident Engineer for appointment in the Hydro-Electric Branch ;
- what was his position before he joined the Hydro-Electric Branch and what was the pay he was then drawing ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The duties of the Resident Engineer comprise the following :—

- the carrying out of all surveys and laying out of works including the preparation of site plans.
- responsibility for the correct alignment of the tunnel, surge shaft and pipe tunnels which are being driven from 6 separate headings, all of which must meet in the interior of the mountain.

(iii) the tests of sand, cement and concrete to be used over the whole works area including the lining of the tunnel.

(b) The staff at present working under the Resident Engineer consists of :—

- One Survey Officer.
- One Apprentice Engineer.
- Two Overseers in the grade of 80—5/2—120.
- One Head Draftsman, Class I.
- Two clerks.

(c) B.Sc. in Civil Engineering of McGill University Montreal, Canada.

Associate Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Associate Member of the Engineering Institute of Canada.

(d) Last position was Assistant Engineer with Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth and Company, Limited, on the Humber development scheme in Newfoundland including 100,000 horse power Hydro-Electric Power Plant. The pay drawn by him while in private employ is not a matter of public concern.

RESIGNATION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS FROM SERVICE.

1243. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the circumstances under which the following officers left or were made to leave the services :—

- (1) Mr. Sanderson, Executive Engineer.
- (2) Mr. Weymes, Assistant Executive Engineer.
- (3) Mr. Knight, Assistant Executive Engineer.
- (4) Mr. Poole, Assistant Executive Engineer.
- (5) Mr. Farquharson, Assistant Executive Engineer.
- (6) Mr. Purnell, Assistant Executive Engineer.
- (7) Mr. Wheatley, Assistant Executive Engineer.
- (8) Mr. Bond, Assistant Executive Engineer.
- (9) Mr. Batra, Assistant Engineer.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : In the case of some, agreements were not renewed, others left of their own volition on the termination of their agreements or were relieved before their time as they were not suitable.

ENGINEERS AT JOGINDARNAGAR.

1244. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether some of the Engineer officers at Jogindarnagar have held charges of two and sometimes even three divisions and sub-divisions simultaneously for months together, giving in a tabular form the names and grades of such officers, the number of divisions and sub-divisions placed under their charges and the period of combined duties ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : A statement showing the information required by the honourable member is attached.

2. It is not a fact that any officer has held charge of more than two offices simultaneously.

[Hon'ble Sardar Sir Jagendra Singh.]

PUNJAB PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, HYDRO-ELECTRIC BRANCH.

Serial No.	Name.	Designation.	Grade or scale of pay.	NAME OF CHARGE.		PERIOD DURING WHICH THE ADDITIONAL CHARGE WAS HELD.		REMARKS.
				Substantive.	Additional.	From.	To.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Mr. G. E. Hunt, M.O.	Executive Engineer.	625-50-1,375	Power Station Division.	P/P Sub-Division	1-8-27	17-8-27	
2	Mr. S. J. Bruford	Ditto.	725-50-1,375	Mechanical Division.	M/C Sub-Division	1-11-27	2-12-27	
3	Ditto	Ditto	725-50-1,375	Ditto	M/W Sub-Division	1-5-27	31-10-27	
4	Major Alexander Sanderson, D.S.O., M.O.	Ditto	725-50-1,375	Adit Division	T/S Sub-Division	13-3-28	28-4-28	
5	Ditto	Ditto	725-50-1,375	Ditto	T/P Sub-Division	31-5-28	7-8-28	
6	Mr. S. J. Bruford	Ditto	725-50-1,375	Mechanical Division.	Power Station Division.	24-1-29	Still holding.	
7	Mr. D. S. McEneil	Ditto	725-50-1,375	Resident Engineer	H/S Sub-Division	31-9-27	20-10-27	
8	Ditto	Ditto	725-50-1,375	Ditto	Ditto	15-11-27	30-11-27	
9	Ditto	Ditto	725-50-1,375	Ditto	Ditto	10-5-28	10-7-28	
10	Mr. D. P. O'Kelly	Assistant Executive Engineer.	875-50-975	M/C Sub-Division	Mechanical Division.	22-12-26	1-2-27	
11	Major A. G. Wheeler	Ditto	375-50-975	T/H-N Sub-Division.	P/H Sub-Division	30-3-28	28-5-28	
12	Lieutenant N. Roddington, R. E.	Ditto	375-50-975	P/H Sub-Division	P/P Sub-Division	12-9-28	31-10-28	
13	Mr. Sam K. Bawa	Assistant Engineer.	250-20-750	M/P Sub-Division	M/C Sub-Division	5-1-29	Still holding.	

ENHANCED PAY FOR EUROPEANS AND ANGLO-INDIANS IN THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC BRANCH.

1245. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that subordinate posts are being given to Europeans and Anglo-Indians on double the pay received by the Indians in the Hydro-Electric Branch?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : No.

INDIAN ENGINEERS IN HYDRO-ELECTRIC BRANCH.

1246. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the percentage of the Indian Engineer officers, exclusive of apprentices and Assistant Engineers employed in the whole of the Hydro-Electric Branch and the percentage of the total amount paid in salaries to such engineers?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The percentage of Indian officers to the total is 27.77 and the percentage of the total amount paid in salaries is 16.96 including Sterling Overseas pay paid to European officers, and 20.70 excluding Sterling Overseas pay paid to European officers.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR POSTS OF ENGINEERS IN THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC BRANCH.

1247. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether he is aware that advertisements have been issued on behalf of the Hydro-Electric Branch in the press inviting applications for posts of an Executive Engineer for the Transmission Lines, a Transmission Line Engineer and several Assistant Executive Engineers;

(b) whether any of these posts are held at present by Indians and if so, why are the present incumbents vacating those posts?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) The number of posts advertised is 6, of which 3 are held substantively by Indians and one temporarily. Two of these officers are leaving because of the termination of their contracts, one has already left to take up a better post elsewhere, while the officer holding charge temporarily will naturally leave his post on the appointment of an officer substantively.

FIRE ENGINE IN RAWALPINDI CANTONMENT.

1248. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on the occasion of fire in the house of Dr. Makhan Singh, No. 75, Dalhousie Road, Rawalpindi Cantonment, on 18th December 1928, the fire engine of the above said cantonment was not available and was not sent to put out the fire;

(b) where was this engine employed on that date;

(c) whether it is a fact that the fire engine belonging to the cantonment board was sent away to Jhelum on the said date without any permission of the Cantonment Board?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes, but full action was taken in accordance with section 116 (c) of the Cantonments Act, 1924.

(b) Jhelum.

(c) As an emergent measure, the fire engine was sent to Jhelum by the Executive Officer, Rawalpindi, acting under section 25 of the Cantonments Act, 1924, with the prior sanction of the President, Cantonment Board, who was on the line of March.

APPOINTMENT IN THE RAWALPINDI CANTONMENT BOARD.

1249. Dr. Shaikh Muhammad Alam : Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) on what principle of representation are appointments made in the staff of the Rawalpindi Cantonment Board ;
- (b) whether any preference is given to residents of the area of the Cantonment Board for purposes of securing appointments under the Board ; if not, why not ;
- (c) what is the proportion of Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs in the area of Rawalpindi Cantonment Board and how are they represented on the establishment serving under the said Board ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a), (b) and (c) It is regretted that the information asked for cannot be supplied as the question relates to a matter which is not the concern of the Local Government.

SUBORDINATE SERVICE OF CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

1250. Pir Akbar Ali : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the grade of Rs. 100—10—800 in the subordinate service of Civil Veterinary Department was created only for those who possess the diploma of L. V. P. (Punjab) from the Punjab Veterinary College after undergoing a course of four years at the said college ;
- (b) whether the gentleman referred to in answer to starred question¹ No. 2089 of the last session of this council has got the requisite qualifications ;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that there is great resentment among the Veterinary Assistants and Veterinary Inspectors particularly those who have supplemented their qualifications by undergoing a post-graduate course and amongst the L. V. P.'s on account of the appointment referred to in answer to question¹ 2089 of the last session of this council ;
- (d) if so, whether the Government intend to reserve some appointments in the grade of Rs. 100—10—800 for Veterinary Assistants or those Inspectors who have supplemented their qualifications by post-graduate courses ?.

¹ Vol. XII, pages 998-999.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The Punjab Government is competent to make appointments to the grade of Rs. 100—10—800 in special cases. The gentleman concerned has had much practical experience in an important post in the Gold Coast Colony.

(b) This gentleman had only undergone a three years' course at Lahore.

(c) No.

(d) The whole question of appointments to the veterinary service of the province and of the qualifications to be demanded is under the consideration of Government.

PUBLIC PROSECUTORS.

1251. Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of non-Muslim public prosecutors as compared with Muslim ;

(b) whether the Government filled up any vacancies this year ;

(c) if so, what is the number of Muhammadan public prosecutors as compared with other communities ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Total number of non-Muslims (Hindus, Sikhs and Christians) is 18 as against 12 Muslims.

(b) Yes.

(c) Eighteen non-Muslims as against 12 Muslims.

MALIKANA.

1252. Sardar Bahadur Captain Dalpat Singh : Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state the grounds on which *malikana* is charged from Military Jagir grantees ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : It is regretted that the reply to this question is not yet ready. It will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

MILITARY SCHOLARSHIPS.

1253. Sardar Bahadur Captain Dalpat Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state whether he is considering the question of relaxation of the rules for the award of military scholarships ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The rules have only recently been relaxed.

MALIKANA ON THE LAND OF S. LAKHA SINGH AND OTHERS IN RAJBAB 4-L.

1254. Sardar Hira Singh, Narli : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Chaks Nos. 367-E. B. and 377-E. B., at the tail of Rajbah 4-L, Pakpattan Canal, Nili Bar. Sardar Lakha Singh and others obtained in 1926, 2,000 acres of land on lease for a period of seven years ;

[Sardar Hira Singh, Narli.]

- (b) whether it is a fact that the lands of the said Sardar have never received 55 per cent. irrigation to which he is entitled under the temporary cultivation rules;
- (c) whether it is a fact that this lack of proper irrigation facilities has resulted in heavy loss to the said Sardar and a great many of his tenants have run away from the land;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the officials of the Colonization Department have not charged the full *malikana* rates for the last three crops and have assessed *malikana* on matured area only;
- (e) whether it is a fact that during the kharif crop of 1928 only 10 per cent. of the area owned by the said Sardar matured;
- (f) whether it is a fact that the Colonization Officer assessed the *malikana* on the total area and has realised the same by confiscating the crops? If so, what action Government intend to take in the matter?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) The question betrays a misunderstanding. No lessee is 'entitled' under any rules to any specified percentage of irrigation; the expression merely denotes the supply which the channels are designed to give, and the schedule of conditions of temporary leases contains a clear provision that Government does not guarantee this or any intensity.

(c) Government has no information; but obviously large profits cannot be expected from the first harvests of a long term lease of inferior land which requires capital to develop.

(d) For the first two crops, no *malikana* was charged; for the third crop *malikana* was charged on the matured area only. These were concessions due to the fact that 4-L. Distributary did not at first function as well as it had been hoped. The terms of the lease are that *malikana* shall be charged on the total area leased, and not on the matured area.

(e) Yes. It is assumed that by "owned" the honourable member meant "leased."

(f) Yes. The *malikana* tendered by the Sardar was at a very low rate, and as he had made no attempt to bring under cultivation any but the best portions of the land leased, no further concession was considered necessary. The action was taken after very full consideration of all the factors, and is in accordance with the terms of the lease, and Government sees no reason to interfere.

MALIKANA ON LANDS IN RAJBAH 4-L.

1255. Sardar Hira Singh, Narli : (i) Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that on Rajbah 4-L., Pakpattan Canal, land has been leased out to the following on temporary cultivation basis:
 - (1) Ghulam Nabi and others, Arains, in Chak No. 365-E. B.
 - (2) Rai Sikhs in Chaks Nos. 357-E. B. and 359-E. B.

(9) Sardar Lakha Singh and others in Chak Nos. 367-E. B. and 377-E. B.

(b) whether it is a fact that the lessees promised to pay *malikana* to the Government ;

(c) whether it is a fact that in 1928 the *kharif* crop in Chak No. 365-E. B. matured to the extent of about 11 per cent. of the total area and that *malikana* has been assessed in proportion to the matured area ;

(d) whether it is a fact that in 1928, the *kharif* crop in Chaks Nos. 357-E. B. and 359-E. B. matured to the extent of about 13 per cent. and that *malikana* has been assessed at about 50 per cent. of the total area ;

(e) whether it is a fact that in 1928 the *kharif* crop in Chaks Nos. 367-E. B. and 377-E. B. matured to the extent of about 10 per cent. and that *malikana* was assessed on the total area ?

(ii) If the answer to (i) above be in the affirmative, will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state the reasons for meting out a differential treatment to Sardar Lakha Singh and others ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a), (b) and (c) Yes.

(d) The matured acreage in Chak No. 357 was 12 per cent. and in 359 15 per cent. The case of Chak No. 357 is still under consideration ; in the case of Chak No. 359, the rate of *malikana*, which was considerably higher than the quality of soil justified, was reduced from Rs. 9 to Rs. 5 per acre leased.

(e) Yes.

(ii) The rate of *malikana* tendered by S. Lakha Singh, on land which on the average was of higher quality than in the other leases mentioned, was Rs. 4-4-0 per leased acre. This is lower even than the reduced rates which have been applied to the other leases, and the Sardar has, therefore, no cause of complaint whatever. He made no attempt to bring under cultivation any but the best portions of the land leased.

REPORTS OF COLONIZATION OFFICER, NILI BAR, AND THE PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

1256. Sardar Hira Singh, Narli : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has studied the reports submitted by the Colonization Officer, Nili Bar and the Punjab Agricultural Department regarding the quality of soil, etc., commanded by Rajbata 4-L. of the Pakpattan Canal ;

(b) if so, what is the conclusion at which he has arrived and what action he proposes to take in regard to the lands under temporary cultivation ;

(c) whether the honourable member will be pleased to lay on the table copies of the reports referred to in (a) above ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes, certain reports submitted by the Colonization Officer, Nili Bar.

[Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

(b) Some of the soil is inferior, and irrigation in the first two or three harvests was generally deficient. Accordingly up to and including *kharif* 1928, *malikana* was taken upon the matured acreage instead of on the total leased acreage, to which Government was entitled under the terms of the lease. In some cases also, where the rate of *malikana* tendered by the lessees was found to be higher than the land could bear, it has, as a matter of grace only, been reduced. The rates of *malikana* were, it may be added, tendered by the lessees themselves after they had had full opportunity to inspect the land. Such leases are contracts made in the ordinary way of business, and no one has any right to claim revision of the terms of a contract simply because Government is the other party to the bargain.

(c) Does not seem to be necessary in public interest.

CLOSURE OF PAKPATTAN CANAL.

1257. Sardar Hira Singh, Narli : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Pakpattan Canal of the Sutlej Valley Project was closed for one month in April and May 1929 just when the wheat crop was being irrigated, and the time of sowing the *kharif* was near at hand ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that this closure resulted in heavy loss to the zamindars who were put to great inconvenience owing to the scarcity of water ;
- (c) if the answer to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, whether Government will please state what concession it is proposed to give to the zamindars of the Nili Bar?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The information is not available at Headquarters and has necessitated enquiry being made from the local officers and the result is awaited. The information when received will be communicated to the honourable member.

FAILURE OF CROPS IN NILI BAR.

1258. Sardar Hira Singh, Narli : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the failure of crops during the last two years has resulted in the impoverishment of the zamindars ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a large number of people who had purchased lands in the Nili Bar have not been able to pay the instalments due from them ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Colonization Officer, Nili Bar, has confiscated the advance made by the purchasers of lands in the Nili Bar, who had failed to pay the instalments due from them ;
- (d) if so, how much money has been so confiscated during the last two years and whether Government intend to allow any concessions to such purchasers ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes—has caused considerable loss.

(b) This is what has been stated to Government, but no exact information on this point is yet available.

(c) and (d) The question has necessitated certain enquiries from the local officers, whose replies are awaited. The answer will be communicated to the honourable member when it is ready.

The Colonization Officer has been authorised to suspend the collection of instalments at his discretion.

RESOLUTIONS.

RESOLUTION *RE* : WATER COURSES THROUGH THE FIELDS OF NEIGHBOURING ZAMINDARS *concluded*).

Mr. W. R. Wilson (Revenue Secretary) : Sir, I was saying yesterday that I do not remember in the course of attestation of the *wajib-ul-arz* in the Nawanshahr tahsil disputes arising in cases in which shareholders who had share in the land attached to a well had no share in the well itself. But those disputes, such as arose, as far as I remember were composed without any such difficulty. No recollection of the type of difficulty to which the honourable member is referring in the present resolution lingers in my imperfect memory, but that was a long time ago. I do accept his word for it and concede that now-a-days disputes and difficulties of the nature to which he refers do occur, but I do not concede that the difficulties are so insurmountable and unamenable to solution by good-will and commonsense as to require a special piece of legislation for their solution. My sympathies are entirely with the honourable member for Gujrat who yesterday followed the Director of Public Instruction in proclaiming his allegiance to the principles of non-interference and *laissez faire*, and also made, if I remember aright a spirited protest against bureaucratic interference in such elementary rights as for instance the right of micturition where and when you please, without let or hindrance, revenue officer or no revenue officer.

At the beginning of the honourable mover's speech a reference was made to small holdings and I gather that the difficulty to which he refers occurs in those villages in the Doab in which holdings are particularly small. I was unaware that Rajput holdings were small. I always understood that the Rajputs had more land than they could themselves manage. Fragmentation, doubtless, has proceeded apace in Nawanshahr since I knew it, though in partition proceedings provision is always made in order to enable the outlying plots within the compass of a well to be irrigated. Even if special provision is not made when the shareholders have shares in the area of the well and in the well itself, which is the normal thing, then if *Zaid* has difficulty in getting water to some outlying plot of his from the well, *Bakhr* will presumably have the same difficulty in getting well water to some outlying plot of his, and it becomes a matter of mutual accommodation. If, on the other hand *Zaid* who has a share in the well wishes to use his neighbour's field in order to get his water to an outlying plot and his neighbour has not a share in the well water, then, why should his

[Mr. W. B. Wilson.]

neighbour have his liberty encroached upon by an offensive piece of legislation, when his neighbour who has the land and who has not got water is entitled to have the satisfaction of making a bargain?

Perhaps, however, difficulties arise when a second well is sunk in an area, which is already irrigated by the original well. Even in that case I would deprecate legislation because for one thing no man has a right to act unsocially, and secondly, with the serious declension in the water table in the Jullundur Doab the sinking of a well in an area already irrigated by a well should not *ipso facto* give the sinker of the well a right to irrigate any land of his, irrespective of the objections of his neighbours, and until those objections are removed the right to irrigate the land from a new well should not be enforced by any legislation. But I beg leave to doubt, Sir, whether the difficulty to which the honourable member is referring does occur extensively. I notice that in his speech he referred to only two villages, Rahon and Kariha. Now, both those villages are Rajput villages. Does it mean that the difficulty to which he refers exists in fact only in villages held by Rajputs where holdings are much bigger than villages held by neighbouring villages in the possession of Jats, or does it mean that Rajputs are less amenable to reason and less apt to accommodation than their neighbours? If they are less apt to accommodation then I do not think they will be saved by any piece of fancy legislation. It is for them to educate themselves into good citizenship and common rightness of action instead of bleating for an edict from this Council.

As was pointed out yesterday by the Financial Commissioner, the sensible solution is the slow progress of consolidation of holdings and co-operation in its various aspects is the only remedy that is needed. Take demarcation cases for example. Demarcation cases often leave a legacy of an ill-feeling and resentment, but they are in a way necessary. This present proposal to force a man to allow his neighbour to take water through his fields, compensation or no compensation, is a gratuitous interference with the elementary rights of property, and people should not be dragooned by a piece of legislation when all that is wanted seems to be a reasonable display of commonsense. I would therefore ask the honourable mover to withdraw his resolution and endeavour to induce his own Rajput friends to be a little more reasonable.

Rai Bahadur Lala Sewak Ram [Multan Division (Non-Muhamma-dan); Rural] (Urdu): Sir, I am glad that my honourable friend, the representative of Jullundur has moved this important resolution. The people, whom I have the honour to represent in this Council, *viz.*, the people of Multan and Muzaffargarh districts are labouring under the same disadvantages, as the people of Jullundur and Hoshiarpur. The difficulties mentioned by my honourable friend do exist, and it is absolutely essential to find a remedy for the same. The honourable mover of this resolution has suggested only one way out of the difficulty, *viz.*, that a law may be passed on the subject. I may, however, point out to him that the people generally look with disfavour on any new piece of legislation, and they are sure to resent the proposed law on the subject. I may also remind my honourable friend that the Government is not convinced of the utility of the introduction of such

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a legislation and the honourable member for Gujrat has also expressed an identical opinion. It is unfortunate that the mover of this resolution has not put forward any alternative scheme for the carrying out of the aim he has in view. The Honourable Financial Commissioner, Development, in the course of his speech yesterday pointed out that the one way in which this difficulty may be overcome is to resort to the consolidation of holdings. As a matter of fact, consolidation of holdings and the work connected therewith is being carried on in the districts of Jullundur, Hoshiarpur and Sialkot, and if this proves a success, consolidation of holdings in other parts of the province will also be taken in hand. So far as I am aware the work of consolidation of holdings is proceeding apace in the Jullundur district, and I cannot see any defect in the smooth working of this scheme. The honourable mover's difficulty perhaps lies in the fact that it is not very easy to prevail upon the people to exchange their lands. It is just possible that the owner

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of a fertile piece of land is not willing to exchange his land for a piece of land, which is not so fertile. But the best way to obviate this difficulty is that the owner of a piece of land, which is less fertile, should be prevailed upon to give a larger area of land in exchange for a smaller piece of fertile land. This would enable the people to consolidate not only small pieces of land, but would make it possible to consolidate large areas of land. This work may well be entrusted to the Co-operative Department or to the Deputy Commissioners of the districts concerned, who would only be too glad to do this work. The exchange of land for the purpose of consolidation can advantageously be entrusted to panchayats, and I do not see any reason as to why we should not be able to do this work to the satisfaction of all the parties concerned. We can come to an understanding and decide the matter between ourselves. Under these circumstances, I do not see any necessity for the passing of an Act on the subject. The best course would be to ask the Government to appoint a committee, which should go into the *pros* and *cons* of this matter and suggest ways and means for carrying into effect the suggestions of the honourable mover. The conclusions of this committee should be forwarded to the Financial Commissioner, Development, and he should see that these conclusions are made to apply to the people in general. The honourable member's resolution is not of general application and if there are any alternative proposals, he would do well to modify his resolution in the light of the same. I support this resolution with all my heart, but I take exception to the word "legislation". With these few remarks, Sir, I resume my seat.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain (Revenue Member)—Sir, the resolution has elicited a very interesting discussion. Several members have sympathised with the object the honourable the mover has in view. Almost all have questioned the advisability of carrying out the suggestion of the honourable the mover to remove the alleged grievance. Several members have not quite followed what the resolution really asks for. The resolution as I understand it, means that those proprietors who own fields which are not contiguous and the fields of other proprietors intervene between their fields and their wells, experience very great difficulty in carrying *ads* along the boundaries of other proprietors' fields. The mover alleges that there is a substantial difficulty in carrying out the *ads* by a proprietor along the boundary lines of intervening fields of another pro-

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proprietor. Then he says that the proprietors of the intervening fields on account of their position are not ready to enter into reasonable agreements to enable these proprietors to carry their ads along the boundaries of intervening fields. That is to say, they abuse their position of advantage and thus render the task of the person that has this grievance extremely difficult. He further says these grievances lead to disputes in some cases, and to exchange of hot words leading perhaps to riots. It is, therefore, necessary, he says, to avoid the occasion for these troubles and feels that in all probability a law could be devised which would remedy these grievances. Well, this proposal has been very reasonably criticised in many ways. Some members have questioned the correctness of the allegations made. They say that so far as they are concerned no such grievances exist to any large extent which would justify Government seeking legislation. There are others who say that within their knowledge such grievances do exist and that in several cases they have already led to disputes and trouble. Sometime ago Government made enquiries, but the result of those enquiries was not the establishment of the allegations. At the same time I am prepared to admit that the enquiries were not absolutely thorough in the sense that I could say with confidence that no such grievance as a matter of fact exists. Following the debate I am inclined to believe that such grievances do exist in some parts of the province and that they are not very widespread in all probability, but what the causes of these grievances are is extremely difficult to tell. Whether the cause is something more than the absence of law on the subject, for instance, already existing animosity which finds expression in these disputes, and if the causes of those disputes were removed, it is quite possible that they would find an outlet in some other direction. However, I am, Sir, inclined to the view that Government should enquire into this matter. All members of this Council who have any facts to bring to the notice of Government are invited to give those facts to the Financial Commissioner, Revenue, who will be conducting this enquiry through his department, and when the material is collected, he will be glad to place it before the Land Revenue Standing Committee for its consideration. I highly appreciate the very sound view to which the vast majority of the speakers who have taken part in this debate have given expression that legislation is not a thing to be lightly resorted to and, therefore, all other possibilities of meeting this grievance in case it is real and general should be explored before Government even thinks of resorting to legislation. As I have said, I highly appreciate this point of view and assure the House that Government is in complete agreement with it. I think that in view of what I have said as to the intention of Government in exploring the facts bearing on this resolution and the action proposed on those facts, the House would not like me to go any further at this stage.

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : Translation, Sir.

Mr. President : I am sorry to say that the Assistant Secretary who can translate the speeches from English into Urdu is on leave.

Does the honourable member wish to give a reply ?

Chaudhri Muhammad Abdul Rahman Khan : No, Sir, I beg leave to withdraw my resolution.

The resolution was by leave withdrawn.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan [Sialkot (Muhammadan) Rural]: Sir, I beg to move that—

“This Council recommends to the Government to appoint a committee with a view to making an enquiry into the progress of the Mandi hydro-electric scheme and submitting a report on the following points:—

- (i) the maximum period within which the scheme is likely to be completed;
- (ii) the ultimate cost involved and the return expected on the capital expenditure;
- (iii) the possibility of reduction in expenditure without affecting the efficiency of the scheme; and
- (iv) the means for utilisation of electric energy generated to the fullest possible extent and to the best advantage of the public and the State.”

Sir, the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme was sanctioned by this House and ultimately by the Government in 1926. The object of the scheme as has been repeatedly explained was to generate electric current and to supply it to the province at rates lower than those at which it would be obtainable from other sources and to run the scheme in such a way so as to cover expenses. There is no difference of opinion as to the objects of this scheme being highly beneficial to the future development of the province. I need not enter into any technical details, but it will be admitted on all hands that if the scheme can be successfully carried through, it would be an asset of the greatest value to the province and would help the province in many directions particularly towards the development of industries and agriculture and would bring a great deal of prosperity to the people of this province. I may also concede at the outset that from the information which has been obtainable on the subject recently, one gathers that Government made every effort as far as was possible under the circumstances, to obtain expert advice before they put the scheme before this House and advised the House to sanction it. It appears, however, from subsequent criticism that in some respects the data available at that time was insufficient and that Government might have insisted upon further and better data before they actually sanctioned this scheme. But so far as obtaining advice was concerned, as I have said, it does appear that before entering upon this scheme Government had obtained expert advice available both in India and in England.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh: Can you specify the data, Sir?

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan: I am going to do so. The scheme has now been in the course of being carried out for over 3 years. The original estimate was that the scheme would be completed within a period of 4 years from February 1926 and it was hoped that current would be available from the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme in April 1930. So far as the cost is concerned the estimated cost of the scheme at that time was roughly speaking about 4½ crores of rupees.

Now, the main criticisms that are being levelled against the scheme might be divided into three heads. First, the cost of the scheme, secondly, the probable time which will be taken before the scheme comes into operation, and, thirdly, the return which may reasonably be expected from the scheme when it is working. It has been conceded by Government themselves

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that the original estimate of expenditure is likely to be exceeded by at least 28 per cent. As I have said the original estimate was 4½ crores of rupees. The final revised estimate which is now being put forward stands at between 540 lakhs and 550 lakhs of rupees. With regard to the time taken again, it is conceded that although originally it was hoped that the scheme would be ready and would come into operation within a period of about four years, it is now estimated that it would take 6½ years to complete the scheme before current could be issued from the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme. With regard to the expected return from the scheme there are serious differences. Government has put forward one estimate and non-official critics have put forward other estimates, and there is a great deal of divergence between these two estimates. These questions have recently been given publicity to in the columns of the *Civil and Military Gazette*. A reply to this kind of criticism was given by Colonel Battye, Chief Engineer, in charge of the Hydro-Electric Scheme, in a speech which he made before the Rotary Club which was also widely published in the press. Subsequently the Honourable Minister for Agriculture made a statement to the press which was also given publicity and he has also supplied us with certain information on the Hydro-Electric Project in the form of this blue book. Finally there has been an attempt to criticise the reply given by Government in yesterday's issue of the *Civil and Military Gazette*. I have gone through all the issues of the *Civil and Military Gazette* which contain any reference to the Hydro-Electric Scheme. I have also carefully read this blue book. I do not intend to inflict upon the House long quotations from these letters and criticisms in the press or from this blue book except by way of illustration. As the House is aware, so far as this subject is concerned, I am a layman, and it does not lie in me to try to judge as to which side is correct. But it will be agreed that there is a great deal of restiveness created in the public mind by these open criticisms of this scheme published in the premier paper of the province. Those who have followed this controversy in the press and have also read the final reply as it were of the Government upon the subject will also agree that there is room for genuine and honest differences. It is not as if the criticisms in the press were confined to mere general hostile criticism proceeding from some ulterior motive. Figures supplied by Government are taken into consideration, analysed and dissected and it is sought to be shown that the figures cannot be relied upon, that is to say, that they cannot be relied upon to yield the results which Government hold out that this scheme will probably yield.

With regard to two matters there is no difference, that the estimates of expenditure are likely to be largely exceeded and that the time likely to be taken for the completion of this scheme will also be exceeded by more than 50 per cent. The difference, as I have said, is with regard to the expected returns from this scheme. So far as this is concerned, as I have said, I can express no opinion, but the data given on either side show that there is room for serious differences. Some critics, although they have not disclosed their identity, yet one can say that they appear to be conversant with the subject, have put forward the estimate that you can sell, as the result of the completion of the first stage of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme, to consumers only about 25,000 K.Wa. per day. On the other hand, the assertion

of Government is that they would be able to supply 38,000 K.Ws. per day. I do not intend, nor am I competent, to discuss the difference due to the diversity factor and other calculations as to how much current would be lost, how much current would be required at headquarters and how much at sub-stations and what losses there would be in transmission, and so on, but I notice that in the latest communication to the press published in yesterday's *Civil and Military Gazette* certain points which it was urged on behalf of Government had not been taken into consideration by the first critic of the scheme, have been taken into consideration, and yet the result is about the same as was put forward by the first critic, that is to say, the supply will be only about 25,000 K.Ws.

The seriousness of the question lies in this. If it meant only that current would be available from the Mandi Hydro-Electric generating station at rates slightly higher than those which Government held out as probable when putting forward the original project before the House that would perhaps not be much to worry over. But the differences are such that it is alleged that if the rates rise higher, as the critics say they are bound to rise, then it would make all the difference to the consumers, or at least the larger consumers of electric current, whether they should take current from the scheme or use current available from other sources or should continue to use steam power instead of electric power. And if it is likely to make that difference your principal consumers will not become your customers at all and the scheme is not likely to prove remunerative, in fact not even able to cover its running expenses. It is agreed that the running expenses which are estimated to be about 50 lakhs are what are described as standard expenses, that is to say, whatever may be the consumption of the current you will have to incur running expenses at the rate of 50 lakhs per annum. You may be able to sell the whole of the current generated, you may be able to sell only three-fourths of it, you may not be able to sell anything at all, but you will have to incur a recurring expenditure of 50 lakhs per year and unless you are able to cover that, you will not be able to pay your expenses. So that having regard to these differences there is no doubt that the ordinary layman fears that we may be in for something the total cost of which may prove to be a serious handicap to the province instead of helping towards the industrial and agricultural development of the province and helping towards raising the standard of living and the material prosperity of the province.

As I have said I cannot take it upon myself to say which side is correct or even probably correct. But as I have stated it does appear that before entering upon the scheme Government did not insist upon complete data and that I will be able to demonstrate to a certain extent from one item of expenditure dealt with in this blue book which has been supplied to us.

Part III at page 8 of this book deals with the causes of excess expenditure and forecast of probable cost. In dealing with this matter Government have selected this one item in order to illustrate how excess in expenditure has been caused, and when one looks at that illustration, one is faced with the apprehension that one can place no reliance even upon the final revised estimate of costs. The estimates have a tendency not only every year but every six months to climb steadily upwards for reasons which ordinarily should have been patent to persons who were responsible for the framing of the original estimates. For instance, here the item selected is at page 9,

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sub-head H. P. A. (1), that is to say the temporary power plant to be erected at Dhelu to provide the electrical energy for operating all the construction plant on the scheme. The book proceeds :—

"It was estimated to cost Rs. 6 lakhs gross, or Rs. 5 lakhs allowing credit for sale of the plant at the end of the construction period.

"Indents for the plant were sent to the India Stores Department in February 1926, and work at site was started in April 1926. The sub-head included the provision of an oil engine as prime mover in addition to the hydro-electric power gear and the expense of operating the temporary works for 2½ years together with compensation for crops for a similar period, this compensation arising out of the diversion of water from rice fields.

In March 1927 it was reported that the supply of water at Dhelu had been over-estimated."

Here is an instance of insufficient data. If the readings of the supply of water at Dhelu had been extended over a sufficiently long period there would have been something more reliable to go upon than the material upon which the estimates were actually based.

"In March 1927 it was reported that the supply of water at Dhelu had been over-estimated and that it would be advisable to drop the provision of an oil-engine and instal a subsidiary hydro-electric power scheme at Thaujji in the Uhl Valley. The Chief Engineer, Hydro-Electric Branch, did not then anticipate any excess on account of these changes."

Here again although one mistake had been demonstrated that the water supply available at Dhelu had been over-estimated, nevertheless an alternative scheme is suggested and Government have been assured that the adoption of this alternative scheme will not result in any excess charges. That was in March 1927.

"In April 1927 the net cost was revised to Rs. 5½ lakhs."

There is an increase of Rs. 25,000, although a month earlier Government were assured that there will be no increase in expenditure. In February 1928, that is ten months later, the estimates rose to 6.8 lakhs. In April 1928 that is two months later, they rose to 7.7 lakhs. A revision is now under consideration bringing the cost to 8.75 lakhs. It was very unfortunate to have selected this instance with a view to set at rest the doubts with regard to the rise of costs of this scheme. This was intended to show that this is the manner in which expenditure has been rising, a manner presumably justifiable, and by implication this is the ratio by which it has been rising and may be expected to rise till the scheme is completed or is finally abandoned.

Now with regard to this 8.75 lakhs which is 3½ lakhs in excess of the original estimate which was five lakhs, certain explanations are given. I shall take only one. At page 11 of the blue book at the bottom, the last paragraph says :—

"H. P. A. (1) (f).—Excesses have occurred on the following detailed estimates, etc., and information was received after the last revision was carried out."

And item (4) is—

"Power House and pipe supports 12,500."

The explanation for this excess in item (4) is—

"The excess on item 4 is mainly due to bad ground."

This again means that even the nature of the ground had not been ascertained before the estimates were put forward. Surely the nature of the ground is not a matter which might unexpectedly be discovered at a later stage. The very first thing to be discovered before any project can even be suggested is the nature of the ground. The failure to do this has involved an excess expenditure of Rs. 12,500. With regard to item 5, 'Slips' there is an excess expenditure of Rs. 2,500. The explanation is that no provision for item 5 was made in the last revised estimates as no slips were anticipated. It is a poor explanation to say that the Chief Engineer did not anticipate them. Nature does not work always as one expects it to work and if proper data had been collected, one would have known the nature of the ground and whether slips were or were not to be expected. Then, finally it is said—

"In this way it would be possible to examine each sub-head but the process would be extremely laborious and lengthy."

As I submitted if this is the most favourable instance which the department could suggest, then, that confirms the doubts which have been raised in the minds of the public that this project was very hastily entered upon. Advice was taken with regard to its technical side no doubt, and experts both in India and in England said that it would be a sound undertaking, but their advice was necessarily based upon the data which you submitted to them. It now appears that even with regard to small items you did not take that ordinary care, let alone expert care, which is necessary before anybody can be advised to enter upon a project like this. Therefore, my submission is that although from the scientific and technical points of view this was a very sound undertaking, the financial side of it did not receive that consideration which it was necessary to bestow upon it before it could be decided whether the province could afford to undertake this project and whether it would be profitable to do so. Now there may be considerations, as has been suggested in the speech of Colonel Bhatye in the Rotary Club, the interview which the Honourable Minister gave to the press and this book, there may be good grounds for finally deciding that these suspicions are superficial and that the estimates now put forward are likely to be the final estimates and that the period within which it is expected that the scheme would be ready for operation is now the final period within which reasonably, it may be expected the scheme would be ready and that the expected yield is such that with or without a safety margin the scheme would pay the interest on capital charges and yet supply electric current to consumers at a rate which would be favourable having regard to other sources of supply. If this is demonstrated, there will not be one member of this House who would refuse to support the further carrying out of this scheme. On the other hand if the Committee appointed to go into these matters reports adversely with regard to any of these matters, then it would be a serious question for consideration whether Government should continue to spend money upon the scheme.

It might perhaps be objected that if a committee is appointed, then some experts will have to be put on it, for unless you have some experts the report of the committee, would be of no use whatever; and since the services of experts cannot be obtained for nothing, you are asking Government to spend a few thousands more upon the scheme which would add to

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the original estimates. Of course, the answer to that is obvious. It is worth while to spend a few thousands more in order to ascertain in the first instance whether the scheme is likely really to pay itself in the sense that it would cover its expenses and pay interest charges. If the report would assure this House and the public on that point, then the Government can go forward with confidence and confidence having been created in the public mind also the current generated by the Hydro-Electric Scheme would be taken up much more readily in the confident hope that the supply would be continued at rates which have been first quoted to the consumers and the scheme is likely to be a success. On the other hand, if we are finally assured, after both sides have been heard that the scheme is not likely to prove remunerative, that it will not even cover the recurring expenses, then it would be certainly not only a question to consider, but the only course open to Government would be to abandon the scheme and not to spend any more money on it.

Now, as to the committee which this resolution asks for, as I have submitted, no doubt this committee must be composed to a certain extent, even to a large extent of expert. But care must be taken that the experts put upon this committee are independent experts in the sense that they have no pre-conceived prejudices either in favour of the scheme or against the scheme. It may be possible to get such experts in India, for instance from Mysore, but it may not be possible to do so. If it is not possible to get them in India, they will have to be obtained from some other country, probably from England, and no doubt the cost of this committee will be very much higher than it would otherwise be, but I submit that this committee has become a necessity and one cannot avoid it on the ground that it is likely to cost several thousands of rupees.

There must also be non-official members of this House upon the committee; not because they are likely to help the experts in discussing the technical and scientific aspects of the scheme, but they will be there on behalf of the public to watch as to what was happening, to suggest things to the expert members on which the public requires information and requires assurances. I, therefore, submit this resolution to the House in the hope that Government itself will have no objection to raise to the demand made in the resolution. (*Cheers*).

Mr. President : The resolution moved is—

"This Council recommends to the Government to appoint a committee with a view to making an enquiry into the progress of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme and submitting a report on the following points:—

- (i) the maximum period within which the scheme is likely to be completed;
- (ii) the ultimate cost involved and the return expected on the capital expenditure;
- (iii) the possibility of reduction in expenditure without affecting the efficiency of the scheme; and
- (iv) the means for utilisation of electric energy generated to the fullest possible extent and to the best advantage of the public and the State."

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye (Chief Engineer, Hydro-Electric Branch) : Sir, I have not been asked to express an opinion as Chief Engineer as to the advisability of having such a committee, but I want to confess as Chief Engineer of the Hydro-Electric Project, and also speaking for my staff, that we welcome a committee of this sort. It would give us an opportunity of having our difficulties appreciated and the work we have done also appreciated, and would save us a very great deal of trouble. The amount of criticism which is going on at present is a source of great trouble, because it diverts us from our duty. But we have to consider the question from another point of view, and that is, that if we appoint a committee like this they will most undoubtedly take up a great deal of the time, both of myself and of my construction staff, and although you may pay the committee a fee of a few thousand pounds the cost due to delay in the completion of the project will come to a much larger figure. Therefore, in order to enable you to decide whether it is worth while to have this committee, I will take up a little of your time in attempting to give you some simple facts. That is all that I can do.

When an engineer is taken up in to the Himalaya mountains and confronted with a range such as ours is and is asked to estimate within a few per cent. the cost of constructing such a project and of transmitting the power over an area of about five or six hundred square miles and delivering that power to several thousands of consumers and to estimate the time likely to be taken to within few months is asking a physical impossibility. I have discussed this point with many leading engineers in the profession in London, and they have all told me that the layman to-day is asking almost an impossibility from the engineer. When an engineer is confronted with a problem like that, if he is a coward and he is afraid of his own reputation, he will be tempted to cover himself by putting in hidden items of contingency so as to cover himself and his staff against criticism of his estimate having proved wrong. But that is not right. His duty is to attempt to give an estimate of the work as nearly as possible to the correct truth. But he knows that there are any number of unforeseen items, and the honourable member opposite gave an example of one. We were confronted with the problem of finding out in one season the amount of water available for our little subsidiary plant. This water depends upon rain fed springs, not snow. These hill springs are taken out and put on to the fields in Khuls. What happened in this case was that we happened to hit a fairly rainy year, and we got about twenty cusecs. We recognised that it was unsafe and, therefore, we provided for an oil engine standby. Later on we found that it was a particular wet year, and that our estimate was not enough. We could have covered ourselves by putting a couple of lakhs for provision against shortage of water, but that is guessing—not estimating.

There are two alternative courses to follow in estimating a project of this nature ; one is to put in a large contingency figure to cover unknowns. The other alternative is to estimate your project to the nearest truth, work out your financial position and present your margin. We did the latter and our margin was 13 lakhs a year to meet emergencies in place of a large contingency sum. The Finance Department knows that 13 lakhs a year are available to meet these unknowns. But the Secretary of State has laid down that in preparing projects large amounts under contingencies should

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not be provided, and he reserves to himself and his financial advisers the decision whether the project should go forward or not. That is the position taken up by him. We had a margin of 18 lakhs a year, and if you capitalise that the actual amount works out to about two crores as the margin for the project. Therefore the position at the present moment is that we have trespassed on our margin to the extent of about 50 per cent.

That is the situation with regard to estimates. We had to estimate also the amount of time required ; and we made the mistake of not realising the difficult conditions (covering the whole field) with which we should be faced. Our estimate has been exceeded by 64 lakhs on account of works and 56 lakhs on account of time. Of the 56 lakhs, 28 is on account of interest charges and the other 28 on account of establishment. Of the 64, our excesses are roughly as follows :—21 lakhs is on account of the cost of the whole construction plant which I will try to describe in a moment. The other 43 lakhs is on account of the actual permanent works. Turning back to the construction plant, the excesses are distributed as follows :—8½ lakhs on this very plant that we have before us dealing with power, 3½ lakhs on construction plant, 10 lakhs on the problem of transportation and 4 lakhs on the provision of quarters, welfare, hospitals, sanitation, &c. Of the 43 lakhs on permanent works, our excesses are 9 lakhs on account of works in the Brod Valley, 19 lakhs on the tunnel and about 15 lakhs on transmission lines.

Now I will give you a short account of what we have yet to do and what we have done in the last three years. In a construction project of this nature—there are really two projects to be constructed : there is first the construction plant to be put in. This consists first of the provision of about 1,200 kilowatts of power. The second is the provision of transport facilities which in the mountains is the most important and difficult part of the whole work. There is then the question of special tunnel construction plant and finally accommodation for men, the provision of hospitals, welfare and sanitation for our staff and, finally, there is lastly the problem of the collection of that staff. I will not attempt to go into details. Our power plant consists of two plants one on each side of the mountains. There are two complete Hydro-Electric Schemes altogether about the size of the Simla plant which is supplying the electricity for this town.

Transport consists not only of the problem of taking up all our staff along two hundred miles of road, but the problem of opening facilities for getting from one side of the mountain to the other which you can see depicted in the picture in the lobby. It consists of three haulages operated by water power, hauling up materials to the top of the range then along the top down the other side. One of our main causes of excess has been in the provision of these haulages. Very few engineers in India or England have had experience in the construction of a system of haulages like this ; our system is believed to be one of the biggest ever undertaken.

The tunnelling plant consists of railways, electric locomotives and rolling stock, two complete plants for compressed air blowers (to blow air to breathe in the tunnel), arrangements for electric power for electric light and telephones. The whole of this equipment had to be installed. It took

33 months to instal it and our estimate provided only for 24 months. I have consulted various engineers who have had experience of such works before and explained to them some of our difficulties, i.e., the nature of the country we are working in, etc., and they consider that we have done a comparatively good performance in completing in 33 months.

About 15 months ago we were able to concentrate on the designs.

Of the permanent project, the position is that about the end of last autumn we finished the erection of the construction plant and started on the permanent project. The designs for that have been practically completed with the exception of a few items which have still to be finished. We have to instal unusually complicated hydraulic works in the Uhl Valley to take the water out of the river and put it into the tunnel. This is necessary in order to provide for the facilities associated with the dam later on. Now, in the Himalayas, if you put up a dam, it tends to slit up much more quickly than it does in other ranges. Therefore it is not possible for us to keep our reservoir permanently full. This has greatly complicated all our hydraulic arrangements in the Uhl Valley. We have had long discussions with the Consulting Engineers and it has involved us in a much more elaborate hydraulic arrangements than we originally anticipated, so that we have had to spend about 9 lakhs extra on this account. The detailed designs of the whole of this work are finished and we are now calling for tenders.

Turning now to the tunnel we are driving from the north end and are in about a thousand feet. At the south end we have driven in an adit about 1,200 feet long so as to get into the centre line. From the head of this adit we are driving both ways. Our progress at present is at 100 feet per month. We anticipated in the original project that we could get 200 feet, but so far we have not been able to do so. That accounts for most of the excess in time of between 4 years and 6½ years. After deducting the nine months we have already exceeded on account of the construction plant, the remaining 34 months' excess is due to the time taken to complete the tunnel at the lower rate of progress. Our present estimates are based on the present geological situation to-day which is much more reliable than originally. We have estimated at continuing the present rate of progress for another nine months until we get to better rock when we hope to be able to excavate 200 feet a month. We did 218 feet last year when we had a similar kind of good rock. We hope to attain that speed when we get into the same kind of rock again. If so, we should finish the tunnel about the autumn of 1931. That leaves us about four to five months until March 1932 to put in the special reinforced lining. This we have to put in in certain sections where the rock is bad and will not stand the pressure. That brings us to March 1932 and leaves us about six months to test out the whole plant before we put it into operation. The estimate that I have given you to-day is based upon the continuity of our work in the tunnel which is the chief governing factor. It is for you to judge the reliability of that estimate. If you are not satisfied with it, by all means have your committee. (A voice: Can you give figures of the up-to-date cost of the scheme?) I will tell you presently.

Now we come to the next item, the permanent plant.

Mr. President: Will the Honourable member please answer the question which has been put to him?

Dr. Gokul Chand. Narang : What has the scheme actually cost up to this time ?

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : I think that question will be answered by the Honourable Minister ?

(A voice : Is it about three crores ?)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Much more.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : We have installed the construction plant and it has cost about 1.14 lakhs. That is the actual cash outlay ; the expenditure incurred for which we are responsible is of course very much greater. The actual figure would have to be worked out, but it would probably amount to nearly 2 crores.

The pipe anchors and supports are now being designed and the contracts for pipes have been placed. That is an example of an item of expenditure which has been incurred but has not been spent.

We come now to the power-house, and here we are wanting for particulars of the turbines and generating plant. Orders for these are being placed immediately. We can then proceed with the construction of the power-house.

Turning now to the transmission lines, we are now receiving tenders for the construction of the whole of our transmission system. These tenders have been received and so we know we can estimate the cost of the transmission lines to within a few lakhs of rupees. We have tenders now for the construction of the whole of the transmission lines in 30 months. Sub-stations on the transmission lines are being designed and we have not yet called for tenders for them. The same applies to local distribution. (A voice : Do these final estimates include the cost of sub-stations ?) Yes.

Our figures, therefore, are now based in regard to the whole project—

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- (a) to the extent of one crore on the actual amount incurred as expenditure on the construction plant ;
- (b) those for hydraulic works are based on the actual rates now in vogue on the works, and on revised estimates which are being worked to and on detailed, worked out construction drawings, so that there is no question about the quantities ;
- (c) finally when we come to plant and machinery, on tenders that have actually been received and in many cases actually placed.

The only exceptions to this are the sub-stations which are now being designed, but which we know from our Consulting Engineers have been liberally estimated, and we have no reason whatever to suppose that our sub-stations will be exceeded. In this connection, I would point out that every tender that we have received so far for plant and machinery for the project have been placed within estimated figures. We have not incurred, and we cannot see any likelihood or any hope of incurring, expenditure in excess of the original project so far as the provision for plant, machinery and transmission lines, in regard to the material is concerned. Our excesses that we anticipate on the transmission lines is almost entirely due (a) to the extra cost of erection,

(ii) the extra cost of railway and river crossings, and (iii) compensation : so that our project estimates that we have put before you have practically only one loophole, and that loophole lies in connection with the cost of the lining of the tunnel.

Now, we have consulted the greatest expert we could get in Switzerland who has built about 40 miles of high pressure tunnel to give us an idea of the cost of reinforcing our lining in such a manner as to stand the pressure wherever the rock is bad. We have his figures before us and even with those figures, the total cost of the lining of the tunnel is somewhere in the neighbourhood of 15 lakhs, so that even if we exceeded his latest figures by 100 per cent, the total excess on our present figures would be in the neighbourhood of about 15 lakhs.

Now, we come to the question of delay. In such big works, and especially tunnelling, delays are inevitable : delay may, therefore, occur in our estimate of 200 feet a month in the granite. If we cannot do the 200 feet a month, we might not continue to drive much faster than we are doing at present, the completion of the project might be delayed by another nine months or even a year, but we still have six months up our sleeve for testing out. Let us assume for the moment that we have another nine months delay : this would cost you in the neighbourhood of some 80 lakhs and if you add to that 10 lakhs excess in the lining, the total excess that you might possibly have to face on the present estimate is in the neighbourhood of some 40 lakhs. Now, let us assume that instead of the Honourable Sardar Jogindra Singh's figure of 5.41 lakhs that he has given in his paper, we do have an excess, right up to 600 lakhs. I want to put before you the financial position of the project assuming that it costs 600 lakhs.

Interest has so far been estimated at 5 per cent. Supposing for argument's sake, as a result, I understand, of the failure of the recent loan, that we had to pay $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the whole of our money (we have got our first 100 lakhs for under 5 per cent. already) so that, that means all future money would have to be borrowed at something well over $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Now I will deal with the gentleman who wrote that paper yesterday i.e., as regards depreciation. He quoted $4\frac{1}{2}$ and $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. depreciation on gross capital. Our estimates for depreciation are based on taking each individual item of plant and giving it its recognised life which varies from 10 to 40 years. Our tunnels, headworks and concrete works are everlasting.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Nothing is everlasting.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : On works of this nature, the Irrigation Department put by no depreciation at all : but we have assumed that our tunnel, our pipes, our headworks, our concrete works and all structures of that nature have a life of about 50 years. The term of life of all our perishable plant has been accepted by the Consulting Engineers and we have put by depreciation on them varying from 2 to 8 up to 10 per cent., and assume it invested at compound interest till required. On dead capital such as interest, establishment (and this forms a comparatively large portion of the whole cost of the project) we need not put by depreciation. We need not charge any depreciation on construction tools and plant, our temporary power plants (which will be taken up and sold on completion) the temporary quarters and all our sanitation, hospital and other arrangements.

[Lt.-Col. B.C. Battye.]

We have 150 lakhs expended in that form. So that if you take out your depreciation at rates varying from 8 to 10 per cent. on the actual cost of plant and machinery the total comes to about 7½ lakhs and that works out on 422 lakhs to about 1½ per cent. In our original project, we added another quarter per cent. for sinking fund, for which we had no justification but which we thought advisable; this brings us up to about 2 per cent. on the original gross capital, i.e., 8½ lakhs per annum.

That is our figure for depreciation, which corresponds to the 5 per cent. quoted in yesterday's paper. A great deal of the excess expenditure is due to dead capital such as establishment and interest, and our depreciation figures need not therefore, be increased. If you take 1½ per cent. or even 1½ per cent. on our new figures instead of 2 per cent. on the original, then you are perfectly safe.

Now we come to operating staff, maintenance and operation. Our operation figures were based upon accepted figures of cost and a per cent. rate on the cost of the plant. There is no reason to contemplate that our plant will be purchased for more than the sums, which were allowed in the original estimate: e.g., our generating plant is costing us about 6 lakhs less than the original estimates; and our pipes about 2 lakhs less. We are getting all our plants, as I said just now, practically for our project estimate figures. Our maintenance figures should not, therefore, require any re-adjustment. We have worked out the operating staff in detail, from start to finish, and this works out to half a lakh more than the original project provision. That brings to about 12 lakhs which comes to 2.2 per cent. on the new capital. Now if you add 5½ per cent. for interest to 1½ per cent. for depreciation, and to that again 2½ per cent. for maintenance and operation you get a total percentage of 9½. Now 9½ per cent. on 600 lakhs (assuming that we have spent that amount of capital) brings us up to 57 lakhs a year. That is, therefore about the maximum that you need have to face as working expenditure.

When we come to the revenue side, I have nothing more to say than what I have already told you. In 1925 I told you that we had employed an officer with a staff who knew the country and who belongs to the province. For eighteen months in 1920 and 1921 this officer visited every single mill where motive power is used in all the towns covered by our project. He spent 18 months on this work. We collected schedules then containing data that nobody else had ever had before: for example, the Industries Department itself had nothing like such complete information of all the places where motive power is installed, the cost of operation, the expenditure on fuel, on wages, on repairs, for every single motive power user in this province, in the area covered by our scheme in its first stage: this data has been the basis of all our computations. That data was then handed over bodily to the Director of Industries in 1928: we asked him to re-examine it on our behalf and bring it up-to-date and tell us if our figures were incorrect or wrong; and incidentally to check the growth in the intervening years. He sent back our figures corrected and we found that they had grown at a rate of over 10 per cent. per annum. We have nothing at the present moment to indicate that that growth is not being continued. We have a sales engineer appointed at the present moment who is now making (through the agency of the

Industries Department) under the Director of Industries, his Boiler Inspectors and Factory Inspectors, a third complete re-examination of our position. We have not yet got the complete data, but it is coming in every week. Mr. Mcmillan tells me that this re-examination will be completed in about 4 months, and that the growth of 10 per cent. obtained in 1928 is being maintained.

The Honourable Minister will explain to you just now, that in 1928 there were over 22,000 K.Ws. installed. We have over 230 letters from owners of mills offering to take power from us at figures well above the working cost.

Now may I close by comparing some interesting figures that came in to my hands yesterday. This project is the first of its kind to be carried out under the new régime, i.e., as a transferred subject. You, gentlemen, are responsible for it. If you want your committee, have it by all means. Now Sir, I have recently received some data regarding the large Hydro-Electric Project now being built by the Irish Free State on the Shannon river a project of a very similar nature, including the cost of transmission to about 20 small towns. It is surprisingly interesting to see the likeness of that project to this. They have installed 68,000 K.Ws. of plant in three sets. We are installing 48,000 in four sets. Their plant was estimated to cost £5½ million including transmission lines and for the three sets containing 68,000 K.Ws. in all, it works out to £83 per K.W. installed. Our estimate for 48,000 K.Ws. was 4½ crores which works out to £66 per kilowatt installed. I have no exact figures for actual cost of the Irish scheme but it is understood to cost over £6 million. If we assume that it has actually cost £6 million, the actual cost is £95 per K.W. that is Rs. 1,260 whereas our project on our estimates of to-day, that is 5½ crores comes to £86 a K.W., i.e., Rs. 1,140.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Is it 6 million for the three sets ?

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : Yes. It looks as if we are in a better position or at any rate in as good a position as Ireland.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : I would like to know the figures which the honourable member is quoting.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : I will give them to you presently.

Lala Kesho Ram Sekhri : What is the total output at the power house ?

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : At the power house four machines are installed, each of 12,000 K.Ws. We like to have one spare as a stand by in case any one gets out of order. But we are actually producing 86,000 K.Ws.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : How many units and what is the cost per unit ?

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : What does the honourable member mean by unit ?

Lala Kesho Ram Sekhri : I would like to know at what rate per unit is the energy sold to us.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : Killewatts and units are not the same thing.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Three pies is the cost at the power house per unit.

Lala Kesho Ram Sekhri : Is it the cost at the place where you generate ?

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : Speaking, subject to correction, I think it is in the neighbourhood of $3\frac{1}{2}$ pies or 4 pies per unit generated at the power house.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I understood you to say 7·1 pies.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. C. Battye : That is the cost for delivery at the mills.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : I think you are charging 9 or 12 pies for Amritsar.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq [Amritsar City (Muhammadan), Urban] : Sir, most of the honourable members of the House are as much guilty as the Government in passing this scheme. Naturally when it first came before the House, the members took the advice of experts rather than that of laymen. Professor Ruchi Ram, Sahni, the then member for the University wanted to push his scheme through. He is a gentleman who spent all his life in chemistry and he did not know much about electricity. Naturally this House rather believed in the scheme of the experts than in that of Professor Ruchi Ram, Sahni. The professor wanted to push through the Madhopur scheme and abandon the Mandi scheme. We followed the experts' advice. Now, after four years we find that the promise which was held out at that time, namely, that the scheme would be finished in 1930, is not being fulfilled. We are on the eve of 1930, yet we find that we have only constructed about 9,000 feet of the tunnel. One thousand feet from the north, 500 from either side and a couple of hundreds from the other side ; in all it comes to about 8,000. So, Sir, naturally criticisms will be levelled against the scheme which is making us rather uneasy. After all we may have approved the scheme, but later on when we come to know that the scheme is unsound, it is our duty, despite the fact that we approved the scheme, to go into the scheme again. We cannot blame the present Honourable Minister for Agriculture in this case because he was not even a Member of this Council at the time. Really, for what is at this time a legacy to him, we cannot blame him. But the permanent staff of the department which has been in existence even then can be taken to task. Lieutenant Colonel Battye has told us that if an officer is taken over hills and valleys for a long period of time, he cannot really tell the house with any precision and accuracy the actual amount that will be required to be spent on the project. We never asked the officers to go to the hills. They themselves went. For having selected the present site, the responsibility really lies on Colonel Battye, rather than on the Government side. We have been shown certain cinema pictures. We find that really it is a question of great difficulty. Insurmountable difficulties are in our way all the same. If I had been shown the pictures that I saw the other day at the time of the inception of this scheme, I would not have voted for this scheme. They have shown in the pictures the Uhl river and high

mountain ranges over 18,000 feet high. If we had been shown all these things, we would have stopped the scheme then and there. Really the blame lies on the Government for having selected the site and they cannot blame us if we have followed their advice. We were not then taken to the hills to form our own independent judgment. We did not know how much the scheme would cost. Sometime ago, I asked a question as to when the Government expected to complete the Mandi Hydro Electric scheme. The Government answered that they would finish it in 9 months after the time originally fixed. I raised the same question in March last, and the Honourable Minister for Agriculture told me that it would be finished by 1st January 1980. He was very sure about that. I wonder whether he considered the first of January as an auspicious day. Now, I find that the time for the completion of the scheme has further receded to the 1st October, that is a delay of 9 months. Every time a question is asked about this scheme, the date of completion is postponed further and further. Why cannot the Government consider fully the scheme and tell us exactly when they can finish the work? They should not play with the matter. They should go thoroughly into the whole question and tell us. First of all the Honourable Minister, whenever a question was asked about this, went on postponing further and further the date of completion and at the same time, he also went on adding to the cost of the undertaking. Since I last asked the question a sum of 1 crore and 20 lakhs have been added to the cost of the scheme. I was assured definitely that the scheme was to be completed by 1st, April 1980. The present forecast postpones the date of completion to 1st January 1982. The Honourable Minister seems to be so fond of the 1st day of a month and perhaps the present date that he has fixed for the completion of the work is a joke. We are now taken somewhere to October. I do not know whether Colonel Battye also is fond of the first of the month. The Minister has estimated the cost of the scheme, as outlined in the blue book, to be 4 crores and 28 lakhs; today Colonel Battye tells us that the estimate should be put at Rs. 6 crores and something. Colonel Battye before he was delivering his speech gave us to understand that the estimate would cost Rs. 5 crores and 41 lakhs and while delivering his speech, he quietly says Rs. 6 crores. Later on in the blue book it is stated that there are going to be mistakes again and again. Really we do not know our commitments. If we know our commitments, I would say, go ahead since the estimates are liable to be misjudged. The ground does not seem to be sound, there seems to be something rocky, there does not seem to be much water in the river and the estimate might go up to 7 crores. We are asked to pay the money and we are responsible to the public as to how the money is to be spent. We are responsible for the future generations for judiciously spending our money. So, we want a committee to be appointed to go into the whole question. I admit that a committee was appointed last time and the members thereof did not think it necessary to have more than 2 sittings before they came to the conclusion that the scheme was sound. I should like the present committee that is suggested to go thoroughly into the matter so that we should know what our eventual cost is to be. We do not want to criticise the government unnecessarily. We know that in a large scheme of this nature, changes in the estimates are bound to occur. It is impossible even for an expert to give exactly the estimates, but there are certain sentences in the

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speech of Colonel Battye which make me wonder whether the estimates when they were originally prepared were prepared seriously at all. He says; we made estimates and since then we do not know, neither any one in England nor here knows anything about the haulage. We had to go to Switzerland to ascertain the average haulage. What is the use of going to Switzerland? It is just like asking a man to go to a shop offering the inducement that he could purchase a thing for eight annas and when he does go to the shop he is asked to purchase a thing worth Rs. 2, because the thing which was originally offered for eight annas was not worth it. All I can say is, you should not do so in public life. Responsible officers should not underestimate, rather they should overestimate, so that when we actually enter into the thing, we will be able to know our final liability beforehand. It is no use asking us to pay to the tune of 4 crores now. Probably sometime later it will reach 8 crores. Surely the department has no right to give us an underestimate in the first instance. In a scheme of this magnitude, the Government should have known that there are bound to be mistakes. They should not have under-estimated. They should have rather overestimated. If they could not give the right data, they should at least err on the side of overestimating.

Now, Sir, there is the Kangra railway. The Government have not told us exactly what is the contribution that they make to the North-Western railway on account of this Kangra Valley Railway. As I understand it, it is really well over 1 crore and 40 lakhs.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Rs. 3 crores is the latest estimate.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Even if I take as correct what the honourable member said, what is the contribution of government; it comes to 50 or 55 per cent. If it is 50 per cent. we will be committed to the tune of 1 crore and 50 lakhs.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : There was going to be no contribution towards the Kangra Railway, there was going to be a tram from Mukerian to Taleru.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Whom am I to believe? Is it my honourable friend Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan or Colonel Battye?

Mr. A. R. Astbury : If the facts about the Kangra Valley Railway are desired, I can give them to the House.

Mr. President : Does the honourable Mr. Muhammad Sadiq give way?

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Yes, Sir, I would like to have the information.

Mr. A. R. Astbury : In the Uhl River Hydro Electric project, when it was first prepared, there was a proposal to construct a railway on the broad gauge from Mukerian to Talwara and from Talwara a meter gauge railway was to go to Shanan, the metre gauge width being 3 feet, 3 inches approximately.

Lala Kesho Ram Sekhri : You must call it a tramway.

Mr. A. R. Astbury : Call it tramway or a railway it does not matter. We will call the original proposal a tramway. After this project had been considered in March 1925 by this House the Government had conversations with the Railway Department on the transfer of the project for the tramway to that department. The result of the conversations on this proposition was that the Railway Department decided to come to the aid of the Uhl River Hydro-Electric Project and to build a railway themselves providing the whole of capital required. But they decided at the same time not to start the railway at Mukerian, but, to start it from Pathankot and to build on a gauge of 2 feet 6 inches. That railway has been built by the North-Western Railway and it has been built entirely from capital provided by the Government of India and the agreement which the Punjab Government made with the Railway Department was that the Punjab Government would guarantee the earnings of that railway for a period limited to 13 years and for an amount limited to 4 lakhs per year. It was also arranged that the accounts of each year should be kept entirely separate so that the losses of one year would not be carried forward to the following year. That arrangement was considered by this Government to be so favourable that it was accepted and the railway, as everybody in this House knows, has been completed. That is the position about the Kangra Valley Railway. So far as the Uhl River Hydro-Electric scheme is concerned, the original project states that the tramway was estimated to cost 1,13 lakhs. Of that a certain amount was to be repaid by the North-Western Railway on account of the broad gauge section which I have mentioned from Mukerian to Talwara. That reduces the estimate to 98 lakhs. It was considered that it would not be fair to charge the whole of the 98 lakhs to this Mandi scheme because the railway would serve not only the interests of the Mandi scheme but also the interests of the public of the province. It was decided therefore that 35 lakhs out of that 98 lakhs would be properly debitable in virtue of the services which it would render to the Mandi scheme alone and the remaining 63 lakhs must be debited to the public railway. That, Sir, is the position.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Then, Sir, we have been told by the Minister for Agriculture to-day that only Rs. 1,40 lakhs have been spent. This is not given in the blue book. Such an important item ought to have been given there. When you are examining the whole scheme it is, I think, only right for Government to give the entire cost of it, but they have not given that item. Anyhow, I do not know whether I am right or wrong, I find on page 18 of the blue book that in 1924-25 Rs. 78 lakhs were spent ; in 1925-26, 3.29 lakhs ; in 1926-27, 24.77 lakhs ; in 1927-28, 68.07 lakhs and in 1928-29, 1,04.87 lakhs. That makes a grand total of 2,01.28 lakhs. If these items are right, that is the total upto date. (A voice : Column 1 is yearly commitments and the expenditure is in column 2). May I know that in 1928-29 you did not spend 1,04.87 lakhs ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : That is the total of all the years.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Now, Sir, we have gone to the extent of 1,04.87. So really even now if we find that this scheme is going to cost us so much, and that the return will not be sufficient for the outlay, it is time that we stopped the whole scheme. It is much better to consider one crore as lost than to go on with the scheme and not be able to sell the energy

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at an economic rate. For this reason my friend from Sialkot has asked Government to appoint a committee to consider the maximum period, the ultimate cost and the possibility of reduction in expenditure. We will have to see that the department is not overspending and the Honourable Minister is not sweet with the department in allowing useless expenses. In the case of an expert the Ministry is just like wax, and we want to put a check on the Minister so that he is not lax in the management of affairs. This is not meant to be a vote of censure, but if it is possible for us to reduce future expenditure on this scheme, we should try to do so.

But there is one question which has not been answered, and I beg to draw particular attention of the Honourable Minister to it. That is the means for utilisation of electric energy generated to the fullest possible extent and to the best advantage of the public and the State. This is a question for the Secretary of the Transferred Departments to answer. I find that there is no cohesion between the two departments. It is in his power to give licences to electric supply companies (*A voice: No*). Then I am wrong. Who is in charge of the department? (*A voice Honourable Member, Revenue*). There must be some Revenue Secretary also who does the work.

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang: But Honourable Member, Revenue, is not a figurehead.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq: No, he is not, but some of the work has to be done by the Secretary. Honourable Member, Revenue, is not here to answer my question. (*A voice: The Secretary is here.*) Now, Sir, since this scheme was sanctioned, I find that half a dozen municipalities have asked for licences to be given to them for supplying electric power. You are going to spend as much as 7 crores which will go out of the pocket of the poor labourer and orphans and widows. Are you going to give the benefit to the big capitalists? It is the duty of Government that when they are giving licences to put in a clause in that licence that they will not charge the public more than 2 or 3 annas per unit. If you spend 7 crores or 8 crores as I am sure it will go up to 8, and then you give this electric energy at 4 or 5 pies per unit to municipalities which in turn sells it for 6 or 7 annas per unit where is the benefit to the poor? The Lahore Electric Supply Co. has been given a licence for supplying energy in Lahore. The same company has got a licence to supply energy to Amritsar. Mr. Harkishen Lal's company get the benefit, not the poor. It is not meant to benefit the poor but only the capitalists. Is it right to start a thing of this magnitude without making arrangements that the benefit should go to the public and not to the capitalists? Government should put in a clause by which they can enforce a lower rate if they want to. If the public is to be given energy at 6 annas per unit the whole Mandi scheme might as well be stopped. Why should the people pay so much interest from their pocket when they get no benefit out of the scheme? The whole scheme is a bosh if the profit does not go to the poor. It is useless, for it is only meant to benefit the capitalists. Of course, I may be included in that class, Sir, but anyhow the thing is there. If Government want to make the scheme a success, it must ask the Govern-

ment of India to amend the Electricity Act authorising the local Government to reduce the rates. Otherwise we will not be justified in pushing the scheme, if the poor have to pay a high rate as they are paying to-day.

The scheme was brought forward in 1924 and the public will be able to say that in 1929 there were criticisms. We can tell our critics then that we wanted the scheme to be reconsidered and we wanted that the whole thing should be looked into and so we proposed the appointment of an expert committee for that purpose. It does not matter if the scheme is delayed by two or three months by the appointment of this committee. There may be delay caused by snowfall or lack of water, or something else might happen. There may be landslips or earthquakes and there may be ever so many other things which will cause a further delay and who knows that the scheme will be ready in 1932 or may be even in 1942? So if we add three or four months to the five years that the scheme is expected to take, what harm will be done? But we must have a committee even if it delays the scheme by a few months. Government should not discourage us. They should come forward in the same spirit as did the Honourable Minister for Education yesterday when he accepted a committee. Do not tell us about the extra cost involved. The public wants the committee to examine the whole scheme, and I ask Government to accept the resolution.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang [North-West Towns (Non-Muhammadian), urban] : Sir, five years ago when a similar question was before this House in my speech on the subject I submitted with great humility as follows :—

"I am not suggesting that the benefit of the doubt should be given either to this scheme or to that. In fact my suggestion is that all doubts should be removed, or at least reduced to a minimum. The only way of reducing the doubts to a minimum is to have a committee composed of officials and non-officials, both experts, and to thresh out the whole question once more before the province is committed to an expenditure of 12 crores. Our successors in this place might consider us most unpatriotic if, without any protest and without fighting for another opportunity for the reconsideration of this scheme, we agree to give away 12 crores of the money of this province. Certainly it is our duty and it is the duty of every member of this House to see that the matter is thoroughly threshed out before any rash step is taken which would commit us to the enormous expenditure of 12 crores."

I have to say with great regret that my fears have unfortunately been realised. At that time there were two schemes for consideration before this House, one was, as you know, Sir, the Madhopur scheme and the other this Mandi scheme, and it is a strange irony of fate that Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh who was then backing up the Madhopur scheme should now be placed in a position to support and defend the rival scheme. I wish my honourable friend Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram was now in the pillory so that we would have been able to chastise him for having committed this province to this enormous and ruinous expenditure. Now under the name of Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan he in fact is party to this resolution, so that the present Minister might be made to bear the brunt of what he himself had brought upon the province. It is really, as I have submitted, a great irony of fate that the antagonist of this scheme should be forced to turn into a protagonist of this scheme. My heart goes out in sympathy to poor Sardar Jogendra Singh who has been placed in this position.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : Why poor ?

Mr. Din Muhammad : The Rai Sahib is ready to take that place.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I know his anxiety to take that place but not to take the responsibilities of that place and not to be able to discharge the responsibilities of that place. Anybody can take that place but the question is whether everybody is fit to discharge the responsibilities of that place. He is quite welcome ; I shall take him by the hand and put him there, but as I told him yesterday it is for him to keep his seat there.

Apart from this interruption, Sir, I would submit that at that time all the difficulties of this scheme were pointed out, so far as expert opinion is concerned as was published broadcast, by some of the leading Indian engineers, assisted by some of the most leading European engineers like Mr. Soi and Mr. Sykes whose names must be very well known amongst the engineering circles. And so far as the laymen who sat in this Council were concerned they did all within their power to warn the Government against launching this province upon this ruinous scheme. But you will see on a reference to the debates of those days that Colonel Battye got up and tried his best to allay all fears and to set at rest all doubts. He was very eloquent and categorically he made many points beginning from 1 to 7 and then discussed every one of them at fair length. He said,

"All the information and data we gave to the consulting engineers in London. Three big cases of data, calculation, drawings and charts were taken home to London and were examined by the consulting engineers for three months."

Then again he said,

"It is no small responsibility to recommend a province to adopt a project costing five crores of rupees—"

now unfortunately 8 crores,

"and when we saw that it would be necessary to have our project examined by independent parties we welcomed the decision. We felt that we should be able to sleep more happily in our beds after such examination."

I do not know whether he is now sleeping as happily in his bed as he then anticipated. I am afraid not.

"At the same time it made us mighty careful about what we were doing. Any engineer who has any reputation to lose or to make is not going to take any risk of having his project pulled to pieces."

I do not know whether that reputation has been preserved or if it had yet to be made whether that reputation has been made.

"We were therefore extremely careful so as to pitch our rates so as to be above criticism and not to omit any item of importance."

Mark these words. Now there are hundreds of items which could not be anticipated. Colonel Battye is now pleased to tell us that his expert engineers in London and Switzerland told him that people were asking an impossibility of the engineers when they ask them to make an estimate, even an approximate estimate of the cost of this scheme. Then either adequate care was not taken at that time or perhaps this was only a bit of rhetoric indulged in this House to pacify the people who were criticising that scheme.

"When we understood that the project was going to be examined we specially recommended that at any rate on the financial side, it should be examined preferably by non-officials with business experience in the sale of power to markets in India similar to those with which we are likely to deal."

And who are those non-officials? Some non-officials were placed on the committee to examine the *pros and cons* of this scheme. These were Sir Gopal Das Bhandari, alas no more amongst us, an astute lawyer, a good man of business, but probably an ignoramus so far as things electric are concerned. Then, Sir, Sayad Mehdi Shah, he also is no more amongst us, a very good man of business so far as contracts for supply and transport were concerned, but perhaps not an expert in matters electric. Then, there was happily he is amongst us now, though he is probably outside—Lieutenant Sikandar Hyat Khan (Captain Sardar Sikandar Hayat Khan: I am here, Sir), a gallant officer of the reserve army, now Captain, but I would not be doing him injustice, if I say that probably he did not take a science tripos either at Cambridge or at any other university in Europe or America. Then there was Sardar Randhir Singh. Unfortunately I know very little about his scientific attainments, but he may be relied upon to know more about agriculture than of things electric, or of anything about engineering. These were the gentlemen amongst some others whose assistance was taken and who were consulted by Rai Sahib Chhotu Ram in order to launch this province on this stupendous scheme. Later on Colonel Battye mentioned a number of persons who had been consulted with respect to this matter. I wish that those gentlemen were now present and were here to render an account of themselves as to how they encouraged the launching of this scheme.

Then, an argument which Colonel Battye then advanced, and this is a remarkable thing, because even now some emphasis has been laid upon it, was the question of delay.

"We have recently obtained information to the effect that over 4,000 horse-power of oil engines has been sold in Lahore for use in this part of the Punjab during the last eight months. The value of these is about six lakhs. If sanction to this project is delayed another six months the completion will also be delayed six months—during that time it is possible that another 3,000 horse-power may have to be installed at a cost of four lakhs to the community so that the actual cost to the community of six months' delay will not only be 1½ lakhs of the public money, but 4½ lakhs in all."

I won't quote the trite saying 'penny wise and pound foolish,' but certainly it approaches that saying very nearly. What is the delay now that is anticipated? Probably in October in the year of grace 1932, if this blue book is to be believed and if it is not again too optimistic an estimate, we may hope to see some ray of light that this expenditure may begin to bring some return. This is the present estimate, and I have no doubt that this is not the final estimate. Then Colonel Battye further to satisfy us said, however,

"We are concerned, however, not merely to prove that the Mandi Scheme is a sound one but also to show that it is the best obtainable."

Now, I am a layman and I would not like to tread on ground which is not familiar to me, but surely there is a volume of public opinion outside the official circles which condemns this scheme wholeheartedly, and even now as you have seen, articles are being published in newspapers and otherwise also criticism is being hurled against the scheme and some people have gone so far as to compare it with the notorious Bombay Back Bay scandal. I hope it is not going to turn out such a big scandal as the Bombay Back Bay scheme. But unless we pull up in time I shall not be surprised if it

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really turns out another Back Bay scandal in Upper India to match the scandal in the western presidency. (*A voice*: Implication being?) I do not know. The implication, if there is any, must be apparent. I do not impute dishonesty to anybody, if that was what my learned friend wanted to convey. There can be such a thing as error of judgment, and if there has been an error of judgment in this case it has been an extremely serious error of judgment. I am really sorry that a majority of members of this House should have thought it advisable to support the scheme in preference to the Madhopur scheme. But I do not blame them because at that time such gentlemen as the present Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government, Captain Sikandar Hayat Khan and Sir John Maynard, were frightening the very life out of these people. When the question of the Madhopur scheme was under consideration, Professor Ruchi Ram and I discussed it at length as far as we were able to do so. But Sir John Maynard and Mr. Shah Nawaz who then adorned the benches of this House got up and said that by this scheme the agriculturists would be ruined, the Bari Doab Canal would be ruined if this scheme were permitted to be carried out at Madhopur. I even now do not understand how the construction of a power house at Madhopur could have in any way interfered with the supply of water, because the turbines do not drink water, they do not consume water, they are only moved by the water and the water then goes back into the canal and not a drop of it is wasted. Those who have seen electric works at Mahura know that not a drop of water is wasted although a large amount of electric power is generated at Mahura in the Kashmere State. Such were the arguments which were then advanced and the whole Council was hoodwinked into accepting the Mandi scheme. It is really a case of hoodwinking, because the other rival scheme unfortunately was being backed up by Indians. It originated with Indians, it was being backed by Indian capitalists including the Honourable Minister Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh who has now to bear the brunt of our criticism. That was the state of affairs in 1924 if I am not mistaken. Now five years have elapsed. What has been done? At that time I remember Rai Sahib Chhotu Ram opposed and was not prepared to accept the motion for reconsideration on the ground, if I am not mistaken, that some 40,000 rupees had been spent on the survey and preliminary things. He said that there would be a loss of Rs. 40,000 if the scheme were to be given up. Now the loss is not Rs. 40,000 but 1.04 lakhs and who knows it may not be 40 crores when we come to the end of the third stage? Now, with all the grand and glorious pictures then placed before us, what do we find now? (*A voice*: Taj Mahal.) I don't know what Taj Mahal has got to do with this. Perhaps you are referring to the picture. I thought just as Taj Mahal was the sepulchre of love, perhaps this scheme was going to be the sepulchre of the Punjab money and of the Punjab's first gigantic industrial enterprise. Heaven forbid that that should be the grave of the first great enterprise of the Punjab. Now, Sir, what do we find? We found at first that a tramway was necessary to transport certain things from one place to another. Then it developed into a big railway costing 1.18 lakhs of money.

Then the present scheme. The estimates jump up. I do not know the exact figures, I asked for them. Even now it has jumped to 3 crores and what has been done? The.

12 Noon.

Government of India have been involved in it. Of course the Punjab Government is not responsible for the railways and I am not sure if any credit is due to the Punjab Government and the authorities in charge of this scheme, but it is a very good stroke of business that they have done. So far as this is concerned the Government of India has certainly been, I do not know what word to use, but certainly it has been done to the extent of 8 crores and it will not get any return on it. Look at the Kalka-Simla Railway. We are now sitting at Simla. This railway has already been in existence for 30 years or so and what is the return which it has brought to the Government. Speaking subject to correction, I do not think that it has brought even a 1 per cent. of dividends or interest to the Government on the capital outlay. My learned and honourable friend Lala Mohan Lal who is a magnate of Simla and who is supposed to know what he is speaking about, he says that the Kalka-Simla Railway is being run at a loss. The Kangra Valley Railway no doubt looks very beautiful on the cinematograph. It possesses wonderful scenery, wonderful gorges, and wonderful peaks and snow clad tops and hills and ravines and rivers and streams and forests and flowers and no doubt nature has endowed that part of our province lavishly and has enriched it with all the wealth and splendour of natural beauty, but after all what is the Kangra Valley Railway from financial point of view, from an interest earning point of view as compared with the Kalka-Simla Railway. Thousands of people, I think 30,000 people visit Simla and stay more or less permanently for the season in Simla. The real population of Simla in winter is about 15,000 only. Its summer population is about 45,000 people, 30,000 people come here not to speak of those who come and go, many people like us who are birds of passage who come and go away after 2 or 3 days and officers, high placed people, big merchants, pleaders, lawyers, doctors and others of the Punjab Government and the Government of India. They all come here and in spite of that this railway of 58 or 59 miles is not running at a profit. It is giving no dividends or interest. Is this Kangra Valley going to bring any return. It is only likely to be used by sight-seers, a few hundreds of people going to see how dusehra is performed in Kulu or going to pay a visit to a temple a thousand years old in a half ruined or dilapidated condition. (A voice : What about Jawala Mukhi ?). Jawala Mukhi will be fed only by one side not from other sides. People will go there without using this railway. I do not know if Jawala Mukhi itself has been connected with the railway. It stops, I am told, about, 11 to 13 miles from Jawala Mukhi. I, myself had the privilege of paying a visit to Jawala Mukhi. These 11 or 13 miles are among the stiffest. That road is very meandering and winding and it is very difficult to go up by a motor car. Big bullock carts impede your progress almost at every step. It is not going to make this Kangra Valley Railway a paying concern. But as I told that was a very good stroke of business that the Punjab authorities did with the Government of India and the Government of India may be able to afford the waste of 8 crores of rupees or be content with (18 into 4) 52 lakhs which the Punjab Government is going to pay in 18 years. After 18 years the Punjab Government has no liability and I congratulate the Punjab Government so far as this part of the business is concerned. Let the Government of India supply the Railway and suffer the losses. I wish they could have also done some similar stroke of business with the suppliers of machinery in America and England. If they

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had purchased the machinery on the condition that they would pay the price only if it becomes a success I would have supported the scheme with all my might and main because then the province would not have been exposed to the loss of crores which is now coming. Then Sir, with respect to the scheme which has already exceeded the estimates. Colonel Battye stated that no important item has been omitted from the estimate. What do we find? (A voice: Is there any time limit?).

Mr. President : The honourable member has already spoken for more than 25 minutes and as good many members of this House are anxious to speak on the resolution I would request him to finish his speech as soon as possible.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I shall wind up in 3 minutes. I would not go into details. They are patent and published. One thing before I sit down, If only a crore and 4 lakhs has been spent and if a committee is appointed, a committee of experts and of non-officials from this Council and it comes to the conclusion that the scheme is not going to be a success then I would sacrifice what has already been spent, and leave among the other wonders of the Kangra Valley its haulage ways, its ropeways also as new wonders. Let us spend no more money on that but if the committee reports that the scheme is a feasible one then we must go along with it, whether we have taken the wrong or the right step, I personally believe it was a wrong step, still if it can be made a success with an expenditure of 8 or 4 or even 6 or 7 crores, I would go in for that expenditure but in order that these hopes may be confirmed I think the appointment of a committee is necessary and I am sure the Honourable Minister in charge would have no objection to it. I myself sent a resolution to that effect but it was not ballotted. I, therefore support the resolution that has been moved.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram [South-East Rohtak, (Non-Muhammadan), Rural] : Sir, the criticism that has appeared in the press on the progress of work and expenditure on the Hydro-Electric Scheme of Mandi has naturally filled the public mind with considerable alarm. I share that alarm and concern in an especial degree because it was I who was responsible for having this scheme sanctioned by the Council. I sent in a resolution in identical terms and I was very anxious to see that this subject should come up for discussion before this Council so that if any means could be found to effect economies and to prevent any possible waste that may have been occurring it would be in the interests of the province as well as in the interests of the scheme to ascertain those means. The worthy doctor who represents the north-west urban Hindu part of the province has delivered a homily to me. He thinks that the Minister who at present holds office is in a very unhappy and unfortunate position and that he is bearing the brunt of all this criticism for the action that was taken by me in 1925. The criticism, the speech that has been made by the worthy doctor prevents me from making any observations that I thought I would be able to make on the exact merits of this resolution. That speech really compels me to defend the action that I took in 1925 and to contend that the hostile criticism that appears in the press at present is not really due to the action that I took in 1925. In

fact the results that are apparent to the public at present may be due to mismanagement or lack of vigilance on the part of the Minister who has held this office for the last four years (Cries of No No). He has probably slept too long over the state of things which ought to have been watched with care and vigilance from the very beginning. He has let things drift and it is only the tabling of this resolution that has induced him to act. Of course it is just possible that in spite of all the vigilance of which he was capable the same results might have followed. I do not deny this possibility. But it is equally possible that the present results are due to mismanagement on his part.

Now I will state to the House the steps which I had taken, the care and consideration which I had given to the scheme before placing that scheme before the Council. I will just read a couple of extracts from the speech which I made in December 1925 on a resolution moved by Professor Ruchi Ram. From these extracts it will be apparent to the House that I had taken all possible care that a layman could take.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : That is precious little.

Mr. E. Maya Das : On a point of order, Sir, I beg to ask if these remarks are relevant to the resolution.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : In order to convince the House that the Mandi scheme was thoroughly scrutinized by a number of committees, I will just enumerate the examinations which this scheme had undergone :—

- “ 1. It was examined by the Geological Department.
2. It was twice examined by the Meteorological Department.
3. It was examined by a committee of hydraulic and civil engineers.
4. The Kangra Valley tramway project in connection with the scheme was also examined by another committee of expert engineers.
5. The revenue and financial aspects of the scheme were examined by the Managing Director of the Cawnpore Electric Supply Company, the Chief Electric Engineer of the Mysore Durbar and the Director of Industries, Punjab.
6. The scheme as a whole was examined by Messrs. Marz and McLellan of England.
7. And then jointly by the firm of Sir Alexander Gibbie and Partners.
8. It was also examined on many occasions by our Finance Department.
9. It was then examined by a representative Committee of this House to which I have already alluded.
10. It was again examined by a committee of experts to which I referred just now.
- 11 and 12. It was only after the report of these committees and after this House had voted money for the Mandi scheme that I had this scheme examined over again on two points, on the question of discharges and on the question of dam.”

Now a layman cannot be expected to over-ride the conclusions, that have been arrived at by expert officers, on matters on which he really

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possesses no knowledge and on which these experts, departmental officers and outsiders, may be expected to have effective knowledge; of these, at least the outsiders may be expected to bring to bear on the question an unbiased mind. Thus I was justified in accepting the advice of departmental experts confirmed as the advice was by outside independent expert opinion.

Now, Sir, the worthy Doctor has ridiculed the appointment of another committee which he told the House consisted only of lay members of this House.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I never said so. I never used the word 'only.'

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : He never mentioned the names of those associated with the committee who had any technical knowledge of the subject and that more than gave the impression to the House that the committee really consisted only of laymen. I would draw the attention of the Council to the composition of that committee, as stated in my speech from which I read the following extract:—

"In the first quarter of this year, I appointed a committee, a very representative committee of this House, drawing members from every section of this House and had the question discussed by them. As all the members were laymen they made over the consideration of these two schemes to a committee of experts. That committee of experts consisted of Sir Frederic Gebbie, the Consulting Engineer with the Government of India, a representative of a Norwegian firm of Electrical Engineers to whom the Subera syndicate proposed to give their custom and who was a foreigner, and the third, Captain Whittaker, the Principal of the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering College, Mughalpura."

It was on the report of these three eminent experts that the committee of laymen drawn from this House advised the Government that the scheme should be proceeded with at once without any delay. Now, I beg to submit that the precautions that I, as Minister at that time, had taken ought to be regarded as quite sufficient. It is very difficult even for expert officers to foresee the difficulties that might crop up. It would have been impossible for any layman to have foreseen the difficulties which have now resulted in excesses on certain items.

Mr. President : The honourable member has only five minutes more.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : The worthy Doctor has also made a reference to the merits of the Subera scheme. [In answer to an interruption, Diwan Bahadur Raja Narendra Nath was on that committee and that represents the section of the Council to which the worthy Doctor himself belongs.] Now, I was saying, Sir, that a Minister when he is once armed with the advice of so many technical officers of committees consisting of experts, and of representative laymen in the Council, it is his business to proceed with the scheme and, therefore, no fault attaches to me for the excesses that have subsequently occurred in its execution. I could not possibly have foreseen the difficulties which were not foreseen even by expert officers. Dr. Gokul Chand Narang was an advocate of the Subera scheme and even now he is harping on the merits of that scheme and as that scheme had produced a prejudice in his mind against the Mandi scheme, I did not attach any very great importance then to the criticism that had proceeded from the quarters which were interested in the Subera scheme. For the same reason, I discount the criticism that has been levelled now by my

worthy friend against the action that I took in 1925. He is still biased in favour of that scheme, as is apparent from his over-zealous advocacy even now in spite of the fact that it was absolutely irrelevant to bring in the Subera scheme at all. The merits of the Subera scheme were not under discussion now. The only thing under discussion was whether it would be advisable to appoint a committee which would go into the various aspects of the Mandi scheme and which would suggest any measures by which economies could be secured.

Having finished with this, if you just allow me two minutes more, Sir, I would draw the attention of the House to two or three factors which cause real concern and misgiving as to the results which are likely to be achieved by the Mandi scheme. The estimate of revenue in 1925 was 14 lakhs, a surplus of 14 lakhs after the working expenses had been met. That estimate is now cut down to 11 lakhs, and if you allow the rate of interest to be raised to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., this safety margin will further drop to 9.6 lakhs. If you raise the rate of interest to $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., this margin will further go down to 6.8 lakhs. Even this margin is based on two or three assumptions which may or may not turn out to be correct. One assumption is that the amount of energy available for sale would be 88,000 K. Ws. The first page of this blue book says that the energy generated will not amount to anything more than 86,000 K. Ws. That is one factor of uncertainty. Then, there would certainly be certain losses in the course of transmission. So the quantity available for sale will certainly be less than the amount generated. The estimates given on page 15 of the blue book are based on the sale of 88,000 K. Ws. Then there is another factor of uncertainty which is that of the rate of interest. The rate of interest may at any time go up to a higher figure than $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. and in that event the safety margin will be lowered still further. Account does not seem to have been taken in arriving at this conclusion of the guarantee money that is to be paid to the Government of India on account of the Kangra Valley Railway, that is about Rs. 88,000 a year. When we take all these factors, the uncertainty of rate of interest, the losses that may occur in transmission, the actual amount of energy available for sale and the amount of guarantee, the margin of safety may either entirely disappear or may be reduced to a very low figure.

Mr. A. R. Astbury [Secretary to Government (Electricity)]: I wish to make it perfectly clear that I am not speaking as the Chief Engineer of the Buildings and Roads Branch, but as Secretary to Government for Electricity. I do this, because I do not want anybody in this House to think that Government placed one Chief Engineer over another Chief Engineer. The fact that I am Chief Engineer of the Buildings and Roads Branch is purely accidental. The reason why a Secretary has been appointed for electricity is because electricity has a dual aspect. It is both a reserved subject and a transferred subject. On its reserved side, it comes under the Honourable Revenue Member and it does so because electricity is a thing which is easy to make and dangerous to use, and the public have to be protected in its use and they have to be protected from charges by licensees which are out of proportion to the cost of production. Therefore, Government has to look at electricity from two points of view. For that reason it is necessary to have in one person a Secretary who deals with both sides. On

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the 12th and 18th March 1925, when the Mandi Scheme was debated, I think a very unfortunate thing happened and that was that instead of discussing what really was the subject at issue, that is to say, the merits of the Mandi scheme, what was discussed really was a comparative issue, whether the Mandi or the Madhopur scheme was to be undertaken. I think that was a most unfortunate thing. But it was not the Government's choice that the discussion took that form. The motion then before the House was a cut of one rupee in the demand for the Mandi scheme and it was never meant that the debate should degenerate into a discussion on the comparative merits of the two schemes. Another unfortunate thing was this. I think some honourable members were influenced in their views by the fear that the Madhopur scheme would effect their interests from the irrigational point of view. That was another side issue which tended to dim their outlook as critics of the Mandi scheme at the time. So much has been said showing that the Government took all possible steps to examine whether the scheme was a good one or not that I think it is unnecessary to say anything further on this point. I should like however to say one or two words as to the steps the Government have since taken, during the execution stage, to see that the money which has been granted has been properly spent. Various methods were open to Government to carry out this scheme. They could have employed Consulting Engineers who would have carried out this scheme on their behalf and taken all the responsibility for the placing of contracts. That was one method. Another method would have been to have employed a single large contractor as the Irish Free State Government has done in the execution of their Shannon scheme. The third method is the method which has been actually adopted, that is the departmental method. It is unnecessary for me to go perhaps into the exact reasons why Government chose this particular method. But I may say that the whole field was most carefully covered, all the possible methods of execution were most carefully considered and the ultimate decision was, after careful consideration, to adopt the departmental method. Now as to the measures of control. The project has been arranged under a number of what are called sub-heads. Each of these sub-heads may be regarded as a separate independent work for the purpose of the project estimate. Now, each of these sub-heads is sanctioned separately by Government; and when any excess takes place or is even probable on any one of these sub-heads, it has to be reported to Government. The honourable mover of the resolution wondered why in the Honourable Minister's statement a particular item of the excesses that had occurred had been chosen. I gathered that the suggestion was that it was rather a poor debating point to choose an item which showed so conclusively how excesses had occurred. Well, Sir, this statement was not intended to be a debating point. This statement is intended to show to this Council as clearly and as honestly as it is possible to do the present state of affairs and that particular item was chosen because it happens to be the first item in the project and because in itself it is in a small way a complete hydro-electric scheme and so it was chosen as affording a most complete information which the Honourable Minister could give to this house. Among other measures taken by Government in order to ensure that the expenditure should be wise, I may mention

the purchase of stores. It would have been much easier for the Chief Engineer, if the Government had given him a free hand to purchase stores as and when he liked in any market. But Government chose to limit purchase in India through the Chief Controller of Stores, in England through the Director-General of Stores and has gone to the expense of providing the Director-General of Stores with the best advice in the form of Consulting Engineers that London could provide, so that the stores ordered for this scheme might be of the very best quality and of the very best design. On the accounts side, in order that the accounts might be kept clearly and promptly, a special system of audit known as the pre-audit system which was in force in the capital works of Delhi was introduced from the start and a special officer has been entertained who is posted at the very spot at Shanan where the power house is to be situated and he lives there to control and examine the accounts as the expense is incurred. By that means Government hopes to obtain the fullest information in the promptest fashion regarding the progress of expenditure. The work had hardly been started before Sir Alexander Gibb happened to be in India and in March 1926, at the request of Government, he went over the ground and gave us advice after seeing what had been done up to that time. That was also a step which the Government took in order to ensure that the works were being carried out in the best fashion. Advice has since been taken from Mr. Brown on the question of telephone because the House must know that this scheme includes a telephone service of its own in order to control the working of the transmission system. The advice of Herr Grunner of Switzerland has been taken on the question of the lining of the tunnel, and the advice of Mr. Blacker, Principal of the Government School of Engineering, Rasul, has been taken on the question of concrete. I just mention these matters to show what has been done during the progress of the work. The honourable member representing Amritsar spoke on the subject of the Electricity Act standing in the way of carrying electricity to licensed areas.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : I did not say that.

Mr. A. R. Astbury : Perhaps I misunderstood the honourable member.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : You did.

Mr. A. R. Astbury : I should like to explain that there are many areas in the Punjab which are covered by this scheme in which no licensees exist. Of course it is quite open to Government to carry this current to those unlicensed areas. As regards licensed areas the position as the Government is well aware is extremely difficult because the Electricity Act lays down that once licenses have been granted.....

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : My question was why did you grant licenses when you knew that this scheme was shortly coming into operation ?

Mr. A. R. Astbury : The honourable member is asking why licenses were granted after the scheme was started. Of course, you cannot expect that we should hold up licenses before we knew that the scheme would be started.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Licences were granted after the scheme was started.

Mr. A. R. Astbury : Licences having been once granted under the Act, it is impossible to alter that licence without the consent of the licensee.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : Why did you grant the licence after the scheme was started with a clause inserted therein that if they took current from the Mandi Scheme, they would be charged reduced rates ?

Mr. A. R. Astbury : It is very difficult to discuss one particular licence because vested interests are concerned. I do not know which particular licence Government has granted since the Mandi scheme was started. But if it lies within the area of the Mandi Scheme, I am sure it will be found that a clause has been inserted in the licence that Mandi current will be taken when available. The legal position is undoubtedly difficult and whatever is done will have necessarily to be within the provisions of the Electricity Act. The present occasion, is not perhaps one on which to discuss how that Act could be altered and improved so that Government can force licensees to take current at our own rates. It is a very difficult question but the way it has been solved in England is that authority has been given to Government to buy out the whole of the property of the licensee and I have no doubt that a solution can be found which would be thought best to the circumstances in the Punjab. That is to say the Government might buy the property at a valuation fixed by arbitrators and Government would have to be prepared to take over, if necessary, the obligations of the licensee if the licensee proved to be unwilling to continue the supply.

The Honourable Doctor Gokul Chand, Narang in referring to the Kangra Valley Railway said that we could not expect anything from the point of view of Jwalamukhi. On a point of information, I may inform the honourable member that the Railway Department have on their own initiative surveyed the land from Trippal to Nadaun which is the branch line intended to serve Jwalamukhi and they intend, if the line is built, to build it at the own expense. The Punjab Government is of course indirectly interested in the main line and the branch line when constructed may be expected to bring a great deal of traffic to the Kangra Valley Railway.

Mr. V. F. Gray (Punjab Chamber of Commerce, Trades Association Commerce) : I begin by thanking the honourable mover for allowing us this discussion to-day. I personally have no great objection to the Committee which the honourable mover suggests provided that no delay takes place in proceeding with the scheme owing to the appointment of this Committee. We do not want the scheme to be slowed down in any possible way, the actual cost of this committee, added to the vast cost of the scheme, will be neither here nor there, but the cost of any delay would be immense. Our estimates have already mounted up considerably chiefly on account of delays and any further delay is merely going to add to the cost. It seems to me that you are believing far too much in the powers of this committee. In what way will the committee be able to give you any assurance that to-day's estimates will not be exceeded any more than your own experts ? The major reason of delay depends on boring the tunnel at a slower rate than estimated, this speed depends on the kind of rock found in the hill as boring proceeds. All the committees in the world will not give you that information. Then what will the committee say ? Is it to say : 'Go ahead at all costs,' or is it to say, 'abandon the scheme.' ? Assuming that it considers the cost will be rather great, can you abandon the scheme at this stage ? You have already spent 141 lakhs, you have committed yourself to the

extent of another 60 lakhs or so ; so we are committed now to an expenditure of about 2 crores. Are you going to saddle the Punjab with the loss of 2 crores and give them absolutely nothing in return ? Looking at it from the most pessimistic point of view, and assuming that the Punjab must have an amount of 2 crores debited to it, on account of, shall we say, excess of zeal, in wanting such a project, would it not be better to immediately face that loss of 2 crores and to deduct that from the present estimates ? We are told by Colonel Battye that we can now very nearly rely on a total cost of 6 crores. Well, assuming his calculations are still on the low side, he cannot have erred so far that 8 crores will be exceeded. If you abandon the scheme altogether you are going definitely to lose 2 crores. Why not sink the idea of a loss of 2 crores in your mind and we will calculate on the final cost of 6 crores. Six crores is going to give you electricity at the Mills at $7\frac{1}{2}$ pies per unit as cost price. That is calculating at an average of $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on your money, but surely $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is rather a big estimate to expect to have to pay for that money indefinitely. You may to-day have to pay $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for it but surely within a few years the money market will be sufficiently easy so that you can pay off that loan and re-borrow again at a very much lower figure so that we will not be saddled with $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. advanced for the rest of time. Interest must go lower. I think it is unfair that this resolution should attempt to compare the scheme with the Madhopur Scheme. After all we have only got the question before us of one estimate being exceeded and nobody is going to suggest that the estimate for Madhopur would not also have been exceeded. I cannot imagine anybody in this House ever expecting the original estimate to be kept strictly to. I have never yet known an estimate of a big scheme like this that has not been exceeded. The excesses are not yet much greater than expected and really calculated for after taking everything into consideration this scheme will give us electricity in the Punjab at 8 or 9 pies a unit. Do you realise what advantage that will be to the Industrial Punjab. Look at the vast savings on no longer having to get power from other places. At the present moment we send lakhs and lakhs of our money to Calcutta and Bengal to buy coal. We use our Railway trucks in getting coal from Bengal for our industries in the Punjab and we all know at present our industries are handicapped by lack of power. If you have power at your door steps, even if it should cost a little bit more it is far better economically than having to pay Punjab money into Bengal to buy our power. You will be able to utilise your railways and your wagons for more useful purposes than bringing power, when you might have the power at your door steps, it seems to me to be perfectly scandalous to check this scheme in any way even if it costs a little bit more than we originally thought. It brings to my mind the position of Manchester when the Manchester Ship Canal was built. This canal was built at great expense and it proved a big loss. The promoters who built the same could not afford to keep it up, so that it was going to be abandoned when Manchester took it up and it is now added to the Manchester rates because the indirect advantage to Manchester is so great in having this canal that everybody considers it worth while to contribute to some extent to the cost of the canal through the Manchester rates. In a similar way I consider the advantage to the Punjab for electric current at your door steps is so great that it would be worth while

[Mr. V. F. Gray.]

having to pay for it out of the revenues of the province, if necessary, should any deficit or loss in working be eventually found. I personally do not think, however, there will be any deficit. So, I think although I do not definitely object to this committee, I should strongly object to it if in any way it is going to check or hold back the pushing forward of this scheme as quickly as possible (*hear, hear*).

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal [North-East Towns (Non-Muham-madan) Urban] : Sir, I wish to ask a few questions of the Honourable Minister before he replies to this debate. Have I your permission, Sir?

Mr. President : Yes.

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal : If the House will see the speech made on the 13th March 1925 by Colonel Batty, they will find that the income that was estimated at that time by sale of 25,700 kwts. was estimated at 39½ lakhs if the average rate of sale per kilowatt was to be 9½ pies. At that time it was considered that the total number of kilowatts that would be sold would be 25,700, and bring in 39½ lakhs. We were told also that the total number of kilowatts that would be generated would be 36,000. If 25,700 kilowatts out of 36,000 would bring an income of 39½ lakhs and if the balance of 10,300 kilowatts were to be sold at Rs. 150 a kilowatt it would bring an additional sum of Rs. 15,45,000 the total income would have been Rs. 54,95,000 if all current generated were sold.

In the blue book which has been supplied to us now it is said that the total amount of kilowatts that would be generated would be 36,000. In the same book we are told that the number of kilowatts for sale would be 38,000, the reason for this increase of 2,000 kilowatts is not given. Let us see what income would accrue from these figures. If 38,000 kilowatts were sold at Rs. 170 per kilowatt a year and Rs. 136 as estimated by Government they will bring Rs. 60,99,600. If 36,000 kilowatts are sold at these rates the total income would be Rs. 58,27,600. According to the estimate of 1925 the total income would be about 55 lakhs, if 36,000 kilowatts are sold as stated above but if 38,000 kilowatts are sold the income would be about Rs. 58,27,600.

Against this estimated income, the expenditure would be :—

		Rs.
Interest on 6 crores at 5½ per cent. ..	..	34,50,000
Depreciation on machinery, &c. ..	..	12,00,000
Working charges ..	..	12,00,000
Total ..	..	58,50,000

From the perusal of these figures it is clear that the income is uncertain, expenditure sure and there will hardly be any safety margin. The scheme will not pay its own expenses in my opinion and there may be loss. I hope these figures will receive attention of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and he would throw light on them.

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh (Minister for Agriculture) : Sir, with your permission I should like, in the first place, to express my gratitude to the mover of this resolution for the sympathetic way in which he spoke. He realises the magnitude of the scheme, he also realises the difficulties that are before us, and his anxiety is shared by every member of this House that this scheme may be economically carried out, and should become a source of new wealth to the province. With all this I am in entire sympathy.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang, when speaking referred to my interest in the Madhopur Scheme. He was right about it, but I may remind him that when I saw the better scheme of Colonel Batty, I remember having written to the *Pioneer* supporting the Mandi scheme. To-day I am in a position to take the whole responsibility of Mandi scheme and accept the legacy left to me by my friend Chaudhri Chhotu Ram.

I should like the members of this House to look at the scheme from a broad point of view. It is not a characteristic of Punjabis to accept defeat. It is not like us to say from the beginning that our scheme is going to be a failure. This scheme is not going to fail: we are meeting difficulties, we are going to meet more difficulties, and we are going to overcome them and make the Mandi scheme a source of wealth and power and an instrument for the industrial development of the province. It is in this spirit that we can do things. We have no good coal and not much oil; how can we modernise industry without developing power? It is no use criticising the scheme and saying that it is costing too much, that it is taking too much time and therefore the only right thing is to condemn it. It is true that more money is likely to be spent than was originally estimated, but I cannot recall any big scheme here or outside India of the same magnitude which was completed within the estimated cost. If honourable members will look at the estimates they framed before building their own houses or starting factories, they will realise how far their own estimates were exceeded on completion. They will then appreciate the difficulties with which we are at present faced.

One thing more. The honourable mover said that in the sub-head which I described as an example in the statement that I placed before this House, I did not try to justify the view that estimates would not be exceeded. It was no purpose of mine to do this. My purpose was to take this House into the fullest possible confidence and to indicate how it came about that estimates were exceeded, even in a small hydro-electric installation.

Now, Sir, with your permission I will place before the House a few facts indicating the progress that has been made at the works. I am grateful to Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang, for getting me the support of Chaudhri Chhotu Ram who initiated the scheme and who related all the expert advice that was obtained in the beginning of this scheme. I need not repeat what he so forcibly put forward before this House. I noticed, however, that Chaudhri Chhotu Ram became a little critical when he said that, perhaps I had not exercised the same amount of vigilance and the same amount of care which he would have exercised. But as he proceeded he admitted that a layman could not have done very much more, and this he said not only once but twice or thrice and unwittingly answered his own criticism.

[Hon'ble Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

There are two or three points, I think, on which the House would like to be informed. The first point on which a great deal of emphasis has been laid is the time that has been taken already and may be taken in the future. Certainly we are behind our estimate of progress, but if members had taken the trouble to examine how the time has been spent they would have known that it had not been wasted. There may have been an error of judgment in estimating the time, but the facts placed before them show that much of the first year was spent in establishing a new branch of the Punjab Public Works Department. In the first year 1925-26, a little over 2½ lakhs were spent. This figure illustrates the difficulty experienced in gathering together the staff. The question naturally arises, why was not the staff engaged earlier? The explanation is very simple. The staff was not forthcoming in the Punjab. We had to find men who had dealt with such projects as tramways, tunnels and operating machinery, which had not been used in India before. To operate the haulageways and the driving machinery, it was necessary to set up two temporary power stations at Dhelu and Thuji as big as the Simla installation itself generating about 1,100 kilowatts every day. Not only that. On account of the labour trouble in England this plant could not be obtained, and we were delayed for about six months. And when we got the machinery at Pathankot it could not be carried to Shanan, so it had to be dismantled before lorries could take it there. You may say, why did we not anticipate all this and provide sufficient time in our original estimates? The criticism is valid, but one cannot foresee everything. My Engineers did not realise that they would meet with these unexpected difficulties, that labour troubles would delay deliveries of machinery, and that bridges would be partially smashed up and transport from Pathankot to the site would take the time it did. No one could foresee all the delay that occurred in early stages.

Now if you deduct the time necessarily spent in the preparation, getting together the staff and equipment, you will see that the time estimate has not been so much exceeded, and if fortune favours us we may be able to complete the scheme within the time which we have now fixed. We are working in an unknown territory, and it is not possible to be more definite. I am very sorry that Lala Mohan Lal and Captain Sikandar Hyat Khan who were to accompany me to Shanan were unable to do so. Had they seen things for themselves they would have been one with me in holding that it is not possible to fix a precise time limit.

Now regarding the work on the tunnel. Colonel Battye has explained to you how the work is now proceeding. The adit where the junction takes place has been completed, and the work is now going on on the two faces of the tunnel and is progressing slowly on the south as well as the north side. On the south the hill gave way, and it needed a great deal of skill to support the hill and a portal of concrete which has involved many thousand cubic feet of concrete work has been completed. You must see this work to realise it and the engineering skill that was needed to hold up the hill.

Now coming to the question of expenditure, so far as the machinery part of the plant is concerned, it is being purchased through the Director-General of Stores, and we have three firms of Consulting Engineers advising

us, the permanent Consulting Engineers retained by India Office : Messrs. Preece Cardew and Rider, Consulting Engineers, Sir Alexander Kennedy and Donkin. The orders for plant are placed by the India Office. As Colonel Battye has already told you, we expect that the purchase price would be below the price estimated, so far as the machinery part of the plant is concerned.

Regarding the tunnel, we are working on four faces on an average of 8 to 4 feet a day, and our estimates of time are based on actual experience. It is hoped, if the statement of the Geological Surveys comes out to be true, that we will meet a great deal of solid rock in the centre of the tunnel, and it is expected that the progress on the tunnel will be more than doubled, when we reach this hard stratum.

Regarding the cost of making this tunnel, I took the precaution of consulting two or three large contractors, and I took them with me to see the works, but they absolutely refused to take up the contract on the terms which we were prepared to offer them. I then consulted my engineers, as to whether we could not offer a rising scale of rates on the progress made, and if any contractor of good reputation and enterprise comes forward and promises more rapid progress I have no doubt our engineers would be prepared to consider the tender.

Regarding the financial side, the criticism has been, whether we will be able to deliver 88,000 kilowatts for sale. On this point I have no technical knowledge myself, but I can say that we have obtained the best possible expert advice and our estimate of 88,000 kilowatts is based on their advice as supported by our Chief Engineer. (*Lala Keshu Ram, Sekhri* : We were told that there would be a drop of 18 per cent. Then, 88,000 kilowatts cannot be supplied). I think I must explain that there is such a thing as the diversity factor, that is to say, that the maximum amount of power which each consumer takes is not required by all consumers at the same hour and, therefore, a well defined surplus is always available for use.

Another thing that might interest you and which a layman can easily understand is the comparative capital cost per kilowatt installed of a few stations. Our cost per kilowatt installed inclusive of transmission is estimated at Rs. 1,182. In the combined capitalisation of the three Tata hydro-electric schemes it comes to Rs. 825; in the Simla Municipality, in which our learned friend Bai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal is interested, it comes to Rs. 710. When the Mandi scheme is fully developed it is hoped that the capital cost would be reduced to Rs. 416 per kilowatt installed (*A voice* : What will the whole scheme cost ?). It is impossible to say what it will ultimately cost, but its estimates can be given.

Now regarding revenue and rates of supply. The estimated revenue is based on 27,400 kilowatts sold at an average rate of Rs. 170 per kilowatt a year, and 10,600 kilowatts sold at an average rate of Rs. 186 per kilowatt a year. This works out to from 8½ to 12 pies per unit and for specially large consumers at 6 pies per unit. The biggest thermal station in the Punjab at present is Shahdara and at Shahdara the

[Hon'ble Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

generating costs come to $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 pies per unit. When we fixed up our negotiation for Amritsar with Shahdara we could only purchase at 10 pies per unit and our delivery price at Amritsar will be 14 pies per unit. That is an index of what best thermal stations can achieve.

In 1923 it was estimated that the motive power installed in the Punjab was equivalent to 22,516 kilowatts. It has been estimated that there has been an increase since then of from 10 to 12 per cent. a year, and by 1933 it is estimated that it will be in the neighbourhood of 47,000 kilowatts. This matter is being examined by our commercial officer. I also asked the Sub-Committee of the Joint Development Board to enquire into the matter under the chairmanship of Lala Harkishen Lal.

The capital cost of Tata Hydro-Electric Power Supply Company's Scheme is Rs. 584 per kilowatt installed, inclusive of transmission, and they have been able to pay a dividend of 7 per cent. on their ordinary shares after paying operation charges and depreciation. That again gives you a further basis for estimating revenue.

There is one more fact I wish to bring to your notice, and I think this is of the paramount importance. When we are talking of cost of generating electricity we do not take into account the generating cost of small oil and steam engines scattered all over the province. The ginning mills and factories which now use steam and oil engines will make use of our power, and on this point I can speak with absolute confidence. I have made very careful enquiries, and the rates at which steam power can be generated in the Punjab is not less than 2 annas per horse-power-hour. In some places where oil engines are used it comes to 4 annas per horse-power-hour. I have no hesitation in saying that most of the oil and steam engines are not working economically or efficiently. These would all be replaced by electric motors which will consume power at a fixed price and save the high cost of generating power and fluctuations in the price of oil and coal.

In considering the cost of electricity you should compare it with what it costs you to raise power in your own factories by coal or oil. I know factory owners, and there are great many among us here. Mr. Sadiq is one of them, Sardar Ujjal Singh is another, Rai Bahadur Lala Dhanpat Rai is a third and there is Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang. All of them have factories of their own, and they can estimate what it costs to raise power either by steam or oil engines. I can say with some confidence that we would give them cheaper power than what it costs them to-day.

Now as to the recommendation of the mover, I can assure him that I am in entire sympathy with his idea and I shall be very pleased to appoint a committee of experts and associate with them members of this Council to examine the position. (*Hear, hear*).

One word more and I have done. It is this, that this Council never showed more courage and more foresight than in taking up this scheme

which will provide the Punjab with a constant source of power. (*Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang* : Courage is right, but foresight is to be seen). Thousands of men working from sunrise to sunset cannot produce at the same rate as power-driven machinery. It is in the coming of power that the industrial future of the Punjab rests. I can tell you that if we make use of our opportunities—and I hope we Punjabis will not fail in making good use of power—we will then lay firm the foundations of future prosperity of the Punjab, and provide paying employment for thousands who now seek work from door to door. I am not in agreement with Mr. Din Muhammad who speaking yesterday on compulsory primary education talked of electricity being of no benefit to the province. He has his eye only on the law courts. Electricity will transform the Punjab, if we organise our resources, organise our man-power and our industrial production raising our country to the level of the (industrialised) countries of the world. A hundred years ago India was catering for the world market. Then came the steam engine and electricity and we gradually lost our markets. If we wish to modernise our implements of production—and we cannot modernise our implements of production unless we make use of power which is now in-course of being produced—it is of utmost importance to our province to complete this scheme.

Sir, I must not forget to pay my tribute to the engineers who are engaged on this scheme. Mr. Astbury explained to you that he was not speaking to-day as the Chief Engineer of the Buildings and Roads Branch, but as Secretary to Government for Electricity. He has taken up this additional burden for us without any compensation whatsoever. I can assure you that in him you have an officer who is watching our interests with the utmost care. As for Colonel Battye, somebody asked whether he was still passing sleepless nights. Some day the province will recognise what it owes to him for conceiving the scheme. I must not forget to pay my tribute to Mr. Crump for the good work that he has done. I am sorry he is returning to the irrigation branch, but my good wishes go with him. (*Hear, hear*).

(*Some voices* : The question may now be put).

Mr. President : The question is—

“ That the question be now put.”

The motion was carried.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, in view of the statement made by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture that he is willing to appoint a committee as suggested in the resolution, I do not intend to make a speech on the merits of the resolution over again in reply. There is just one minor point on which I have been misunderstood by the Chief Engineer, Buildings and Roads Branch, and also by the Honourable Minister which I might clear up. The Chief Engineer said or rather attributed to me the statement that I had wondered why this particular item No. 1 had been selected as an instance ; and the Honourable Minister attributed to me the statement that I had said that this particular matter which had been selected as an instance did not show that the scheme would be a success. As a matter of

[Ch. Zafrullah Khan.]

fact on both those points I said something altogether different. I did not wonder as to why this item had been selected. All that I said was that it had been selected as an instance of the excess of expenditure or excess of cost over the original estimate and that in my opinion it was not a happy instance to select.

Nor did I say that the item did not show that the scheme would be a success. I submitted that if every item had been examined in that way, although it would have been a very elaborate and a lengthy task, the House would have had an opportunity of judging in regard to each item as to whether the excess which had occurred was or was not justified, as to whether it was due entirely to unforeseen and unforeseeable circumstances or whether it was due to circumstances and factors which should have been foreseen and, therefore, should have been provided against. Apart from that the attitude of the whole of this House as has been exhibited in the course of this debate is that, even on the estimates which are now put forward by Government with regard to the cost and expected return and also with regard to the time which is likely to be spent before the scheme is completed and put into operation, this House would be willing to lend its support to the scheme. All we want is an assurance that these estimates are reasonable and reliable. Only to obtain that assurance we have pressed upon the Government the appointment of a committee of experts and non-official members of this House to go into that question and I am very glad that the Honourable Minister has accepted that suggestion. I only wish to point out to him that when making appointments to this committee he should have all the branches of the resolution before him so that the committee that is appointed is able to deal with all the four matters comprised within the resolution and if necessary he should give the committee power to co-opt and sub-divide into sub-committees for separate branches of the resolution. With these remarks I thank the Honourable Minister for having accepted this resolution.

Mr. President : The resolution moved is—

“This Council recommends to the Government to appoint a committee with a view to making an enquiry into the progress of the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme and submitting a report on the following points:—

- (i) the maximum period within which the scheme is likely to be completed;
- (ii) the ultimate cost involved and the return expected on the capital expenditure;
- (iii) the possibility of reduction in expenditure without affecting the efficiency of the scheme; and
- (iv) the means for utilisation of electric energy generated to the fullest possible extent and to the best advantage of the public and the State.”

The question is that that resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried.

RESOLUTION RE : RESERVATION OF LAND IN THE NILI BAR FOR SALE TO STATUTORY AGRICULTURISTS.

Rana Firez-ud-din Khan [South-East Towns, Muhammadan, Urban] (Urdu): Sir, I beg to move—

“This Council recommends to the Government that one lakh acres of land be reserved in the Nili Bar Colony for sale to the statutory agriculturists on fixed average price to be paid by easy instalments extending over a period of twenty years.”

Sir, considering the importance of my resolution, the time that has been left for its discussion, is too insufficient to deal with it properly. Only ten minutes are left and then the Council will be adjourned. In case the present session does not continue, the fate of my resolution is too clear to need any comment. Of all the different schemes that have been taken up by the Government, in the past, for the development of this province, I think the Sutlej Valley Project was the last. Although for some time it was thought that the Sindh Sagar Project would also be taken up now that scheme has been finally discarded. As there are no new areas left to be colonized, therefore, in granting land in the Nili Bar Colony, the rights of all classes should be properly considered, and each should be given a fair chance to acquire land.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Should the non-agriculturists be also given a fair chance ?

Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan : Yes, why not ?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : But you nowhere make mention of them in your resolution. You recommend the reservation of land only for the notified agriculturists.

Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan : Other land can be reserved for them at some other place. Coming to my point, Sir, I submit that the Government have reserved land for all sorts of people, military men, persons whose lands have been destroyed by water-logging, tenants whose holdings are small, local persons like Janglies, &c., Government servants who rendered meritorious services, and such other public men who helped the Government during times of agitation. But one class has been left out of this category. It is the agriculturist middle class who possess land, but hardly any land produce.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Don't they till land themselves ?

Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan : They do, but still they are poverty stricken, and the Government have left them out unfairly.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Five lakhs acres were reserved for such people.

Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan : Well, Sir, I was speaking to you about the poverty of these people. Sir, they work hard on their lands, but still their efforts bring no fruit, and their land produce is very scanty. The areas in the districts of Jullundur, Hoshiarpur, Ambala, Mianwali, &c., are mostly *barani* and only a small portion is *chahi* but then the water level there is sinking down and they are also becoming dependent on rain which is so scarce and so irregular. The zamindars of these areas are very poor, and unless some palliative measures are adopted, their land produce is bound to go on declining. Apparently they look prosperous, but in reality they are too poor even to keep up the show that society and custom forces upon them.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Nine thousand acres have been granted to such people in both the districts of Hoshiarpur and Jullundur.

Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan : Sir, the population of these two districts is 18 lakhs. Do you think nine thousand acres are sufficient for such a huge population? Generally they are granted half a square per head. Those who have got one square each are very few. (*A voice :* Whom do you include in the middle class?) Those who are neither rich nor very poor.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : But, have they got money to buy land?

Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan : Sir, I have not stood up to beg charity. I only demand what is their right. I want land for them at the average price.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Average price for how many years past?

Mr. President : Will the Honourable the Revenue Member please ask questions through the Chair?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Certainly, Sir.

Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan : Sir, the average price of the last three or four years during which land has been sold by auction in the Nili Bar. But, Sir, I don't mean the average price that has been received in open auction for the land near Mandis, in notified areas, &c. That price is too much and the agriculturist middle class is too poor to pay it. I want that they may be granted land on the average price that agricultural land fetches in villages in general. The only concession that I request for them is that instead of ten years they may be allowed to pay up the price in.....

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, it is incorrect, it is five years.

Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan : No, Sir, it is 10 years. People have purchased land the price of which is to be paid in ten annual instalments and they are paying these instalments. Well, Sir,.....

At this stage the Council adjourned till 9-30 A.M. on Thursday, the 1st of August, 1929.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 1st August 1929.

THE Council met at Barnes Court, Simla, at 9-30 of the clock. Mr. President in the Chair.

OATH OF OFFICE.

The following member was sworn in :—

Colonel C. A. Gill (Official, Nominated).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

FEMALE EDUCATION IN THE ROHTAK DISTRICT.

***2342. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) what advance has been made as regards female education in the Rohtak district since the introduction of reforms ;
- (b) whether the attention of Government has been invited to the fact that the public feels the necessity of a Government High School at Rohtak ;
- (c) if so, what steps Government is taking to start one ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) The information is being collected and will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

(b) Yes.

(c) A Government anglo-vernacular middle school for girls was instituted at Rohtak in 1928.

METALLED ROAD BETWEEN JHAJJAR AND REWARI.

***2343. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the construction of a metalled road between Jhajjar and Rewari has been postponed on account of the proposed construction of a railway line ;
- (b) whether, in case immediate construction of railway line is not possible, Government will take in hand the construction of the metalled road ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The question of taking over the Rohtak Rewari Road has been kept in abeyance pending the investigation of a railway survey in this area.

(b) Not at present as it has not been decided whether this section will be taken up as an arterial road.

TEACHERS AND CLERKS OF GOVERNMENT AND BOARDS SCHOOLS IN THE
AMBALA DIVISION.

***2344. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) the number of teachers and clerks community-wise of Government and Boards Schools in the Ambala Division whose services were dispensed with after the taking over of the charge of the Division by Mr. Wilson;
- (b) out of the posts thus fallen vacant how many were filled in by Hindus and how many by Muhammadans, not taking into account those whose appeals were accepted?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

SANSKRIT TEACHERS IN SCHOOLS IN THE RAWALPINDI AND MULTAN
DIVISIONS.

***2345. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of schools in the Rawalpindi and Multan divisions where there are no Sanskrit teachers;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that there are a very few Hindi books in the libraries of the said schools;
- (c) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to remove these difficulties?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : If the honourable member will indicate the types of school for which he desires such information, I shall try to collect it.

BOARDING HOUSE OF THE GOVERNMENT INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE,
DHARMSALA.

***2346. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the boarding house of the Government Intermediate College, Dharamsala, there is no dining room attached to the kitchen;
- (b) if so, what steps Government intend to take to supply this deficiency?

¹ In the absence of the Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh, his answers were delivered by the Honourable Malik Feroz Khan, Noon.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) There is a separate dining room attached to the hostel kitchen but half of it is being used at present as a common room of the hostel. A number of orthodox Hindu boarders prefer to take their food in the kitchen *chauka*.

(b) Does not arise.

GRANT OF LAND TO KANGRA DISTRICT PEOPLE.

***2347. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) the names of persons in the Kangra district, who have been recommended for grant of squares of land ;
- (b) the services rendered by the persons so recommended ;
- (c) the total number of squares of land recommended for allotment and the actual number of squares of land proposed to be given ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The selection has not yet been made, but every effort will be made to make the very best selection possible.

HALLA FINE ON SHAH NAHR MUKERIAN.

***2348. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that ten per cent. proprietors of the canals caused a notice to be served on the Government for the illegal recovery of *Halla* fine by the Shah Nahr Mukerian Department ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur district, remitted the fine so imposed ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Shah Nahr Department in defiance of the orders of the Deputy Commissioner has ordered the recovery of *Halla* fine ; If so, why ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that some of the proprietors of ten per cent. canals applied for a copy of the Deputy Commissioner's order ; if so, how many applications were received and what are the reasons for not supplying the applicants with copies of the Deputy Commissioner's order ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the Government consulted the Legal Remembrancer on the receipt of the notice mentioned in (a) above ; if so, will the Honourable Member kindly place on the table a copy of the opinion expressed by the Legal Remembrancer on the question of the realisation of the *Halla* fine ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

[Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

(d) One of the proprietors applied for a copy of the Deputy Commissioner's order remitting the *Halla* penalty. As, however, no such orders had been passed, a copy could not be given.

(e) Yes. It is not in public interest to do so.

Chaudhri Ram Singh : Is it a fact that the Deputy Commissioner Mr. Jenkyns, remitted the fine in the case of Chaudhri Ichhar Singh Jandwal and Mian Sher Singh Thadey who had given notice to the Secretary of State?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The information received from the Deputy Commissioner is contained in the answer. If the honourable member is, however, not satisfied he may please specify the exact date and month on which this took place so as to enable the Government to make further enquiries.

Chaudhri Ram Singh : Fifteenth January 1929.

RECLAMATION OF LAND IN THE BHIYAL AREA.

***2349. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Captain H. M. Beynon of Manali *ilaga*, Kulu, has applied to Government for permission to reclaim the land known as Baragarah Bhiyal or Bhiyal, consisting of 108 bighas of land;

(b) whether it is a fact that Bhiyal is the only grazing ground available for the use of neighbouring villages and other nomadic tribes from Lahul, etc., which encamp in this land;

(c) whether it is a fact that the reclamation of land in the Bhiyal area was prohibited some years ago;

(d) if the reply to the above parts be in the affirmative, what action Government intend to take on the request of Captain Beynon?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) Few, if any villagers graze their cattle on this land and as a grazing ground it is only useful for Gaddis and others who pass along the road.

(c) Yes.

(d) The matter is still under consideration.

RESIGNATION OF MR. F. W. KENNAWAY.

***2350. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Chief Secretary please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. F. W. Kennaway, Commissioner, Lahore Division, tendered his resignation from service in the year 1929;

(b) whether it is a fact that it was not accepted and he was allowed to proceed to England on leave preparatory to retirement;

- (c) what were the reasons for not accepting his resignation ;
- (2) whether the Government will please lay on the table a copy of the resignation of the said Commissioner ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : Mr. Kennaway, in May 1929, applied for leave preparatory to retirement, which was granted to him.

JUDICIAL OFFICER, JHANG.

***2351. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the month of April 1929 or so a judicial officer posted at Jhang celebrated his daughter's marriage there and that there were merry-makings, rejoicings, revelries and festivities at the cost of some of the people of the place ;
- (b) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the account of such celebrations published in the *Hindu Herald*, dated 19th April 1929, at page 8, under the heading "Through the Window" ;
- (c) if so, what action Government intends to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

SETTLEMENT PATWARIS IN THE JHANG TAHSIL.

***2352. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) the communitywise number of such settlement patwaris in the Jhang Tahsil as were confirmed by the settlement officer, Jhang, on 14th May 1926, and 31st March 1927 ;
- (b) how many of them were subsequently dismissed from service on the ground that their names had not been enrolled on the register of candidates ;
- (c) how long had such patwaris been in service before they were dismissed ;
- (d) why were their names not entered in the register of candidates when they were confirmed by the settlement officer ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : If the honourable member's object is to draw attention to the communal aspect of the recruitment of patwaris, his attention is invited to the Annual Census of Government servants, issued by Government, as it stood on the 1st January 1929. On referring to page 5 of the statement, the honourable member will find that amongst patwaris of the Revenue Department Muslims are 47.7 per cent., and Hindus as much as 43.2. Again if he will refer to page 4 of the same statement, he will find that in the Irrigation Department, the Muslims are 85.6 and Hindus as much as 51.2.

Lala Bodh Raj : My object was not to draw the attention of the honourable member to the statement that he has given. My object was to draw the attention of the Honourable Member to the fact that there were certain patwaris who had been confirmed by the settlement officer and who

[Lala Bodh Raj.]

were later on dismissed. I want to know the reasons from the Honourable Member for that action.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I am very glad indeed to hear that the object of the honourable member was not communal. The enquiry that he suggests will certainly be made.

Lala Bodh Raj : Was any enquiry referred to in the question made when the notice of the question was given?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member will recognise that the question that he claims not to have any communal colour gives an impartial reader the impression that that was his object.

PATWARIS IN THE JHANG TAHSIL.

*2353. **Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a number of Muhammadan patwari candidates in the Jhang Tahsil who were not agriculturists were taken as agriculturists during the last several years; if so, why;
- (b) whether it is a fact that their names have been now transferred to the list of non-agriculturist candidates and their vacancies thus caused in the list of agriculturist candidates are again being filled up by other Muhammadan candidates;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a majority of such candidates are ineligible as non-agriculturists as they do not fulfil the conditions prescribed for non-agriculturist candidates;
- (d) whether it is a fact that a large number of such candidates as are referred to in (b) above are merely primary pass; if so, why have not their names been struck off the register in compliance with the orders issued by the Financial Commissioners;
- (e) whether it is a fact that the Director of Land Records drew the attention of the local authorities to the letter referred to in part (d) above for its strict compliance?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I am not quite clear as to the question. Is it that the honourable member is anxious to improve the percentage of agriculturists which is at present 54? The percentage of agriculturists amongst Muslims is higher than 75 per cent., but as low as 25 per cent. in the case of Hindus. The attention of the local officers will no doubt be drawn to this by the honourable member's question.

Lala Bodh Raj : What has the Honourable Member to say about the irregularity committed by the officers concerned in taking as agriculturists certain patwari candidates at the time of confirmation who were not as a matter of fact agriculturists and who were merely primary passed?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : That will be corrected and thereby the percentage of agriculturists will go down and will have to be made good later on.

Lala Bodh Raj : Why were the posts allotted to non-agriculturists given to those who were taken as agriculturists, while they were not as a matter of fact agriculturists?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : If what the honourable member contends has happened that certainly ought to be remedied.

TRANSFER OF PATWARIS IN THE JHANG TAHSIL.

***2354. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that there have been frequent transfers of patwaris in the Jhang Tahsil since the year 1927;
- (b) whether it is a fact that such transfers are against the spirit of Standing Order 15, paragraph 25 governing such transfers;
- (c) if so, what are the special reasons for such a deviation from the ordinary practice?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A few transfers were necessitated by the formation of 20 new patwari circles after the settlement.

Lala Bodh Raj : Will the Honourable Member please state the number of such transfers as were necessitated and as a matter of fact effected after the formation of new patwari circles?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I am afraid not.

PATWARIS OF JHANG, SHORKOT AND CHINIOT TAHSILS.

***2355. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state for Jhang, Shorkot and Chiniot Tahsils for the years 1927 and 1928, separately—

- (i) fines recovered from the patwaris;
- (ii) awards made on account of their good work?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A statement is laid on the table.

STATEMENT.

Statement showing fines recovered from and awards made to patwaris in the Jhang district for the year 1927-28.

Name of tahsil.	FINES.		REWARDS.	
	1927.	1928.	1927.	1928.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Jhang	73 8 0	269 4 0	Nā.	Nā.
Chiniot	11 8 0	115 0 0	18 0 0	10 0 0
Shorkot	26 8 0	45 13 0	23 0 0	12 0 0

SUB-INSPECTOR IN-CHARGE OF THE THANA AMBALA CITY.

***2356. Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in Ambala city there has always been for the last ten years a Muhammadan Sub-Inspector-in-charge of the Thana ;
- (b) if so, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for doing so ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) Subject to the concurrence of the District Magistrate the posting of Station House Officers is left to the discretion of the Superintendent of Police.

CANDIDATES FOR THE POST OF EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS AND TAHSILDARS.

***2357. Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal :** Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state :—

- (a) How many candidates for the posts of Extra Assistant Commissioner and Tahsildar have been directly recruited in 1927, 1928, and 1929 ;
- (b) how many of them were Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : A statement containing the information required is laid on the table.

STATEMENT.

Year.	CANDIDATES RECRUITED DIRECT FOR THE POST OF EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER.				CANDIDATES RECRUITED DIRECT FOR TAHSILDAR-SHIP.			
	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Christians.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Christians.
1927 ..	2	6	1	..	1	10	1	..
1928 ..	7	8	3	1	5	1	2	..
1929 ..	2	7	..	..	2	5	2	1
Total ..	11	21	4	1	8	16	5	1

WOMEN TRAFFIC.

***2358. Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state :—

- (a) whether it is a fact that woman traffic is being carried on in several parts of the Punjab ;

- (b) if the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state what steps it intends to take to check it?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) The prosecution of those against whom sufficient evidence is forthcoming.

JUDICIAL PAPER.

***2359. Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) the amount of money realised by the sale of standard petition paper commonly known as judicial paper during the years 1920-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28 ;
- (b) under what law was the price of this paper raised from one pie to two or from Rs. 7-8-0 a ream to Rs. 15 ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the price of the judicial paper in other provinces is Rs. 7-8-0 a ream ;
- (d) if so, what steps Government intend to take to reduce the price of the judicial paper in this province?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Receipts from sale of standard petition paper have been as follows :—

					Rs.
1920-21	..	..	..	..	76,221
1921-22	..	..	..	..	76,898
1922-23	..	..	..	..	1,02,679
1923-24	..	..	..	..	1,09,186
1924-25	..	..	..	..	1,09,777
1925-26	..	..	..	..	1,40,284
1926-27	..	..	..	..	1,18,879
1927-28	..	..	..	..	1,23,059
1928-29	..	..	..	..	1,40,000

(b) There is no law regulating the price to be charged for this paper.

(c) Complete information is not available, but it is believed that in the Provinces of Madras, Bombay, Burma and Central Provinces judicial paper is not sold to the public by the local Government, that in Delhi and North-West Frontier Province the paper is sold at the same rate as in the Punjab, viz., Rs. 15 per ream, and that in Bengal, Assam and Bihar and Orissa the old rate of Rs. 7-8-0 per ream is still in force.

(d) No steps in the direction suggested by the honourable member are under contemplation.

EMOLUMENTS OF KHAZANCHIS IN THE PUNJAB.

***2360. Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (a) whether Government have received a memorial from the Khazanchis of the Punjab for an increase in their emoluments ;

[R. B. Lala Mohan Lal]

- (b) if the reply to the above be in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state what action it has taken on the memorial?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) The honourable member is referred to the reply given to starred question¹ No. 1800.

BEER SHOP, SUDDER BAZAAR, AMBALA CANTONMENT.

***2361. Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (1) whether it is a fact that the beer shop, Sudder Bazaar, Ambala, is situated on the Nicholson Road close by certain high schools for boys and is surrounded by *Ahatas* inhabited by respectable people ;
- (2) whether it is a fact that the Cantonment Board, Ambala, has in two unanimously passed resolutions, requested the Deputy Commissioner to shift the shop to some other locality ;
- (3) if so, what action has been taken on the above recommendations of the Cantonment Board ;
- (4) whether it is a fact that a deputation of the local Hindu Sabha recently waited upon the Deputy Commissioner, Ambala, drawing his attention to the unsuitability of the present locality for a beer shop and urged its immediate change to some out-of-the-way locality ;
- (5) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner refused to change the site of the beer shop ;
- (6) will the Government be pleased to state what the policy of the Government is about locating such shops in respectable localities in cities and towns, why the Ambala Beer shop has not been shifted from its present site in spite of the unanimous protest of the Cantonment Board and the Hindu Sabha ?

***The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (1) This beer shop has been on the Nicholson Road for more than ten years. The high schools for boys are situated in the Grain Market Road at a distance of some 800 yards from the shop, which is surrounded by residences of persons in humble circumstances.

(2) Yes.

(3) The Deputy Commissioner of Ambala made an enquiry but found no reason to remove the shop from its present site.

(4) Yes.

(5) Yes.

(6) The policy of Government is laid down in paragraphs 289 (ii) and 289-A of the Excise Manual, Volume I, but I am going to make further enquiries.

¹ Vol. XII, page 470.

² Vide foot note 1 on page 258 ante.

CONCILIATION BOARD IN THE AMBALA CANTONMENT.

*2362. **Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal** : Will the Honourable Member for Finance be pleased to state—

- (1) whether it is a fact that the local authorities have set up a Conciliation Board in the Ambala Cantonment ;
- (2) what is the constitution of the Board ; In what manner are the Deputy Commissioner, Ambala, and the Commissioner, Ambala, associated with it ;
- (3) whether it is a fact that the members of the Board are nominated by the Deputy Commissioner or the Cantonment Magistrate and that in the past its Honorary Secretary was removed by the Deputy Commissioner, Ambala and a Muhammadan is now working in his place ;
- (4) whether it is a fact that the Hindu Sabha has protested against the constitution of the Board and has withdrawn its members from the Board ;
- (5) will the Government state what action has been taken on the above protest ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (1) About 4 years back Hindus and Muhammadans of Ambala Cantonment formed themselves into a Conciliation Board to cultivate good relations between the two communities and avoid unpleasant incidents at the time of Hindu and Muhammadan festivals. This Board has been working in co-operation with Local Government officials.

(2) The Board includes non-official Hindus and Muhammadans. It has three office bearers, President, Vice-President and Honorary Secretary and about 20 members. The Deputy Commissioner has been nominated by the Board as their Patron. The Commissioner of Ambala Division has no connection with the Board.

(3) The members of the Board are not nominated by the Deputy Commissioner or the Cantonment Magistrate. The former Honorary Secretary was not removed by the Deputy Commissioner. The office of Honorary Secretary is at present held by a Muhammadan.

(4) Government is not aware of the Hindu Sabha withdrawing any members from the Board. A protest was once received by the Extra Assistant Commissioner, Ambala Cantonment.

(5) The letter of protest was forwarded to the President, Conciliation Board, for disposal.

ERECTION OF CHABOOTRAS ON MUNICIPAL LANDS AT RUPAR.

*2363. **Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal** : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that lands belonging to the Municipal Committee, Rupar, are given frequently without any rent to the present Municipal Commissioners and their relatives for erecting chabootra, etc ;

[R. B. Lala Mohan Lal.]

(b) whether it is a fact that each such permission requires the written sanction of the Commissioner, Ambala, under section 48 of the Punjab Municipal Act ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Pandit Ganga Ram, Sharma, obtained permission for erecting a chabootra without rent for ten years ;

(d) whether it is a fact that he applied for the Commissioner's sanction but the Deputy Commissioner, Ambala, was of opinion that this case requires no sanction under section 48 ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The enquiries now made have elicited the fact that the municipal committee has been in the habit of allowing lands to be occupied in this manner free of charge and Government now propose to have the matter thoroughly examined.

(b), (c) and (d). Government are unable to make any further statement until the question has been further examined.

CONVERSION OF THE NOTIFIED AREA COMMITTEE, SHEIKHUPURA, INTO A MUNICIPALITY.

***2364. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang :** (a) Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether he has received any representation from the residents of Sheikhpura in connection with the conversion of the Notified Area Committee of that town into a municipality ?

(b) If so, what action has been taken on the representation ?

(c) If no action has been taken, will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state the reasons which have prevented him from converting the Sheikhpura Notified Area Committee into a municipality ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The matter is still under consideration.

NOMINATION TO THE OFFICE OF EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER.

***2365. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Chief Secretary please state—

(a) the number of candidates communitywise nominated by His Excellency the Governor as Extra Assistant Commissioners during the last five years, as well as the number of such candidates recommended by the Commissioners of Divisions ;

(b) the names of such candidates as have been nominated at the last selection ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) A statement showing the number of candidates by communities nominated for the post of Extra Assistant Commissioner during the last five years is laid on the table. Details with regard to the recommendation of Commissioners cannot be supplied.

(b) It is not the practice of Government to supply names.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CANDIDATES COMMUNITYWISE
NOMINATED FOR THE POST OF EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER,
DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

		Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Christians.
1925	.. ..	4	9	4	3
1926	.. ..	9	8	3	2
1927	.. ..	7	17	7	2
1928	.. ..	9	15	4	2
1929	.. ..	3	9	1	..
Total	.. ..	32	58	19	9

POLITICAL PRISONERS OF OTHER PROVINCES.

***2366. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- the names of those political prisoners who belong to other provinces and are confined in the Punjab jails;
- the names of the jails in which they are confined;
- the offences for which they were sentenced also stating the date and term of the sentences?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The honourable member is referred to the answer to his question No. 894, which is printed at page 879, Volume XII of the Debates of the Punjab Legislative Council.

CORRUPTION IN THE IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT.

***2367. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- whether it is a fact that corruption is on the increase in the Irrigation Department;
- if the reply to the above be in the affirmative, whether Government is devising any measures to check it, and if so, what?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : (a) There is nothing to show that corruption in the Irrigation Branch is on the increase.

(b) Does not arise.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Has the attention of the Honourable Member been drawn to the report of the police corruption enquiry committee and their passing reference to this effect?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Member kindly consider that report and then give an answer?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : With pleasure.

USE OF THE MINTO PARK FOR THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.

***2368. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Commissioner of Lahore Division refused to allow the use of the Minto Park at Lahore for the purpose of holding the next session of the Indian National Congress there;
- (b) what were the reasons for this refusal;
- (c) whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government that a large number of political minded Indians resent this attitude of the Commissioner;
- (d) whether Government intend to take any action in the matter and if so, what?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) The Deputy Commissioner, under instructions from Government, informed certain members of the Congress Committee that Government was not prepared to allot a site in the Minto Park for the next annual meeting of the Congress.

(b) A copy of the instructions issued to the Deputy Commissioner, which were published at the beginning of June, is laid on the table.

(c) Government is aware that those who are interested in making arrangements for the next meeting of the Congress are annoyed at its refusal to permit the use of the Minto Park for this purpose.

(d) No further action on the part of Government at this stage is called for.

Lala Bodh Raj : What were the reasons for refusal?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I have laid the copy of the instructions issued to the Deputy Commissioner on the table.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : But the Honourable Member has not read those instructions to the House so that we may see what it contains.

Mr. President : If the Honourable Member is inclined to read, he may do so.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I shall gladly read it.

Copy of the instructions issued to the Deputy Commissioner, Lahore, published in the beginning of June 1929.

I am desired to request you to inform the members of the Congress Committee who approached you in the matter that Government has considered their request for the allotment of a site in the Minto Park for the next annual meeting of the Congress and for possession to be given from

September next so that they may have time to prepare a pandal, etc. An application of a similar nature has also been received from another political body which estimates that it will have to provide for a gathering of 80 thousand people. After giving careful consideration to these requests, Government has come to the conclusion that it will be unfair to deprive the large number of people, who use the greater portion of the Park for purposes of recreation, of the amenities of the Park, particularly during Christmas holidays, while the remaining corner of the Park adjoins the drinking water supply station of Lahore city and a large gathering on this site would obviously be undesirable in the interests of the public health. You should, however, inform the members of the Congress Committee that if they desire to make enquiries about other sites which may appear possible from considerations of space and sanitary requirements, you would be prepared to discuss alternatives with them.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I know if the other political body withdraws its application, whether the Congress Committee's application will be considered?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : When that position arises, the Government will consider it.

STATE PRISONER IN THE LUDHIANA DISTRICT JAIL.

***2369. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a State prisoner is confined in the Ludhiana District Jail;
- (b) whether it is a fact that even the members of the Jail Standing Committee are not allowed to see him;
- (c) what treatment does he receive in the jail;
- (d) what class of prisoners the non-official visitors cannot see in a jail?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No.

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

(d) In the case of State prisoners the appointment of non-official visitors is made under directions issued by the Government of India. The non-official visitors appointed by the Local Government to visit provincial jails are not empowered to visit State prisoners confined in a provincial jail unless they have been specially appointed for this purpose under those directions.

SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES IN JAILS.

***2370. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the names of the jails where schools have been started;
- (b) the names of the jails where libraries have been provided?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (c) At the Porstal Institution, the Female Jail, Lahore, the Rawalpindi District Jail and the Montgomery Central Jail.

(b) At all District and Central Jails and in practically all Sub-Jails.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

***2371. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received information that an industrial exhibition will be held at Lahore in connection with the next session of the Indian National Congress in December 1929;

(b) if so, what help is Government going to give to make the exhibition a success?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes, but it was only a few days ago that Government received any information about the proposal to hold such an exhibition.

(b) Government has not yet had an opportunity to examine the matter.

SUPPLY OF WRITING MATERIALS TO PRISONERS.

***2372. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of prisoners in the jails of the province who have been supplied writing materials;

(b) whether any prisoner is engaged in writing a book?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) The exact number is not known but all prisoners who are entitled under the Jail Rules to write a letter are supplied, on application, with writing material.

(b) Not so far as is known.

DISTRICT CORRUPTION COMMITTEE.

***2373. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has formed a district corruption committee to eradicate the evil of corruption in the Irrigation Department;

(b) if so, will the Honourable Member be pleased to state the constitution and functions of that committee?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the Honourable Member please state whether there is any divisional corruption committee?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No, there are advisory committees for administrative purposes.

CORRUPTION IN THE IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT.

***2374. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the canal committee or any other special committee ever considered the question of eradicating the evil of corruption in the Irrigation Department ;
- (b) if so, what remedies were suggested ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) and (b) The honourable member is referred to the " Report of the Committee appointed to investigate the extent of corruption among officials and remedies to be applied " which was published in 1922 and a copy of which is being laid on the table.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : The report of the committee which the honourable member refers to has not been laid on the table.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I shall do so presently.

MEANS FOR INVESTIGATION OF CASES.

***2375. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that after the adjournment motion discussed in the Punjab Legislative Council on the 10th May 1928, with regard to Mr. Bannerjee, C. I. D. employee, Government issued any circular letter to the District Officers of Police suggesting them not to adopt such means in investigation of cases ;
- (b) if so, whether such instruction will be laid on the table ;
- (c) if no such instructions have been issued, what other action has been taken to stop the recurrence of such cases ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Government is not prepared to make any statement on the subject of the honourable member's question.

Lala Bodh Raj : What are the reasons for not making any statement ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I am afraid I cannot go any further than what I have already said.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I know whether no instructions have been issued ? Is Government not prepared even to say whether any instructions were issued or not ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I have already said that Government is not prepared to make any statement on the subject of the honourable member's question.

COMFORTS OF EUROPEAN AND INDIAN RESIDENTS, SIMLA MUNICIPALITY.

***2376. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it has been brought to his notice that the municipal committee, Simla, looks more to the comfort of European than Indian residents of that place ;

[Chaudhri Afzal Haq.]

(b) whether the Government made any enquiries in this respect and if so, what was the result?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

CONSTITUTION OF SIMLA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

***2377. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the population of Europeans as compared with Indians in Simla;

(b) what is the constitution of Simla municipality;

(c) whether steps have been taken by the Government to secure the representation of Indians according to their strength in municipal committee, Simla?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The population of Europeans in Simla is 2,525 and that of Indians 23,624.

(b) The constitution of the municipal committee of Simla is 11 members, 3 elected and 8 appointed.

(c) The three elected members are all Indians: out of the four nominated non-officials two are Indians. The third represents the Punjab Trades Association and is president of the Simla Branch and happens to be a European. The fourth is a European and represents the European non-officials in Simla. So five out of seven are Indians. The other four members are officials, two represent the Government of India and two the Punjab Government out of these only one is an Indian.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : What about the answer to part (c) of my question?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The present representation of Indians out of the nominated non-officials is more or less according to our formula.

MONTGOMERY CENTRAL JAIL PRISONERS.

***2378. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** With reference to question¹ No. 2096, starred, put on 21st March 1929, will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the enquiries are now complete; and if so,

(b) whether the result of the enquiry will be laid on the table?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

POLICE BARRIERS AT KALKA AND TARA DEVI.

***2379. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that police barriers has recently been constructed at Kalka and Tara Devi ;
- (b) if so, what necessitated the construction of these barriers ;
- (c) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that there is a general impression in the minds of the public that these barriers are constructed only to harass the political-minded people ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the police officers demand the name of the passengers, their father's name and residence and the place where the passenger is put up in Simla ? If so, why ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No.

(d) The honourable member is referred to Punjab Gazette Notification No. 16092, dated the 29th April, 1929, as amended by Notification No. 1188-S., dated 6th June, 1929, for information as to the persons who may require travellers to give particulars about themselves and the particulars that may be required.

EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS.

***2380. Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang :** (a) Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) how many Extra Assistant Commissioners were appointed from Registers A, B and C during the last three years according to the communities to which the candidates belonged ;
- (b) the reasons for the overwhelming preponderance of Muhammadans in the recruitment ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has committed itself to a policy restricting the recruitment of Hindus and Sikhs to their proportion in the population of the province ?

(ii) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a list of persons other than those appointed by competition during the last three years showing their qualifications together with a list of those whose names were rejected stating the qualifications of the rejected candidates ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (i) (a) A statement containing the information required is laid on the table.

[Mr. J. G. Beazley.]

(b) There has been no overwhelming preponderance of Muslims. In recruiting for this service the policy of Government is to ensure that each community is adequately represented and that there is no undue preponderance of any one class.

(c) No.

(ii) It is not the practice of Government to give names or details of recommendations.

	A.	B.	C.	Total.
Hindus	7	5	13	25
Muslims	19	2	17	38
Sikhs	7	..	6	13
Christians	3	..	1	4
Total	36	7	37	80

POLICE SERVICE AND COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION.

*2381. **Lala Joti Pershad :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) the number of Hindus, Muhammadans, Sikhs and others in the following police services in the districts of Hissar, Rohtak, Gurgaon and Karnal.

(i) Sub-Inspectors on all duties,

(ii) Head constables on all duties ;

(iii) clerical services ;

(b) the population of these districts community-wise ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the table. (a) (iii) is not sufficiently definite to enable Government to give a reply to it.

(a) Statement showing—

(a) Sub-Inspectors, Hindus, Muhammadans, Sikhs and others on all duties (including clerical).

(b) Head Constables, Hindus, Muhammadans, Sikhs and others on all duties (including clerical).

KARNAL.

GURGAON.

ROHTAK.

HISSAR.

	Hindus.	Muhammadians.	Sikhs.	Others.	Hindus.	Muhammadians.	Sikhs.	Others.	Hindus.	Muhammadians.	Sikhs.	Others.	Hindus.	Muhammadians.	Sikhs.	Others.
(a) Sub-Inspectors.	9	12	6	..	10	6	4	..	3	15	1	1	9	17	5	1
(b) Head Constables	10	77	2	..	23	49	..	..	28	56	2	..	16	70	6	1

(b) —

	Hindus.	Muhammadians.	Sikhs.	Others.
Hissar	543,351	215,943	45,615	6,901
Rohtak	629,592	125,035	602	17,043
Gurgaon	480,134	216,860	924	4,086
Karnal	573,224	235,618	12,280	7,604

REWARI MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

***2382. Lala Joti Parshad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) what was the total number of meetings of the Rewari municipal committee held after the fresh elections in 1928, and before the notification of the election of the President in the *Punjab Government Gazette* ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that in spite of the protests of the members and senior vice-president, the tahsildar continued to preside and transact some of the business of the municipal committee ? If so, how does Government justify his action ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Three.

(b) The new election of the President took place on the 18th September 1928 and was notified in Commissioner's notification No. 77, dated the 30th October 1928 as taking effect from the 18th September 1928.

REWARI MUNICIPALITY.

***2383. Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan :** Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that no chairman was elected at the meeting of Rewari municipality held on 18th September 1928 in which election of President was to take place ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Tahsildar, an official member carried on the proceedings in spite of an expression of protest by the elected members and in the absence of the notification of his election in the official gazette ;
- (c) whether this illegality was brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner, Gurgaon, and the Commissioner, Ambala Division ? If so, what action, if any, was taken in the matter ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes : until his attention was drawn to the inadvisability of his doing so before his election as President was notified.

(c) The matter was duly brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner, who ordered the President to discontinue working until the notification of his election as President was issued.

ALLEGED ILLEGAL PRACTICES OF THE PRESIDENT, REWARI MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

***2384. Rana Firoz-ud-din Khan :** (i) Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the President, Rewari municipality, imposed on the Inspector, Terminal Tax, a fine of Rs. 5 without bringing the matter to the notice of the general meeting or the Deputy Commissioner ; if so, under what provision of law he did so ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the said President has in some cases charged twenty-five times terminal tax on smuggled articles in utter disregard of the rules on the subject ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said President has been defying law by collecting *tehbazari* tax at the rate of 12 pies per foot instead of 2 pies per foot without the previous sanction of the Deputy Commissioner ?

(ii) If answers to question (i) above are in the affirmative, what steps does the Government propose to take to stop such illegalities ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes : the fine was subsequently reduced to Re. 1. The fine was imposed by the President in the course of his ordinary executive control over the staff of the committee.

(b) It is understood that the President is authorized to compromise cases of offences under the Municipal Act and the bye-laws framed thereunder by the committee's resolution No. 18, dated the 30th August 1922. The composition imposed is within the limits laid down for fines in section 78 of the Municipal Act.

(c) The municipal committee had by its resolution No. 8, dated the 4th January, 1929, which was approved by the Deputy Commissioner, revised the rate of *tehbazari* from 2, 3 and 6 pies per square foot to one anna per square foot.

(d) Does not arise.

REWARI MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

***2385. Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan :** Will the Honourable the Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that members of Rewari municipality walked out of the meeting held on the 6th May, 1929 ; if so, what were the reasons giving rise to this form of protest ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the previous resolution of the municipality regarding *teh-bazari* rates could not be reconsidered in the meeting of the municipality held on 22nd May 1929 because the relevant papers were not forthcoming in the office but were with the President, and the meeting was adjourned by way of protest against the conduct of the President ; if so, under what authority the President had removed papers from the office ?

(ii) If answers to (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, what action does the Government propose to take to mend this state of affairs in the Rewari municipality ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (i) (a) Yes. It is understood that the members objected to the President's ruling that the committee should proceed with the agenda of the meeting instead of considering a matter not on the agenda which a member wished to have discussed.

[Hon'ble Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.]

(b) No. The matter in question was not on the agenda of the meeting. The record of the agenda shows that the consideration of all items on the agenda was postponed to the next meeting.

(ii) (a) Government have no control over the actions of individual members;

(b) Does not arise.

REPRINT OF RIWAJ-I-AM OF DISTRICTS.

***2386. Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan :** Will the Honourable the Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Riwayat-i-Am of many districts prepared in the last settlements is out of print and not available;

(b) if the answer to (i) above be in the affirmative, whether Government intend to issue a reprint in the Government Press or in the alternative to permit private printing firms to do so?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Government has no information, but is making enquiries.

BEGGARY COMMITTEE.

***2387. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the committee to consider the question of beggary have submitted their report;

(b) If so, whether the Government have considered the recommendations, and whether there is any intention of bringing in a Bill on the lines suggested in the report?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) Government have considered the report and decided to draw the attention of municipal committees to the existence of the problem and to the facts elicited during the discussions held, and to invite their opinions on the problem as a whole.

It was also decided to invite the attention of local bodies to the existing provisions of the law with a view to ascertaining how far these provisions are effective in dealing with certain aspects of the problem.

Lala Bodh Raj : Has the Honourable Member fixed any time for the invitation of these opinions?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I am afraid we have fixed no time for the return of the answer.

REDUCTION OF JAIL GRANT.

***2368. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Punjab Legislative Council unanimously carried a cut of rupee one moved in the Jail Grant during the year 1928 for the better treatment of political prisoners ;
- (b) If so, whether any steps have been taken by the Government to meet the unanimous wish of the elected members of the Council ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) The cut was passed without division.

(b) Government has under consideration a scheme allowing for the separation of under-trial prisoners accused of offences involving sedition from other classes of under-trial prisoners. As regards the other requests made in the debate, it has decided that no alterations in the present system are possible.

EXEMPTION OF SWORDS FROM THE ARMS ACT.

***2369. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in most of the districts of the Punjab, Government exempted sword from the operation of the Arms Act ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the exempted districts remained as peaceful as they had been before the exemption order ;
- (c) if the reply to the above parts be in the affirmative, whether the Government have under consideration any proposals for exempting the sword from the operation of the Arms Act in the rest of the districts ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) Government has no information on the point at present but has called for reports from local officers.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

SAUNDERS' MURDER.

***2390. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) the names of those suspects who have been arrested in connection with Saunders' murder in the month of November, December, January and February last together with the names of those who are now under arrest on the same charge ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of Police, Lahore, who was in charge of the case solemnly affirmed in the High Court that he had reason to believe that some of the suspects arrested in the months referred to in part (a) of the question are connected with Saunders' murder ;

[Ch. Afzal Haq.]

- (c) what were the names of those whom he particularly mentioned ;
- (d) whether any of those suspects who were arrested in earlier months have now been challaned ;
- (e) if the answer to part (d) of the question be in the negative, whether the Superintendent who made such statement before the High Court was asked to give any explanation ;
- (f) whether any police officer who arrested and kept in custody innocent people merely on suspicion in connection with the above case was punished ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Two statements are laid upon the table.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, one.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No.

SAUNDER'S MURDER.

Serial No.	Names of persons arrested.	Date of arrest.	Date of release.	Total No. of days in confinement.
1	Hari Ram, son of Lala Mool Chand, Sethi, Rawalpindi.	17-12-28	2-1-29	16
2	Ahmad Din, son of Nizam Din, Sheikh, Amritsar.	18-12-28	24-12-28	6
3	Amolak Ram, son of Tulsi Ram, Brahmin, Lahore.	17-12-28	28-12-28	11
4	Sant Ram, Pandha, son of Bhagat Ram, of Lahore.	17-12-28	21-12-28	4
5	Hans Raj, son of Guranditta, Khatri, of Lahore.	17-12-28	2-1-29	16
6	Kidar Nath, son of Bhag Mal, Khatri, of Lahore.	18-12-28	28-12-28	Sent to Hoshiarpur Case 124-A.
7	Keshab Bandu, son of Kelash Kaul, Brahmin, of Lahore.	17-12-28	28-12-28	11

SAUNDER'S MURDER—CONCLD.

Serial No.	Names of persons arrested.	Date of arrest.	Date of release.	Total No. of days in confinement.
8	Dhanwantri, son of Durga Datt, Brahman, of Lahore.	17-12-28	28-12-28	11
9	Dharam Yash, son of Khan Chand, Khatri, of Lahore.	17-12-28	21-12-28	4
10	M. Majid, son of Faiz Bakhsb, Kashmiri, of Lahore.	18-12-28	21-12-28	3
11	Raj Kishore, son of Raj Barijisti, Rajput, Ayurvedic Boarding House, Lahore.	17-12-28	2-1-29	Sent to Judicial lock-up.
12	Muhammad Afzal, son of Khair Din, Kashmiri, of Lahore.	18-12-28	28-12-28	10
13	Abnash Chandra, son of Diwan Chand, Brahman, of Lahore.	18-12-28	2-1-29	15
14	Labhu Ram, alias Sat Barat, son of Buta Mal, Brahman, of Bawa Singh, District Gurdaspur.	18-12-28	2-1-29	15
15	Vir Indar, son of Mahasha Krishna, of Lahore.	17-12-28	2-1-29	16
16	Sant Ram, son of Hans Raj, Chadda, of Lahore.	18-12-28	2-1-29	15
17	Nand Kishore, son of Radha Kishan, Mehta, of Lahore.	19-12-28	21-12-28	2
18	Ram Chand, son of Kirpa Ram, Kithkri, of Nurpur, District Kangra (Lahore).	19-12-28	21-12-28	2
19	Roshan Lal, son of Mathra Das, Khatri, of Peshawar.	20-12-28	27-12-28	7
20	Kidar Nath, son of Lahori Mal, Khatri, of Peshawar.	20-12-28	27-12-28	7
21	Ascharaj Ram, son of Hari Chand, Khatri, of Peshawar.	20-12-28	27-12-28	7
22	Jagdish Narain, son of Mola Ram, Arora, of Wazirabad.	22-12-28	27-12-28	5
23	Ranbir Singh, son of Sher Singh, Brahman, of Khohar, District Gujrat.	5-1-29	19-1-29	14

[Hon'ble Mr. A. M. Stow,]

List of accused in Lahore Conspiracy Case.

1. Sukh Dev *alias* Dyal, *alias* Swami, *alias* Villager, son of Ram Lal, caste Thaper Khatri, of Mohalla Arya Samaj, Lyallpur.
2. Kishori Lal Rattan, *alias* Deo Datt Rattan, *alias* Mast Ram Shastri, son of Raghbar Dutt, caste Brahman of Dharampur, Police Station Hajipur, District Hoshiarpur.
3. Agya Ram, *alias* Masterji, son of Nand Lal, Brahman, of Lalla, Police Station Killa Sobha Singh, District Sialkot.
4. Des Raj, son of Ram Kishen, caste Khatri, of Belgan, Police Station Sambrial, District Sialkot.
5. Prem Dutt, *alias* Master, *alias* Amrit Lal, son of Ram Datt, Khatri of Gujrat.
6. Surindra Nath Pandey, *alias* Stone, son of Hira Lal, Pandey, Brahman, resident of Mohalla Sabzimandi, Cawnpore.
7. Jai Dev, *alias* Harish Chander, son of Babu Salig Ram, caste Khatri Kapur, Saddar Bazar, Hardoli.
8. Seho Varma, *alias* Parbhat, *alias* Harnarain, *alias* Ram Narain Kapur, son of Kanhiya Lal Varma, Khatri, of Hardoli.
9. Gya Parshad, *alias* Dr. B. S. Nagam, *alias* Ram Lal, *alias* Ram Nath, *alias* Desh Bhagat, caste Kurmi, resident of Khajuri Khurd, Police Station Billhaur, District Cawnpore.
10. Jatindra Nath Dass, son of Banke Behari Das, of 80, Dobar Road, Calcutta.
11. Mahabir Singh, *alias* Partap, of Shahpur Thela, Police Station Raja ka Rampur, District Eta.
12. Bhagat, son of Kishen Singh, of Khwasrian, Lahore.
13. Bhatkeshwar Dutt, *alias* Bhattu, *alias* Mohan, son of G. D. Dutt, of Bedwan, Bengal.
14. Ajoy Kumar Ghosh, *alias* Negro General, son of Dr. Ghosh, of Cawnpore.
15. Jatian Sanyal (Jatindra Nath Sanyal), son of Hari Nath Sanyal, Mohalla Colonel Ganj, of Allahabad.
16. Kamel Nath Trivedi, *alias* Kanwal Nath Tehwari, student of Vidya Sagar College, Calcutta, son of Suraj Nath Tehwari, of Saraya, Police Station Gobindpur.
17. Chandar Shekar Azad, *alias* Pandit Ji, son of Baij Nath Ram, *alias* Sita Ram, Brahman, of Baijnath Tula, Police Station Bhillopur, Benares.
18. Bijoy Kumar Sinha, *alias* Bachhu, son of Markando Kumar, Sinha, of Mohalla Karachi Ganj, Cawnpore.
19. Kailash Patti, *alias* Kali Charan, son of Hardo Narain, Kyasth, of Mongranwan, Police Station Ghamirpur, District Azamgarh at present residing at Gorakhpur.

20. Raghunath, *alias* " M " *alias* Ram Guru, of Benares.
21. Bhagwati Charan, *alias* B. C. Vohra, son of Rai Sahib Shiv Charan Dass, caste Brahman, of Lahore.
22. Kundan Lal, *alias* Partap, *alias* No. 1, of Benares (U. P.).
23. Kelash, *alias* Gunthala, of Jhansi.
24. Yashpal, son of Hira Lal, Khatri, of Nidhon, Police Station Hamirpur, District Kangra, now residing at Wacchhowali, Lahore.
25. Satgurdayal, son of Pandit Sukhbasi Lal Avasthi, caste Brahman, of Mohalla Dana Khori, Cawnpore.
26. Jai Gopal, son of Lala Diwan Chand, of Gujranwala.
27. Hans Raj Vohra, son of Professor Guranditta Mal, Central Training College, Lahore.
28. Phamindra Nath Ghosh, *alias* Dada, son of Moti Ram Ghosh of Batia (Behar and Orissa).
29. Man Mohan Bannerji of Baria, Police Station Batia (Bihar and Orissa).
30. Lalit Kumar Mukerjee, son of Harindra Kumar Kakerjee, Advocate, High Court, Allahabad.
31. Ram Saran Dass, son of Sant Ram, of Kapurthala.
32. Brahm Dutt, son of Ram Rattan, of Mehraj Ganj, Cawnpore.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that certain persons were arrested in connection with the murder of Mr. Saunders and they have not been challenged ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Yes, I think the honourable member is correct, but it is very difficult to give a certain reply to a question of that kind without the papers.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that they are still bound by certain bail bonds ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I think that is a subject of another question which is coming to-morrow or later on.

Lala Bodh Raj : Does not this question arise in connection with this question ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : If it is not, as I think it is, referred to in a subsequent question, I should require notice of that question.

Lala Bodh Raj : Are we sure that there will be a meeting to-morrow, or will we finish the work to-day ?

(No answer.)

Lala Bodh Raj : Will the Finance Member say whether their bonds have been cancelled ? It is now about seven months since they were bound over.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I can assure the honourable member that application has been made to the Magistrate for the cancellation of the bond.

Lala Bodh Raj : Has any action been taken on this application ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : That is a matter for the Magistrate.

Lala Bodh Raj : What has the *Government* to say on that point ?

(No answer).

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that the articles found on their person were taken possession of by the police and have not yet been returned to their owners ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I do not see how that question arises out of this present question, and in any case I should require notice.

PIR KARAM SHAH.

***2391. Chaudhri Afzal-Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a few days after the arthi procession of Lala Lajpat Rai Government issued a *communiqué* giving the details of Pir Karam Shah's beating at the hands of the mob ;
- (b) whether that *communiqué* will be laid on the table ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government denied in the *communiqué* that the beaten Pir is connected with C. I. D. of the Punjab ;
- (d) if so, what necessitated the issue of such a *communiqué* for such an unknown personality ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that Pir Karam Shah is neither connected with Punjab Government nor with the Government of India nor Imperial Government ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) A copy is laid on the table.

(c) Yes.

(d) The reasons are contained in the *communiqué*.

(e) Yes.

Communiqué.

Lahore, November 18th, 1928.

THE Punjab Government has seen accounts in the Press of an incident which occurred while the funeral procession was following the remains of the late Lala Lajpat Rai to the river Ravi and in which a Muhammadan Faqir was roughly handled. In order to prevent the currency of false and alarmist rumours, the Punjab Government considers it desirable to make public the facts, so far as they are at present known to it. It appears that there was a rumour that a bomb outrage might be committed on the procession. The Faqir in question was returning in a motor car to Lahore when he met the procession. He alighted from the car as a mark of respect and stood by the side of the road. A few members of the procession being genuinely apprehensive that he had a bomb concealed on his person, seized him and roughly

handled him. Other members of the procession, including several Hindu students, came to his rescue and were assisted by a Hindu constable, who was hurt in the scuffle. Three Europeans Sergeants came up, put him in a tonga and drove him back to the Lahore City, where he was taken to the Tibbi Police Post inside the Taxali Gate. A small portion of the procession, numbering so far as is known, three or four hundred only, being still apprehensive that the Faqir had in fact a bomb on him followed the tonga to the Tibbi Police Post and gathered in front of it. The Deputy Commissioner hearing of the incident at once proceeded to the spot with Mr. Ewart, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, and when they reached the Police Post, they found small crowd gathered in front of it. They ascertained that it was genuinely apprehensive and at the request of the crowd, they allowed two students named by the crowd itself to be present when a search of the Faqir was made. This was carried out in the presence of the students and of the Deputy Commissioner. A considerable sum of money was found on the Faqir, but no bomb of any description was found. The two students then assured the crowd that their suspicions were entirely unfounded and that there was no cause for alarm. The crowd, however, refused to listen to them and said that the students themselves were agents of the Criminal Investigation Department. When all efforts to re-assure the crowd failed, the Deputy Commissioner warned them that they must disperse within five minutes. The majority of the crowd at first went away and the remainder dispersed when a small force of police constables was marched through them. It was unnecessary to use any force.

In order to check the spread of false rumours, a full enquiry is being made by the Punjab Government into the antecedents of the Faqir, who was concerned in the incident but it has already been ascertained that he is well-known in Bombay, Ajmer, and the Punjab as Pir Karam Shah and that from 1920 till about 1925 or 1926 he resided in Ajmer. The Faqir has had no connection with the Criminal Investigation Department of the Punjab Government and the latter has no reason at all to believe that he has had any connection with the Criminal Investigation Department of any other province. It will be seen that there was nothing communal in the incident, which was the result of apprehensions, no doubt prompted by the recent Dussehra outrage, that a bomb might be thrown on the procession. The Punjab Government desires to express its appreciation of the Hindu students and the Hindu constable who came to the rescue of this Muhammadan Faqir at considerable risk to themselves. At the same time, it takes the opportunity of acknowledging the restraint and orderly demeanour of an exceptionally large procession and the absence of any incident, except the one above described, which gave any cause for anxiety to the authorities.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Does it not mean that Pir Karam Shah does belong to the C. I. D.?

(No answer.)

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that Government has got sympathy with the said Pir?

(No answer.)

PREPARATION OF LIST OF IMAMS AND CONDUCT OF POLICE.

***2392. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** With reference to question¹ No. 2104 (starred) put by me on 22nd March 1929, will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state whether the Government is now in a position to state why police asked for the name and father's name of the Maulanas mentioned in the question?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Yes. In order to be sure of their identity.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Why was their identity demanded by the police? Were they to be prosecuted?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : In order that no mistakes might be made.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Mistake in what respect?

(No answer.)

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : My question is quite clear and the answer is a bit evasive. I wish to know why the police wanted to have their identity.

(No answer.)

Mr. President : If the honourable member can extort an answer to his question I shall be pleased.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : I wanted to know whether Government is in a position to state why the police asked the names of the Maulanas and the names of their fathers. I only wanted the reason.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : They wished to know their fathers' names because they wished to be sure of their identity.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : What for? Are they suspected in a case? Why did the police want their identity?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : May I ask the honourable member what harm there is in finding out the identity of a distinguished person?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I enquire from the Honourable Member whether police can go and annoy any gentleman whether he is an Imam or any other person?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Certainly not, Sir, but I do not know whether the question of annoyance arises.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Why did the police demand the names of the Imams and also the names of their fathers? Why was the police anxious to know the identity of the Imams?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : There may be a hundred and one reasons. For instance.....

Lala Bodh Raj : No for instance. We want the exact reason.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : There is no reason why in police investigation it should be made absolutely clear what wrong or right complaints may be made against half a dozen people.

¹ Vol. XII, page 1067.

Lala Bodh Raj : Sir, is the Honourable Revenue Member competent to reply to the question?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : If the honourable member from Multan can take up the question started by the honourable member from Hoshiarpur, I do not see why I cannot answer.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : So far as I am aware only the member concerned can give a reply to a question asked by another member.

Mr. President : There is a provision in the Standing Orders that the honourable members of this House can ask supplementary questions, but I am not aware of any provision under which supplementary answers can be given.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : May I submit, Sir, that as far as our names are concerned they are not complete without the father's name because there are no surnames in this country.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : There is your surname Noon everywhere.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : But Firoz Khan is not the surname, that is a personal name.

Lala Bodh Raj : Sir, has the President no power to compel the honourable member to reply to the question?

Mr. President : It is open to a Government member not to answer a question on the ground of public interest. But if he refuses to answer a question for any other reason, the Chair may have to interfere.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : The Honourable Finance Member is silent. You admitted the supplementary question and he has not given any supplementary answer. Sir, I wanted to know the reasons for the police asking the names of the Imams of the Masjid of Lahore.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I wish to have notice of that question.

SAUNDERS' MURDER.

***2393. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that some of the accused who were arrested in connection with Saunders' murder case had been challaned under Section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code ;
- (b) whether the Police applied for the sanction of prosecution under Section 124-A., Indian Penal Code, before Mr. Saunders' murder or after it ;
- (c) the names of those accused who were afterwards arrested under Section 240, Indian Penal Code.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) Neither.

(c) None.

PETITION-WRITERS.

***2394. Chaudhri Duli Chand :** Will the Honourable Member for Finance kindly state—

(a) the total number of petition-writers in each of the districts of Karnal and Rohtak ;

(b) the number of statutory agriculturists among them ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The information asked for by the honourable member is being collected.

JAILOR, HOSHIARPUR SUB-JAIL.

***2395. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the jailor in charge of Hoshiarpur Sub-Jail was suspended by the Superintendent on or about 25th March 1929 ;

(b) what were the reasons of his suspension ;

(c) whether he was served with any charge sheet at the time of his suspension ; if not, why ;

(d) whether it is a fact that before the said date he had been complaining in his journal against the Superintendent for the breach of jail rules and discipline ;

(e) if so, what action was taken thereon ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes on the 25th of March 1929.

(b) (i) Assistant Jailor Lala Chandar Bhan had instigated some of the warders under him to commit acts of indiscipline and submit insubordinate applications against the Superintendent.

(ii) He himself had made improper and insubordinate reports in his journal.

(iii) Other charges which were to be brought against him after investigation by the Superintendent.

(c) He was given a copy of the order of Superintendent suspending him on the charge of insubordination and other charges.

(d) He has been making insubordinate reports in his journal without bringing any definite breach of Jail Rules to the notice of the Superintendent.

(e) Does not arise.

SUPERINTENDENT, HOSHIARPUR SUB-JAIL.

***2396. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent, Sub-Jail, Hoshiarpur, on the evening of 23rd March 1929, sealed the godown of the jail without supplying rations to the jail officials for the prisoners for next morning ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that he took the keys of the godown and the alarm parade box with himself to his house ;
- (c) if so, what were the reasons for such an action on the part of the Superintendent ;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Inspector-General of Prisons made an enquiry into the matter on the spot ; if so, what was the result of this enquiry ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) Of the godown, but not of the alarm parade box.

(c) The Superintendent had that evening checked and weighed some items of the grain godown and discovered certain shortages and excesses, in order to continue the check next morning he took away the keys of the godown himself instead of handing them over to the Jailor.

(d) Yes, the Jailor was suspended.

PUNISHMENT TO JAIL OFFICIALS OF HOSHIARPUR SUB-JAIL.

***2397. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the course of enquiry into charges preferred against the jailor of the sub-jail, Hoshiarpur any warders or jail officials were suspended or dismissed by the Superintendent ;
- (b) if so, for what offences were they dismissed or suspended ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes, two.

(b) One was dismissed for insubordination to Malik Muhammad Khan, Sub-Inspector of Police and B. Tej Bhan, Clerk, Inspector-General of Prisons office appointed temporarily to carry on the jail work until the arrival of M. Nawab Din, Jailor, and second for the offence of perjury by making a false statement which he subsequently admitted he had done at the instigation of Assistant Jailor Lala Chandar Bhan.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that one of the reasons for which they were dismissed or suspended was that they were not prepared to give evidence against the Jailor suggested by the Superintendent ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I must have notice of that question.

CONTRACTS IN SUB-JAIL, HOSHIARPUR.

***2398. Lala Bodh Raj :** (i) Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) which jail official of the Hoshiarpur Sub-Jail has been entering into contracts during the last twelve months for the purchase of commodities and materials for the jail, disbursing such money on that account, and drawing such money from the treasury ;

(b) which official is competent under the jail rules to execute the work referred to in part (a) above ?

(ii) Will the Honourable Member please lay on the table a copy of such rules ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) The matter is *sub-judice* in a case under section 409, Indian Penal Code, pending against Lala Chandar Bhan.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that the matter referred to in the question is also *sub-judice* ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I do not understand the honourable member's question.

Lala Bodh Raj : Will the Honourable Member please state what has been the practice in jails in the matter of purchase of commodities in jails ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : To the whole of this matter I gave considerable consideration and I came to the conclusion that the whole of this question concerns matters which are *sub-judice*.

Lala Bodh Raj : What do the rules provide ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : On what question ?

Lala Bodh Raj : On the question of purchase of commodities and materials for the jails ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : That information can be given if I have sufficient notice.

CHARGES AGAINST JAILOR, HOSHIARPUR SUB-JAIL.

***2399. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state whether the charge of embezzlement was one of the charges made against the jailor of the Sub-Jail, Hoshiarpur, at the time he was suspended or at the time when the charge sheet was served on him ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : No, the criminal breach of trust of Government money by public servant being a serious offence for the purpose of paragraph 178 (a) of the Jail Manual, the prosecution had to be instituted by referring it to the Superintendent of Police who after due investigation challaned the jailor under section 409, Indian Penal Code, hence this charge was not included in the charge sheet.

Lala Bodh Raj : Is it a fact that the prosecution was launched after he was suspended and the charge sheet served ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I have no information, but I shall make enquiries.

SUPERINTENDENT, HOSHIARPUR SUB-JAIL.

***2400. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state:—

- (a) whether it is a fact that on or about 18th March 1929, the Superintendent of the Hoshiarpur sub-jail ordered the jailor not to leave the jail premises for any business whatsoever without his express written permission;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent himself is not residing within the premises of the jail;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent has been attending to jail work in the rooms of the District Court where he holds his court as magistrate?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes, on the 21st of March 1929 because the jailor was leaving the jail premises at night without the permission of the Superintendent.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, when any urgent papers were to be dealt with.

Lala Bodh Raj : Will the honourable member please state whether the orders of the Superintendent that the jailor should not leave the jail premises covered only the night hours or all the 24 hours of the day?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I am afraid I do not understand the honourable member's question.

Lala Bodh Raj : The order of the Superintendent was that the jailor should not leave the premises of the jail without his permission. Does that order cover the period of 24 hours of the day or cover only the hours of the night?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Enquiries can be made if the honourable member would kindly place his question in clear terms in writing.

ESCAPE OF PRISONERS FROM MONTGOMERY CENTRAL JAIL.

***2401. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the Montgomery Central Jail a prisoner dug up a channel 85 feet in length under the ground of the jail with a view to arrange for the escape of prisoners;
- (b) whether any prisoners escaped through that exit;
- (c) if so, what action was taken against the jailor and other subordinate jail officials in whose time such a thing occurred?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes. The length of the tunnel was 75 feet.

(b) Yes.

(c) Is under consideration.

Lala Keshe Ram : Will the honourable member please state how many escapes there were ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : I think there were ten. But here again it is very difficult to give absolutely correct answers to sudden questions of fact of this kind.

Lala Bodh Raj : What was the period taken for digging the tunnel ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : We should very much like to know.

SUPERINTENDENT, HOSHIARPUR SUB-JAIL.

***2402. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Finance Member please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last six months or so the Superintendent, Hoshiarpur Sub-Jail, has been recording the statements of warders and other jail officials on separate loose papers and not on the journal provided to him for the purpose ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such a procedure ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Before the enquiry under paragraph 182 of the Jail Manual was held, the statements of witnesses for the prosecution were recorded on separate papers.

(b) There is no other procedure.

LOCATION OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN PRIVATE BUILDINGS.

***2403. Khan Bahadur Sardar Habib Ullah :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state the number of Government offices occupying private owned buildings in Lahore and the total amount of rent paid every month ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to Council question^a No. 1712 (Starred).

SH. RAHMAT ILLAHI OF RUPAR MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

***2404. Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that certain allegations under sections 16 and 48 of the Punjab Municipal Act were made against Sh. Rahmat Illahi, Senior Vice-President of the Rupar Municipal Committee;

(b) whether it is a fact that the matter has been referred for enquiry to the Sub-Divisional Officer, Rupar ;

(c) how long it will take to complete the enquiry ;

(d) whether the Government will lay before the Council, the allegations made in the enquiry and written reply of Sh. Rahmat Illahi, if available ;

(e) when the final report of the Sub-Divisional Officer will be ready ?

^a Vide foot-note 1 on page 258 ante.

^a Vol. XII, pages 339-40.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) It is likely to be completed in about six weeks.

(d) Government can make no statement until the enquiry has been completed.

(e) It is likely to be ready by 20th September next.

PUNJAB VETERINARY COLLEGE.

***2405. Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present head clerk of the Punjab Veterinary College is the son of his predecessor ;

(b) if the answer to the above be in the affirmative, whether he will please reconsider his answer to part (a) of question¹ No. 2087, put at the last session of the Council ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the one Muhammadan clerk out of a total number of 7 at the Veterinary College shown in answer to part (b) of question¹ No. 2087, put at the last session of the Council is not an office clerk but a storekeeper in hospital section of the said college ;

(d) whether he will please give the names of the Muhammadan clerks and the lucrative appointments referred to in answer to part (c) of question¹ No. 2087, put at the last session of the Council ;

(e) whether he will please state the reasons for not advertising the vacancy (referred to in answer to part (c) of question¹ No. 2087), and for adopting this special method of recruitment through Central Model School ;

(f) whether Government intend to take any steps to stimulate recruitment of Muslim clerks in the office of the Principal of the Punjab Veterinary College ?

***The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :** (a) Yes.

(b) No. The first head clerk was the brother-in-law of the second head clerk. The previous reply admitted relationship.

(c) Yes, but the storekeeper is classed as a member of the clerical establishment.

(d) The names of the Muhammadan clerks employed at the Punjab Veterinary College, during the last ten years are as follows but the names of the lucrative appointments they left this office to take, are not available in this office :—

(1) M. Ghulam Rasul Khan, Despatcher, in 1919.

(2) M. Muhammad Sharif, Storekeeper, in 1920-21.

(3) M. Umar Din in 1921 Storekeeper. Still continues.

(4) M. Muhammad Sadiq in 1923 Substitute Store-keeper.

¹Vol. XII, pages 997-98.

²See footnote 1 on page 258 ante.

[Hon'ble Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh.]

(5) M. Wali Mohammad in 1929—Substitute Librarian.

(6) M. Miran Bakhsh in 1929—Substitute Typist.

Nos. 4--6 worked as substitutes for clerks proceeded on leave.

(e) The vacancy in question was not advertised, but in accordance with the wishes of Government the Central Model School was asked to recommend a candidate with clerical and commercial qualifications.

(f) The appointment of clerks to an office is the duty of the head of that office.

Ordinarily care is taken to select representatives as far as possible for all the principal communities. The balance in the Veterinary College office has been upset by resignations. The attention of the Principal is being drawn to this matter.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : If Government cannot specify the more lucrative posts which these clerks left the Veterinary College to take, how did they know that these clerks left the college to take up lucrative posts ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : It may be that they gave that out as the reason for their resignations. But I am not in a position to give a complete answer to that supplementary question, and my honourable colleague who is to have answered the question is not here.

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF CIVIL VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

*2406. **Pir Akbar Ali :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that posts of Office Superintendent and two head assistants were filled up in the newly organized office of the Director of Civil Veterinary Department and none of these senior appointments has been given to a Muhammadan ;
- (b) what are the qualifications of the persons appointed to these senior posts as compared with other candidates for them ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that both these appointments have been made from amongst the existing clerical establishment of the Civil Veterinary Department and in doing so the claims of an all-round senior member have been ignored ;
- (d) if the answer to (c) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for it ;
- (e) whether it is a fact that some applicants for these posts besides having high University qualifications and experience of the work had personal war service to their credit and were rejected ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) The Superintendent and the Head Assistant were promoted from the posts of Head Clerk and Accountant. Their chief qualification was

¹Vide footnote 1 on page 258 ante.

that they know the work to be done and were doing it when the Veterinary Department was made independent of the Department of Agriculture.

The third candidate appointed was selected from outside the office. He was a B.A. and LL.B.

(c) Yes, if the honourable member is referring to the promotion of the Head Clerk and Accountant. They were the two senior members of the office. The claims of no members of the clerical staff were ignored.

(d) The reasons for the promotions actually made have already been explained.

(e) Some candidates with educational qualifications and one with personal war services were rejected. None had higher educational qualifications than the candidate selected for the second post of Head Assistant. These appointments were made by the Director, Civil Veterinary Department.

MILITARY GRANTEES.

***2407. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to lay on the table the answer to unstarred question¹ No. 720, put on the 8th of May, 1928?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A copy of the answer to unstarred Council question No. 720, already communicated to the honourable member through the Secretary, Punjab Legislative Council, is laid on the table.

Answer to Question No. 720, Volume XI, page 1005.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No military grantees have been fined in the Nili Bar Colony.

(b) One grant of one rectangle was confiscated for non-residence and one grant for the dual offences of a breach of the condition requiring the disclosure to the Colonization Officer of a previous grant in another Colony, and for non-residence.

BOOK ENTITLED "LIFE AND TEACHINGS OF SWAMI DAYA NAND."

***2408. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that an Ahmedi Musalman, Mr. F. K. Khan Durani, B.A., has recently published a book entitled "The Life and Teachings of Swami Daya Nand" in which scurrilous attacks have been made on the founder of the Arya Samaj;

(b) whether it is a fact that the name of the press in which the said book was published does not appear on the title page;

(c) if the answer to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, what action Government intend to take in the matter?

¹Vol. XI, page 1005.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) A book entitled "The life and teachings of Swami Daya Nand" was recently published by Mr. F. K. Khan Durani, B.A., at the "Imperial Printing Works," outside Mochi Gate, Lahore, and is being examined by Government.

(b) The printer's name was at first omitted, but has since been added.

(c) The action to be taken by Government will depend on the result of the examination.

DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE DIVERSION OF CHAKKI.

***2409. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** (i) Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the proprietors of lands in Sirit, Damtal and other villages in tahsil Nurpur of the Kangra district have suffered on account of the diversion of the course of the Chakki ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the question of awarding compensation to the said proprietors was under the consideration of a committee, consisting of the Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner and one other member ?

(ii) If the answer to (i) be in the affirmative, will the honourable member be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of compensation proposed by the committee ;

(b) the amount of compensation which the Government propose to give ;

(c) the principles on which the compensation is proposed to be given ;

(d) whether the compensation will be given in cash or in the form of squares of lands ;

(e) whether the proprietors of lands in Sirit, etc., have agreed to accept the compensation proposed by Government ? If not, why ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a) Yes, to a certain extent.

(b) No. An experienced Revenue Officer was deputed to make an enquiry into the matter.

(ii) (a) Rupees 50,796 was proposed as compensation by him.

(b) The same amount.

(c) According to the value of the land when eroded.

(d) In cash.

(e) The amount of compensation will be shortly offered to them.

PRESS BRANCH, CIVIL SECRETARIAT.

***2410. Chaudhri Ram Singh :** Will the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, be pleased to state—

(a) the names and designations of officers of the Press Branch of the Civil Secretariat ;

(b) the names of the ministerial staff of the said branch ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) & (b) A statement is laid upon the table.

Statement showing the names of officer and ministerial staff of the Press Branch, Punjab Civil Secretariat.

SUPERINTENDENT.

Khan Sahib Shaikh Abdul Aziz, B.A.

SENIOR TRANSLATORS, 6.

1. Chaudhri Abdul Bari, B.A.
2. Sheikh Umar Bakhsh.
3. Lala Kanhya Lal, B.A.
4. S. Muhammad Husain.
5. B. Gopal Singh.
6. M. Faqir Muhammad.

JUNIOR TRANSLATORS, 7.

1. Lala Harnam Dass.
2. M. Muhammad Said.
3. B. Sher Singh, B.A.
4. M. Haq Nawaz.
5. Chaudhri Abdul Qadir, B.A.
6. M. Murid Hussain, B.A. *
7. Pandit Dina Nath, Zutshi, B.A.

GAZETTE AND PETITION SECTION.

1. Sh. Abdul Rahman.
2. Chaudhri Feroz Din.
3. M. Muhammad Alam.
4. M. Mazhar Ali.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, KARNAL.

***2411. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether one of the Assistant District Inspector of Schools (temporary or permanent) in the Karnal district is untrained ;
- (b) whether that gentleman is a non-agriculturist, and if so, what were the considerations which led to the appointment of an untrained non-agriculturist to the post of an Assistant District Inspector ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, the Assistant District Inspector referred to has taken a License in Agriculture and first did good work as an agricultural teacher in Gurgaon.

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram: Does the Government consider the possession of Licentiate in Agriculture a sufficient substitute for training in the Central College generally or was it considered sufficient only in this particular case?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: There is no hard-and-fast rule on the matter, but obviously in the present case his qualifications were considered adequate by the department.

DISTRICT BOARD VERNACULAR MIDDLE SCHOOLS.

***2412. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram:** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether all teachers teaching English as an optional subject in District Board Vernacular Middle Schools in the Ambala division were before the present Inspector took over charge, appointed by the Inspector of Schools;
- (b) what is the number of teachers of the class referred to in (a) in each of the districts of the Ambala division, how many of them come from outside the division, and how many of them are statutory agriculturists?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal: The information is being collected and will be supplied to the honourable member when ready.

TACCARI LOANS.

***2413. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram:** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

- (a) whether any taccari loans are being advanced in the Sonapat tahsil of the Rohtak district;
- (b) whether the sub-divisional officer of Sonapat has asked for additional funds being placed at his disposal for taccari;
- (c) whether the tahsildar has received instructions for the realisation of taccari loans advanced in previous years in the Sonapat tahsil?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: (a) Yes.

(b) & (c) No.

RAI SAHIB MUNSHI GULAB SINGH AND SONS.

***2414. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram:** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to complaints in the Press that the firm of Rai Sahib Munshi Gulab Singh and Sons was allowed to put up the prices of text books against the terms of their contract at some time during the period of the Great War in consideration of the rise in the price of paper, etc;

- (b) whether it is a fact that the said firm has now been allowed to maintain its old prices in spite of the fact that under the existing contract prices have been brought down to Re. 1 for every 600 pages of printed matter instead of the previous price of Re. 1 for every 550 printed pages ;
- (c) if the reply to the above be in the affirmative, what action, if any, Government has taken to remove them ;
- (d) if the attention of Government has not been drawn to these complaints, whether Government intend to look into them now ;
- (e) what is the average total price realised by Rai Sahib Munshi Gulab Singh and Sons for the sale of text books in a year ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Inquiries are being made from the Secretary of the Punjab Text-Book Committee, and an answer will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as it is ready.

TENDERS FOR WORKS.

***2415. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) the number of cases in which and the worth of works for which tenders have been made and accepted below the estimated costs in each of the circle (Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads), in the years 1927-28, 1928-29 ;
- (b) the total amount by which the tenders referred to in (a) fell short of the estimated costs ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) & (b) As no statistical record is maintained of the facts in question, it would be necessary to institute a search through all the records of works undertaken in the Public Works Department, Buildings and Roads Branch, in all the Divisions, and thereafter to calculate the results for all tenders received for all the works in question in order to furnish the information in the particular form desired by the honourable member. It is not considered that the utility of the result would justify the labour involved.

As an approximation, however, the honourable member is informed that tenders are usually invited at a percentage above or below the rates in the sanctioned estimate, and the tenders received vary between five per cent. above and twenty per cent. below the rates mentioned. The average percentage accepted during the years mentioned may be taken at about four per cent. below the estimated rates.

ADMISSION TO RASUL SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING.

***2416. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture kindly state—

- (a) whether the committee appointed to consider the question of the educational standard to be prescribed for admission to the Rasul School of Engineering has finished its labours ;
- (b) if so, what is the final decision arrived at ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) All candidates for the Overseer and Draftsman classes must have passed the Matriculation Examination of the Punjab University.

DISTRESS IN BALLABGARH TAHSIL.

***2417. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Ballabgarh tahsil in the Gurgaon district is at present visited by severe scarcity conditions ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that half the revenue due in this tahsil is still being collected throughout the tahsil ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes, but it must have been greatly relieved by the recent heavy rain.

(b) No.

RELIEF TO DISTRESSED VILLAGES IN ROHTAK.

***2418. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member kindly state whether any group of villages in the Rohtak district has been given the benefit of general calamity rules for the remission of water rates and revenue ; and if not, why ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Yes. A statement is laid on the table.

Statement showing remissions granted under rule 20-II in the Rohtak district.

Tahsil.	Delhi Division.	Rohtak Division.
	Rs.	Rs.
Rohtak	6,270	1,872
Jhajjar	939	161
Gohana	970	1,029
Sonepat	1,134	..
Total	9,313	3,062

VILLAGE PATROL ACT. *

***2419. Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram :** Will the Honourable Finance Member kindly state—

(a) whether any enquiry was instituted by Government into the working of the Village Patrol Act, and if so, whether any defects or hardships in the working of the Act were discovered ;

¹ Vide the footnote on page 253 ante.

- (b) whether Government intends to modify the working of the Act, and if so, in what direction and in what manner?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) & (b) In accordance with the statement made by the Honourable Leader of the House, the reports of Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and the Inspector-General of Police regarding the working of the Act were examined by the Standing Police Committee of this Council.

The Standing Police Committee recommended that certain instructions should be issued to Commissioners with a view to ensuring the better working of the Act. Government have issued these instructions.

MUNSHI BARKAT-UL-LAH.

***2420. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that M. Barkat-ul-lah, head constable of Hissar Police, was dismissed from service in 1925 on the charge of failure to arrest an accused person;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there are orders that ordinarily an accused should not be arrested till the completion of the investigation;
- (c) whether it is a fact that investigation in this case was not complete when another police official was put in charge of the case who also took some days in effecting the arrest of the accused;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that M. Barkat-ul-lah's previous record of service was unblemished;
- (e) if the reply to the above be in the affirmative, whether Government intend to reconsider the decision in his case?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) No. Under the Police Rules and in his capacity as a Station House Officer Barkat Ullah should have arrested the accused who was produced before him with stolen cattle.

(c) Yes; but as the arrest and the enquiry had then to be made in different circumstances he was not at once able to arrest the accused, who, however, was subsequently convicted in a court of law.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

MILITARY SCHOLARSHIPS.

***2421. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to state—

- (a) what has been the budget provision for military scholarships in the years 1927-28 and 1928-29

[Ch. Afzal Haq.]

- (b) what is the actual sum that has been spent by way of military scholarships ;
- (c) whether there is always a saving in this item ; if so, why and what steps Government intends to take to utilise this grant in full in future ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal :

	Rs.
(a) 1927-28	4,00,000
1928-29	4,00,000
(b) 1927-28	3,13,017
1928-29	2,98,340
(c) (i) There is usually a balance due to various causes—	
(1) illness or death.	
(2) absence.	
(3) completion of studies at a certain stage, etc.	
(iv) Government has recently relaxed the rules.	

GRANTS-IN-AID TO LOCAL BODIES.

***2422. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) what was the budget provision for grants-in-aid to the local bodies in the years 1927-28 and 1928-29 ;
- (b) what was the actual sum that has been utilized ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there is always a saving in this item ;
- (d) if so, why and what steps Government intends to take to utilize this grant in full in future ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : It is regretted that the answer to this question is not yet ready. It will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

MEETINGS HELD BY VARIOUS STANDING COMMITTEES.

***2423. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, be pleased to state the number of meetings held by the various Standing Committees of the Punjab Legislative Council during the last five years ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : A statement giving the information asked for by the honourable member is laid on the table.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Will the honourable member please read the statement ? It must be only a small one.

Mr. J. G. Beazley :

STATEMENT.

Name of Standing Committee.	Number of meetings held.
Finance	29
Industries	7
Co-operative Societies	3
Excise	1
Agriculture	5
Land Revenue	3
Local Self-Government	12
Public Health	7
Jails	8
Police	7
Education	8
Canals	7

Mr. President : I wish to invite once more the attention of the honourable members to a salutary principle. No question, the answer to which involves only figures, numbers or statistics, should be starred. Such questions will not be admitted in future as starred questions.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : I only wanted to know in my supplementary question whether there were certain cases where no committee meetings were held. That is the reason why I put it as a starred question.

SIMLA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE.

***2424. Chaudhri Afzal Haq :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether it is a fact that all the municipal committees in the province have been allowed to elect non-official presidents ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Simla is the only committee which has an official president ; if so, why ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Under sub-section (1) of section 20 of the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, every municipal committee has the right to elect its president unless the Local Government has by notification excluded it from the provisions of the sub-section in question.

(b) No. Owing to the peculiar nature of the municipal committees of Simla, Murree and Dalhousie and the migratory nature of their populations,

[Hon'ble Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.]

these three committees have been exempted from the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 20 of the Municipal Act, and in addition a number of municipal committees have elected official members to be their presidents.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I know the peculiar circumstances under which no Indian president has been given to this committee?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I have narrated the peculiar circumstances in the answer to clause (b) of the question.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I know, Sir, whether the members are migratory?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I did not say the 'members'; I said 'population.'

Lala Bodh Raj : It is the right of a member to be president, and a non-official member can be the president as he is not migratory.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : I have stated the rules which are prevalent in most of the municipalities.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : What has the population to do with the nomination of president?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The population has to do with the representation in the municipal committee. If that population is migratory, then the representation in the municipal committee will not be there.

Lala Bodh Raj : The population is represented by members of the committee.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : If the honourable member will kindly listen to me, he will see that the members represented by election in the municipal committee are members who are elected by the registered voters of the municipal committee. The migratory population that comes to these hill stations have no chance of being registered.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Is the Government prepared to let the Simla committee elect its non-official president?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Not under the present circumstances.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : What are the reasons?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : That is a matter for the consideration of Government. If the honourable member can convince Government, that it is desirable to do what he wishes, probably Government will do so, but Government at present is not convinced of the advisability of the course suggested.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Is it for the members to convince the Government or is it for the Government to explain their position?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : The Government position is that the Government at present consider that the present orders are justified by circumstances. If the honourable member thinks that the orders are not justified, then he has got to convince Government of that.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I think the interpellation is merging into a resolution.

OUTLETS OF HISSAR MAJOR.

***2425. Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in villages of Raipur and Siswal, which are irrigated by Hissar Major, Western Jumna Canal, in Hissar district, the outlets have been increased;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the irrigation prior to this increase was already to a permissible right in the area;
- (c) If so, what are the reasons for increasing the outlets;
- (d) if it is a fact that both the villages are owned by Sikh gentlemen?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Only one outlet in Raipur village has been increased.

- (b) No.
- (c) Both irrigation done and discharge passed by this one outlet were less than permissible.
- (d) Yes.

RAI SAHIB MUNSHI GULAB SINGH AND SONS.

***2426. Shaikh Faiz Muhammad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the firm of Rai Sahib Munshi Gulab Singh and Sons had agreed to sell the publication of the Text-Book Committee at the rate of 550 pages for a rupee, with effect from 1st April 1929;
- (b) If so, whether the said firm has fulfilled the above condition;
- (c) if not, what steps the Text-Book Committee proposes to take against it?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Inquiries are being made from the Secretary of the Punjab Text-Book Committee, and an answer will be communicated to the honourable member as soon as it is ready.

DEPUTY DIVISIONAL INSPECTORS OF SCHOOLS.

***2427. Shaikh Faiz Muhammad :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education kindly state—

- (a) who is the senior most gentleman among the Deputy Divisional Inspectors of Schools in the province;
- (b) whether Government intend to consider his claims for the post on the retirement of Chaudhri Fateh-ud-Din?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Sardar Deva Singh is among the Deputy Inspectors the most senior officer in the Punjab Educational Service.

- (b) The posts of Inspector of Schools are filled by selection.

***2428. Cancelled.**

VERNACULAR FINAL EXAMINATION.

***2429. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Vernacular Final Examination held in February 1929 was cancelled inasmuch as certain important papers had leaked out at one of the centres ;
- (b) whether the candidates for that examination throughout the province were required to take the examination for a second time and were thus subjected to great worry and financial loss ;
- (c) whether Government has held any enquiry into the affair, and if so, what is the report of the committee making the enquiry as to the responsibility of the Registrar of Departmental Examinations in this matter ;
- (d) what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken against the Registrar of Departmental Examinations in connection with this matter ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. The Report is confidential.

(d) Does not arise.

REGISTRAR, DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS.

***2430. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether any Muslim has ever held the post of Registrar of Departmental Examinations ;
- (b) if the answer to (a) be in the negative, whether Government is prepared to consider the claims of a Muslim for this post on the retirement of the present incumbent ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the answer given to the Council question¹ (starred) No. 1890.

INCOME TO EDUCATION DEPARTMENT MEMBERS FROM SALE OF TEXT-BOOKS.

***2431. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state the names of members of the Education Department who have derived any income from the sale of text-books in which they are interested as authors or part authors during the last two years and the amount of such income in each case ?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Government has made arrangements for the collection of such information for its own use, but considers such information to be confidential.

¹ Vol. XII, page 592.

INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, RAWALPINDI DIVISION.

***2432. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Lala Atma Ram, Inspector of Schools, Rawalpindi Division, has gone on long leave;
- (b) the name or the names of the Deputy Inspector or Deputy Inspectors of Schools in the Rawalpindi Division;
- (c) whether there are any reasons why the Deputy Inspector, if there is only one, or one of the Deputy Inspectors, if there are more than one, was not given the chance of officiating in place of Lala Atma Ram?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) Sh. Allah Rakha.

(c) The appointment is one which is filled by selection from amongst the most suitable candidates.

INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, RAWALPINDI DIVISION.

***2433. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Minister for Education please state—

- (a) whether the present officiating Inspector of Schools, Rawalpindi Division, has had any training, and if so, when and where and for what period;
- (b) whether the said officiating Inspector of Schools has had any previous experience of inspection work and if so, how he acquitted himself in the discharge of his duties as an Inspector;
- (c) his special qualifications in view of which he has been appointed officiating Inspector of Schools in place of Lala Atma Ram?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No, but Rai Sahib Lala Ratan Lal, the most senior officer in the Punjab Educational Service, has been on the staff of the Central Training College.

(b) Yes. The official records of Government servants are confidential.

(c) Such appointments are made after careful consideration of past record and appropriate qualifications.

ACQUISITION OF LAND IN VILLAGE GHUENKE FOR MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

***2434. Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue please state—

- (a) the terms under which the land under the encamping ground in village Ghuenke of the Sialkot district was acquired from the landholders of that village;
- (b) whether any promise was held out by the Government to the landholders of the said village that in case the land was not required by the Military Department as an encamping ground the land would be restored to the landholders on certain terms;

[Ch. Zafarullah Khan.]

- (c) whether the land is no longer required for an encamping ground, and if so, whether Government now propose to carry out their promise of restoring the land to the landholders of village Ghuenke?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No terms were fixed at the time of acquisition.

(b) No.

- (c) The land, being no longer required for an encamping ground, was given to a military grantee. The original owners' application for the restoration to them of the land is still under consideration.

OUTLETS ON MIRKA MINOR, PETWAR BRANCH, WESTERN JUMNA CANAL.

***2435. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in February 1927 remodelling of outlets on Mirka Minor, Petwar Branch of Western Jumna Canal (Rohtak Division), was completed;
- (b) whether it is a fact that these very outlets were dismantled in 1928 and reconstructed;
- (c) if the answers to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, what were the reasons for reconstructing the outlets again so soon?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Some adjustment of outlet sizes were made in 1926-27 with a view to equalisation of irrigation.

(b) In 1928 in accordance with a general policy Flume outlets were substituted for barrels.

- (c) Equalisation of distribution of water was aimed at.

MIRKA MINOR.

***2436. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that during the last year outlet R. D. No. 19500 (right bank) on the Mirka Minor in Hansi Sub-Division on Petwar kept running in dismantled condition;
- (b) If the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, whether it came to the notice of the officers concerned; if so, what action was taken by the said officers;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a number of other villages on this minor suffered heavily on account of the above; if so, what steps were taken by the officers to compensate them?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No.

***2437. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that sub-divisional officer of Hansi Sub-Division found the outlet R. D. 19,500 (right bank), Mirka Minor in a dismantled condition ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that other zamindars on the spot removed about 50 pacca bricks which were adjusted in the outlet R. D. 19,500 (right bank) on Mirka Minor, on Sub-Divisional Officer's order ;
- (c) if the answers to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative, what action was taken by the officers concerned, and if no action has yet been taken, what action Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

MINORS IN THE PETWAR BRANCH.

***2438. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) how many minors are there in all on the Petwar Branch in the Hansi Sub-Division of the Rohtak Division from Qutabpur to the tail of Petwar ;
- (b) how are their turns of water (*warabandis*) regulated, giving the rightful share of each ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that only three minors on the tail are run by *warabandis*, and others are kept running throughout, whenever there is water supply in the Petwar Branch ;
- (d) if the answer to (c) be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for running by *warabandis* these three minors and what action Government propose to take to stop this differential treatment ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : (a) Petwar Major Distributary has seven minors below Qutabpur, including three at the tail.

(b) By order of the Executive Engineer as occasion demands.

(c) No.

(d) There is no differential treatment.

OUTLETS OF MIRKA MINOR.

***2439. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the outlets on Mirka Minor in the Rohtak Division of the Western Jumna Canal were ordered to be closed twice in the year for ten days each time in 1928 ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a Kuchha outlet was given near R. D. No. 19,500 to yield increased water supply to certain zamindars ; and if so, why ;

[Lala Bodh Raj.]

- (c) whether it is a fact that the orders passed on the 8th October, 1928, for closure of outlets were cancelled by telergams on 9th October, 1928, but in spite of it the closure continued up to 11th October, 1928; if so, what action was taken by the officers in the matter;
- (d) whether it is a fact that on outlet R. D. No. 19,500, the Rabi crop was found sown by canal officers on the spot about the 12th October, 1928;
- (e) whether any investigation was made before the cancelling of orders of closure on 9th October, 1928, in Mirka Minor, and if so, what were the reasons for issuing these orders?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Yes, for maturing *kharif* crops.

(c) Owing to accident orders conveyed by telegram on 9th were not acted on until 11th.

(d) Yes, only a very small area of carrots.

(e) The Executive Engineer acted according to his discretion.

SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE, KOT ADU.

***2440. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner, Muzaffargarh, attended the meeting of the small town committee, Kot Adu, held on the 21st February, 1929;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the meeting and some other members of the said committee protested against the action of the Deputy Commissioner in interfering with their business;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner threatened the members of the committee with their removal;
- (d) whether it is a fact that some of the members walked out of the meeting as a protest against the attitude of the Deputy Commissioner;
- (e) whether any representation was made to Government by the members of the committee complaining against the Deputy Commissioner for his interference in the business of the committee? If so, whether any explanation has been taken from the Deputy Commissioner with reference to their representation;
- (f) if the reply to part (c) be in the affirmative, whether Government intend to lay on the table the representation of the members of the said committee and the explanation of the Deputy Commissioner concerned?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) Protests against the Tahsildar taking the oath of allegiance and his continuance in office as President were raised by the member who had been elected to be chairman of the meeting until such time as the Tahsildar had taken the oath of allegiance and by some other members in the presence of the Deputy Commissioner. As the Tahsildar was still member and President of the committee in accordance with sections 6 (1) and 9 (3) of the Small Towns Act the election of any other member to be chairman of the meeting appears to have been irregular.

(c) The Deputy Commissioner gave the President and members of the committee general advice on the subject of their duties and explained to the President that if members were habitually obstructive and refused to accept the rulings of the chair their names should be reported to Government through the usual channels.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE, KOT ADU.

***2441. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to resolutions Nos. 12 and 14 of the General Committee meeting of the Small Town Committee, Kot Adu, District Muzaffargarh, held on 8th October 1928 regarding the election of the President ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the President did not call for a division, nor did he record the votes in spite of the fact that such a demand was made by some of the members ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) No resolutions numbered 12 and 14 appear to have been passed by the committee of Kot Adu on the 8th October 1928.

There were items numbered 12 and 14 on the agenda which were disposed of as follows :—

Item No. 12.—The President ruled this item out of order and it was not put to the meeting.

Item No. 14.—The President adjourned the meeting under Rule 13 of the Small Towns Business Rules, 1924, before this item of the agenda was dealt with.

(b) Does not arise.

SMALL TOWN COMMITTEE, KOT ADU.

***2442. Lala Bodh Raj :** Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please state—

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to resolution No. 3, of the Small Town Committee, Kot Adu, district

[Lala Bodh Raj.]

Muzaffargarh, held on 16th November regarding the non-official President of the committee;

- (b) what are the reasons for not allowing the committee to elect a non-official President;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner of the district made any remarks against the execution of the said resolution; if so, will the Honourable Minister please lay a copy thereof on the table?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes, after the question was admitted.

(b) The committee has since been permitted to elect a non-official President.

(c) No action was taken by the Deputy Commissioner under section 47 of the Act either to suspend the execution of the resolution himself or to recommend that the Commissioner should suspend the execution thereof.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

FLOUR MILLS IN THE NILI BAR COLONY.

1259. Sardar Hira Singh, Narli : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the old colonies the colonists were permitted to erect flour-mills free of rent;
- (b) whether it is a fact that in the Nili Bar Colony this permission has been withheld by the Colonization Officer?
- (c) If so, what action Government intend to take in the matter?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) In the old colonies colonists were permitted to erect flour mills provided that this was done in a separate *ahata* (site), so that if the zamindars of the chak wished to do so a cess could be levied upon it. Such cesses, however, were rarely, if ever imposed.

Such sites remained the property of Government, which has the right at any time to charge rent for them or to offer them for sale.

(b) The Colonization Officer has so far been unable to trace the incident referred to.

(c) Further information is awaited from the Colonization Officer.

CONVERSION OF WOOD INTO CHARCOAL AND ERECTION OF BRICK-KILNS IN THE NILI BAR.

1260. **Sardar Hira Singh, Narli :** (i) Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Colonization Officer, Nili Bar, has prohibited the conversion of wood into charcoal and the erection of brick-kilns in lands leased to zamindars on temporary cultivation basis ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the lease-deed does not contain any provision prohibiting the use of wood in the manner described in (a), nor is there any provision against the erection of brick kilns ;
- (c) whether it is a fact that this prohibition has resulted in the loss of wood, worth thousands of rupees ?

(ii) If the answer to (i) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The Colonization Officer has prohibited the sub-letting of portions of the leased lands for use as charcoal kilns, and has also prohibited the erection of brick-kilns on leased lands.

(b) No. The sub-letting of any portion of leased land for any purpose is a clear breach of the terms of the lease as contained in Part II, Clause 8 of the Lease Deed ; the use of any portion of the land for a brick-kiln is a breach of Part I, Clause 3.

(c) No. There is nothing to prevent lessees selling this wood in the open market, or burning it themselves.

(ii) None.

LAND FOR CREMATION, &C., IN THE NILI BAR.

1261. **Sardar Hira Singh, Narli :** (i) Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in auctioning the chaks of the Nili Bar, the Colonization Officer has not reserved any land for cremation and graveyard and that the purchasers of these chaks have been directed to purchase land for this purpose ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that in the chaks of temporary cultivation in the Nili Bar, the Colonization Officer has not reserved any land for the building of houses and *ahatas* and that the zamindars have to pay *malikana* for land on which they raise houses ?

(ii) If the answer to (i) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government intend to take in the matter ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a) In all chaks containing small lots (up to 200 acres), land has been reserved for cremation grounds and graveyards. In chaks comprising large lots, it has been left to the purchasers to set aside such small areas as may be required for the purpose. No purchasers have been directed to buy land for the purpose.

(b) Yes. Those submitting tenders for leases are aware of the fact and can adjust their tenders accordingly.

(ii) None.

ENQUIRY INTO THE CONDUCT OF CIVIL, CANAL AND POLICE OFFICERS.

1262. Sardar Hira Singh, Narli : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that secret enquiries by the Criminal Investigation Department are made after every three years into the conduct of all civil, canal and police officers ;

(b) if so, the number of honest and dishonest officers respectively serving in these departments in the Lahore district ;

(c) if such enquiries are not made, whether Government intend to make them in future ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No.

LAND REVENUE IN GURGAON DISTRICT.

1263. Rao Bahadur Captain Rao Balbir Singh : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) the actual percentage at which land revenue in Gurgaon District was fixed at the time of the last settlement ;

(b) the actual amount of land revenue which has been suspended from year to year since the last settlement ;

(c) the actual amount of land revenue standing as arrears against Gurgaon zamindars at the present time ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The proportion of half-net assets taken at the last settlement of Gurgaon District was 39.5 per cent.

(b) A statement is laid on the table.

(c) Rs. 7,00,688.

**STATEMENT SHOWING THE ACTUAL AMOUNT OF LAND REVENUE
SUSPENDED IN THE GURGAON DISTRICT, DURING THE YEARS
1910-11 TO 1928-29.**

Year.	Actual amounts of land revenue suspended.
	Rs.
1909-10	6,014
1910-11	23,087
1911-12	2,18,620
1912-13	25,053
1913-14	2,01,594
1914-15	47,070
1915-16	3,53,907
1916-17	4,693
1917-18	2,85,202
1918-19	8,56,067
1919-20	99,332
1920-21	4,95,615
1921-22	1,24,005
1922-23	8,247
1923-24	66,758
1924-25	6,737
1925-26	1,85,240
1926-27	1,55,948
1927-28	1,14,227
1928-29	9,06,523

AGRICULTURAL CATTLE.

1264. Rao Bahadur Captain Rao Balbir Singh : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that during the course of the last six months a very large proportion of agricultural cattle has died in Gurgaon on account of scarcity of fodder;

(b) if so, what steps Government intends to take to afford relief to the zamindars who have suffered this loss?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No, though naturally cattle in the Gurgaon district suffered during the recent fodder scarcity.

[Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

The honourable member cannot be unaware of the strenuous efforts made by the local officers, the Financial Commissioner and Government in dealing with the fodder scarcity trouble. Adequate arrangements were made to supply fodder in that district and other districts by the appointment of a Fodder Adviser, by opening fodder dumps at convenient places, and by giving liberal *taccavi* advances.

OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

1265. Rao Bahadur Captain Rao Balbir Singh : (a) Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the officers of the Department of Agriculture in the Imperial Service grades are only required to visit villages situated on *pacca* roads or near railway stations or are they expected to make a tour on *kacha* village roads also ?

(b) If outlying villages are also to be toured by these officers, will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state—

(i) how many villages which are not within two miles of a *pacca* road or a railway station have been visited by the Deputy Director of Agriculture and the Director of Agriculture during the last five years in the Gurgaon district ;

(ii) how many miles have each of the Deputy Directors in the province travelled by cars and how many, if at all, on horse-back during the year ending 31st March 1929 ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) No. The officers of the Department of Agriculture are expected to arrange their tours, in such a way as to see as many villages as possible, and pay particular attention to outlying estates.

(b) I am sorry the information asked for is not available ; but I see what the honourable member means and I am issuing instructions.

ADMISSION TO THE MUGHALPURA AND RASUL ENGINEERING COLLEGES.

1266. Rao Bahadur Captain Rao Balbir Singh : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state :—

(a) whether it is a fact that admissions to the Mughalpura and Rasul Colleges are made on communal lines ; if so, in what way are the interests of Hindu zamindars safeguarded ;

(b) what is the total number of Hindus admitted to each of these colleges during the last three years, and how many of them were members of Statutory Agricultural Tribes ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The reply is in the negative in so far as the MacLagan Engineering College, Moghalpura, is concerned.

As regards the Government School of Engineering, Punjab, Rasul, fifty students are admitted yearly from British Punjab by competition in the admission examination. Of this number provided the necessary qualifying marks are obtained 40 per cent. will be Muslims, 20 per cent. Sikhs and 40 per cent. Hindus and other communities. Of the total number of admission not less than 50 per cent. must be agriculturists (paragraph 17 (i) (b) of the Prospectus).

(b) The total number of Hindus admitted to each of these institutions during the last three years, and the number of whom were members of Statutory Agricultural Tribes, is as follows:—

MACLAGAN ENGINEERING COLLEGE.

Year.	Class.	Total number of Hindus admitted.	Number of Agriculturists.
1926	"A"	12	..
	"B"	17	2
1927	"A"	11	2
	"B"	22	5
1928	"A"	9	1
	"B"	23	5
Total .. .. .	..	94	15

GOVERNMENT SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING, RASUL.

Year.	Class.	Total number of Hindus admitted.	Number of Agriculturists.
1927	23	1
1928	25	1
1929	26	5
Total	74	7

SALE OF LAND OF STATUTORY AGRICULTURISTS BY INSOLVENCY COURTS.

1267. Rao Bahadur Captain Rao Balbir Singh : (a) Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state the number of cases in

[R. B. Capt. Rao Balbir Singh.]

which agricultural land of statutory agriculturists has been sold by insolvency courts in the Ambala Division ?

(b) Has there been any marked increase in the number of insolvency petitions in the Ambala Division, since the High Court has held that land of the statutory agriculturists could be attached and sold by insolvency courts ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Sixteen in Karnal and 3 in Hissar. No cases are reported from the other districts.

(b) Only in Karnal.

CONTRACTORS, SIMLA MUNICIPALITY.

1268. Lala Joti Parshad : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government please furnish a statement showing the names of the contractors who did work for the Buildings and Roads Branch of the Simla Municipality during the years 1927 and 1928 and the amount of work done by them in rupees in each case ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : A statement giving the required information is attached :—

SIMLA MUNICIPALITY.

Statement showing the names of the contractors who did work for the Buildings and Roads Branch of the Simla Municipality during the year 1927.

				Rs.
1.	Makhdum Bakhsh	..	..	1,602
2.	Ghanthu	..	..	11,500
3.	Muhammad Ali	..	..	19,929
4.	Subarnu	..	..	1,791
5.	Jati Ram	..	..	5,866
6.	Bhagat Singh	..	..	5,452
7.	Ishar Ram	..	..	7,056
8.	Mehbullah	..	..	965
9.	Batna Ram	..	..	4,674
10.	Moti Ram	..	..	786
11.	Dalel Singh	..	..	1,056
12.	Dalip Singh	..	..	1,781
13.	Inder Singh	..	..	1,728
14.	Abdul Rahman, I	..	..	211
15.	Abdul Hamid	..	..	10,881
16.	Banta Singh	..	..	578
17.	Pritam Singh	..	..	664
18.	Ghulam Muhammad-Ghulam Mustafa	..	..	1,111
19.	Abdul Wahid	..	..	640
20.	Abdulla	..	..	342
21.	Uttam Singh	..	..	9,145
22.	Alla Dia	..	..	645
23.	Khadim Hussain	..	..	1,860
24.	Nazir Ahmed	..	..	100

				Rs.
25.	Najaf Shah, I	..	..	7,472
26.	Shakoor Ali	..	..	8,278
27.	Gurditta	..	..	166
28.	Abdul Ghani	..	..	1,519
29.	Hassan	..	..	718
30.	Ajboo	..	..	1,187
31.	Abdul Rahman, II	..	..	659
32.	Ghulam Abbas	..	..	94
33.	Jamal-ud-Din	..	..	6,058
34.	Najaf Shah, II	..	..	2,059
35.	Gusaon	..	..	120
36.	Dhodu	..	..	219
37.	Uttam Ram	..	..	529
38.	Gulwant Singh	..	..	580
39.	Khuda Bakhsh	..	..	118
40.	Uttam Chand	..	..	249
41.	Daulat Ram	..	..	418
42.	Ude Ram	..	..	944
43.	Ali Yar	..	..	319
44.	Amir-ud-Din	..	..	172
45.	Sheru	..	..	50
46.	Hazara Singh-Ganga Singh	..	..	749
47.	Ram Chand	..	..	272
48.	Kesho Ram	..	..	434
49.	Abdul Salam	..	..	650
50.	Muhammad Shah	..	..	449

SIMLA MUNICIPALITY.

Statement showing the names of the contractors who did work for the Buildings and Roads Branch of the Simla Municipality during the year 1928.

				Rs.
1.	Ishar Ram	..	..	4,958
2.	Kesho Ram	..	..	426
3.	Ali Yar	..	..	1,218
4.	Nasir-ud-Din	..	..	865
5.	Abdul Salam	..	..	442
6.	Mehbullah	..	..	878
7.	Hazara Singh-Ganga Singh	..	..	1,771
8.	Jati Ram-Moti Ram	..	..	629
9.	Jamal-ud-Din	..	..	8,863
10.	Bhagat Singh	..	..	16,339
11.	Abdul Hamid	..	..	1,571
12.	Thakur Singh-Bhagat Singh	..	..	118
13.	Mehdi Ali Shah	..	..	280
14.	Habibullah	..	..	779
15.	Guddoo Mal	..	..	225

[Hon'ble Malik Firoz Khan, Noon.]

	Rs.
16. Allah Banda	220
17. Abdullah	898
18. Khuda Bakhsh	408
19. Khadim Husain-Fiaz Husain	702
20. Abdul Wahid	299
21. Bhagat Singh of Messrs. Dhyan Singh and Co.	488
22. Makhdum Bakhsh	1,780
23. Muhammad Din	246
24. Daulat Ram	198
25. Abdul Ghani	1,138
26. Abdul Rahman, Painter	818
27. Uttam Singh	648
28. Ghulam Muhammad	62
29. Abdul Rahman, Contractor	271
30. Batna Ram	645
31. Pritam	288
32. Subarna	1,681
33. Gopi Chand	2,928
34. Muhammad Ali	5,832
35. Najaf Shah	2,079
36. Ajboo	890
37. Jati Ram	1,125
38. Shakoor Ali	11,171
39. Fida Husain	1,905
40. Ram Kishen	276
41. Gurditta	1,271
42. Ghanthu	7,756
43. Dalip Singh	1,317
44. Gurditta Ram	1,812
45. Thakur Singh	834
46. Nazir Ahmed	458
47. Bhullah Ram	173
48. Hira	13
49. Hazara Singh	488

FAMINE RELIEF WORKS.

1269. Lala Joti Parshad : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to lay on the table a list of famine relief works started in the districts of Hissar, Rohtak, Karnal and Gurgaon from October 1928 to June 1929 ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : No famine relief works have been started in the districts mentioned.

FODDER SUPPLY.

1270. Lala Joti Parshad : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the total quantity of

fodder supplied at Hissar, Satrod (Hissar District), Bhiwani and Bawan-khera and the outlay on the same together with loss sustained by Government in this fodder supply?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : It is yet too early to say what the total loss to Government will be, as a result of the operations for the supply of fodder in the Hissar District. The total amount of fodder supplied by the Fodder Adviser to the Deputy Commissioner of Hissar up to the 15th July 1929 is 68,413 maunds, 7 seers and the amount issued by him as *taccavi* or sold for cash is 44,191 maunds, 14 seers.

TACCAVI IN HISSAR DISTRICT.

1271. Lala Joti Parshad : Will the Honourable Revenue Member please state the total amount of *taccavi* distributed in the Hissar District per tahsil and the total amount of remissions of land revenue in the district owing to the failure of last *kharif* and *rabi* crops?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A statement showing the total amount of *taccavi* distributed in the Hissar District per tahsil is laid on the table.

No remission of land revenue were granted either in 1928-29 or 1929-30.

STATEMENT SHOWING TACCAVI LOANS ADVANCED DURING THE YEARS 1928-29 AND 1929-30 IN THE HISSAR DISTRICT.

Tahsil.	LAND IMPROVEMENT LOANS ACT, XIX OF 1883.		AGRICULTURISTS' LOANS ACT, XII OF 1884.		Taccavi Advances made in kind (fodder) upto 7th July 1929.
	1928-29.	1929-30.	1928-29.	1929-30.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bhiwani ..	1,400	5,000	65,562	85,000	12,375 0 0
Hansi ..	3,400	15,000	54,000	15,000	13,011 0 0
Hissar ..	17,500	27,000	48,000	37,500	6,087 8 0
Fatehabad ..	21,500	48,000	37,353	47,500	..
Sirsa ..	3,000	10,000	80,000	..	..
Total ..	46,800	1,05,000	2,84,915	1,85,000	31,473 8 0
Additional amount recently advanced.	..	..	..	60,000	..
GRAND TOTAL ..	46,800	1,05,000	2,84,915	2,45,000	31,473 8 0

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, LYALLPUR.

1272. Lala Joti Parshad : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture please state the number of students communitywise who passed the final examination this year from the Agricultural College, Lyallpur?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :

<i>Muhammadans.</i>	<i>Hindus.</i>	<i>Sikhs.</i>
6	2	19

WIDTH OF 1ST AND 2ND CLASS METALLED ROADS.

1273. Mr. E. Maya Dás : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether any minimum road width has been prescribed for class I and class II metalled roads;
- (b) if the reply be in the affirmative, what are these roads widths;
- (c) a statement may kindly be laid on the table showing how the width has been arrived at and how much has been allowed for—
 - (1) metalled portion,
 - (2) berms,
 - (3) space for stacking kankar or other stones,
 - (4) space for trenches for carrying water?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) No.

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

REPAIRS OR CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS.

1274. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) whether during the last financial year the Public Works Department made use of any earth from land outside road limits for repair or construction of roads;
- (b) if so, was any compensation paid;
- (c) if so, at what rates?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) No separate account is maintained in the departmental books of the items mentioned, but if the honourable member is interested in any particular stretch of arterial road enquiries could be made to ascertain the amount of compensation paid.

ELIGIBILITY OF SUB-INSPECTORS OF POLICE FOR NOMINATION AS EXTRA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS.

1275. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) whether Sub-Inspectors of Police are eligible for nomination to the post of Extra Assistant Commissioners;

(b) if so, how many Sub-Inspectors were so nominated during the past three years ?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

ENCROACHMENT UPON VILLAGE ROADS.

1276. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state what agency is responsible for reporting when village roads are encroached upon ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The Patwari, if Government property is concerned : otherwise the villagers themselves.

VILLAGE ROADS.

1277. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in case of a large number of village roads the condition of culverts is in need of much improvement ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a good many of them are shaped like an inverted capital " U " and present considerable difficulty for the passage of vehicles ;

(c) if so, what action Government proposes taking to render these culverts safe for traffic ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) and (b) The Honourable member has not made clear what exactly he means by " village roads." If by that expression he means roads under the control of district boards, any improvement of such roads is a matter for the district boards and the honourable member should bring the matter to the notice of the District Board of the district in which he resides. If the honourable member is referring to roads which are not maintained by District Boards but are part of the *shamilat deh*, the matter is one for consideration by the proprietors of the villages concerned.

(c) Government are not concerned.

MOTOR CAR ACCIDENT ON THE KALKA-SIMLA ROAD.

1278. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that during May 1929 a motor car rolled down the *khud* on the Kalka-Simla Road ;

(b) if so, what damage was done ;

(c) what was the cause of the accident ;

(d) whether anyone was to blame for the accident and, if so, what action has been taken against him ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) One passenger was killed and 6 were injured but not seriously. The car was badly smashed.

[Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

(c) Car No. P. 2962-A containing the above passengers was coming towards Simla and when taking the bend near mile 14.1 was run into by another car No. P. 4371-A driven by Ujjagar Singh, driver. The 'up' car was on the extreme left edge of the road and the impact of the collision knocked the car over the edge of the road and it fell one thousand feet down the *khud*. An Inspector of Police with a doctor and medicine was immediately sent to spot to render every possible assistance.

(d) Ujjagar Singh, driver, was to blame. His ordinary as well as special driving license was cancelled. He was arrested by the Government Police and handed over to the Patiala Police where a case under section 304-A of Indian Penal Code was registered as the accident occurred within the jurisdiction of the Patiala State.

'HAIR PIN' TURNS ON THE KALKA-SIMLA ROAD.

1279. **Mr. E. Maya Das :** Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) how many 'hair pin' turns, that is, dangerous turns on the Kalka-Simla Road were rendered safe during the last financial year ;
- (b) how many will be improved during the current year ;
- (c) how many will then remain to be improved ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a), (b) and (c) As there is no generally accepted definition of a 'hair pin' turn and no two persons are likely to agree on the stage when a bend ceases to be dangerous, it is impossible to furnish the information asked for. I can assure the honourable member, however, that improvements to this road are being made gradually as funds permit, in order to make it safer for traffic.

TENTS FOR POLICE POST AT TARA DEVI.

1280. **Mr. E. Maya Das :** Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that a police post has been stationed at Tara Devi on Kalka-Simla Road and the police men are living in tents ;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that tent ropes have been tied to stones ;
- (c) if so, will the Government be pleased to state why tent pegs have not been supplied ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) At the request of the medical authorities a small staff of police was posted at Tara Devi to assist the medical personnel in enforcing medical examination and rules of inspection.

(b) and (c) Tent pegs were found unsuitable owing to the nature of the ground and blocks of wood were used instead.

TARA DEVI POLICE POST.

1281. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is intended to continue the Tara Devi (Kalka-Simla Road) police post during the rainy season ;
 (b) if so, what arrangements will be made for sheltering the force which is at present in tents from the rains ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) A temporary building is being erected.

CHRISTIAN VOTERS FOR THE PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

1282. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing by districts the number of Christian voters for the Punjab Legislative Council ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The statement is laid upon the table.

Statement showing by districts the number of European and Christian voters for the Punjab Legislative Council.

Hissar	..	..	..	..	96
Rohtak	..	..	..	..	12
Gurgaon	..	..	..	..	94
Karnal	..	..	..	..	17
Ambala	..	..	..	..	192
Simla	..	..	..	..	852
Kangra	..	..	..	..	46
Hoshiarpur	..	..	..	..	55
Jullundur	..	..	..	..	85
Ludhiana	..	..	..	..	86
Ferozepore	..	..	..	..	268
Lahore	..	..	..	..	1,007
Amritsar	..	..	..	..	226
Gurdaspur	..	..	..	..	484
Sialkot	..	..	..	..	400
Gujranwala	..	..	..	..	61
Sheikhupura	..	..	..	..	193
Gujrat	..	..	..	..	22
Shahpur	..	..	..	..	88
Jhelum	..	..	..	..	93
Rawalpindi	..	..	..	..	387
Attock	..	..	..	..	21
Mianwali	..	..	..	..	29
Montgomery	..	..	..	..	94
Dera Ghazi Khan	..	..	..	..	3
Muzaffargarh	..	..	..	..	..
Multan	..	..	..	..	145
Jhang	..	..	..	..	86
Lyallpur	..	..	..	..	822

TRAINING OF TRACKERS.

1283. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state what arrangements are made for training of trackers in areas where trackers are scarce or none at all ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The Police Department does not train trackers ; they are selftaught from infancy. Attempts are made to enlist and employ in the various district police forces trackers trained from infancy.

INCREASE OF PAY OF POLICE CONSTABLES.

1284. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Finance Member be pleased to state what extra expenditure per annum would be involved if the pay of police constables were increased by one rupee ?

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Rupees 2,17,908 per annum.

ATTOCK OIL COMPANY.

1285. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Member for Revenue be pleased to state for what length of time has the Attock Oil Company been granted lease to extract oil and when will it expire ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Two mining leases for a period of 30 years each expiring on 31st December 1949 and 22nd December 1951, respectively, have been granted to the Attock Oil Company.

DEMONSTRATION TRAIN.

1286. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) what was the total cost of working the demonstration train during the two years that it worked ;
- (b) what is the estimated number of persons who came to see it ;
- (c) how much per head (of persons who came to see it) does the cost work out ?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The cost has not yet been calculated.

(b) The estimated number of persons who visited the train during the two years is 9,71,000.

(c) The cost per head will be known when the total cost has been ascertained.

TAP WATER SUPPLY.

1287. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) how many municipalities have arranged for a tap water supply ;
- (b) how many of these have a metered supply ;
- (c) what is the consumption per head per annum in case of metered supply ;
- (d) and what in case of unmetred supply ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) At present 31 towns have provided themselves with a piped water supply, and water works are now under construction in 3 towns.

(b) In many towns a few private house connections are metered, but only in three Simla, Abohar and Muktsar are all private connections metered.

(c) and (d) It would serve no useful purpose to compare the consumption per head per diem in metered and unmetered towns, because the consumption depends upon the designed supply, which in turn depends, partly upon the capital expenditure on the water-works, and partly upon the amount of water available at source. If the object of the honourable member is to ascertain what value attaches to the metering of house-connections, I would refer him to the report issued in 1926 of the Expert Committee appointed by the Sanitary Board to study the question, a copy of which is laid on the table.¹ This report shows that the universal use of meters, by preventing waste of water by the well-to-do increases the amount of water available for the poor, brings in additional revenue to the Committee, and at the same time reduces expenditure upon the upkeep of the water-works and obviates the necessity of costly extensions.

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS.

1288. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the names of district boards that are maintaining middle and high schools for girls?

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The following district boards are known to be maintaining secondary schools for girls :—

- (1) Gurgaon.
- (2) Ludhiana.
- (3) Kangra.
- (4) Amritsar.
- (5) Dera Ghazi Khan.

LADY DISTRICT AND ASSISTANT DISTRICT INSPECTRESSES OF SCHOOLS.

1289. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Education be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the names of district boards that are employing lady Assistant District Inspectresses of Schools or Lady District Inspectresses of Schools.

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Information is being collected and a reply will be communicated to the honourable member when ready.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG THE EDUCATED.

1290. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Chief Secretary be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that unemployment exists among persons who have passed the entrance, F.A., B.A. and M.A. examinations;

[Mr. E. Maya Das.]

(b) if so, to what extent and what action does Government propose to take in the matter?

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) Yes.

(b) The Committee appointed by Government to investigate the question of unemployment in the Punjab reported that there was unemployment on a large scale among the classes whose education has been for the most part purely literary. The recommendations of this Committee are at present being examined by Heads of Departments, and will be considered by Government on receipt of their reports.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC BRANCH, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

1291. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state when the Administration Report of the Hydro-Electric Branch of the Public Works Department will be ready and whether copies will be supplied to members of this Council when ready?

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : The Administration Report of the Hydro-Electric Branch of the Punjab Public Works Department for 1927-28 is in the Press and the proof is being examined in the Hydro-Electric Branch, and will be issued shortly, and will then be available to Members of the Legislative Council.

REMUNERATION TO ZAILDARS.

1292. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing by districts the remuneration paid to zaildars?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply given to Council question¹ No. 1975 (starred) in the last session of the Council.

REMUNERATION OF ZAILDARS.

1293. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the basis on which the remuneration of zaildars is fixed is the same in all districts, and if not, what are the basis in the different districts;

(b) on what date or dates the present grades of remuneration for zaildars were fixed?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The basis on which the remuneration of zaildars is fixed is the same in all districts of the province,—vide rule 3 of the rules under the Land Revenue Act given below:—

“Ordinarily, save when other assignments exist for the remuneration of officers of these classes, the amount of the remuneration of the zaildars of a district (or any sub-division of the district to which the proposals may be confined) may amount to, but shall not exceed, 1 per cent. of the land revenue of the district (or sub-division of the district) and similarly the amount of the remuneration of the Inamdars may amount to, but shall not exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the land revenue.”

(b) A statement showing the required information is laid on the table.

STATEMENT SHOWING BY DISTRICTS THE DATE OR DATES ON WHICH THE PRESENT GRADES OF REMUNERATION FOR ZAILDARS WERE FIXED.

Serial No.	District.	Date of introduction.
AMBALA DIVISION.		
1	Hissar	All tahsils, save Sima in April 1911. Sima in 1925.
2	Rohtak	January 1910.
3	Gurgaon	All tahsils, save Ballabgarh in June 1909.
4	Karnal	Ballabgarh in January 1910.
5	Ambala	April 1910.
6		1920.
JULLUNDUR DIVISION.		
7	Kangra	August 1919.
8	Hoshiarpur	June 1914.
9	Jullundur	March 1917.
10	Ludhiana	September 1911.
11	Ferozepore	April 1915.
LAGORE DIVISION.		
12	Lahore	May 1916.
13	Amritsar	May 1911.
14	Gurdaspur	November 1912.
15	Sialkot	May 1916.
16	Gujranwala	October 1926.
17	Sheikhpura	March 1925.
RAWALPINDI DIVISION.		
18	Gujrat	November 1916.
19	Shahpur	February 1926.
20	Jhelum	No zaildar in this district.
21	Rawalpindi	January 1906.
22	Attock	All tahsils, save Attock in August 1918.
23	Mianwali	Attock in January 1906.
24		July 1928.
MULTAN DIVISION.		
25	Montgomery	All tahsils, save Okara in October 1922.
26	Lyallpur	Okara in May 1924.
27	Jhang	January 1906.
28	Multan	May 1927.
29	Muzaffargarh	Kharif 1921.
30	Dera Ghazi Khan	June 1925.
31		10th February 1921.

REMUNERATION OF ZAILDARS.

1294. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering the question of revision of rates of remuneration of zaildars ;
- (b) if so, when is a decision likely to be reached ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

PROVINCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO DISTRICT BOARDS.

1295. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) whether the question of provincial contribution to district boards is still under consideration of Government ;
- (b) if so, when is a decision likely to be reached ?

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) If the honourable member is referring to the annual consolidated grants to district boards, there is no proposal before Government for any immediate revision of the existing grants.

(b) Does not arise.

ODES.

1296. Mr. E. Maya Das : Will the Honourable Revenue Member be pleased to state—

- (a) whether it is a fact that in recent years the people known as ' Odes ' have been a source of much trouble to zamindars in Ferozepore district ;
- (b) whether it is a fact that about 2 or 3 years ago they had several fights with zamindars in Moga tahsil, as a result of which many persons received injuries ;
- (c) if so, what action Government proposes taking to give necessary protection to the zamindars from the Odes ?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government is investigating this matter in its political, economic and administrative aspect and, as stated in reply to Lala Joti Parshad's starred question¹ No. 2290, hopes very shortly to arrive at some satisfactory solution of the problem.

REPORT OF THE PUNJAB REFORMS COMMITTEE.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hayat Khan : Sir, I beg to present the report of the Punjab Reforms Committee.

MEMORANDUM OF THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT TO THE INDIAN STATUTORY COMMISSION.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, with your permission I beg to present the memorandum of the Punjab Government to the Indian Statutory Commission.

Mir Maqbool Mahmood : Is the Council going to get an opportunity of discussing this report, if so, when?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, it is open to the Council to discuss this Memorandum whenever they chose to do so. If there is any desire on the part of the Council to discuss this Memorandum tomorrow Government would be prepared to arrange accordingly. (Some voices : Too short a notice). If the honourable members think they should have more time. I will be very glad to make arrangements in the next session.

An Honourable Member : Will it be in December.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The honourable member may rest assured that Government does not wish to postpone the holding of the session only to avoid a discussion of the report.

Mir Maqbool Mahmood : What I mean to say is that there should be sufficient time before the thing reaches the Simon Commission.

The Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The session must be held before the 31st December.

A voice : That will be too late. The report of the Simon Commission will be published before December, and the members will not have any time to say anything on it.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : In case Government comes to know, it should not be by rumour only, that the Simon Commission's report is likely to be out in the beginning of December, Government would be prepared to hold a meeting in November.

Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq : There can be a session in September or early in October. Why postpone it to December?

Lala Gopal Das : Why not postpone it altogether?

Mir Maqbool Mahmood : May we take it, Sir, that the Government does not want the discussion to be a merely academic one and they will take steps to arrange to convene a session of the Council in time for the opinion of the Council to reach those who are to formulate this decision?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A very reasonable suggestion and I will be glad to act on it.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Sir, through you I submit whether the Leader of the House is prepared to say whether some special session is held for the debate on this report.

Mr. President : Will the Honourable the Leader of the House listen to the question which Chaudhri Afzal Haq has put and answer it?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : I submit to the Honourable Leader of the House that some special session may be held to discuss this report.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Will it be in December?

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Perhaps I voice the wish of the whole House that before the Simon Commission actually draft their report our opinion should be sent to them.

Captain Sardar Sikandar Hyat Khan : May I put in one word before the Leader of the House makes a reply to this question? The Leader of the House is aware that two of my colleagues, Raja Narendra Nath and Mr. Owen Roberts, are not here and I think there is no likelihood of their being back till the end of September. Whatever Government decides, I will request him to fix a day when these two gentlemen are present. For it will be unfair to discuss during their absence, as one of them has appended a long note of dissent.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, the honourable member from Hoshiarpur's question barring the fact that he qualified the words session by mentioning the word special has contributed nothing to the question already put.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : What is the question to which the Honourable Revenue Member refers?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : He simply said "special" session. There is no virtue in the word "special." I assure you the Government will try to arrange that before the Simon Commission report is likely to be out. That is the pivot of the whole matter, is it not? As soon as we came to know that, we will make an effort that a session of the Legislative Council be held in time for the discussion to go to England. (Voices : That is right), I do not know what you are worrying about?

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : When is it likely?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : I will be very glad if the honourable member keeps Government informed on the subject in case he gets any information.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : You are a member of the Government and you must have information.

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Then I will act on the information I receive.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Does it mean that you have no information up to this time?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Perfectly true.

THE PUNJAB REGULATION OF ACCOUNTS BILL.

Mr. President : The motion moved is :

"That the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

- (1) Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang,
- (2) Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,
- (3) Rana Feroz-ud-Din Khan,
- (4) Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal.

- (5) Mir Maqbool Mahmood,
- (6) Mr. V. F. Gray,
- (7) Sardar Harbaksh Singh,
- (8) Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan,
- (9) Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie,
- (10) Mr. S. L. Sale (Legal Remembrancer),
- (11) Nominée of the Honourable the President, and
- (12) The Mover.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang [North-West Towns (Non-Muhammadan), Urban]: Sir, I beg to move—

"That the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 15th October, 1929."

Sir, when I received a telegram from the Honourable Finance Member asking me whether I would agree to serve on the select committee to be appointed in connection with the Regulation of Accounts Bill I wired back that I would agree, but I would first move that the Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon. If my amendment is carried, then of course there will be no question of the appointment of a select committee at the present stage. If this amendment falls, then I would certainly agree to serve on the select committee if I am permitted by this House and I shall place my humble services at the disposal of other members of the select committee. With these remarks I would first congratulate the Government on bringing forward this measure not because this measure is of any great importance or was even necessary or was harmless, but because the Government says that it has been brought forward in fulfilment of a promise and Government must certainly be congratulated if they are prepared to respect their promises.....

Chaudhri Afzal Haq: On a point of order, Sir. Our rules lay down that the member who is speaking should stand up and the honourable member is in a leaning position.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: Sir, the honourable member really requires a little pulling up, because it is not the first time that he has indulged in this kind of points of order.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq: I protest against this remark.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: The honourable member did not allow me to explain why I had put my foot on the seat. He should understand that there must be a reason for doing so. I do not want to say anything more than that, not that I do not respect the rules of this House even in connection with the posture one should adopt at the time of speaking. But I am doing so because it is necessary to do so, and I think it would satisfy my friend.

Mr. President: In case of illness or infirmity, with the indulgence of the House, a member might address the House seated.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang: The Division Bench of the High Court even permitted me to do likewise and even in more comfortable posture. Probably the object of my honourable friend was to divert me from the right track which I intended to follow or perhaps he intended that he should create a little happy atmosphere in this House. I was submitting that it was really a matter of congratulation that the Government should fulfil it

[Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang.]

promises, and I trust that the Government would also see its way to fulfil the great promise which was made by the head of the whole Empire some 60 or 70 years ago when the British Indian Empire was taken over by the Crown. The promise of the late lamented Queen Victoria was that all sections of Her Majesty would be treated alike without any distinction of caste, creed or colour, and I hope that that promise has not become time-barred and it would in any case be revised and the Government would still see its way to act upon that promise and carry it out and give up its present policy of making any distinctions of caste, creed or colour in the administration. With these remarks, I would draw the attention of the Council to the actual terms of the promise which was made by His Excellency Sir Malcolm Hailey in the speech which he delivered on 25th October 1926 before this House. When I was called about a month ago by the Honourable Finance Member to make any suggestions that I could in connection with this Bill, the first thing that I said was that we should see first whether there was actually any promise which was binding upon the Government and which forced it to bring forward such a contentious measure. I refer to page 1799 of Volume IX-B, Punjab Debates, where the promise that is referred to runs thus:—

"I have considered the question very anxiously, and I have finally come to the conclusion that, in its present form, the drafting of the Bill falls so far short of the requirements I have already described, that I could not conscientiously commend it for the final assent of the Governor-General. I have considered the question of drafting with friends better versed in legal matters than I can claim to be, and I have found that the changes involved were such as to preclude my returning it to the Council for reconsideration. I wish to give its supporters the assurance that we have not varied in our conviction that some measure is required for the regulation of accounts. It will remain for us to place before your successors in the form of a Government measure a Bill somewhat simpler, and possibly of more restricted scope, which will serve to secure the end in view without involving the dangers which I have apprehended in this measure."

Now, Sir, there is no doubt that some sort of assurance is referred to in this speech in the passage that I have quoted, but surely that promise was not that the same Bill with a few changes here and there would be again placed before this House. You would remember, Sir, that a measure of this kind has been before this House and before the public of this province since 1924. My honourable friend Mr. Maqbool Mahmood brought forward a Bill under the name of Money Lender's Registration Bill. That Bill, with due deference to him, was so objectionable that even the Government did not see its way to lend its support to it. Afterwards there was a sort of coalition between my honourable friend and the Government and the Government placed all its machinery and all its officers concerned in such matters at the disposal of my honourable friend. The result was a Bill.

Mr. Maqbool Mahmood: On a point of personal explanation, Sir?

Mr. President: I have more than once explained that the proper time for a personal explanation is when the honourable member who is speaking resumes his seat. But if he gives way to the member who wants to give an explanation, that is to say, if he resumes his seat, then and then only he may be interrupted and personal explanation given at an earlier stage, but not otherwise.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : I may at once submit that unless there is a point of order, I would not give way to any points of explanation until I have had my say. The result was a sort of deception which was prepared by the joint labours of the Government officers on the one hand and Mir Maqbool Mahmood on the other. Unfortunately when the time for the consideration of the Bill arrived, the Honourable Finance Member, Sir John Maynard, had left and Sir Geoffrey deMontmorency who was appointed in his place was absolutely new to this House and the honourable members of this House would remember that during the prolonged discussion of the Borrowers Protection Bill, as that new Bill was called, Sir Geoffrey deMontmorency did not say a word on the merits or demerits of the Bill. The Honourable Revenue Member was virtually in charge of the Bill and nevertheless even the joint labours of the Legal Remembrancer and Mr. Dunnet, who, I think, held the charge of Chief Secretary at that time, in spite of all their joint labours, a Bill was produced which was considered by themselves as most unsatisfactory. The result was that even the honourable mover of the Bill had given notice of several amendments. There was such a sharp division between the members of the select committee that there were as many as six minutes of dissent by six members out of 15 who constituted the select committee. Four of the 15 were members of Government, so that treating the four Government members as one, practically there were 12 members and there were six for the Bill and six against the Bill and the honourable members of this House who were then in the Council would remember that every day of discussion amendments poured in not only from private members but also from the members of the Government and right up to the last day amendments came in from the Government itself, and in spite of our protests, in spite of our having proposed amendments and having placed all the experience as businessmen and the little knowledge that we possessed at the service of this House as lawyers the Bill was passed, all our amendments having been rejected.

Now, we find—I am very happy at that—we have some consolation in the fact that our criticism was justified ultimately by the Government itself. The head of the Government, Sir Malcolm Hailey, in his speech, to which I have already adverted said :

“ We have been convinced again that the Legislature should intervene to guarantee to the debtor some means of ascertaining exactly how his account stands and how it is composed. But we have foreseen and indeed experienced the greatest difficulty in the actual drafting of a measure which would not result in interference with the ordinary methods of keeping trade and commercial accounts, or would not prove to be so lacking in precision of definition as to involve the increase of litigation or uncertainty in its result. Above all, we have been impressed with the danger of any measure which would so seriously affect the lender as to hamper the reasonable and legitimate grant of credit to the borrower. The Bill which the Council debated was a private measure. We assisted in the debate with a view to modifying what appeared some of its more defective provisions; the subject is one of such complexity, that no apology is needed if in the end the best efforts of Council and our own did not remove all its difficulties. Now that the Bill has passed the Council, I am charged as Governor with responsibility for giving or refusing assent, and notwithstanding any part I may have taken in the deliberations on the attitude of Government to the Bill, that responsibility remains my own.”

As I have already submitted, as a result of anxious consideration, he came to the conclusion that the Bill as was passed then was unworkable.

[Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang.]

It was calculated to impose unjustifiable restrictions on credit and impose disabilities on lenders which were not justified by the circumstances prevailing in this province. These were exactly the criticisms that were urged at that time, and as I have submitted it gives me some consolation to find ourselves justified by the head of the Government. In fact, at the time we were debating this Bill in this House I definitely remarked: I know that in this Council we have no chance to carry any of our amendments against a packed majority and the result of the debate is a foregone conclusion, but I hope that some one who is not sitting here would go through our debates and would find that our criticisms were justified and fair and would then do justice in the matter. It is a matter for congratulation that justice was at last done by the head of the Government. Now the question is, is the present Bill in any material way an improvement on the previous Bill? If that is so, if as Sir Malcolm Hailey pointed out, a Bill could be devised which would be shorn of its objectionable features and would not unduly restrict credit, would not hamper trade, would not impose any difficulties on lenders and would at the same time benefit the borrowers, if that object has been achieved in this Bill, then probably the criticism which we may make against that Bill may be rightly considered unjustified. But if, so far as the fundamental propositions of that Bill are concerned, there has been no change in this Bill, then I would submit that our criticism of this measure would be perfectly justified.

Now, what are the changes which have been made in this Bill. In the first place, I submit that the fundamental thing is...

Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram : On a point of order. Can the merits of the Bill be discussed on the question now before the House?

Mr. President : Under the rules in force, it is the principles of the Bill and its general provisions that can be discussed at this stage.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : For the further satisfaction of my honourable friend and other friends who might be somewhat perturbed over my remarks, I may at once submit that in order to justify my amendment that the Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion it is absolutely necessary that I should point out what, if any, is the difference between the present Bill and the previous Bill. My honourable friend and his friends should understand that if the Bill is exactly the same, then of course it would be a complete answer to my amendment that it need not be circulated for eliciting public opinion, because the previous Bill was sufficiently published and the public was given a chance to criticise its various provisions and to submit these opinions to the Government. Then, no such question would arise but *ex hypothesi* the Bill is one for which Government claims credit for introducing a new, a better, and simpler measure and therefore they want the support of this House.

Now I submit, Sir, that this Bill is claimed to be new. Various points are said to be different from the previous Bill. It is necessary that the public should know, either for their consolation or for further criticism of this present Bill. As far as I am aware, the present Bill was not even published in the *Gazette*. I should like

11 A.M.

to be corrected if I am wrong. This Bill has been really a hole and corner business. Somebody conceived the idea probably, in deference to the resolution which was moved in this House that the Government should fulfil its promise of bringing forward a measure like the Borrowers Protection Bill and the Legal Remembrancer and the other members of the Government sat together one day and said, all right, "where is that old file of the Money Lenders Bill? Let us see if something could be done. They presumably got the file, looked at the Money Lenders Bill. That is past history. Where is the Borrowers Protection Bill which was passed by this Council? All right! They went through its provisions, bound by promise and having in view the remarks of Sir Malcolm Hailey, they said that some changes were bound to be made. We must make some changes. All right. What change shall we make? Under the old Bill suits were to be dismissed in certain cases. This is hard. We give discretion to the court to disallow the whole interest or a part of it in certain cases or in some other cases. Let us change the penalty a little bit. There was some other difficulty with respect to the old definition. The old definition imposes a certain disability on the Imperial Bank, and (I can very well guess that the Imperial Bank authorities must have had something to do with the rejection of the previous Bill, because their activities were likely to be hampered by its enforcement.) Well! let us tinker with the definition and let us modify a bit the penalty imposed in bringing forward this Bill before the House. A Bill was typed and then certain people were called and their opinions were taken, I am not sure if any were adopted so far as at least I am concerned, none of my suggestions have been adopted. Again I speak subject to correction. So far as a glance at the Bill can show, none of my suggestions has been adopted, and the Bill, as I saw in the middle of June, was exactly the same as I see it to-day. That is the history of this Bill. I therefore, submit, Sir, that either it is the same Bill in essentials and should not have been introduced at all, because the promise of Sir Malcolm Hailey was not to put in the old Bill in a slightly modified form, but to introduce a measure which would be simple, which would impose no hardship on the lender and would not restrict credit in any way, and would, at the same time, protect the borrower, so that he would be in a position to know, at any time he likes, what is due from him to any particular creditor. That was really the central point, and unfortunately that central point has been missed, and the skeleton of the old Bill has been adopted, with a little padding there and little tinkering here. It is really the same as they say in Urdu."

گرچہ تبدیل سطح کو مذکور لیا تو کیا ہوا
دھانچ میں تو نہیں وہی اگلے آپس کی تیلان

But let me assume, Sir, that this is a new Bill, which has made fundamental changes and some of those are for the better. Even then I would submit that it is necessary that the Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion. As you know, Sir, no measure, after the Land Alienation Act, has excited the public mind so much in this province as this Money Lenders' Bill or Borrowers Protection Bill or the present Regulation of Accounts Bill. People have not heard the name. Even newspapers, like the *Tribune*, and other papers do not know what the Bill is. They had received some information as to its contents. Nobody has seen the actual draft

[Dr. Gokul Chand, Nārang.]

of the Bill. I do not really understand why such a secrecy should be observed with respect to this measure. If it was a very much better measure it was all the more necessary from Government point of view, that all unrest and all uneasiness should be removed by taking the public or in any case that section of the public which is interested in it, into confidence, and allay their anxiety for this Bill. If it was, in any way, worse than the previous Bill, it was still more necessary to obtain public opinion. If I am not mistaken, Sir, the Money Lenders Registration Bill was circulated to various sections of the people in this province including the Judges of the High Court, and probably other members of the judiciary. In this instance even the opinions of Judges of the High Court or other members of the judiciary have not been taken. Again I speak subject to correction, and I would be very grateful if I am corrected. So far as this present measure in its general form is concerned, and taking the principles without going into the details of the clauses, I should like to say a few words. The fundamental idea with respect to such a Bill should be that a borrower should know at any time he likes what is due from him, and if that demand is satisfied, it would not be necessary to place any restriction upon a creditor or impose unnecessary duties upon a lender. Now take the Bill as it is. The fundamental principle has again been missed, as it was in the previous Bill. The fundamental provisions now, as embodied in clause 8 are the same, though there is a difference in the penalty as provided in clause 4. Now what is that? Every six months the lender is required to send a copy of all accounts to his borrowers with respect to the balances outstanding on 30th June and 31st December, he is given a month's time within which to carry out the provisions of clause 3. If he fails to do that within that time, he is liable to a certain penalty. Take a familiar and simple instance. A man has 200 or 300 borrowers, out of whom only a few are ignorant who probably do not know how to read and write, and do not understand accounts. It may be necessary in the case of those 10 or 15 persons to know what is outstanding against them. With respect to the rest they do not require any such information and they do not require any such account. Why should every money-lender be forced to send copies of accounts to the remaining 290. What is the necessity? Why should the poor fellow be obliged to keep a regular office and to employ clerks and to undergo all these botherations, when nobody required him to send a copy of accounts. Out of those 300 persons only 10 require such protection. Then again, Sir, why should people in towns be dealt with in the same way as people in the rural areas. No doubt some distinction has been made between the trade-debts and other debts, but in the towns people are generally better educated. They understand business better than the people in the villages. If I am not mistaken, the original idea of the mover of the first Bill was to provide protection to ignorant and helpless zamindars in the rural areas. Well, by all means protect them. We shall support the Government in that effort, but even so far as their case is concerned, it would not be necessary that every lender should be obliged to send wholesale accounts to all the countryside with which he deals without making any distinction between those who require this information and those who do not require it. You are by means of this Bill imposing this hard duty upon every lender without any distinction of the amount that

he has lent out, without any distinction as to the person to whom he lent out, without any distinction as to the security which he has taken, unless that clause, exempting negotiable instrument to a certain extent, be considered to be a saving clause. Then there are pro-notes which are the most popular form of security taken by business people. The pro-notes have not been exempted from the operation of this Act. Even the registered bonds where consideration is paid before the Registrar, and the payment is endorsed by him on the back of the bonds, have not been exempted. Even when a man, say my honourable friend, the Finance Member, borrows money on a pro-note from a money-lender,—God forbid that he should be in necessity of it,—the money-lender has to send even to him a copy of the account every half year. If I borrow from a money-lender, I would, under this Act, be deemed to be incapable of looking after myself like a minor, a lunatic or a helpless person, and, under this Act, if it is passed the money-lender will be required to send me the account. I, therefore, submit that there is no fundamental difference between this present Bill and the original Bill, but in any case, it is absolutely necessary that the Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion so that the people are satisfied with it. They may say, 'all right! we have no objection' or they may send up their suggestions. The Government may act upon them or may not act upon them. But the Government should always be ready to receive suggestions from the judges, lawyers, big bankers, and other big men of business, factory owners, big money-lenders, like Bulaqi Shah—I do not mean any disrespect to him—and people who are likely to be affected should know what is going to be passed behind their backs. It may be said that we are here representing the money-lenders. Those gentlemen are representatives of the borrowers, but neither money-lenders nor the borrowers know what is going to be passed, because we ourselves did not know what was going to be placed before the House. Even the representatives of the borrowers did not know what was going to be passed. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to satisfy both borrowers and the lenders that this Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion. I do not think that there would be any waste of time. If this Bill has been kept pending over 5 years, if there was no such measure for over about 80 years since the annexation of the Punjab by the British Government, I do not think that 2 months' delay would make any serious difference. I think neither the money-lenders nor the borrowers would suffer, nor the interest of any party would be ruined. With these remarks, I, through you, Sir, appeal to the House that it should adopt my amendment.

Mr. President: Motion under consideration, amendment moved—

"That the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Bill be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon by the 15th October 1926."

Mir Maqbool Mahmood [Amritsar (Muhammadan), Rural]: Mr. President, Sir, as the mover of the original Money Lenders Bill I also beg to congratulate Government on redeeming their promise of October 1926. The Government measure now under discussion has been subjected both to friendly and unfriendly criticism. That, Sir, is natural on a Bill of such importance and of such nature. I myself feel that there are provisions in the Bill where certain safeguards are necessary in the interest of the money-lending classes, and there are others which need to be improved if the desired

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protection is to be given to the borrower at all. But I repeat that the Bill is a very promising basis of discussion, and I would appeal to every member of the House whether he supports the Bill or opposes it, that in the present circumstances, the present atmosphere of the province and the country and in view of the responsibilities of the legislatures, he should look on this question in no partisan or parochial spirit in the general interest of the country, and I would appeal to those who speak after me to import no undesirable atmosphere in the discussion but to lend their quota to the discussion in a dispassionate manner.

As has been remarked, Sir, this Bill has a history in this Council. It started originally with the Money Lenders Bill which I had the privilege to introduce in November 1924. That Bill, Sir, as most of those who had the privilege of being in the House at that time, know, provided with the registration of money-lenders, their keeping regular accounts and their supplying information to the borrower. It was circulated for eliciting public opinion. Most of the opposition that was levelled against the Bill was levelled against the provision for registration, and therefore a second Bill was introduced as the Punjab Borrowers' Protection Bill deleting the clauses relating to registration. My honourable friend who has just preceded me has insinuated that in the drafting of that Bill there was a collusion between the Government and myself. I declare now as I have declared before that I am grateful for the help that I have received both from Government and non-official members including many of my money-lending friends, in the way of criticism in originally drafting the previous Bill, but I repeat as I have stated before, that the idea of the Money Lenders' Bill originated with me in 1922 as will be seen in my thesis which I submitted at Oxford on Rural Organisation in India. That book has just been published and the honourable members can see it for themselves. (A voice : Present a copy to each member.)

Dr. Gokul Chand. Narang : I never intended to deprive him of that credit.

Mir Maqbool Mahmood : Coming back, Sir, to the history of the Bill, when that Bill came in the Council Government took an attitude which at that time did not seem explicable to us. It was made clear by Sir John Maynard at the outset that on a Bill of this nature they would be mere spectators, mere accidents of vote in the Council as they felt their duty both to the borrowers, the agriculturalists and also to the money-lending classes, and so whatever Bill comes out of the Council will be accepted by Government as a reasonable proposition. Sir John Maynard definitely conditioned Government's support to the Bill if it emerged out of the select committee in the form in which Government considered it reasonable. While we were in the select committee and out of it Government at various stages pressed certain amendments. The Bill was considerably toned down both because of certain valuable criticisms made upon it and by the suggestions made by Government in and out of the select committee. When the Bill was passed, as my honourable friend has just said, the Governor withheld his assent to it. It seems curious and significant, and a definite question has been asked that when the Bill which was passed by the Council was substantially the same as it emerged out of the select committee and that when Government's

condition was that if the Bill emerged out of the select committee in the form in which Government wanted it, it would be acceptable to it, why Government showed a cold shoulder in this important matter against the wishes of the Council. But I congratulate the Government, and I am sure my friends will join with me in congratulating Government, in having after even three years come forward to redeem their promise in this matter, and I declare on behalf of this side of the House that we do not want Government to approach the matter from any partisan point of view, and I am sure that if they and the members of this House approach this question from the big point of view we will come forward with a Bill which will be the outcome of the best efforts of all parties and acceptable both to those who oppose the Bill and to those who support it.

(At this stage Mr. President left the chair and it was occupied by the Deputy President.)

Now, Sir, with regard to the provisions of the Bill and the general principles underlying it. I repeat what I stated just now that on a matter of this nature—I hope I am right in saying so—I can expect support from the other side of the House, and that it is necessary and desirable that we should approach this question from a bigger point of view. That being so, the first question is—and on that decision our vote should rest—whether such a Bill is necessary. Secondly, if it is necessary, to what extent it is necessary without impairing the economic working of the province. Thirdly, if it is necessary, whether it is effective in the form in which it is placed. These are the three main considerations which will decide our vote on this question. We are not concerned at present with the details of the Bill but only with the principles of the Bill and its general provisions.

Now, Sir, as regards the necessity. It is clear that this Council including the Government have expressed themselves as being committed to the necessity of this Bill, but still in order to make the position clear I would refer to the necessity of the Bill as we take it. That brings me face to face

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : On a point of order, Sir. The Bill has been introduced and the motion now is whether it should be referred to a select committee, and the amendment under discussion is that it may be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon. The question of necessity therefore does not arise at this stage. I myself did not go into that point on that ground. If I had done that, I would have shown that the Bill was absolutely unnecessary and not wanted on any ground whatsoever.

The Deputy President : Will the honourable member please speak to the question now before the House?

Mir Maqbool Mahmood : I will come to the definite proposition without going into the question of necessity.

The main question that has been raised by my honourable friend who has preceded me is that the Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion thereon. I for one would certainly have supported that motion if I were convinced that that would help to improve the Bill in the select committee and if it would result in the creation of better communal atmosphere in the province. But, Sir, in the first place there is nothing in the Bill so far as the principles are concerned and so far as the general provisions are concerned, the country has an opportunity of expressing its opinion. Secondly, our experience on the last occasion was to the effect that out of 526

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opinions received both for and against the Bill only 11 suggested any constructive suggestions. The rest merely repeated communal bickerings. I submit, Sir, that in the present atmosphere of the province, is it or is it not desirable that nothing should be done particularly on the eve of the constitutional developments of the province, nothing which might be exploited by the enemies of the province by creating communal hatred?

Apart from that there is another point. My friend's suggestion is that the Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion till the 15th of October. I hope he will excuse me for saying that some of the supporters of the Bill think that this may be a veiled attempt to postpone the Bill to the next November session and the motion for referring the Bill to the select committee will not come before this House till the new elections. I do not believe that that is what he implies by putting forward this motion, but that is the fear entertained by some of my friends. The honourable mover of the amendment says that he wants to secure public opinion with a view to improve the Bill and not unnecessarily to postpone it so that it does not come before the Council. I would appeal to the Finance Member to give an undertaking to the Council that if the Bill is referred to the select committee the meetings of the select committee will not be held before the 15th of October. This will enable Government to elicit public opinion and the opinion of such important bodies or persons whom the opponent of the Bill may suggest. The opinions thus collected will be placed before the select committee for consideration, which, as I have already said, should not meet before the 15th of October. If this is accepted, I am confident that even in the discussions in the select committee we will be able to come to some sort of a compromise.

Then, Sir, it is said that certain unnecessary burdens are being placed in the Bill on the money-lending classes. I wish to declare that I am one of those who believe that money-lending is a necessity and that only one-sixth of the credit required every year by the rural classes is being financed by the co-operative movement and the rest comes from the money-lenders.

As I said, I feel that no one should introduce any unnecessary embarrassment for the money-lending class, but I say that not only the money-lending class but also the rural class should not be embarrassed. I have always held that opinion and I still stick to it. No one wants to save the unscrupulous money-lender in his continuance of trickery. That being so, I am sure I can speak on behalf of my friends on this side of the House that we do not want to have any Money-Lenders' Act at all. We do not want to harass the creditor as such. All that we claim is to place the minimum burden on the poor debtor, a burden which will be workable and practicable and secure for the borrower the protection that he requires. If that basis of discussion is agreed, I am sure we in the select committee can evolve a Bill which will be acceptable to both parties. All that we want is that the money-lender should have a form of accounts which cannot be tampered with, and which will show the principal and interest separately and it must be possible for the borrower from the accounts of the money-lender to trace the history of his transactions. That is all that we want. I am sure if the honourable opponents of the Bill will agree to a Bill of the sort I have

described, then they will be prepared to accord some penalty for the delinquents. There must be a penalty, not such as to harass the money-lender, but only to secure fairness to the borrower. I consider the present Bill is not effective in that respect. We are not very fond of unduly interfering with the money-lender, but we believe that the Bill in its present form will not be effective. Therefore our attitude of support or otherwise of the Bill will depend ultimately on the form in which it emerges out of the select committee.

As to the point whether a money-lender or creditor will have to keep an office to supply information, I perfectly agree with my learned friend, the opponent of the Bill, that unless it is definitely made clear that the statement which the creditor will have to supply to the borrower is so simple and so short that it is humanly possible even for the most primitive type of creditor to supply the information, the Bill should not be supported. I can give him that assurance that so far as I am concerned I feel that no one with even the slightest experience of administration will be a party to any attempt or any desire to have a sort of statement out of the creditor which should be impossible even for an average money-lender to give. It was because of this that in the statement which I appended to the schedule of my second Bill I provided for the mere entry of figures and names and nothing else. I am prepared to meet the honourable member and discuss with him the details of the possibilities of admitting certain items so that ultimately we may agree to a statement which is simple and which does not require elaborate writing, but which is intelligible to the borrower and which gives him the information regarding the principal and interest separately. That being so, I feel there is no difference of opinion between those who support the Bill and those who are opposed to it. On this basis and on the assumption that the select committee does not meet before the 15th October and that in the meantime all opinions are received, I would request the Government to circulate informally to the supporters and opponents of the Bill to whom my honourable friend wants the Bill to be circulated, to collect their opinions and place them before the select committee. I would certainly not object to the collection of opinions from certain important classes of business men. But there should be no unnecessary delay in collecting the opinions. All that we desire is that the Bill that emerges out of the select committee is a constructive measure which will be not only in the interest of the borrower or agricultural class, but also in the interests of the reasonable claims, reasonable interests and demands of the money-lending class, because it is the duty of the Government as well as of the members of this House to meet the question fairly and not to take a parochial view.

(At this stage Mr. President resumed the chair.)

There is just one point on which we feel that so far as the Bill is concerned no compromise is possible. It is this. The Usurious Loans Act of 1919 was passed with the consent of all parties in order to allow the courts to reopen the money-lending transaction and relieve the debtor of excessive interest. The reports of the co-operative department of the province, and the answers to various questions in this House reveal that the Act has remained greatly a dead letter in this province. Under the Act the courts have power to touch the interest and not the principal. Therefore what

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really happens is that an unscrupulous money-lender lends, say, Rs. 100 and that the interest is 90 per cent. After some time he takes a fresh promissory note for Rs. 1,000 which covers both principal and interest. At present there is nothing with the borrower to show the whole history of the transaction and show how much of the Rs. 1,000 is principal and how much the interest. This can only be made possible by placing in his hand information which he can bring forward and produce in a court of law to prove that so much is made of principal and so much of interest. It has been said that every time a borrower asks for his account he should get it from the lender. That is certainly a proposition which is very reasonable, but it is because the present day borrower is so simple and ignorant that he cannot look for himself that the State is required to come forward and ask on behalf of the borrower, to give him the information every six months. My honourable friend the opponent of the Bill objects to that information being given every six months because it will entail details which will be beyond his power to meet. On that point I have already submitted that we can easily meet together and evolve a statement which will give the minimum of information which is required.

One word more and I have done. We all know that in the present state of the province we are confronted with a huge problem. On the one side we have the Punjab mainly living on agriculture with a population of full about 70 per cent. chronically in debt. We have also the proposition that the average income of the Punjabees is Rs. 40 to 60 per head annually and the feeding and clothing of a Punjab prisoner is over Rs. 92 per head. That is a question which confronts us. I submit that unless all of us address ourselves to the question in a dispassionate spirit, the economical and material condition of our province will grow worse. With that ideal, therefore, if we approach this question in the spirit of cordial friendship with a desire to evolve a compromise, I am sure that there will be no necessity for any fight in the Council. If we come to an agreement on this matter, then I am sure we will be able to get for India an honoured position among the cultured people of the world. (*Cheers.*)

Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal [North-East Towns (Non-Muhammadian), Urban]: Sir, the other day when I got up to oppose the introduction of this Bill, there was an impression created that perhaps I had done something which was not desirable. I want to make my position clear on that point. When I was asked to serve on the select committee I got no letter but I was asked by one of the Personal Assistants of the Honourable Member and I agreed to serve, but there was no condition that any member who agrees to serve on the select committee has no right to oppose it if he conscientiously feels that it should be opposed.

Now with regard to the speeches that have been made to-day, I, as one of the party which is opposed to this Bill, say that the suggestion that has been made by the honourable member from Amritsar (Mir Maqbool Mahmood) that public opinion be elicited by the 15th October informally from the various sections of the public and that the opinions so received by the Government be put before the select committee and that the select committee give them the consideration first, meets with our approval. I

think if this is agreed to by all sections of the House, this Bill may be referred to a select committee.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Sir, in view of the very reasonable suggestion which has been put forward by Mir Maqbool Mahmood that the select committee should not meet before the 15th October and that in the meantime Government should invite opinions from all quarters and should consult the honourable members who have proposed amendments as to the bodies whom they would wish to have consulted and place the views so collected before the select committee by the 15th October, in view of that very reasonable suggestion I am prepared on behalf of Government to accept it.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Sir, in order to show our *bona fides* that we are not opposed to any reasonable legislation on this point or to any *via media* or *modus operandi* that might be devised to achieve that end I spoke to my friend Mir Maqbool Mahmood to consult the Honourable Finance Member if he would agree to this suggestion. In view of the statement which has been made by the Honourable Finance Member that no meeting of the select committee will be held before the 15th October, that in the meanwhile opinions would be invited from various persons whose names I have been asked to suggest, and that those opinions would be considered by the select committee, I, with the advice and concurrence of my friends, move for leave to withdraw the amendment.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : Sir, on a point of order.....

Mr. President : The question is whether this procedure can be followed under the Standing Orders in force. That is the difficulty. I shall read the relevant Standing Order—

“When a Bill is introduced, or on some subsequent occasion the member-in-charge may make one of the following motions in regard to his Bill, namely—

- (a) that it be taken into consideration by the Council either at once or at some future day to be then specified; or
- (b) that it be referred to a select committee composed of such members of the Council as he may name in his motion; or
- (c) that it be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.”

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : With your permission, I would point out that there is no difficulty at all. This arrangement is more or less an informal one. My amendment is not like a resolution for which the approval of the House is necessary. If I withdraw my amendment.....

Mr. President : The honourable member's amendment has not been withdrawn. On the other hand, it has been approved by the House.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : The question is whether permission for formal withdrawal would be necessary. It is necessary in the case of resolutions, but I do not think that an amendment of this kind can be withdrawn only with the approval of the House.

Mr. President : It is not an amendment. It is a regular substantial motion.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Then it means that the proposal is before the House. I think the House should have no objection at all in allowing this amendment to be withdrawn when the Government Member who has moved the substantive motion is agreeable to this informal arrangement. That would show the *bona fides* of everybody here, because we want to carry things through, not to throw obstacles, so that the only formal business before the House would be whether this Bill should or should not be referred to the select committee as proposed.

(Mir Maqbool Mahmood rose to speak from a place not allotted to him.)

Mr. President : Will the honourable member go to his own seat ?

Mir Maqbool Mahmood : I am sorry, Sir, I just want to supplement the statement of the Honourable Finance Member and to request him to decide that the persons to which the Bill will be circulated will not be only the persons whose names are specified by honourable members on that side but also by supporters of the Bill on this side.

Chaudhri Afzal Haq : May I invite your attention, Sir, to paragraph 83 (4) of Constitutional Manual, which says that a select committee may hear expert evidence and representatives of special interest affected by the measure before them ? The select committee, when this motion is not passed by the House, cannot take into consideration the public opinion. The public opinion is absolutely different from the evidence of witnesses. They may call witnesses but they cannot take public opinion into consideration. It may be informal but when it is put before the House, the House cannot give its sanction to the public opinion being placed before this committee.

Mr. V. F. Gray (Punjab Chamber of Commerce, Trades Association, Commerce) : It seems to me, Sir, very plain that if the amendment is withdrawn we pass the motion to refer the Bill to select committee. As far as the House is concerned, the matter ends there. The other informal arrangements between the Government and the supporters and opponents of the Bill do not come officially before the House at all. All that this House does is to pass this Bill to select committee and leave it at that.

Mr. President : Is it your pleasure that the motion of Dr. Gokul Chand Narang be withdrawn ? (*Voices : Yes.*)

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Bill be referred to a select committee consisting of the following :—

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang,
Rai Sahib Chaudhri Chhotu Ram,
Rana Firoz-ud-Din Khan,
Rai Bahadur Lala Mohan Lal,
Mir Maqbool Mahmood,
Mr. V. F. Gray,
Sardar Harbaksh Singh,
Chaudhri Zafarullah Khan,
Mr. C. M. G. Ogilvie,
Mr. S. L. Sale,
The Deputy President, and
The Mover.

The question is that that motion be adopted.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : I have withdrawn my consent to serve on the select committee.

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : May I in that case move for the substitution of the name of Pir Akbar Ali?

Mr. President : The question is—

"That all members named by me excepting Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan serve on the select committee."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the name of Pir Akbar Ali be added to the list of members of select committee."

The motion was carried.

THE SIND SAGAR DOAB COLONISATION REPEALING BILL.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan (Sialkot Muhammadan, Rural) : Sir, I beg to present the report of the select committee on the Sind Sagar Doab Colonisation Repealing Bill.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, I beg to move—

"That the Sind Sagar Doab Colonisation Repealing Bill as reported by the select committee be taken into consideration."

Mr. President : The question is—

"That the Sind Sagar Doab Colonisation Repealing Bill as reported by the select committee be taken into consideration."

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : Sir, I think I owe an explanation to this House in this matter with reference to the attitude of the Government to-day relating to this Bill. It will be remembered by the Council that when the Bill was referred to a select committee, on behalf of the Government, I made certain observations stating certain facts and also mentioning the attitude of Government on this question suggesting that perhaps a repeal of the Act which was sought to be repealed by this Bill might only be partially carried out, and that Government would be prepared to arrange for certain changes in the rules leading to partition and so on, with a view to facilitate land being brought under cultivation pending the decision of the Lesser Thal project by the Government of India. There-

12 Noon.

fore, the question naturally would suggest itself to members, how is it that in the select committee Government resiled from that position and agreed to the Bill being passed as it stood, that is to say, repealing the Act of 1902. The position adopted by the Government in the select committee remains unaltered to-day and that is the reason why Government has offered no opposition to the Bill being taken into consideration, and it is not usual to offer any opposition to a motion that the Bill be passed and yet the occasion is one of very considerable importance to the province and an explanation is undoubtedly due to the Council and to the province for this attitude.

The history of the movement to irrigate the Sind Sagar Doab is full of great interest. As early as 1871, the Government had under consideration a scheme to have a canal to irrigate the Sind Sagar Doab. It was intended

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that from a place called Mari which is in the present Mianwali district, a canal be taken off to irrigate the Doab. Colonel Crofton, the Chief Engineer of those days, sponsored that scheme and it stood a very good chance of success indeed. The cost was estimated to be 3 crores and it was expected that it would give a return of 54 per cent. That scheme had not attained its fruition. In 1881 another proposal was considered but not proceeded with. In 1887, at the suggestion of Colonel Wace, the Financial Commissioner, another scheme was taken up which advocated a similar project which was prepared by Colonel Holme, the Chief Engineer, the intention being to take up a canal below Bakhra to irrigate the Lower Thal portion. The most important of all the schemes evolved was, in 1892, by Mr. Meworth Young, the Financial Commissioner. He had a very keen desire to bring the Sind Sagar under irrigation. Strenuous efforts were made by several officers, young and old, new to their careers and on the eve of completing their careers, both classes equally animated by a keen desire to give irrigation to Sind Sagar Doab and thereby enrich not only that vast tract but also enrich the province. Vast *shamilat* areas existed and that was a point in favour of the scheme, and at the same time the nature of that area was sandy and hilly and so difficult from the engineering point of view, and it was realised that if some arrangements could be arrived at between the Government on the one hand and the owners of the vast *shamilat* areas on the other, the chances of the irrigation scheme would be very considerably improved. I have here, Sir, to pay a tribute of gratitude and admiration to all those officers young or old, fired with the enthusiasm of young men or emboldened by the practical experience of men who have served long and loved the country they served in. To the first class belongs, at that time Mr. Hailey who was lately our Governor and Mr. Meworth Young, who afterwards became the Lieutenant-Governor of this province. The studies I have made of this case have convinced me that the amount of time and labour and energy spent on this proposition, the proposition of irrigating the Sind Sagar Doab by all these officers was something wonderful and none of us really can claim to have a keener desire, or anxiety to do so much as they did in order to irrigate the Sind Sagar Doab and thereby improve the financial and economic conditions of that part of the province and of the whole province indirectly. It is such a pity that while they were as long ago as 30 years and more hoping in the near future that that part of the province will be irrigated, it is for this Government to-day to more or less agree to the non-official view that the scheme for irrigation is not a thing which will materialise in the near future and it does so with very great regret.

The principle of the Bill which Mr. Meworth Young at that time suggested, and which was later drafted, understood and eventually passed by the Legislative Council of which he was the President, as Lieutenant-Governor of the province was an extremely simple one. That is to say, the proprietors by themselves were not able to bring that irrigation scheme to a success. Government finding that the scheme was an extremely expensive one and that Crown land was not adequate enough to justify the Government undertaking the scheme devised this plan, and the owners of the *shamilat* had agreed to it on the distinctly understood arrangements by which both parties stood to gain. That Bill was passed into law by the agreement

of all members of Council including two or three Indian members at that time. It remained on the statute book for some years. It has been said in some interested quarters that Government took no interest in pushing that scheme since then. Well, that is not so. As a matter of fact as early as 1902, Mr. Ward, who was then Chief Engineer in those days, prepared a complete and elaborate report and submitted it to the Government of India in 1903. The Government of India did not approve of it sufficiently to let it proceed. For 12 years the matter remained in abeyance but the Council will remember, Sir, that those 12 years, that is to say, 1903—15 constituted the period when the Punjab Engineers were very busy indeed in constructing other schemes of irrigation. It will be readily remembered that the Upper Chenab and the Upper Jhelum Canal were both under construction in 1904 and it was not till 1912 and 1915, respectively, that they were completed. Again the Lower Bari Doab was taken up as early as 1906 and it was not till 1918 that that was completed. Therefore, between the period of 1903 and 1915 Government was fully occupied in carrying out three most important irrigation schemes which involved not only large funds but also which required engineers to carry those schemes through. In 1915 when the Government was free from executing this programme of construction of the irrigation schemes, at once the question of the Thal Project was taken up. A conference sat in 1916 to push it, and that was done at the instance of Sir Alfred Diack, the Financial Commissioner. The conference, as I have said was held in 1916 and various projects were prepared in 1917. Among those projects was one for carrying the canal taking off from Bakhra again to irrigate the lower half of the Doab. The second project was of a perennial canal taking off from the north near Kalabagh to the Upper Doab. The third was of a perennial canal taken off from the north of Kalabagh to irrigate the whole Thal, and it was the last one of these three which was accepted by the Punjab Government and presented to the Government of India for sanction. In 1919 the Government of India expressed the view that the scheme was not really ripe for sanction. It was intended to irrigate 21 lakhs of acres of land at a cost of about 9½ crores of rupees. In 1920 the Government of India returned the project saying that the Punjab Government had better decide whether it would like to proceed with the Sutlej Valley Project or with the Haveli Project or the Bakhra Dam Project. The Punjab Government very respectfully pointed out that there would be no difficulty in arriving at a decision on the points which were mentioned by the Government of India, but that the Government was keen that the Thal Project should be proceeded with, and if it was not the full scheme that the Government of India was prepared to sanction they would be able to submit a modified scheme, less ambitious in nature. At this stage two new factors came into play, both in their own way creating obstacles in the way of the completion of the Thal Project, one was the claim by our sister province Bombay, the Sind portion of it that the Sukkur barrage scheme would suffer if the Thal Project was taken up by the Punjab, and the second was the restiveness of some of the proprietors of Thal. As the honourable members of the Council are aware there was a great rise in prices of agricultural produce during the war and the owners of the Thal *shamilat* naturally felt that if they were free to cultivate their respective shares of the *shamilat* they could make a lot of money, whenever rains helped them. They realised that Doaba after Doaba was being brought under irrigation while they were left behind. It was not unnatural that they should become

[Hon'ble Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

restive and press the Government for starting the construction of the Thal Project.

In 1920 the Government realised the justice of the case of the people who had entered into agreements and, therefore, they again pressed the Government of India for sanction. Again their efforts did not achieve success. This correspondence went on from 1920 right up till 1924 when the Bombay protests became stronger and the pressure of owners of *shamilats* also increased with the result that the Government devised the Lesser Thal Project in the first place to satisfy the Government of India that the amount of water needed for this Lesser Thal Project will in no case interfere with the success of the Sukkur barrage and also to satisfy the owners of *shamilats* inasmuch as nearly half of their *shamilats* will be released from the purview of this agreement and the other half would be on the eve of obtaining irrigation through the Lesser Thal Project. It is much to be regretted, Sir, that this effort of the Punjab Government also did not achieve the success that it deserved. There was an Indus Discharge Committee set up and we were told that we had better wait till that Discharge Committee had obtained further statistics of a reliable nature in order to determine what water, if any, can be spared for the Sukkur barrage scheme in order to decide whether the Thal Project could materialise or not. It was under these circumstances, Sir, that in the year 1928 the Bill which is under discussion to-day was introduced. The attitude that I took up at the time of its reference to a select committee as was indicated in the beginning of my speech was the natural one to adopt. Since then, two further factors came under consideration, the report of the Indus Discharge Committee and the report of the experts committee which sat on this question when we protested against the decision of the Government of India. These committees recommended firstly that the discharges obtained though favourable to the Punjab were favourable only partially and the data available in the judgment of the committee was not enough to justify their coming to a final conclusion, and what was more the committee further reported that for another ten years it was impossible to arrive at a decision whether enough water or any water could be spared for the Punjab or not. This report held the field, and the Punjab Government was face to face with a great difficulty. The Punjab had to arrive at the best decision possible under the circumstances. The Punjab Government tried to keep a part of the Act of 1902 in the hope that after ten years there would be a chance of the Punjab obtaining enough water to run the Lesser Thal Project. Government had, however, to consider whether it would be best in view of the desire on the part of the representatives of the areas affected by this Bill desiring the repeal of the Act to agree to its repeal inasmuch as the Government was not in a position to say that within the next ten years the Lesser Project or any other project would materialise. If Government could have been in a position to say that even after ten years, say within the next five years, after the lapse of ten years, they will be in a position definitely to commence construction of the Upper Thal Project even then Government would have tried to persuade the representatives of areas affected by this Bill to agree to facilities being granted to people under agreement so that they might wait for another 15 years inasmuch as the construction of irrigation scheme for the Sind Sagar

Doab was one of very great benefit to the proprietary areas and the proprietors of *shamilats*, and also to other parts of the province wherefrom naturally colonists will be recruited in order to colonise crown lands. The Government was anxious as I have said to arrive at a decision on this extremely important and difficult point. On the one hand, there was a desire, a very natural one, on the part of the persons directly concerned and on the other hand there was a desire on the part of the Government to so improve the finances of the province as to give as good economic conditions to the Sind Sagar Doab as prevailed in other parts of the province. Perhaps a Government less responsive to public opinion than ours might have decided reasonably, that it was in the interests of the province as a whole not to allow the Act of 1902 to be repealed. But, we, after very careful consideration, have come to the conclusion that Government should not stand in the way of the repeal of the Act of 1902, if the non-official members of this Council were unanimous or almost unanimous that it should be repealed. In arriving at that conclusion, besides the points I have already mentioned, there was another factor in my opinion of very considerable weight. That factor, Sir, was the confidence of the Government in the representatives of the people assembled in the Legislative Council. Government realised that if at any future time, it may be 15 years hence or more, it were found that some water is available to have an irrigation scheme for the Sind Sagar Doab Canal but that the scheme is extremely expensive and the usual rates prevailing would not permit Government to take up that scheme, the representatives of the people of the province will no doubt be ready at that time to agree to such steps being adopted as would make that scheme a practical scheme.

Therefore it was felt that higher rates would be as good a substitute as Government would demand for the present Act which is going to be repealed. The Sind Sagar Doab is the only one in the Punjab left outside the benefits of irrigation and when the time arrives I have no doubt, Government and the representatives of the people will cooperate to bring Sindh Sagar Doab under irrigation.

Dr. Gokul Chand Narang: May I ask a question, Sir? What was the proportion of the area to be handed by the landholders to Government in lieu of irrigation?

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain: Three-fourths.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That the Sind Sagar Doab Colonisation Repealing Bill as reported by the select committee be taken into consideration."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That the schedule stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President: The question is—

"That the preamble stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Mr. President : The question is—

“That clause I stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was carried.

Chaudhri Zafrullah Khan : Sir, I beg to move—

“That the Sind Sagar Doab Colonisation Repealing Bill be passed into law.”

Mr. President : The question is—

“That the Sind Sagar Doab Colonisation Repealing Bill be passed into law.”

(Sayad Muhammad Husain rose to speak.)

Mr. President : I cannot allow any discussion at this stage. The question is—

“That the Sind Sagar Doab Colonisation Repealing Bill be passed into law.”

The motion was carried.

Dr. Gokul Chand, Narang : Sir, I did not know that the discussion was going to be stopped.

Mr. President : As there appears to be some misunderstanding, I may explain that, after a Bill is considered by the Council clause by clause, comes the stage when the question is put that the Bill be passed. At this stage only verbal and formal amendments may be moved or the passage of the Bill may be opposed, but no lengthy discussion is permissible.

THE PUNJAB PURE FOOD BILL.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : Sir, I beg to move—

“That the Punjab Pure Food Bill be recommitted to the Select Committee under rule 8 for the consideration of further amendments.”

The motion was carried.

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : Sir, I beg to move—

“That the Director of Public Health and Shaikh Muhammad Sadiq be added to the select committee.”

The motion was carried.

The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

NOTE.—For final answers received after the publication of the debates of the dates of this session on which the questions were put, please see the appendix.

PUNJAB LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

APPENDIX.

Answers received after the publication of the debates of the dates on which the questions were put,—*vide* the note at the bottom of page 354 *ante*.

ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS.

VOL. XIII

SLAUGHTER OF CATTLE.

(Answer to Question No. 1471*, page 38).

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Yes. A copy of the memorial received from the Cow Preservation League in 1925 is laid on the table.

(b) The steps which Government have been taking to increase and improve the various breeds of cattle in the province will be found given in detail in the annual reports of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab. The honourable member is also referred to the recommendations made by the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India in paragraphs 188—208 of their report.

Dated Calcutta, the 13th August 1925.

From—N. G. BANERJEE, Esq., General Secretary, Cow Preservation League,

To—The Member in charge, Revenue and Agriculture, Government of the Punjab,
Lahore.

We have the honour to state that the Government of India in their declaration of policy published in the *India Gazette*, dated the 2nd October 1920, published on pages 1201 to 1202 expressed their intention of dissociating themselves from any measure that may be deemed to encourage the slaughter of the useful cattle or may wound the religious feelings of the people. This is to all intents and purposes an admission by the Government of the fact that the slaughter of useful cattle is harmful and undesirable both from the economic and religious points of view, and as such it may be reasonably expected that the Government as that in other civilised countries would interfere with the unrestricted slaughter of cattle that takes place in this country. We dare say that it is known to your Government that a large number of prime and useful cattle are slaughtered in Municipal, Cantonment and rural areas of your province. Several responsible Government officials of different provinces as also the Board of Agriculture in India have also drawn attention.

to the fact that in the slaughter-houses of principal towns, Municipalities and Cantonments the very best cattle are prematurely put to death. The Municipal Act of the province is so interpreted as to make it compulsory for Municipalities to arrange for the slaughter of such animals, and even if some of them realising the gravity of the situation pass resolutions restricting the slaughter of useful cattle, your Government come down upon them and veto such resolutions. Under the circumstances the existing Municipal laws appear to be directly responsible for the premature slaughter of a very large number of useful cattle, resulting in serious drain upon the country.

A fairly large majority of His Majesty's subjects are Hindus in whose religion cow protection has a prominent place and who feel sorely aggrieved by the practice of cow slaughter so widely and recklessly indulged in almost all parts of the province due to the apathy and indirect encouragement of the Government. By a series of solemn proclamations beginning from the declaration of Her Majesty Queen Victoria on the assumption of the reins of the Government of this country down to the latest declaration of His Imperial Majesty George V, it has been seriously asserted over and over again that the Government will not interfere with or wound the religious feelings and susceptibilities of any class of His Majesty's subjects. How can the Government justify their inaction in the matter of restricting cattle slaughter or prove their consistency in following their declared policy by allowing the present promiscuous slaughter of cattle? Even from Muhammadan religious point of view the question of cattle slaughter arises only on the occasion of *Bakrid*, the Government cannot reasonably put forward any objection against prohibition of cattle slaughter during the rest of the year. Thus there can be no justification for your Government in not passing a law restricting the slaughter of milch and agricultural cattle specially when there is so much dearth of such cattle in the country and people's health and agriculture immensely suffer in consequence.

In reply to questions put by Lala Girdhari Lal, Agarwala in the Legislative Assembly on the 19th September, 1921, the Government of India admitted the existence of widespread feeling in the country for preservation of milch and agricultural cattle and pointed out that the question of protection and improvement of cattle is primarily a concern of the Local Government.

Under the circumstances stated above, we earnestly pray that effective steps should be taken to so amend the Municipal Act as the Local Self Government Act as to empower Municipalities and other local bodies (1) to prohibit the slaughter of useful cattle, (2) acquire pasture lands and (3) maintain high class breeding bull.

OFFICIAL RECEIVERS.

(Answer to Question No. 1522,* page 97).

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Fifteen.

(b) One.

CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS.

(Answer to Question No. 1589,* page 145.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (i) 79.

(ii) The main factors are local jealousies, dissensions, and the difficulty of satisfying everyone that they are being fairly treated.

(iii) Government proposes to remit half the land revenue for three years in cases in which a certain area is consolidated within a fixed period. It is also proposed experimentally to enforce the bye-law of the ordinary consolidation of holdings society which obliges a minority to any arrangements approved by a majority forming not less than a certain proportion of the whole. The proportion in this case will be 90 per cent. owning not less than 75 per cent. of the land under consolidation.

DAMAGE BY CHHAUNCHH KHUD.

(Answer to Question No. 1552,* page 151.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a) Land paying Rs. 32 as revenue has been eroded in the villages in question since the settlement of 1914-15, and a corresponding remission of revenue has been sanctioned.

(i) (b) & (ii) The zamindars of the villages concerned made a representation to the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra, who made an enquiry through the Tahsildar and the District Engineer and visited the spot himself. The enquiry showed that the land eroded could be reclaimed and further erosion prevented by the construction of *bunds*. The villagers were offered *taccavi* loans, and the services of the District Engineer free of charge to supervise the work if they undertook to build the *bunds* themselves. They, however, refused both offers.

RECRUITMENT OF TEACHERS WITH WAR SERVICE.

(Answer to Question No. 1555,* page 152.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No.

(b) There are no immediate proposals to appoint any Senior Vernacular trained teachers as Assistant District Inspectors.

BRIDGE NEAR GULER.

(Answer to Question No. 1581,* page 221.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a) Yes.

(b) It is known that the local inhabitants did ask for an overbridge in one of the 15 feet cuttings near Guler.

(ii) The site was carefully examined and it was considered to be a waste of money to build an overbridge for this footpath (wheeled traffic along this footpath is impossible). A diversion of this footpath was made and a level crossing across the track provided about 200 yards from the original crossing site.

IMPOUNDING OF CATTLE BY RAILWAY OFFICIALS.

(Answer to Question No. 1582,* page 222.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) (a) Yes.

(b) No. All acquisition of land was arranged on Gazette Notification under the Land Acquisition Act and a special Land Acquisition Collector appointed to acquire the land.

(c) There was no forcible acquisition of land. The Railway Department have no knowledge whatever of any man being given into police custody.

(d) No.

(ii) Does not arise.

RECRUITMENT OF MIRASIS TO THE ARMY AND THE POLICE.

(Answer to Question No. 1588,* page 224.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) Government has no information.

(c) Government has asked for fuller information as regards the branches of Government service in which any members of the Quraish community are at present employed or have in the past found employment. It has also called for details as regards the numbers of young men from this community who possess educational qualifications and who on that score might be expected to be anxious to secure employment in Government service. It would be necessary to judge for what particular service they might be considered to have an aptitude and possess qualifications.

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT.

(Answer to Question No. 1606,* page 234.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) No one has been dismissed for inefficiency, but an Inspector, the Superintendent of the Registrar's Office and* 4 clerks have been dismissed for dishonesty.*2 Head Assistants.
2 Assistant Clerks in
Lyallpur and Sar-
godha.

(b) Two of the six are agriculturists.

DEPRESSED CLASSES.

(Answer to Question No. 1627,* page 241).

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) According to the Census Report for 1921, the total population of the depressed classes communitywise is as follows :—

(i) Balmiki	..	..	..	220,950
(ii) Lal Begi	..	..	..	424,599
(iii) Ram Dasia	..	..	..	239,739
(iv) Balashahi	..	..	..	3,830
Total	..	..	..	888,618

(b) No figures of literacy are available, but the following facts may interest the honourable member :—

Year.						Number of scholars of depressed classes in educational institutions in the Punjab.
1921	..	..	..	..	..	2,848
1922	..	..	..	..	..	3,782
1923	..	..	..	..	..	8,042
1924			..			10,597
1925					..	11,974
1926		..				19,372
1927	..	..	..	..	..	19,502
1928	..	..				26,781

(c) The honourable member is referred to my answer to starred Council Question¹ No. 1890.

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, BHAKKAR.

(Answer to Question No. 1643,* page 247.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

DISTRICT BOARD, MUZAFFARGARH.

(Answer to Question No. 1647,* page 248.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) The district board asked for administrative approval to the construction of new buildings at an estimated cost of Rs. 38,000 as the old buildings were reported to be in such a serious state of disrepair that it was more economical to build an entirely new office than to continue heavy recurring expenditure on repairs.

(b) & (c) The old buildings were still being used in December 1928 as the district board office, and when the new buildings are ready it is proposed, if after taking expert advice it is found that the old buildings can be made fit for use, that they should be let to the district medical officer of health as there is a scarcity of houses at Muzaffargarh. The site on which the new office buildings are being constructed has been purchased from a member of the district board.

ESTIMATES FOR THE NEW DISTRICT BOARD OFFICE, MUZAFFARGARH.

(Answer to Question No. 1649,* (d) & (e), page 249.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (d) The first running payment was made on the 15th March 1928, and the second was made in May 1928.

The first payment was for material measured in the contractor's possession on the 10th March 1928, but carried to the site before payment was made. The second payment was for further material supplied.

(e) The District Board Account Code provides for running payments being made within certain limits for materials supplied.

MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONER, KASUR.

(Answer to Question No. 1654,* page 251.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) No.

(b) No. Haji Rao Nawaz Khan, Municipal Commissioner, is also Honorary Secretary of the Municipal Committee. Certain statements recorded by the secretary and verified by the president were considered to be very confidential and were kept by the secretary in his house in a special box supplied for such purpose. Those papers were fetched from the secretary's house when required for the meeting, as no irregularity appears to have been committed, no action is called for.

COMPLAINT AGAINST KHAWAJA ABDUL SALAM, H. V. C.

(Answer to Question No. 1664,* page 254.)

Mr. J. G. Beazley : (a) & (b) In August 1926 a petition was addressed to the Commissioner, Multan division, by certain abadkars of the Montgomery District to the effect that one of the subordinate colony officials had used his position in such a way so as to secure an exchange of land in favour of himself and his relatives to the disadvantage of others. Enquiry was made into this representation by the Deputy Commissioner, at the request of the Commissioner, who came to the conclusion that although Khawaja Abdus Salam appeared to have taken some minor interest in the proceedings connected with the case referred to, there was nothing to show that he acted with any dishonest motives. The Commissioner agreed with this finding and did not consider any action was called for, particularly as this official had always in the past borne a reputation for honesty.

BEHAVIOUR OF THE POLICE AT KURUKSHETRA.

(Answer to Question No. 1672,* page 257.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes.

(b) Reports received show that the article in question was very greatly exaggerated. It was necessary for the police to use force in order to prevent injury to large numbers of pilgrims. The force used was not excessive in the circumstances of the case. No special action on the part of Government is called for.

SENIOR VERNACULAR CLASSES.

(Answer to Question No. 1679,* page 259.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The following statement gives the required information :—

Year.					Total number of students admitted.	Number of Muham-maden students admitted.
1925	..	..	..	..	423	209
1926	..	..	..	..	525	266
1927	..	..	..	..	923	442
1928	..	..	..	..	1,016	469

JUNIOR ANGLO-VERNACULAR CLASSES.

(Answer to Question No. 1680,* page 259.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : A detailed statement giving the information required is placed on the table :—

Serial No.	Name of the Institution to which the class is attached.	NUMBER OF STUDENTS ADMITTED.																REMARKS.
		1925.				1926.				1927.				1928.				
		Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Others.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Others.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Others.	Hindus.	Muslims.	Sikhs.	Others.	
1	Multan College, Multan	14	17	5	1	21	12	5	3	20	19	4	..	21	24	6	2	
2	Government Intermediate College, Lyallpur.	..	..	..	..	19	9	12	..	17	9	11	1	24	5	15	1	No Muhammadan applicant was received for admission.
	Total of classes managed by Government.	14	17	5	1	40	21	17	3	37	28	15	1	45	29	21	3	
3	Khalid College, Amritsar	2	1	40	..	8	..	6	..	6	..	34	..	7	..	20	..	
4	D. A.-V. College, Jullundur	89	..	2	..	40	..	3	..	37	1	3	..	38	1	5	..	
5	Islamic College, Lahore	3	87	..	..	5	75	1	..	4	52	1	..	6	56	..	1	
	Total for classes attached to denominational institutions.	44	88	42	..	48	76	10	..	47	63	38	..	51	57	31	1	
	GRAND TOTAL	58	105	47	1	88	96	27	3	84	91	53	1	96	86	52	4	

PENAL POLICE POSTS.

(Answer to Question No. 1697*, page 268.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a)—

Year.					Sum actually realized.
					Rs.
1926	..	..	..	..	5,85,780
1927	..	..	..	..	4,62,786

(b)—

Year.					Sum actually expended.
					Rs.
1926	..	..	..	..	4,51,280
1927	..	..	..	..	3,96,680

The discrepancy between the figures of realization and those of expenditure for 1926 is due to a misunderstanding of the orders regarding the enrolment of the reserve, the charging of contingencies and the rate to be taken in reckoning the constables' pay. These misunderstandings are being rectified.

(c) Yes.

(d) } The surplus remained unspent in the General Police Fund, which
 (e) }

is maintained under the orders of the Government of India. The unspent surplus can only be utilized under the orders of Government and for purposes intimately connected with additional Police Posts.

ACCOMMODATION OF GOVERNMENT OFFICES IN GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

(Revised Answer to Question No. 1712,* page 339.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) A revised list of Provincial Government offices at present accommodated in private houses in Lahore with the rent paid in each case shown against each is laid on the table.

(b) Government propose to accommodate all these offices in Government buildings to be erected on a site near Charing Cross, and preliminary drawings and estimate are under preparation.

LIST OF BUILDINGS RENTED BY GOVERNMENT FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT LAHORE.

Serial No.	Name of office.	Monthly rent paid.
		Rs. A. P.
1	Office of the Director, Civil Veterinary Department ..	200 0 0
2	Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Criminal Tribes ..	200 0 0
3	Office of the Divisional Criminal Tribes	20 0 0
4	Office of the Industrial Surveyor	40 0 0
5	Office of the Chief Inspector of Boilers	100 0 0
6	Office of the Industrial Inspectress, Punjab	50 0 0
7	Office of the Inspector of Factories	100 0 0
8	Office of the Textile Inspector	35 0 0
9	Office of the Inspector of Industrial Schools, Punjab ..	100 0 0
10	Office of the Secretary, Communications Board, Punjab ..	236 4 0
11	Office of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Punjab, Central Range ..	94 0 0
12	Office of the Superintending Engineer, Upper Chenab Canal Circle ..	163 0 0
13	Office of the Superintending Engineer, 2nd British Circle ..	140 0 0
14	Office of the Assistant Engineer, Discharge Sub-Division ..	17 0 0
15	Office of the Superintending Engineer, Rural Sanitary Board, and the Executive Engineer, Rural Sanitary Board ..	250 0 0
16	Office of the Joint Secretary to Government, Punjab ..	250 0 0
17	Office of the Civil Member and Engineer Member of the Water-Logging Enquiry Committee and its staff ..	150 0 0
18	Office of the Deputy Registrar, 2 Assistant Registrars, 4 Inspectors, 1 Banking Expert and 1 Inspectress ..	150 0 0
19	Office of the Director of Land Records	300 0 0
20	Office of the Executive Engineer, Lahore Public Health Division, Lahore Public Health Sub-Division and Special Works Public Health Sub-Division ..	225 0 0
21	Office of the Executive Engineer, III Lahore Provincial Division, with one Sub-Division ..	250 0 0
22	Office and Laboratory of the Superintendent of Fisheries, Punjab ..	45 0 0
23	Office of the Chief Engineer, Hydro-Electric Branch, and Head-quarter Offices ..	852 0 0
24	Office of the Inspector, Draglines, Northern Circle ..	45 0 0
25	Office of the Land Acquisition Officer, Sutlej Valley Project ..	65 0 0
26	Office for the Principal, Punjab Public Health School, Lahore ..	255 0 0
27	Office for the Honorary Extra Assistant Commissioner, Lahore ..	60 0 0
	Total ..	4,392 4 0

CIVIL PRISONERS.

(Answer to Question No. 1714,* page 841.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a)

1925	..	..	..	669
1926	..	..	..	1,888
1927	..	..	..	2,227
1928	..	..	..	2,550

(b)—

1915	..	..	..	496
1916	..	..	..	412
1917	..	..	..	319
1918	..	..	..	247

(c) The general application of the principle enunciated in Civil Miscellaneous Appeal No. 662 of 1925 (*Hargobind-Kishan Chand versus Hakim Singh and Company*).

MUNICIPAL HIGH SCHOOL, GOHANA.

(Answer to Question No. 1746,* page 895.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The required information is given below :—

	Annual income of the Municipal Committee.	Total annual cost of the school.	Net annual cost of maintenance of the school after deducting fee income Government grant, etc.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Gohana	24,688	9,985	1,233
Beri	25,633	18,186	7,553

The Gohana school, has, however, been provincialised with effect from the 1st May 1929.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN ROHTAK DISTRICT.

(Answer to Question No. 1749,* page 896.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) 49.

(b) As chaupals provide reasonably satisfactory accommodation, it is undesirable to press the district board to spend money on putting up school buildings to replace them.

WESTERN JUMNA CANAL.

(Answer to Question No. 1758,* page 899.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

GRANT OF LANDS.

(Answer to Question No. 1761,* page 400.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) 75,000 acres were allotted for military reward grants. Colonists for this area have been selected by the military authorities.

(b) No separate provision has been made for such services.

(c) 10,000 acres.

(d) About 920,000 acres. This is sold in small blocks likely to attract purchasers of moderate means.

(e) Hitherto 150,000 acres have been allotted or are being allotted. It is hoped that eventually an additional area may be available for this purpose.

(f) About 18,000 acres, all of which will be devoted to some type of Government farm.

ADMISSION TO VETERINARY AND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES.

(Answer to Question No. 1762,* page 401.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) A statement showing the number of students admitted to the Veterinary College and the Lyallpur Agricultural College, in each of the years 1926, 1927 and 1928 and the number of statutory agriculturists among them, is laid on the table.

(b) In the case of the Lyallpur College no question of safeguards arises, as agriculturists constitute an overwhelming majority among those admitted to the College. As regards the Veterinary College and Veterinary Department, the percentage of members of notified agricultural tribes in the Department (excluding clerks) is according to the latest return 61·5 per cent. as against the percentage of 66 zamindars laid down in the Resolution of 1919. Any falling off in the proportion of agriculturists admitted, however, can be corrected by the discretion given to the Principal to admit Matriculates of the First Division.

Statement showing the number of students admitted to the Veterinary College and the Lyallpur Agricultural College in each of the years 1926, 1927 and 1928 and the number of statutory Agriculturists among them.

College.	1926.		1927.		1928.	
	Number of students admitted.	Agriculturists.	Number of students admitted.	Agriculturists.	Number of students admitted.	Agriculturists.
Veterinary College ..	31	15	38	17	30	13
Agricultural College ..	74	61	83	62	68	*46 †18

* Agriculturists under the Land Alienation Act.

† Other agriculturists according to the broad definition contained in Punjab Government Resolution of 1919.

MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH.

(Answer to Question No. 1771,* page 406.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The requisite information is given below :—

District.	Number of middle schools in which English is taught as an optional subject.	Total number of teachers who teach English in these schools.	Number of teachers belonging to the statutory Agricultural tribes.
Hissar	18	22	7
Rohtak	12	21	6
Gurgaon	12	15	5
Karnal	9	13	6

It is to be noted that these schools are maintained by the District Boards.

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, BHAKKAR.

(Answer to Question No. 1778,* page 406.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) & (b) No son of a teacher drawing Rs. 100 per mensem or more is in receipt of a fee concession at the Government High School, Bhakkar. The sons of a Municipal Commissioner and a Naib-Tahsildar receive concessions under Article 15 of Chapter IV of the Punjab Education Code.

POLICE OFFICERS.

(Answer to Question No. 1794,* page 468.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Government are not prepared to give the names of the individuals concerned. A list is forwarded showing the departmental action taken against members of the Police Force whose conduct was the subject of adverse remarks by judicial officers in 1927-28.

Police Officers against whose conduct adverse remarks were made by Judicial Officers in their judgments during the year 1927-28.	Departmental action taken on these remarks.
1 Sub-Inspector	Next increment stopped for 2 years.
1 Foot Constable	Given 6 months' guard duty.

Police Officers against whose conduct adverse remarks were made by Judicial Officers in their judgments during the year 1927-28.	Departmental action taken on these remarks.
1 Foot Constable	It was not considered necessary to take any departmental action.
1 Sub-Inspector	Departmental action is being taken.
1 Inspector.. ..	Transferred from executive duty.
1 Head Constable	Awarded a black mark and 1 year's service forfeited.
1 Head Constable	No departmental action was taken and the adverse remarks were expunged from the judgment by the appellate court.
2 Sub-Inspectors	Warned for the future.
2 Head Constables	It was not considered necessary to take any action.
1 Probationary Sub-Inspector	Discharged from service.
1 Head Constable	Reduced for 2 years.
1 Head Constable	The Head Constable was exonerated in departmental enquiry.
1 Sub-Inspector	Departmental enquiry not yet instituted.
1 Head Constable	On enquiry no blame was found and with the concurrence of District Magistrate no action was taken.
1 Foot Constable	Found blameless on enquiry.
2 Foot Constables	Enquiry is proceeding against them.
1 Head Constable	Dismissed, but on appeal to Deputy Inspector-General was reinstated.
1 Head Constable	Reduced from Rs. 41 to Rs. 36 grade.
1 Head Constable	Reduced to Foot Constable.
1 Head Constable	Departmental enquiry is still pending.
1 Head Constable	Resigned before departmental proceedings had started.
1 Sub-Inspector	Warned and transferred to Delhi.
1 Head Constable	Charge against him could not be proved.
1 Foot Constable	Dismissed.
1 Sub-Inspector	Departmental enquiry still pending.
1 Sub-Inspector	It was not considered necessary to take any action.

Police Officers against whose conduct adverse remarks were made by Judicial Officers in their judgments during the year 1927-28.	Departmental action taken on these remarks.
1 Head Constable	Reverted to Foot Constable and 8 years' service as Foot Constable forfeited.
1 Assistant Sub-Inspector ..	Departmental enquiry is pending the decision of a case in court.
1 Inspector,	Case instituted against them under section 193, Indian Penal Code, but was withdrawn as no evidence was forthcoming.
1 Head Constable	
1 Head Constable	
2 Head Constables	Reduced to Foot Constable.
1 Sub-Inspector	Found blameless on enquiry.
1 Sub-Inspector	Departmental action is pending.
1 Foot Constable, Selection Grade..	Warned.
1 Sub-Inspector	Reduced to Foot Constable, Time-Scale.
1 Deputy Superintendent of Police	Departmental action was taken, but the officer was acquitted with the concurrence of Deputy Inspector-General.
1 Head Constable	It was not considered necessary to take any action.
1 Head Constable	Awarded a black mark. The Deputy Inspector-General has further called for the explanation of the Head Constable asking him to show cause why his punishment should not be enhanced.
1 Head Constable	Departmental action is pending.
1 Foot Constable	Warned.
1 Foot Constable	File of departmental proceedings is pending.
1 Head Constable	Ditto.
1 Sub-Inspector	Awarded a black mark.

MILITARY SCHOLARSHIPS.

(Answer to Question No. 1840,* page 586.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) The system is considered the most convenient and suitable.

MILITARY SCHOLARSHIPS.

(Answer to Question No. 1841, page 537.)*

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : The names of the districts where the payment of military scholarships is made quarterly are—

Hissar, Rohtak, Karnal, Hoshiarpur, Sheikhpura, Gujrat, Jhelum, Attock, Mianwali and Jhang.

The honourable member may wish to know that it is open to Heads of institutions to submit scholarship bills for payment monthly or quarterly as may be convenient.

KHAZAN SINGH, MILITARY SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER.

(Answer to Question No. 1842, page 537.)*

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) Five months.

(c) 29th November 1928.

(d) 22nd January 1929.

(e) The case had first to await a meeting of the local advisory committee and was later delayed by formalities connected with the drawal and disbursement of the money.

SCHOOLMASTERS AND POSTAL ALLOWANCES.

(Answer to Question No. 1853, page 540.)*

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal :

(a).

(b).

Karnal Tahsil.

1. Barsat.
2. Samana Bhau.
3. Indri.
4. Moonak.
5. Ramibha.
6. Faridpore.
7. Jundla.
8. Amin.

1. Barsat.
2. Samana Bhau.
3. Indri.
4. Moonak.
5. Rambha.

Panipat Tahsil.

9. Naultha.
10. Ahar.
11. Urlana Kalan.
12. Narah.
13. Manana.
14. Israna.

6. Urlana Kalan.

(a).

(b).

Thanesar Tahsil.

15. Ismailabad.
16. Sanghaur.
17. Gumthala Rao.
18. Jhansa.
19. Kalsana.
20. Tangaur.
21. Radour.

7. Sanghaur.
8. Radour.

Kaithal Tahsil.

22. Kaul.
23. Habri.
24. Pai.
25. Gumthala Gadhu.
26. Assandh.
27. Seewan.
28. Rajondh.
29. Dhatrat.
30. Bhagal.
31. Arnauli.
32. Pharal.

9. Kaul.
10. Pai.
11. Gumthala Gadhu.
12. Assandh.
13. Seewan.
14. Rajondh.
15. Arnauli.

LOCATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN VILLAGE CHAUPALS.

(Answer to Question No. 1859, page 548).*

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : A statement showing the required information is laid on the table.

LIST OF VILLAGES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT WHERE
PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN VILLAGE
CHAUPALS.

Serial No.	Names of villages.
<i>Karnal Tahsil.</i>	
1	Sheikhupura.
2	Balranghran.
3	Sanghoa.
4	Gharaunda (Branches Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4).
5	Gadhi Birbal.
6	Phusgarh.
7	Ranwar

LIST OF VILLAGES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT WHERE
PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN VILLAGE
CHAUPALS—CONTINUED.

Serial No.	Names of villages.
<i>Karnal Tahsil—continued.</i>	
8	Agondh.
9	Rainpura.
10	Gudha.
11	Uchana.
12	Tikri.
13	Bisdhara.
14	Rair Kalan.
15	Barthal.
16	Barutta.
17	Debarki.
18	Sanbhi.
19	Padha.
20	Nigdhu.
21	Kheri Naru.
22	Ramana.
23	Goli
24	Ganjo Gadhi.
25	Chaunra.
26	Alaola.
27	Sikri.
28	Janeasaron.
29	Kohand.
30	Mubarikabad.
31	Dingarmazra.
32	Kalron.
33	Tewant.
34	Bazida Jatan.
35	Raipore.
36	Bastali.
37	Jarsoli.
38	Churni.
39	Dabkauli Kalan.
40	Katlaheri.
41	Shahpur.
42	Kheri Man Singh.
43	Hasanpura.
44	Mohiad Dinpure.

LIST OF VILLAGES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT WHERE
PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN VILLAGE
CHAUPALS—CONTINUED.

Serial No.	Names of villages.
<i>Karnal Tahsil—concluded.</i>	
45	Chorpura.
46	Amunpure.
47	Charpure Khalsa.
48	Niyawal.
49	Kalheri.
50	Kalri Jagir.
51	Barawali.
52	Alipure.
53	Budha Khera.
54	Moremajra.
55	Salarya.
56	Rindal.
57	Bhadson.
58	Randaoli.
59	Kurlan.
60	Bansa.
61	Barana.
62	Fatehpure.
63	Sitondi.
64	Dadlana.
65	Bathira.
66	Kanthai Khurad.
67	Dabkauli Khurad.
68	Sheikhpura.
69	Kairwali.
70	Barsalu.
71	Khaspure.
72	Nadana.
73	Makhala.
74	Sayyad Chhapra.
75	Sanwant.
76	Kunjpur Branch.
77	Panauri.
78	Chaurkarsa.
79	Jaur Mazra Kalan.
80	Gari Gujran.
81	Daulatpure.
82	Karsa Lhod.

LIST OF VILLAGES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT WHERE
PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN VILLAGE
CHAUPALS—CONTINUED.

Serial No.	Names of villages.
<i>Panipat Tahsil.</i>	
88	Babail Branch.
84	Shahpure.
85	Dikadla.
86	Sink.
87	Allupre.
88	Karad.
89	Kabri.
90	Shahmalpure.
91	Mohammadpure.
92	Bapauli.
93	Pasina Khurd.
94	Baslapure.
95	Bichpari.
96	Machrauli.
97	Sansuli Khurd.
98	Hartari.
99	Brahman Hazra.
100	Kurar.
101	Ujah.
102	Chandauli.
103	Nanhera.
104	Goela Khurd.
105	Pardhana.
106	Paoti.
107	Budhuwal Mazri.
108	Bilana.
109	Dhadhola.
110	Gadhi Chhaju.
111	Haldana.
112	Palri.
113	Ossar.
114	Lohari.
115	Dhodpur.
116	Bhadsur.
117	Chamrara.
118	Jalalpure.

LIST OF VILLAGES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT WHERE
PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN VILLAGE
CHAUPALS—CONTINUED.

Serial No.	Names of villages.
<i>Panipat Tahsil—concluded.</i>	
119	Chhajpure.
120	Tityana.
121	Nagal Kheri.
122	Naraina.
123	Namonda.
124	Rajakheri.
125	Hawada.
<i>Kaithal Tahsil.</i>	
126	Azim Garh.
127	Jhabala.
128	Sarsa.
129	Gulyana.
130	Chika.
131	Jaddaula.
132	Shemdo.
133	Taragarh.
134	Mani Kalan.
135	Mardan Hord.
136	Ratauli.
137	Karora.
138	Phaphrana.
139	Kathana.
140	Saneh.
141	Siyana Saidan.
142	Malakpure.
143	Harigadh.
144	Sismore.
145	Hajwana.
146	Barna.
147	Sangal.
148	Kharaudi.
149	Dig.
150	Sertha.
151	Kheri Sharaf Ali.
152	Pegan.
153	Rahera.
154	Khurana.
155	Balbherakhath.

LIST OF VILLAGES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT WHERE
PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN VILLAGE
CHAUPALS—CONTINUED,

Serial No.	Names of villages.
<i>Kailhal Tahsil—continued.</i>	
156	Serhada.
157	Murtazapure.
158	Kharyal.
159	Barsana.
160	Fatehpure.
161	Bhagana.
162	Pilni.
163	Bhana.
164	Bakkal.
165	Janedpure.
166	Puseen.
167	Rughšana.
168	Jhakhauli.
169	Bhorak.
170	Sega.
171	Chaba.
172	Sehunmazra.
173	Salwan (Branch).
174	Bohera.
175	Nainan.
176	Jajanpure.
177	Bakbli.
178	Chandlana.
179	Sangrauli.
180	Dahaula.
181	Kharak.
182	Muana (Branch).
183	Dabah.
184	Uplana.
185	Sadduwal.
186	Chochra.
187	Dundarheri.
188	Bhor.
189	Badhana.
190	Chuharpure.
191	Padla.
192	Thari.

**LIST OF VILLAGES IN THE KARNAL DISTRICT WHERE
PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN VILLAGE
CHAUPALS—CONCLUDED.**

Serial No.	Names of villages.
	<i>Thanesar Tahsil.</i>
193	Devedaspure.
194	Nalwi.
195	Josar.
196	Nawarsi.
197	Gudha.
198	Mathana.
199	Kheri Dabdalan.
200	Bhustla.
201	Kalwa.
202	Naisi.
203	Ban.
204	Ramsaranmazra.
205	Machhrauli.
206	Dunyamazra.
207	Rajheri.
208	Zainpure Jatan.
209	Nachraon.
210	Dhanaura.
211	Bubka.
212	Jobal.
213	Teora.
214	Thaska Ali Shah.
215	Sheikhupura.
216	Dabkheri.
217	Karera.

INSOLVENCY CASES.

(Answer to Question No. 1934, page 648.)*

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) The number of insolvency cases in the Jhang district in 1927 was 22 and their total value about Rs. 1,18,878-8-9. In 1928 the number of such cases was 32 and their total value about Rs. 8,11,546-9-0.

(b) In 1927 Muslims were appointed Official Receivers in 4 cases, of which the total value was Rs. 6,474 and in 1928 they were appointed as *Ad-Interim* Receivers in 8 cases only, none being appointed Receivers in any case after adjudication.

SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICER, BAHAWALPUR SUB-DIVISION.

(Answer to Question No. 1949,* page 717.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : On enquiry it has been found that the honourable member's information is not correct. If the honourable member has any definite information, the Chief Engineer will be glad to receive it.

CANAL IRRIGATION OF VILLAGE RAJAPUR.

(Answer to Question No. 1952,* page 719.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) 8,419 acres.

(ii) The area actually irrigated as shown by Revenue Patwaris is 1,068 acres and as shown by Canal Patwaris 1,059.

(iii) The village is irrigated from Rappar, Danwaran, Shahnal and Gopal Distributaries of Mailsi Canal.

GIRDWARI PAPERS, MULTAN DISTRICT.

(Answer to Question No. 1958,* page 722.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Certain zamindars of Lodhran and Mailsi tahsils did represent to the local authorities that there were mistakes in the measurements done by Canal Patwaris for *kharif* 1928.

(b) No special enquiry has been undertaken as it was open to the zamindars affected to proceed under Rules 70 and 71 of the Rules under the Canal Act, VIII of 1878, applicable to the Mailsi Canal and they were informed accordingly.

(c) Does not arise.

NORMAL SCHOOL, HOSHIARPUR.

(Answer to Question No. 1961,* page 723.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes, in Hoshiarpur and three other districts of the Punjab, students who have taken up Urdu and Persian are preferred to those who have taken up Sanskrit and Hindi, in the matter of admission to Normal schools.

(b) Because the medium of instruction in the Normal schools and in the primary schools for which teachers are trained—is Urdu.

Steps have been taken to start one Junior Vernacular unit at Karnal with Hindi as medium of instruction.

APPOINTMENTS IN DISTRICT AND MUNICIPAL BOARD SCHOOLS.

(Answer to Question No. 1972,* page 727.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Article 7 of Chapter II of the Punjab Education Code provides that "questions relating to the appointment of teachers in Anglo-Vernacular board schools for boys shall be disposed of by the Inspector in consultation with the President or Chairman of the local body concerned."

(b) The practice described by the honourable member does not appear to be inconsistent with the rule.

(c) Matters of this kind are regarded as confidential, but the honourable member may be informed that difference between the Inspector of Schools and the Chairman has arisen only in one district, and that only in one instance.

STUDENTS AND POLITICS.

(Answer to Question No. 1981*, page 788).

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes, but the undertaking is "not to take part in political action of any kind whilst a student."

(b) All Government Colleges.

(c) Government is aware of the undertaking made by these students at the time of admission, but there are no standing instructions on the subject.

(d) None.

(e) No.

(f) No.

VILLAGE PATROL ACT.

(Answer to Question No. 1997,* page 841.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) Yes, but patrolling was done during the night only.

(b) The action taken was warranted by section 8 read with section 7 of the Punjab Village and Small Towns Patrol Act of 1918.

WATER TAX IN MULTAN.

(Answer to Question No. 2056,* page 928.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) Water tax has been imposed on all buildings within the city walls and on such buildings outside those walls as are situated within 500 feet of a public stand-post, for the purpose of enabling the committee to meet its increased liabilities due to the execution of the water works scheme.

(b) Yes; but house tax and not water tax is levied in Hasan Koshak and in areas situated beyond 500 feet from a public stand-post.

(c) No action on the part of Government is called for.

DISTRICT BOARD, LYALLPUR.

(Answer to Question No. 2080,* page 992.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) No. The services of newly appointed and temporary assistant teachers were dispensed with as a number of appointments were brought under reduction for economic reasons :—

(b) Muslims ..	..	..	..	..	86
Hindus ..	..	..	..	..	80
Sikhs ..	..	..	..	..	18
(c) Muslims ..	..	..	..	..	12
Hindus ..	..	..	..	..	7
Sikhs ..	..	..	..	..	6

in vacancies which arose by the resignation of certain teachers.

CIVIL PRISONERS IN ROHTAK JAIL.

(Answer to Question No. 2121,* page 1078.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow :

(a) 1926	..	..	..	..	..	16
1927	..	..	..	..	..	84
1928	..	..	..	..	..	26
(b) 1926	..	..	..	..	..	9
1927	..	..	..	..	..	19
1928	..	..	..	..	..	18

(c) The reason for this increase is due to the ruling contained in the case Hargobind-Kishan Chand *versus* Hakim Singh and Company, reported as 6 I. L. R. (Lahore), page 548.

ATTACHMENT OF PROPERTY AND ARREST OF JUDGMENT DEBTORS.

(Answer to Question No. 2122,* page 1078.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow :—

(a) In 1924	..	..	..	..	Nil.
1925	..	..	..	..	6
1926	..	..	..	..	32
1927	..	..	..	..	64
1928	..	..	..	..	77

(b) This increase is attributed to the ruling contained in this case Hargobind-Kishan Chand *versus* Hakim Singh and Company reported as 6 Indian Law Report (Lahore), page 548.

PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF JHATKA MEAT IN GOVERNMENT

HIGH SCHOOL, KASUR.

(Answer to Question No. 2132,* page 1189.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) As no provision exists in the school for a non-vegetarian kitchen in the Boarding House for the Hindus and the Sikhs—both have always had one common vegetarian kitchen—permission recently sought by some Sikh students to have *Jhatka* meat could not be granted.

(b) No.

(c) In the circumstances set forth in (a) above no particular action is called for.

HINDU SUB-INSPECTORS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

(Answer to Question No. 2134,* page 1189.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) No.

(b) The Sub-Inspectors are not Government servants.

(c) Yes.

II. Does not arise.

AHMEDPUR BRANCH CANAL.

(Answer to Question No. 2140,* page 1142.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) As far as records go the Ahmadpur Branch was dug to the designed bed level from R. D. 88,900 to R. D. 98,000. After being in flow for 6 months, the level is correct now.

(b) Does not arise.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE OF GUJRAT.

(Answer to Question No. 2150,* page 1147.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) No; the committee at one time proposed to sell a portion of the acquired land, but this idea was subsequently dropped.

(c) Does not arise.

NARAIN DAS, STUDENT, II MIDDLE CLASS.

(Answer to Question No. 2155,* page 1148.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) Narain Das (Nur Muhammad) himself applied to Jhok Vains school for a transfer certificate on 21st June, 1927. M. Muhammad Nawaz, Vains of Jhok Vains, who supported the boy, got him admitted to the Sinawan school on 6th July 1927 as his guardian.

(c) Because the boy had severed his family connections with his parents by embracing Islam.

(d) Yes.

(e) His date of birth, according to the school registers, is 15th October 1912.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT, MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, KASUR.

(Answer to Question No. 2160,* page 1159).

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) It is understood that on the arrival of the member in question at the municipal hall he was told that a telephone message had been received from the Sub-Divisional Officer to the effect that the Sub-Divisional Officer wished to see him before the meeting for the election of the President was held.

(b) In response to the message received the member in question went to see the Sub-Divisional Officer and did not return to take part in the election.

(c) Government have not been able to trace any correspondence on the subject, and the officers concerned have no very clear recollection of the circumstances. It is believed, however, that there was some mistake in connection with the nomination of the gentleman in question as a member of the committee, and that he was advised by the Sub-Divisional Officer

that in view of this uncertainty it would be advisable for him to abstain from taking part in meetings until the matter was cleared up.

OFFENCES IN THE THANA SADAR, AMRITSAR.

(Answer to Question No. 2167,* page 1201.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : 1. (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

2. (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Government is considering the question of the establishment of a police post in the locality near the Khalsa College.

PROVINCIAL AND SUBORDINATE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

(Answer to Question No. 2193,* page 1278.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the table :—

Number of untrained men recruited in the Punjab Educational Service in the years 1927-28.	Number of untrained men recruited in the Subordinate Educational Service, Anglo-Vernacular Section, in the years 1927-28.	Number of those untrained men who were recruited in the Subordinate Educational Service, Anglo-Vernacular Section, in the years 1927-28 and have received promotion in preference to their trained seniors.	Number of trained B.A.'s who have superseded trained M.As. in English and Mathematics in the years 1927-28.	Number of untrained B.A.'s who have superseded trained M.A.'s in English and Mathematics in the years 1927-28.
10	46	1	13	1

DISTRICT COURT CLERKS, AMRITSAR.

(Answer to Question No. 2196,* page 1275.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : If the honourable member is referring to the Deputy Commissioner's office, then—

(a) Christians 2.
Non-Muslims 8

(b) Yes. Wait for the occurrence of vacancies in the ordinary course.

READERS IN DISTRICT COURTS.

(Answer to Question No. 2197, page 1275.)*

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) The orders referred to are not traceable.

(b) Some senior Muhammadan clerks having experience of judicial work have been given the posts of Readers.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, AMRITSAR.

(Answer to Question No. 2198, page 1276.)*

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No. The post referred to is a separate one.

(b) The typist is son of the Acting Superintendent.

(c) The typist belongs to non-Muslim community. Out of the other 4 candidates, 2 permanent clerks who applied for the post belonged to Muslim community and other 2 to non-Muslim community.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, AMRITSAR.

(Answer to Question No. 2199, page 1276.)*

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) Two senior candidates of the junior grade were superseded last year by a junior candidate, who otherwise would have become overage. The senior candidates had 2 and 5 years, respectively, to go before they become overage.

(b) The senior candidates belonged to the Muslim community, while the junior candidate belonged to the non-Muslim community.

READERS AND AHLMADS, AMRITSAR.

(Answer to Question No. 2200, page 1276.)*

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) There are 3 such Readers—one in the Court of Revenue Assistant and the other 2 in the Courts of Honorary Magistrates. They will be transferred as soon as suitable substitutes are available.

(b) Yes, but it only applies to the clerks working in outlying Tahsila.

(c) Does not arise.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, AMRITSAR.

(Answer to Question No. 2201, page 1277.)*

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

METALLED ROADS, KARNAL.

(Answer to Question No. 2207, page 1279.)*

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) The mileage of metalled roads under the district board, Karnal, is 43 miles 2½ furlongs.

(b) The mileage of 43 miles $2\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs is distributed among 4 tahsils as under :—

		Karnal tahsil.	Kaithal tahsil.	Panipat tahsil.	Thanesar tahsil.	Total.
		M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
II class roads	..	10 0	1 0	..	20 0	31 0
III class roads	..	9 1	1 2	1 6	0 $1\frac{1}{2}$	12 $2\frac{1}{2}$
Total	..	19 1	2 2	1 6	20 $1\frac{1}{2}$	43 $2\frac{1}{2}$

(c) Government gives grants-in-aid for II class roads at the following rates :—

- (1) For maintenance at 35 per cent. of the actual expenditure.
- (2) For development works at 50 per cent. of the actual expenditure.

A grader and tractor has been purchased by the district board for the improvement of unmetalled roads and the district board proposes to take in hand the following roads in the financial year 1929-30 :—

	Miles.
(1) Karnal-Assandh road	.. 24
(2) Kaithal-Jind road	.. 26
(3) Kaithal-Guhla road	.. 20
(4) Guhla-Bhagal road	.. 10
(5) Assandh-Rajaundh-Pundri road	.. 22
(6) Pehowa-Bhagal road	.. 12

ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

VOL. XIII

NOMINATION OF LADY CANDIDATES TO MUNICIPAL COMMITTEES.

(Answer to Question No. 756, page 102.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (1) Yes.

(2) No vacancy has since occurred in the municipal committee of Julundur and, in the case of the municipal committee of Hoshiarpur, the Commissioner, who has the power of appointing members to committees of second class municipalities, when filling a vacancy on the last occasion, was not able to appoint a lady.

(3) No general instructions have so far been issued; but whenever an opportunity has occurred of appointing ladies as members of municipal committees full consideration has been given to the question of their appointment. Commissioners are being informed that the claims of lady candidates

for appointment as members of municipal committees should be considered on their merits.

ARBITRATION BOARDS, ETC.

(Answer to Question No. 817, page 177.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh :

(a)	Number of Arbitration Societies started during 1926-27	21
	Number of Arbitration Societies started during 1927-28	18
(b) 1.	Number of Industrial Societies, including Weavers' Societies and 8 Industrial Unions up to 31st July, 1928	297
2.	Number of Industrial Societies, including Weavers' Societies and 8 Industrial Unions started during 1926-27 (including one Industrial Union)	64
3.	Number of Industrial Societies, including Weavers' Societies and 8 Industrial Unions started during 1927-28 (including two Industrial Unions)	108
(c) 1.	Number of Credit Societies (of all kinds) including 11 Mortgage Banks in the Punjab up to 31st July, 1928	15,840
2.	Number of Credit Societies (of all kinds), including 3 Mortgage Banks started during 1926-27	1,518
3.	Number of Credit Societies (of all kinds), including 3 Mortgage Banks started during 1927-28	1,104

INSPECTORS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES, AMBALA DIVISION.

(Answer to Question No. 818, page 178.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) The first percentage (17) is correctly stated. The second should be 12, not 11.

(b) No. The position is almost exactly the same.

INSPECTORS OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

(Answer to Question No. 819, page 178.)

The Honourable Sardar Sir Jogendra Singh : (a) Number of Inspectors recruited in 1926-1927-1928 :—

Ambala division	5
Jullundur division	16
Lahore division	12
Rawalpindi division	15
Multan division	10
Total	58

- (b) 18 per cent.
 (c) $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

SUB-INSPECTORS.

(Answer to Question No. 885, page 281.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The total number of sub-inspectors recruited during the last three years is 85, of which number one is a resident of the Rohtak district.

PUNJABI CONVICTS IN THE ANDAMANS.

(Answer to Question No. 887, page 282.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : The total number of Punjabi convicts, who are still in the Andamans, is 955.

Owing to overcrowding in Punjab jails, it is not proposed to recall them within the next two years.

PAY OF TEACHERS OF LYALLPUR DISTRICT BOARD.

(Answer to Question No. 889, page 277.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) It has been ascertained that in 1928 it was found that a large number of bills for salary in arrears were still unsettled. The district board reports that these bills have now all been examined and adjudicated on, and that payment is in progress.

(b) The district board reports that the delay is probably due to change in the personnel of the clerical establishment of the District Inspector of Schools.

EROSION NEAR VILLAGE HARIKE.

(Answer to Question No. 910, page 414.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The total area eroded during the period from 1918 to 1928 was 20 acres, of which only three acres were eroded during the last five years.

(d) No action has been taken as none is necessary.

ENGLISH OFFICERS OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS IN THE LAHORE DIVISION.

(Answer to Question No. 941, page 482.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : A statement is laid on the table.

STATEMENT SHOWING NAMES, LENGTH OF SERVICE, DATES OF RETIREMENT, ETC., OF SUPERINTENDENTS AND HEAD CLERKS, IN THE ENGLISH OFFICES OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONERS, IN THE LAHORE DIVISION, AS IT STOOD ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1928.

District.	Name.	Religion.	Designation.	Length of service.			Date when the age of 55 years will be attained, except in case Nos. 6 and 12.	REMARKS.
				Y.	M.	D.		
Lahore	1. Lala Mohd Ram	Hindu	Superintendent	1	29	0	0	16-10-1936
	2. Lala Ram Rattan	Do.	Head Clerk	8	0	0	0	16-4-1955
	3. Mr. S. E. Thakur Das	(A) Christian	Superintendent	24	0	0	0	1934
Amritsar	4. Pandit Shiv Das	Hindu	Head Clerk, now officiating Superintendent.	23	0	0	0	1936
	5. B. Abdul Aziz	Muhammadian	Officiating Head Clerk	23	0	0	0	1940
	6. Bhai Ram Dyal, I.S.O.	Sikh	Superintendent	35	1	23		(A) At present on deputation under the Elections Commission.
Gurdaspur	7. Lala Nathu Ram	Hindu	Head Clerk	18	2	16		* Retained in service under the provisions of Fundamental Rule 56 (b), Volume I.
	8. Khan Fatah Bas Khan	Muhammadian	Superintendent	23	0	0		
Sialkot	9. Shafik Din Muhammadi	Do.	Head Clerk	18	0	0		
	10. Mr. R. Jacob	Christian	Superintendent	29	9	0		
Gujranwala	11. Lala Amar Nath	Hindu	Head Clerk	22	2	14		
	12. Shafik Wali Muhammad	Muhammadian	Superintendent	32	9	22		* 1-7-1929
Sheikhpura	13. Pandit Sri Nivas	Hindu	Head Clerk	11	8	0		0-2-1944

N.B.—Under the provisions of Fundamental Rule 56 (b), a ministerial servant may be required to retire at the age of 55 years, but should ordinarily be retained in service if he continues efficiently up to the age of 60 years.

NAROWAL-ZAFARWAL KUCHA ROAD.

(Answer to Question No. 948, page 483.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) There is a certain amount of inconvenience to traffic due to the work being in progress.

(c) Every effort is being made to keep the road fit for use, but a certain amount of inconvenience is inevitable in such cases.

PROSECUTIONS UNDER TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

(Answer to Question No. 962, page 658.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : Three policemen were departmentally charged in 1928 for prosecuting people falsely or wrongly under traffic regulations. Of these, two have been punished and the case against the third is still pending.

No policemen were prosecuted, convicted or departmentally punished for giving wrong signals.

CONVICTIONS UNDER TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

(Answer to Question No. 963, page 658.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : The accumulated amount of fine imposed on persons convicted under Traffic Regulations in the Punjab in 1928 was Rs. 71,044-6-0. This includes fines to the amount of Rs. 527-4-0 imposed under the Indian Railways Act, IX of 1890.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

(Answer to Question No. 968, page 663.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal :

(1) Number of Government scholarships awarded this year 6

(2) Marks obtained by each scholarship-holder .. 487, 484, 481,
461, 461, 455.

NON-MILITARY RIFLE SHOOTING CLUBS.

(Answer to Question No. 973, page 665.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (a) to (e) There is only one non-military rifle shooting club in the province. The club is not a registered body and receives no aid from Government. The license for miniature target practice was granted to the Secretary of the Club in respect of one rifle of .22 bore with 100 cartridges.

(f) The license was given in form XV under rule 32 of the Indian Arms Rules, 1924.

(g) The name of the club is the Elliot Club, Hissar.

AMRITSAR-FEROZPORE ROAD.

(Answer to Question No. 976, page 666.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) The portion of the road between Khem Karan and Bhikhiwind has been metalled by the board and the portion between Kasur and Khem Karan is already metalled.

(b) No. An estimate for the metalling of miles 5 and 6 was prepared and is under the consideration of the Secretary, Communications Board.

(c) No such hardship has been brought to the notice of Government.

(d) Does not arise.

ARREST AND DETENTION OF MUSSAMMAT KARAM BHARI.

(Answer to Question No. 984, page 670.)

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow : (a) to (h). The information can be obtained from the judicial record of the case.

(j) Government has no knowledge of any such complaint.

(k) Yes.

(l) No.

CANAL IRRIGATION AND ABIANA.

(Answer to Question No. 987, page 672.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain :

Name of village.	Total area of land commanded by canal irrigation.	Area actually irrigated.	Amount of abiana levied.
Lodhran ..	Acres. 1,525	Acres. 38.08	Rs. A. P. 67 6 0
Dargahpur ..	1,825	37.11	52 12 0
Sandiyala ..	{ 970 } 2,628 { 1,658 }	{ 35.19 } 71.0 { 36.41 }	{ 53 3 0 } 111 7 0 { 53 4 0 }
Thada Tahim ..	2,900	89.38	154 10 0
Rajapur ..	{ 2,685 } 8,419 { 490 } 5,244	{ 285.95 } 1,100.18 { 38.35 } 775.88	{ 566 5 0 } 2,640 5 0 { 2,074 0 0 }
Dhoratta ..	780	14.75	25 8 0

USE OF PUBLIC WELLS BY DEPRESSED CLASSES.

(Answer to Question No. 991, page 856.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : (a) The replies received from local officers show that conditions vary greatly in different

parts of the province. On the whole it appears that municipal committees have not placed any restriction on the use of public wells by members of depressed classes, but that in practice such classes usually have their own wells in their own *muhallas* and do not frequent the wells used by the general public. In a large number of municipalities, however, all classes alike regularly draw water from the public wells.

(b) The facilities at present enjoyed by the so-called "depressed classes"—an expression which is not of common use in this province—appear to be adequate.

DEPRESSED CLASSES—VOTING STRENGTH—LOCAL BODIES.

(Answer to Question No. 995, page 858.)

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan Noon : If the honourable member will define what he has in mind in using the term "depressed classes" Government will be able to say whether they are in a position to give the requisite information.

INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, AMBALA DIVISION—DISMISSAL OF STAFF.

(Answer to Question No. 1004, page 861.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : Mr. Wilson did not dispense with or terminate the services of any teacher or clerk in the Ambala division.

CENTRE FOR EXAMINATION, ANGLO-VERNACULAR SCHOOLS.

(Answer to Question No. 1019, page 865.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. After defraying printing and other incidental charges the balance is utilised in remunerating examiners who are appointed generally from the ranks of headmasters and local inspecting officers.

(c) The Education Code does not contain provision for this examination. It was started as an experimental measure in one or two divisions.

MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE, RUPAR.

(Answer to Question No. 1048, page 988.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) *Buildings.*—Rs. 24,177—as assessed by the Public Works Department at the time of provincialization.

Furniture.—The value was not assessed.

(b) The Government contributed nothing. The committee constructed the buildings at its own cost.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

(Answer to Question No. 1060, page 1010.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : A statement showing the required information is enclosed.

District.	Name of local bodies that have introduced compulsory Education.	Number of areas.	Date of introduction.	Is there any penalty attached for cases where boys are absent without adequate reason.	Has this penalty been imposed by the local body.	H-w many times the penalty was imposed.	REMARKS.
Kangra	District Board, Kangra ..	3 areas	1-6-1927	No	No	Does not arise.	
Hoshiarpur	Ditto Hoshiarpur ..	9 "	1-10-1927	"	"	"	
Jullundur	Ditto Jullundur ..	Sardh Zail	1-1-1928	"	"	"	
Ludhiana	Ditto Ludhiana ..	"	1-4-1929	"	"	"	
Do.	Municipal Committee, Ludhiana ..	"	1-12-1928	"	"	"	
Ferozepore	Ditto Ferozepore ..	"	1-4-1926	"	"	"	
Lahore	Ditto Lahore ..	"	October 1921	Yes	Yes, once	19	
	District Board, Lahore ..	"	August 1926	"	"	19	
	Ditto Gujranwala ..	"	1-5-1928 and 1-10-1928	"	"	19	
Amritsar	Municipal Committee, Nankana Sahib ..	"	2-3-1929	"	"	19	
	District Board, Amritsar ..	"	1-6-1926	"	"	19	
Montgomery	Municipal Committee, Amritsar ..	"	16-11-1925	"	"	19	
	District Board, Montgomery ..	"	1-4-1923	"	No	No.	
	Municipal Committee, Montgomery ..	"	1-10-1925	"	"	"	
	Ditto Kamalia ..	"	1-4-1929	"	"	"	
	Ditto Okara ..	"	15-4-1923	"	"	"	
	Ditto Pakpattan ..	"	19-4-1924	"	"	"	
Lyalpur	District Board, Lyalpur ..	"	1-1-1923	"	"	"	
	Municipal Committee, Lyalpur ..	"	15-4-1926	"	"	"	
	Gujra ..	"	1-12-1926	"	"	"	
	Tandlianwala ..	"	1-2-1923	"	"	"	
	Toba Tek Singh ..	"	1-4-1925	"	"	"	
	Jaranwala ..	"	1-1-1925	"	"	"	

Bye-laws have not yet been sanctioned and hence no penalty has so far been attached.

Local Body	Year	Area	Population	Revenue	Other Income	Total Income	Expenditure	Balance	Remarks
Jhang	1924-25	42	138	8	5	33	2	21	138
Multan	1924-25	42	138	8	5	33	2	21	138
Muzaffargarh	1924-25	42	138	8	5	33	2	21	138
Dera Ghazi Khan	1924-25	42	138	8	5	33	2	21	138
Gujrat	1924-25	42	138	8	5	33	2	21	138
Shahpur	1924-25	42	138	8	5	33	2	21	138
Jhelum	1924-25	42	138	8	5	33	2	21	138
Rawalpindi	1924-25	42	138	8	5	33	2	21	138
Attock	1924-25	42	138	8	5	33	2	21	138

District.	Name of local bodies that have introduced compulsory Education.	Number of areas.	Date of introduction.	Is there any penalty attached for cases where boys are absent without adequate reason.	If so, has this penalty been imposed by the local body.	How many times the penalty was imposed.	REMARKS.
Attock	District Board, Attock	1 area	18-10-1923	Yes	No	Nil	
Mianwali	Ditto Mianwali	2 areas	30-1-1929	"	"	"	
		7 "	11-4-1927	"	Yes	Once.	
		53 "	1-5-1923	"	"	"	
Hissar	Municipal Committee, Bhakkar	"	1-5-1923	"	No	No	
	Ditto Sirsaon	"	1-4-1927	"	"	"	
		"	1-9-1924	"	"	"	
	District Board, Hissar	11 areas	1-9-1924	Yes. A penalty of fine.	Yes. This was once imposed by District Board, Hissar, in May 1925.	Once.	
Rohtak	Municipal Committee, Rohtak	13 "	15-3-1925		Does not arise	Does not arise.	
		21 "	1-11-1925				
		2 wards	3-8-1926	Sections 13 and 14 of the Act applied.			
	Ditto Bahadurgarh	"	1-5-1926	No	No	"	
	Ditto Beri	"	1-5-1926	"	"	"	
		"		"	"	12 times.	
	Ditto Gohana	"	1-5-1927	"	"	Does not arise.	
	Ditto Jhajjaron	"	1-6-1927	"	"	"	
Gurgaon	District Board, Gurgaon	1	15-11-1923				
		2	15-4-1925				
		2	2-1-1925				
		3	1-6-1925				
		18	1-5-1925				
		6	15-10-1925	No penalty	Does not arise	"	
		3	1-11-1925				

APPENDIX.

XXXX

Karnal	Municipal Committee, Rowal	10	1-6-1927			
		24	1-8-1928			
	Ditto Ballabgarh	"	1-4-1924			
	Ditto	"	1-4-1925			
	Ditto Palwal	"	1-1-1928			
	District Board, Karnal	8	1-1-1924			
		10	1-2-1925			
		11	22-7-1923			
		14	1-6-1925			
		11	6-11-1925			
		12	15-12-1925			
		3	15-3-1926			
		6	15-6-1926			
		3	1-7-1927			
		15	15-3-1927			
		6	1-3-1927			
		12	15-4-1927			
		56	1-2-1928			
		47	15-6-1928			

In some six or seven cases the defaulters were tried in the courts of local magistrates, but the defaulters sent their children to school and the cases were withdrawn.

The penalty attached is for condoning the defaulters in the Compulsory Primary Education Act, VII of 1919.

* District Board, Rohtak—

6 areas on	"	6-10-23
11 "	"	1-8-24
6 "	"	12-12-24
8 "	"	2-1-26
2 "	"	1-3-26
6 "	"	1-3-26
1 area "	"	1-1-27
35 areas "	"	1-3-27
1 area "	"	1-4-27
84 areas "	"	1-6-27
16 "	"	1-10-27
1 area "	"	1-11-27
35 areas "	"	1-12-27
23 "	"	2-1-28
46 "	"	1-12-28

APPENDIX.

District.	Name of local bodies that have introduced compulsory Education.	Number of areas.	Date of introduction.	Is there any penalty attached for cases where boys are absent without adequate reason.	If so, has this penalty been imposed by the local body.	How many times the penalty was imposed.	Remarks.
Karnal— <i>continued</i>	Municipal Committee, Karnal	2 wards	1-4-1927	This penalty attached is for condoning infractions in the Compulsory Primary Education Act, VII of 1919.	In some six or seven cases the defaulters were tried in the courts of local magistrates, but the defaulters sent their children to schools and the cases were withdrawn.	..	
	Ditto Thanesar	..	1-11-1927				
	Ditto Panipat	Wards Nos. 8 and 11.	16-12-1925				
		Ward No. 10	13-7-1926				
Ambala	Municipal Committee, Baryar	Ward No. 8	1-4-1925	No	No	Does not arise.	
		Rest of the town	1-10-1928				
	S. T. O., Kalra	..	1-4-1927				
	District Board, Ambala	70 areas	1-1-1925				
Simla		52 "	15-6-1927	Does not arise	Does not arise	..	
		46 "	1-3-1928				
		1 area	1-8-1928				
		5 areas	1-12-1923				
		1 area	1-8-1925				
		1 "	1-3-1928				
		2 areas	15-8-1927				
		1 area	1-4-1927				
		1 "	15-8-1927				
		1 "	1-10-1927				
		1 "	1-12-1927				
		1 "	20-12-1927				
	Municipal Committee, Simla	1 "	15-11-1928				

MOTOR VEHICLES TAX.

(Answer to Question No. 1080 (1), page 1021).

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : 8,769,704 gallons of petrol were consumed in the Punjab during the financial year 1927-28.

MOTOR TOLL ON THE CHENAB BOAT BRIDGE.

(Answer to Question No. 1107, page 1153).

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Complaints that the fees charged are excessive have come to the notice of Government.

(d) The matter is under consideration, but it must be remembered that the general tax-payer has to pay for the upkeep of the boat bridge.

APPOINTMENT OF CATTLE FAIR ADVISER.

(Answer to Question No. 1109, page 1154).

The Honourable Malik Firoz Khan, Noon : (a) Yes.

(b) The information is given in the attached statement.

Name of the local body.	Name of the cattle fair adviser.	His pay and that of his establishment.	Net income of the local body from cattle fairs in the year immediately before the engagement of the cattle fair adviser.	Net income after deduction of all expenditure relating to it, derived by the local body from the cattle fairs during the first year of the engagement of the cattle fair adviser as well as annual net income under this head during the following three years.
			Rs.	Rs.
District Board, Ferozepore.	Bedi Hukam Singh.	His pay is Rs. 300 per mensem and that of his establishment as below :— 1 clerk at Rs. 40 per mensem. 1 advertiser at Rs. 20 per mensem. 1 chaprassi at Rs. 15 per mensem.	15,560	<p>Net income during first year of engagement of the Adviser .. 23,237</p> <p>Net income during the three following years :—</p> <p>During 1926-27 12,031</p> <p>During 1927-28 13,956</p> <p>During 1928-29 25,713</p>

DETENTION OF STUDENTS OF VARIOUS COLLEGES IN THE PROVINCE.

(Answer to Question No. 1112, page 1155).

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (1) Yes, the practice of detaining students obtains in a large number of colleges.

(2) A list of students so detained during 1928 as far as statistics could be collected is appended.

(3) Yes, students are generally detained as being weak in their studies, but there is no provision regulating this in the University Regulations.

(4) A circular was issued by the Department in July 1928 to the effect that weak boys should be sent up for the examination if they so desire on the condition that if they fail they will not be readmitted to the college.

(5) The circular was addressed to the Government Intermediate Colleges only as the Department does not interfere with the internal administration of private colleges.

COLLEGES WHICH HAVE DETAINED STUDENTS.

Serial No.	Name of College.	NUMBER DETAINED.	
		F. A.	B. A.
1	G. N. Khalsa College, Gujranwala	6	..
2	Islamia College, Lahore	11	5
3	Hindu Sabha College, Amritsar	2	..
4	Government Intermediate College, Lyallpur ..	9	..
5	Forman Christian College, Lahore	12	4
6	Murray College, Sialkot	5	..
7	D. A. - V. College, Rawalpindi	6	..
8	Mohindra College, Patiala	8	1
9	Gordon College, Rawalpindi	9	3

COMPLAINT AGAINST WATER - SUPPLY.

(Answer to Question No. 1121, page 1285.)

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Hussain : (a) There has been complaint of short supply at the tail of Naurang Distributary.

(b) Petitions have been received from some of the irrigators.

(c) There has been considerable improvement in the irrigation in the tail reach of Naurang Distributary. The area irrigated in the reach below Hissam Inspection House during 1927-28 was 3,292 acres, but in 1928-29 it has risen to 4,088 acres.

(d) The outlets in the upper reaches of Naurang Distributary which were drawing more than their permissible have already been reduced and now there is a good steady supply at the tail as noted below :—

	Cusecs.
Permissible discharge at tail Naurang Distributary ..	1.62
Actual average discharge at tail during October 1928 ..	1.52
Actual average discharge at tail during November 1928	1.81
Actual average discharge at tail during December 1928	1.92
Actual average discharge at tail during January 1929	1.90
Actual average discharge at tail during February 1929	2.17
Actual average discharge at tail during March 1929 ..	2.29

BRIDGE ON THE SUTLEJ.

(Answer to Question No. 1140, page 1296).

The Honourable Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain : (i) The expenditure on the combined works at Ferozepore to the end of February 1929 was Rs. 1,50,84,708 out of which Rs. 9,44,809 and Rs. 5,22,768 have been debited to the Departments of the North-Western Railway and Buildings and Roads, respectively, for work done on their behalf: these figures do not include the cost of the Railway bridge and tract or the cost of the road bridge and surface, which works were done by the Departments concerned.

(ii) The inclusive cost not being known, the percentage cost cannot be stated.

PETITION WRITERS, KARNAL AND ROHTAK.

(Answer to Question No. 1147, page 1299).

The Honourable Mr. A. M. Stow :

(a) Karnal	48
Rohtak	59

(b) There are at present no vacancies in either district.

(c) and (d) Do not arise. There are, however, 16 applications pending consideration on the occurrence of future vacancies of which 6 are by statutory agriculturists including 3 from Gaur Brahmins of Karnal and Rohtak districts.

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TEACHERS IN VERNACULAR MIDDLE SCHOOLS.

(Answer to Question No. 1183, page 64 ante.)

The Honourable Mr. Manohar Lal : (a) 18.

(b) 9 including 4 statutory agriculturists.

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